



# Working Together

April 2014

## Spring Into Action! for MCUM, Sunday, April 6

Join your fellow community members at the Bloomington/Monroe County Convention Center on Sunday, April 6, for a fun-filled afternoon to support the emergency services and childcare programs of Monroe County United Ministries. The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring into Action! Luncheon and Auction will include an attractive selection of trips, tickets, baskets, and more! Featuring:

- A delicious lunch buffet: chicken bruschetta, vegetarian tortellini, glazed carrots, salad, and green beans;
- Diamond cupcakes made by MCUM's cook;
- Catching up with old friends and making new ones;
- Bidding on amazing silent and live auction items; and, of course,
- Famous MCUM Bingo!

Arrive as early as 11:30 a.m. for coffee hour and silent auction bidding. Enjoy lunch and remarks at 12:30 p.m., then get your bidding arm ready for a live auction at 1:30 p.m.



Tickets are \$25 per person, or \$175 for a table of eight. To learn more about the event and purchase tickets, visit [www.mcum.org](http://www.mcum.org) or contact Katie Broadfoot at [fundraising@mcum.org](mailto:fundraising@mcum.org) or (812) 339-3429 ext. 18. Hurry! Only a limited number of tickets will be sold at the door.

All proceeds benefit MCUM's programs, which have provided invaluable service to Monroe County residents since 1939. Celebrate MCUM's 75th anniversary at this fun community event!



MCUM is grateful for its Spring Luncheon sponsors: The City of Bloomington Office of the Mayor; Bunger and Robertson, Attorneys at Law; First Insurance Group; German American Bank; Bloomfield State Bank; Indiana University Credit Union; Crane Federal Credit Union; Hilliard-Lyons, and People's State Bank.

## Time is Running Out: Make a Difference With Feinstein!

**Now through April 30, your food and financial gifts to MCUM do even more. Give today, and your gift will qualify for the Feinstein Challenge, which will divide \$1 million proportionately among participating agencies nationwide based on the amount of donations collected.**

For the seventeenth consecutive year, philanthropist Alan Feinstein is providing this unique incentive to help nonprofit hunger-fighting agencies across the country raise funds and increase food donations.

Many agencies boost their donations by two or three times what they would normally receive during this period in the absence of this incentive. Last year, MCUM supporters generously contributed more than \$125,000 and 6,088 pounds of food during the challenge.

**Today, will you make a special gift in honor of MCUM's 75th anniversary?**

**Return your gift in the enclosed envelope to fight hunger locally and support your neighbors in need.**

Thank you for doing your part to create a more stable and food-secure Monroe County!

## Food Pantry Needs

The pantry welcomes donations of all nonperishable foods but currently has a special need for:

- Canned meats - SPAM, Vienna Sausages
- Peanut butter
- Dry beans
- Shelf-stable cow's milk
- Dry fruit
- Frozen 1 lb ground meats
- Frozen chicken

## Cleaning Closet Needs

Cleaning and hygiene supplies can't be purchased with food stamps. The following items are in high demand:

- Men's and women's deodorant
- Adult socks
- Underwear: women's size 16; men's sizes 29-33
- Floor cleaner
- Cleaning sprays

## Childcare Needs

Spring has sprung! The Childcare Program needs all kinds of outdoor supplies, including:

- pinwheels
- rain gauges and outdoor thermometers
- wind socks
- bug catchers

We could also use a new or gently used electric skillet, and a new or gently used CD player.

## Opp House Needs

Opportunity House can find new homes for your gently used items, with proceeds benefiting MCUM's programs. Please consider donating items such as:

- large shopping bags with handles (not plastic)
- books for spring and summer reading
- spring clothes and shoes

MCUM could use *paper grocery sacks* for the food pantry. Paper bags hold more than plastic and stand up nicely. Please ask for paper when you shop and bring them to MCUM to reuse!

## Volunteer Opportunities

For more information about these or other volunteer opportunities, visit [www.mcum.org](http://www.mcum.org), call (812) 339-3429, or email [help@mcum.org](mailto:help@mcum.org).

