

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Price Hill Pacer

June 5, 2010  
Schaeper Center  
Elder High School

### Women's Health Fair

October 2, 2010  
Price Hill Recreation Center

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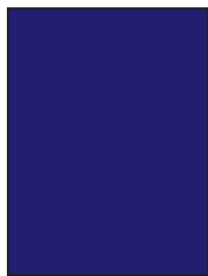


# Life in the COMMUNITY

HELPING FAMILIES HELP THEMSELVES SINCE 1897

SPRING/SUMMER 2010

## President & CEO message



H. A. Musser, Jr.  
MA, MSW, LISW

The downturn in the economy has resulted in a significant upturn in those coming to Santa Maria for help. We served nearly 5,000 individuals last year representing a **25% increase** in the number

of people needing Santa Maria's help with their housing, health, parenting, meals-on-wheels, and other needs. A few of our successful highlights included:

- 98% of preschoolers were connected to a regular medical provider.
- 261 people completed a 5-hour tenant education course.
- 170 families established a budget for their household.
- Nearly 300 individuals with symptoms

of chronic disease (diabetes, lung and heart disease) learned how to prevent the disease.

- More than 200 older adults received daily, nutritious meals-on-wheels.

Thanks to YOU and your ongoing support of Santa Maria, our dedicated staff and volunteers can continue to OFFER HELP and HOPE to

- parents getting their children prepared for kindergarten
- youth struggling to succeed in school
- families trying to avoid becoming homeless
- low-income families looking for help with filing their tax returns
- older adults wanting to remain in their own homes.

## 2010 Price Hill Pacer is June 5

Join sponsors Macy's, SC Ministry Foundation, Cincinnati Sports Medicine, Controlled Credit Corporation, Harmony Garden, PepsiAmerica, Hart Pharmacy, Wing Eyecare, Rally's Hamburgers, Meyer and Geiser Funeral Home, Zeiser Construction Co., Western Hills Window Co., Skally's Old World Bakery and others in "Conquering the Hill!" The fifth annual Price Hill Pacer 5K Run/Walk benefiting the community programs of Santa Maria and Price Hill Will takes place on Saturday, June 5 at 9 am. The 5K (3.1 mile) course begins at Elder High School's Schaeper Center at Vincent Avenue and runs through the surrounding neighborhoods. Honorary Chair is Chris Reis, Cincinnati multi-race winner.

Participants will receive a gift bag and t-shirt. They will also be eligible for the \$100

prize that will be awarded to the top male and female finisher (NCAA rules apply.) In addition to recognition awards given to winners in all age categories, runners and guests can win door and raffle prizes, such as tickets to a Reds Game or Kings Island and various gift certificates. Refreshments, including hot dogs, bagels, bananas, coffee, SnoCones and much more will be served before and after the event.

New this year is a challenge that has been issued by Harmony Garden to all women and girls. The Harmony Garden is geared toward examining needs and concerns



*Continued on Page 3*

**Administrative Office**

2918 Price Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45204  
(513) 557-2730

**East Price Hill Center**

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Cincinnati, Ohio 45205  
(513) 557-2700

**Lower Price Hill Center**

718 State Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45204  
(513) 557-2710

**Price Avenue Center**

2918 Price Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45204  
(513) 557-2730

**Sedamsville Center**

617 Steiner Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45204  
(513) 557-2720

## Bienestar Recognition Luncheon Honors Local Doctor and Organizations

On Friday, May 14th Santa Maria's Wellness/Bienestar program held the Fifth Annual Bienestar Recognition Luncheon at McCormick and Schmick's Seafood Restaurant.

Dr. Thomas Holubeck, Associate Medical Director and staff pediatrician at WinMed Health Service, was honored with the Sr. Margarita Brewer Hope Award for his contributions to the Hispanic/Latino community of Greater Cincinnati.



Cheryl Boyce, M. S. and Bounthanh Phommasathit (Ohio Commission on Minority Health) and Dr. Thomas Holubeck (WinMed Health Services.)

After spending years of medical school at the University of Cincinnati and pediatric residency at Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles, Dr. Holubeck focused his passion on delivering high quality medical care and contributing to the struggle for just and equal medical access. His experiences include: medical service to the predominantly Spanish speaking urban immigrant population in Los Angeles, medical missions to Mexico and the Phillipines, and continued work through community health centers in Hamilton, Ohio and the Cincinnati neighborhoods of Lincoln Heights, the West End, Winton Hills, St. Bernard and Elmwood Place.

