

The Bulletin

The Kiwanis Club of Columbus



"Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world - one child and one community at a time."

"It's not about me ... or you, but what WE will do for the children."

Noon to 1 p.m. luncheon meeting at The Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215



February 17, 2014

STEVEN BROCKSHUS

National FFA Vice President



Steven Brockshus of Iowa was, to say the least, an active high school student. At Sibley-Ocheyedan High School in Sibley, Iowa, he was active in the concert, marching and jazz bands. He was a choir member and performed as the lead in several high school plays and musicals.

Not only was he a member of the varsity football, wrestling and track teams, he also he belonged to groups like the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the National Honor Society, 4-H and more. "I joined so many activities in high school to find out where I belonged," he said. "While I didn't feel out of place in any of them, I found something special in FFA."

FFA (Future Farmers of America) inspired Brockshus, he recalls. "The organization itself is empty without people. FFA creates an atmosphere in which anyone can find their place, regardless of background, family structure, age, skin color, language or accent." He was elected to the 2013-14 National FFA Officer, team as Central Region vice president, at the 86th National FFA Convention & Expo.

Steven is an agricultural education and global resource systems major at Iowa State University. He previously served as Iowa FFA Association president and northwest state vice president. In high school, he served as his FFA chapter's reporter and secretary.

National officers commit to a year of service to the National FFA Organization. Each travels more than 100,000 national and international miles to interact with business and industry leaders, thousands of FFA members and teachers, corporate sponsors, government and education officials, state FFA leaders, the general public and more. The team will lead personal growth and leadership training seminars for FFA members throughout the country, and help set policies that will guide the future of FFA and promote agricultural literacy. Today, with help from Maddy Buschur (Ohio FFA President), he will

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### Today's Meeting

**Greeters:** **Arnold Barzak** - Myers Real Estate  
**Neil Distelhorst** - Retired, Deloitte & Touche

**Invocation:** **Tim Barhorst** - Business Partners, Inc.

**Committees:** Membership, Music & Arts

**Menu:** **Pasta buffet - 2-3 types of pasta** (with one of them being a vegetarian dish), **bread sticks and salad.**

**NOTE:** This is the only meal selection this week.

### This week at a Glance

**Birthdays:**

2/17 – Ken Keller

2/19 – S. Ronald Cook, Jr.



**Tuesday** – 2/18 – National Battery Day

**Friday** – 2/21 - 8 a.m. – Entrepreneurial Challenge at Columbus State Workforce Management Center.

**Saturday** – 2/22 – 8 a.m. to noon – Grove City Kiwanis Pancake breakfast – Grove City United Methodist Church – all you can eat - \$6

### Rooting out homelessness ...

As I braved the brutal winter cold, my thoughts couldn't help but turn to those currently experiencing homelessness. Homelessness in America is a complex issue. At a point in time in January 2012, 633,782 people were experiencing homelessness. These numbers include the chronic homeless population (107,148) and the veteran homeless population (67,495). A majority of persons identified as homeless were staying in emergency shelters or transitional housing, but 38 percent were unsheltered, living on the streets, or in cars, abandoned buildings or other places not intended for human habitation. The size of the unsheltered population remained basically unchanged between 2011 and 2012.

Think about this for a minute, at a time when the "average" American child has smart-phones, tablet computers and at least one (if not more) video game systems, we still have an entire subpopulation that doesn't have a warm place to sleep. At a time when we are inundated with healthy programs designed to counter the obesity epidemic, we still have a subpopulation dependent on food shelters to survive. Sadly, the number of families included in this number continues to increase.

When I first got engaged with the homelessness issue throughout the Community Shelter Board, I was overwhelmed by the sheer size of the task and the complexity of the issue. I started to get that 'deer in the headlights' feeling. Where do you even begin to tackle the issue? Do you start with housing to get people off the streets, or prevention services to stop new cases of homelessness? Do you target re-entry services for ex-offenders, transition services for those aging out of foster care services or exiting domestic violence shelters, or health services for those facing physical or mental health issues? Do you work on job-readiness skills and services and social services to bridge income gaps?

