CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

October 2026

News Flash

CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

AT A GLANCE

- Kick Off Your Holiday Shopping at the CVCC November Craft Show!
- Future Dental Professionals in Action
- Media Arts Seniors Shine at the 5th Annual Wine & Gold Gala
- Media Arts Students Explore Storytelling at Chagrin Documentary Film Festival
- Construction Trades Seniors Explore Career Opportunities at Ohio JATC
- Construction Trades Students Transform CVCC's Salt Shed
- Auto Body Students Gain Hands-On Career Insights at ACE Event
- Power Equipment Technology Welcomes Ohio Machinery Recruiters
- CVCC Hosts October FMCNEO Meeting
- Exploring Sports Medicine at Mount Union
- Dolly Day at CVCC
- Upcoming Cooking Classes at CVCC



Kick Off Your Holiday Shopping at the November Craft Show!

Mark your calendars! CVCC is hosting its annual November Craft Show on Saturday, November 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Come explore a wide variety of local vendors offering handmade crafts, unique gifts, delicious baked goods, and much more. It's the perfect opportunity to get a head start on your holiday shopping while supporting our school! Admission is just $1, with all proceeds benefiting the CVCC SkillsUSA Local Chapter. We can't wait to see you there!

For questions or more information, please contact Julie Jakubczak at jjakubczak@cvccworks.edu.



Future Dental Professionals in Action

Our CVCC Dental Assisting seniors recently visited MedWish/MedWorks for a rewarding hands-on learning experience that allowed them to put their classroom knowledge and clinical skills into practice while giving back to the community! Throughout the day, students worked alongside dental professionals, including dentists and dental hygienists, gaining valuable experience with dental X-rays, fillings, extractions, cleanings, sterilization procedures, and infection control. Beyond the clinical skills they practiced, our students demonstrated the importance of teamwork, professionalism, compassionate patient care, and community service. Dental Assisting Instructor Lisa Theodore was especially proud of the positive feedback students received for their professionalism, respectful behavior, and eagerness to learn!

CVCC extends a heartfelt thank you to MedWish/MedWorks and the dental professionals who welcomed our students, shared their expertise, and made this meaningful experience possible. Experiences like these help prepare our students for successful careers in the dental field while reminding them that great patient care goes beyond technical skills — it starts with compassion and a commitment to serving others!













Media Arts Seniors Shine at the 5th Annual Wine & Gold Gala

A massive thank you to the Cleveland Cavaliers for giving our Media Arts seniors an unforgettable real-world opportunity! Our students served as paparazzi photographers at the 5th Annual Wine & Gold Gala at Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse on Saturday, October 10. While helping support the Cavaliers Community Foundation, our seniors put their hands-on camera skills into action, snapping high-profile photos throughout the evening. We are so proud of their incredible work and thankful to the Cavs for providing experiences that bring classroom learning to life!



Media Arts Students Explore Storytelling at Chagrin Documentary Film Festival

Media Arts juniors and seniors spent an inspiring day at the Chagrin Documentary Film Festival! Our students viewed powerful, thought-provoking films and participated in interactive panel discussions directly with the filmmakers. It was a fantastic real-world learning experience that allowed our students to dive deep into the art of cinematic storytelling and gain invaluable insights from industry professionals.





Construction Trades Seniors Explore Career Opportunities at Ohio JATC





Our Construction Trades seniors visited Ohio JATC for a hands-on learning experience exploring a variety of skilled trades! Students had the opportunity to try different aspects of each trade, gain valuable industry knowledge, and learn more about the career paths available in the construction industry. Experiences like these allow students to take their learning beyond the classroom and explore opportunities for their future. A big thank you to Ohio JATC for welcoming our students and providing such a valuable experience!

Construction Trades Seniors Receive Carhartt Jackets

Our Construction Trades seniors recently received their brand-new Carhartt jackets, thanks to the generosity of the graduating Class of 2026! More than just workwear, these jackets represent the tradition of hard work, dedication, and camaraderie that continues from one class to the next. A big thank you to the Class of 2026 for giving back and helping support the next generation of skilled trades professionals. We're proud to see this tradition continue as our Construction Trades students learn, grow, and build their futures!



