



Waunakee Neighborhood Connection

JANUARY 2011

THE CONNECTION

A Publication of the Waunakee Neighborhood Connection

IMPORTANT DATES

Super Bowl Ticket Sales for Buffet & Raffle All This Month!
See this page for more details

Store Closed - No School
Monday, January 17th

Evening Volunteer/Donations
Tuesday, January 18th
5:00pm - 7:00pm

Store Closed - No School
Monday, January 24th

Saturday Volunteer/Donations
Saturday, January 29th
9:00am - 11:00am

Super Bowl Buffet/Party/Raffle
Sunday, February 6th
Rex's Innkeeper, Waunakee
Buffet/Party Starts at 5:00pm



Find more pictures and information on our Facebook page!

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WNC Super Bowl Raffle & Party

Rex's Innkeeper and Best Buy are once again partnering with WNC for their annual Super Bowl party, buffet and raffle. This year, thanks to Al Ripp of TDS and amazing help from Best Buy we have **three amazing prizes** we are raffling off.



Purchase a **\$10 raffle ticket** to win either a **55"** (biggest one yet!) **Sony Bravia LCD 1080dpi 120Hz HDMI TV** (retail value \$1699) OR a **40" Sony Bravia LCD 1080dpi 120Hz HDMI TV** (retail value \$849) OR new this year a **TOMTOM ONE 130 GPS Car Navigation System** (retail value \$120).

System (retail value \$120).

Or purchase a **\$20 ticket for a chance at the raffle AND the all you can eat buffet** and all you can drink beer or soda at Rex's during the game. The raffle will be held during half-time of the game. You need **not** be present to win! **All proceeds go to WNC!**



Come to **Rex's Innkeeper** on Super Bowl Sunday, **February 6th, starting at 5:00pm** to watch the Super Bowl in style. Game starts at 5:30pm.

Tickets can be purchased at **Rex's Innkeeper, Neil's Liquor, Village Mobil, the WNC Store** or purchase tickets **by mailing WNC a check** (address below), or **purchase online via credit card**. Tickets will be mailed to you. Please note how many raffle and/or buffet tickets you want.



We could use help selling raffle tickets! Would you be willing to take some to work, your group meetings, or sell to your neighbors, family and friends? The proceeds from this raffle will allow us to pay rent and keep our dozens of programs running year round. **Contact us if you can help!**

Store Address: 1001 Arboretum Dr., Suite 120 Waunakee, WI - **Phone:** (608) 849-5740 - **Email:** info@WaunakeeNC.com
Mailing Address: 215 S. Century Ave., #316, Waunakee, WI 53597 - www.WaunakeeNeighborhoodConnection.com

EXPANDING HOURS IN 2011

Demand is high and thanks to our amazing volunteers we are expanding store hours for 2011. Not only are we expanding hours on our client shopping night, but thanks to two volunteers who have come forward, **Denny Fongsamout and Shelley Joan Weiss** will be at store the **first and third Tuesdays each month from 5:00-7:00pm** to accept donations and coordinate volunteers' efforts. Thanks to Denny & Shelley for leading this effort. **This is in addition to being open Monday and Friday from 8:30am-12:30pm, one Saturday a month from 9-11am, and one Monday a month from 5-7pm for volunteering & donation drop-offs.**

As always, whenever the store is open for volunteering (**blue days on calendar page 9**), we would love to have you come in. You do not need to contact us in advance, and no prior experience is necessary. Families and children are welcome anytime. It's also a great opportunity for high school and college students looking to get in service hours for clubs, college applications or resumes!

Don't forget your receipt as **all donations are tax-deductible**. If the store isn't open, you can drop off your donations at the **Waunakee Police Station** Monday-Friday from 7:00a-5:00pm.



Help Needed!

Due to health reasons, the volunteer who puts together this monthly newsletter is unable to continue this work. **We are looking for someone to write and/or help do layout of the newsletter.** Microsoft Publisher is currently used & preferred. This can be done at home, and takes approx. 6-12 hours at the end of each month. This is a great way to get involved and learn more about WNC all while using writing and computer skills at home. If willing, please **call Genna at 712-9564**.



Colleen's Contemplations

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The last month has been such a whirlwind of activity. Good things happen all the time around here.

I got to be personally involved in the car donation in December, it was a wonderful experience. It felt good to not only give someone a car, but to see first hand how much lighter and happier she was afterwards. We gave that mom some much needed freedom.

