



FOX CITIES UPDATE

A JOURNAL OF HAPPENINGS AND HOPE

Social Services Update – New Beginnings

A few months back a husband and wife, with 3 young children, sought help from The Salvation Army with food – one of the 3 basic commodities for survival and one that many of us take for granted – *except of course those who experienced the Great Depression!* The husband had lost his job, but since hunger doesn't take a sabbatical, they were forced to rely on the community for support when the finances grew thin. The family was not used to dealing with uncertainty, but here it was starting at them.

Fortunately, with spring came an interview and a new job; one that paid a living wage...with benefits. Two weeks ago we received a letter from the family expressing their gratitude for our help and non-judgmental support. The assistance was very simple – groceries from our Food Pantry. After months of uncertainty and financial hardship, they saw a new beginning.

Children's Learning Center – Now Open!

Are you frustrated in your search for a quality and affordable child care facility? The Salvation Army has opened *The Children's Learning Center*, located at 1525 Appleton Rd., Menasha. It is licensed by the State-of-Wisconsin (#1008832) for children ages 6 weeks to 6 years of age. Hours are Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and it is open year-round to all children, regardless of gender, race, religion, or national origin.

We believe that your child can learn and grow as a unique individual in our values based child care center. We offer a developmentally age-appropriate program that is designed to meet the social, emotional, intellectual, physical and spiritual needs of each child as an individual.

The Children's Learning Center staff views its role with families as a partnership in your child's development. They strive to accommodate the unique circumstances, concerns and desires of each individual family. A dedicated and experienced staff will provide loving care and nurturing for your child, as well as activities that promote all aspects of child development. They provide positive role models in a caring, learning environment, encouraging responsibility, respect, cooperation, and tolerance. Staff will work to ensure that every child feels comfortable and secure in their surroundings. All staff participates

Their hope was renewed. So we are passing along this message of **thanks** to the many individuals, families, schools, businesses, and groups who take the time to help people who are hungry because it is our donors who help to make it all happen. Thank you!

Spring is a wonderful season. It awakens our senses. It is a season of renewal, new life, new beginnings which also awakens our sense of hope. Flowers, trees, and yes, even the dreaded dandelion, renew the vast rainbow of vibrant living colors to our landscape. God's creatures with fur or feathers exchange their winter apparel for the lighter spring version and bring new life into this world. Spring is also renewed hope for the people we serve. It offers a reprieve from the winter heating bills, new job opportunities, and new beginnings.

in continuing education to keep abreast of new information regarding child care, development, curriculum, techniques, health and safety.

At *The Children's Learning Center* a safe and healthy physical environment is structured and monitored so that children can participate in a wide variety of experiences concurrently. Furniture, equipment and toys are age appropriate and allow for full group, small group and individual activities. Daily activities include Spiritual Time, Circle Time, Discovery, Play Time, Story Time, Art, and Music along with everyone's favorite - rest periods!

See *Learning Center*, page 4



Summer Harvest™ NBC TV 26 Food Drive – August 11



The annual NBC TV 26 Summer Harvest Food Drive™ for the Salvation Army's Food Pantry will take place August 11, 2005. This event again will be held in the parking lot of the Piggly Wiggly Super Market, 520 E. Northland Ave, Appleton. The public will be able to drive-up and drop-off food items from 5:30 AM to 6:30 PM on that Thursday.

Flyers also will be available for shoppers at the Piggly Wiggly in Appleton that will list items that are in demand at the Army's food pantry. Such items include: canned soups, box dinners, canned meats and stews including tuna, juice or fruit drinks in plastic containers along with pasta sauces and spaghetti. Please no glass containers or perishable goods or produce items.

The public can also drive up to make cash donations at the familiar Salvation Army Red Kettle. Please make checks payable to The Salvation Army or mail donations to: The Salvation Army, attn: *Food Drive*, P.O. Box 1605, Appleton 54912-1605.

The Salvation Army Food Pantry located in Appleton, serves residents throughout the Fox Valley including: Neenah, Menasha, Grand Chute, Kimberly, Little Chute and Appleton. Groceries are provided at no cost to income qualified families, Monday thru Friday from 8 AM until Noon. On average the pantry distributes 30,000 pounds of groceries each month.

Summer Harvest™ 2005 is sponsored by: WGBA NBC TV 26, WIXX 101.1 FM radio, Piggly Wiggly Super Markets, Schneider National and Orde Advertising. Throughout the day NBC TV 26 News and WIXX radio will be broadcasting live from the event.

