



Idaho Falls Area Humanitarian Center

March 2020 Newsletter

Message from the Assistant Directors: Kent and Betty Wood

Miracles happen every day.

It was six years ago that I walked into the Humanitarian Center, the original location. Sewing machines were buzzing, people were quilting or cutting or sorting. Others were knitting or painting and still others making dolls.

I was introduced to Mozelle Neville. She had just been handed some disturbing news. Don and Mozelle, along with Sharon and Ken Turley had found the perfect location for a new larger Humanitarian Center space. In order to remodel the space and make it ready for occupancy, the city would require a permit and the work done by a licensed commercial contractor. Also, there would need to be a set of blueprints submitted to the building department before construction could begin. There were no blueprints, however, a set could be drawn by an architect, at an exorbitant cost. That was the disturbing news.

I asked Mozelle, "What would you like me to do?" She replied that they needed a licensed commercial contractor. I said, "Well.... I'm a licensed commercial contractor!"

The missing blueprints turned out **not** to be a problem. The building department had a copy in their archives. The permit was issued, and work began immediately.

Little miracles like this happen every day here at the center.

Highlight - Lynda Chapple
Lynda Chapple began at the Center just after retiring from teaching school in 2012. She began her career



in Brigham City and moved on to Shelley High. What an opportunity to teach where she had been raised! In addition to teaching accounting, computer and office skills plus other business courses, Lynda raised her four children. The 15 grandchildren keep her hopping. One of her grandsons is on his way to Houston for grad school. She also works hard doing indexing. Lynda is the assistant director for the sewing department where they make the famed weighted blankets, aprons for Head Start, shirt protectors and wheelchair bags. She is working to make the bag adaptable to different sizes of wheelchairs *and* walkers.

Plea for Polyester

If you or anyone you know has a stockpile of fabric that may have been around for a while, check for polyester. It may not be used so much now, but it's a gem of a fabric in the jump rope area. It is in short supply at this point.



Give-away Tub/Tote

There are a couple of areas in the Center where you can find items that are "free to a good home" and you may take for your personal use. *In the kitchen area bread and food products are delivered Tuesday mornings and you'll find many different types of bread plus food in the freezer to claim by putting your name on it. *There is a tote (or sometimes cardboard boxes) at the front of the conference room near the piano which has items that are not used at the center and you may take for your personal use. It is asked that you stop by the check out and just say to the ladies there that you picked up the items you are showing them from the give-away tub.

Hours we're open

10 am – 3 pm, Tues. & Wed.; 1st & 3rd Tuesdays from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm; 1st Thursday of the month for adults only 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Call Deanna Hovey 208-4972868 to schedule evenings.

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Service Projects-Senior Projects-Corporate

Marissa Neville, from Rigby High, worked on her senior project at the Center. She painted little cars, jumprope handles and animals. Marissa also sewed puppets. She worked hard to assemble a collection of items to send to Ecuador. What a blessing for the children who will receive the toys!



Evan Phillips, from Rigby High, completed his senior project by collecting donations both in cash and in rice. In the end he was able to bring 450 lbs. of rice and contribute \$180. It took more than one trip to the Center to bring the rice! Evan



also sewed the fabric tubes for the rice inserts for the autistic blankets.

Lions Club Donation

The 23 Lions Clubs around Southeast Idaho worked together to provide hygiene kits to donate to the Center. All the Clubs gathered kit supplies and donations for the materials leading up to their mid-winter convention. Then the clubs combined during their convention to assemble 400+ hygiene kits, explained Lisa Allen, an officer from Pocatello.



Potandon, the potato and onion produce company, made a huge donation of \$1000 to the Humanitarian Center at the beginning of the year. Part of this generosity is due to the Potandon employees' and owner's payroll deductions. Potandon employees regularly volunteer their time and

wages and the Center has been a fortunate beneficiary of their generosity.

Gifted/Talented Class Hosted by the Center

The Center hosted 2 gifted/talented classes from District 91 who were learning about empathy. The students viewed the Center video and were extremely touched by the fact that things were made for babies who had passed away. The children were given a tour of the facility and taught what happened in each of the areas. When they came to different areas they were asked questions about how what they were learning in elementary school would be applied. At the end of their tour the students were given a yarn hat for either their personal use or to give away to someone who needed the hat.

Safety Summary

How can we keep ourselves and each other safe at the Center? Kent taught us that we are all responsible for a wet floor, that everyone can mop. The mop can be found in the community room to the right of the main hall. Be cautious of uneven surfaces or hazards around you as you walk through the center. Be cautious about plugging too many items into one outlet. Think about that video Kent showed us during safety training! A projectile turkey comes to mind! When it comes to an active shooter we were taught RUN, HIDE, and FIGHT, but getting away is the first thing to try. Know where the 5 exits are in relation to where you work. Stay tuned for more riveting episodes of Safety at the Center with Kent Wood!

Quote of the Month

"I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy." Rabindranath Tagore

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