

# Working Together

The Newsletter of Monroe County United Ministries

April 2009

## Are You Up for the Challenge?

At Monroe County United Ministries, spring brings the annual Feinstein Challenge and an opportunity for our supporters to stretch their donations to have an even greater impact at MCUM. Each year, philanthropist, Alan Feinstein, divides \$1 million among agencies fighting hunger across the country. These matching funds are divided proportionally based on the amount of food and funds collected during the challenge; so the amount of matching funds that MCUM receives depends on the level of support we receive from community members. Your generosity, which always supports high-quality childcare and basic needs assistance to those in crisis, will go even further with the help of this matching opportunity. How can you help?

- give a financial donation using the enclosed envelope
- organize a food drive within your club or at your workplace
- take up a Feinstein Challenge collection to help MCUM capture more matching money
- buy a few extra items at the grocery store - or take advantage of those buy one, get one free sales - and donate the extras to the pantry

However you decide to get involved, we must receive your donation by the end of April for it to count toward the challenge. Are you up for it?

## Then and Now: Dot Spore

*In celebration of MCUM's 70th Anniversary, this monthly feature highlights children and families touched by MCUM's Childcare Program over the years.*

This month, we are pleased to profile a volunteer who worked with MCUM during our very early days. Dot Spore (née Moore) volunteered with the childcare program in 1940-1941 when she was a senior in high school. At that time, the program, known then as the Bloomington Day Nursery, was run out of a five-room house on West 11th Street (the first building of the organization).



*Then and Now continued on page 3*

## Luncheon Sponsors

We would like to thank the generous sponsors whose donations cover the expenses of the *Spring Into Action!* Luncheon, to be held on March 29. 100% of ticket sales and auction proceeds benefit MCUM's programs.

### Iris Sponsors:

**Bunger & Robertson**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON



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### Tulip Sponsors:

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United Commerce Bank  
Karen Pitkin, Broker with  
Century 21 Realty Group

Thank you to these sponsors for taking this opportunity to *Spring Into Action!* on behalf of the community.

# Cleaning Closet Needs

Cleaning supplies and hygiene items cannot be purchased with food stamps. At this time, our "Cleaning Closet" is in need of:

- laundry detergent
- tampons
- household cleaners for bathrooms, kitchens, floors, etc.

# Childcare Needs

The growing season is here and we need supplies to use in our greenhouse in addition to our classrooms! Items currently needed include:

- bags of potting soil
- seeds and seedlings
- Crayola washable markers
- unscented shaving cream
- AA batteries
- shoe-box sized plastic storage containers with lids

# Special Request: Filing Cabinets

We are in need of five lockable five-drawer upright filing cabinets to organize and store client files for the Emergency Services Program. If you have filing cabinets to spare, please call Cliff at (812) 339-3429 or write to [mcumhelp@bloomington.in.us](mailto:mcumhelp@bloomington.in.us).

# Food Pantry Needs

In 2008, the Emergency Services Program served 1,074 families. We need your help to keep up with the demand for food assistance! The pantry is currently low on:

- crackers
- canned or dried fruit
- peanut butter
- pancake mix and syrup

# Volunteer Opportunities

These are just a few of the ways you can get involved with MCUM's programs. Call our office at (812)339-3429 or visit [www.bloomington.in.us/~mcum](http://www.bloomington.in.us/~mcum) for more information.

## Featured Volunteer Position

**Volunteers Needed on April 8:** An IDEM grant is funding new carpeting with recycled content for our offices. We need helpers to pack up offices and move furniture so that the carpet can be installed - and then help us move it all back again! Lunch will be provided. Contact Meri at [mcum@bloomington.in.us](mailto:mcum@bloomington.in.us) or 339-3429 if you can help.

**Opportunity House Volunteers:** Opp House is a resale shop at 907 W. 11th Street and is an important partner organization for MCUM. Volunteers raise funds for MCUM's programs while finding new homes for used items. Contact Janet at 336-2443.