### Featured Volunteer Position

#### Fourth of July Parade Walk Organizers:

Are you a creative type who enjoys planning and making your visions a reality? Join other MCUM supporters to help plan and implement MCUM's participation in this year's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade! On vacation in July? That's okay—your planning efforts would still be a huge help leading up to the big day!

Please contact Kate at (812) 339-3429 x15 or [development@mcum.org](mailto:development@mcum.org). Organizers will meet roughly once a month but may meet more often leading up to the parade.

#### Fresh Foods Coordinator:

MCUM seeks an energetic individual to coordinate fresh foods for emergency services clients. This individual will organize and clean the refrigerator, and coordinate pick-ups from the food bank. Contact Cliff at [help@mcum.org](mailto:help@mcum.org).

#### 75th Anniversary Assistants:

Volunteers are needed for a variety of activities. Want to help plan an event, represent MCUM at the farmer's market, or volunteer for day-of tasks like set-up or tear-down? Check out 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary highlights on page 4, and email Kate at [development@mcum.org](mailto:development@mcum.org) to get involved!

#### Opportunity House Volunteers:

Opportunity House, a resale shop located at 907 W. 11th Street, is MCUM's important partner. Volunteers are especially needed to sort and price items and serve as cashiers. Call (812) 336-2443 for more information.

#### Maintenance Volunteers:

Volunteers are needed to perform basic maintenance tasks of any skill level, from changing light bulbs to basic carpentry. Work is usually performed between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Contact Meri at [mcum@mcum.org](mailto:mcum@mcum.org) or (812) 339-3429 x11.

# This Year's Big-Ticket Auction Items

Attend the Spring Luncheon and Auction on Sunday, April 6, for your chance to bid on these amazing getaways!

## Christmas in Williamsburg

*Dates: December 20-26; accommodates up to six people*

Spend your holiday exploring the history of Colonial Williamsburg, Historic Jamestown, the Yorktown Battlefield, and the James River Plantations. Or, if you are a thrill-seeker, visit nearby Busch Gardens!\* Your two-bedroom condo at Wyndham Kingsgate accommodates up to six and includes an indoor pool. Kids and teens will enjoy the game center, tennis, mini golf and King's Cinema. Adults may enjoy fitness center workouts, water aerobics, Casino Night or Game Show Mania and cocktails at the tavern. Satisfy your hungry appetites at the resort's King's Tavern. \*Busch Gardens tickets are not included in this package.



## Best of Orlando

*Dates: Negotiable, before December 2014; full accommodations for four people, but sleeps up to eight*

Take a trip to Florida, where four people will have free admission at each of Walt Disney World's theme parks: the Magic Kingdom Park, Epcot, Disney's Hollywood Studio's, and Disney's Animal Kingdom. While you're in sunny Orlando, enjoy a 30-minute airboat tour through

a wildlife sanctuary, where you'll see wild alligators, egrets, and other Floridian creatures in their natural habitats. You will also receive admission to Wild Florida Wildlife Park. Your condo is located just six miles from Disney World and features an outdoor pool and hot tub, fitness center, playground, grill, and more!

## The Grand Getaway

*Dates: Negotiable, May 2-June 26 or August 25-October 26, 2014*

Step back in time and learn what "Pure Michigan" really means. Bid on a two-night stay at the world-famous Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island (MI), where you can spend hours sitting on the world's longest porch, explore the quaint island by foot, bicycle, or carriage, and take a dip in the Grand's exquisite swimming pool. Mackinac Island is home to Fort Mackinac, one of the first battle sites of the War of 1812, and has miles of hiking trails, streets of unique shops, and, of course, world-famous fudge. This trip includes two full breakfasts and two five-course dinners, round-trip ferry tickets on the Arnold Line from Mackinaw City to Mackinac Island, and admission to Fort Mackinac.



Additional silent auction items include (but are not limited to)!...

