



# The Neighbors' Place

"People helping people"

Newsletter for everyone in our neighborhood

Fall 2009



## ***Part Art, Part Soup, and All Heart!***

### **WAUSAU AREA EMPTY BOWLS**

**Saturday, October 24, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at The Rose Garden**

*A project to fight hunger in Wausau and greater Marathon County will benefit The Neighbors' Place Food Pantry again this year.*

With a \$10 donation (\$5 for children 6-12), each guest will select a unique bowl and enjoy a meal of delicious soup from a long list of selections prepared by area chefs and restaurants. The bowl is kept as an ongoing reminder that hunger is everywhere. Bowls are handmade and uniquely decorated by area artists. In addition to the soup line, there will be a silent auction featuring celebrity-signed bowls, special pieces of art and more. Presented by Kocourek Chevrolet in cooperation with The Center for Visual Arts and The Rose Garden. Call TNP at 715-845-1966 for info.

Special opportunity! You're invited to participate in a fun bowl painting event with Kocourek Automotive Group on **Saturday, October 17**. Please call 715-359-7200 for details and location – we'd love to have you join us!



## **BE ONE OF SANTA'S HELPERS – MAKE CHRISTMAS SPECIAL THIS YEAR**

A long-standing program of The Neighbors' Place is the Christmas Assistance Program, which provides gifts for children who might otherwise go without. Families may participate in one of two ways – through **sponsorship**, in which children 18 and under from qualifying households submit a request that can be filled by an anonymous sponsor, or through the **Christmas Store**, where parents may come to shop for free items that have been donated by our generous supporters. Applications for the sponsor program will be accepted October 22 and 23 from 3-5 p.m. or October 24 from 1-3 p.m. The Christmas Store will be open on December 19 from 4-6 p.m. and Sunday, December 20, from 5-7 p.m. Individuals wishing to support these important efforts may help in many ways:

- Be a sponsor! Sponsor one or more children, fulfilling their wish lists.
- Donate! Purchase items to be selected from the Christmas Store.
- Distribute gifts! Assist with the distribution of gifts fulfilled by the sponsors on December 19 and 20.
- Wrap gifts! During the Christmas Store hours, assist families, wrap gifts and be a helpful elf!

For more information, please contact Naomi Peters at [Naomi@neighborsplace.org](mailto:Naomi@neighborsplace.org) or 715-845-1966.



## **A TON OF THANKS**

There are so many caring neighbors who take the time to collect food and items for the people served by our agency, or to raise money on our behalf. Here's one example of a remarkable collection taken by the good people of Domtar's Rothschild mill, as told by truck shop employee Dave Berna. Dave and his co-workers collected 2,000 pounds of food for our Food Pantry – thanks a ton for all your support!

*What does it take to make a ton of food? Surprisingly enough, it's not much different than making a ton of paper. While this sounds a bit absurd at first, when you stop and think about it, it's really not. To make a ton of paper it takes a lot of people all doing their own small part of the overall larger process; from loading and chipping the wood, making pulp, running the sheet across the paper machine or Bielo, etc. and everything else in-between. It's a lot of people doing what they do best.*

*The making and/or giving of a ton of food is also just that: A lot of good people doing their small part of a larger process. And here at Rothschild, we are very good at what we do. Thus, the goal of raising a ton of food was not an unobtainable goal, but a mere stretch to a huge end result. We should all be proud of ourselves for whatever part we may have played for even the smallest is making a huge difference to someone else who is much less fortunate than us.*



## **WITH YOUR SUPPORT, WE'RE MAKING IMPROVEMENTS!**

Last year, we were blessed to reach the goal for our capital fund drive, allowing us to make critical improvements to our building. We are carefully using those funds for debt reduction and facility upgrades. In fact, our mortgage will be completely paid off by the end of 2009! With the leadership of the Samuels Group, plans for energy-efficient renovations are under way.



## **GROUPS NEEDED TO FILL THE GAPS**

More than 3,000 people visit the Food Pantry in any given month. While there are times when donations are plentiful, other months find the shelves pretty bare. TNP is looking for congregations, schools, clubs and organizations to keep the pantry stocked throughout the year. If your group would like to do a food drive during a designated month, you could make a huge difference in keeping Marathon County fed. Please call us at 715-845-1966 to pledge your support!



## 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ICE TEE CLASSIC – BE A PART OF THE FUN

*The 2010 Ice Tee Classic will be held on Saturday, February 20, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on the 400 Block in downtown Wausau. Mark your calendar, gather your family and friends and plan to participate! Who couldn't use some fresh air and laughs?*

Participants will enjoy a fun-filled miniature golf-style outing to benefit The Neighbors' Place. This fun event for all ages is unique to the Wausau area. Sponsoring businesses and organizations design and decorate themed holes in the snow and ice, creating a magical course on which golfers swat tennis balls with unusual "golf clubs" including tennis racquets, brooms, and homemade creations. To sponsor a hole for this great event, contact Tom Rau at 715-845-1966.



