C.L.E.

council for life long engagement

Making Connections

The Council for Life Long Engagement (CLLE) is at it again during the 2013 – 2014 school year. Residents have made many wonderful connections between teachers, students and their parents, and the impact they've made is tremendous.

This January, the 6th, 7th and 8th grade students at Nativity School in Pleasant Ridge hosted their annual science fair. Several Deupree House (DH) and Marjorie P. Lee (MPL) residents had the opportunity to participate as judges for this special occasion. It was here that we had a "small world" experience. Dr. Dan Wheeler taught at the University of Cincinnati as a cognitive psychologist for over 30 years. During that time, he taught and mentored thousands of students. What are the odds that Dan decided to participate as a science fair judge that day, and that one of his former students, who he taught and mentored throughout the process of her thesis, was the person at the check in table! Dan and Dr. Mary Ann Buchino had a wonderful time reconnecting and catching up and discussing their love of science. It truly is a small world after all. The students were grateful for the expertise that our residents brought to their special day.

Recently, a panel of residents from DH and MPL joined the Mt. Notre Dame (MND) seniors to discuss their lives as young adults, career paths and advice on things they wish they

had known when they were 17 or 18. One question in particular struck a chord with the class – a student asked if any of the residents had been fired or let go from a job. The panel was silent at first, but what they ended up sharing was something the girls would not soon forget. Two residents shared specific experiences.

Are You
Interested?
If you would
like to be apart
of the CLLE
programs in
the classroom,
please contact
Laura Lamb at
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or at 272.5555
ext. 6606. Visit
www.clle.org



Dan Wheeler (pictured above) was accompanied by Ann Reed from MPL along with Dr. Roger Geisel & Dr. Bill Schneider from Deupree House. All four residents served as judges during the science fair at Nativity School.

First, there is nothing worse than hearing the words, "This just isn't the right fit for you". However, both residents shared something unexpected – that being fired and let go was the best thing that had ever happened to them. In fact, they believe that they wouldn't be where they are or who they are today had that not happened. Was it easy at the time? Certainly not. But ultimately, they were grateful for the opportunity to grow.

A few weeks later, a mother of one of the MND students shared something amazing with a CLLE staff member. In this woman's family, her daughter had experienced a disappointment. The mother had tried to encourage her daughter by explaining that you often learn more from your failures than from your successes, but she didn't feel as though she was able to get through to her. However, after the CLLE panel of residents, her daughter came home with a new found confidence. The residents had inspired her with their openness – to be real, learn from your mistakes and make the best of them. She was able to learn that every person experiences disappointments. But it is always important to remember – If "Plan A" doesn't work, there are still 25 other letters in the alphabet. Never give up! The mother was amazed and shared that she is grateful for CLLE and the residents who had impacted her daughter in such a profound way.



Mount Notre Dame seniors listen carefully to the panel. Residents at this year's career panel included: Iris Ball (MPL), Terry Lilly (MPL), JoAnn Plotkin (DH), and Dr. Bill Schneider (DH).