Last year, the NBC TV 26 Summer Harvest™ food drive collected 8,718 pounds of food for our pantry. Our goal this year is to collect 10,000 pounds of non-perishable items to help fight hunger. Area groups or organizations, churches, schools and businesses interested in hosting a food drive for our food pantry may visit our web-site at www.safoxcities.org under the "Your Help" tab for complete details.



"All-American Cookout" – May 19

The "All-American Cookout," a benefit for our emergency homeless programs, will be Thursday, May 19, 2005 from 11:15 AM to 1:15 PM, at the downtown Houdini Plaza (College Ave. and Appleton St.).

In keeping with the theme of "baseball, hot dogs and apple pie" members of the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers are scheduled to appear along with their mascot "Fang." Timber Rattler players will assist in serving lunches and will be available to sign autographs.

Noon time entertainment will feature a performance by the St. Joseph's Middle School Jazz with a special guest appearance by Mr. Pig from Piggly Wiggly.

The public can purchase a hot dog plate (\$3.50) or a brat plate (\$4.00) each includes chips and apple pie. Coca-Cola products and Dasani water will be available for purchase.

Lunch time pre-orders for pick-up can be made by calling Gina at 734-2534 or by faxing orders to 734-6365 by May 18th. You can download the FAX pre-order form on-line at www.fox-cities.org under the "Your Help" tab. Special on street parking will be reserved for food order pick-ups.

This year's cookout sponsors and supporters include: Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Piggly Wiggly food stores, Wisconsin Timber Rattlers baseball, Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Wisconsin, SECURA and Bergstrom Automotive.



Reid Ribble, president of the Ribble Group (left) presents a check for \$3,000 to Major Larry Cowper, corps officer for The Salvation Army – Appleton. In all, the Ribble Group donated \$6,325 to various Salvation Army Corps in Wisconsin and Minnesota. "We are delighted to continue our support of the Salvation Army in Northeastern Wisconsin," said Reid Ribble. Last November, Luebke Roofing, a corporate subsidiary, pledged to donate \$10 to the Salvation Army for every residential roofing/GutterTopper® quote written in November and December 2004, and an additional \$25 for every sale (\$750 or more) resulting from those quotes. "We doubled the amount of quoting we normally do during that time of year in the Valley," Ribble explained, "indicating a very strong community commitment to the mission and work of the Salvation Army. We are delighted to now be a part of that mission."

Volunteer Awards and Recognition for 2004

The following volunteers and organizations recently were cited for their outstanding contributions to The Salvation Army in 2004 at the May annual meeting and volunteer event.

Christmas Volunteer of the Year – presented to Jenny Bergstrom, who has assisted her sister Molly Huss, the *Toy Shop Coordinator*, just about everyday during Christmas intake and distribution for the last 2 years. She has sorted toys, helped set up display areas, restocked toys, and helped hand out *Coats for Kids*. These are just a few of the tasks Jenny performed to help make our Christmas Intake and Distribution such a success. Jenny works with a quiet diligence and dedication to completing the task at hand. She is a shining star in our Christmas skies.

Corporate Partner of the Year – presented to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. During the 2004 Christmas Red Kettle season, Thrivent sponsored a \$25,000 corporate kettle match day and hosted an in-house kettle site which resulted in the largest fund-raising day in kettle history for our local Corps. Thrivent volunteers were also out in full force to help ring at our Red Kettle sites spending numerous hours ringing bells. Thrivent volunteers also purchased and wrapped gifts that were distributed to area needy this past Christmas. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans supports our Project Home fund-raiser “All-American Cookout” with sponsorship and underwriting each year. They have hosted food drives to benefit our food pantry. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans also provides key



Schwan's Food Company route drivers and their customers raised close to \$5,000 in food items that were donated to the Thanks for Giving program to feed those in need here in the Valley. A Schwan's Food Company truck delivered these food items to the Army's Food Pantry last November. Our thanks to Tim Sachs, sales manager for Schwan's and all the drivers and their customers who helped to supply the pantry during their 2nd annual Thanks for Giving food drive.

Volunteer of the Year Jerry Frailing

Volunteer of the Year – awarded to Jerry Frailing, who comes in three days a week to help with the preparation, serving, and clean-up of the daily noon meal. He also helps prepare the meals and snacks for the senior program as well as for the Christmas volunteers. He shares



his baking talents that the Lord blessed him with for the greater good of those we serve. Jerry treats everyone with dignity and respect. He is dedicated and reliable. Jerry is the “cream” to our meal program.

leadership volunteers for our Advisory Board as well as our Capital Campaign Steering Committee.

