December 2025

News Flash

CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

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- CVCC Attends Nuts & Bolts Bash

IMPORTANT!

CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

Student & Parent Information Night

Your chance to explore the programs at CVCC, meet instructors, and ask questions.

Join Us

Thursday, January 15, 2026
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Cuyahoga Valley Career Center
8001 Brecksville Rd
Brecksville, OH 44141

Upcoming Student and Parent Information Night at CVCC

Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC) will hold its annual Student and Parent Information Night on Thursday, January 15, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for high school students and their families to learn more about the specialized career and college preparation opportunities available through the nearly 30 career-technical programs offered at CVCC. Attendees will have the opportunity to view programs, meet instructors, and ask questions. The Student and Parent Information Night helps with the decision-making process in choosing to enroll at the career center. Many CVCC programs offer industry certification opportunities and have career-technical credit transfer options, enabling students to earn college credit while at CVCC. Visit www.cvccworks.edu, or contact Kelli Casini, CVCC Admissions Counselor, at 440-746-8286 or kcasini@cvccworks.edu with any questions.

Veterans Day Assembly

CVCC held a memorable Veterans Day Assembly on November 11. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the students and staff who helped plan this meaningful event. A special thank you to Becky Clark from the Ohio Army National Guard for sharing her story with us. CVCC expresses its gratitude to Becky, our staff members who have served, and all who have dedicated themselves to our country.

10th Grade Exploration Visits

The 10th grade Exploration visits to CVCC are in full swing! 10th graders from all eight of CVCC's associate districts will tour CVCC and receive information on each program. All of CVCC's programs had current students or instructors speak to the groups, as well as had displays in the hallway for the groups to see. Visiting students now have the information needed to prepare for CVCC's Student and Parent Information Night that will be held on Thursday, January 15, from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. for anyone interested in learning more about the current offerings. Thank you to the entire CVCC staff for helping with these visits, specifically CVCC's Admissions Counselor Kelli Casini, Administrative Assistant, Mackenzie Hance, and the Career and Community Resources staff.

SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference

On November 20 and 21, CVCC's SkillsUSA Ohio students traveled to Columbus for the SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference and elections. During the event, delegates, local officers, and regional officer candidates spent their time building leadership skills and strengthening their chapters.

We're excited to share that CVCC returned with two new regional officers:

- **Ella McCabe** – Power Equipment Technology, Nordonia High School
- **Dontae Wilkerson** – Construction Trades, Garfield Heights High School

These standout leaders will continue their journey this January at the Regional Officer Training Institute in Columbus. Congratulations, Ella and Dontae!

Dontae Wilkerson

Ella McCabe

Cosmetology Students Spread Holiday Joy at Santa Brunch

A few of our high school Cosmetology students helped add a touch of holiday sparkle to a festive brunch hosted by the Brecksville–Broadview Heights Preschool Moms Club recently, offering hair tinsel and nail painting for attendees. The cheerful event provided a wonderful experience for families and an excellent fundraising opportunity for the program. A special thank you goes to Ms. Fox, Cosmetology instructor, for organizing this engaging activity for both her students and the community.

Dental Assisting Students Volunteer at MedWish

On Friday, November 21, our senior Dental Assisting students spent time volunteering at the MedWish Dental Clinic gaining hands-on experience while supporting an amazing community resource! MedWish provides free preventative and restorative dental care to individuals in need, and our students were proud to play a part in that mission. Throughout the day, they assisted chairside, helped with sterilization, organized supplies, and worked directly with patients and providers. Their professionalism, compassion, and dedication truly represented CVCC at its best. This meaningful experience not only gave them a chance to give back, but also strengthened their clinical skills. Our students showed impressive technical ability, teamwork, and confidence in a real-world setting. Way to go, Dental Assisting!

TTW Students Volunteer at Cleveland Food Bank

Our afternoon students from Transition-to-Work (TTW) B, instructed by Ms. Wracher, took a field trip to the Cleveland Food Bank last month, where they spent two hours volunteering in the repackaging section. Working together on an assembly line, our class helped pack boxes of food for families in need. Special shout-out to Kevon, Elizabeth, Soph, and Nolan for all of their hard work, along with Ms. Wazny, who kept things running smoothly by taping and loading all the completed boxes!