In 2010 we saw a big increase in the number of seniors using our store. Their needs are also very simple. The greeting card section of the store gets a lot of attention. And who ever would have imagined that we would have a greeting card section? Remember last year when we were still in the other location? Walkers and wheel chairs were a big challenge. Seniors are constantly teaching me something. Several who signed up early for the Christmas meal turned it down later when they realized most of our meals go to people in need. I heard a lot of them say "we aren't that needy, we have what we need to get by". Many turned down the meal when I called, but asked for prayer instead. I love that focus on what's truly important. Stuff comes and goes, and isn't really all that important in itself. It's the people, and the relationships in our lives that matter most. I want to get to a point where I can say I have enough. All I need is prayer for me, my family and my huge extended WNC family.

Much love and many prayers of thankfulness for you all,

Colleen Woerner, WNC Store Manager

Client's Gift of Mobility

In December, a WNC client received an amazing gift of a 1997 Dodge Neon thanks to an anonymous donor and many business partners.

Heather Hartwig, had been driving a 1992 vehicle with over 230,000 miles. The windshield was cracked, the exhaust "wasn't right", the engine was dying, and the drivers door wouldn't open from the outside. Heather discovered the door problem one day while shopping at WNC, and was told to put a car down on her "needs list".

Her need was met last month, when a former WNC client donated the car. *"I didn't know there were people kind enough to do that. I guess there are angels out there"*, Heather said.



We would like to thank the numerous businesses that helped make this donation possible: **Village Mobil** who did the initial diagnostics, installed the battery, blades, and headlights and stored the vehicle until "delivery day"; **Weaver Auto Parts** who donated a new battery and windshield wiper blades; **Meffert Oil** who donated new headlights; **Super Lube** for donating the oil change; and **Collision Masters** for donating the detailing inside and out. Thank you also to **Roberta Baumann and Roger Hamilton** for the article and pictures in the **Waunakee Tribune** (photo above taken by Roger Hamilton).

Benefit Show HUGE Blessing



WNC would like to thank **Spotlight Dance Academy owners Erin Cotter and Tiffany Igielski**, along with **SDA's staff, their 450 dancers, their families,** friends and community supporters for the amazing outpouring of generosity you

provided to WNC from the **SDA's How the Grinch Stole Christmas benefit show**. You provided WNC with an amazingly generous amount of money from the proceeds of the ticket, t-shirt, and American Girl Doll raffle ticket sales, but also donated bins of new clothing, toys, and toiletries for WNC clients.

We thank you all for your time, talent and giving spirits this Christmas to help your neighbors in need. We know you all sacrificed a lot to provide a role model to our community on how to give back to others. Your gifts will help so many throughout the year.



Thanks to **Papa Murphy's Owner Mark**

Venditto and Manager Cory Reithmeyer for hosting the 2nd annual WNC Donation Day in December! **Thank you also to all who purchased pizzas** that day. Not only did 10% of the day's sales go to WNC but Papa Murphy's staff also asked for extra cash donations at the register. Thank you for making a difference!



Cub Pack 46 Raises \$638

This year **Cub Scout Pack 46** decided to give their proceeds of their annual cake bake to a local charity, and WNC is honored to have been chosen this year. Read about the event below.

"The cake bake is when all the Cub Scouts in Pack 46 bake and decorate a cake however they want, the cooler and crazier the better! Some examples are a boogery nose, Lambeau Field, light saber, Spongebob, volcano, toilet, and so many more. First the Scouts vote for their favorite cake. After the awards the Cub Master auctions off the cakes. The money we raise from the auction goes to charity. This is one of my favorite things we do in Cub Scouts."

- by Cub Scout, **Nick Maxfield**



Why I Chose T.P. Instead of Gifts

I chose to ask my friends to bring toilet paper to my birthday party instead of presents, because I thought that I had a lot of things of my own. It would be more important to help people that didn't have things, like toilet paper, tissues, toothbrushes, and a lot of other items, than getting presents.

I talked to Genna Eaton and told her that I wanted to donate to Waunakee Neighborhood Connection. I asked her what they needed and she said that they were completely out of toilet paper. After Mrs. Eaton told me that, I told my friends coming to my party that if they would like to donate toilet paper, they could.

In the end, I got **202 rolls of toilet paper and other household items**. I really felt good helping out people in need. If your child is going to have a birthday party, consider asking for donations instead of presents and you could really help the community.

- written by **Olivia Helmke**

Why not encourage your children to learn about helping others. WNC offers numerous ways to get involved at any age & as a family!



Special Cards for Clients

Students in special education invited a friend to come and make cards for WNC clients. What a

beautiful example of compassion and empathy.