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| • Fitness passes and gear                          | • Laser tag and bowling parties                         | • Handmade items- quilts, paintings, and more!   |
| • Baby items                                       | • Family activities- games, toys, zoo passes, and more! | • Excursions and experiences- scuba diving lessons; wine making; tickets to concerts, theme parks, baseball, and more! |
| • Wine and beer                                    | • Boat rental   |  |
| • Gift certificates to local shops and restaurants | • Services- car care, spa, photography, and more!       |  |
| • Pet items  |   |  |
| • Craft baskets                                    |   |  |

# Thank You!

**We would like to extend special thanks to...**

- Cub Scout Pack 123 for donating over 1,500 pounds of food collected from their food drive, then matching part of that total with an additional contribution from the pack.
- To the many individuals and organizations who have donated time, talent, financial support, and items for auction in support of MCUM's Spring Luncheon, and especially to Jennifer Lloyd and Rebecca Stanze for their recent assistance.
- Midwest Color Printing for their recent support.
- Huizi Xu and Thomas Jackson for their work on MCUM's salary survey.
- Molly Chao, Tessa Skidmore, and Tracy Bee for their help with MCUM's Community Voices Gallery exhibit.
- Jenny Mack and the Monroe County History Center for supporting and hosting MCUM's exhibit now through the end of June. (You should go see it!)
- FoodWorks for Middle Way House for catering food for a recent breakfast.

## Sponsor a Swimmer

MCUM preschoolers will visit the pool again this summer. Swimming supports motor skill development, teaches children about water safety, and is a fun way for them to cool off!

Parents pay an additional fee for this activity. Your donation of \$28 can provide a "swimmership" for a child. Combat those late winter blues by sending in your donation today!

## **MCUM's Strategic Plan: Innovation, Leadership & Endurance**

Last year, MCUM's Board of Directors approved a five-year strategic plan that outlines MCUM's organizational goals and program directions for 2013-2017. With continued support from the community, MCUM has many exciting initiatives under way to improve program quality and meet changing community needs. Here is one example from the plan:

### **Initiative #14 is to "Seek funding for and prioritize facility upgrades and maintenance."**

MCUM recognizes the importance of structurally sound facilities that are free from environmental and other hazards. That's why our childcare program has held five-star status through the State's 5-Star Environmental Recognition Program since its inception. To maintain and improve facilities, MCUM staff members pursue grants and other funding opportunities. We also recruit volunteers to help with routine building maintenance! See our call for volunteers on page 2 of this newsletter, and visit [www.mcum.org](http://www.mcum.org) for a complete listing of strategic plan initiatives.

## **Thank You, Pantry Donors**

MCUM depends on donations to make a difference for local households in crisis. Listed here are some of the groups and individuals who have recently contributed food, cleaning supplies, and/or hygiene products:

- All Saints Orthodox Church
- Arlington United Methodist Church
- Cub Scout Troop 123
- Daughters of Isabella
- Jef & Pam Davidson
- First Christian Church
- First Presbyterian Church
- First Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Women
- First United Church
- Roger & Neva Gildersleeve
- Good Neighbors Home Extension Club
- Mary Johnson
- John & Phyllis Gail Merrill
- Opportunity House
- John & Mary Jo Sgro
- The Sluss/Wright Family
- St. Thomas Lutheran Evangelical Church
- Tri Kappa Gamma - Associate Chapter
- Trinity Episcopal Church
- Unitarian Universalist Church
- University Baptist Church
- Woodhaven Christian Church

MCUM would like to provide *magazines* in the emergency services waiting room. If you are finished reading your monthly subscription and it's still in good condition, drop it off at our office. Our clients will appreciate your generosity!

## **Celebrate with MCUM!**

We are excited for you to be part of MCUM's anniversary celebrations this year! Volunteers are needed to help plan and implement all parts of the activities below. No time to volunteer? That's okay, too—grab a friend and visit MCUM in the following ways and places throughout the year!

April-June  
**Community Voices Gallery Exhibit at the Monroe County History Center**

Friday, June 6  
**Exhibit Reception**

Saturdays in June  
**MCUM at the Farmer's Market**

July  
**Display in Showers Building**

Friday, July 4  
**MCUM in the 4th of July Parade**

Saturday, October 4  
**Community Open House at MCUM**

MCUM is grateful to CFC properties, Inc., Old National Bank, and Ivy Tech Community College, whose support makes these activities possible.