**Maintenance Volunteers:** Volunteers are needed to perform basic maintenance tasks to fit any skill level, from changing light bulbs to basic carpentry. Work is usually performed 8-4, Monday-Friday. Contact Meri at [mcum@bloomington.in.us](mailto:mcum@bloomington.in.us) or 339-3429.

**Each One, Feed One Food Drive Committee:** Help us prepare for our August two-day food drive by serving on the organizing committee and accomplishing tasks related to drive planning. Contact Vicky St. Myers at [mcumfood@bloomington.in.us](mailto:mcumfood@bloomington.in.us) or 339-3429 for more information.

# Then and Now: Dot Spore

*continued from page 1*



Dot attended Bloomington High School, which was located at 2nd and College, and walked to her volunteer job at MCUM after school. She enjoyed working with Mrs. Weaver, a teacher at the center, and remembers “playing games, singing, and doing whatever needed to be done to help.”

Dot went on to graduate from Indiana University with a degree in education and worked as a school teacher for 35 years. She met her husband, Jerry, while they were students at IU and the two have been married for 58 years. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. Dot and Jerry remain active in the Bloomington community and volunteer at the Monroe County Historical Society and with the Kiwanis.

\*\*\*\*\*

*If you or your child attended the MCUM Childcare Program, we would love to feature your story in one of our newsletters. Contact Rebecca Stanze at [mcumfund@bloomington.in.us](mailto:mcumfund@bloomington.in.us) or 812-339-2912 for more information.*

## Pick Up the Pace for the Homeward Bound Walk

The best way to end homelessness is to prevent it from happening in the first place. Each day at MCUM, we provide basic needs assistance to households in crisis in our community. Some households receive support in the form of rent, mortgage or utility assistance, which helps prevent utility shut off, eviction and, ultimately, homelessness.

This month, MCUM will join ten other local agencies to participate in the annual Homeward Bound Walk Against Homelessness. Homeward Bound is a community-wide initiative which seeks to increase awareness about homelessness issues and raise money for local agencies that help the homeless or that work to prevent homelessness.

MCUM will again be sponsoring a team and we would love for you to join us! All monies raised through “Team MCUM” will benefit our programming. **This year’s annual Homeward Bound Walk will take place in 3rd Street Park on Sunday, April 19th. Registration starts at noon and the walk kicks off at 2:00.**

For more information, to join our team or to start your own team, contact Emily Gorenz at (812) 339-3429 or [hboundvolunteers@yahoo.com](mailto:hboundvolunteers@yahoo.com).

## Thank you!

We would like to thank...

- the members of the organizing committee for the 2009 *Spring Into Action!* Luncheon and Silent Auction: Gloria Hasler, Lara Hasler, Katie Oreskovich, Kathleen Plucker, Marjie Risen, Penni Sims, and Carl Ziegler.
- Fairview United Methodist Church for their ongoing commitment to MCUM’s Emergency Food Pantry.
- Girl Scout Troop 74 at Binford/Rogers School for donating boxes of yummy Girl Scout cookies.
- Dot Spore for sharing her story for the Then and Now series.
- Holly May for her donations to the Emergency Services Program.
- St. Paul United Methodist Church for their financial support during the Feinstein Challenge.
- First United Church for collecting 987 pounds of food for MCUM’s pantry already this year.

## Remember MCUM When Writing Your Will or Trust

Making a bequest to MCUM is a simple way to show your long-term commitment to helping our neighbors in need.

Sample Bequest Language:  
I hereby leave [specific dollar amount/specific property/specific percentage/rest and remainder, etc.] of my estate to Monroe County United Ministries, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation in Bloomington, Indiana, to be used for the benefit of the organization in such manner as the board of directors may elect.

## Sponsor a Swimmer

MCUM is located right next to Mills Pool and each summer our enrolled children enjoy regular visits to the pool. However, the additional fee associated with accessing the pool sometimes presents a challenge for parents. Sponsorships from donors can make it easier for kids to swim and splash all summer. \$20 sponsors a preschooler to visit the pool a few times a week and \$42 sponsors a summer camper for daily visits, weather permitting. If you would like to sponsor a swimmer, donations of any amount are welcome. Just make sure to note "swim program" on your donation.

