



# The Apple Newsletter

News and Highlights from  
Community Help Network, Inc.



To make donations go to:  
[www.communityhelpnet.org](http://www.communityhelpnet.org)  
Or scan this QR Code with your  
smartphone camera.



## Garden Update

Anyone interested in helping with this year's vegetable garden is welcome to contact Bonnie at 219-805-3717 or Bob Votaw at [cpvotaw@gmail.com](mailto:cpvotaw@gmail.com). Keeping up with watering and weeding will take a team. Thank you, Merv Barenie for tilling and Beth and Pat Nair for planning, cleaning and planting.



## Stories from the Warehouse

We had a wonderful turn out of volunteers Tuesday June 6<sup>th</sup>. Approximately twelve folks came to help sort through the many items we had set aside as prizes for the Second Annual Buddy Bags Family Fun Fair. People also helped inspecting, sorting and dating recent food donations for the Buddy Bags Summer Program which begins Tuesday June 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. We are hoping that a good deal of our Buddy Bag families takes advantage of the weekly bag of groceries. We have been extremely blessed with food donations and volunteers!

Your Buddy Bags Race Team on Mother's Day Hometown Happenings' "Run Like a Mother" 5K. Find out how to join and/or support Team Buddy Bags by emailing Paul Sills: [Harrier113029@gmail.com](mailto:Harrier113029@gmail.com).



The Adventure Maidens from the YMCA collected food for our Buddy Bags Summer Grocery Program for their June Summit Event. Thank you, Tara Rushmeyer for delivering the food with the aid of your lovely daughters, Addison, Ellie and Olivia.



Eisenhower Elementary School in Crown Point raised \$1,000 for Buddy Bags with their "Penny Wars"! The class that collected the most got ice cream!! Let's see all schools do this!



Thank you,  
Solon  
Robinson for  
your food  
donations!!



**May 7<sup>th</sup> BINGO Fundraiser**  
Thank you to all who donated food, BINGO Prizes, Door Prizes, or came out to play. We raised over \$4,000!



## New Website Coming Soon

We want to give a shout out to three recent Purdue Northwest graduates. Nick Cantley, and classmates Salvador and Shawn.

These three young men have designed a fresh, exciting website for CHN as their senior project. They received an "A" and we will soon launch a new website with new and more user-friendly features. We are so grateful!  
[www.communityhelpnet.org](http://www.communityhelpnet.org)



**No Ladle of Love**  
Until Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>.  
Email meal suggestions to:  
[communityhelpnetwork2020@gmail.com](mailto:communityhelpnetwork2020@gmail.com)

May 20<sup>th</sup> Ladle of Love was blessed to have some of the most wonderful volunteers from Hope Community Church, Lowell.



**Happy 40<sup>th</sup>  
Birthday  
Nick Werley**



**From Bonnie's Messy Desk**

**Buddy Bags Summer Program** for our Buddy Bag Families will begin June 13<sup>th</sup>. Families will be able to come to our location once a week for an eight-week period to receive a bag of groceries. The items that we include are:

**Pasta, rice, beans, canned fruit, canned vegetables, tuna, canned chicken, peanut butter, jelly, boxes of cereal, catsup, mustard, mayo, syrup, pancake mix, flour, sugar, coffee, etc.**

**Pretty much anything you would shop for.**

**Household Pantry** – Providing hygiene items, paper products and cleaning supplies to low-income families in South Lake County. Open Tuesdays 9:00 am until 1:00 pm and Saturdays 9:00 am until Noon. We are in need of Community Partners who can keep a collection bin for pantry items in their place of business. Call or email if you are interested. Thank you!

**Little Free Library** – A large selection of books for all ages. All books are free. Open any time there are people at the warehouse. Want a book, take a book. Have a book, leave a book.



Frustration. That's what I feel a lot of the time. So many times, when people come to us in need of assistance, we cannot meet those needs. Homelessness is so much more prevalent in South Lake County than we realize. That is until someone comes through your door or calls you on the phone. Someone, a couple or a family, that has been living in their car or in a cheap hotel. CHN is not in the position to provide funds for housing.

And, unfortunately, the agencies that are supposed to be able to help too often cannot. It appears to me to be a problem that is getting worse. We try to have information on available resources, but too often this is not enough. Please keep in mind just how difficult some folks have it and how terribly easy it is to get into that position.

**Thank you,  
Lowell Rotary!!!!**



May 5<sup>th</sup>  
**PURSE**  
BINGO netted  
Over \$6,000 in  
food donations  
for the Buddy  
Bags' Summer  
Program!!



**CENTURY CLUB**

*Many thanks to Bette Oesterle and Sue Riester for making it happen!!*

*Thank you to those of you who have already joined.*

**Community Help Network Century Club!**

*Please consider contributing at one of the following levels:*

**Century Apple Club - \$100.00**

**Silver Apple Club - \$500.00**

**Gold Apple Club - \$1,000.00**

*An "APPLE" plaque baring your name will soon be hanging on the wall at our Warehouse.*

**Please consider making your gift an annual contribution and become a CHARTER member.**

**We packed our 100,000<sup>th</sup>  
Buddy Bag on Tuesday,  
May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023!!  
Each bag holds six meals –  
That's 600,000 Meals!**



*We've made a few changes to the inspirational cards. Now the kids have something to color. And, we put important information for parents on the back side.*



**Community Help Network, Inc.**

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**Hoffman Charitable  
Foundation**