The short answer is yes. To be effective in dealing with homelessness, you have to attack all of these things. This means that it 'takes a village' or a community, working together to make a lasting impact. It's too much work for one individual, or even one organization, to do alone. You can see that collaboration in Columbus through the work of the Community Shelter Board (CSB) and its partner agencies. For example:

1- In FY 2011, 5,819 unique individuals and 1,713 children were served by the emergency shelter system in central Ohio. That number continues to increase each year.

2- In 2013, waitlists for single men and women continue to grow. At times more than 125 men and women have been turned away because no beds are available. That means single men and women are sleeping on the streets and in

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lead us through a "getting to know you" exercise to assist Kiwanis members in getting to know each other better.

After graduation from Iowa State, Brockshus hopes to develop agriculture, teach and be involved in missionary work in a third-world country to encourage community development, spur innovation and motivate people in need.

"I am excited to help members find their belonging by serving as a role model, unconditionally loving every person I meet," he said. "I want to make every interaction a moment of positive influence by being vulnerable and sharing my passion.

"I hope to foster an atmosphere of belonging in every member I come in contact with, while serving as a national officer. I want to empower members by creating opportunities for self-discovery and express the value of living in the moment with every interaction," he said.

abandoned buildings. The current family shelter is bursting at the seams, sheltering 123 families nightly on average during November, when in fact it was built to shelter just 50 families a night. The new shelter that will open in the West Edge Business Center will help us care for people in a more compassionate, effective way.

CSB and Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio launched a pilot navigator team to test a new centralized case management approach. Lutheran Social Services case managers – called navigators – link with a person when they enter the homeless system and work with them throughout their stay. The pilot is scheduled to run from October 2013 to September 2014.

A mediation pilot began with HandsOn Central Ohio in October. It represents a collaboration between HandsOn Central Ohio and the Columbus Urban League to increase diversion rates at the coordinated point of access for single adults experiencing homelessness. A professional mediator from the Columbus Urban League is on-site at the coordinated point of access three days a week, to train staff on new diversion techniques and provide effective diversion services