Thank you **Teresa Chambers, special education teacher at Prairie Elementary** for

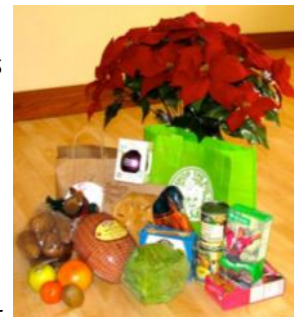
working with us on this project.



Christmas Meal Thanks to All

We want to thank the literally hundreds of people who helped with our Annual Christmas Meal distribution on December 18, 2010. We are deeply grateful for all of the tremendous support of your time and donations to support the community in this way.

Thank you to the **Village & Senior Center** for allowing us to utilize your facilities. Thanks to **the senior center staff** for handling our needs. Thank you **Mary Unger** for helping coordinate between WNC and the **SHARE** organization. To **Brandon Volley of UPS** for continually supporting us with our printing needs. Thank you to **Roberta Baumann & Roger Hamilton of the Waunakee Tribune** for working with us on our donation flyer & photo coverage of our meal. Thank you to **local churches** for putting donation and volunteer information in their newsletters and bulletins. To **Randy Guttenberg, Monica Butler & the entire staff of the Waunakee School District** for allowing us to provide our donation flyers to families and for doing collections with their classrooms to raise funds for purchasing meals. To **Ana Oliver-Tomar, Brianna Brody, and Teo & Lidia Montilla** for translating documents to Spanish, and making calls to Spanish-speaking families for registration .



Thank you **to all of our individual and business donors** for your generous contributions to help cover the costs of our record breaking 220 meals this year. A special thank you goes to: **Rich Wipperfurth, owner of Piggly Wiggly**, donated 220 cloth grocery bags; **Al Ripp of TDS Telecomm** who donated paper bags for fresh produce; to **Students from Heritage Elementary** for making 220 Christmas cards; to **Colleen Woerner** for donating Christmas ornaments annually; to **Shannon Conners, Leader and Brownie Troop 2810** for donating 220 boxes of cookies, and to the **Girl Scout Office** and **all who helped** by donating another 220 boxes for cookies.

Special thanks to our two lead coordinators of the event **Colleen Woerner and Nicole Mihalas**. Your leadership and time spent preparing for this event were fantastically overwhelming. Thank you for all you do! Thank you to all of our **store volunteers** who helped in preparing for our meal. A special thanks to **Alysha Statz, Samantha Statz, Lauren Statz, Casey Statz, and Nicole Pasinato** who decorated the TDS bags. Thank you to the **hundreds of people** who came on Saturday to help with the assembly and delivery of meals. Thank you also to **Cub Scout Pack 246, led by John Webster, and the pack's families** for joining us to help that day. A special thanks to **Sarah Lee** for coordinating the pack's activities and schedule. Last, but definitely not least thank you to our lead volunteers for distribution day (below), **Tara Meffert, David & Angela Docherty, Rita & Dan Endres, Genna Eaton, Joan Fischer, Nicole Mihalas & family, Colleen Woerner, Cheryl Booth, Hy Miller & Amy Guttenberg**. Thank you so much for your time and talents! **Without all of you, including so many who we were unable to list by name, we wouldn't be able to provide those in need in our community with the support and love they desperately need.**

"It was a fun way to spend the day with [my daughter]. It was cute, the 3rd apartment we went to nobody was home, she couldn't understand why we couldn't just wait for them to return "Dad I want to spread some Christmas cheer to them." You are right [Genna] something people don't consider is what a great opportunity [WNC is] offering parents and kids to get out there and learn to help others, what a great gift."



Christmas Adopt-a-Family Thanks

We want to thank all the people, families, businesses, classrooms, neighborhoods and groups who helped **adopt a record breaking 48 families or seniors this year**. What an amazing blessing you all were to these families who would have gone without some basic essentials and some extra cheer this year. We know it takes financial and time sacrifices during your busy holiday season. We appreciate it, and wish you could see the client's tears flowing as they received your gifts. Read below for specific thanks and some heart-warming quotes from those who adopted others. Names listed are in no particular order.

To the families of: Christine Salud; Carol Bleifield; Christina Johnson; Monica Butler; Joyce Endres; Dena Lenerz; Jen Black; Marcia Hazen; Darci Pfeil; Kim Leja; Sarah McGuire; Sherri Helmke; Juli Olson, Melanie Niesen and Julie Gardner; Jaime Brunet; Mandy Taylor; Nancy Wipperfurth; Jen Fiorenza; Jody Grieber; Sean Wayne; Karla Stafford; and Leslie Payden.

