

# The Voice

Tracey D. Johnson, President

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Columbus Education Association

November 10, 2014

This area of  
*The Voice*  
has been  
intentionally  
left blank because  
it contains a  
political endorsement.

## What Veterans Day Means to Me

My husband, SFC (Ret.) Kelly Sellers, served actively with the Ohio Army National Guard and was called to deploy in 2001 and 2008. How my schools and CEA families responded to these deployments is something I remember each and every Veterans Day.

During the fall of 2001, friends, colleagues and CEA members at Mifflin HS helped me through the challenges of my husband's first deployment. It was an uncertain time after 9/11, and the experience of Kelly being called to serve was difficult and worrisome. My friends and fellow teachers checked and made sure I always had all that I needed—both at home and at school during my husband's absence. By 2008, (and



adding two sons; ages 5 and 2) friends, colleagues and fellow CEA members at Ft. Hayes MEC began assisting me through another deployment. During this time, Courtney Johnson (SrFR) organized a calendar of babysitting, house cleaning and collecting of funds which allowed me to enjoy an occasional dinner or night out with friends. Others went grocery shopping, brought weekly dinners, sent gift cards and were always available for much-needed moral support throughout the long and often strenuous year.

Every November 11, we honor our soldiers who have served and continue to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces. For my family—for me, it is not only a day to remember the soldiers (and my husband), but also a day to remember the individuals who help and support families when husbands, wives, fathers and mothers face deployments or time away from home; the same individuals I will always remember and be forever grateful for on this and every Veterans Day.

*Maria D. Angel (SrFR)*

*Special Education Transition Coordinator  
Ft. Hayes CC and Columbus Downtown HS*

On November 11, we honor America's veterans for their patriotism and love of country. Some of them are your colleagues. Please join us in honoring the men and women among our membership who have served in the Armed Forces. Without them, our freedoms as Americans would be in jeopardy. We say, "Thank you for your service."

**Army:** Stephen Baker ★ Dawn Berenzweig ★ Michael Black ★ Michael Buschur ★ Art Brown ★ Joe Dortch ★ James Duffield ★ Larry Farley ★ Al Hernandez ★ Gordy Horvath ★ Withenia Moore-Williams ★ Rita Morgan ★ Michael Munsell ★ Ed Pulsifer ★ Kimberly Roth ★ Alan Snow ★ Stephen Swartz ★ Gary Thomas ★ Laurie Tufts ★ Troy Weis ★ Darryl White

**Navy:** Bob Hern ★ Tim Huber ★ J. Sanchez ★ Alan Schmiedebusch ★ Lisa Moore Wilson

**Marines:** William Irvin ★ Denny Mulloy ★ Rob Schuler

**Air Force:** Sean Billingslea ★ Gerald Collins ★ Ruth Colwell ★ Gonnie Goins ★ Angel Negrón ★ James Noice

## We Roll the 'United' Way

The district's United Way campaign ended on Friday,

Oct. 31. If you haven't given your completed pledge

form to your SrFR, make sure you do so. Remember, by donating to the United Way of Central Ohio, you create positive changes for now and the future of many Central Ohio



families. Your gift helps our families in many ways:

- Access services and assistance to stay warm during the winter
- Receive job skills training
- Manage finances
- Navigate barriers to health care
- Meet critical needs in times of crisis

United Way also supports preschool education for Columbus children and many other programs that help our students succeed in life.

Your Association would like to thank the following schools/units whose campaign envelopes were received since the publication of last week's *Voice*: Beatty Park ES, Buckeye MS, Burroughs ES, CEA Office, Columbus City Prep. School for Girls, Cedarwood ES, Champion MS, Columbus Africentric EC ES, Columbus International HS, Cranbrook ES, Devonshire ES, Eakin ES, East Columbus ES, East Linden ES, Eastmoor Academy HS, Fairwood K-6, Forest Park ES, Hilltonia MS, Hudson Community Education Ctr., Huy/A.G. Bell, Indian Springs ES, Indianola Informal K-8, Johnson Park MS, Mifflin MS, North Linden ES, Oakland Park ES, PAR/17th Avenue, Ridgeview MS, Special Education Coordinators, Shady Lane ES, Shepard Center, South HS 7-12, Watkins ES, Wedgewood MS, Weinland Park ES, West Broad ES, Westgate ES, Woodcrest ES and Woodward Park MS.

