



THE OPEN-DOOR NEWSLETTER

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

DONATE

Let's think about someone who were once a part of our Phillis Wheatley Association/Emeritus House Community with a special gift or donation in their name as a special way to honor their memory.

Because you took the time out of your busy day to think about them and all the services that they once provided over the years, you can share your love by helping us to continue to provide the needed services to help older adults remain independent in a place they call home. Remember, your donation will be used in a manner in which you choose. This could be for the volunteer services, programming, nutritional services or activities that the seniors enjoy. Most of all "we thank you" for your support. **WITHOUT YOU**, this task would be a greater challenge for our agency and for those who call Emeritus House home.



2019 SENIORS DAY AT THE PUBLIC HALL DOWNTOWN ~ COMPUTER LAB OPEN FOR THE SENIORS

One in three Americans is now 50 or older – by 2030 one in five will be 65+

There were 40.3 million people age 65 and older on April 1, 2010, an increase of 5.3 million since the 2000 census. The 65+ age group grew at a faster rate than the total U.S. population, increasing by 15.1 percent as compared to 9.7 percent for the total population. Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, 2010](#) The number of people 65 and older in the United States is expected to increase to 55 million in 2020; to some 70 million by 2030, and to 88.5 million – or 20 percent of the population – in 2050. (Put yet another way, between 2006 and 2030, the U.S. population of adults aged 65+ will nearly double from 37 million to 71.5 million people.) Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, 2010](#)

SPOT LIGHT: ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

As the Activities Coordinator I would like to share some of the ACTIVITIES that our seniors experienced because of the wonderful support and love gifts we received from you our donors. ...Thank You!

I wish our supporters could one day come and see the residents when the music is playing, and the seniors are cutting a rug on the dance floor, and putting down dance moves well over 60 years of moving and grooving when our agency is having a dance activity and the residents are having fun showing off their skills of yesterday in the moment while enjoying the exuberant festivities. **Something to see...**

During the winter months when temperatures reach zero degrees our residents still need to be active, so we here at the Phillis Wheatley Association/Emeritus House make it our business to comfort the seniors by providing them a variety of indoor activities from table top games (**GAME DAY**), **Music Therapy, Bingo, Tournaments** and **Movies** with tasty **snacks**. This way they stay busy while interacting with other residents in the multi-purpose room on the second floor here at **PWA**. Our backers and benefactors play a major role in keeping the residents, and community residents active and healthy all year round. Without the givers loving support, the need to service the seniors and disable adults would be a greater challenge from one day to the next. This is why the members at the Phillis Wheatley Association staff and residents alike appreciate all the gifts you give from the heart...thanks again for your charitable gifts.

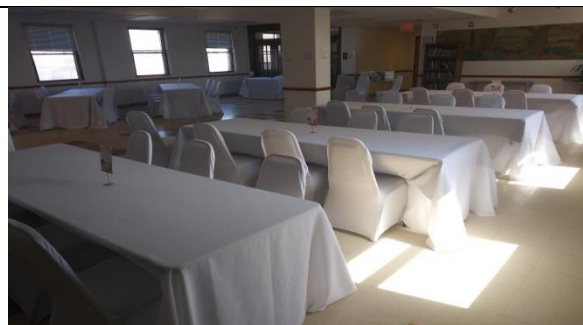
By: Bruce Johnson, ACTIVITIES COODINATOR

"An important event you would like to celebrate?"

Contact: The Phillis Wheatley Association for hosting: weddings, birthdays, baby showers, banquets, graduations, family dinners, seminars and other special planning's.
Call: (216) 391- 4443 ext. 12 to speak with Mrs. Ali-Jackson for details.



Make your special event happen right here at Phillis Wheatley / Emeritus House!



IN THIS ISSUE: THE JANE EDNA HARRIS HUNTER STORY...OUR FOUNDER

A Documentary Film: The Jane Edna Harris Hunter Story

Posted by [Dave Tabler](#) |



Please welcome guest author Dr. Rhondra Robinson Thomas.

Dr. Thomas is an Associate Professor of English at Clemson University in Clemson, SC, where she teaches early African American and American literature.

