



A Venture in Faith  
In the North Country

WATERTOWN  
Urban Mission

# Our Mission, Our Dream

Your Newsletter for the Watertown Urban Mission  
& The Impossible Dream Thrift Store

Summer 2011

## A Craft for Giving

### How One Woman Repaid Your Generosity With Her Own

When Marion Carley needed some help a few years back, she came to the Watertown Urban Mission.

"Everybody should give back eventually," said Marion, who was helped through a tough time in her life by the Mission's Critical Needs Program and Food Pantry. "Giving is a two way thing. You give and someone else gives. That's the way I was raised."

So when she felt called to give back, she thought of the Watertown Urban Mission and what your support did for her. She hosted a craft fair on June 11 that raised more than \$310 and collected several bags of groceries.

"I heard about cuts on TV and all of a sudden the idea came in my head to have a benefit for the Ur-



Marion Carley stands in front of the craft vendors she organized to raise money for the Watertown Urban Mission. Marion, who was helped at the Watertown Urban Mission several years back, said she gives the credit to God for the help she received and her ability to give back.

ban Mission," she said. "God has blessed me. God helps us all."

Marion, who lives in Hilltop Towers on Mill Street, filled the community room of her building with six craft tables, a bake sale, a silent auction, raffles, and a table for

breakfast and lunch. From around 9 a.m. through the mid afternoon, neighbors in the apartment complex came downstairs, while handmade signs posted in the neighborhood attracted even more traffic.

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#### YOUR NEWS

What your gifts have done in your community in 2011

- **You saved eight jobs**, by helping to provide families with reliable transportation.
- **You provided 62 vital prescriptions.**
- **You supplied more than 400 gallons of gas**, for medical appointments.
- **You distributed more than 4,200 diapers** to protect infant and toddler bottoms.
- **Your support gave 7,687 items** of clothing, furniture and supplies to individuals and families facing a critical need.

#### You Can Sponsor The Next Newsletter!

Help defray the cost of printing our newsletter and let everyone know how much you support the Watertown Urban Mission!

Contact Development Director Drew Mangione at 782-8440, or [dmangione@watertownurbanmission.org](mailto:dmangione@watertownurbanmission.org) about this great opportunity to demonstrate your commitment to our community.

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## Your Mission, Moving Forward



**Executive Director Erika F. Flint** joined the Watertown Urban Mission on February 28th.

Prior to joining the Mission, Erika served as regional recruitment project manager for the Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization.

As you know well, the Watertown Urban Mission truly empowers and enables everyone to improve their lives—from the neighbors we serve, to the volunteers who help.

I've had the pleasure of working here since February and every day I marvel at the wondrous work your support enables us to do in the lives of friends and neighbors throughout our community.

I'm proud to say everything we do is only possible with your support and the support of our member churches.

This is the first news-

letter since I joined the team, and we've chosen a new name for this publication—"Our Mission, Our Dream"—because the Watertown Urban Mission and The Impossible Dream Thrift Store truly belong to all of us in our community.

This is your Mission and your Dream and I am just one of the dedicated employees who you have tasked with being the hands and feet of God.

**Your support enables us to provide hope and dignity.** We are often the last line of defense for a neighbor trying to hold a job, feed their family, keep

their home, or rebuild after a fire or another tragedy. On perhaps their darkest day, we are the light they need to know "it will be ok."

As you will see, **our commitment is your commitment** to the community and I hope to lead us into the future better prepared to do what's necessary.

We know there will be challenges—from an increase in demand to building repairs—but with your support, together we will continue to carry out our mission to serve.

—Erika

### Here's How YOU Can Get More Involved in Helping Your Community

Here at the Watertown Urban Mission and The Impossible Dream Thrift Store, you can get involved and help our community.

No matter what you give to the Mission, you receive so much more. You are making a difference in the lives of people you see every day in your community.

You can help by giving your time as a volunteer,

by giving us useful items you don't need any more to sell at the thrift store, or through your financial support.

**To volunteer**, contact Anita at 782-8440.

**To schedule a pickup of goods for the store**, call 782-0090.

**To discuss how you can make a financial contribution**, please contact Drew at 782-8440.

### WANTED: BACKPACKS

School is out and you can help us gear up for next year by donating school supplies and gently used backpacks.

Last year, your generosity enabled us to distribute more than 830 backpacks with new school supplies to less fortunate children throughout Jefferson County.

"It's important that

every student can start the school year with the supplies they need to succeed," said Ann Lyman, Critical Needs Coordinator and Client Advocate. "Your gifts truly help a child in your community do well in school."

To donate, just drop off at the Mission, behind The Impossible Dream Thrift Store or **call Ann at 782-8440.**



### Your Mission Statistics

Your help has made a difference in the lives of a growing number of families from throughout our community.