# Thank You, Volunteers!

In honor of National Volunteer Week, April 19-25, we would like to thank the volunteers who supported our programs over the past year.

|                     |                      |                      |                          |                        |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Traci Abbett        | Trent Deckard        | Eric Huffman         | Seth Nunley              | Anne Smith             |
| Brittany Ackerman   | Debra Denning        | Amy Hungerford       | Lynn Ohrt                | Diana D. Smith         |
| Nada Akharas        | Judy Dillon          | Dee Hupp             | Ali Ohslund              | Quinn Smith            |
| Laurie Allen        | Doug Doblal          | Rachel Irvine        | Sara Oney                | Shari Smith            |
| Amal Altoma         | Posey Doherty        | Paul Irwin           | Katie Oreskovich         | Liny Smits             |
| Sharon Andrews      | Wesley Dorsey        | John Isaacson        | Shana Orlansky           | John Sqro              |
| Chelsey Anitastone  | Barb Drake           | Nancy Jacobs         | Ireli Orozco             | Mary Jo Sqro           |
| Sydney Arnold       | Leigh Dukeman        | Evelyn & Bill James  | Jeanne Overly            | St. Thomas Youth Group |
| Misty Arwine        | Sue Dukeman          | Hazel James          | Norman Overly            | Barbara Stainbrook     |
| Lorne Aubin         | Cherri DuPree        | Elizabeth Johnson    | Loren Page               | Sara Steffey           |
| Tracy Bee           | Debbie Eads          | Quinn Johnson        | Mike Paidle              | Samantha Stickels      |
| Alison Behling      | Ken Eads             | Adam Joliff          | Jessica Paster           | Emily Stokes           |
| Joyce Berling       | Phyllis Eads         | LaDawn Joyner        | Harry Patton             | Cindy Stone            |
| Rachel Beyer        | Jo Ann Eberly        | Nancy Kaline         | Evelyn Pender            | Lauren Stookal         |
| Elizabeth Blackwell | Erika Edens          | Twila Kannady        | Tina Pender              | Helen Stout            |
| Kristin Blackwell   | Margaret Edens       | Anya Kaplan          | Carol Peterman           | Carolyn Sweeney        |
| Mary Blizzard       | Bob Ellis            | Karen Keith          | Teddy Pezzullo           | Carolyn Sweet          |
| Charlene Braun      | Janet Ellis          | Susan Kelley         | Jeff Phillips            | Marty Sweet            |
| Esther Briddell     | Katherine Ellis      | Roger Kent           | Anthony Pizzo            | Mike Swick             |
| Joanna Brown        | Georgia Emmert       | Didi Kerler          | Kathleen Plucker         | Clair Tafoya           |
| Larry Brown         | Amy Erlich           | Iris Kiesling        | Paige Plucker            | Betty Taylor           |
| Liz Brown           | Casey Fall           | Donna Kingsbury      | David Polansky           | Stacey Terchin         |
| Gloria Bruner       | Julie Farris         | Erica Kingsbury      | Vicki Polansky           | Scott Testy            |
| Tom Bunger          | Rachel Flick         | Pat Kingsbury        | Wendy Poppy              | Julie Thomas           |
| Jo Ann Bunnage      | Tonya Francisco      | Aleksandra Knapowski | Jay Powell               | Danielle Thompson      |
| Doris Burch         | Sara Frommer         | Nikola Knapowski     | Laura Prins              | Terry Thompson         |
| Lynn Burleson       | Francesca Fuerman    | Corey Koffman        | Angelina Puryear         | Rose Timpe             |
| Kyle Burres         | Casey Fuhes          | Heather Lake         | David Waterman           | Dana Tinsley           |
| Elizabeth Busey     | Thomas Gardner       | Micah Lamb           | Carlene Quinn            | Greg Tittelbaugh       |
| Hannah Busey        | Emily Garl           | Megan Lee            | Courtney Reecer          | Sam Troxal             |
| Owen Busey          | Haley Garl           | Vicky LeMaster       | Kendra Reed              | Joy True               |
| Barbara Bush        | Jennifer Garl        | Samantha Leone       | Byron Reinhold           | Becky Underwood        |