In addition to these special activities, MCUM will hold its traditional events throughout the year. Come to the Spring Luncheon on Sunday, April 6, and keep an eye on future newsletters for to get involved with the annual "Each One, Feed One" Community Food Drive, and more!

### **Did You Know?**

MCUM gladly accepts **Ensure or other nutritional drinks** for its food pantry. Many clients face health problems that make it difficult to maintain weight or eat solid food. If you or someone you know has and no longer uses these products, please consider donating them to MCUM!

## Cub Scouts Hold Food Drive for MCUM

During the month of February, Cub Scout Pack 123 held a food drive to benefit MCUM's clients. By the end of the drive, the group had collected more than 1,500 pounds of food from their families, friends, and neighbors. The group delivered the items collected through the drive to MCUM's Emergency Food Pantry on Monday, March 10, then stayed to help sort donations.

"The scouts, for the second year in a row, gave up an evening to sort, store and bag their donation. 'Do your best' is the cub scout motto. No pack exemplifies this statement better than Pack 123 through their work with MCUM," said Cliff Edens, MCUM's Emergency Services and Volunteer Coordinator.

Pack leaders also said the pack would contribute a partial match to the food collected, bringing the group's donation to more than 2,200 pounds. MCUM is grateful for the Cub Scouts' dedication to serving their community!

## Scholastic Book Fair: Affordable Books Benefit MCUM

Visit the Scholastic Book Fair Monday, April 7–Friday, April 11, 7:00a.m. -5:30 p.m. daily. The fair is open to the public and will be held in MCUM's Child-care Center. Scholastic provides quality books at an affordable price. Books for infants through approximately the third grade reading level will be available.

Books are "Buy One, Get One Free," making it easy for you to donate a few to MCUM's library. A wish list of needed titles will be available, and MCUM will forgo 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.

## Thank You, Volunteers

Volunteers make our programs possible. Thank you to all who shared their valuable time and talent with us recently!

- Loretta Alonso
- Anna Ballard
- Jessica Beckman
- Marti Black
- Laura Bond
- Elaine Carpenter
- Mary Carpenter
- Rachel Case
- Margaret Chittum
- Greg Cletto
- Rachel Colegrove
- Su Cowling
- Daisy Day
- Kacey Gilligan
- Lauren Haney
- Sidney Harris
- Duane Hornick
- Pat Hornick
- Larry Jacobs
- Nakia Jones
- LaDawn Joyner
- E. Veronica Lenard
- Jennifer Lloyd
- Sarah Lobien
- Melissa Margolis
- Judy McDougal
- Leon McDougal
- Valerie Merriam
- Ben Mertz
- Chris Meyer
- Leonna Michael
- Kelsey Miklos
- Emily Milnes
- Joyce Nyakato
- Nicole Percy
- Jasmyn Powell
- Nancy Russell
- Betty Schoonmaker
- John Sgro
- Mitch Smith
- Paige Stamper
- Jean Summerville
- Murl Summerville
- Susie Trisler
- Erika Twer
- Daniel Versweyfeld
- Anna Vittori
- Kiana Werner

## Clip Labels and Box Tops

Looking for an easy way to help? Collect Labels for Education from Campbell's products and Box Tops for Education from General Mills products. Just clip this:



or this:



from items you already buy and send them our way. These logos may be in unexpected places, so keep your eyes open!

## April is National Volunteer Month

In honor of National Volunteer Month, all of us at MCUM would like to extend a heart-felt **THANK YOU** to our caring volunteers. MCUM could not fulfill its mission and serve the community without your dedicated support.

A volunteer recognition event—"Volunteer Sundae"—will be held at MCUM on Sunday, April 27, from 1-3 p.m. Volunteers from the past year should keep an eye on their mailboxes for more information to come soon!

# Announcements for Parents

## Important Dates

**April 7-11** Scholastic Book Fair

**April 18** MCUM is Closed  
for Good Friday

### About the Scholastic Book Fair:

Visit the Book Fair Monday, April 7–Friday, April 11, any time between 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. daily!