Through June, 2,967 individuals have used our food pantry this year, and 1,413 households have received emergency assistance, thanks to your generosity.

These numbers reflect a growing need. **Critical Needs has seen an average of 66 new households per month and the Food Pantry has already served 1,229 people this year who have never used our services before.**

*Your continued generosity enables us to meet the challenge of offering a helping hand to our neighbors.*

### North Country Goes Green Irish Festival Supports Your Mission

What a tremendous gift to help this summer! The great people who put on the Irish Festival every year dropped off a \$2,000 gift in June. Their support with the support of you and so many in our community enables us to help feed struggling families.



Nate Holloway, Dick Gaffney and Bill Archer (l to r) toured the Food Pantry with Erika to present their generous donation.

The Impossible Dream Grand "Re" Opening

**Attention Shoppers: Your Favorite Deals Now Available Sundays**

Looking for great deals? Look no further than The Impossible Dream Thrift Store.

Ok, you already knew that, but did you know that now those deals are available on Sundays too?

Yep, The Impossible Dream Thrift Store has expanded to Sunday hours, giving you another day to save on great items, and an extra day to make donations, which are now accepted 7 days a week during store hours.

At the grand "re" opening celebration on June 26, hundreds of bargain conscious shoppers came out for the event, which included raffles, special deals and a silent auction. Our local

media produced some great stories, which added to the excitement.

"The Impossible Dream is for Everyone"

"The Impossible Dream offers you the best prices of any thrift store in the region so that everyone can afford to shop with us. The Impossible Dream is for everyone," said Erika F. Flint, executive director.

Sales at the thrift store support Watertown Urban Mission programs, so **every good deal is a good deed for your community.**

For more on our sales, or to schedule a pickup of items you want to donate, call the store at 782-0090.

*What's New Every Day at The Impossible Dream Thrift Store*

**Sunday & Wednesday**

Sidewalk Sales

**Tuesday**

20% off for Senior Citizens (55+)

**Wednesday**

Check *Facebook* every week for Wacky Wednesday Deals

**Thursday**

20% off for Military Appreciation

**Store hours:**

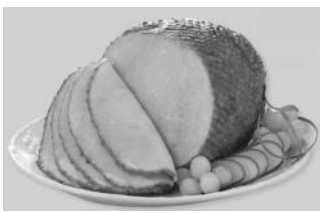
*Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Saturday 9-6 p.m., Sunday 12-5 p.m.*

**Your Generosity in Action...**

**Easter Ham Drive a Success Thanks to Your Support, Member Churches & Great American**

The aid of eight local churches and Watertown's Own Great American provided 400 families with a tasty ham to make Easter Sunday even more joyous this year.

"The families helped by your generosity are so very grateful for all of your support," said Erika F. Flint, Watertown Urban Mission, executive director.



"With your continued support we can carry on this annual tradition."

Your donations enabled families at our food pantry between March 21 and April 13 to receive a coupon for a free ham in time for Easter.

"We are so happy to have been able to be a part

of this program," said Randy Lockwood, manager of Great American. "It's for the betterment of the community and that's really all that matters."

Eight churches collected donations—Emmanuel Congregational, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Holy Family, St. Anthony's, First Presbyterian, Trinity Episcopal, Asbury United

Methodist, and First United Methodist.

"Your generosity in each church made this already blessed holiday of Christ's redemption for all an even more joyous family occasion," said Rev. Joyce Woodcock, pastor of First United Methodist in Watertown.

**Corporate Car Wash, Cook-out Support Mission Programs**

On June 11 & 12, Price Chopper hosted a cookout which raised \$830 and filled two carts full of groceries, as store employees volunteered their own time to help.



On June 18, Walgreens on Arsenal Street gave the proceeds of its customer appreciation day car wash and bake sale to the mission, collecting about \$330 and providing much needed personal care products.

**Kids Get Free Lunch @ WUM**

Every Wednesday through Aug. 24, at the Watertown Urban Mission, children up to age 18, or 21 with a disability, can get a free lunch this summer from 11 a.m. to noon.

We are one of 24 sites the CAPC has set up in Jefferson County to provide summer meals.



*Say Ham & Cheese!*

## Drink More Lemonade: You May Just Be Supporting the Mission

*Young Philanthropists Run Two Lemonade Stands in Watertown to Raise \$75.51 for Food Pantry*

On July 7, Braden, 8, Gabe, 7, and Patrick, 6, volunteered in the pantry after raising \$50.51 for the Mission with a stand on Indiana Ave. *Pictured, the boys label baby food jars.*



On July 11, Drew Autote, 7, stopped by to deliver \$25 he raised at his stand on Bishop Street. *Pictured is Drew with his mother Lorie and Erika.*

For more information and photos, "like us" on Facebook.