Dr. Holubeck also enjoys continuing his clinical work with diverse populations on-site in the schools and with the local Head Start Program, health fairs and health-related community events. He has served as an Advisory Board member for Santa Maria Community Services' Wellness/Bienestar program and on



Ohio Representative Dale Mallory awards Dr. Holubeck with a Proclamation from the State of Ohio

the Advisory Board of Foster Care Assessment Project (the Mayerson Center for Safe and Healthy Children) and collaborated with the Latino Conversations of Health Disparities (through Su Casa Hispanic Ministry.)

The Medical Volunteers of the University of Cincinnati (MedVOUC) and the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine (UCCOM) Spanish Club received organizational awards for their contributions in supporting and empowering the Hispanic/Latino community.

The Luncheon speaker was Cheryl A. Boyce, M.S., Executive Director of the Ohio Commission on Minority Health. MC for the event was Local 12 News Morning Anchor and Health Reporter Liz Bonis.



Gina Meyer (Medical Volunteers of the University of Cincinnati -MedVOUC, ) Sr. Margarita Brewer, SC (Cincinnati Public Schools,) and Emily Stover (University of Cincinnati College of Medicine Spanish Club - UCCOM)

## Santa Maria Partners With Cincinnati Children's Hospital, United Way and Local Schools

Price Hill was selected as one of fewer than twenty locations in the United States to introduce a new project aimed at helping communities better prepare their children for kindergarten. Transforming Early Childhood Community Systems (TECCS) engages kindergarten teachers to assess how their children are doing on social, health, emotional, cognitive, literacy and other variables.

Nine kindergarten teachers at Carson, Holy Family, Oyler and St. Lawrence schools completed online assessments for nearly 200 kindergarteners. The results will be analyzed by the University of California, LA (UCLA), compared with other communities across the country and reported back to our community so that we can enhance our work with young children in Price Hill.

## Stable Families Program Begins

The Stable Families program will provide case management and supportive services to eligible families with children enrolled in area schools. The intended impact is for children



Tina Armstead

to maintain and/or improve academic performance in school by reducing student transfers from school to school, because of their family's housing problems.

Tina Armstead, a graduate of the Johnson C. Smith University, has been a member of the Santa Maria family since 2006 and will serve as the Stable Families Specialist. She is a family-focused, hard-working resident of Cincinnati's west side, committed to Santa Maria's mission of community empowerment.

The Stable Families program is funded through the United Way of Greater Cincinnati. For more information on this program contact Tina at 513-557-2710, ext. 508 or [tina.armstead@santamaria-cincy.org](mailto:tina.armstead@santamaria-cincy.org).

*Price Hill Pacer continued*



affecting the health and well-being of girls and families in our community.

The following is the challenge that Harmony Garden is issuing for the 2010 Price Hill Pacer:

1. Form a team of girls/women from a school, church, community organization, or organize a group of friends/family to participate in the 2010 Price Hill Pacer.

2. Name the team, pick a team leader, and get registered at [pricehillpacer.org](http://pricehillpacer.org)

3. The top three teams (those with the most number of girls/women registered to run or walk in the Price Hill Pacer 5K) win a cash price **for any designated community organization!** Top prize is \$500, second

prize is \$300 and third prize is \$200.

Pre-registration for the Price Hill Pacer postmarked by May 28 is \$20 for adults, \$15 for students 17 and under. Online pre-registration is honored through 5:00 pm on June 1. After the pre-registration deadline, entry costs are \$25 for adults and \$20 for students.

Runners and walkers can get more information at the event's website:

[www.pricehillpacer.org](http://www.pricehillpacer.org)  
or by contacting  
Leslie at 513-557-2730,  
ext. 408 or  
[leslie.schultz@santamaria-cincy.org](mailto:leslie.schultz@santamaria-cincy.org).



A group of energetic girls gets ready to participate in the Price Hill Pacer

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## Memorials (continued)

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**Mimi, Jake and Sydney Wittich**  
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**For the Meals on Wheels Program**

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Mary Lee and David Haarmeyer  
Eleanor Henry  
Kathy Jones  
Barbara Krollmann  
Martha Norman  
George Ohntrup  
Anne Paff  
Lawrence and Judith Paff  
Helen Elizabeth Prost and Family  
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Tom and Jenny Schneider  
Michael and Julia Spohr  
Anna Thornton  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Westrich  
Agnes Wilson  
Betty Wurtz  
Alfred Zeiser  
Pearl Zinser

**For the Youth Development Program**  
**Barbara Acheson**  
Allan Acheson  
Employees of the Early Childhood  
Satellite Office  
John Hill Construction, LLC

## Family Groups Make Jewelry

During the month of March more than forty families from Santa Maria's programs met for a day of crafts and to learn how to make beaded jewelry. This class was a collaborative effort with Santa Maria friend Jenny Ginocchio, who taught the jewelry workshop, and with the Girl Scouts from Covedale School.