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 is MCUM’s annual “Buy One, Get One Free” sale, making it easy for you to pick up some extra books or 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.

### Volunteer opportunity:

Help coordinate MCUM’s participation in the 4th of July Parade! You can join a committee to help plan activities for the day, lend your creativity to assembling materials before the parade, and/or walk in the parade!

Contact Kate at [development@mcum.org](mailto:development@mcum.org) or 812-339-3429 x15 for more information.

### Childcare Staff

Childcare Director: Traci Mehay  
Education Coordinator: Tina Burress  
Cook: Denise Garrett  
Assistant Cook: Derrick Mackie

# Childcare Classroom Information

## Puffins

### 2–2.5 year olds

Teacher: Sarah Norzinskey

Hello everybody! We are excited to have the new room opened now so that we can serve more children! The room will provide the children with new experiences, such as a kitchen area to pretend to make food, a new set of blocks, new puzzles, and many manipulatives that are appropriate for two year olds.

The first theme for the Puffins room is archaeology. This will include observations of different types of rocks and who finds them. The Puffins will go outside and look for rocks and other objects just like real explorers and archaeologists find ancient artifacts. Some of the books we will read are “Rocks and Fossils,” “Archaeology for Kids,” and “Rocks and Minerals.” There will be other opportunities to talk about dinosaur bones, and the Puffins will even make their own fossils!

Besides the new activities related to archaeology, the Puffins will begin to work on their shapes, colors, numbers, and letters. They are going to be the circle and square, the color purple, the numbers 7 and 8, and the letters Y and Z. These will be incorporated in many different activities, such as blocks, manipulatives, puzzles, books, and other opportunities.

The Puffins will be in a new transitional period this month as it is the first month the room has been open! Hope we have a lot of new experiences and fun times in the coming month and the new year!

## Seahorses

### 2.5–3 year olds

Teacher: Jessica Mackie

This month is the beginning of a new chapter for the Seahorses! Some of our classmates have moved up to the Penguin class, others moved to the Puffin room with Sarah, and Jessica (previously the Otter teacher) will officially begin as the lead teacher. As we transition, we will take time to teach our new classmates our school expectations and grow and learn together.

Our theme this month is Archeology. The Seahorses love dinosaurs, so we will split our time this month between archeology and dinosaurs. Some activities we will attempt this month include:

- Discussing what archeology is
- Talking about the names of some dinosaurs
- Discussing the difference between meat-eating and plant-eating dinosaurs
- Making dinosaur prints with our toy dinosaurs and paint
- Making handprint dinosaurs
- Creating dinosaur feet with Kleenex boxes
- Creating our own fossils with dinosaurs and Plaster of Paris
- Having our own “dig” in the sensory tables

We’ll also read books including “Skippyjon Jones and the Big Dig,” “Dinosaurs!” “Dinosaurs Beware: A Safety Guide,” “Dinosaurs Galore,” “Count-A-Saurus,” “All Aboard the Dino Train,” “Oh My, Oh My, Oh Dinosaurs,” “Dinosaur Days,” and “Dinosaur Babies.”

# Childcare Classroom Information (continued)

## Penguins

### 3 year olds

Teacher: LaDawn Joyner  
Aide: Sarah Landrum

During April, the Penguins will talk about archeology. We will read books, do science experiments, count fossils, and talk about dinosaurs.

We will read books on archeology, including “Digging for Dinosaurs,” “Skippyjon Jones and the Big Dig,” and “True-life Treasure Hunts.” We will talk about what we would like to find on a dig and what our favorite dinosaurs are. We will work on the letters Yy and Zz this month.

We will also sort, compare, and observe all types of fossils and dinosaurs. We will measure our fossils and make a fossil number line. In addition, this month we will focus on the circle and square, the numbers 7 and 8, and the color purple. We will also continue to work on counting.

We will do many sensory activities related to archeology. We will dig for fossils and other treasures in our sensory table, discover fossils in our playdough, and make fossils using dinosaurs, shells, and other items.

Check out our hallway to see our artwork showing our fossil discoveries. We will be do water color and look for a special surprise to appear. We will paint with dinosaur feet and make our own dinosaurs out of paper plates. We will also use pasta to represent the different bones in our dinosaurs.