‘The Jane Edna Harris Hunter Story’ celebrates the life, work, and legacy of South Carolina native Jane Edna Harris Hunter, founder of the Phillis Wheatley Association (PWA) in Cleveland, OH. Starting with just a nickel and a prayer, Hunter established the PWA to provide affordable housing, job training and placement, and wholesome recreation to thousands of African American women and girls who relocated to Cleveland from the South during the Great Migration of the early twentieth century. Hunter was born on December 13, 1882, to Harriet Milliner and Edward Harris, former slaves who worked as wage earners on Woodburn Farm, a former plantation on the outskirts of Pendleton, SC. Her father moved their family into town so that his children could receive an education at the school affiliated with the Silver Spring Baptist Church.



Jane Edna Hunter (1882-1971) from her early years just as she established The Phillis Wheatley Association.

Within 18 months of marriage, Jane made the unconventional choice of permanently separating from her husband and moved to Charleston, SC, where she lived for the next five years. There she cared for the children of Attorney Benjamin Rutledge, Jr. before enrolling in the Training School for Nurses at the Cannon Street Hospital founded by African American physician Alonzo C. McClennan. Jane worked with well-established white and black doctors in the low-country before enrolling in the nursing training school affiliated with Dixie Hospital at Hampton College in Hampton, VA. After completing one year of the two-year program, Jane headed to Richmond where friends convinced her to relocate with them to Cleveland.

In 1905, Jane's transition to city life was filled with challenges. White northern doctors refused to hire a southern black nurse. When she attempted to find safe, affordable housing, she ended up living in a brothel. When she sought entertainment, she mistakenly attended a party where the local hustler Albert "Starlight" Boyd was recruiting female newcomers for his prostitution ring.

After finally finding a steady nursing job and good housing with the assistance of new friends from her church, Jane plunged into suicidal depression due to the sudden death of her mother in 1910. She was able to push past her grief by redirecting her sorrow into helping young women and girls who were being turned away from Cleveland's white YWCA due to its segregationist policies to avoid the pitfalls of urban life. By 1927 when Hunter opened the new 8-story PWA building, which included an integrated cafeteria, a beauty shop, and a gymnasium, she had made enormous strides in her professional life. She had earned a law degree and passed the Ohio bar exam.



On set with the crew of 'The Jane Edna Harris Hunter Story.'



AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Phillis Wheatley Association is to strengthen and empower individuals and families to succeed and build a thriving community free from poverty by creating hope, opportunity, and action. This will be accomplished by developing innovative programs and collaborative services to reach a goal of educational success and income building to the community.

AGENCY CORE VALUES

COMMUNITY: Those we work with and those we serve. Our community embodies an attitude of responsibility to look out for one another in improving the quality of life. We will provide a world class facility and state-of-the art equipment for our community.

COOPERATION: The spirit of our work ethics. We will work collaboratively and cooperatively in providing the maximum benefit to all people.

COMPASSION: The inspiration that guides our work. We will build a community free from poverty by creating hope, opportunity, and action.

COMMITMENT: The pledge we make for quality services meeting appropriate, relevant best practice standards while promoting fair and rationally contractual relationships. We will do this while meeting or exceeding expectations.

Phillis Wheatley Association Emeritus House Event



CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING: Was on-site here at the Phillis Wheatley Association/Emeritus House each Tuesday & Friday from 10:00am until 1:00pm 2019 on the 2nd floor. Students provided **FREE** Health Screenings, Health Education, Games and **Hot Breakfast!** Health screenings were often conducted routinely as a preventive measure and could possibly detect the presence of disease or other health concern. Screenings may be done when there is reason to suspect a particular health problem exists. This may include some of the following: **Blood pressure ~ Cholesterol ~ Glucose (diabetes) ~ Skin exam ~ Vision & Hearing...**

Among our nursing students at Cleveland State University, chances are you'll find someone like...you. Reflecting the diversity of the world at large, they not only study the practice of nursing in contemporary learning environments and state-of-the-art simulation labs – they ignite a lifelong passion for the profession, nurtured by our outstanding faculty and dedicated staff.

The CSU School of Nursing, founded in 1973, is committed to excellence in nursing education, research and service.

