

Food for Thought

A Newsletter for Volunteers

We Have a Date!

Our move to the 1777 W. Grand Avenue location on the west side of Port Washington has been scheduled. Our first day of operation will be October 25th. A lot has to happen before then, and schedules and activities are being worked out.

On Monday, October 13th, the clothing, gift area, and school supplies will be moved. **On October 14th, 18th, and 21st**, the clothing and gift areas at the current pantry will be closed. This is to enable those areas to get organized and ready for the new pantry opening. Clients will be notified of this.

Birthday gifts will still be distributed without inter-

ruption.

On Wednesday, October 22nd, the pantry move commences. A moving company will transport all of the food and appliances. Refrigeration, freezers, tables, and other items will be put in place, and organization of food and perishables will begin.

We are planning to coordinate two staff orientation and training sessions. Most jobs will stay the same, but we will be adding client shopping assistants. Clients will also need orientation to the new space.

While all of this is happening, we will still need to do our usual food pickups and shopping, so needless to say a lot of coordination will need to happen.

There is much to look forward to when we move: A brighter, safer, and more spacious place to work, no stairs, beautiful client shopping areas, and more efficiency with food handling.

We're glad you're on this journey with us. We couldn't be successful without you!

See the bulletin board for more scheduling info.



Feeding America Update

One of our major food sources for the pantry is Feeding America of Eastern Wisconsin. We order food and other products through them on a weekly basis, some at no cost, and some at a reduced cost.

In order to maintain our relationship with them, we must comply with certain requirements for food storage and safety. We were recently in-

spected for compliance for those requirements and are delighted to say we passed!

There were two recommendations made which included posting a sign at the entrance for clients, saying that by using the pantry they are indicating need, and that we regularly monitor and record tempera-

tures in our freezers and refrigerators. You'll notice the provided sign has been posted, and we are establishing a plan to monitor temperatures.

We have also requested to be included in their Meal-Connect program, which matches food donors and agencies. This has increased the amount of food we pick up at Costco,

because we must now take everything offered by them. We may also be matched with other corporate food donors that become available.



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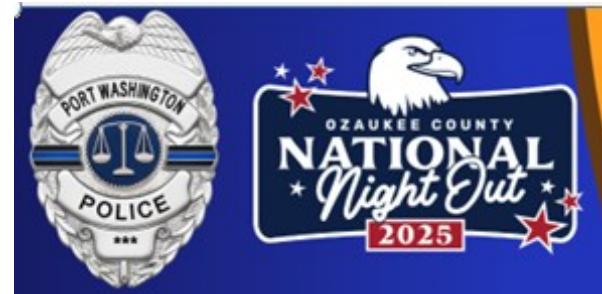
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August Birthdays

Shirley Groothousen, 4th
Kathy Wiskow, 7th
Ruth Ann Dibert, 17th
Ralph Schmit, 28th
Barbara Frank, 31st

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 5th, is National Night Out. This annual event is hosted by the Port Washington Police Department this year, and takes place on Franklin Street in downtown Port Washington. The hours are 5 p.m. until 9 p.m., so there will be plenty of time after the pantry closes to partake in the festivities if you wish. Our tent will be staffed in 2 shifts by board members Sandra Pessaro, Pat Curtiss, Jim Langford, and Steve Hansen. Ozaukee Food Alliance and Family Sharing will have tents next to ours, so please stop by and say hello to everyone! We're looking forward to this collaboration and meeting members of the community, while offering appreciation to law enforcement and other first responders and agencies in our Ozaukee County community. A paper products drive is being held for all of the pantries during this event, and a donation box will also be set up. Hope to see you there!



Notes



- Our annual volunteer appreciation picnic will be held at the Port Washington Upper Lake Park, picnic area #5 (Lion's Pavilion) on Wednesday, August 13th.
- See Marcia Nosko or Steve Hansen to get your raffle tickets for a chance to win a brand new stainless steel Weber Spirit 3 burner grill, donated by Drew's True Value.
- If you are interested in becoming the Salvation Army Red Kettle Coordinator for Ozaukee County, please contact Mark Schowalter at 262-284-4416 for details.
- The holiday Gift a Child program is underway, led by Heather Woods. Team members include Bette Langford, Kristin Kobylnski, and Pat Kozak.