Results of their effort:

- 11 pallets
- 440 boxes
- 13,200 pounds of food packed!

Students Participate in Hands of Gratitude Project

Last month, CVCC students had the incredible opportunity to participate in a hands-on workshop led by Matt Campana and his organization, Hands of Gratitude. This inspiring program engages participants in building 3D-printed prosthetic hands that are distributed to recipients around the world. Working in small groups, students collaborated to assemble the prosthetics and added personal letters and artwork for the recipients. A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated staff for organizing this meaningful experience and to Hands of Gratitude for empowering our students to make a global impact!

Learn more about Hands of Gratitude at:
www.hands-of-gratitude.com

Hospitality & Food Preparation Students Volunteer at Innovation Food Services

CVCC's Hospitality & Food Preparation students teamed up with Innovation Food Services last month, located in Twinsburg, and prepared 722 meals in just under an hour. What a fantastic display of teamwork and hard work!

Digital Design Students Visit Bullseye Activewear

CVCC's Digital Design students took a field trip to Bullseye Activewear and Promotions, located in Brunswick, last month for some hands-on learning. Our students got hands-on experience with screen printing and embroidery, and explored how creative ideas come to life through custom apparel. Thank you, Bullseye Activewear and Promotions, for hosting our students and for the awesome apparel!

BPM Students Volunteer at Cornerstone Christian Assembly

Our Building & Property Maintenance (BPM) students visited Cornerstone Christian Assembly last month to help provide meals for 20 families in need. After distributing food, they also volunteered by cleaning the church, changing light bulbs, and installing new shelving in the food bank. Great work, BPM!

New Power Equipment Technology Training Truck

Exciting news for our Power Equipment Technology program! CVCC's new training truck from Ohio Peterbilt arrived last month for a short stay before heading out for its final upfitting. It features a 350HP Cummins engine, an Allison 3000RDS transmission, and a hydraulic hook lift system for maximum versatility. From diesel systems and air brakes to load securement, this truck is built to teach it all. Students even chose the gray color to match our school colors! With the current truck dating back to 1994, this new addition marks a major step forward and will serve as an outstanding learning resource for years to come.

Students Attend Passport to Careers Hosted by GCP

On November 5, our Networking & Cybersecurity and Programming & Software Development students attended Passport to Careers hosted by Greater Cleveland Partnership (GCP). During this event, our students, along with hundreds of other Northeast Ohio high-school students, gathered for a hands-on exploration of future opportunities in both technology and finance. Through career conversations with industry professionals, breakout sessions, and games, our students gained real-world insight into careers, education pathways, and the endless opportunities available right here in our region. It was an inspiring day of discovery, connection, and future-planning for our students!

Education Professions Students Visit MAGNET

CVCC's Education Professions students had an awesome visit to MAGNET on Friday, December 5! They toured the facility and learned about all the incredible services MAGNET provides for students across Northeast Ohio. Thank you to Michelle Hasman, CVCC Career Specialist for Garfield Heights City Schools, for making this fun and informative afternoon happen!

Learn more about MAGNET here:
https://www.manufacturingsuccess.org

Media Arts Program Updates Classroom Studio for Podcasting

With podcasts continuing to rise in popularity, CVCC's Media Arts program recently upgraded its former broadcast-style studio into a polished podcast space, and it looks amazing! The program was thrilled when local realtor Nicole Garcia (from eXp Realty) reached out to partner with our students on podcast projects, social media content, and other media opportunities. Our seniors have been hard at work producing episodes of Real Talk with Realtors—coming soon! Keep up the great work, Media Arts!

CVCC Spreads Holiday Cheer at Shop with a First Responder

On Saturday, December 6, several of our students joined our School Resource Officer, Officer Max, along with the Brecksville Police and Fire Departments, to take part in the annual Shop with a First Responder! Students were paired with children from Brecksville–Broadview Heights City Schools. The day kicked off with donuts at the Brecksville Community Center, followed by a festive shopping trip to Target—sirens blaring, lights flashing, and holiday excitement all around! Each child received $200 to pick out gifts, then everyone returned to wrap presents and enjoy a pizza lunch together. We're incredibly proud of our students for their generosity, kindness, and holiday spirit. A huge thank you to Brecksville's amazing First Responders for making this day truly special!