## Run for Recovery On the Road Again



Above: Bob Burkard died on June 28, 2009 in a motor vehicle accident involving a drunk driver.

**Did You Know?** According to most recent DMV statistics, from 2007-2009 in Jefferson County, **299 alcohol related accidents killed 14 people and injured 178 others.**

**G**ood news: The **Run for Recovery from Addiction** is back and you can sign up now for this fun-filled 5k run/walk and 10k run which will be held on Sept. 10.

The proceeds benefit the Watertown Urban Mission's Bridge Program and this year's run honors Bob Burkard, who was killed in 2009 by a drunk driver.

**You can pre-register for \$20 before Aug. 29** and receive a T-shirt plus a gift bag by filling out a registration form, which

can be found at [www.WatertownUrbanMission.com](http://www.WatertownUrbanMission.com), and sending it to the Watertown Urban Mission at 247 Factory Street, Watertown, NY 13601 with check/money-order made out to the Watertown Urban Mission.

**Race day registration will be \$25** with no guarantee of a T-shirt and bag. Prizes will be awarded in seven age groups. Bring your family to support you, get a free meal, and bid in our silent auction.

If you or your business

would like to sponsor the event, call Tim or Drew at 782-8440 before Aug. 10. Call also if you can volunteer your time for the race.

**You can buy 50/50 tickets now through race day** for just \$1 each or 6 for \$5 with a prize expected to be around \$1,000.

All the proceeds benefit the Bridge Program at the Mission, which provides neighbors in trouble with drugs or alcohol the opportunity to get their life back on track.

### A Craft for Giving (continued from page 1)

"Things are tough, but if we work together we can help people not go hungry on a weekday night with kids, somebody can get a prescription, or can get furniture when they lost everything in a fire," she said. "Everything fell right in place. It was incredible. I didn't need to do much work, everyone said I'll help you and the donations kept flowing in."

Marion said she is so pleased with the success of this year's event, that she's already looking to do another craft fair next year to continue giving back.

"With the economic situation today, the Mission is needed more than ever," she said. "The Mission helps out in so many ways, with food or with furniture and so much more. The stuff they do here is incredible."

### Are You Planning a Fundraiser?

Contact Development Director Drew Mangione at 782-8440 or [dmangione@watertownurbanmission.org](mailto:dmangione@watertownurbanmission.org) to see if we can help you make your event an even bigger success for the Mission.

## What Lengths You Go To...



**Special Thanks to Our Friends at Price Chopper**, Manager Dennis Wimmer and Human Resources Manager John Kersukie. On June 11, they took plates of chocolate whipped cream to the face, delivered by employees and even customer Rosemary.



## Your Contribution Helps Your Community

Thank You For Your Generosity and Your Continued Support of the Mission

I would like to help my neighbors by making a donation to the Mission...

	<u>Gift</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> To provide baby formula for a mother whose WIC check didn't cover the month	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> To pay for two to three essential prescriptions	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> To ensure a family of four has clothing, food, & basic items needed at home	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> To provide 1,000 balanced meals through our food pantry	\$250.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Because every dollar goes a long way, and I want to give (enter any amount)	\$ _____

Name

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Address

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Church Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_



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 E-mail: watertownurbanmission@yahoo.com

The Impossible Dream Thrift Store  
 Phone: 315-782-0090



**Your Team at the Watertown Urban Mission**

- President**  
Laura Wendt
- Executive Director**  
Erika F. Flint
- Development Director**  
Drew Mangione
- Administrative Assistant**  
Jane E. Eastham
- Fiscal Manager**  
Lynne Spencer



Find us on  
**Facebook**

**Are you on Facebook?** Check out our *Watertown Urban Mission and Impossible Dream Thrift Store* page and **click "Like"** to become a fan of your Mission and your Dream to receive updates and information. Thank you for your support.

- Critical Needs Program**  
Ann M. Lyman, Client Advocate
- Food Pantry & Volunteer Program**  
Anita D. Ciulo, Coordinator  
John McConnell, Pantry Assistant
- The HEARTH Program**  
Tammy Antonucci, Hearth Coordinator  
Salvatore J. Ciulo, Housing Coordinator  
Diana Filion, Intake Coordinator

- The Impossible Dream Thrift Store**  
Tammy Kirch, Manager  
Crystal Pitre, Assistant Manager
- Christian Care Center**  
James Stanley, Coordinator
- The Bridge Program**  
Timothy A. Drew, Director
- Wheels for Work**  
Penny F. Mosher, Case Manager  
Ed Madden, Mechanic



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***YOUR FRONT PAGE NEWS...***



**How One  
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With Her  
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