House System Builds Loving Relationships at Seton

Contributed By S. Annette Paveglio

Seton High School is excited to have embraced a new student government model called the House System. It is one of only a few high schools in the area to be using this model. Both students and faculty have already seen the positive effects.

Within the House System, the entire school – students and faculty – have been divided into four houses. These houses – Cedar House, Emitts House, O’Connell House and Segale House – each have names that were chosen because of a specific connection to the school. Each house has a unique crest that has been created by students and will never change. Every house has a House Dean who is a faculty member; there are also School, House and Mentor Captains who are students that have been elected by their classmates. The houses consist of freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors all together.

“The house system fosters strong personal relationships with peers and adults, and it creates a sense of belonging for all students,” said Marianne Ridiman, Seton student retention coordinator and House Dean.

Seton senior and student body president Sydney Hoffman was one of the students who put energy behind adopting this model for the school. When visiting Moeller High School to observe their system of student government, she noticed the strong bond between the students and faculty. Feeling it would be a perfect fit for Seton, Sydney and others worked toward implementation.

“There are more leadership opportunities and attendance has increased at sport games, extracurriculars and other activities,” explained Hoffman. “I have noticed girls from the four different grades becoming friends. In mentor groups, the upperclassmen give advice to the freshmen, help each other with homework, and are in the process of becoming a family.”

Seton senior and school pep captain Mary Oehler echoes that pride and enthusiasm. “The new House System has been the most amazing and successful change the student body has ever gotten to experience. The school spirit that has always been present here at Seton has shone brighter than ever before, and I truly believe it is because of the House System.”

(Adapted from Christy Schutte’s Seton High Press Release, November 2015)
Bayley presented the 10th Annual Bayley Mission Award to two deserving staff members during a special Mass on Tuesday, Jan. 5. The award is given to an employee each year for living the mission of service in his/her daily life. These individuals are nominated by fellow staff members, residents and/or families.

Greg Carroll, Bayley RN supervisor, received the award in acknowledgement of his dedication to his work and his kind, competent and caring interactions with residents and their families. Although not a Bayley employee, a second Mission Award was presented to Martha Bredestege, an RN with Hospice of Cincinnati, who has taken part in numerous care conferences, been a member of the Bayley Ethics Committee and has helped many families through difficult times with understanding, insight and dignity.

Both honorees accepted their awards and thoughtfully expressed their gratitude, thankful that Bayley provides a work environment that promotes a mission of service to others.

DePaul Cristo Rey High School where all students of the Class of 2016 have been accepted to college. This class milestone was achieved before the end of January – marking the second year in a row DPCR has met the Cristo Rey Network goal of 100 percent college acceptance.

A surprise schoolwide celebration was held to announce that each senior has been accepted to at least one college. Most have been accepted to multiple schools. In addition, as a whole, the students have already earned almost $1.7 million in merit-based scholarships. The acceptances and scholarships will continue through the spring culminating with graduation at Mount St. Joseph University on May 31.

Mount Saint Joseph University where the presidential search committee had carefully reviewed 47 applications for university president; narrowed the search to 10 and then to seven who were interviewed. From this we had three candidates and two alternates. The three visited the campus in January at individually arranged dates to meet faculty, staff, and students. Please continue to pray for a successful decision. The University was given an impressive report from the Higher Learning Commission which visited campus this past October.

Check out the December issue of Ohio Magazine for an article on Dr. Gene Kritsky of the biology department and the mentioning of four other faculty members in this issue which celebrates excellent educators in small colleges and universities.

Dr. Creighton Wright, a Cincinnati cardiovascular surgeon, has been named the first medical director for the University’s Physician Assistant Program.

St. Joseph Home where the annual Incline to the Finish Line 5K Walk/Race will be held on Saturday, April 16. In its 18-year history, the Incline to the Finish Line 5K has grown and become a much anticipated event in Greater Cincinnati. It has gained a reputation as one of the most challenging 5Ks in the area. Hundreds of runners and walkers will take on the challenge again this year!

Register online today at www.stjosephhome.org and join St. Joseph Home residents, family, friends, staff and many community supporters for a fun-filled morning!