Bell Ringer of the Year - Bernie Bestler has been at the Red Kettle ringing bells for many years. Every Christmas season you will find Bernie Bestler ringing bells outside the doors at the *Pick 'n Save* food store in Neenah. Since Christmas 1999 he has rang bells for over 294 hours.

Bell Ringing Group of the Year – presented to Melvin Klarner, representing the *William Verhagen* - American Legion Post 60 in Kimberly. Members of The American Legion Post 60 ring bells on multiple days at both doors of the ShopKo in Kimberly during the Red Kettle season. This past year they raised over \$7,833.00 in nine days!

Volunteer Group of the Year - The COTS Food Program – Accepted by Don & Carol Stoegbauer. These amazing volunteers unselfishly and very generously provide meals for our Homeless Shelter several days a week. They have been doing so for over five years.

Advisory Board - our thanks to retiring Advisory Board members – Marie Belcher, Judy Hanson, Kristen Henke, Thom Nooyen and Chris Timm and for their service.

Appleton Salvation Army gets new pair of Captains



The Salvation Army here in the Fox Cities has a pair of new officers in Captains Robert and Bethany Gauthier. The couple will work as partners in The Salvation Army tradition of sharing rank and duties.

The Gauthier's will join Majors Larry and Jane Cowper who have been the corps officers in Appleton for the past five years. Prior to their appointment the Captains were assistant corps officers at the Fort Wayne Corps in Fort Wayne Indiana for a period of six months.

"The Gauthier's bring energy and commitment that will no doubt strengthen our work here in the Fox Cities, and our ability to serve God and the needy effectively," said Major Larry Cowper, corps officer.

The couple acknowledged their calling to become Salvation Army officers (ministers) in August 2002. After attending the College for Officers Training in Chicago they were commissioned as ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and Officers in The Salvation Army as Captains. The couple has two daughters Morgan and Elisha.

As assistant corps officers, the new Captains will work out of The Salvation Army's recently acquired *Worship & Community Center* located at 1525 Appleton Rd., Menasha where they help oversee the various spiritual and social ministries for the church. The *Worship & Community Center* will develop into a place for worship, community meetings, child-care, education and recreation. It will serve to strengthen family life, create a sense of community and develop leadership in the lives of people living in the greater Fox Cities.



It's official, the Salvation Army - Appleton has taken possession of the former Christ the Rock Church on State 47 in Menasha. The property closing was held October 20, 2004. The Army will use the Menasha facility located at 1525 Appleton Rd as a Worship and Community Center. It will feature child care, senior citizen, and youth and family programs. The Salvation Army will maintain its Social Services Center in Appleton at 130 East North Street. That location will continue its food pantry operations, noon congregate feeding program, and homeless shelter along with numerous social service functions to assist the areas needy.

Learning Center continued from page 1

Programming gives emphasis to spiritual growth as a vital component of a child's development, adding values and blessings to their daily experiences. Group sizes are limited and the proper staff-to-child ratios are maintained for quality care and attention.

For more information about registration, programs, fees or to arrange a tour contact, Faye Hinkley, Childcare Director, 886-3648 or visit us on-line at www.safoxcities.org. *The Children's Learning Center* is located at The Salvation Army *Worship & Community Center*, 1525 Appleton Rd. Menasha.

Annual Report Available

Copies of the 2003-2004 Annual Report are now available. The report features our financial statement of activities for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004 along with statistics on social service assistance programs. The annual reports, along with this newsletter are available on-line at www.safoxcities.org or in our lobby literature rack during normal business hours.

Major's Notes

For all of us connected with The Salvation Army here in the Fox Cities, we find it so easy to "be amazed" by what has transpired over the last year. For it has been a year of many transitions and changes!

The year began with the preparation for the relocation of our shelter. After many years of serving homeless men in the old house located on South Morrison – it was time for a much needed change. With the approval of the City of Appleton to relocate the shelter to our North Street site, we began the process which would result in a new twenty bed shelter being opened in May 2004. The new dormitory style shelter with its lounge/eating area, staff offices, bathroom and shower area has greatly improved the quality of care that can be given to homeless and hurting men.

Now with the relocation of the Homeless Shelter to the North Street site along with the noon feeding program, a food pantry, the resource center, and shelter case management, we have moved towards becoming more of a *Social Services Center*. A one-stop location where homeless men can find safe shelter, the hungry can find a nutritious meal and food, the needy can find assistance and those in despair can find hope.