In Appreciation

- All of the area churches and their members who are supporting our school supply drive financially or with school supply donations
- Christ the King Church for hosting a food barrel at their recent ecumenical outdoor service with Grand Avenue UMC, First Congregational UCC, and Living Hope, ELCA churches. Thanks also to all of the church members who donated on our behalf.
- The Port Washington City Band for hosting a food drive at their final concert in July. Thanks to all who made food or monetary donations.
- Our delivery drivers who faithfully and enthusiastically deliver to our homebound clients each week.
- Beanies Mexican Restaurant and Cantina for hosting a dine to donate event on our behalf
- Grafton Meijer for their recent grant for the Gift a Child program
- The Steerage Dining Saloon for their ongoing and generous support
- Lorraine Halls for organizing inventory and pulling out expired, or nearly expired items and making them available for the 'free' table
- Lu Maier for sharing pictures and information from a relative's food pantry in Ohio
- All of our student volunteers who've chosen to work with us during their summer break, They've all been doing a great job!
- Scott & Joyce Brost for all of the shopping, ordering, food pickups, and computer work that gets done each week.

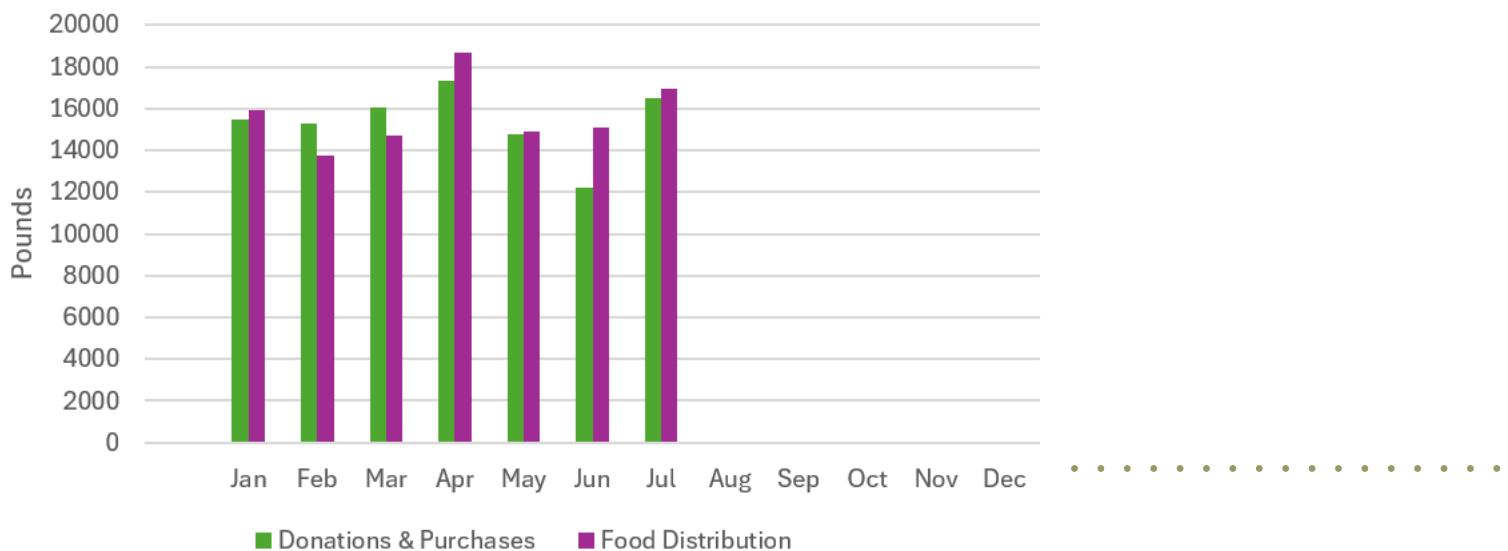
THANKS!

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 5th
- Moonlight Tavern Dine to Donate on September 24th
- Gas Grill raffle drawing 9/6
- Food pantry at the Port Farmer's Market 9/6, 10/11, 10/13, and 10/18



2025 Food Donations/Purchases vs. Food Distribution



- We have invited Family Sharing and Ozaukee Food Alliance to join us for National Night Out, held in Port Washington this year.
- We are planning to have regular collaboration meetings with Ozaukee Food Alliance and Family Sharing.



Recent Pantry Pictures



Client shopping area with sample of shelving to be used throughout the



Food receiving and sorting area

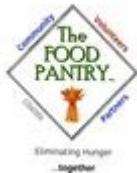


General food inventory area without shelves set up

Front lobby set up as a temporary meeting room. We will have our volunteer meetings in this space after move-in. Chairs will be set up for everyone.



The Food Pantry, Inc.



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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.



Board Members

Steve Hansen, President
Jim Langford, Vice President
Jennifer Binninger-Gomez, Secretary
Liz Busateri, Treasurer
John Vallier, Churches
Tom Didier, Business/ Community
Brian Boettcher, Food Resources
Sandra Pessaro, Schools
Brian Amore, Endowment

Board Members Emeritus

Pat Curtis
Phil Grootousen

Food Pantry Operations

Marcia Nosko, Executive Director
Joyce Brost, Food Manager
Lorraine Halls, Volunteer Manager

Marketing

Todd Korb

Grant Writing & Foundation Liaison

Vacant