



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 15/ Issue 3
September 2024



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The Clothes Line

SEPTEMBER

Monthly Message

Hello CLS Team Members,

Labor Day marks the “unofficial last day of summer,” and with school back in session, the roads are filled with buses and the excitement of kids returning to classrooms. Fall sports are in full swing, and the weather is starting to shift. As the foliage begins to change, we may also start to feel those familiar fall allergies creeping in. Take this time to make lasting memories with friends and family. Enjoy the final weeks of pleasant weather by visiting a cider mill, catching a football game, or planning a scenic leaf-peeping tour around the state. This season truly showcases the beauty of our surroundings!



We are excited to announce that CLS has achieved the Hygienically Clean Food Safety Certification from TRSA! This certification has been a long-standing goal for CLS, and after many years of planning, we’ve finally accomplished it.

This achievement guarantees that our textiles meet stringent safety and quality standards, ensuring a safer environment for food processing operations. Keep an eye out for the certification logo on our trucks and social media soon! Please join me in thanking and congratulating our incredible Production and Maintenance Teams for their unwavering commitment to excellence!

In August, we proudly hosted the 9th Annual TVM Golf Memorial Classic, the grand finale to our fundraising efforts for the American Cancer Society over the past two months. Thanks to the incredible support of our Organizing Team, Sponsors, Customers, Friends, CLS Team Members, and Golf Guests, this year we raised an astounding **\$60,000** and still counting! This significant contribution will make a meaningful impact in the fight against cancer, both locally and globally. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated and supported this cause—your efforts made this event a tremendous success!



Our Manchester facility has been hard at work over the past few months installing a new Iron Filtration System. Given the poor water quality in Kalamazoo, it’s essential for us to remove the high levels of iron from the incoming water before it’s used in our wash process. This significant investment will greatly enhance the quality of our products. A big thank you to the Maintenance Team for successfully completing this important project!

Our Covington parking lot will soon undergo important and much-needed repairs. Stay tuned for more details as we finalize arrangements!

CLS is hiring! If you know someone who would be a great fit for our team, don’t forget to submit your referrals to HR. We’re always looking for talented individuals to join our growing CLS family!

As always, we are extremely thankful for all of our hard-working CLS Team Members. You are the heartbeat of the company and our success is because of your efforts every day. Your dedication is appreciated!!



Sarah, Kurt, Ron

September Highlights

REMEMBERING 9/11

Wednesday, September 11



"Even the smallest act of service, the simplest act of kindness, is a way to honor those we lost, a way to reclaim that spirit of unity that followed 9/11."

**NATIONAL
HISPANIC
HERITAGE MONTH**

National Hispanic American Heritage Month

September 15 - October 15

Paying tribute to the generations of Hispanic Americans who have positively influenced and enriched our nation and society.

Visit www.hispanicheritagemonth.gov or click the logo for more



Suicide Prevention Walk Saturday, September 21 Bronson Park, Kalamazoo

Gryphon Place fights for a better future and for those affected by suicide. For open conversations about mental health. For prevention. They can't do that without you.

Walk with Gryphon Place to help prevent suicide.

9:00 AM Registration and Resource Fair Opens

10:00 AM Walk Starts, 1K or 5K

Family friendly dogs on leashes are welcome

CLS will cover the entry fees for our team members, which includes a t-shirt when you pre-register with Kimberly or Peter by **September 19 at 3 PM**. Sign-up sheets are posted in the breakrooms.

Family members and friends are welcome to join us on the day for free or if they want a t-shirt they can register with our team at the [Gryphon Place website](#) and pay the entry fee.

Football Jersey Day!

Friday, September 27

Kick off Football season, by wearing your favorite team shirt to work!



September Birthdays

Kalvin Berner	9/2
Perry Shepard	9/4
Brian Hirdning	9/4
Susana Matzar	9/5
Manuel Belmont	9/9
Ronald Pearce	9/10
Salustia Santos	9/14
Melissa Wiers	9/14
Kevin Hill	9/20
Lasheena Daniels	9/22
John Bodnar	9/23
Adela Beltran	9/23
Marisa Gonzales-Krug	9/24
Wade McKinney	9/24
Rafaela Felipe Castillo	9/26
Michael Toennesen	9/26
Scott Rogers	9/26
Josefina Torres	9/26
Danny Deal	9/27
Gregory Tuttle	9/28
Lynne Miltenberger	9/28
Laura Torres Mendez	9/30

September Anniversaries

Patricia Jackson	11 years
Lee M Marcotte	10 years
David Bartman	7 years
Terecita Mejia	7 years
Jeremiah J Sicher	6 years
Oswaldo Cruz	4 years
Monica Garcia Vasquez	4 years
Selena A Acosta-Olazarán	4 years
Brandon C Curtis	4 years
Kimberly A Ball	4 years
Scott L Rogers	3 years
Orlando Bautista Lopez	3 years
Camilo Hernandez	3 years
Rafaela Felipe Castillo	2 years
Kory R Keegan	1 year
Mario D Ordonez Lopez	1 year

Hot Off The Press

SUMMER FUNDRAISING WRAP-UP: A HEARTFELT THANK YOU!



