



## An Evening to Remember

The Second Annual Samaritan Center Foundation Dinner and Auction, held once more at the



Undercroft of St. Joseph's Cathedral, was a successful evening on many levels. Guests flocked in on what was one of few seasonably warm evenings of this summer, they were greeted outside the doors by a gleaming Ford Thunderbird, the weekend rental of which was offered for auction by Mike

Kehoe Ford, and the bubbling of the four person spa from Fisher Pool and Pond which was raffled off. As the guests walked in on red carpets through registration, they received their first peeks of the décor. The Undercroft, which is more or less a basement, had been transformed into a scene of elegance. The decoration committee outdid themselves, bringing a flashy, formal evening party feel to the room. A wishing well fountain bubbled between the entryway arbors greeting guests and setting the mood, that this would be an evening in the garden. Long stem roses and red taper candles filled star shaped centerpieces on every table. More roses, stars, moons, colors of red, black, silver, and white filled the room. Everywhere the eye traveled, something of beauty was within frame. The musical accompaniment for the evening, provided by Mike Michelson, helped complete the mood.

Volunteer bartenders Greg Campbell, Fred Gladbach, and Burke and Tracy Osborne kept the thirsty crowd satiated during the social hour which saw the opening of the silent auction. Guests perused live auction items and began bidding on silent items.

Warren Krech and Don Schnieders returned as masters of ceremonies. They kept the crowd in smiles as guests began to take their seats for dinner. Following an invocation by Rev. Donald Lammers, the wait staff brought out stuffed pork chops, mashed potatoes, and steamed vegetables, the main course of the meal prepared by Capitol Plaza.

During dinner additional musical entertainment was provided by present students and graduates of Sue Logston's Vocal studio accompanied by Matt Tolkendorf.

The live auction, ran again this year by Bill Gratz, featured some return items from the previous year as well as many new items. The highest selling item of the evening was a years worth of cinnamon rolls homemade by Cheryl Boessen which went for a whopping \$2,300.00.

Following the close of the live auction drawings were held for the spa and the gemstone and setting from Kas A Design. Total net funds raised for Samaritan Center Foundation were just over \$47,000.

Thank you to all who gave of their time, talent, and treasure to make for such a delightful evening.



## Back to School Time

When the Samaritan Center reopened following a two week period of maintenance, inventory, and general clean up, persons in need were lined up well outside the doors. They were here to get the food and funds they were in need of, but they also came for another reason. The days are getting shorter, football is returning, fall is on its way, and school is starting back up. School supplies for grades K-8 were handed out starting August 9, our first day open. Prepared kits including paper, writing utensils, Kleenex and other supplies were stuffed into new backpacks for boys and girls. The community need was astounding. Record numbers of persons came and the supplies did not last as long as expected. Supplies for students are still needed, children will use them through the school year, and some parents are still in need of their initial supplies. Thanks to all those who have contributed supplies to us. They are very important, new, good supplies help contribute to a positive self image for children who have many distractions from their studies already. Please remember these children and donate as you are able.

### Marylyn's Message

Time Flies when you are having fun!

It seems unreal when we think that the Auction fund raiser was a month ago. So much energy goes into the planning and the execution of the event. We cannot thank enough all those volunteers who gave so many hours to planning and setting up the event; all of you who participated in any way to help us. It was again a huge success for our Foundation. Even so the need is so great that we continue to look to you for help in so many projects.

Just in the first eight days of August we have given food to 658 families. On a Thursday evening we went to lobby when we had forty more families to serve to inquire if any of them could come in on the following Monday for their food. We were out of bread, chicken, produce and milk. Two families raised their hands and said they could come back. One after another said, "Lady we will take what ever you have, we don't have any food in the house". It is almost impossible to imagine that these struggling families have no food. No food at all. In the afternoons we were giving out backpacks for kindergartners and school supplies for students up to eighth grade. In six days we gave out over 850 supplies to 375 families. We ran out! A family drove in from California with their children and we scurried to put together supplies that had just been donated.

Without help from so many directions we would never have been able to help these kids feel good about going to school with shiny new supplies.