"My husband and I feel blessed. We have a home and vehicles. We aren't rich but still manage to spend money on special items for ourselves and have always felt that if we have money for that, then we certainly have money to help others. I can't imagine not being able to provide necessities for my family. We are all connected and a big family in God, so we move forward in that thinking!"

To these classrooms: Ruth Lohr's 1st grade class, Lea Zwettler's and Gretchen Kingsley's 5th grade classes, Emily Grover's 3rd grade class, Katie Craney's 1st grade class, Kari Hartwig's and Katie Krause's and Maeline Schall's Kindergarten classes.

"The students in Mrs. Zwettler's and Mrs. Kingsley's rooms really had a wonderful time participating in this activity. They worked together to provide this family with what they needed and felt good about the compassion and caring they were showing to the families in their town who need some extra attention. We were reminded of that great Horton Hears a Who line, "A person is a person, no matter how small." These kids know they are capable of making a difference. Thank you for the opportunity to do this with our classrooms."



To the following groups and businesses: Daisy Scout Troop 1102 (coordinated by Elise Mallin); JoAnn Martens Dentistry (coordinated by JoAnn Martens); Pay-it Forward High School Group (coordinated by Corina Rogers); St. Johns' Bible Study Group (coordinated by Rita Endres); Brilliant Beginnings Daycare (coordinated by Brooke Spaith); 30 Meadowbrook Families (coordinated by Joan Fischer); Sunlife Tanning (coordinated by Dawn Wood); Waunakee Rotary (coordinated by Phil Willems); Little Strokes Swim Academy (coordinated by Bill Tygum); Waunakee Library Staff (coordinated by Susan Hedrick and Kris Semler); the Murphy Insurance Group (coordinated by Joan Ogden) and Blackhawk Bible Group (coordinated by Chuck Smiley).

The **Murphy Insurance Group also raised \$750** collecting \$1.00 from employees on "Jeans Days" throughout the year. A little bit sure adds up over the course of a year. Here are quotes from their employees.

"My wife and I just feel that all families should have some kind of Christmas. If we could do more I would. Waunakee has always supported Murphy Ins. So I think it is a nice way to give something back."

"The reason I chose to donate is because I love to give to those that do not have the luxury of having everyday household items that we take for granted. It just feels right to give a little to those in need if you have a little to give instead of keeping it all to myself."

Many Christmas Programs Means Many Thanks



Once again because of our caring community, 100 children were able to pick out Christmas gifts for their parents/guardians at the **annual WNC Kids Shopping Event!** First, thank **you to everyone who brought in adult gifts.**

Thanks so much to the volunteers who organized and helped at the event with a **special thanks to Jennifer Fiorenza!** Thanks to **Karen Greiber** for your last minute assistance! Thanks also to **Crossroads United Methodist Church** for partnering with us, we appreciated the tables and your help! The smiles were flowing that day as each child had a personal

shopper – the **State Champion Waunakee Warrior Football Players.** **Thanks to the players and to Coach Pat Rice** for making this an unforgettable day for these children!



For the third year in a row, **Family Video of Middleton** donated 20 turkeys for client families at Christmas. To go along with the turkeys, many other groups and donors got involved to make it an even bigger surprise for the clients. We would like to thank **manager Katie Morley of Family Video** for continuing to bless our clients with turkeys at Thanksgiving & Christmas. Thank you to the **Intermediate Student Volunteers** who made gift bags for other donated items from **RSVP, Heather's Gifts and Borders Books** to go in. Thank you to **Trish Chaimson and her 3rd grade class from Prairie Elementary** for making ornaments for our clients who received turkeys. Thank you to **Cub Scouts Pack 46** who donated sacks of candy to go in the gift bags (see information on their cake bake on page 4). Thank you also to **Teresa Chambers, Special Education Teacher at Prairie Elementary and her students** for making Christmas cards (see page 4 for picture).