At CLS, our commitment to supporting the American Cancer Society runs deep, just as it does for many of you.

This summer, we united once again for a series of memorable events—from pies in the face and sliming challenges to dunk-em games and exciting prizes.

The **9th Annual TVM Golf Outing** was the crown jewel of our efforts, showcasing our shared dedication to this vital cause. We couldn't have done any of this without your generosity and willingness to get involved.

Thank you for standing with us in the fight against cancer - you should be proud!

**WE COLLECTIVELY
RAISED OVER**

\$62,000!



EXCITING NEWS: CLS EARNS HYGIENICALLY CLEAN CERTIFICATION!

I am thrilled to announce that our CLS production facility has officially achieved the prestigious Hygienically Clean Certification through TRSA! This is a huge milestone for CLS and we are now one of only a few laundries in the state of Michigan to reach this level of excellence.

This certification was earned through onsite audits by a third-party auditor and the testing of our textiles in a lab to ensure we meet the highest hygienically clean standards. I'm proud to share that we passed both assessments with flying colors!

We started this journey 8 months ago, and I want to extend a special thank you to **Melanie, Quierra, Sheena, Errick, Ian, Peter, Joe**, and the entire **Production and Maintenance teams** for their dedication and hard work in making this possible. Achieving this certification required an enormous amount of time and effort, and I couldn't be more proud of our team.

This accomplishment reflects our commitment to maintaining a higher standard than most in the industry, and it will serve as a valuable asset both internally and externally.

Jon Athens



Safety

Safety First: The Importance of Communicating and Reporting Hazards

Here at CLS, safety is not just a policy - it's a priority. Our team works hard daily to ensure that our workplace is secure and everyone goes home safe at the end of the day. However, maintaining a safe environment requires the collective effort of every Team Member. One of the most critical aspects of this is the effective communication and reporting of hazards.

Why Reporting Hazards Matters

Hazards, whether big or small, can pose serious risks to our health and safety. A spill that isn't cleaned up immediately, faulty equipment, or even a cluttered work area can lead to accidents. By reporting these hazards, you're not only protecting yourself but also your colleagues. Remember, a hazard reported is an accident prevented.

What to Look Out For

Be vigilant about your surroundings. Here are some common hazards to keep an eye on:

- **Wet or slippery floors:** Ensure spills are cleaned up immediately and reported if they are too large to handle alone.
- **Damaged equipment:** Report any machinery that seems to be malfunctioning or is in poor condition.
- **Blocked walkways:** Clear or report any obstructions that could cause trips or falls.

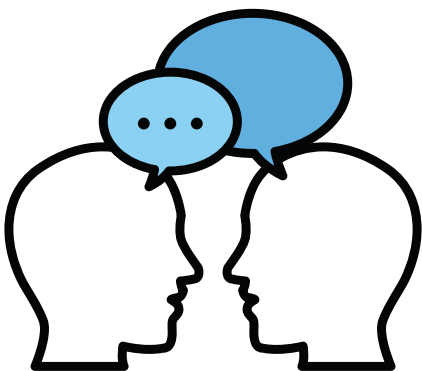
How to Report a Hazard

Reporting a hazard should be quick and straightforward. Here's what to do:

- **Identify the Hazard:** Take note of the location, nature, and any immediate dangers.
- **Report Immediately:** Notify your supervisor or safety manager (Peter Sanchez) immediately. Supervisors will then follow up to see if the hazard has been addressed. Following up ensures that the issue has been properly resolved.

Encouraging a Culture of Safety

We want to foster a culture where everyone feels responsible for safety. No concern is too small to report, and we encourage open communication. If you see something, say something! Your proactive approach can make a significant difference.



Remember, safety is everyone's responsibility!



Wellness

As the leaves put on their colorful show, it's the perfect time to level up our health game. September rolls in with cooler temps and breathtaking autumn hues, creating the ultimate backdrop for outdoor adventures and embracing nature's splendor!

