



## RUN THE RACE

Almost all of us have been there, completely winded and out of gas. Your legs ache, lungs burn, and you struggle to focus your thoughts just to walk. In the grip of fatigue you have a choice to keep on going or take a knee and catch your breath. You see that is the thing about sprints, it is going as hard as you can for a set distance, leaving nothing in the tank for when the race is done. It makes running any significant distance impossible. If you need to cover a long distance in a sprint, you need a team, each member running a leg of the total distance.

With the unflinching aid of volunteers, donors, and staff members, the mammoth run that is the Holiday season at Samaritan Center was paced out in a full sprint for those in need. From the starter's gun challenges erupted at every step, but they were met and overcome through teamwork and perseverance.

Every time someone hit the wall could go no further, there was someone ready to pick them up, ready to finish the run. We sprinted through it running full steam until it was over.

When all was said and done the numbers speak for themselves. In two

weeks 2,685 people were fed through our pantry. 749 children were given toys through Santa's

workshop. \$10,566.97 in utility assistance was distributed. All of this is in addition to 471 families and 54 seniors who were adopted.

It is amazing to stand back after the work is completed, to take in all that has been accomplished and what has been given to get there. It is a testament to the goodness of people that when there is a gap, there is always someone ready to fill it.

There are more races to be run, each full of challenges, but races are easy when you run with a great team and we will be ready.



Students and instructors from Nichols Carrer Center Building Trades build shelving in a temporary storage container used to hold adopted family gifts, toys for Santa's



Workshop and other Holiday Supplies. The container was donated by Mike Stuckenschneider and Chet Jac Trailer Sales. Materials for the shelving were donated by Scruggs Lumber.



## YOU COULD WIN THIS CAR!

Want a new car? Need a new car? Can you picture yourself in a red sports car? Then check out the Jefferson City West Rotary Club's first-annual car raffle for the benefit of the Rape & Abuse Crisis Service (RACS) and Samaritan Center.

Not only do you have a chance to win a 2005 red Ford Mustang Convertible, fully loaded V8 with leather interior; but also secondary cash prizes of \$1,000, \$500, and \$250. Net proceeds from the ticket sales will be distributed to RACS and the Samaritan Center in Jefferson City to assist with their needs in 2006.

Tickets are on sale now from Jefferson City West Rotary Club members. The winning ticket will be drawn at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, at Summit Lake Winery. Only up to 700 tickets will be sold, so get your ticket today before they sell out, and join us on the 12th to see if you will be driving home a brand new car.

Want more details? Visit [www.jeffcityrotary.org](http://www.jeffcityrotary.org) for rules and specifics of the raffle; or call Rotarian Larry Neill at 680.1570 or Tom Stegeman, Mike Kehoe Ford, 573.634.4444 to purchase tickets.



## RENDER UNTO CAESER

The time is coming, you see the warnings in TV read them in the newspaper, solicitations fill your mailbox in anticipation of everyone's favorite season, tax season.

Tax season brings an extra level of service to the Samaritan Center via our Tax Credit Program. In the vein of self-help and growth the Samaritan Center volunteers work with persons to file Income Tax forms for the state and federal governments. Many people find that they are eligible for tax credits and or refunds that they otherwise would have left unclaimed.

A Samaritan Center policy calls for any individual seeking financial assistance through the Samaritan Center to first file for Tax Credits, no financial assistance will be given unless proof is shown of filing made elsewhere or filing is done through our program. Those in need are still eligible for food, clothing, medical, and other non-cash assistance. This policy is indicative of the holistic approach the Samaritan Center takes in assisting people. Not just a quick handout, an investment in the well being of the individual and assistance in improving self-esteem as well as self-sufficiency. Teaching people to help themselves first.

The people taking advantage of this service are working families without adequate income. Senior or disabled citizens also are a large portion of those helped.

Last year, through Earned Income Tax Credit, Property-Rental Tax Credit, Child Care Credit, and other refunds Samaritan Center clients received **\$81,271.00**. That is money placed back into the local economy, money in the hands of people in need.

## THANK YOU KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOR SUPPORT

The Knights of Columbus Councils of Mid Missouri including: St. Martins, Taos, Russellville, Wardsville, and both appreciation to the residents of Mid Missouri who made the Knights food drive a success. Area K

# MARYLYN'S MESSAGE

## Wind, Snowflakes and High Heating Bills

This bouncing New Year of 2006 has ushered in many weather changes already for us and it is only mid January. We are grateful for more mild temperatures as opposed to the very cold ones that are more typical for us mid Missourians in January.

