# The Clothes Line



FEBRUARY 2025



### **NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS**

MONTHLY MESSAGE BIRTHDAYS, WORK ANNIVERSARIES, & EVENTS SAFETY & HR MESSAGES SALES AWARDS

Pages 2-3

Pages 4-6

Page 7-8

Page 9-10

# **FEBRUARY: SHORT AND SWEET**

#### **Greetings CLS Team Members:**

February is the shortest month of the year, but there are a ton of things to celebrate and acknowledge during these 28 days. As you are likely aware, Valentine's Day is in February—which is when we shower our significant others with love—as is Presidents' Day, a holiday in we honor our country's Presidents. There's also Groundhog Day, when we wait to find out whether Punxsutawney Phil will see his shadow, and Super Bowl Sunday, where the top professional football teams battle it out for the biggest win of the season. The entire month of February is also a time to bring awareness to many important causes, like American Heart Month and Black History Month. An action-packed February is upon us!!



We are always excited to welcome new Team Members to the CLS family/team! Nothing says welcome like a friendly smiling face. Please remember to assist our new Team Members here at CLS by answering their questions, showing them the "ropes", and giving advice. It is hard to be a new hire so we ask each of you to help make their onboarding to CLS an enjoyable one!

Even though February is a busy month, most of our customers usually experience a *slowdown* in their businesses. This year is following the same trend and you may notice some slower work weeks during this time. It is very important this time of year for CLS to manages our costs and expenses carefully. Make sure to spend your time and energy as efficiently as possible.

No need to worry, things will pick up in few weeks so rest up now!

As winter continues, so does the cold and flu season. CLS needs each of one of our Team Members at work every day so please remember the following:

- **Rest**: Get enough sleep and rest to help your body heal.
- **Hydrate**: Drink plenty of fluids, like water, juice, and clear broth, to avoid dehydration.
- Treat aches and pains: Take over-thecounter pain relievers like acetaminophen or ibuprofen.
- **Ease congestion**: Use a humidifier or sit in a steamy bathroom, or try saline nasal drops and sprays.
- Manage a cough: Take over-the-counter expectorants or suppressants, or try honey in warm tea or lemon water.



Wash your hands: Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

#### **Are You Prepared for Snowy Conditions?**

Snow brings beauty to this time of the year, but it also brings dangerous conditions for driving and walking. Remember to watch your footing more carefully in and out of buildings and vehicles. Leave extra time for driving when roads are icy or slushy. It only takes a second for an accident to happen. We want each of you to arrive to work and home from work safely each day!!



Just one small positive thought in the morning can change your whole day.

And remember, smiles are free so share them!!

We are CLS!
Sarah, Kurt, Ron

# **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

# **FEBRUARY WORK ANNIVERSARIES**

Ryan Dunmire	Kalamazoo RSP	1 year
Aaron Reason	Grand Rapids RSP	3 years
Josue Zepeda	Manchester Production	3 years
Joseph Stannard	Kalamazoo RSP	5 years
Michael Toennessen	Kalamazoo RSP	6 years
James Brandt	Saginaw RSP	10 years
Lynne Miltenberger	Customer Care	12 years
Gregory Tuttle	Grand Rapids RSP	23 years



# FEBRUARY WORK EVENTS

#### February 7th

Team Spirit Day: Super Bowl is Sunday, February 9th. To celebrate we encourage everyone to wear your favorite team jersey (even if they are not playing on Sunday).





## February 14th

Valentine's (or PALentine's) Day: Wear red, pink or any other Valentine's Day color. We will have a hot cocoa bar available at lunch time, so you can enjoy a sweet treat to celebrate love and friendship!

# Lunch Break Fun!! BINGO IS BACK!

Join us every 3rd Wednesday for CLS Game Break. We will alternate the location between Covington and Manchester. Join us during your lunchtime this month at Covington for Lunch Bingo!





# **DAWN'S DESK**

#### **EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

#### We all need a little support now and then.

Guardian's Employee Assistance Program gives you and your family members access to confidential personal support across everything from stress management and nutrition to handling legal or financial issues.