"This group was great, because of all the hard work and dedicated staff from the Every Child Succeeds (ECS) and Promoting Our Preschoolers (POP) programs," said Susan Conrad, POP program manager. "The group was intense with jewelry making, scrapbooking and child care occurring simultaneously.

The staff was exhausted by the end, but everything was very successful."



Jenny Ginocchio teaches a class on beaded jewelry

## International Welcome Center Group Visits Jungle Jim's



Everyone in the privy!  
From left to right:  
Shannon Hughes,  
Luis Rodas Ochoa,  
Ashley Morales Velasz,  
Natalie Trapp and  
Patrick Russell

On April 9th friends of the International Welcome Center had the chance to taste many "flavors of the world" during a tour of Jungle Jim's Market in Fairfield. Participants shopped, sampled and learned more about the food cultures of 75 different countries featured in the market. The group also enjoyed wacky attractions like the "Big Cheese," the "Singing Elvis Lion," and "Robin Hood of Sherwood Forest." Of course, no trip to Jungle Jim's would be complete without a stop in the "Infamous Privy!"

## Santa Maria Completes Second Child Development Associate Credential Class

The Child Development Associate Credential class, held weekly at Santa Maria Community Services, in collaboration with 4C for Children and the University of Cincinnati, concluded Tuesday, March 16th. This is the second group of students to take advantage of this opportunity made local for easier access and with a general focus on serving family child care providers living and working in the greater Price Hill area.

Nineteen students graduated from the year-long course, six of whom are certified family child care providers living in the 45204, 45205 or 45238 zip codes. Tuition assistance was provided through Place Matters funding

for those six students to help supplement the cost of the course.

Those students are also regular participants in the Price Hill Family Child Care Network and receive monthly home visits from a trained family child care coach. They can access monthly training classes on child development topics, attend quarterly enrichment outings, and access educational supplies and materials.

For more information about this program, please contact Christine at 513-557-2730 ext. 222 or Joan at 513-557-2700 ext. 204.

## Celebration Weekend in Lower Price Hill

The weekend of April 24th and 25th turned out to be a huge celebration for Lower Price Hill residents. On Saturday, April 24th the Lower Price Hill (LPH) community held its 32nd consecutive Mini Appalachian Festival at St. Michael's Hall, featuring Appalachian music, food and crafts.

In 1978 many of Cincinnati's communities with a significant Appalachian population (Lower Price Hill, Camp Washington, the East End, South Fairmount and Northside) held small festivals to create enthusiasm for the large Appalachian Festival that was held on Mother's Day weekend. At that time the large festival was held indoors at the Cincinnati Convention Center. The location changed in the 1980s to its current location at Old Coney.

Through the years the other communities stopped holding the small festivals, but Lower Price Hill has felt that it is important to continue celebrating its Appalachian heritage. The yearly festival is organized and carried out through a collaboration of Lower Price Hill agencies and residents, including Santa Maria, the Urban Appalachian Council, the Coalition for a Drug-Free Lower Price Hill, the Lower Price Hill Community School, and the Do Right! Initiative.

This year's festival featured a diverse lineup of entertainment. Roscoe Morgan, Jr., a national artist with the Knoxville-based bluegrass and gospel group "Greenbriar" performed with local bluegrass guitar legend Dave Pinson, who came out of retirement to



Storytelling is a big hit at the Mini Appalachian Festival

perform at the festival where he had played 32 years before. Local groups also graced the stage including the Rabbit Hash String Band, Taylor Farley and Blue Rock, Green Willow (with special guest Mark Utley from Magnolia Mountain) and LPH resident Carl Beasley.

Omope led the Appalachian story-telling, which included an audience "Jack Tales" competition. Dave Offenbacher brought his Appalachian crafts, and authentic Appalachian food was enjoyed by all. The festival was a huge success. Some residents feel it may have been the best in the 32 years it has been running.

Many people returned the following afternoon for a "Celebrate Youth" concert from 2-3 pm in St. Michael's Hall (due to rain.)

Organized by the same agencies involved with the festival, this concert celebrated the accomplishments and contributions of the youth in the Lower Price Hill community. Many LPH youth are involved in programs through Santa Maria, the Urban Appalachian Council and the Drug-Free Coalition through which youth learn conflict resolution, peer resistance, and other life skills. The youth also learn about drugs and alcohol and ways to stay away from them, and how to participate in positive peer groups. These youth have also learned the value of doing community service by participating in a number of neighborhood clean-ups and "service learning" opportunities.

