

August 2024

# The Apple Newsletter

News and Highlights from  
Community Help Network, Inc.

Volume 30



## From Bonnie's Messy Desk

Did you know that each Buddy Bag contains six meals?  
2 x Breakfast, 2 x Lunch, 2 x Dinner (and snacks). We were packing an average of 540 Buddy Bags each week this past school year for approximately 37 weeks.  
 $6 \times 540 = 3,240$  weekly meals.  
 $3,240 \times 37 = 119,880$  meals for the school year!  
We are looking at serving a greater number of food insecure students this coming school year. With your help!



## Save the Date Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>

Community Help Network will be hosting a **Provider Fair**. Agencies & Organizations within the South Lake County community will be on hand to provide information about their services to our clients and anyone else within the area looking for information regarding services available. We will also resume **Ladle of Love** on this day. We will be cooking out. If you would like to participate, please email us.

[communityhelpnetwork2020@gmail.com](mailto:communityhelpnetwork2020@gmail.com)

Join us for some entertaining community theater and delicious pre and post show goodies while supporting CHN!

<https://www.communityhelpnet.org/tickets/>

or use QR Code below to purchase your tickets.



**Hometown**  
**Nite Ride 8:30p**  
**Nite Market, 4-9p**  
**Saturday, Aug. 17th**  
**Lake Co Fairgrounds**

Hometown Happenings is a long-time, devoted and consistent supporter of Buddy Bags. They are going to donate \$5 for every runner that signs up for any race using code "buddybags" at checkout. Thank you, Tim Fealy and your incredible organization.

Meet some new neighbors.  
**POLAR STAR BATTALION** is Indiana's newest United States Naval Sea Cadet Unit. We welcome young people ages 10 to 18. We are a Navy based youth organization who works with Veterans organizations and the community in service-based learning. And community service.



Dustin Grutzus and Bradley Luchon of Lowell.  
Maya and Moroni Lopez of Winfield



Thank you Regional Streeters for your support. A check in the amount of \$1,250 is presented to Dian Reyome, Bob Votaw and Bonnie Meyer by Bob Schroader.  
<https://www.facebook.com/RegionalStreeters>

The Apple Century Club has been our biggest fundraiser for CHN/Buddy Bags!! A **HUGE** thank you to all who have supported our mission of feeding food insecure children! Our second year for the ACC has also been successful! We are sending out "reminder" letters for members to renew their support for 2024-2025. The new school year is about to start, and we are planning to continue to provide weekend bags to 4 school districts...and that translates into a budget that continues to grow. Please help us spread the word to family and friends about the Century Club and how one can "join" by contributing to the **Red Apple Club (\$100.00 to \$499/year)**, **Silver Apple Club (\$500 to \$999/year)** or **Gold Apple Club (\$1,000.00 and above/year)**. Of our 134 charter ACC members 30 have chosen to support us for another year. We had 134 charter members and now we have 30 who are supporting us for the second year! We hope you will consider becoming a sustaining member of the APPLE CENTURY CLUB!



## The Summer Buddy Bag Program



Once a week for eight weeks during summer break our Buddy bag students' families can come to our warehouse location in Crown Point and shop for groceries. Food items are arranged according to My Plate specifications and families work with a CHN shopper to choose from various items in the different My Plate categories. This year the summer program has been blessed with support from school food drives, \$2,500 from Lions Club District 25A, an anonymous gift of \$2,000 in Aldi gift cards, additional funding from the Crown Point First United Methodist Church and other private donations. This has allowed the purchase of fresh produce through Region Roots which works with local farmers to provide the freshest of local grown produce. We have averaged 39 students per week and there is two weeks left in the summer program. Then . . . it's full speed ahead for the new school year!!

## HUNGERHIKE 2024

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

LAKE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS (899-857 LAKE ST, CROWN POINT)

9AM CHECK IN | 10AM START

Create a team with your family, friends and coworkers to raise funds for hunger relief and support the fight for food security for all in Lake and Porter Counties.

**\$10 Hike Registration**

Raise **\$100+** by August 30 and receive commemorative walk t-shirt!

Register Today @ [foodbanknwi.org/hike](https://foodbanknwi.org/hike)

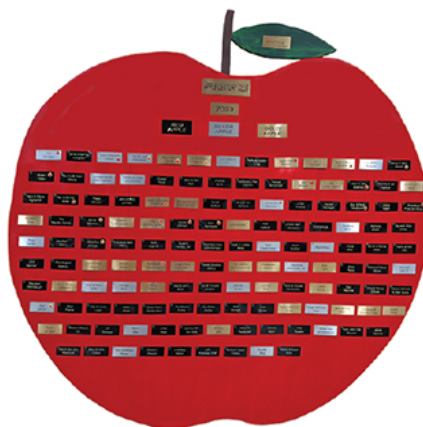


Together, we can make strides toward a community free from hunger!

Presented By  
bp



For more information  
phone 219-980-1777 ext. 313  
email [events@foodbanknwi.org](mailto:events@foodbanknwi.org)



Hunger Hike 2024  
<https://secure.qgiv.com/event/hunhik20/>  
Join Community Help Network in supporting our partner, The Foodbank of Northwest Indiana, at their Hunger Hike 2024 on Saturday, September 21. Community Help Network purchases the contents of the Buddy Bags from The Foodbank of Northwest Indiana. Please visit the website, join as an individual, raise funds to help fight food security in our communities, and join us with your family and friends to run, walk, or bike on September 21.

## Apple Century Club Update

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Our **Amazon Household Pantry Wish List** continues to bless us with much needed items for our clients. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to all who have donated!

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/34UKLZO74ZXQQ?leftNavSection=Reorder&ref=a\\_bls\\_lnv\\_rl](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/34UKLZO74ZXQQ?leftNavSection=Reorder&ref=a_bls_lnv_rl)

Robin Dillon is the school counselor at Hanover Middle School in Cedar Lake. She was gracious enough to make this video for us to say a bit about how the **Buddy Bags Program** works in Middle Schools.

Click link below to view video.

[Robin Dillon.MP4](#)



@properties Christie's International  
Elite Living Group



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Lake County's Community Foundation



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John W. Anderson Foundation