Tripti Agarwal (WelcomeCtr.HS), Thomas Antes (BerwickES), Vicki Ayotte (Chronically Homeless).

Since the launch of supportive housing to end the cycle of homelessness for the Lives program such as the Columbus Shelter Board's shelters are in high demand. Approximately 7,000 people increased over 2003. As a result, Central Ohio's emergency shelter are in high demand. Approximately 7,000 people utilized shelters last year, including 2,500 children.

But you can help. Your contribution provides dollars for programs such as the Columbus Shelter Board's Rebuilding Lives initiative. It has created 800 units of permanent, supportive housing to end the cycle of homelessness for the chronically homeless. Since the launch of Rebuilding Lives, admissions to Columbus' emergency homeless shelters have decreased by 20 percent.

Join us. Donate. LIVE and GIVE UNITED.

Performance awards are coming soon

If you haven't heard about the Performance Advancement System (PAS), find out more in Article 910 of the CEA Master Agreement. This program is a salary incentive for developing new, more effective teaching strategies through action research. PAS participants who complete all requirements and have approved Individual Professional Development Plans (IPDP) on file can earn three CEUs. Participants can earn $2,500 if their mean student achievement gain exceeds the overall district gain by three Normal Curve Equivalents (NCE).

The PAS committee has been looking at student progress, identifying teachers’ best practices and is announcing this year’s group of awardees. One hundred thirty-one teachers will receive $2,500 for successfully completing the PAS program in the 2007–2008 school year. Nineteen of this year’s group of awardees. One hundred thirty-one teachers will receive $2,500 for successfully completing the PAS program in the 2007–2008 school year. Nineteen of this year’s group of awardees.

Your voice does count

Endorsement by Teachers for Better Schools (TBS) is highly respected and highly sought by candidates. We are very proud to proclaim a 94 percent victory in electing our endorsed candidates this past election cycle, according to unofficial election results released by the Franklin County Board of Elections. President-Elect Barack Obama and Vice President-Elect Joe Biden led the slate of endorsed candidates, which included Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray, State Senator Jim Hughes, State Board of Education member Kristen McKin-
ley and County Commissioners Paula Brooks and John O’Grady.

All of the TBS endorsed candidates for the Ohio House of Representatives won, including Marian Harris*, Nancy Garland, Kevin Bacon, John Carney, Ted Celeste, Dan Stewart, Tracy Heard and W. Carlton Weddington.

TBS endorsed the five winning candidates for the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, and both TBS-supported candidates for the 10th Court of Appeals were elected. The backing of TBS aided in the victories of Franklin County’s Prosecuting Attorney, Clerk of Courts, Sheriff, Recorder, Treasurer, Coroner and Engineer on election day.

TBS’s support of Issue 75 helped the district pass it by the largest margin of any bond or levy issue since 1976. Two-thirds of central Ohio school issues endorsed by TBS passed on Election Day, compared with the statewide passage of only 34 percent of new school fund issues. In addition, all six of the TBS-backed city bond issues passed.

Now that the election is over, TBS will continue to follow issues and legislation that will affect teachers in the Columbus City School District.

CEA does not use dues money to promote individual candidates. Instead, teachers join TBS voluntarily. TBS donations may be payroll deducted, and even a small contribution makes a huge difference. A contribution of $1 per pay amounts to thousands of dollars to help CEA continue its efforts to make sure elected officials are serving the interests of our schools, teachers, students and our community.

*At press time, an automatic recount was taking place in HD 19.

**Campaign bills remain**

The CCS levy and bond issue are a done deal, and our campaign had a great deal to do with that. But the bills from these efforts aren’t quite paid yet. Join these members of the 1 Mill Club who have donated to help us settle the final invoices for our ads, stickers and signs:

- Phyllis Cole (East Linden ES), William Irwin (JDC), Angela Kemp (Arlington Park ES), Darlene Martin (Easthaven ES), Beth Morrow (Wedgewood MS), Shirley Welsham (Parkmoor ES) and Rochelle Wilkeron (Indian Springs ES).

**Join the 1 Mill Club Support Issue 75**

- Club 75: Phyllis Cole (East Linden ES), William Irwin (JDC), Angela Kemp (Arlington Park ES), Darlene Martin (Easthaven ES), Beth Morrow (Wedgewood MS), Shirley Welsham (Parkmoor ES) and Rochelle Wilkeron (Indian Springs ES).