Kiwanis' has mirrored this collaborative approach through its support of Salvation Army, Manna Café and Bethlehem on Broad, Good Neighbors Day, the Furniture Bank, Huckleberry House, Homeless Families Foundation, and Volunteers of America. The Homeless Committee isn't big but the work that it does is vitally important. If you haven't connected with a committee member, please take the time to do so.

~~~ Tiffany Crosby

Grove City Kiwanis to hold pancake breakfast ...

The best way to start a winter weekend is to fill yourself with the fuel you'll need for the day.

The Grove City Kiwanis all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast will do just that.



The event will be held at the Grove City United Methodist Church (2684 Columbus Street) on Saturday, February 22, and will run from 8 a.m. to noon. Tickets at the door are \$6 per person, with children under age 5 eating for free.

This is a great way to support another Kiwanis Club, get a filling meal and earn an attendance credit. Be sure when you attend to let them know you are from Kiwanis Club of Columbus, so your attendance can be recorded.

Not-so-subtle communications ...

Dear Mom,

School i\$ really great. I am making lot\$ of friend\$ and \$tudying very hard. With all my \$tuff, I \$imply can` t think of anything I need. \$o if you would like, you can ju\$t \$end me a card, a\$ I would love to hear from you.

Love, *Your \$on*

Dear Son,

I kNOW that astroNOMy, ecoNOMics and oceaNOgraphy are eNOugh to keep even an hoNOr student busy. Do NOT forget that the pursuit of kNOWLEDge is a NOble task, and you can never study eNOugh.

Love, *Mom*

Kiwanis Night at the Blue Jackets ...

Hockey fans take note. Kiwanis Division 10-W is planning a night at the Columbus Blue Jackets to watch them take on the Colorado Avalanche. Faceoff is at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1 at Nationwide Arena.



Ticket prices are \$32 per person (Regular price is \$37 plus fees). Anyone over two years of age must have a ticket.

All Kiwanis members, their families, co-workers and friends are welcome to join us. Ticket orders must be received NO LATER THAN Friday, March 14, so that the group tickets can be purchased.

Checks should be made out to Kiwanis Club of Columbus and submitted to Club Secretary **Paul Bohlman**. If you prefer to pay by credit card, directly to the Columbus Blue Jackets, please see Paul to complete the process.

Hilliard Kiwanis to hold Pancake breakfast ...

Here is still another opportunity to support a local Kiwanis Club, get a great breakfast and earn an attendance credit.



Hilliard Kiwanis will hold its annual Pancake Day on Saturday, March 1, at Memorial Middle School (5600 Scioto Darby Road, 43026) from 7:30 am to 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for those under 12.

Proceeds from the breakfast will benefit pediatric trauma and the purchase of 20 child safety seats to present to families in need. The club is also working in conjunction with the Norwich Township Fire Department to inspect child safety seats.

Let's show our support by stopping in and having breakfast.

Columbus International 5K ...



Our third annual Columbus International 5K is set for Saturday, April 26 at the Scioto Audubon Park (440 West Whittier Street). The race will begin at 9 a.m.

For the more competitive runners, it will serve as a training event, and for the casual runners and walkers, it will be enjoyable exercise in a great setting. The race will have an international theme and will feature exhibits from different countries along the racecourse. Participants will receive an international 'tech' T-shirt as part of their entry. The event is designed to build awareness of the international community and to raise funds for the worldwide elimination of maternal and neonatal tetanus.

Registration is now open at www.columbusinternational5k.com. Please help us promote registrations by sharing this web site with family, friends, co-workers and acquaintances. Cut and paste it into an e-mail you send to them, post in the status section of your Facebook page and make it available wherever you can.

Food drive ...

The 2013-14 Ohio District Kiwanis Governor's Project and part of this year's Mid-Year Education Day is a food drive for "Healthy Kiwanis and Healthy Communities."

Clubs throughout Ohio are being asked to collect and contribute healthy foods and to bring them to the Mid-Year Education Day on Saturday, March 8.

Items most needed are:

- Dried fruit;
- Peanut butter;
- 100 percent juice boxes;
- Whole grain pasta and crackers;
- Low-sodium canned meat and fish;
- Canned fruit in natural juices and fruit cups;
- Almonds, nuts, fruit bars, granola bars;
- Dried or canned beans and lentils;



While cases of food are easier to handle, all contributions are welcome, regardless of size. If you would prefer to make a cash donation, please make your check out to 'SE Ohio Food Bank.' Please bring items to a Monday Club meeting and give to Secretary **Paul Bohlman** who will bring them to the Mid-Year Education Day on behalf of our Club.

Kiwanis Charity Auction ...



Saturday, May 17, seems like a long time away, but it is not. That is the date of this year's Kiwanis Charity Auction, and now is the time to start planning. Here are some things you can be doing now to help make this a really successful event.

- Mark your calendar and plan to attend
- Identify people you would like to invite and invite them. Getting it on their calendar now will increase their likelihood of availability. Think about your relatives, neighbors, friends, co-workers, etc. There will be a discounted ticket price for groups of four.
- Submit names and addresses of those you feel should receive an invitation, but who you are not comfortable personally inviting.
- Identify any items or services you may be able to donate, or contacts you have of people or companies who might be interested in donating an item/service. Donation forms are available on our Club web site or at Monday meetings. Your donated item/service is tax deductible.

Congratulations Bill Calvert, for successfully completing six or more steps to "Lose the Blues."

Helpful hint ...

Take your bananas apart when you get home from the store. If you leave them connected at the stem, they ripen faster.

Next week's meeting

(February 24, 2014)

Speaker: Dr. George Mokrzam

Economist, Huntington National Bank

Greeters: Bob Wiseman

Burkholder Flint Associates

Linda Kay

WesBanco Trust & Investment Services

Invocation: Bill Newman - Lucas, Prendergast, Albright, Gibson, Newman

Committees: Youth Opportunity

Menu: House salad, traditional lasagna

Kiwanis Club of Columbus

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