### United Way Prize Winners

#### \$500-Leadership Grand Prize (2) \$150 Target Gift Card

Deborah Copeland, Alpine ES (Administration)  
Joan Powers, Oakmont ES (Teacher)

#### \$60+ Level Payroll Deduction Prize (1) \$100 Target Gift Card

Nancy Click, Health Services (Nurse)

#### \$250 Level Prizes (4) \$50 Amazon.com Gift Card

Gary Leidheiser, Hilltonia MS (Teacher)  
Virginia Mirelli (CEA-R)  
Douglas Swartz, 17th Avenue Service Ctr. (Classified Supervisor)  
Tina Wallace, Colerain ES (Classified)

#### \$125 Level Prizes (8) \$30 Target Card

Taiyia Hayden, Moler ES (Teacher)  
Sharon Higgins, Arts Impact MS (Teacher)  
Michelle Coneglio, Clinton ES (Teacher)  
Martha Hilditch, Centennial HS – Tutor  
Barb Wolz, Sherwood MS – Food Services (Classified)  
Diane Agnes, Woodward Park MS (Administration)  
Shawn Hoyd, CAHS (Teacher)  
Cheryl McKenzie, Devonshire ES (Teacher)

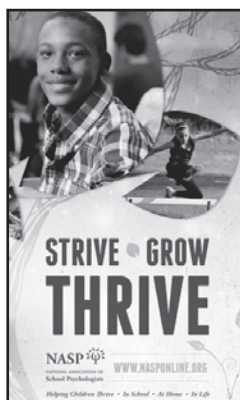
#### \$60 Level Prizes (5) \$10 Gas Cards

Jessica Cosgrove, Col's City Prep. School for Girls (Teacher)  
Charsley Hawkins, Columbus Downtown HS (Classified)  
Carol Steed, Woodward Park MS (Classified)  
Melinda Howard, Fairwood ES  
Jill Grimm, Ridgeview MS (Teacher)

## Thank your School Psychologist

It's School Psychology Awareness Week (Nov. 10-14), and the theme is "Strive. Grow. THRIVE!" School psychologists engage students at all levels of learning and development to promote personal achievement, growth and resilience, as well as a sense of connectedness and well-being. Here are some of ways these specialists help guide our students:

- Increase achievement by assessing bar-



riers to learning

- Promote wellness and resilience by reinforcing communication and social skills
- Enhance understanding and acceptance of diverse cultures and backgrounds
- Identify and address learning and behavior problems that interfere with school success
- Help evaluate eligibility for special education services
- Support students' social, emotional and behavioral health
- Teach parenting skills and enhance home-school collaboration
- Make referrals and help coordinate community support services

Read more at [www.nasponline.org/communications/spaw](http://www.nasponline.org/communications/spaw).

## Know your CEA Secretary: Dominique Vacheresse

Dominique Vacheresse is a fairly new teacher, but she is already heavily involved in our work at CEA. Vacheresse spent the 2013-2014 school year at Medina MS, specializing in teaching youngsters with emotional disturbances. Now, following her first year on the job, she is the newly-appointed secretary of the CEA Board of Governors.



"Often, teaching is a thankless job, and I feel the union goes to great lengths to support teachers so they don't feel unappreciated and neglected," she said.

Vacheresse attended school in central Ohio, at Indianola ES, Mifflin MS, Eastmoor Acad. HS and Walnut Ridge HS. She graduated from Olentangy HS. She was completing her Master's Degree in Education while Senate Bill 5 raged at the Statehouse and decided she had to get involved.

"I attended the Democratic Party state dinner and participated in the Pride Parade," she said. "I appreciate the work the union does with various organizations in efforts to protect and serve teachers. Education is vital to creating productive members of society. I want Columbus to have effective and efficient teachers. In order to recruit and retain the best teachers, I believe we need a strong support system. I want to be a part of that system. I hope I am able to help strengthen CEA and Columbus City Schools which, in the end, benefit our students."

## Special Notes

- ❑ **Campaigning ends for District 6 Governor and Middle School At-Large Governor on Nov. 10.** Be sure to get involved in the election process by casting your vote. The Elections Committee will **tabulate votes on Nov. 11.**
- ❑ **The deadline is 5 p.m., Monday, Nov. 10,** to nominate candidates to receive our annual **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards.** This year's dinner is **Thursday, Jan. 15,** at the **Hyatt Regency Columbus.** The **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award** is given for distinguished service in the community in education, social justice or human and civil rights. Anyone is eligible, except current employees of the Columbus City Schools. The **Helen Jenkins Davis Award** is presented to a CEA member who has promoted social justice, diversity and human and civil rights. Get a form from your Senior Faculty Representative, or at <http://bit.ly/QNdKHeMLKNomForms>.
- ❑ If you are not receiving *The CEA Voice* or other communications by email, send a message to Bob Hern at [bhern@ceaohio.org](mailto:bhern@ceaohio.org).