



*An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy*

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

Today we begin our Lenten journey, a traditional time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. This afternoon we celebrated with our annual Ash Wednesday liturgy; praying as a school community that our hearts and minds can be open in a special way to God's presence in our lives during this holy season. We have much planned in the days to come to prepare ourselves for the gift of the risen Christ on Easter.

It's been a historical week for NDA with our Mock Trial A Team placing first at the State competition. We congratulate our students and their coaches and wish them well as they prepare for the National competition in May!

Parents, please note the Parking Lot Policies and Procedures in today's Panda Press Weekly. We've had issues with people parking in the spots reserved for the Sisters of Notre Dame as well as in other unauthorized areas. Thanks for your help in this matter and for keeping the Notre Dame Academy campus safe for not only our students but for the children from St. Julie Learning Center and people at St. Joseph Heights.

Also, please note the important financial information listed below. Applications for Financial Aid and Work Study are due April 15. Financial assistance requests increase each year. We cannot stress enough the importance of getting your application in early. Late applications run the risk of financial aid funding being exhausted.

It is important for us to remember that Lent is a special time offering each of us an opportunity to deepen our relationship with the God who loves us. It is our chance to take time out of our busy schedules to reflect on our lives and reach out to those in need. May this Lent be a special time of renewal of our faith!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf





## STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

### Safe Environment Training

The Diocese of Covington is committed to creating and building safe environments in its schools and parishes. On Thursday, March 21, all Notre Dame Academy students will attend a mental health presentation facilitated by Mrs. Emily Klueh -- NDA alum and social worker currently serving at the University of Michigan.

**All students will participate in this program unless Notre Dame Academy receives written notification from a parent or guardian indicating that permission is not granted for his or her daughter to participate. To opt out of the Safe Environment Training, please provide written notification by Friday, March 15 to the attention of Mrs. Amber Grayson, Assistant Principal.**

### Next Year's Calendar

[CLICK HERE](#) to access NDA's Google Calendar. The dates and times for next year's events have been entered. Other pertinent information is listed below for quick reference.

2019-2020

August 19	First Day of School
October 11	No School: Professional Development Day
October 18	1st Quarter Ends
November 1	No School: All Saints' Day
November 27-29	No School: Thanksgiving Break
December 9	No School: Immaculate Conception
December 18-20	Exams
December 23	2nd Quarter Ends
December 23 - January 3	No School: Christmas Break
January 20	No School: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
February 17	No School: Presidents' Day
March 13	3rd Quarter Ends
April 9 - 17	No School: Easter Break
May 18 - 20	Senior Exams
May 22	No School: Graduation
May 25	No School: Memorial Day
May 26-28	Exams
May 29	4th Quarter Ends/Cleaning Day