Construction Trades Students Transform CVCC's Salt Shed

Our Construction Trades students have been making the most of the nice weather and taking their hands-on learning outside! Students recently worked together on CVCC's salt shed, using scaffolding to install and repair siding and trim while putting their construction skills to work. The project was first brought forward by a student, Carter Howard, who shared his idea with David Mangas, Superintendent, for approval. With the green light to move forward, Carter served as team lead as his classmates worked together to bring the project to life. We love seeing our students take initiative, work as a team, and apply what they're learning in the classroom to real-world projects right here at CVCC!



CVCC Auto Body Students Gain Hands-On Career Insights at ACE Event

Students from CVCC's Auto Body Repair & Refinishing program, led by instructor Michael Kapis, recently traveled to Columbus for the Auto Collision Experience (ACE). Joining over 400 auto body students from across Ohio, our group took part in live technical demonstrations, met with industry vendors accepting job applications, and participated in valuable mock interviews. To top off a fantastic day of career building and networking, everyone enjoyed a free lunch and left with plenty of swag. It was truly an incredible experience for our future automotive professionals!



Power Equipment Technology Welcomes Ohio Machinery Recruiters

CVCC's Power Equipment Technology program recently welcomed recruiters from Ohio Machinery—including Ohio CAT and Ohio Peterbilt. Students learned about post-graduation career opportunities and the prestigious Think BIG program, which provides a direct pathway into high-demand technical careers. To top off the visit, our program was officially presented with its Tier 1 Ohio Machinery Partnership Banner! We are deeply grateful for strong industry partners like Ohio Machinery, whose continued support connects our students to real-world success beyond the classroom.



CVCC Hosts October FMCNEO Meeting

Cuyahoga Valley Career Center was proud to host the October FMCNEO (Fleet Maintenance Council of Northeast Ohio) meeting. David Mangas, Superintendent, kicked off the event by sharing an overview of CVCC and our 26 career pathways designed to set students up for lifelong success. Josh Hayes, Assistant Principal, followed with an insightful look into our work-based learning methodology, highlighting our strong industry partnerships and hands-on workplace training. Power Equipment Technology Instructor, Matthew Harding, also took the stage to deliver an engaging presentation on modern troubleshooting and maintenance tips—offering a fantastic preview of the high-caliber instruction our students receive daily. To top off the event, Car Parts Warehouse generously donated four haunted house tickets, awarded to the first student who successfully explained voltage drop. The gathering wrapped up with a guided tour of our facility for all attending members.





Exploring Sports Medicine at Mount Union

Our Sports Medicine and Exercise Science students had the opportunity to visit the University of Mount Union for a hands-on learning experience! Working alongside Mount Union's exercise science students and faculty, our students explored sports medicine and human performance technologies, collected their own performance data, and learned how those results help inform real-world decisions. From physical therapy and athletic training to strength and conditioning, students got an inside look at how science and technology work together to assess performance, guide rehabilitation, and support athlete health. Experiences like these help connect classroom learning to future careers and open doors to new possibilities in the health and sports science fields. Thank you, Mount Union!







CVCC/Independence Alumni — We're Looking for You!

Attention CVCC alumni who graduated from Independence High School — we're looking for you! We're working to strengthen connections with our Independence/CVCC alumni and would love for you to get involved! Join us for roundtable discussions, share your experiences, and help inspire and guide today's Blue Devils through future guest speaker opportunities.

Ready to get involved? Check out the flyer and scan the QR code or click the link below to fill out the quick interest form!



Dolly Day at CVCC

Our staff had a little extra fun on September 25 celebrating Dolly Day! From western wear to pink, sparkles and plenty of Dolly spirit, these ladies understood the assignment! A big thank-you to our Hospitality & Food Preparation instructors for bringing the idea to our staff and treating us to some Dolly-inspired treats this week, too! We're always up for a little fun together and even happier to celebrate Dolly's message of kindness, generosity, and giving back.



Upcoming Cooking Classes

Our cooking classes have been serving up delicious creations, hands-on learning, and plenty of fun! Whether you're looking to try something new, enjoy a fun night out with friends, or plan a unique date night, we'd love to have you join us!

