



October 2023

# The Apple Newsletter

News and Highlights from  
Community Help Network, Inc.

Volume 20



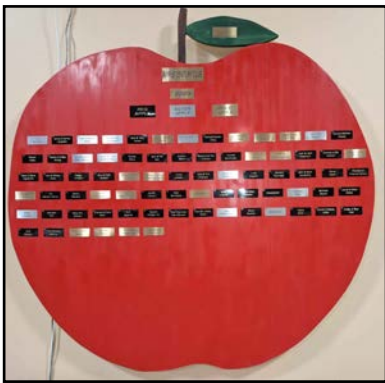
To make donations go to:  
[www.communityhelpnet.org](http://www.communityhelpnet.org)  
Or scan this QR Code.



### 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). Help is needed to clean up the garden. Let us know when you can help.

Century Club is a success!  
There are now over **100** members!!  
Keep up the good work everyone!  
This is such a wonderful way of showing your continuing support of CHN and our programs.  
Email Bette Oesterle for more info  
[boesterle@theoldbank.com](mailto:boesterle@theoldbank.com)



You can see our many volunteer opportunities via our website.  
<https://www.communityhelpnet.org/how-to-help/>

Your Buddy Bags Walk/Run Team.

Join us on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> for  
Witches in the Woods.

This race will be at the Lake County  
Fairgrounds in Crown Point.

Find out how to join and/or support  
Team Buddy Bags by emailing Paul Sills:

[Harrier113029@gmail.com](mailto:Harrier113029@gmail.com)  
[hometownhappenings.net](http://hometownhappenings.net)



*Blessings to the Pantry  
From Crown Point's  
Junior Bulldog Cheerleaders!*



Tavern on Main is returning to Ladle of Love on Saturdays October 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>. Chef Honey will be crafting a pasta dish with his homemade sauce. Bonnie has made squash soup from what the garden has offered. Please join us!

Ladle of  
Love



Bi-Monthly  
Luncheon  
1st and 3rd  
Saturdays  
11:00 a.m.  
to  
1:00 p.m.



**New Pantry Days & Hours**

Providing hygiene items, paper products and cleaning supplies to low-income families in South Lake County.

***Open Tuesdays and Saturdays  
9:00 am until Noon and Wednesdays  
5:00 pm until 7:00 pm***

The number of families utilizing the pantry has increased significantly. 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. We are interested in new or lightly used children’s books. Our Household Pantry clients often have their young children with them and they very much enjoy the library. We have a new batch of donated books, come see!



***From Bonnie’s Messy Desk***

Blessings abound from Amazon’s Regulated Waste Program. What is that, you ask. Amazon’s program provides to nonprofits items they cannot sell or resell for various reasons. We have been partnering with the Amazon locations in Matteson and Markham, IL for two years now. We had received so much clothing (new clothing) in the last three donations from Amazon, we needed to do something special. So, on September 30<sup>th</sup> we held an open house clothing give away for our Buddy Bags and Household Pantry families. Over 80 families we served. Blessed to be a blessing!



***Tales from the Warehouse***

A Buddy Bags’ Parent Testimonial as told by board member Bette Oesterle.  
*The mother of children receiving weekly Buddy Bags was speaking to a friend of mine: She was going through a divorce and really struggling. Her children received weekly Buddy Bags of food for each weekend. She was extremely grateful for the food that was sent home. She said it was a “LIFE SAVER” for her family. She shared that her kids felt really important that they had something of their own through that difficult time.*



**Local Food Banks**  
**Project Love Food Pantry:** 219-374-7312 Open Wednesday Mornings/ 7124 137th Place, Cedar Lake  
**St. Edwards Catholic Church:** 219-696-7307 / 216 S. Nichols, Lowell Open Thursdays 10 until 11:30 am.  
**Lowell Church Of Christ:** 219-696-7591 / 299 North Burr Street Lowell  
**Saint Mary’s Church:** 219-663-0044/321 Joliet Street, Crown Point  
**Trade Winds:** 3218 E. 84th Pl, Merrillville Last Thursday of each month, 9:30am – 1:30pm  
**St. Matthias Catholic Church:** 101 W Burrell Dr, Crown Point, Pick 7, last Saturday of the month.  
**Lighthouse Church:** 219-374-9000/13419 Parrish Avenue, Cedar Lak  
**St. John the Evangelist Food Pantry:** Open Tuesdays from 9:00 am until Noon, 11311 School Street, St John  
**Holy Spirit Catholic Church:** 219-662-7424/7667 East 109th Ave, Winfield Hours of Operation/ Mon, Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

*The kids have something to color.  
And, we put important information  
for parents on the back side.*



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Lake County's Community Foundation