## ATTENTION SOPHOMORE PARENTS ◀

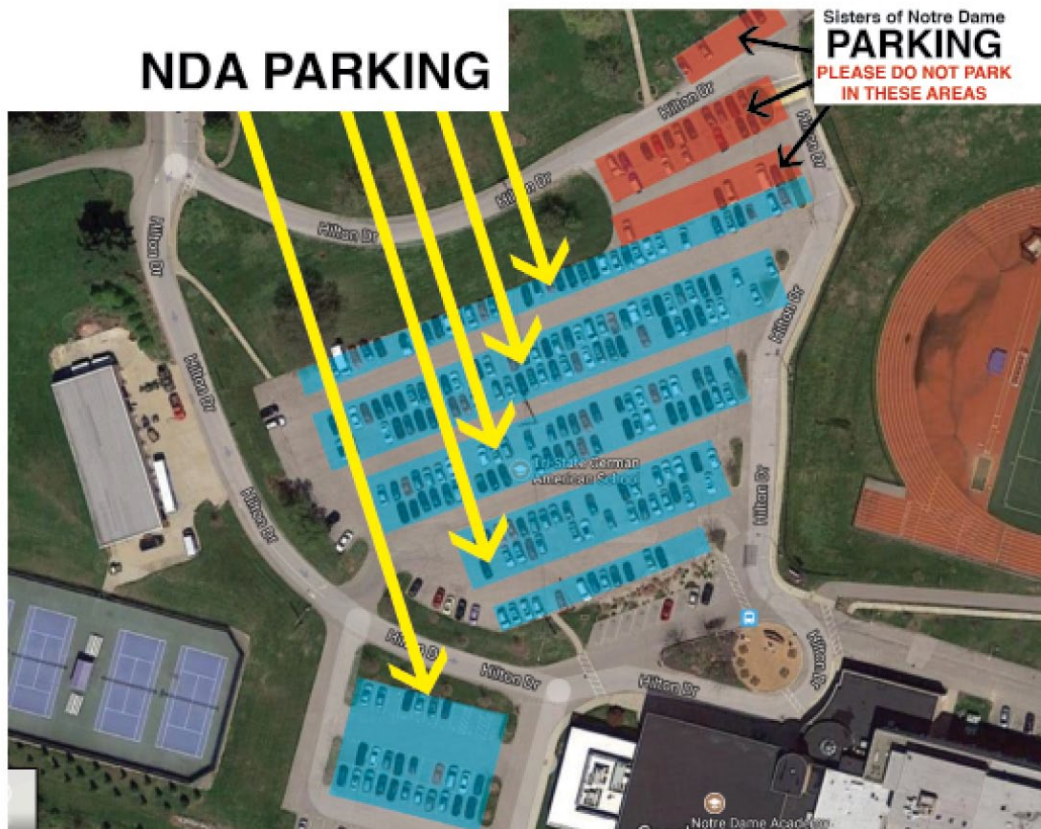
Just a friendly reminder that your sophomore's 15 hours of service is due on March 20. Many have already completed their work - but there are still quite a few who haven't even begun. I have been meeting with the sophomores individually to make sure they have a plan. Please encourage your daughter to set up their service over the next couple weeks! Monday's day off would be the perfect opportunity to complete some service work. A few reminders - all service MUST take place with a non-profit organization and must be logged onto x2vol.com within 2 weeks of serving!

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR PARENTS ◀

We have been experiencing some issues on our parking lot recently, especially during the afternoon pick-up period. Please review our parking lot policies and procedures below to ensure the safety and well-being of our students and the children from St. Julie Learning Center.

### PARKING LOT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

1. Please be cautious of students walking to and from the parking lot to the school entrance. Students should be crossing at crosswalks.
2. When picking up your daughter after school, please park in an empty numbered spot and advise your daughter to meet you at the car.
3. For safety purposes and as advised by the Park Hills Fire Department, it is important to keep the parking lot aisles and all fire lanes clear. **PLEASE DO NOT** line up for afternoon pick up in the aisles of the parking lot or in fire lanes.
4. The back of our parking lot is shared with the Sisters of Notre Dame and Julie Learning Center. Signs have been installed and the spaces left unnumbered for the parking that is needed for the Sisters that live at St. Joseph Heights, their employees and the spaces needed for parents to pick up their children from Julie Learning Center. There is a shift change that takes place at 3:00 p.m. for the workers at the Heights. The Julie Learning Center has pickup that begins at approximately the same time as our dismissal.
5. Students who drive to school need to purchase a parking permit at a cost of \$25.00 for the year. All parked cars must show a parking permit for the current year. Students are to park on the main lot in the student parking area in their designated spot. A car parked on the lot without a permit or in a reserved area will result in a violation. A car parked in a fire lane is subject to police citation and may be towed at the owner's expense.
6. **PLEASE SEE THE PICTURE BELOW** to see available parking for afternoon pick-up.



We certainly understand that the parking lot can be a frustration at times. We have worked with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet District 6 to look at solutions. They have added additional time to our light to help with our traffic flow at the end of the day.

Thanks for your help in this matter and for keeping the Notre Dame Academy campus safe for not only our students but for the children from St. Julie Learning Center and people at St. Joseph Heights.

# CONGRATULATIONS

## NDA MOCK TRIAL TEAM TAKES STATE! ◀

For the first time in Kentucky Mock Trial history, an all-girl team has won the Kentucky Mock Trial State Championship. The Notre Dame Academy Mock Trial A Team captured the 2019 state title by defeating the defending state champions, Dixie Heights High School on Sunday, March 4th.