Check out our upcoming classes and register here:
https://cuyahogavalley.augusoft.net/connect/ClassListing/ClassListingDisplay?int_category_id=6&int_sub_category_id=27&int_catalog_id=







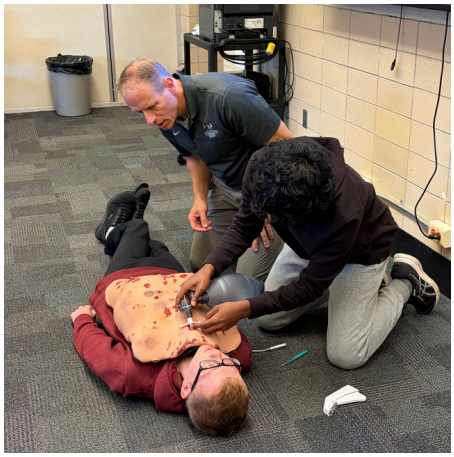
Nordonia Students Explore Skilled Trades at Akron Trades Fair

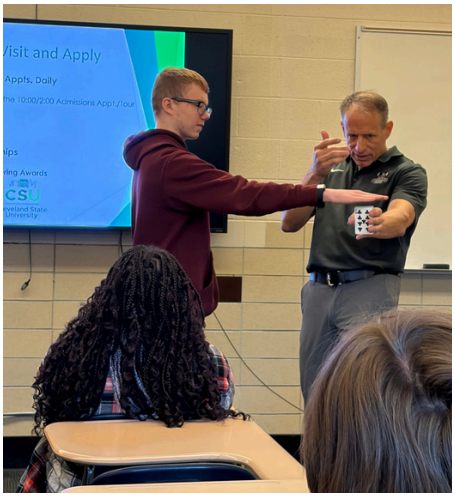




On September 17, Nordonia High School students joined Career Specialist Deb Monaco at the Akron Trades Fair for an inside look at the high-demand world of skilled trades. Students connected directly with local business professionals, union apprenticeship leaders, and construction contractors. Between networking and exploring local career pathways, students jumped into 15 hands-on interactive activities, getting a real feel for the tools and skills required in various trades. For many, the fair opened doors to brand-new possibilities. Students showed strong interest in apprenticeship programs, discovering how skilled trade careers offer competitive pay, strong benefits, and rewarding work—all without the burden of traditional four-year college debt. Events like the Akron Trades Fair highlight the incredible, lucrative career opportunities waiting for our students right here in Northeast Ohio!

Nordonia Kicks Off Career Speaker Series with Engineering Spotlight





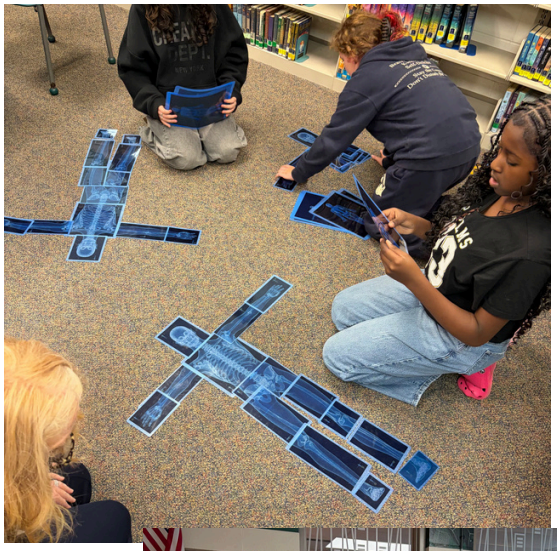
Nordonia High School officially launched its monthly Career Speaker Series on Wednesday, October 7, with an inspiring dive into the world of engineering. Organized by Career Specialist Deb Monaco, the kickoff event featured W.C. Welden from Cleveland State University's Washkewicz College of Engineering and Fenn Academy. A mechanical engineer and owner of The Mid-Ohio Bakery Machines—a business that manufactures rare replacement parts for food-processing equipment and vintage motorcycles—Welden brought real-world ingenuity directly to the classroom. Through interactive, hands-on demonstrations, students explored various engineering disciplines and saw how creativity, technical skill, and problem-solving translate into practical solutions. The event offered a compelling look at post-secondary possibilities, highlighting pathways through CVCC and beyond!

Lee Eaton Sixth Graders Dive into Career Exploration

During the week of September 21, Lee Eaton Middle School sixth graders got a hands-on preview of future career paths during a visit from Nordonia District Career Specialist Deb Monaco. Students rotated through five interactive career kits, working together to solve problems and discover how their personal interests connect to real-world jobs. The activities gave students a taste of diverse career fields, including

- Medical Imaging & X-Ray Technology
- Cosmetology
- Logistics
- Culinary Arts
- Construction

By connecting classroom skills to the professional world, this early career exploration encouraged students to think big about their futures and discover the wide variety of paths available to them!