| Jason Carnes        | Meg Garl             | Hannah Lewis         | Ruth Rives               | David Underwood        |
| Emogene Carter      | Sori Ginsburg        | Elizabeth Likins     | Donald Root              | Mike Underwood         |
| Ruth Chesmore       | Jenna Goffman        | Tiera Lindley        | Christina Roth           | Jami Urumbaeva         |
| Bradford Chitty     | Sam Goldstein        | Titus Lindley        | Al & Kathy Ruesink       | John Vanderzee         |
| Ahmad Chowdhury     | Emily Gorenz         | Todd Lindley         | Isabelle Russell         | Jeni Vanicek           |
| Farzana Chowdhury   | Gwenette Goshert     | Aase Loescher        | Leah Russell             | Vit Vanicek            |
| Jamil Chowdhury     | Robyn Gould          | Paige Lundgren       | Kevin Ryan               | Natalie Vitale         |
| Nelda Christ        | Caitlin Grannan      | Mary Mahern          | Darrah Saare             | Emily Walden           |
| Barbara Clark       | Leslie Green         | Edward McClellan     | Ellen Sanders            | Frances Walden         |
| Carol Clendening    | Diane Gregory        | Kessler McGarry      | Garrett Sanders          | Gabe Ward              |
| Lauren Cohen        | Ronda Grover         | Donna McGarvey       | Tom Sanders              | Jessica Wein           |
| Sarah Conley        | Philippa Guthrie     | Geoff McKim          | Karen Sartoris           | Ben Weller             |
| Darlene Cook        | Hilary Hamilton      | Kate McQueen         | Julie Schechter          | Tony White             |
| Jean Cook           | Makenzy Hamilton     | Mike McQueen         | Joan Schoknecht          | Helen Wiesler          |
| Jen Cook            | Sarah Salli Hamilton | Bryant Mehay         | Ron Schoknecht           | Lindsey Wilkens        |
| Lou Cooper          | Sarah Hamlin         | Darren Mehay         | Judy Schroeder           | Reise Williamson       |
| Amy Cornell         | Brenda Hardy         | Samantha Mehay       | Shayna Schwartzman       | Gregory Willoughby     |
| Mary Alice Crable   | Don Harris           | Steve Mehay          | Oakley Scroggins         | Marlene Wilmes         |
| Mary Lou Craig      | Sandy Harrison       | Luetta Mercier       | Chloe Senchuk            | Erin Windle            |
| Eileen Crane        | Lara Hasler          | Valerie Merriam      | Judy Sharp               | Betty Wininger         |
| Carlene Crawford    | Lucy Hedrick         | April Messacar       | Steve Sharp              | David Wood             |
| Linda Crawford      | Megan Heeter         | Zachery Mezger       | Sherwood Oaks            | Denise Wood            |
| Judy Crow           | Roger Heimer         | Edward Mongoven      | Christian Church members | Julia Wood             |
| Patti Curry         | Edie Henderson       | Cheryl Munson        | Stacy Shifrin            | Michaela Wood          |
| Laurie Dalton       | Wayne Henderson      | Pat Munson           | Susan Sienna             | Craig Worrell          |
| John Davenport      | Esther Hicks         | John Newcomer        | Linda Sievers            | Joseph Xayaveth        |
| Jan Davis           | Dia Hines            | Rachel Newcomer      | Cinday Simpson           | TingTing Zhao          |
| Phil Davis          | Megan Hollander      | Chad Nunley          | Penni Sims               | Carl Ziegler           |
| Taegan Davis        | Beth Hollingsworth   | Rachel Nunley        | Melissa Slavin           |                        |
| Emilee Deckard      | Ben Holterhoff       | Rebecca Nunley       | Martha Smiley            |                        |
| Kate Deckard        | Suzie Hsieh          |                      |                          |                        |

## Book Fair: Affordable Books Benefit MCUM

MCUM will host a Scholastic Book Fair Monday-Friday, April 20 – 24, 7:30-5:30. This fair is open to the public and will be held in MCUM's Childcare Center. Scholastic provides quality books at an affordable price and books for infants through approximately the third grade reading level will be available.