Coached by three NDA Alumnae and current practicing attorneys, Katelyn (Conner) Mollett ('08), Amy Hebbeler ('09) and Emily (Cooney) Couch ('10), and for the first time in their short 4-year program existence, Notre Dame Academy sent 2 teams to the State Tournament. The Notre Dame Academy Mock Trial B Team, placed 9th at this past weekend's State Tournament. The A team's first place victory earned them a trip to the National High School Mock Trial Tournament in Athens, Georgia, May 16-18th.

### Members of the NDA Mock Trial A Team are:

Natalie Gerdes - Senior  
Julia Hughes - Senior - ranked the #6 Attorney in the state of Kentucky  
Libby Smith - Senior  
Josie Montfort - Junior  
Bri Seibert - Junior - ranked the #2 Witness in the state of Kentucky  
Mara Schutt - Junior  
Dani Shoemake - Sophomore  
Katie Crail - Freshman

### Members of the NDA Mock Trial B Team are:

Nicole Heuker - Senior  
Emma Scharstein - Junior  
Zoe Moellering - Junior  
Isabelle Bailey - Junior  
Chaye Bonner - Freshman - ranked the #5 Witness in the state of Kentucky  
Cathrine Ghazala - Freshman

Head Coach - Katelyn (Conner) Mollett ('08)  
Assistant Coaches - Amy Hebbeler ('09) and Emily (Cooney) Couch ('10)  
Law and Justice Teacher - Hillary Johnson ('05)



# OUR PANDAS MEAN BUSINESS ◀

Last week students from NDA's Entrepreneurship class, Investment Club and FBLA attended the Xavier University's Women's Business luncheon and then the Distinguished Speaker Series Luncheon - featuring keynote Soledad O'Brien. The students and chaperones who attended are below:

1. Lydia Bruns
2. Gracie Bernhard
3. Paige Heimbrock
4. Chloe Hilvers
5. Gabrielle Cottingham
6. Sam Wichmann
7. Morgan Briede
8. Nicole Heuker
9. Julia Stegman
10. Ally Krallman
11. Abbey Kathman
12. Lauren Meese
13. Ruthie Franzen
14. Abby Phelps
15. Olivia Vonderhaar
16. Sarah Zimmerman
17. Marianne Betancourt

Chaperones:  
Mrs. Pat Brennan  
Ms. Hillary Johnson  
Mrs. Amber Grayson





## IMPORTANT FINANCIAL INFORMATION ◀

**Work Study Job Application Deadline: April 15, 2019**

**Financial Aid Applications & Academic and Tuition Assistance Scholarships**

The application for work study jobs is available on the website [HERE](#) and is due by **APRIL 15, 2019**.

Financial aid applications are also now open and will remain open until **APRIL 15, 2019**.

If you are in need of financial assistance OR are looking to do work study the application with FACTS must be completed before anything else. Financial assistance requests increase each year we cannot stress enough the importance of getting your application in early. Late applications run the risk of financial aid funding being exhausted. You can access the Financial Assistance page of the website [HERE](#).

We are currently accepting applications for Academic and Tuition Assistance Scholarships. Applications can be found on the website [HERE](#), and are due in the front office no later than April 15, 2019.



## NDA SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES ◀

NDA has all sorts of Summer Enrichment Opportunities. You can find updated information about High School Summer Studio Art 2019 and Junior High Summer Studio Art Class 2019: Screen Printing online [HERE](#).

## ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS ◀

**WINTER SPORTS PROGRAM** The Winter Sports Program honoring all Winter athletes from Archery, Basketball, Bowling and Swimming and Diving will be on Tuesday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the theatre. All athletes and their families are invited to attend.

**CONGRATULATIONS IZZY COOMES!** Izzy is one of three finalists in the I AM SPORT Award contest! The winner will be announced live on stage at the Cincinnati.com Sports Awards. The Cincinnati.com Sports Awards recognizes and honors the top athletic accomplishments in Greater Cincinnati High School Sports. This event is hosted by The Cincinnati Enquirer and will take place April 18, 2019 at Cincinnati Music Hall. The show features various awards, contests and a special appearance from Cincinnati Bengals quarterback, Andy Dalton.