Shout-out to our amazing student volunteers:

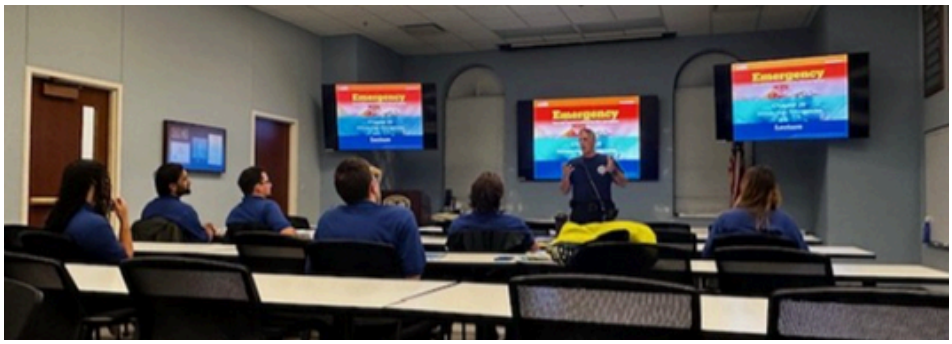
- **Jaismine Dhesi** (Health Careers, Twinsburg High School)
- **Melissa Preseren** (Health Careers, North Royalton High School)
- **Samantha Simonitis** (Health Careers, Nordonia High School)
- **Melody Nguyen** (Health Careers, Twinsburg High School)
- **Rozmen Sidhu** (Dental Assisting, Twinsburg High School)
- **Arianna Cocroft** (Health Careers, Twinsburg High School)
- **Addison Huffman** (Health Careers, Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School)
- **Sam Gerbasich** (Health Careers, Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School)
- **Trinity Crouch** (Health Careers, Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School)

Special thanks to everyone, including CVCC staff members Leah Bierman, Educational Aide, and Claudette Knestrick, Student Support Services, for dedicating your time and spreading holiday cheer!

Hands-On Inspiration: Brecksville Fire Department Engages CVCC EMT Students

CVCC extends a huge thank-you to Firefighter/Paramedic Mike Packard of the Brecksville Fire Department for his outstanding engagement with our Adult Education Emergency Medical Technician–Basic students during their station visit last month. Mike generously spent nearly two hours with our group, sharing the history of Brecksville Fire, explaining the essential role EMTs play within the fire service, and guiding students through the medical equipment used in daily operations. From demonstrating tools like the LUCAS CPR device and CPAP machine to showcasing Brecksville's state-of-the-art cot system (something our students had never seen). He also reviewed expectations for internship and ride time and led an in-depth tour of the station, giving students a true look into life at the fire department.

We also want to recognize Chief Bender for the exceptional facilities at the Brecksville Fire Education Center. The recent upgrades, including impressive new large-format monitors, greatly enhanced our students' session on immunological emergencies and elevated the overall learning environment. Our students were fully engaged and excited throughout their visit. Professional role models like Mike make a tremendous impact on career exploration and inspire the next generation of EMTs, strengthening our community in the process. Thank you, Mike and Chief Bender, for welcoming us into the Brecksville Fire Department and providing such an incredible educational experience!



CVCC Attends Nuts & Bolts Bash

CVCC was proud to join Manufacturing Works at the Nuts & Bolts Bash on October 16 at Truss Cleveland, celebrating Northeast Ohio's thriving manufacturing community! Representing CVCC were Joe Lupia, Adult Education Coordinator, and Diane Duryea, Business Liaison. The evening was filled with networking, celebration, and collaboration, as industry leaders, innovators, and sponsors gathered to raise funds and awareness for programs that drive solutions for people, production, and prosperity. CVCC is honored to support the Northeast Ohio manufacturing community and the programs that help them succeed.

Important Dates

CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

For questions, feedback, or news ideas, email mrobertson@cvccworks.edu.

Upcoming Events:

- Monday, December 22 – Friday, January 2: Winter Break
- Wednesday, December 24 – Friday, December 26: Building Closed
- Thursday, January 1: Building Closed
- Monday, January 5: Classes Resume
- Thursday, January 8: Board of Education Meeting