MAGNET Mobile Unit Brings Interactive Science to RB Chamberlin





On Thursday, September 23, hands-on STEM learning reached new heights at RB Chamberlin Middle School! Thanks to a visit from the MAGNET Mobile Experience van, middle schoolers and visiting Twinsburg High School freshmen stepped into interactive manufacturing labs right on campus. Guided by teachers Sophie Lim and Ilana Friedman, students tackled practical engineering challenges that culminated in an exciting outdoor rocket launch on the lawn. Organized by Career Specialist Toni Cluse, the event connected students directly with Northeast Ohio's thriving manufacturing sector. The event was such a resounding success that the team is already planning to bring the experience back for second-semester STEM classes. Special thanks to MAGNET for bringing hands-on learning to life for our students!

Twinsburg Tigers Explore Skilled Trades at Akron-Canton Builds Event

On Thursday, September 17, students from Mr. Herston's and Mr. Stroud's Connections classes at Twinsburg High School took learning out into the field with a trip to the annual Akron-Canton Builds event at the Summit County Fairgrounds. Marking Twinsburg High School's third consecutive year at the event, Career Specialist Toni Cluse organized the outing to help students explore dynamic career paths after graduation. Supported by chaperone Tiffany Brenner, students connected directly with local professionals in electrical work, carpentry, masonry, and other construction disciplines. Beyond networking, students jumped into hands-on demonstrations and learned firsthand about apprenticeship pathways, competitive starting salaries, and immediate job opportunities waiting for them after high school. This ongoing initiative continues to empower Twinsburg Tigers as they plan their future careers!

AKRON CANTON BUILDS



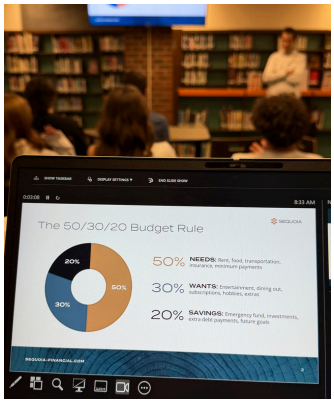
Cuyahoga Heights Students Explore Construction Careers at SheDig 2026

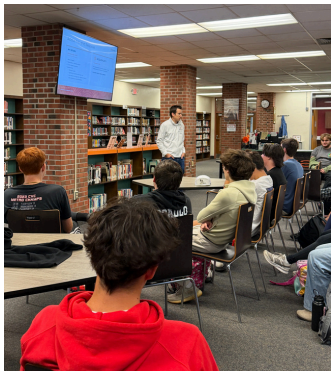




For the very first time, Cuyahoga Heights students headed to the Operating Engineers Training Center in Richfield to take part in SheDig 2026! Organized by CVCC Career Specialist Julie Regula and Cuyahoga Heights English Teacher Ms. Ogden, this high-energy event gave students a hands-on dive into the construction industry and the world of heavy equipment operators. Students connected directly with apprentices and seasoned industry pros to learn what it takes to thrive in the field. The highlight of the day? Getting behind the wheel! Students operated real heavy machinery, including forklifts, dump trucks, cranes, and soil compactors. As Mrs. Regula noted, even for students who don't pursue heavy equipment as a full-time career, the experience was deeply empowering—encouraging everyone to step outside their comfort zones, try something new, and discover the many pathways to a successful future.

Cuyahoga Heights Seniors Gain Essential Financial Literacy Skills





As graduation approaches, Cuyahoga Heights High School seniors took a major step toward independence on October 14 during a real-world financial literacy workshop with wealth advisor Michael Spangler (Director at Sequoia Financial Group in Akron). Coordinated by CVCC Career Specialist Julie Regula, the session provided practical guidance on managing money and planning for life after high school. Students learned about budgeting, credit scores, student loan management, and the power of compound interest. Spangler demonstrated how small, early savings can compound over time, offering an inspiring takeaway for the room: "Every student in this room has the potential to retire a millionaire if they start early." "Presentations like this build on life skills our students are developing and provide practical tools to help them work toward financial independence," noted Mrs. Regula. It was an empowering session that equipped our upcoming graduates with lifelong tools for financial success!

