

The Official G.O.C. Newsletter

900 Nutter Drive, Bardstown, KY 40004

www.gocenter.org : 502-348-7784 : Winter 2018 Edition

Dear GOC Advocates and Supporters,

We have been very busy here at the GO Center over the last few months and are excited to share a few of the latest happenings!

Content:

-Honoring Mary Hagan

-Jeans & Jams

-Trick-GO-Treat

-Hot Meals at OTGF

-Garden Update

-ReBart on the Rise

-Facebook Highlights

A Very Special Donor Gets Recognized!

Mary Philomena Hagan started at the GO Center in 2006, and was one of the first individuals to work in the Nutter Drive facility. She has participated in many of the programs here, from packaging contracts and hardware sorting to bottling lines and kitchen work, she has seen and experienced most of what the GO Center has to offer. However, she has found that her favorite area of participation is the Art Program.

The Art classes give her a chance to practice her painting skills, a creative outlet that she has enjoyed since her childhood. With the guidance of her mentors and teachers, her works have caught the eye of many visitors who have come through the Center. In fact, Mary has donated one of her amazing paintings to be auctioned at each of our Bourbon & Bubbles Gala events for the past seven years, and she has donated all of the proceeds of those sales back to the GO Center. To date, Mary's art contributions have totaled in excess of \$17,000!

On Friday, November 9th, the Guthrie Opportunity Center recognized the generous contributions of this very special person. Her name will now forever be seen on our Donor Wall of major contributors, and, with the help of our local leaders, November 9th was decreed as Mary Philomena Hagan Day in Bardstown!



Our First Ever 'Jeans & Jams' Was A Blast!



Always seeking new ways to share our mission with the community, the GO Center was proud to host a new fall event, **Jeans & Jams!** This was a backyard-style concert and cook-out, with delicious steaks, an open bar and a rocking band. The dinner was a big hit, with a 'make-your-own' baked potato bar, an indoor s'mores area, and steaks provided by our friends at the Nelson County Cattleman's Association. The amazing music for the evening was played live by "From Paris," a Louisville band that plays country, Motown, and everything in-between. We hope you will be able to join us as we do it all again next year!

Another Spook-tacular Trick-GO-Treat!



On October 26th, the Guthrie Opportunity Center opened its doors to host its second ever Trick-GO-Treat event. Outside, it was a chilly and wet evening, but it felt wonderful inside our event space, where 20 local businesses set up wonderful and whimsical displays to hand out candy and goodies to the local children. With attendance numbers that dwarfed last year's event, we look forward to throwing this wonderful Halloween extravaganza again next year!

Upcoming Events:

Christmas Parade

Come out to Main Street on December 6th and cheer on our guys and gals as they show some GO Center pride in the Kiwanis Christmas Parade! The parade begins at 6:00 PM, so be sure to dress warm!

Christmas Dinner

On December 5th, the Nelson County Association for the Handicapped is graciously providing a delicious Christmas Dinner for our participants and their loved ones. Doors will be open at 6:00 PM with dinner served at 6:30 PM. The public is invited for a donation of \$25 per person. Please RSVP for this event by November 26th.

Bridal Fair

Here's an event for all those future brides to be! In early February, the GO Center will be hosting the annual Kentucky Standard Bridal Fair. Many local companies that cater to events and wedding will set up spaces at the GO Center to showcase their wares and services.

Homemade Reheatable Meals at On-The-GO!



Thanks to our creative kitchen team, On-The-GO Foods is now serving reheatable meals at On-The-GO Foods! These three-compartment meals can be heated up in a flash and served right away. These delicious meals will be weekly specials, and will include such favorites as Turkey Dinners, Meatloaf, and Beef Stew, with many more options still in the works! And don't forget to check out the Kids Meal Options, for the young whipper-snappers of the family, or those with a more 'refined' palate. Specials are posted weekly on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, just follow us online to keep up to date!

Gardening Program Updates!



What a whirlwind this first growing season was! With the help of our hard working and dedicated participants, the Guthrie Opportunity Center was able to grow and pick our first ever garden. With the weather on our side, we were able to grow a plethora of tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchini, squash, sweet corn, jalapenos, green peppers, as well as some herbs and spices. We are excited at the success of this first venture, and already have plans for making next year even better!

Whats New?:

Chef Jane

On-The-GO Foods is happy to announce that we have a new employee in the Kitchen! Jane Masse has many years of experience in the food industry, and has been a major player in the revitalization of New Haven, KY. Her imagination and creativity can be experienced first-hand with improvements and expansions to our menu. We are thrilled to have Jane and her expertise on the team!



Christmas Trees

This year, the GO Center is partnering with Roby's Country Garden to sell Christmas Trees! Be sure to come by Roby's Country Garden (706 Bloomfield Road) to select your tree and support the GO Center! Trees will be available everyday leading up to Christmas Eve.

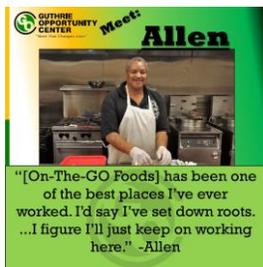
ReBart Bottling Co.- Expanding and Innovating!

ReBart Bottling has just celebrated its two-year anniversary, and is growing by leaps and bounds! They are now offering additional opportunities to even more participants with a new spice packaging project, which comes from a business in Mississippi. When Annie Beck from Beck's Confections heard about their business model and vision, she sent a "one time" contract that grew into an ongoing project, which, by extension, increased employment opportunities.

In the next few months, ReBart will be expanding their space for the second time in as many years, to accept an additional contract that will expand their annual production units 10-fold. This has inspired the participants to offer suggestions on how to hire even more great people! ReBart currently has participants trained in various job tasks, such as inventory, pre-production checklists, post production checklists and even peer-training!

"This continues to be the most rewarding, fulfilling, gratifying, and edifying blessing," says ReBart co-owner Renea Bartoszek, "A big shout out to Bourbon Barrel Foods, who continue to support our mission of employing these precious participants. BBF is so impressed and thankful for the high-quality work that we turn out on a daily basis that they consistently challenge us with more projects and higher volumes!"

Honoring the People Who Support Us!



The Guthrie Opportunity Center would not be anything if it was not for the amazing people who help keep us moving. That means everyone: the kitchen staff, the garden crew, and our amazing volunteers. If you have raised a hand to help us, we appreciate you. We wouldn't be able to accomplish all of the wonderful things that we do on behalf of our participants, if it were not for the local community support that we receive.

To show our thanks, and to introduce Nelson County to some of these amazing people, we have begun to share stories of these individuals online. Folks from all walks of life, that come together to support us in a multitude of ways, and have a story to tell. Just follow us on Social Media, and keep an eye out for one of these compelling stories!



Ways to Help:

Engraved Bricks

The Guthrie Opportunity Center is offering engraved bricks to be used for the walkway to our newly planned garden area. For more information on how to buy your tax deductible, customized brick on the "Pathway to Healthier Living", please contact us at 502.348.7784 or email at: sean.guthrie@gocenter.com

Amazon Smile

Amazon has a wonderful program that donates a portion of the total sales from your order to a charity of your choice. Just sign in on smile.amazon.com and choose the Guthrie Opportunity Center as your charity. Every purchase you make helps to keep the GO Center GOing!

Kroger Rewards

Much like the folks at Amazon, Kroger also has a community rewards program. 'Kroger Rewards' members can choose a charity to receive a portion of the total check-out cost as a donation. Be sure to check out www.kroger.com for more information on how to sign up.