## ART DEPARTMENT NEWS ◀

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the following Arts students for being selected as a finalist in their discipline for Kentucky's Governor's School for the Arts.

Noel Baker - Drama and Musical Theatre

Kirsten Carle - Dance

Chloe Collins - Architecture/Design and Visual Art

Claire Cullen - Dance

Grace Eckerle - Architecture/Design and Visual Art

Chloe Esmeier - Drama

Alaina Flesch - Dance

Rylee McCarthy - Dance

Ainsley Moore - Instrumental Music (Cello)

Nina Simkonis - Creative Writing

Sara Spellman - Drama

Annabelle Stansel - Visual Art

Caroline Stegman - Architecture/Design and Visual Art

Gwyneth Thomas - Architecture/Design and Visual Art

## ¡HASTA EL PRÓXIMO AÑO! ◀



Recently students from the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica attended the yearly SHH Student Convention at Campbell County High School. There, attendees participated in various activities such as a cooking class, dancing, a breakout room, and practicing their bargaining skills in a market. On Saturday students then heard from current Cincinnati Poet Laureate, Manuel Iris, who is originally from Mexico. Students had a great time meeting other students and teachers from around the state while learning and experiencing culture from around the Spanish speaking world. ¡Hasta el próximo año!



## TRY THE LANGUAGE CHALLENGE! ◀

This month AP Spanish Language students are working on the 30 Day Record Yourself Challenge that is popular on Twitter (#30DRYC), but instead of Twitter, they are using the App Flipgrid. Already on Day 5 of the challenge, students commented how much they enjoy it, and they feel that they are improving and becoming more relaxed with spontaneous responses, as well as having others listen to their recordings. All in the name of improvement, and of course fun!! If you are learning another language or are interested in doing so, try the challenge with us!

# 30 Day Record Yourself Challenge

  [fingtam.languages](https://fingtam.languages)

1 What language are you learning and why?	2 Where do you live? What is it like there?	3 What other language(s) do you speak, or want to speak?	4 Where have you traveled or want to travel?	5 What regional accent/dialect are you learning?	6 Describe your favorite hobby (other than language learning).	7 What music do you listen to in your target language (TL)?
8 How do you improve your speaking in your TL?	9 What level do you want to reach in your TL?	10 What is your job or dream job?	11 What is your most embarrassing language moment?	12 Do you learn languages in class or self-teach?	13 If you could be any animal, what would you be?	14 Choose your own topic today!
15 How do you improve your listening in your TL?	16 What is your biggest life goal?	17 What is the weather today?	18 What books have you read in your TL?	19 What keeps you motivated to learn your TL?	20 What is your biggest struggle in language learning?	21 Do you prefer the city or the country?
22 How do you improve your reading in your TL?	23 What is something that bothers you?	24 Say a tongue twister in your TL. Explain it.	25 What is your favorite subject in school?	26 Have you been to the country where they speak your TL?	27 How do you learn new vocabulary?	28 Choose your own topic today!
29 How do you improve your writing in your TL?	30 What resources do you use for language learning?	Record yourself speaking your target language for 1 minute a day			#30DRYC @Fingtam.Languages	

# Prom Headquarters

IMPORTANT INFORMATION  
FOR JUNIOR & SENIOR  
PARENTS & STUDENTS

Dear Students and Parents,

This year's Prom will be held on Friday, March 22 at the Music Hall Box Office Ballroom in Cincinnati. Immediately following is our very own After Prom right here at NDA! This event will last from 11:30 p.m.-3:30 a.m. All Juniors and Seniors are invited to attend After Prom regardless of whether or not they have attended Prom. We have a fun evening planned for your daughters and dates, including Cincinnati food favorites, prizes, inflatables, a photo booth, a tattoo artist, a henna artist, and our very own hypnotist!

## RESERVATIONS

Starting on Friday February 22 and ending on Friday March 15, you can click on this link <https://www.cognitofirms.com/NotreDameAcademy1/2019NDAProm> to make reservations for Prom and After Prom.