We offer a **full range of nursing programs**, from the traditional baccalaureate to an accelerated BSN program for those with a bachelor's degree in another field. An RN-to-BSN option is available for licensed nurses. We offer a streamlined pathway to a BSN in collaboration with Cuyahoga Community College. Graduate programs include a Doctorate of Nursing Practice with three tracks: **BSN to DNP** in Family Nurse and Psychiatric Mental Health as well as an **MSN to DNP** in Health Systems Leadership. The Master of Science in Nursing has four pathways: Education, Forensics, Clinical Nurse Leader and Specialized Populations. Our MSN program is ranked among the best in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report*. For those currently working in nursing and other health-care professions, we also have a variety of continuing education programs.

Our faculty conducts **cutting-edge research** across a range of areas, from chronic pain management to the effective use of technology for educating future nurses. These endeavors increase the knowledge base of nursing and benefit the world at large.

Another hallmark of the CSU School of Nursing is **service outside the classroom**. Through coursework and student organizations, our students, faculty and staff interact with the community in a variety of settings. CSU nursing students also make an annual trip to the Dominican Republic to meet health-care needs there. In our hometown of Cleveland – a city renowned for world-class health-care institutions – we've partnered with University Hospitals, Metro-Health and the Cleveland Clinic to offer **unparalleled clinical placements** for our students and to meet the growing demand for nurses in the 21st century. The CSU School of Nursing fully embraces Engaged Learning, which combines higher education with hands-on, real-world experience. The results speak for themselves. With a **90 percent first-time passage rate** on the NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination), students graduate from the CSU School of Nursing fully prepared to thrive in rewarding nursing careers.

The Phillis Wheatley Association's **Senior** Commodity Supplemental Food Program With Produce At Emeritus House



Help us with the fight against undernourished seniors and disabled adults

Malnutrition in older adults over the age of 65 is often underdiagnosed and can lead to other elderly health issues, such as a weakened immune system and muscle weakness. The causes of malnutrition can stem from other health problems (seniors suffering from dementia may forget to eat), depression, alcoholism, dietary restrictions, reduced social contact and limited income. Committing to small changes in diet, such as increasing consumption of fruits and vegetables and decreasing consumption of saturated fat and salt, can help nutrition issues in the elderly. There are food services available to older adults who cannot afford food, or have difficulty preparing meals. This is the very reason why it is paramount that we at our agency (PWA) keep up with our residents through our programs making sure they receive a proper dietary in-take here at Phillis Wheatley/Emeritus House.

SENIOR CENTER/AGENCY FACTS

Approximately 70% of senior center participants are women; half of them live alone. The majority are Caucasian, followed by African Americans, Hispanics and Asians respectively. Compared with their peers, senior center participants have higher levels of health, social interaction, and life satisfaction and lower levels of income. The average age of participants is 75. 75% of participants visit their local centers 1 to 3 times per week. They spend an average of 3.3 hours per visit. These centers serve as a gateway to the nation's aging network-connecting older adults to vital community services that can help them stay healthy and independent. More than 60% of senior centers are designated focal points for delivery of OAA services-allowing older adults to access multiple services in one place. Senior centers offer a wide variety of programs and services, including: Meal and nutrition programs, Information and assistance, Health, fitness, and wellness programs. Also: Transportation services, Public benefits counseling, Employment assistance, Volunteer and civic engagement opportunities. Furthermore, Social and Recreational activities, Educational and Art programs and Intergenerational programs just to name a few. In order to maintain operations, senior agencies like Phillis Wheatley/Emeritus House must leverage resources from a variety of sources. These include; special events; public and private grants; contributions; in-kind donations; and volunteer hours. Most agencies rely on 3 to 8 different funding sources. Research shows that older adults who participate in senior agency programs can learn to manage and delay the onset of chronic disease and experience measurable improvements in their physical, social, spiritual, emotional, mental, and economic well-being.

MOMENT IN HISTORY...FUTURE IMPACT!

One small step...On July 16, 1969 fifty years ago, adults, youth and kids from around the world gathered around black and white TVs to watch the Apollo 11 rocket take off from NASA's Kennedy Space Center and the lunar module Eagle land four days later on July 20, 1969 on the surface of the moon. This event inspired many youth to dream about becoming engineers, scientists and astronauts.

Today, Phillis Wheatley is inspiring youth to dream again. Perhaps one of our campers will be the first astronaut to land on Mars.