Forty-eight Oyler School students graduated with high school diplomas on May 20th, a tremendous accomplishment. The reality is that many youth in Lower Price Hill are on the right track and are doing good things. The purpose of the "Celebrate Youth" concert was to acknowledge and celebrate their accomplishments. Roscoe Morgan, Jr., headline performer at the Mini Appalachian Festival the day before came back to perform, as did Taylor Farley. A number of other musicians "sat-in" with Roscoe and Taylor, and the positive energy of the event and of the weekend was felt by all.

## More News from Santa Maria's Housing Program!

Santa Maria's Housing program would like to share news about another new way that we help families thrive in the community: the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing program (HPRP).

In August, 2009, Santa Maria's Housing program joined the Community Action Agency, Freestore Foodbank, Jewish Family Services, Mercy Franciscan and St. Vincent DePaul as HPRP partner agencies.

The HPRP program is administered through the Cincinnati-Hamilton County Continuum of Care for the Homeless in partnership with the United Way. The program provides short-term financial assistance and case management to help families and individuals most at risk for homelessness. Those in need of assistance should call the Central Access Point (CAP) at 513-381-SAFE (7233.)

Santa Maria's Homelessness Prevention Specialist is Michelle Myrick. Michelle is a graduate of the College of Mount St. Joseph and started with Santa Maria in November, 2009. Michelle is a resident of Cincinnati's West side. She and her husband have three children.

## An Interview With Laura

Laura Kluse has been Santa Maria's client for about four years. With her charming little girl, Lilly, Laura went through her daughter's first four years with Santa Maria closely by her side. The agency's three programs have helped Laura march through the joys and difficulties of her life: Every Child Succeeds, Affordable Housing, and Promoting Our Preschoolers.

Santa Maria's Development Director, Nune Krayterman, interviewed Laura on a sunny April afternoon. Santa Maria's employees, Ruth Ann Dopp (Every Child Succeeds), Sean Wright (Affordable Housing), and Regine Gordon (Promoting Our Preschoolers) were also interviewed to provide the complete picture of what we do at Santa Maria.

**Nune Krayterman:** How did you hear about Santa Maria?

**Laura Kluse:** When I was pregnant with Lilly, I went to pregnancy classes. They talked about the Every Child Succeeds program, and I thought I would give it a try. I was very unprepared to actually have a baby and raise her.

**NK:** With whom did you work first?

**LK:** First I worked with Ruth Ann Dopp from the Every Child Succeeds program. When Lilly was two months old, her father left, and I became a single mom. I was very lonely. I had to give up my social life to be there for Lilly all the time. Ruth Ann became a really good friend.

**NK:** What happened next?

**LK:** Ruth Ann visited Lilly and me twice a month. She brought me lots of handouts so that I could learn about where Lilly should be developmentally. Those were things that I would never learn by myself. Ruth Ann played with Lilly. She invited me to the group activities for parents. I had had pretty low self-esteem, and I am so grateful to Ruth Ann for helping boost my self-confidence. I very often now watch the videotape of Lilly which Ruth Ann made through her time with Lilly and me.

At some point I had problems with housing. I am a student at Cincinnati State and don't

have any income at this point. Ruth Ann referred me to Sean at Santa Maria's Affordable Housing program, and he was able to help me with my rent. Right now I really want to move to another place, since the rent is very high for me at my current place (\$450), and the landlord does not accept Section 8 tenants. I am so much hoping that I can work with Sean to either help me again with rent or find another more affordable place to move.

Lilly and I recently "graduated" from the Every Child Succeeds program, and I was so relieved to find out that I will not be left alone: we transitioned to Santa Maria's Promoting Our Preschoolers Program, where we started working with Regine. I was really sad to leave Ruth Ann, but I found another great friend in Regine. Regine has developed a plan which will help Lilly be better prepared for the kindergarten. Regine does screenings such as the Dial 3 to assess where Lilly is developmentally in the areas of motor, language, concepts, and social development. Since Lilly already knows her letters, Regine has begun to work on letter sounds, rhyming, and basic writing and cutting skills.

**NK:** Please tell me about Lilly.

**LK:** Lilly is a really sweet and well natured girl. She is very smart... she knew her ABC's before she was two years old and could count to 30.

**NK:** What are your goals for the future? What inspires you in your everyday life?

**LK:** Right now I am a student at Cincinnati State. I started in June of 2008 and have 45 credits to earn to graduate. Eventually I would like to get my doctorate degree in psychology. Lilly is my inspiration; she is the only reason I go to school. I want to give her a good education and make sure she has a good life ahead.