There are a few things to remember when making your reservations for Prom and After Prom:

- If attending Prom, please make sure to select 1 or 2 guests and completely fill out all information requested online
- If attending After Prom, please make sure to select 1 or 2 guests and fill out all information requested
  - o Your gift will be an After Prom t-shirt so make sure you select a size for YOURSELF
  - o You may also purchase an additional t-shirt for your date but the cost for this will be \$10
  - o Reservations must be made by March 11th in order to receive a t-shirt – NO EXCEPTIONS
- Make your payment for both Prom and After Prom online
- If for any reason you have to leave Prom or After Prom early you must have a note from your parent.

## PRIZES

Parents we are asking for your help by donating gift cards or cash to buy gift cards to make the evening more fun and exciting for the girls. Some ideas would be Starbucks, Chick-fil-A, Movie Theaters, Sephora, Lush, Bath & Body, Panera, Chipotle, Spotify, iTunes, etc. All donations can be dropped off at the school office, attention Kristy Seither. For the students, anyone who brings in a donation will be awarded a Panda Buck (valid for a FREE ice cream), compliments of Mr. VonHandorf!

## VOLUNTEERS & FOOD DONATIONS

Parents we need many volunteers to make After Prom a success! Please consider signing up to give a couple of hours of your time and/or to donate food or gift cards. We are using SignUp.com to organize our sign-ups. Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

1. Click this link to go to our After Prom invitation page SignUp.com: <http://signup.com/go/TbkaJzR>
2. Enter your email address – you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password.
3. Sign Up! – Choose your spots – SignUp.com will send you an automated confirmation and reminders.

**NOTE:** SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact Michelle David at [michelledavid888@gmail.com](mailto:michelledavid888@gmail.com) and she can sign you up manually.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support!

The After Prom Committee



## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



### B.E.S.T. AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to our 2nd Quarter BEST Award Winners:

Frosh: Kennedy Oak  
Soph: Jenna Danneman  
Junior: Emily Ernst  
Senior: Gigi Hill

### College Visit Opportunities:

#### Good Samaritan College of Nursing

Open House Event | Saturday, April 13 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. | More Information: [Good Sam College](#)  
RSVP for Open House by emailing: [admissions@email.gscollege.edu](mailto:admissions@email.gscollege.edu)

#### NKU Norse Days

Daily Campus visits are offered at NKU throughout the Spring. These visits start at 10 a.m. You will tour campus, learn more about a major of interest, and get admissions and financial aid information.

Information and Registration: [NKU Norse Days](#)

#### UK Women in Engineering Day

Tuesday, March 19

For grades 10-12

Register @ [wieday19.eventbrite.com](http://wieday19.eventbrite.com)

Questions: Contact Micaha Dean Hughes at 859-257-0553

### Special Opportunity for Sophomores!

NKU Sophomore Showcase | Wednesday, April 24 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

This is during NDA's Spring Break...so it is a great time to get on a college campus! NKU's Sophomore Showcase is for high school sophomores and their parents. Get a head start on college planning and get tips on the college admission process while visiting NKU's growing campus!

RSVP here: [Sophomore Showcase!](#)



#### 2018-19 College Rep Visits at NDA

Throughout the school year many college representatives visit NDA to speak with students during lunch periods. Below is a list of upcoming visits.

#### March

14 UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY 

20 UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA 

# MENTORING



### ALUMNAE MENTORING ◀

Our alumnae mentors have sessions set up for once a month to speak and interact with Seniors and Juniors. Free coffee and donuts for the students to enjoy while listening to their professional advice! **Here is what to expect for future dates:**

No Session on March 13 (that was previously scheduled)

Women in the Work Place Wednesday, March 20

Critical Thinking/Decision Making Skills Wednesday, April 10

Speed Mentoring Session Wednesday, May 1

## GO FOR GULU ◀

Get ready for this year's Go 4 Gulu 5K race on Saturday, April 13, 2019. Money raised from this event will benefit the organizations - Unified for Uganda and the Sisters of Notre Dame's Ugandan Mission. Unified for Uganda financially and emotionally supports the educational journey of the destitute children in Gulu, Uganda while the SND Ugandan Mission supports the educational experience of young women in our sister school in Buseesa, Uganda.

