



Waunakee Neighborhood Connection

THE CONNECTION

A Publication of the Waunakee Neighborhood Connection

IMPORTANT DATES

Just Between Friends Sale

September 10th-12th
Waunakee Village Center

Saturday Volunteer/Donations

Saturday, September 12th
9:00am - Noon

MoJo's Rib Cook-Off

Saturday, September 12th

Annual Soap/Diaper Drive

Sept. 16th - Oct. 15th

Night Volunteer/Donations

Monday, September 21st
5:00pm - 7:00pm

RETURN TO REGULAR STORE HOURS

WNC is back to our regular store hours of Monday & Friday mornings 8-Noon, and a monthly Monday night & Saturday morning (see calendar on page 4). Stop by anytime. **No prior notification or training required!**

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ANNUAL LAUNDRY SOAP & DIAPER DRIVE



Did you ever worry about where you were going to find the money to buy diapers or how you were going to make the last container of laundry soap last longer?

Waunakee Neighborhood Connection coordinates this support project which dramatically helps families in need in the greater area of Waunakee by reducing their panic of where the next box of diapers or laundry soap is going to come from. Having to choose between food and diapers is a painful reality in some households. Because of tight budgets, these basic essentials can quickly become compromised luxury items. Therefore, WNC provides an annual support drive to help our neighbors.

WNC's Annual Laundry Soap & Diaper Drive will be held this year **September 16th through October 15th.**

On average, a 1-to 2-year old boy or girl will go through 150 diapers per month, costing \$900 per year. Donating Laundry Soap & Diapers allows these families in need a gift of everyday basic essentials.

Let's join together through the thoughtful helping hands of our neighbors by donating **Diapers (sizes 3,4,5, and 6)**, Pull-ups (boys or girls any size), Overnight diapers (large or XL), and "loads" of Laundry Soap.



To ensure our families receive basic essentials, this year's goal is:

- 1,000 Packs of Diapers**
- 750 Laundry Soap Containers**

Please look for our **new WNC purple donation bins (made by Boy Scout Ryan Duffy)** at various locations in Waunakee, including: **WNC Store (see calendar pg 4), Waunakee Police Station (7am-5pm, M-F), Piggly Wiggly, Walgreens, Mobil, Ace Hardware, St. John's Church & Adventures in Learning.** You can also visit our website at www.waunakeeneighborhoodconnection.com to keep up-to-date on progress towards our goal as we progress.



MoJo's 2nd Annual Rib Cook-Off

Saturday, September 12th, is **MoJo's** 2nd Annual Rib Cook-off, with proceeds benefiting WNC! Entry fee is \$100 for the Cook-off, MoJo's will supply the ribs, you bring your supplies, and WNC will help with the judging at 5:30pm. YUM! Come on out, show off your cooking, or just come to eat (and eat and eat), and help support WNC at the same time.



Just Between Friends Partners with WNC

During the Waunakee Garage Sales, **September 10-12th, Just Between Friends, owned by Terri & Tom Witak**, will be holding its first Waunakee consignment shopping sale at the **Waunakee Village Center gymnasium**. WNC has been chosen as the proud recipient of any unsold donations after the sale. JBF serves a great purpose in communities like ours and is a 'win' for everyone involved...for the Parents both selling and buying, for the Charities receiving the donations, and for the Communities receiving the revenue or stimulus boost. To find out more about the sale, visit <http://www.danecountyeast.jbfsale.com/>

THANK YOU JETNA

WNC was fortunate enough to have been the blessed with an intern from the Waunakee High School this summer. **Jetna**, worked with WNC volunteers at the store, worked with Spanish-speaking clients, and anything else we gave her!



Thank you Jetna, for all your hard work. Here's what Jetna had to say about her experience with WNC this summer. *"Working at WNC was a wonderful time for me because it shows me how we can help people by just volunteering our time. It shows people in need that someone cares and that someone will be there to help them. I really liked it and will do it again. I'm very thankful that I got to work there."*

First Lady Jessica Doyle at WNC

WNC was honored with a visit and volunteering from **Wisconsin's First Lady Jessica Doyle** in late August (pictured below in the middle behind the child). Partnering with the United We Serve initiative, Mrs. Doyle wanted to volunteer at WNC to honor us as a great organization and recognize our invaluable service. What a privilege and treat to have her in our store, working side-by-side our regular volunteers.



MORE FOR YOU ON THE WEB...

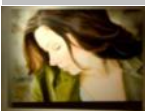
Check out some more great information about volunteer opportunities on WNC's website. Click the links below to get there fast!



[VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES](#)

[THANK YOU PARTNERS](#)





Colleen's Contemplations

I know I've talked about attitude before, and how it colors our expectations and how we react to things. I'm not feeling like I've fully explored that, and since I bring you all along on my journey to greater understanding (aka therapy session) I thought I'd tell you what has me struggling. My husband and I often joke that the secret of our successful marriage is low expectations. It's not that I don't expect him to be brilliant and a moral compass for our family, I do, I just don't expect him to know what's going on in my head without me telling him. If I want flowers and candy for Valentine's Day I'll let him know well in advance. Having a weekly date night to sit and talk is also a requirement for us, but that's part of self-indulgence, not the sin I'm working on now. I think we let our own lives direct our expectations of others.