NASA MOON LANDING JULY 1969



NASA ASTRONAUT AT PHILLIS WHEATLEY CAMP MUELLER JULY 2019

**COMPUTER
TECH/DIGITAL LITERACY
CLASSES** for seniors and disabled
adult residents of the Emeritus House
and the community.



Here at **The Phillis Wheatley Association/Emeritus House** we offer computer classes, made possible through funding from *ABC Management* and the United Black Fund, that allows our seniors to become tech savvy in today's computer world. Seniors learn basic computer skills about hardware and software, and how to create and save documents, downloads, creating a playlist and experiencing how to play computer games. The internet also allows seniors to stay connected to family and friends through social media, as well as how to explore the internet just so they can enjoy being in the cloud.

And coming soon...
A DIGITAL LITERACY/VIRTUAL REALITY PROGRAM

This will bring ideas to life with photorealistic 3D environments and animations. And also allow the seniors to explore the world without ever leaving their place of residence.

WE NEED "Volunteers" to help children during the 2019-2020 school semester!



Listen Up Potential Volunteers!

The Cleveland Metropolitan School District is being served by the S.T.E.P. program that is hosted by the **Phillis Wheatley Association** in the Central Neighborhood with volunteers that live in the Cuyahoga County District. They work with first, second, and third graders that live in the surrounding area that attend George Washington Carver Elementary School. This is the main focal point of our services, seeing the students (scholars) develop and grow right before our very eyes is rewarding knowing we made a difference. With the tutor's assistance they are able to reach their level of reading in a healthy and fun environment. This is what it is all about...helping today's scholars become tomorrow's community leaders.

With all that said: **Your Services** will help keep this program operating in the **Central Community**. For example; **Supporting Tutors Engaging Pupils (S.T.E.P.) PROGRAM** WILL CONTINUE ITS MISSION working with students to reach their full potential when it comes to reading at a higher reading level.

Let me tell you volunteers something else about the impact you'll have concerning other volunteers that will make all the difference. One of our senior volunteers said to me, she's glad we have this program; because she gets lonely in her personal life, and that this particular program gives her the perfect outlet from being alone. This program allows her to reconnect with people. See, this is how you as a volunteer make it work for all of us. The S.T.E.P. program would like to take this time out to say: **Thank you volunteers and you are well appreciated for all you do...**

It is paramount that we focus on bringing our **Scholars** up to their age grade in reading comprehension. **Volunteers are needed** to help with this task. Please contact: **Richard King: Executive Director** at (PWA). Phone: (216)209-1606 or email rking@pwacleveland.org or **Bruce Johnson: Site Coordinator S.T.E.P. Program** at: (216) 835-5023 or email brucejohnson526@gmail.com

WE APPRECIATE OUR VOLUNTEERS

BECAUSE OF YOU VOLUNTEERS, OUR WORK HERE AT PHILLIS WHEATLEY IS MANAGEABLE AND WE ARE ABLE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITY WITHOUT GREAT DIFFICULTY...

VOLUNTEERS

We appreciate our volunteers here at our agency.

Volunteers are worth their weight in gold. They share their time and talents without any compensation, so it's crucial to acknowledge their contributions and let them know they are valued. Thanking them can go a long way toward accomplishing this goal, so it's worth taking the time to find just the right words to show our appreciation. We provide incentives to our volunteers like food, gifts and support through recommendation, which looks good on their resume. With that said; we have a long standing partnership with the National Caucus of Black Aged (NCBA) and appreciate all the time and services from our volunteers from their agency put in with us. **The compassion they show to the people we serve is an inspiration for us all.**

"This is one of our dedicated volunteers." Verna Hudson



Also, the gratitude we feel, because of your efforts allow us to love and respect what you are doing for the community through our agency. With that being said; the staff would like to say: **You are an Integral part of our story.**

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS FOR ALL
YOU DO HERE AT PHILLIS WHEATLEY!



The Phillis Wheatley Association is a Counselor assisted site for the Ohio Benefit Bank. Taxpayers can get assistance in filing their taxes online for FREE for both the federal and state income tax returns. Individuals with AGI's of \$65,000 or less and couples filing jointly with AGI's of \$95,000 or less can file with us.