Lastly, we will talk about Easter, the different ways we celebrate the holiday, and our favorite thing in spring. We might even have a spring celebration!

## Otters

### 4 year olds

Teacher: Brittney Denton  
Aide: Keelea Kile

This month the Otters will learn about archaeology. We will learn what an archaeologist does and what kind of things an archaeologist might find. We will also excavate, explore, and search in many different materials including slime, ice, sand, and mud. We will read books about archaeology and learn about skeletons and bones.

Archaeology is a great subject for our dinosaur-loving otters! We will learn about various types of dinosaurs— what they ate, where they lived, and how we know just from looking at bones. We will also follow clues and use teamwork to go on a scavenger hunt to find the pieces of a dinosaur!

On April 17<sup>th</sup>, we will have a spring celebration day! We will have our own egg hunt and decorate the classroom in spring artwork. We will also plant our own flowers and watch them grow!

April 22<sup>nd</sup> is Earth Day, so we will talk about the Earth this month as well. We will talk about how pollution impacts our community as a whole and individually, and the importance of keeping the Earth clean.

We will continue working on:

- Numbers 1-20
- Learning the alphabet and the sounds that each letter makes
- Writing our names, sight words, and numbers
- Homework Folders
- Counting and Sorting
- Using words to express our emotions
- Following school wide and classroom expectations

## Dolphins

### 5–6 year olds

Teacher: Kim Clay  
Aide: Vanessa Schultz

During the first two weeks in April the Dolphins are going to travel back to The Land Before Time to learn about dinosaurs. We will learn about the different types of dinosaurs, what they ate, how big they were, and what they did for fun. We will look at lots of pictures of and learn that dinosaurs lived during the Jurassic, Triassic, and Cretaceous geologic periods. That some ate meat (carnivores), while other ate plants (herbivores). We will use play dough and made fossils imprint such as dinosaur foot print, teeth and skeletons.

Can you name the birds in your own back yard? At the end of the month ask a Dolphin. We are going to spend the last weeks in April learning about the most common birds. We will spend time learning about their names, what they eat, and how they fly. We will pull out our binoculars and do some bird watching and make bird feeders using pine cones.

Other things happening this month:

- **Food Experiences of the Month:** Asparagus and Rhubarb
- **Letters of the Month:** T, S, R, I, P, B
- **Special Days:** National High Five Day



## Monroe County United Ministries

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

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Bloomington, IN 47404

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Member Agency

### *Inside This Issue*

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**Save a tree!** Sign up to receive this newsletter online. Email [development@mcum.org](mailto:development@mcum.org), or call (812) 339-3429 x15 to make the switch.

### *Staff:*

Executive Director: Meri Reinhold  
 Development Associate: Katie Broadfoot  
 Development Associate: Kate Zilvinskis  
 Emergency Services Coordinator: Cliff Edens  
 Emergency Services Caseworker: Justin Smith  
 Office Manager: Shannon Hampton  
 Childcare Director: Traci Mehay  
 Education Coordinator: Tina Burress

### *Hours of Operation:*

#### **Office and Emergency Services**

Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - noon and 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

#### **Childcare**

Monday - Friday: 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

## ***Opportunity House***

Opportunity House, located at 907 W. 11th Street, is a volunteer-run resale shop that raises funds to support MCUM's programs. Store hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Saturday, with donations accepted 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call (812) 336-2443 or follow Opportunity House on Facebook!

Donations of gently used items are always welcome, including: books, clothing, household items, collectibles, toys, and linens.

Spring has sprung at the Opportunity House! We have just concluded our winter clearance sale and now have spring clothes on the racks. Winter was a rough time for everyone; take advantage of the warmer weather and get out to visit us at the shop!

Come in to see our many spring items, as well as all the other unique things our store has to offer. Of course, that also includes our cheerful volunteers that do a great job helping us make money to support Monroe County United Ministries' many projects for children and community members in need. Come check us out -- you might even want to join our friendly staff of volunteers!

 Please recycle this newsletter  
or share it with a friend