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June 2021 Newsletter

Stories of Hope:

A True Story of Hope About the Basic Goodness of People

Gander, on the island of Newfoundland, Canada, was a small, quiet, relatively unknown town of ten thousand inhabitants for away from the urban centers of a hectic world, at least until September 11, 2001. That day, following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the United States closed its airspace to incoming planes. Those destined for one of its airports were diverted elsewhere. Thirty-eight planes, carrying almost seven thousand passengers of ninety-seven different nationalities, were forced to land at Gander International Airport. A major humanitarian challenge had suddenly been thrust on the people of the town. The story of how they responded has since become the subject of several books, and more recently a musical, *Come From Away*. [Come From Away](#) | [About the Show](#) | [Official Site](#)



The passengers were exhausted, disoriented, and shocked. Some had been on board planes for 28 hours while extensive security checks were made on their luggage. Many of them had no idea of where they were, or how to get in touch with relatives and friends to let them know they were safe. Yet almost immediately, they encountered an unusual sense of welcome. Greeting them was a feast prepared by the people of the town. To read more click on this link and scroll to the second story <https://hopefromthebottomup.com/stories-hope>

Bay Area artist spreads love, smiles through her 'heartwork'



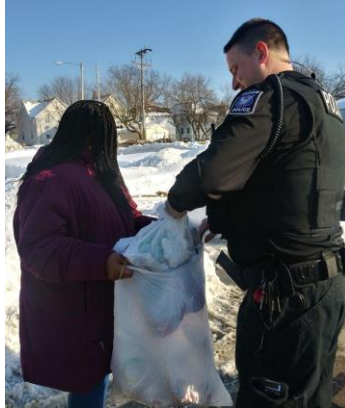
Artist Deirdre Freeman hangs her artwork on a telephone pole in Alameda, Calif., Tuesday, April 13, 2021. Freeman, who has hung over 120 pieces of artwork on telephone poles to spread joy to others, says, "It's starting a love and kindness movement, which is what we need."

ALAMEDA, Calif. -- Deirdre Freeman walks the mile from her home, lugging a large, colorful painting and tote bag with her hammer and nails. Her destination is a telephone pole at a busy intersection, where she will hang her largest "heartwork" painting yet.

Her goal is simple: to spread smiles and some much-needed love to the masses through this 18-by-24-inch acrylic on canvas, which features a red heart shape over whimsical designs — typical of the paintings she has been sharing in public places. To read more click on this link: [Bay Area artist spreads love, smiles through her 'heartwork' - ABC News \(go.com\)](#)

Healthy Kids Diner Combats Childhood Hunger

Racine Journal Times , May 1, 2021



The Salvation Army of Racine and the Racine Police Department joined together in May of 2019 to launch the Healthy Kids Diner.

RACINE — Thirty percent of children that live in Racine are living in poverty. To help combat childhood hunger, The Salvation Army of Racine and the Racine Police Department joined together in May 2019 to launch the Healthy Kids Diner.

The year-round program, typically held at Racine Community Oriented Policing Houses or COP houses, provides a nutritious dinner for any child in need. Meals, which include a protein, vegetable, fruit, grain, and milk, are served Monday through Friday at the Mead Street Cop House, 1750 Mead St., from 3:15 to 3:45 p.m. and the Geneva 32cf614c Street Cop House, 1140 Geneva St., from 4 to 4:30 p.m.

“For children who are facing hardships in their communities and their families, these meal sites provide an opportunity to be just a kid and to feel loved,” said Major Jeffery Russell with The Salvation Army of Racine. To read more click on this link: https://journaltimes.com/lifestyles/faith-and-values/community-newsletter-salvation-army/article_-942d-58d4-82d9-a76e662e1d2c.html

Hope-Filled Organizations:

Racine Women For Racial Justice



[HOME | RWRJ](#)

Our Mission: Racine Women for Racial Justice unites and empowers Racine area women through education, conversation, critical analysis, collective action, and leadership to identify, interrupt and dismantle racism in the community.

Our Vision: Racine Women for Racial Justice envisions an equitable community where Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) experience justice, liberation, and freedom from marginalization, oppression, and disenfranchisement.