**NK:** Name one strength about Laura.

**Ruth Ann Dopp:** In the three years I spent working with Laura and Lilly, I found Laura to be a survivor. She had a determination to be the best she could be to provide for Lilly. I know she has a bright future for herself



Regine Gordon, Santa Maria Promoting Our Preschoolers Specialist, Laura Kluse and Lilly



## Santa Maria Thanks Volunteers

Santa Maria's 2010 Annual Celebration of Volunteers began on April 28th at The Farm and ended on May 18th at Embschoff Park.



Volunteers, staff and friends of Santa Maria enjoy the Volunteer Dinner at The Farm

Approximately 180 Santa Maria volunteers and friends gathered at The Farm for a scrumptious buffet meal and entertainment. Each year the staff at The Farm provides top-notch service and support for a wonderful evening.

Everyone was spellbound as "The Dancing Grandmas and Bob" provided the featured entertainment for the evening. Arrayed in sparkly outfits, they presented a program to dance tunes that everyone recognized. During the mid-show break three octogenarian members of this chorus line were introduced. What a great show!



"The Dancing Grandmas and Bob" entertained at the Volunteer Dinner

Volunteers who have provided 25 hours of service or more were invited to attend the dinner at The Farm with a guest. Those who attended served from 25 to more than 1500 hours during the past year. Hours of service

for the 2009 year totaled more than 21,000 hours, which is equivalent to ten full-time employees. These special volunteers have demonstrated a commitment to serving others. We have been able to depend upon them for very important tasks.

Santa Maria's Volunteer Celebration ended at the Volunteer Picnic that was held at Embschoff Park. A traditional picnic fare of burgers, hot dogs, baked beans, cole slaw and potato salad was enjoyed by over 45 people.

The Delhi Police Department brought their brand new K-9 partner, a coal-black German Shepherd named Lueggar and put on a demonstration for picnic attendees. Traditional picnic games, including ladder golf, corn hole



Santa Maria ended its Volunteer Celebration at the Volunteer Picnic

toss and horse shoes were played. Various games and contests were also thrown in for fun! All who attended had a great time.

The majority of our ongoing volunteers work in the Meals on Wheels program. Many have delivered meals to our clients for many of the 38 years the program has been in operation. There are countless other projects and tasks performed by community residents, students and corporate volunteers, all of whom have been important to our work team.

If you would like to become involved in volunteer activities with Santa Maria, please contact Gladys at 513-557-2730 ext. 415 or email her at [gladys.bell@santamaria-cincy.org](mailto:gladys.bell@santamaria-cincy.org).

## Donations In Honor Of

Sr. Agnes Coveney, OSU  
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Sr. Agnes Coveney, OSU

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## Santa Maria Community Services

*Helping families help themselves since 1897.*

Administrative Office

2918 Price Avenue

Cincinnati, OH 45204

(513) 557-2730

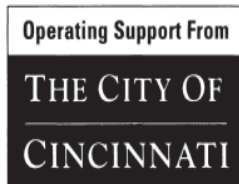
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## Santa Maria Holds 2010 Wellness Fair

The 2010 Spring Health Fair was held Sunday, April 18th at the Price Hill Recreation Center. More than 127 individuals attended this year's fair. There were eleven FREE health screenings, including glucose, cholesterol, blood pressure, mammogram, pap, hearing, vision, dental, body mass index, HIV/AIDS and asthma/allergies. Also offered at the fair were FREE H1N1

immunizations. In addition to the free screenings, many other exhibits offered health information in both English and Spanish.

The Kids' Health Zone had eleven stations. Each station included fun activities to help children learn about good nutrition, the importance of exercise and other healthy habits.

More than fifty volunteers from the community, as well as colleges and corporate groups, came together to make this event a success. To learn more about Santa Maria's Wellness program contact Becky at 513-557-2700, ext. 207.



### *Interview With Laura Continued*

and her daughter.

**Sean Wright:** Laura showed a genuine interest in learning about financial literacy and how to change her current spending habits to retain her affordable housing. I was very impressed by how open she was to change.

**Regine Gordon:** Laura is focused and determined to make a better life for her and her daughter.

**NK:** What inspires you in your everyday work?

**RAD:** Each day is different when I arrive for work, and each day's inspiration is different. But for me the total inspiration is to watch the

mom help her baby meet milestones and to watch as through parenting, the mother finds her strengths and uses them towards her independence.

**SW:** I am inspired by my clients' intrepid approach to their lives. Many come to me at moments of crisis, having recently been evicted, or unable to overcome their barriers to housing. The most rewarding aspect of my job is seeing a family move into a quality affordable home.

**RG:** Believing I am making a positive difference in the people's lives I am working with.