- 1 Mill Club: Jo Ellen Griffin (Eastgate ES), Jeri Rea (Leawood ES), Anne Allison (Elem. Art), Laura Barna (Douglas ES), Jennifer Brothers (Medina MS), Naida Cephas (Marion-Franklin HS), Catherine Chaney (Elem. Music), Susan Craig (Nurses), Johanna Dematt (Ph. Hayes), Steven Drobak (NWCC), Sherron Edge (Instrumental Music), Holly Ekkens (Elem. Music), Cindy Grover (Briggs HS), Pat Hickman (Counselors), Michael Hicks (East HS), Janette Hoffman (Nurses), Janis Humphrey (Fairmoor ES), Shelly Kinney Bishop (6th Sr. Annex), Rebecca Mangas (Nurses), Carol Mariotti (Oakland Park ES), Isha Matthews (Northgate), Wanda Mays (Trevitt ES), Miriam Mertens (NWCC), Mohamed Moallin (Welcome Center HS), Michael Noonan (Eastmoor Acad.), Jacqueline Pisauro (Monroe MS), Michelle Wood (Speech & Language), Karen Woods (Elem. Art) and Jeri Rea (Leawood ES).

**Gainsharing service plans due**

The deadline for completing service plans for the Gainsharing program for the 2009–2010 school year has been extended to Dec. 1, 2008.

Who does not have to sign a Gainsharing Service Plan? Members assigned to one school do not have to complete a service plan. Members assigned to a school 0.5 days or more per week do not have to complete a service plan and will receive a proportionate amount of Gainsharing for each school that makes AYP.

Who must sign a Gainsharing Service Plan? Teachers on special assignment (TOSAs) or members not assigned to a school site may complete a service plan to be attached to a single building. Members who work at more that one school building may attach themselves to one or more of their assigned schools by completing a service plan for each of the schools in which they work.

Service plans must be signed by the member, the Senior Faculty Representative and the building principal. They are valid for only one school year.

Look for a list of buildings where members earned Gainsharing awards for 2007–2008 school year in an upcoming issue of The Voice.

**Celebrate American Education Week**

It’s no accident that American Education Week (AEW) is the week before Thanksgiving. NEA planned it that way to say “thanks” to the people who helped us gain a firm footing in life: our teachers.

Join us in celebrating the importance of providing every child in America with a quality public education from kindergarten through college and the need for everyone to do his or her part in making public schools great. NEA’s annual tag line, Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility, reflects the Association’s calling upon America to provide students with quality public schools so that they can grow, prosper and achieve in the 21st century. This year, AEW will be celebrated November 16–22.

To find out about activities to celebrate American Education Week, visit www.nea.org/aew/index.html.

**Special notes**

- Congratulations to Dan Burke, Ph.D (I-PASS). His Practitioner Showcase Proposal has been accepted for the 2009 Midwest Differentiated Instruction Conference being held in Chicago on July 7–9.

- CEA staff members Rick Logan, Ezetta Murray and Carol Wagner are continuing the planning for the trip to Tuscany, Venice and Milan. The trip will be from June 14–23. The final price of the trip is still being negotiated and depends on the number of people going. If you are interested in this trip, please contact one of the CEA staff members at the CEA office at 253-4731.

- CEA-R will host Signs of Christmas at the Confluence Park on Thursday, Dec. 4, from 11:30 a.m.–2:15 p.m. The group will be entertained by a group of volunteers who will perform sign language to recorded Christmas music. For more information, go to: www.cear-retired.com.

- Blue Jacket Tickets are available from the CEA office for the following dates: Nov. 18, Edmonton (4), Nov. 26, Phoenix (4). Call CEA at 253-4731 to purchase tickets.

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**Job Sharing Request**

CEA is compiling a list of teachers interested in job sharing next school year. If you are looking for a job-share partner, fill out the form below and return it to the CEA office. A list will be printed and mailed to each person who submits the form to assist him/her in finding a partner for job sharing. Even if you submitted your name last year, please fill out a new form this year. Please return this form to Carol Wagner at CEA by Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2008.

Name: ____________________________

Present Assignment: ____________________________

Certification Area(s): ____________________________

Teaching Preference for Next Year: ____________________________

School: ____________________________

Home Phone: ____________________________

Mobile Phone: ____________________________

E-mail Address: ____________________________