To read more, click on this link: [An executive director and an action plan: Racine Women for Racial Justice expanding less than a year after forming | Local News | journaltimes.com](https://www.journaltimes.com/story/news/local/2021/03/17/racine-women-for-racial-justice-expanding-less-than-a-year-after-forming/7000000001/)

Mamas Caucus wants to make Illinois the most mom-friendly state in the nation. ‘Who better to advocate for us than us?’



Josina Morita, chair of the Mama Caucus, stands with her husband Cornell Collins and children Kai Collins, 2, and Mei-Mei Collins, 1, on March 17, 2021. (E. Jason Wambsgans / Chicago Tribune)

Josina Morita was the first commissioner on Chicago’s Metropolitan Water Reclamation District to have a baby while in office and was told, at one point, to use an empty tech support office when she needed to pump breastmilk.

State Rep. Margaret Croke had a 2-month-old son during the 12th House District primary race and brought her son to work every day because Illinois, unlike several other states, doesn’t consider child care an allowable campaign expense. “That was cute and all when he was 2 months old,” Croke said. “But now he’s 18 months old and he doesn’t stop moving. The barrier to be a public servant is that you have to be able to afford a full-time household employee, and that’s crazy.”

City Clerk Anna Valencia had a baby during the pandemic. She said she struggled with the isolation and fear that so many new parents experienced in 2020, even as she watched her friends and constituents get pushed out of a workforce that wasn’t prepared to support working mothers during a global crisis.

City Treasurer Melissa Conyears-Ervin is raising a 4-year-old daughter. “On the West Side of Chicago,” she said. “Even more reason to fight for equity for working families, especially working mothers.”

The four women have joined forces, along with 18 other bipartisan elected officials — aldermen, county commissioners, state representatives — to form an Illinois [Mamas Caucus](#). Their goal is to turn Illinois into the most mom-friendly state in the nation, through policies that support working families, protect female and maternal health, provide high-quality public education, and make it easier for women to run for elected office. To read more click on this link: [Mamas Caucus wants to make Illinois most mom-friendly state - Chicago Tribune](https://www.chicagotribune.com/story/news/local/2021/04/23/mamas-caucus-wants-to-make-illinois-most-mom-friendly-state-7000000001/)

By [Heidi Stevens](#) Chicago Tribune Apr 22, 2021 To view a 3 minute video, click on this link:

<https://chicago.cbslocal.com/2021/04/23/mamas-caucus-illinois-mom-friendly-policies/>



[The World Food Prize - Improving the Quality, Quantity and Availability of Food in the World](#)

The World Food Prize Foundation's mission is to elevate innovations and inspire action to sustainably increase the quality, quantity, and availability of food for all.

Fish Research Feeds Millions

Des Moines based foundation recognizes nutrition expert with
\$250,000K World Food Prize

To read more about the award click on <https://www.dailyherald.com/article/20210511/news/305119935>



This photo provided by World Food Prize shows Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted. On Tuesday, May 11, 2021, Thilsted was named this year's recipient of the \$250,000 World Food Prize, which was created by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Norman Borlaug in 1986 to recognize researchers who have improved the quality and availability of food. (Finn Thilsted/World Food Prize via AP) Associated Press. To read more about Thilsted click on

<https://www.worldfoodprize.org/index.cfm?nodeID=96346&audienceID=1>

The Future:

Survey Priority #3: The Economy People Want

- Jobs: Living Wage, Employee Benefits, Consistent Hours, Work With Dignity
- More Equitable Distribution of Wealth
- New and Better Economic Measuring Systems
- Human Growth & Wellbeing Economy vs. Consumer Economy

Jobs: Living Wage, Employee Benefits, Consistent Hours, Work With Dignity

If a person works 40 hours per week, they should be paid enough to support themselves.

If two people in a family each work 40 hours per week, they should be paid enough to support themselves and their family.

Unfortunately, too many people work one and one-plus jobs and are not paid enough to support themselves and/or their families. To read more click on this link: <https://hopefromthebottomup.com/future>

The Arts:

Always Good to Finish With a Smile!

<https://www.jiveaces.com/bring-me-sunshine>



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If you find this Newsletter to be a positive contribution to promote Hope and positive changes for now and in the future, please consider forwarding this Newsletter to people you think would enjoy it and who may want to share their hopeful stories and programs for future Newsletters.

Thank You