

BREADCRUMBS

May 2008

The Newsletter of the Irving Park Community Food Pantry

Welcome to the second edition of the newsletter designed for the volunteers and friends of the Irving Park Community Food Pantry. The Board of Directors of the Pantry recognizes that the strongest asset of the Pantry is our volunteer staff. Thanks to everyone.

Pantry news

The biggest news at the Pantry this month is the sad news that our Directors, Kathy Howe and Barb Cohn, have submitted their resignations, effective July 1, 2008. These two have worked tirelessly for the Pantry for many years and will certainly be missed. As we get closer to the time, we will have a chance to say our goodbyes and wish them luck.

The Board of Directors is accepting applications for the position of Director. If you know of anyone who may be interested, they should contact the Pantry at IrvPkFoodPantry@aol.com for a copy of the job description.

What's Coming Up

Saturday, June 14 – Hunger Walk – This walk is sponsored by the Greater Chicago Food Depository. By using pledge forms with the name of our Pantry and the code A00113-PY00169, every dollar raised by our walkers will be credited to our shared maintenance fee account with the Depository, enabling us to purchase food at 7¢ a pound. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 this year.

The walk is 2.5 miles starting at Montrose Harbor and going along the lake. Registration on the day of the event begins at 8:00 a.m. and the step off is at 9:30 a.m. Free parking is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

You can get registration/pledge forms at the Greater Chicago Food Depository website: <http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org>, from the office at the Pantry or by e-mailing us at irvpkfoodpantry@aol.com.

Thank You!

A huge thank you to Jennifer McGowan, Peter Litton, Liz Cunningham and Blake Batterson for organizing the first annual wine tasting fundraiser. Not only was a good time had by all, but they raised over \$7,000 for the use of the Pantry.



We're all looking forward to the second annual event!



DID You know...

Our pantry served 486 families, made up of 1,365 people in April? We couldn't do it without our valued volunteers. Thanks for everything.

Volunteer trivia

1. Which one of our loyal volunteers was once a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and traveled to Europe in that capacity?
2. Whose favorite candy is Fannie Mae dark chocolate raspberry cream?
3. Whose favorite movie is Nightmare Before Christmas?
4. Who was born in England and grew up in Scotland?

(See answers at bottom of page.)

WHERE DOES the Food COME FROM?

Some of our food comes from the Great Chicago Food Depository. Here's how it works:

We have an account at the Food Depository. Every Wednesday, Barb or Kathy order cases of food from a menu from the Depository. Some of the things are free. Some are purchased for 7¢ a pound. Some are special items that cost more. All of the crackers, cookies, meat and dairy products come from the Depository. The cost is deducted from our account at the Depository just like a bank account. Jim, Rick, Craig and Les pick up the food every Monday morning at 7:00 a.m. with the Pantry truck. We also pick up the food for two other pantries which don't have a truck. The truck is unloaded on Monday. Food is put away until Wednesday morning. Everything is set up and broken down on Wednesday.

spotlight on our volunteers

Peggy and Nick Calderone are fixtures at the Pantry on Wednesday mornings. Here is some stuff you didn't know about them:

Both of them were born and raised in Chicago. Peggy (Margaret) graduated from Cathedral High School and then worked for Bear Sterns Company (a brokerage company), first as a cashier and then in the library. She retired in 2001 after forty years of employment. Nick graduated from Tully High School and the American Academy of Art. He worked as a commercial artist (what they now call a graphic artist) and retired in 2005.

Peggy and Nick met at a church youth club and have been married for 41 years. They have lived in the West Walker neighborhood for 37 years. They love to travel and often go to their nephew's summer home in Indiana. They love the Chicago sports teams (but not the Cubs) and are very active at St. Edwards Church. Peggy says Nick's favorite hobbies are drawing, painting and napping. They have a dog named Sweetie that they rescued from the AntiCruelty Society.

Here is the most amazing fact: they have no computer and are quite happy without one!

Most of you know that Peggy's job at the Pantry is to interview the clients. Did you know that she also compiles the weekly statistics and serves on the Board? Nick is a "man about town" at the Pantry, doing whatever is needed.

Thanks to Peggy and Nick for all their hard work. The Pantry couldn't survive without you and the rest of the volunteers.



Leila Duncan award

At the Valentine's Brunch, Thrivent for Lutherans received the Leila Duncan Award for their generous and continuing contributions to the Pantry. Did you ever wonder who Leila Duncan is?

In the early 1970's Leila Duncan, a member of the Irving Park United Methodist Church, realized there were many people who were hungry in her neighborhood. She began purchasing and delivering groceries to individuals and families in the area. In 1983 the church began providing [USDA](#) cheese and butter to community residents who could give proof of need. Sensitive insight on the part of Rev. Philip Sheets, the pastor, led to the formation of the Pantry as a community effort.

contact us

If you are interested in contributing to this newsletter or need more information, you can contact Carol Schultz at schultzfamily02@aol.com or the Pantry at irvpkfoodpantry@aol.com.

VOLUNTEER TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Madeline Cervantes
2. Marjorie Pomonis
3. Rosie Camargo
4. Derek Clark