If you want to participate in the 5K, [CLICK HERE](#) for more information and to register. The cost of the event is \$15 per person and a race day t-shirt is guaranteed if registered by March 29. Go 4 Gulu!!

# GO 4 GULU 5K!!!

Wanna get some exercise and help the Uganda Pandas???

Well you can!!!

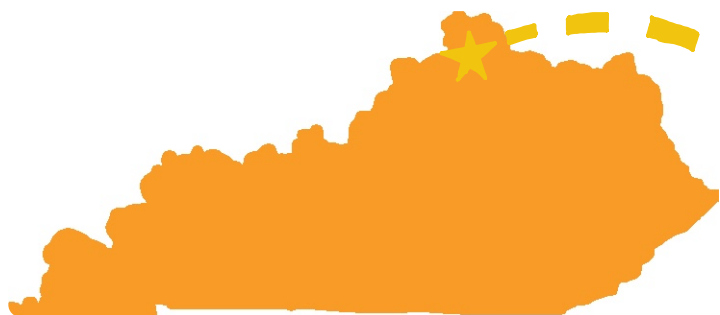
Event: Uganda Pandas 5k

Location: Notre Dame Academy

Date: April 13, 2019

Time: 8 am runners 8:20 am walkers

Cost: \$15



You don't have to run!

You can walk, jog, etc.!



## HOST FAMILIES NEEDED FOR GERMAN STUDENTS FOR FALL 2019 ◀

NDA is in the process of recruiting international students as part of our Fall 2019 enrollment. We are again working with our sister school in Germany (Liebfrauenschule Vechta). At this time we are seeking families who would consider hosting the German students for the 2019 fall semester. Please email Mrs. Katie Caccavari at [caccavarik@ndapandas.org](mailto:caccavarik@ndapandas.org), if you would be interested in more information about this opportunity. Your reply is not a commitment but would help us to know which families would consider supporting our international student enrollment by serving as host families.

## YEARBOOK NEWS! ◀

**2018-19 Yearbook:** This year's book, "New and Forever", will be out next fall but can be purchased now for the pre-order price of \$60. They're available at [jostens.com](http://jostens.com) or by following this link. ([https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productBrowse/1069982/Notre-Dame-Academy/2019-Yearbook/20180825044300310151/CATALOG\\_SHOP/](https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productBrowse/1069982/Notre-Dame-Academy/2019-Yearbook/20180825044300310151/CATALOG_SHOP/))



## NDA GIRL UP DAY! ◀

Attention all girls in grades 4-8! Notre Dame Academy's Girl Up Club is presenting NDA GIRL UP DAY! On March 9, 2019, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Notre Dame Academy invites girls in grades 4-8 to come to NDA to learn about our Girl Up Club, confidence, leadership skills and how to develop strong bonds and relationships with other girls. Register online [HERE](#).



## SAVE THE DATE! ◀

Save the Date for the 2019 Autumn Gala on Saturday, October 12. Invitations will be mailed later in the fall, but it's not too late to mark your calendars.



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## ► Important dates

March 7	Women Making a Difference Career Fair/Luncheon
March 8	Green Dot Mixer
March 9	Girl Up Day
March 10	Daylight Savings time begins
March 12	Blood Drive
	Winter Sports Award
March 13	JETS-TEAMS Competition at University of Cincinnati
	National French Exam
	National Latin Exam
	Alum Mentoring Session
March 18	Body Peace Week
March 19	Panda Preview Night
March 22	Prom
March 30	Chapel Blessing
April 2	Sophomore Ring Ceremony
April 3	Faculty Meeting
April 5	Student Council Mixer
April 7	Orange and White Game
April 10	Seniors to the Play
April 11	Alumnae Dinner Theatre
April 12-14	Spring Play
April 16	Baby Day
April 17	Mid quarter
	Holy Week Prayer Service
April 18	Easter Break Begins

## COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

Check out the **Community News** section of NDA's website for news about.

- Upcoming Blood Drive
- Part-time help needed
- Catholic Conference of Kentucky - Take Action on Educational Choice!
- Host Family Program

You can find a complete list of community news [HERE](#).

