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April 2023 Hope Newsletter

The Arts:

SPRING IS THE SEASON OF HOPE AND JOY



Daffodils

By William Wordsworth
1770-1850



I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed and gazed but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

AND TO CELEBRATE SPRING, LISTEN & WATCH BEETHOVEN'S ODE TO JOY!

<https://youtu.be/87qT5BOI2XU>



Hope-Filled Organization:



Meeting Our Community's Needs – Neighbor to Neighbor

Since 1975, People's Resource Center (PRC) has been bringing neighbors together to respond to hunger and poverty in DuPage County.

Nearly 26,000 DuPage residents rely on PRC for help each year. We offer nutritious food and other basic necessities like clothes and rent assistance for neighbors in need. PRC also connects people with resources — education and tutoring, jobs, technology, art, a caring community—to create a future of hope and opportunity for all.

PRC provides these services because of the generosity and support from our neighbors. More than 2,600 volunteers work with our talented staff offering time, skills, and resources to help our clients and their families. Supporters contribute food, clothing, books, computers, and financial support to help us do our important work.

Our Mission: The People's Resource Center community exists to respond to basic human needs, promote dignity and justice, and create a future of hope and opportunity for the residents of DuPage County, Illinois. To learn more about the People's Resource Center programs, click on this link: <https://www.peoplesrc.org/who-we-are/>

One creative and non-typical program that the PRC offers is Care for Cars.



Reliable transportation has consistently been a barrier for PRC neighbors to improve their situations, secure employment and to care for their families. In DuPage County, public transportation options are limited by schedule and location. Families and individuals are highly reliant on access to working vehicles to take care of their needs.

Care for Cars is a program of People’s Resource Center in partnership with the private sector, working together to provide affordable car repair for low income residents in order to conduct job searches or retain employment.

Story of Hope:

Horlick special education students selling coffee, muffins as part of new program

Ryan Patterson, Racine Journal Times, March 14, 2023



Abby Wendt, left, and Lamont Luckett work together to make a cup of coffee. Wendt and Luckett are two of about a dozen students in the Rebel Roasters which began in January as a mobile coffee cart run by special education students.

RACINE — Abby Wendt was nervous at the start, but now she can’t wait.

The night before a shift, Wendt lays out her work attire, usually jeans and a nice shirt or a dress and blazer.

Wendt is one of about a dozen students in the Rebel Roasters program at Horlick High School.

The program began in January and is a mobile coffee cart run by special education students. Four mornings per week, students prepare drinks and muffins for Horlick staff.

Wendt, a senior, has thoroughly enjoyed the work so far.

“I think it’s cool,” Wendt said. “I learn a lot. I get to know people better.”

The program is intended to provide students with hands-on experience in a social setting where they work with one another.

The Rebel Roasters are open Tuesday through Friday mornings. With the help of teachers, students walk through school hallways offering coffee, tea, water and muffins to school employees. To read more, click on this link: [Horlick special education students selling coffee, muffins as part of new program \(journaltimes.com\)](https://www.journaltimes.com/story/news/local/2023/03/07/horlick-special-education-students-selling-coffee-muffins-as-part-of-new-program/11444444002/)

Story of Hope:

From buckets to bowls Empty Bowls at Festival Hall aims to aid in hunger and homelessness

Alex Rodriguez, Racine Journal Times, Mar 7, 2023



When Dirk and Graciela Baldwin learned about an event taking place on Monday, they had three reasons to go: the soup, the bowls and the cause.

The 26th annual Empty Bowls event at Festival Hall, 5 Fifth St., attracted hundreds of people who selected handmade bowls, participated in a silent auction and enjoyed some soup.

“It was a nice opportunity to eat good soup, get a bowl, and help contribute to the food hunger,” Dirk Baldwin said.

About 1,500 bowls were made by local artists and Racine Unified School District teachers and students. Students at Horlick High School crafted 230 bowls.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Racine County Food Bank and Homeless Assistance Leadership Organization, area organizations that work to combat hunger and assist with homelessness services.

Members of the Racine Fire Department were in charge of reheating the soup that was kept in the festival hall freezer. The soup came in containers of all sizes, including some gallon buckets.

Twelve soups were on the line at a time and were replaced once they ran out.

From enchilada to chicken pot pie to Navy bean, the rotating roster of soup was donated by nearly 70 vendors, from cooks to restaurants to local businesses and grocery stores, with an estimated 325 gallons being prepared for hungry donors.



Michael Oliver, sits with his granddaughter, Aniyah Young, as the two enjoy bowls of soup during the Empty Bowls event at Festival Hall on Monday.

To read more and see more pictures, click on this link: [From buckets to bowls | Empty Bowls at Festival Hall aims to aid in hunger and homelessness \(journaltimes.com\)](https://www.journaltimes.com/story/news/2018/11/19/empty-bowls-at-festival-hall-aims-to-aid-in-hunger-and-homelessness/111111111)

Quotes:

“It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken adults.”

“Education means emancipation. It means light and liberty. It means the uplifting of the souls of people into the glorious light of truth, the light by which women and men can only be made free.”

“The life of the nation is secure only while the nation is honest, truthful, and virtuous.”



Fredrick Douglas (1818 – 1895)

Hope-Filled Organization:





We are a small, passionate, Chicago-based organization that believes in the healing power of music. Sharing Notes musicians have been performing in Chicago hospitals since 2012, with nearly 700 performances given to date.

Music creates a sense of belonging and participation. It is an antidote to the growing sense of alienation and isolation now that we are being asked to actively practice social distancing. Social distancing and geographical isolation do not have to result in social loneliness. Music is a social balm for soothing anxiety, offering much needed consolation and enhancing community connections. Music can restore balance and reduce suffering. A study in the Journal of Advanced Nursing found that listening to music can reduce chronic pain up to 21% and depression by up to 25%. Studies have linked music to lowering blood pressure and anxiety in hospital patients.

Sharing Notes' mission is to improve quality of life for Chicago hospital patients through intimate, engaging and uplifting live music performances. Because Chicago hospitals have temporarily suspended all volunteer programs, Sharing Notes has redesigned our live concerts program into our live, virtual bedside concerts program. Patients or hospital staff can schedule a Sharing Notes musician to personally FaceTime or Zoom with, request a song, enjoy a conversation or simply listen to music. When restrictions lift, our live performances will begin again, and virtual bedside concerts will be added to our repertoire of programs for patients who are unable to receive in-person guests. We anticipate our 2020-2021 season to include over 100 virtual and 75 live performances at 5-7 hospitals, providing music for approximately 4500 patients and families. Our commitment to mission and partners, adaptability to rapid change, and innovation are testament to our organization not only surviving but thriving during a time of crisis. To learn more, Click on their website: <https://www.sharing-notes.org/>

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Hope From the Bottom Up website link: <https://hopefromthebottomup.com/>

Or send me an email (robert@robertbeezat.com) with the name and email address of the person you think would be interested. I will then contact them.

Thank You