Where am I going with this? I don't know yet. I've been asked why we don't verify peoples' needs. On the one hand, we don't need to; many of our clients are referred by the social workers at the schools, senior center, and county. But on the other hand, how do you measure need? Is it just by income? What about those in hopefully temporary situations, like a medical problem? Even with good insurance the co-pays can wipe out your savings pretty quickly.

Since we don't help with money, I guess I'm free to expect that the people who come to me for help are not there to take advantage of us. I expect that they don't want to be in the situations they are, and are working hard to get back on their feet. Where is this coming from... well, a few months back (yes, I do chew over things for a long time) someone suggested that I'm enabling people to make bad choices in their lives. That without making sure they are changing their ways, I'm just allowing them to continue to make the same mistakes. To me, the word enable suggests that people want to be the way they are. I know that there are stories of people who take advantage of the system, but I don't know any. There have been times where I wondered if I was being naive. For a while early on I had issue with people who seemed to feel entitled to any help that was offered. But even then, over time, I've come to know the people and I know how much their hearts have changed in the time they've been coming to us. For some, it was a trust issue, get what they can because who knows how long 'til we say no more. For others it was defiance, a need to stand up and make claim to what others have and not to be looked down on. Where are those people now? Most don't need us anymore. If they do come in, it's to donate and give back. They like to come in and let us know how good things are going now. What they really needed was someone to care; someone to expect only goodness.

We don't just hand out diapers; we hand out encouragement and belief that their lives will get better. We believe in the people we help. We believe they don't want to just take from us. We believe that we are merely paying it forward. So maybe when I say I have low expectations, that's not quite true. I expect people to care about each other. I expect people to believe in themselves, and I expect people to give when they can and take when they need to. That's how I verify need. As for the enabling comment, perhaps that person's expectation of others has been colored differently than mine. Perhaps I need to share more good stuff to counteract all the bad stories that are out there, and perhaps I need to pray even harder that we all expect the best from each other.

Colleen Woerner, WNC Store Manager



We would like to take time to thank **Sharon Kruschek** for providing her feedback about our newsletter format, and requesting Colleen's Contemplations continue to be part of the newsletter and not just a web link. Sharon also suggested that we start to include pictures and profiles of our regular volunteers or donors so that you can get to know more about them too. Stay tuned in future months as we try to incorporate those suggestions.

NEEDS LIST

If you have any of these items, drop them off at our store **when we are open**. Remember, you can obtain a tax donation slip when you drop them off.

Don't Forget the Annual Laundry Soap & Diaper Drive
Donate some at one of the drop-off sites in Waunakee.

Appliances

Air conditioner (window unit)
Dehumidifier (2)
Freezer (2)
Refrigerator (2)
Gas Stove (1 gas, 1 electric)
Washer & Dryer (4)
Vacuum (2)

Clothing

Men's Work Boots Size 10 1/2
Men's Hooded Sweatshirts (4)
Men's Tennis Shoes - 10 1/2
WM's Medium "Scrub" Tops
Boy's Tennis Shoes Size 11
Boy's Underwear Size 10-12

Electronics

DVD Player (2)
VCR/DVD Combo
TV (2)
Stereo
Stereo Speakers (medium)

Furniture

Beds - Full Size (6)
Beds - Queen Size (5)
Beds - Twin Size
Bed - Toddler (2)
Chairs/Recliner (3)
Couch (9)
Desk (3)
Dresser (6) (all sizes)
Sofa Table
Desk Chair (3)
Patio Set
Corner Entertain. Set

Infant Supplies

Excer-Saucer
Front Carrying Pack
High Chair (booster)

Kitchenware

Pots & Pans Set
Tupperware Set (2)

Small Appliances

Blender (3)
Fans (3)
Mixer
Juicer

Sports Equipment

Tricycle
Adult Mountain Bike
Youth Bikes (3)
Child/Youth Helmets (3)
Skateboard

Scooter

Elbow & Knee Pads (2 sets)

Misc. Items

Computers (3)
Face Mask (to cover nose)
Grill
Lawn Mower (2)
Vehicles (3)
Screen Tent for Patio
Snow blower

Store Needs

Gift Bags (small to Med)
Tissue Paper
Masking Tape
First-Class Postage
Postcard Postage
Pants Hangers
Larger Space for Store
Monetary Donations

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 First Day of School	2	3	4 Volunteer & Donations 8-Noon	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11 Volunteer & Donations 8-Noon	12 Volunteer & Donations 9-Noon
				Just Between Friends Sale Waunakee Village Center Gym Thursday - Saturday		MoJo's Rib Cook-off Judging 5:30pm
13	14 Mandatory CLIENT Meeting 11a OR 5p Murphy Insurance 251 Progress Way (shopping at store after meetings)	15	16 Annual Diaper/ Soap Drive Begins	17	18 Volunteer & Donations 8-Noon	19
20	21 Volunteer & Donations 8-Noon & 5-7pm	22	23 CLIENT Shopping 10am-1pm	24	25 Volunteer & Donations 8-Noon	26
27	28 CLIENT Shopping 8-Noon	29	30			

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