Kokopelli Kafe is a school based coffee shop operated by Waunakee High School students with disabilities and their peers. Their work experience program teaches students functional, transitional, vocational, and social skills in a real work environment. Each quarter Kokopelli students donate a portion of their profit to WHS organizations and local charities. **The students chose to use their fourth quarter profits to go shopping and purchase pajamas for WNC clients children.** They had a great time shopping at the mall, and our clients were

thrilled at receiving new pajamas. Something we all take for granted. **What a fantastic program and an amazing gift for clients this Christmas.** Thank you **Monica Dedrick** for coordinating this program and **thank you students for your hard work and for choosing to help WNC this quarter!**

Many More Thanks

What a great "problem" to have! Too little space to talk about our many Christmas programs and thank the many people who make them possible. **We want to thank all of our volunteers, donors, business partners, schools, churches, and community groups** for not only making December 2010 a great month for our neighbors in need, but for making all of 2010 a fantastic year for WNC. No matter how big or small you feel your contribution was this year, **YOU made a BIG difference** to WNC and to the over 250 families and seniors we serve in Waunakee

Anonymous donor who purchased a twin bed at Waunakee Furniture for a client in need. Thank you to **Waunakee Furniture** for handling delivery of the product before Christmas. It went to a very thankful family who had their child on an unsafe top bunk. What a blessing it was!

Carrie Duck and family for making 98 stockings filled with goodies for client's children for the second year in a row. They also donated new hats & mittens. Our clients children loved them. What a great gift, and they've already started collecting goodies for next year's stockings!

To **Paulette Emerson of the HERO club** who donated tickets to their Santa Pancake Breakfast so WNC families could attend.

Thanks to **Lydia Dorn, Lily Vanderbloemen and Jenna McGowan** for outstanding News coverage in the High School Purple Sage!

To the **Waunakee Fire Department** who donated five 30 gallon containers full of toiletries and food that blessed five grateful clients for the holidays.

Steve Strobel of the Town Planner for adding WNC events and ads throughout the 2011 community calendar for us. Thank you for the help!

St. John's Piecemakers Quilting Group who donated **27 quilts** to WNC after their quilt sale at the end of October.

Elise Mallin for taking meals to a client's family. The client recently had a brain tumor removed and is now doing well, thanks to the prayers and support of our community.

Many Waunakee school classrooms worked hard at raising money for meals, including **Prairie Elementary Teachers: Joan Hottinger, Aimee Zellner, Beth Loy, Sue Pasinato, Kris Ehle, Debbie Walker, Trudi Leder, Denise Farnsworth, Dawn Peters, Julie Tepp, Lori Seis, Jessica Sweno, Karen Staege** who worked with their students to provide meals for over 30 families! **Heritage Teachers: Ken Penfield, Cindy Anhalt and Sari Zirbel. Intermediate Teachers: Chandra Kalscheur Stegner, Tricia Kuluvar, Jane Kind, Margaret Martin.** A special thanks to **Jay Farnsworth** who challenged his students to bring in their own money & matched their funds! Kudos to the **Middle School Creators Team, coordinated by Jane Fazio**, who raised over \$300! Thanks to the following **High School groups: Student Council, Pat Schwartz's Art Club, Martha Barlow.** What a neat way to share what Christmas is all about with your students & benefit those in need. Thanks for caring!

To the individuals, businesses & organizations that provided financial support for continued WNC operations!

NEEDS LIST

If you have any of these items, please drop them off at our store **when we are open**, or **at the Police Station**, Mon-Fri from 7am—5pm. All donations are tax-deductible.

Appliances

Dehumidifiers (5)
Freezer
Microwave
Refrigerator (2)

Room Heater

Vacuums (5)

Washers & Dryers (3) - 2 small

Electronics

DVD Players (2)

Furniture

Beds-Twin, Full, Queen (9)

Chairs (4)

Couches (4)

Dining Sets (3)

Dressers (8)

End/Coffee Tables (6)

Stools (4)

Infant Supplies

Car/Booster Seats (2)

Changing Tables

Excersaucer or Swing

High Chair

Misc. Items

Adult L & XL Depends

Air Mattress (Full)

Area Rugs (2)

Coffee Maker (1)

Fans (2)

Floor Lamps

Mirror

Snow Blower

Suitcase

Vehicles (2)

January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
New Year Reminder: Volunteer Days (Blue) are for volunteering or donation drop-offs ONLY. (No client shopping). Client Days (Yellow) are for client shopping ONLY (No donations please).						1 Happy New Year!
2	3 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	4	5	6 Intermed. Students Volunteer 2:30-4pm	7 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	8
9	10 Volunteer 8:30am-12:30pm CLIENT Shopping 5-8pm	11	12	13 Intermed. Students Volunteer 2:30-4pm	14 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	15
16	17 CLOSED No School	18 Volunteer & Donations 5-7pm	19 CLIENT Shopping 10am-1pm	20 Intermed. Students Volunteer 2:30-4pm	21 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	22
23	24 CLOSED No School	25	26	27 Intermed. Students Volunteer 2:30-4pm	28 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	29 Volunteer & Donations 9-11am
30	31 CLIENT Shopping 8:30am-12:30pm					

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