After 73 years of The Salvation Army providing social services, children's programs and worship services at the North Street site, it became necessary in February 2004 to relocate worship and other services to a temporary site on Midway Road in Menasha. This would provide needed time to pursue a permanent location for the children's programs, worship services and allow for a child care program to be developed. Over the next number of months we were able to negotiate and purchase the building at 1525 Appleton Road, in Menasha.

In October 2004, we took possession of the new site. Immediately we moved in the equipment, staff and volunteers to conduct the intake procedure for our annual Christmas Assistance Program and coat distribution. At the conclusion of the intake and coat distribution program, a number of classrooms were prepared and filled with equipment for our new *Children's Learning Center* program and for a University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh *Head Start Program* which would be using space in the building. The building was quickly filled with the many items that are needed for the 6,398 individuals that were assisted at Christmas. On October 31st we began conducting our youth and adult programs along with worship services at the new site. Finally, a new era of service had begun.

We offer our prayers of thanks to those who have remembered the Army in their wills. These bequests in turn made the shelter renovation and the purchase of the new building in Menasha all possible. We hope that you – like us – would "be amazed" at the goodness of God and His provision.

In His Service,



Major Larry Cowper
Corps Officer



Now on the road, thanks to a \$30,000 donation from John J. "Jack" and Ethel D. Keller is a new truck that will help to make Christmas brighter for area families in need this year and for years to come. This 2005 Ford E-350 cube van was purchased from a grant provided by the John J. and Ethel D. Keller Fund, a donor advised fund within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region. The vehicle is used by the Salvation Army's food pantry, the noon feeding program, and to support social services programs with pick-ups and deliveries. The grant was made on behalf of the Keller family and J.J. Keller & Associates, Neenah.

*What to Give the
Person Who Has
Everything?*

A Tribute Gift is Just the Answer!

Giving a gift in recognition or in memory of another is a great way to express love and respect for the honoree, while giving hope to people in need.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

in memory honor of _____

Send acknowledgement to: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Donor Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please call me with information about establishing a memorial through my will. Phone _____

Volunteer Corner *Notes from the Volunteer Coordinator*

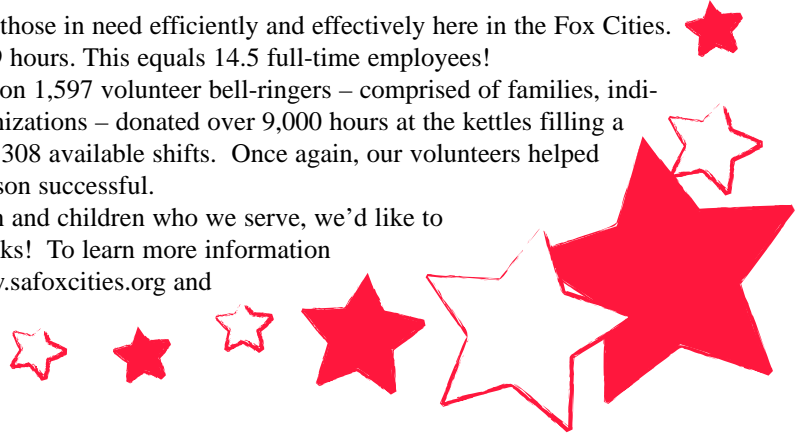
“National Volunteer Week” April 9-15 2005 was proclaimed as *Celebrate Volunteers!* in our communities. More than 109 million volunteers working in their communities utilize their time and talent daily to make a real difference in the lives of children, adults and the elderly in this great nation.

Thanks to an “army” of volunteers we are able to help those in need efficiently and effectively here in the Fox Cities. In 2004 - a total of 2,286 volunteers gave more than 28,339 hours. This equals 14.5 full-time employees!



During the 2004 Red Kettle season 1,597 volunteer bell-ringers – comprised of families, individuals, church groups and civic organizations – donated over 9,000 hours at the kettles filling a total of 4,531 two-hour shifts out of 7,308 available shifts. Once again, our volunteers helped to make the Red Kettle Christmas season successful.

On behalf of all the men, women and children who we serve, we’d like to extend our heartfelt gratitude and thanks! To learn more information on volunteer opportunities, go to www.safoxcities.org and click on the “Your Help” tab. Or call Andrea, the volunteer coordinator at 734-3324 extension 25.



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SPRING 2005

The Salvation Army, an international movement working in 109 countries worldwide, is an evangelical part of the Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human need in His name without discrimination.

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