This year MCUM will be offering a "Buy One Get One Free" sale, which we hope will allow you to donate a few books to MCUM's library. A "wish list" of needed titles will be available. MCUM will forego the usual profit from the book fair to bring you this special sale. Financial donations will also be accepted to purchase books for classroom use.

## Feed Our Hungry Summer Campers

MCUM's Summer Camp will start in June, which means that our kitchen will suddenly need to serve breakfast, lunch and two snacks to 40 additional children. This program serves children ages 6-12, all of whom have healthy appetites from swimming, taking field trips, playing outside and otherwise keeping busy. If you are interested in supporting this program through donations of food, please deliver items directly to the Childcare Center, Monday-Friday, 6:30-5:30 or make sure they are marked "for childcare" to ensure donations get to the right place. Commercial sizes are most welcome, including size 10 cans, 25 pounds of baking staples, etc. Needed items include:

|                      |                             |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| oatmeal              | mayonnaise                  |
| all-purpose flour    | salad dressing              |
| yellow cornmeal      | ketchup                     |
| granulated sugar     | animal crackers             |
| brown sugar          | graham crackers             |
| powdered sugar       | canned veggies              |
| canola oil           | canned fruit in light syrup |
| honey                | cold cereal, including:     |
| creamy peanut butter | honey-nut O's               |
| grape jelly or jam   | cornflakes                  |
| elbow macaroni       | Chex, all varieties         |
| wide egg noodles     | bran flakes                 |
| water packed tuna    | raisin bran                 |



## Kids and Veggies Go Together Like Peas and Carrots!

Another way to support our Childcare Program is to donate fresh fruits and vegetables from your garden. You may just be planning your crops now, but soon you may have an overload of zucchini or an abundance of tomatoes. Drop off your extra produce at MCUM and it will be nourishing young bodies the next day.

## Donate Your Phone

When you upgrade your cell phone, stop to consider how to responsibly dispose of your old one. Some "recycling" programs ship phones to developing countries where they put human lives and natural resources in danger. MCUM is paid per phone (\$0.50 - \$35) by a recycling/refurbishing company with zero landfill and no-export policies. In addition, your phone will raise money to fund our programs.

Phones can be donated anywhere other MCUM items are collected, at TIS Bookstore, Opportunity House, The Ellettsville Journal and our offices.

## Looking for Quality Childcare?

Check out [www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder](http://www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder). This website provides a list of licensed childcare options in your area and explains the differences among licensed childcare centers (such as MCUM), licensed childcare homes and licensed childcare ministries. This site also shows the results of recent licensing inspections.

[www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org) is another site to visit for information or for a list of childcare programs accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

# Childcare Classroom Calendars

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## Staff

Childcare Director: Traci Mehay  
Educ. Coordinator: Tina Pender  
Admin. Assist.: Jeannie Shaffer  
Cook: Cynthia Powers  
Assistant Cook: Derrick Mackie

### **Puffins: 2 - 2.6 year olds**

Teacher: Heather Friend  
Aide: position open  
Aide: Susan Williams

### **Seahorses: 2.6 - 3 year olds**

Teacher: Marycarole Matlock  
Aide: Melissa Chambers

### **Penguins: 3 year olds**

Teacher: Seda Jackson  
Aide: Jessica Smith

### **Otters: 4 year olds**

Teacher: Mary Ellen Pierce  
Aide: Anna Donley

### **Dolphins: 5 - 6 year olds**

Teacher: Kim Clay  
Aide: Brock Singleton

## Announcements For Parents

### **WorkOne Resources**

Rose, a representative from WorkOne, is available one Thursday afternoon a month to discuss job-related issues. Rose will be available on 4/9 and 5/7 in the Parent Resource Room.

### **Scholastic Book Fair**

MCUM will host a book fair Monday-Friday, April 20 - 24, 7:30-5:30 in the health room. See page 5 for more information.

