

Food for Thought A Newsletter for Volunteers

Schools Respond in Epic Fashion

Board member Sandra Pessaro, our liaison to schools, has been busy working with school leaders to inspire activities that can both feed the hungry and provide learning experiences for students. She first worked with Northern Ozaukee High School's Student Council to run a reverse collection for the pantry. Students were given a slip with a food item on it. The students then shopped for that item and brought it back to school. They collected nearly 100 pounds of food!

Next was the cereal collection at the elementary schools in Port Washington/Saukville, and holy cow, did they respond!

Staff, students, and parents at 3 schools donated over 1,000 boxes of cereal. Before they turned it over to us, they did a 'domino' experiment at each school.

It took our pantry van and 3 other vehicles to successfully pick up this generous donation, but it didn't end there. Once it was brought to the pantry and weighed, the job was only half done. There were shopping carts and boxes full of cereal everywhere!

We had a crew at the ready the following day to create space for this product, and get it marked and put away. It was a great job by all involved! All of this cereal should take us through the summer and perhaps beyond.

Way to go, Sandra, for your first and very successful school food drives. All of the schools said they're excited to collaborate again!



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June Birthdays

Sue Reynen, 2nd
Rita Helmeid, 6th
Janice Vruble, 11th
Michael Brost, 11th
Bev Ventura, 18th
Katie George, 20th
Tom Kruske, 28th
Lorraine Halls, 30th

Students Learn About the Homeless

Students at Divine Savior School in Fredonia were learning about what it's like to be homeless. They built shelters and set up tents outside the school for a simulation.

We were grateful to be invited to speak to the students regarding what our pantry does to serve the homeless.

The importance of treating homeless clients with respect and compassion was emphasized. Information was given about the types of food containers that are convenient for people living in this situation. We also talked about household items that

would be important to have. We closed by talking about how we collaborate with other area agencies, like St. Vincent DePaul.

It was a pleasure speaking with the students, and we hope they were able to take away some new and helpful information.

When the unexpected happens, people step up!

- On Tuesday, May 6th, there was a city water main break between the pantry and the SJXXIII school. There was a flood of water before the city could cap it off. The pantry was without water for a time, and due to the quick reaction of our volunteers, restroom arrangements were made with our friends at McDonalds next door.



- As they say, when it rains, it pours. On Friday, May 9th, we received notification that the school's walk-in freezer broke down. Thanks to those who made room for and helped save the food we had stored there. The school is still working on a repair solution.



Notes



- Our new online process for monthly items starts on Tuesday, June 3rd
- If you are interested in becoming the Salvation Army Red Kettle Coordinator for Ozaukee County, please contact Mark Schowalter at 262-284-4416



In Appreciation

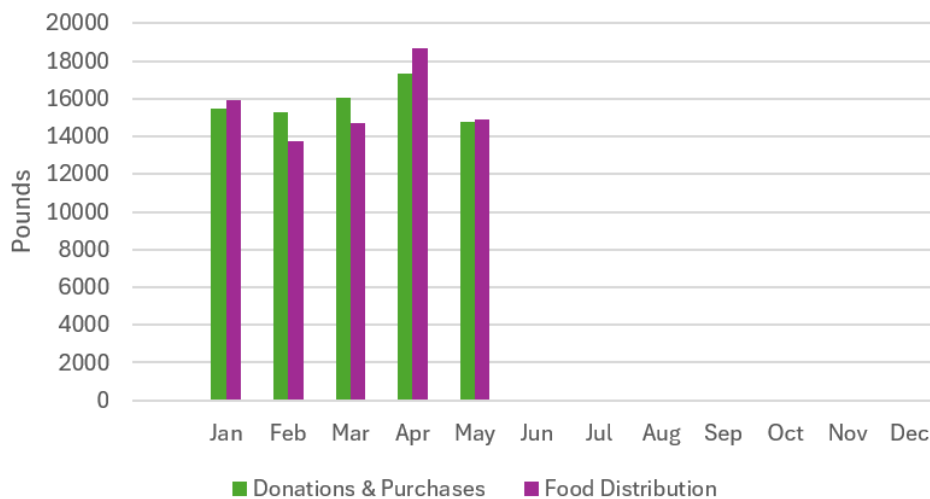
- Sandra Pessaro, Lindsay Mella, Lorraine Halls and Terry Morgan who helped pick up school cereal donations.
- Paula Davison for making room in the pantry for all of the donated cereal, and all who helped mark and stock this product
- Scott Brost for computerizing our monthly items process
- Our box cutting crew who processed a huge amount of boxes in May
- Dean Meinerz for managing through last minute delivery changes
- Sharon Volkmann for separating many multi-packs of frozen chicken breasts during Saturday hours.
- Dale Blaubach and Steve DeMerit for coordinating food delivery from the postal carrier food drive
- For the marking and stocking crew who worked on Monday, May 12th to process food from the letter carriers drive
- Lorraine Halls for picking up a load of pork chops, and to the crew who weighed and loaded them into the freezers.
- To Scott and Joyce Brost, who documented explicit instructions so things could run smoothly while they had a well-deserved out-of-town vacation with family.

THANKS!

Food Drives, Fundraisers & Events

- The Steerage Dining Saloon in downtown Port Washington continues to support our pantry with their special drink menu. One dollar from every drink sold is donated to the pantry. Stop in and try one and have a great meal too!
- National Night Out hosted by the Port Washington Police Department (for Ozaukee County) Tuesday, August 6th
- Beanie's dine to donate (date TBD)
- The Hillebrand family hosted a food drive at a party in celebration of some family events. They raised over \$900 and a phenomenal amount of food for the pantry!
- We received nearly 100 pounds of food from the Northern Ozaukee High School Student Council reverse collection.
- We received 1,241 pounds (over 1,000 boxes) of cereal from the 3 Port Washington/Saukville elementary schools.
- We received a very generous grant from the 100+ Women Who Care of Ozaukee County
- The Port Washington High School DECA Club raised \$1,000 each for our pantry and Ozaukee Food Alliance through the sale of spirit wear throughout the school year.
- Our next board of directors brat fry is on June 21st at the Saukville Piggly Wiggly store.

2025 Food Donations/Purchases vs. Food Distribution



Pantry Collaborations

- We have invited Family Sharing and Ozaukee Food Alliance to join us for National Night Out, held in Port Washington this year.
- We directed some large hams to the Family Sharing pantry in Grafton



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**Working together to alleviate hunger in
our community by acquiring and
distributing food to those who seek aid.**

Our History

Serving all of Ozaukee County residents, as well as Random Lake in Southern Sheboygan County. We distribute to all faiths and are blessed for the donated space in the Saint John XXIII rectory basement since 1982.



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Sandra Pessaro, Schools
Brian Amore, Endowment

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Joyce Brost, Food Manager
Lorraine Halls, Volunteer Manager

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Vacant