Those of you who donate clothes, sheets, blankets etc. to our Clothing Closet, thank you! We want to share an experience from last week. A mother of a little boy who was having his fifth birthday came in looking for a gift to give to him. We searched and only found a broken Buzz Lightyear Doll. Going to the warehouse we spied a little boy's comforter with cars on it and matching sheets. We asked if she thought he would like that for a gift. She said, "Oh, lady he don't got any sheets on his bed, just a kivver." She was delighted and said, "it was like something out of the Sears catalog." The little things we donate mean so much to those who have nothing. No sheets at all!

The Missouri State Employees Charitable Campaign is just getting under way. We hope all of you employees will again check the box for your home town charity, the Samaritan Center # 4026 in your book. Everything you give goes to direct services for those in need. Your help from last year was amazing!

Service to those in need is a golden opportunity for us all to thank our creator for the blessings He has given to us.

God bless all of you for all you do for our friends in need!

## Honoring a Long-Time Friend

Some time was taken during the Dinner and Auction event to recognize a long term volunteer for the Samaritan Center. Nelson "Nellie" Vincent has been a volunteer with the Samaritan Center since 1987. He has contributed in many ways over the years. He volunteered in the food pantry every Monday and Thursday and still comes every Monday. He was a driver for runs to Columbia whenever needed to pick up food at the Food Bank. In July of 1993, he fought flood waters 1993, driving his truck to Columbia in order to bring back much needed supplies for Chamois and Morrison. He has served as a representative of St. Peter Church on the Community Advisory Board since July of 1987. Nellie was a member of the charter committee that wrote the By-Laws for the Center. Since 1998 he has served on the Building Committee Board. Nellie has championed the Samaritan Center in the community serving as an ambassador, recruiter, and fund raiser. Volunteer Executive Director, Marylyn DeFeo is quick to celebrate Nellie:

"We would be hard pressed to find a more loyal and dedicated volunteer like Nellie. He has been at our side in good times and in bad always with a positive solution to our problems. His ready smile and silly jokes always keep us laughing. We hope that God gives him many more years and that he can be with us here at the Samaritan Center keeping us centered on the goals that are so important to him and the people we serve. We love you good and gentle friend!!"

Nellie was presented by Marylyn with a plaque commemorating his service and she offered some memories and personal praise as well.



## Community Contributions

The Council of Clubs announced that it has chosen the prescription assistance program at the Samaritan Center as a charity to benefit from their fashion show. The show will be held at 11:30 am on October 25 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel. The prescription assistance program at Samaritan Center helps to ensure the availability of needed medications to the elderly and chronically ill of Mid-Missouri. Diabetics and those with high blood pressure and other heart related problems are a small example of those conditions that need continuing medication. The cost of these medications is enough to bury persons with low financial means and a choice between food, utilities, and medication must often be made. Through generous support we are able to help eliminate these choices no one should have to make. Thank you Council of Clubs for your help!

Highway 54 Church of Christ recently held a carnival to raise school supplies for the Samaritan Center. Under the coordination of Mr. Kendall Blythe and Rev. Kevin Matthews, the event was held at the church grounds and the admission charge was school supplies. Thank you to our friends at Highway 54 Church of Christ.

House of Prayer Family Church has recently completed the first case in a home improvement program they have launched to benefit clients of the Samaritan Center. Church members donate their time, talent, and treasure to do various odd jobs for people who do not have the abilities or funds to do them on their own. The program that targets homeowners selects one house at a time. Yard work and simple home repairs are just two areas they work at. The program will help to improve the quality of life for the people it touches. Thank you House of Prayer Family Church!

## Remember our Number

Last year the Samaritan Center joined the ranks of charities eligible for donation through the Missouri State Employees Charitable Campaign. We were incredibly surprised by our success as a newcomer. Nearly a 20% share came to us. The Samaritan Center is not listed in the index of charities, due to a printing policy we will not be until 2005. Please remind any state workers you know. Our number for the campaign is 4026 and our information can be found on page 15 of the booklet. Thank you for all your generous support!

### Dates to Remember

#### September

1- Unmet Need Committee  
24- Fall Festival at the Samritan Center  
All month! - Halloween Costume roundup

#### October

4-28 Christmas Sign-up.  
19 Board of Realators Chili Supper at Eagles 4-8 PM  
25 Council of Clubs Fashion Show 11:30 at Capitol Plaza

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#### 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-Friday