FALL INTO FITNESS



HERE'S THE SCOOP ON THE TOP 3 FALL ACTIVITIES TO KEEP YOU GROOVING AND MOVING!

- **Hiking:** Enjoy the fresh fall air and stunning colors with a park stroll or trail trek—perfect for staying active and connected to nature.
- **Outdoor Yoga:** Start your day with a peaceful yoga session in the crisp autumn breeze. Invite friends or family to join the fun!
- **Cycling:** Pedal through local trails or around the neighborhood. It's a great way to stay fit while enjoying the fall scenery.

REMINDER: GET YOUR FLU SHOT!

Flu season is here—protect yourself and those around you by getting your flu shot. It's a simple way to stay healthy and safeguard vulnerable people in our community.

Where to Get Vaccinated:

Visit the Health Centered Clinic, or your local pharmacy to get your flu shot at your convenience.

Top Flu Prevention Tips:

Wash Hands: Regularly to stop germs.

Stay Hydrated: Boosts your immune system.

Get Rest: Sleep strengthens defenses.

Avoid Contact: Keep distance if unwell.

Let's stay healthy together this season!



Mon 7am-3:30pm
Wed 7am-5:30pm
Thurs 7am-1pm

The Kalamazoo based clinic is here for your wellness needs; routine check-ups, health advice, and more. Take advantage of this convenient resource—your health matters!

HEALTHY EATING GOAL

Incorporate one seasonal fruit or vegetable into your meals each day.



Apples, pumpkins, and squash are in season and loaded with nutrients.

FREE virtual visits **Teladoc** HEALTH

WHAT IS TELEDOC?

- Talk to U.S. Board- certified doctors and nurse practioners, 24/7
- Connect by phone , web or app from anywhere
- Get medical treatment for a wide range of conditions

HOW CAN I USE IT ?

- If you are insured with CLS, the HR team will help you with easy enrollment throughout May.
- Do it now so you are ready when you need it.

Enroll NOW while you feel well and it is easier when you need it!

In the News

CHARITBALE SERVICE DAYS!



CLS is committed to supporting Team Members contributions and volunteer time to non-profit organizations. Just like these champions did in August supporting causes near and dear to them. Please reach out to your supervisor for a request form or Human Resources for help!

CLS Team Members **Adriana Morales** and **Josefina Torres** gave back at the Family Health Center Community Fair, helping ensure Kalamazoo's most at-risk children are ready for school this fall.



Exciting News: New Payroll System Coming Soon!

We're pleased to announce that CLS is switching to a new payroll company, which will offer an interactive system for all team members. With this new system, you'll have easy access to your wage slips, pay history, and more, all in one place. Stay tuned for more details on how to set up your account and start using these new features!

download the app through
Google or Apple playstores

FALL PHOTO CONTEST



Capture the beauty of the season! Share your best fall-themed photos—whether it's a colorful tree, a fun activity, or a healthy meal.

The top 3 photos will be featured in next month's Newsletter and on the Screens!

Text photos to Kimberly on 269-270-9887 and be sure to include your name and branch location!

All entries must be submitted Sept. 25th

TALENT IS KEY - REFERRALS MATTER!

We're always on the lookout for great talent, and you can help us find the perfect fit! When making referrals, don't just think about your location—consider our other branches across the state. Know someone who would be a great addition to our team? Refer them today at JoinCLS.com and help us continue to grow our CLS family!



Find the QR code posted in each branch location to complete a referral form.



In the News

Our 2024 Kalamazoo Team Fundraising Picnic was a great time, hosted during lunch! Team members enjoyed fun games, food, exciting prizes, and lots of laughter! Thank you to everyone who participated and made it a memorable time and one of impact for the American Cancer Society!

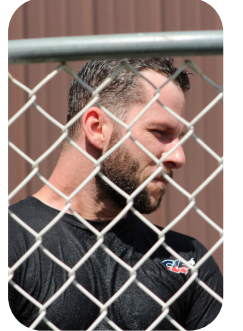


Kalamazoo



In the News

Kalamazoo



Around the Mitten

PURE  MICHIGAN[®]

Click the U-Pick Apples Fun Facts and find all the facts about Michigan Apples and where you can pick-em!

U-Pick Apples

Michigan is the third largest apple producer in the United States, with over 11 million apple trees growing in our state. The first apples ripen in August.

 Michigan Farm Fun



CLS

Continental Linen Services:
4200 Manchester Rd
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

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