## Puffins

*March 30-April 3 - Bugs and Butterflies*  
This week the Puffins will be exploring many types of bugs and butterflies. We will go on a nature walk, make an ant farm, and go exploring outside with our magnifying glasses. Be sure to ask your child all week about the bugs or butterflies they find!

### *April 6-10 - Weather*

This week the Puffins will explore the many types of weather that we experience from day to day. We will collect rain and talk about snow and sunshine. We will also make wind socks to hang outside and watch the wind blow them. It will be a fun filled weather experience this week!

### *April 13-17 - Jungle Fun*

This week the Puffin room will be turned into a jungle. We will explore all the different types of animals that live in the jungle. We will also be making some fun art lions, snakes, and other animals that roam the jungle. Be sure to check out our room this week!

### *April 20-24 - Curious George*

This week the Puffins will be little Curious Georges. We will make kites and fly them outside, explore and look at bugs with our magnifying glasses, and many other things that make us curious like George. Be sure to ask your child this week what makes him or her curious.

### *April 27-May 1 - Circus Fun*

Elephants, clowns, and peanuts are among the many things the Puffins will talk about this week while we have some circus fun. We will make funny masks and have a parade through our classroom. Be sure to stop by and join in on our fun parade!

## Seahorses

*March 30-April 3 - Fairy Tales*  
This week the Seahorses will learn about fairy tales. We will be dressing up in play clothes, listening to headphone stories, and going on a picnic with Little Red Riding Hood. We will also be building houses out of straw, sticks and bricks. Who will be able to blow them down?

### *April 6-10 - Wind and Air*

This week the Seahorses will talk about wind and air. We will read *Winnie the Pooh's Blustery Day* and *Blue's Windy Day*. We will do tornado experiments with our 2 liter bottles and blow painting in the art area. We will make windsocks and kites to fly outside.

### *April 13-17 - The Zoo*

Have you ever been to a zoo? This week the Seahorses will read *Never Ever Shout in a Zoo* and *If I Ran the Zoo*. We will be counting animals and seeing which animals are the biggest and which are the smallest. We will make masks for our favorite animals. At the end of the week we will have our own zoo!

### *April 20-24 - Farms*

The Seahorses will go from talking about zoos to learning about farms this week as we discover what kinds of animals live on a farm. We will make our own yummy haystacks out of chow mien noodles and butterscotch chips. We will learn what healthy foods are grown on a farm and what kind of chores farmers have to do.

### *April 27-May 1 - Jungle*

It's a jungle in here! Please come join us for some fun in the sun! This week the Seahorses will be enjoying swinging in the classroom with our jungle theme. We will do the Elephant March, sing our Monkey Songs and imitate our jungle friends.

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# Penguins

*March 30-April 3 - Wind*

This week the Penguins will learn about wind and directions. We will fly high with our handmade kites and hot air balloons. We will explore the science behind wind with fun and simple experiments.

*April 6-April 10 - Our Blue Oceans*

April 6 to April 12 is National Week of the Ocean. This week the Penguins are going to explore the oceans and learn about the sea animals that live in them. We will talk about how to keep our oceans clean and find out about endangered ocean animals.

*April 13-April 17 - Farms*

This week Old MacDonald and his farm friends are going to visit the Penguin Classroom. We will talk about farms, farmers and farm animals. We will also build our own farm, take care of our own animals and make a Farmer's Quilt.



*April 20-April 24 - Gardening*

From seeds to plants... This week the Penguins will learn about gardening and greenhouses. We will sprout beans, plant grass and do some hands on gardening in our own green house.

*April 27-May 1 - Poetry*

Mary, Mary Quite Contrary... This week we are going to learn about poetry! The Penguins will discover the dreamy world of poetry through nursery rhymes. We will act out different nursery rhymes, make some colorful art and dance to fun nursery rhyme songs.

# Otters

*March 30-April 3 - Spring*

This week we should hear the sweet sound of singing birds and see the wee green buds of blooming plants as we welcome a new season. We will write about what we want to do now that the weather is nice. The Otters will then take a nature walk to note the changes spring has brought to our neighborhood.