## INNOVIAANT GOLF TOURNEY TOPS LAST YEAR'S EVENT

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Benefit hosted by Innoviant raised \$30,000 for The Neighbors' Place, topping the income from the 2008 tournament. Held on August 17<sup>th</sup> at the Wausau Country Club, a long list of golfers of all skill levels enjoyed the beautiful course, delicious food, special contests and raffles, and an awards presentation at the end.

Everyone is invited to participate in next year's event scheduled for **August 9, 2010**. To become a sponsor, register a team, or help out, please email [INN-Golf@innoviant.com](mailto:INN-Golf@innoviant.com).



## HARVESTING FOR THE COMMUNITY

TNP's Community Garden brings fresh produce to hundreds of families every year. The field adjacent to the 3M quarry provides more than 200 gardeners each with a nice-sized plot on which they can grow vegetables for their families. Each year, the land is generously tilled with a tractor from Swiderski Implement Inc. with a driver from Hsu Compost. The Golden K Kiwanis Club lays out the gardens before the individuals move in to plant their sections. Each of the gardeners is encouraged to give at least 10% of their harvest to families in need through the TNP Food Pantry and the Salvation Army. According to Garden Coordinator Gene Jacobson, this past growing season had 206 gardeners who gave more than 13,800 pounds of fresh produce to others in need.



## CITY GRILL HOSTS CHRISTMAS IN JULY

In a neighborly and creative gesture, the folks at City Grill partnered with TNP to host *Christmas in July* on a Wednesday evening before the Concert in the Square. With guest bartender Dave Kallaway and a live broadcast by 95.5, people were drawn to the restaurant to contribute donations of goods and food as well as cash to benefit the people served at The Neighbors' Place. Special gratitude goes out to our neighbors who organized this fun gathering and to all those who came to enjoy the camaraderie.



## GET A SID KYLER PRINT

Check your mail next month to see how you can get a limited edition signed print of a new Sid Kyler depiction of The Neighbors' Place programs!



## THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS

You've heard the saying "It takes a village" – it is so true. The Neighbors' Place is for everyone, and is only made possible with the support of our many volunteers and donors. Without your support, we would not be able to provide the services we do – Adult Education, Youth Programs, Community Garden, Food Pantry, Christmas Assistance Program and our Free Market (household items and clothing). Please know you are appreciated each and every day, for everything you do to help our neighbors in need. Not sure how you can best support these important services? Please contact Tom Rau, executive director, at 715-845-1966.



## ON FACEBOOK? *Become a Fan of TNP!*

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  <p><b>The Neighbors' Place</b><br/> <i>"People helping people"</i><br/> <b>745 Scott Street</b><br/> <b>Wausau, WI 54403</b><br/> <b>715-845-1966</b><br/> <a href="http://www.neighborsplace.org">www.neighborsplace.org</a></p>  <p><b>United Way</b><br/> <i>A Member Agency of the United Way</i></p> | <p><b>The Neighbors' Place Staff:</b><br/> <i>Executive Director:</i> Tom Rau<br/> <i>Director Community Outreach/Youth Programs:</i><br/> Naomi Peters<br/> <i>Adult Education/Provider Storyteller Network:</i><br/> Marcy Rau<br/> <i>Provider Storyteller Network:</i> Maichao Lor<br/> <i>Latino Outreach:</i> Carolina Rodriguez-Ornelas<br/> <i>Garden Coordinator:</i> Gene Jacobson<br/> <i>Donations:</i> Kurt Scheidemann<br/> <i>Senior Aides:</i> John Baltus, Terry Olson, Anna Tanck, Lou Ann Wood, Va Thao Xiong</p> | <p><b>Board of Directors:</b><br/> Jim Force, Co-President<br/> Linda Lawrence, Co-President<br/> Walter John Chilsen, Vice President<br/> Sean Valiska, Treasurer<br/> Rhonda Grabow, Secretary<br/> Mark Baldwin, Joan Bouldin,<br/> Calvin Dexter, Jane Dolan,<br/> Ann Herda-Rapp, Carol Lamansky,<br/> Tom Neal, Bethany O'Day,<br/> Kathryn Rubino, Liz Sheahan,<br/> Dr. Gary Zimbric</p> |
|--|--|--|



Would you prefer to receive this newsletter by email? Please send a message to [tom@neighborsplace.org](mailto:tom@neighborsplace.org).