We have been overwhelmed by people with shut off notices and those already in the dark. So many of you responded to our plea for utility assistance and so we are able to say "YES" to those who have no other avenue for immediate relief. The LIHEAP and ECIP monies are vended through Community Action Agencies and take up to two weeks or longer to be processed and that is a long time for someone to have no heat or lights. If our friends have time on their side we send them to these agencies. If not we try to pay the shut off and tell them to go apply for next month if their need is still apparent.

On the bright side we have been able to help many families with food, prescriptions, legal care, and clothes. We have received many written and verbal thank yous for all the help you gave to them at Christmas. Shirley writes "I just want to thank you all so much for my Christmas gifts. The blouse and sweater fit just right. I just love them. I'm still eating the fruit and it sure is good. Apples and oranges are my favorite. The Perkins certificate was the topping on the cake. Their food was so good. Thank you again." Another "Would you please let the family or people who adopted my family for Christmas know a huge Thank You from our hearts! This Christmas is the first time I was really worried how I would do Christmas for my daughter. Their kindness made the day special and the food was a huge blessing along with the other gifts. Thank You! Sincerely L&M

Your gifts of self to these brothers and sisters make our commitment here at the Center to serve others a reality. God bless you all!

Thanks too, for all the food drives that you continue to support to keep our pantry stocked. With 1,389 persons receiving food in the month of December you can imagine how fast our food supplies disappear. All of the Knights of Columbus councils in the area held their first annual food drive the first of the month and it was quite a success. There will be many dry baby bottoms and lots of cereal on breakfast tables thanks to their efforts and your generosity.

Before I close I have to thank the families of Mary Ann Luetkemeyer, Ron Scheuler and Pierre Touchette for sharing their loved ones with us. All three of them were outstanding volunteers for us and personal friends to me. Losing them all in December was a real blow. I know they are enjoying being with God in heaven and now I have three new saints to pray to and ask them to watch over us and our work here at the Center.

Keep warm and keep us in your prayers!  
Marylyn

**REST IN PEACE**  
**MARY ANN LUEKEMEYER,**  
**RONALD E. SCHEULER**  
**PIERRE TOUCHETTE**  
**MOST REVEREND MICHAEL F. MCAULIFFE**

## **PORTING US WITH YOUR INAUGURAL FOOD DRIVE!**

Jefferson City Councils Helias and St. Joseph for organized and carried out a food drive for us. Also we offer our nights collected donations at area grocers and brought in \$1726.72 and 3,144 lbs of pantry items.

## FAT TUESDAY FOOD

Jefferson City Kiwanis Club will be holding a Pancake and Sausage Dinner Tuesday, February 28 from 4:30-7:00 PM at the Jefferson City Knights of Columbus Hall at 1022 Tanner Bridge Rd, Adults are \$6.00 Children 6-12 are \$3.00 and 5 and under are free. The event is dine in or carry out. All proceeds go to benefit the Samaritan Center. Please come support us and help the Kiwanis with this inaugural event!

## NEW HOURS

Starting in February, there will be new office hour for the Samaritan Center. Monday, Wednesday and Friday the center will open at 8:00 AM and close at 4:00 PM. On Tuesday and Thursday the center will open at 8:00 AM and close at 6:00 PM. The extended hours on Tuesday evening will allow an additional day for those who cannot visit during the work day to come to the center to volunteer, make donations, or just visit. Hours of pantry operation will remain unchanged. 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM Monday through Thursday and Thursday evenings from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### February

1 Valentine Roundup begins  
20 CLOSED for Presidents Day

#### March

4 Bags go out for Boy Scout Food Drive  
11 Boy Scout Food Drive

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[www.midmosamaritan.org](http://www.midmosamaritan.org)

1310 E McCarty Jefferson City MO 65101

#### Hours of Operation

Open to Public: 9:30am-11:30am Monday-Thursday  
4:00pm-6:00pm Thursday

Medical Clinic: 4:00pm-6:00pm Thursday

Dental Clinic: by appointment Only,  
call (573)761-3473 for information

Staff Office Hours: 8:00am-4:00pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
8:00am-6:00pm Tuesday Thursday

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