North Royalton Students Dig Into Careers at SheDig





North Royalton students recently took career exploration to the next level at SheDig, an event hosted by Local 18 Operating Engineers! Designed to introduce young women to exciting careers in heavy equipment operation and construction, the event gave students an unforgettable, hands-on look at opportunities in the skilled trades. Students got behind the controls of real heavy machinery, experienced what it's like to be an operating engineer, and connected with Local 18 apprenticeship instructors and experienced union members. They also learned about apprenticeship opportunities, training requirements, and pathways to rewarding careers in the industry. A special thank-you to CVCC Career Specialist Jill Larson for helping coordinate this opportunity! Experiences like SheDig empower students to think big, build new skills, and explore career paths they may have never considered before!

North Royalton Students Discover Careers in Carpentry

North Royalton students recently took another hands-on step toward their futures at the Carpenters Union Open House! During the visit, students toured a state-of-the-art training facility, connected with current apprentices, and spoke with union representatives and instructors to learn more about careers in carpentry. Students gained insight into how apprenticeship programs combine paid, on-the-job training with classroom instruction to develop the skills needed for rewarding, long-term careers in the skilled trades. A big thank-you to the Central Midwest Regional Council of Carpenters for welcoming our students and to CVCC Career Specialist Jill Larson for helping coordinate this valuable career exploration opportunity! Experiences like these help students explore their options, discover new possibilities, and take meaningful steps toward their futures!











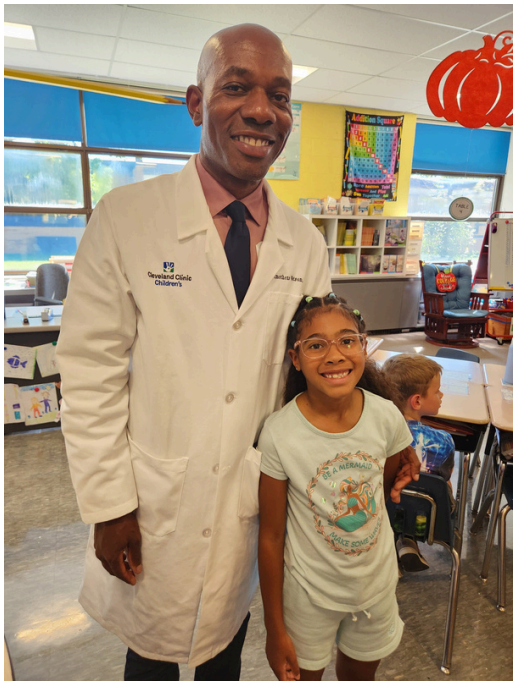
Building Futures: Revere Students Connect with Careers Across All Grade Levels

This fall, Revere students from elementary to high school dove into career awareness, exploration, and hands-on learning through a series of annual events!

- **Skilled Trades Expo:** Twenty Revere High School students attended the Akron-Canton Builds Expo, trying their hands at crane operation, bricklaying, and other skilled trade skills while learning about high-demand career options.
- **Richfield Elementary Career Day:** Second graders hosted 10 parent presenters! Students discovered what it's like to live and work in West Africa with a U.S. Embassy humanitarian worker, saw how firefighters and rescue divers save lives, learned how physical therapists keep us moving, and explored careers in cardiology, software development, tree care, and more.
- **RHS Futures Day:** Revere High School recently hosted its annual Futures Day, welcoming more than 70 guest panelists to help students explore their future possibilities! Freshmen and sophomores learned about a variety of exciting career fields, including forensics, healthcare, law, and the arts, while juniors connected with representatives from two- and four-year colleges, trade unions, and the military.

A big thank you to Nancy Vondrak, CVCC Career Specialist, and everyone else who helped organize and support these meaningful career exploration opportunities for Revere students! These experiences help students discover new interests, explore future possibilities, and see the many paths available to them.







Important Dates

CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

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

Upcoming Events:

- **Tuesday, November 3** - Staff In-Service; No School for High School
- **Friday, November 6** - Advisory Meeting; No Afternoon Classes for High School
- **Saturday, November 7** - November Craft Show; 9:00am - 3:00pm
- **Wednesday, November 11** - Veteran's Day Presentation
- **Wednesday, November 25-Friday, November 27** - Thanksgiving Break; No School/Building Closed
- **Thursday, December 10** - Board of Education Meeting; 6:00pm *(Reminder: No November Meeting)*