*April 6-10 - Insects*

The Otters are going to spend this week exploring the world of insects. We will discover which types of insects are beneficial and which are just plain pesky. We plan to spend a great deal of time outdoors looking for insects and watching them as they are hard at work.

*April 13-17 - Weather*

We will spend this week looking at different types of weather conditions and what they mean to us on a day to day basis. We will also spend some time in the science area creating some of our own weather conditions. What could be more fun than creating a tornado in a jar?

*April 20-24 - Dora The Explorer*

Now we are going to spend some time with one of our favorite adventurers, Dora The Explorer. We will learn to read maps, make our way out of difficult situations and find many fun surprises while we are doing so. We will also learn to speak a little Spanish as we read the many Dora books that will be found in the library.

*April 27-May 1 - Growing Things*

The time is finally right for planting and the Otters are going to be busy digging in the dirt. After we learn about all of the things necessary to make our gardens grow, we will get our hands dirty as we do a little planting.

# Dolphins

*March 30-April 3 - Telling Time*

"What time is it, Mr. Clock?" Now that we know all about clocks and how to count by fives we will spend this week learning how to tell time. We will play telling-time bingo and use our small clocks to practice telling time.

*April 6-10 - Spring*

The Dolphins will celebrate the return of warm weather by learning about spring. We will learn about the birds, wind, rain, and, of course, the sun. We will talk about how we could not survive without any of these things. At the end of the week we will take our first nature walk to see what our senses tell us about spring.

*April 13-17 - Emotions*

This week we will talk about the different emotions that a person may feel. We all experience different emotions from day to day and sometimes throughout the day and the Dolphins are no different. Each day we will let you know what types of emotions we feel and why we feel that way.

*April 20-24 - Nursery Rhymes*

The Dolphins will learn various traditional nursery rhymes this week. Not only do these nursery rhymes catch children's attention but they also help with memorization and add new words to our vocabulary. We will make these familiar rhymes come to life with music, movement, puppets and art.

*April 27-May 1 - Growing Things*

Welcome back to the greenhouse! We will kick off our growing season this week at MCUM by planting seeds and learning how plants grow. We will do experiments to discover where seeds grow best and predict how long they will take to sprout. We will also learn the different parts of plants.

## Monroe County United Ministries

827 West 14th Court  
Bloomington, Indiana 47404  
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Fax (812) 339-2912  
mcum@bloomington.in.us  
www.bloomington.in.us/~mcum

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Bloomington, IN 47404  
Permit #186

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## Staff:

Executive Director: Meri Reinhold  
Development Coordinator: Rebecca Stanze  
Emergency Services Coordinator: Cliff Edens  
Emerg. Services Caseworker: Vicky St. Myers  
Office Manager: Shannon Hampton  
Childcare Director: Traci Mehay  
Education Coordinator: Tina Pender  
Administrative Assistant: Jeannie Shaffer

## Hours of Operation:

|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Office and<br>Emergency<br>Services: | Monday - Friday<br>8:00am - noon<br>1:00pm - 4:00pm |
| Childcare:                           | Monday - Friday<br>6:30am - 5:30pm                  |

*Please recycle this newsletter or share it with a friend.*

*Opportunity House, located at 907 W. 11th Street, is a resale shop that raises funds to support MCUM's Programs by finding new homes for used items. Store hours are 9:00-2:00, Monday-Saturday, with donations accepted 8:30-3:00. Call 336-2443 for more information.*

## Opportunity House Update

*by Janet Donham, Opportunity House Board President*

The store is in full swing with spring clothing, shoes, silk arrangements and, of course, Easter bunnies. Maybe you have never thought of this, but we do have X-large and plus sizes for women and men. Come in and check us out.

Vandalism has become a problem at Opp House. Our air conditioners were recently damaged to the tune of a thousand dollars. Soon after, one of our landscape plants was pulled out of the ground and just thrown away across the street. Darrel replanted the blooming bush, so we hope it will be saved and we can enjoy the pink blossoms soon.

May you all have a blessed Easter.