The services available include consultations with experienced professionals, as well as access to resources and discounts designed to help you in a variety of different ways.

#### Services offered:

Coaching, Short-Term Counseling, Work-Life Matters, Financial Services, Legal Services, Online Legal Documents, WillPrep Services, Miscellaneous Resources such as Newsletters, Flyers, Webinars, Articles, Training, and More.

#### **How to Access**

To access the WorkLifeMatters Employee Assistance Program, visit worklife.uprisehealth.com and use Access Code: worklife. You can also call 800-386-7055 for support, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



# THE IMPORTANCE OF IDENTIFYING AND REPORTING PINCH POINTS AND MACHINE GUARDING IN THE WORKPLACE

A pinch point is any point at which it is possible for a person or part of a person's body to get caught between moving parts of a machine, or between the moving and stationary parts of a machine, or between material and any part of the machine. These points are not always obvious, which makes them particularly dangerous.

#### The Risks Involved

Accidents involving pinch points can lead to serious injuries such as lacerations, amputations, and even crushing injuries. Being aware of these risks and knowing how to identify potential pinch points is critical in avoiding such incidents.

# **IDENTIFYING PINCH POINTS**

- **1. Regular Inspection:** Make it a habit to inspect your work area and the machines you operate before starting your work. Look for any points where moving parts come close together.
- **2. Check for Signs:** Be aware of safety signs and warnings around machinery which might indicate the presence of pinch points.
- 3. Stay Alert: Always keep your hands, hair, and clothing clear of moving parts.

# MACHINE GUARDING: A Critical Safety Measure

Machine guarding is essential for protectingteam members from injuries that can occur from contact with moving parts. A machine guard is a barrier or device that provides a shield between the machine and the operator for safety purposes.

#### The Role of Machine Guarding

The primary purpose of machine guarding is to keep the operator safe from moving parts and can also help control flying chips, sparks, or help contain lubricants that the machine may use.

# REPORTING & ADDRESSING ISSUES

**Report Any Concerns:** If you notice a machine that is not properly guarded or a potential pinch point, please report it to your supervisor or the safety department immediately.

**Don't Bypass Guards:** Never operate a machine if its guards have been removed or are not functioning properly.

# **SALES EXCELLENCE!**

#### 4th Quarter Award Winners





#### **#1 Sales for 4th Quarter- Scott McSweeney**

• \$212 Installed Monthly Sales Avg

"Scott landed a better mix of accounts this year leading to why he deserves the #1 Sales award for this quarter"



#### **#1 Rookie for 4th Quarter- Dylan Schantz**

\$97 Installed Monthly Sales Avg

"Dylan has really been a surprise splash hire. He really understands the sales process and how to work it. He also really enjoys a challenge, and I feel very confident Dylan can work any type of account or opportunity from start to finish."



#### **Honorable Mention- Tommy Enslen**

"Tommy was a close 2nd in terms of installed average. I can really count on Tommy's hustle, willingness to help his teammates, and the ability to run the ins and outs of a sales process! He is the leader in the clubhouse for the #1 Rookie for 1st Quarter of 2025 with his January of big installs happening currently."

#### **2024 Annual Award Winners**



#### **Rookie of the Year- Krikor Mouradian**

"Krikor had an outstanding Rookie Year, and really carried the weight of a tenured rep in 2024!"

#### Team Player of the Year

"Krikor has over 8.5 years of industry experience. He has been a great team player helping whenever and however he can. I see his service experience and sales skills as a tremendous asset to CLS, and I believe he will be a valued team member for many years to come. He has been a great role leader on the team, and I think he has a leadership in his sights in the future for CLS! CLS would benefit greatly from everything he has to offer the company for many years to come!"



#### **Most Improved Year over Year- Brandon Curtis**

"Brandon works in a spread-out sales territory that is hospitality and seasonally intensive. He has really accepted the challenge of moving into the future with uniform business as opposed to fine-dining linen hospitality business. I can always count on Brandon to lend a hand to a teammate or go anywhere to work a lead! I value Brandon's tenure, service understanding, and overall strategic discussions involving where CLS wants to go into the future, and how to get there!"

- Kyle Ackermann Business Development Manager