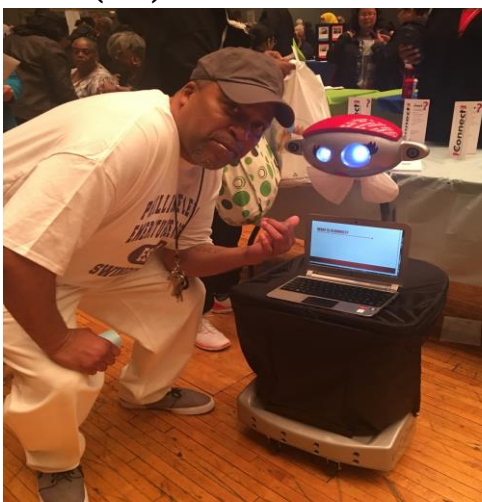


Is the largest hunger relief organization in Northeast Ohio having provided 55 million meals in 2017 to hungry people in Cuyahoga, Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Ashland and Richland counties.

The Phillis Wheatley Association's Senior Market at Emeritus House is FREE and open to all residents of Cuyahoga County.

Let us carry YOUR MESSAGE to The Senior Community here in Cuyahoga County

For Advertising Information Call:
Richard King Executive Director
(216) 391- 4443 ext. 11



PWA

How You Can Help...

**AN IMPORTANT CIVIC RESOURCE FOR
OVER 108 YEARS!**

The agency needs:

- **Volunteers to help prepare and serve food daily and help with the monthly food pantry distributions to the community.**
- **Volunteers to help tutor students in Grades 1- 3.**
- **Volunteers to help with janitorial and yard work activities.**
- **Donations of money, supplies and materials for programs and operations at the agency and Camp Mueller.**

As you know, things don't last forever no matter how well you try to maintain.

For example, the building where we once had a thriving daycare operation is in need of major repairs to the roof and windows in order for it to be ready for community use.

Also, our kitchen where we serve our on-site residents and the community daily is in need of various repairs and upgrades. The **Phillis Wheatley Association** strives to provide a hot, nutritious meal to the seniors and disabled adult population in the Central Community of Cleveland...However, we can't do it without your help!

To make a Tax Deductible donation, visit our website: www.pwacleveland.org or call 216-391-4443 Ext.12. Donations can also be mailed to the Phillis Wheatley Association at 4450 Cedar Ave., Cleveland OH 44103.

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The 50+ Marketing Agency

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Lisle, IL 60532
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8 a.m. - 8 p.m., Mon – Fri

There are many reasons why you may be eligible to enroll in a Medicare plan right now. See them here If you are turning 65, otherwise new to Medicare, losing benefits at work, moving, or have both Medicare and Medicaid you may be eligible. Other circumstances may qualify you as well.



440-252-4712 24

Hours a Day, Seven
Days a Week

We remove the guesswork and confusion from investigating home care. We are dedicated to helping you or your loved one get the support and help you need.

PWA

**LET'S PUT ON OUR THINKING CAPS AND HELP THE
SENIORS AT OUR AGENCY **LIVE BETTER LIVES****

Word Search Game - Musical Instruments

S X P T G T T Y M P A N I F M I Y	BAGPIPES
N Y K U H T J H P I C C O L O N Y	BASSOON
C L O N A I P A M B W T L K U G I	CELLO
O O L V E E D R O H C I S P R A H	CLARINET
R P O P H Y I M A N D O L I N W C	CORNET
N H A N X W T O L G K S C E Y G O	DRUM
E O P L W B P N I D O E E S U V T	FLUTE
T N V U O D R I F U L X E I I H A	GUITAR
S E W H B I T C S L E P T O E E M	HARMONICA
Q R T V U E V A O N I A L O U N B	HARPSICHORD
O E I U P N P M O P R I B H D O O	MANDOLIN
N L H M L H M H G K N O G E H B U	OBOE
D M U G O F P A S H U Z O E P M R	PIANO
B R U N N O B C L A R I N E T O I	PICCOLO
T D E R X G N O O S S A B U Z R N	SAXOPHONE
W M Y A D T J Z I T H E R K V T E	SOUSAPHONE
I G S W I H U Q M I R T A B U T R	TAMBOURINE
	TROMBONE
	TRUMPET
	TUBA
	TYMPANI
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