

## Millvale Satellite Expansion on Target for October Opening

### NHCO Awarded \$240,000 Challenge Grant

The **Kresge Foundation** has awarded NHCO a \$240,000 Challenge Grant for the Millvale Satellite Expansion project, a collaborative effort with the Borough of Millvale to renovate and expand the existing community center and move our Satellite there. Of course, there's a catch! We need to raise an additional \$550,000 in local donations in order to get that money. It's a challenge, not a match, and every gift we receive for the expansion counts towards it.

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### Construction Progress

Mild weather throughout most of the winter allowed the exterior excavation and cement work to proceed right on schedule. Nine windows donated by **Jim Rogerson** and **Pittsburgh Window and Door** of Millvale were installed along the east wall on the second floor, and several other interior walls were demolished and reconfigured.

Placement of cement block that forms the exterior walls of the new portion of the building along Lincoln Avenue went without a hitch. Structural steel and pre-cast cement decking for the second floor were put in place in March. A new roof was placed on the entire building in May, and plumbing and electric work is well under way.

June through September we will focus on the interior of the building, such as drywall, painting, floors, ceiling tiles, telephone systems, computers and furnishings. It is during this time that we hope to incorporate as many volunteers as possible.

Special thanks to **Landau Building Company** Project Manager **Steve Bishop** and Superintendent **Jeff Bono**, who have done an outstanding job at keeping the project on budget and on schedule for a projected October opening.

### AmeriCorps Arrives and Everyone Pitches In!

Eleven dedicated **AmeriCorps\*NCCC Members** recently spent three weeks working on the project (NHCO was one of only a few organizations to be granted a team this year due to ongoing Gulf Coast recovery efforts). **LaRoche College** donated dorm rooms to house the Corps Members, and the **Sisters of St. Francis of Millvale** donated lunches each day.

Meals were also donated by local businesses, including **Amato's Pizza**, **Hong Kong Taste**, the **Grant Bar**, **P&G Diner**, and **Remos' Catering**.

After a thorough introduction to NHCO, the enthusiastic Corps Members worked with **Linkrist Construction** to muscle several hundred sheets of drywall into place. **John Puhr** at **Triangle Fastener Corporation** donated enough 1¼-inch



AmeriCorps\*NCCC Members **Ryder Patzuk-Russell**, **Jen Prall** and **Garth Carson**, along with eight other dedicated Corps Members, made an enormous impact on the Millvale Satellite Expansion project.

self-tapping drywall screws to apply 500 sheets of drywall. **Winschel Hardware** in Etna donated a power sander that was used to refinish the donated doors, and **Hastings Hardware** of Millvale worked with **MEDRAD** to provide other miscellaneous tools and supplies used by Corps Members during their stay.

### Materials and Volunteers Still Needed

Several doors donated by **AUMA Actuators** need to be refinished by volunteers in June and will be installed later in the summer. NHCO requests donations of wood and metal stripping supplies such as liquid stripper, power sanders, sandpaper, sanding blocks, steel wool and foam brushes for stain and polyurethane applications.

NHCO is also responsible for painting the bulk of the interior. Painting work is tentatively scheduled for late July and early August. Much of the paint to be used in the new NHCO offices was donated by **Westmoreland Supply** in the Strip District, but we still need brushes, rollers, extensions and a few ladders.

In September, we will need volunteers to help install cabinets and countertops in our volunteer workroom and conference room. We will also need assistance moving items from storage into our new space. Finally, we need lunches for our dedicated volunteers.

**Thank you to everyone who has helped so far!** To get involved, contact Don Breitbarth at 412-821-0904 or [dbreitbarth@nhco.org](mailto:dbreitbarth@nhco.org).

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"Millvale  
Satellite"

**JUNE 21**

Last Day to  
Buy a Brick!

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This edition of *The Connector* is generously underwritten by **Dollar Bank.**

*The Connector* is published three times per year and mailed to 13,000 local addresses.

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Send any address corrections or other comments regarding *The Connector* to **help@nhco.org**.

#### Main Office

1975 Ferguson Road  
Allison Park, PA 15101-3235  
412-487-6316

#### Millvale Satellite

223 North Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15209-2621  
412-821-0904

#### North Boroughs Satellite

Allegheny General Hospital,  
Suburban Campus (Bellevue)  
100 South Jackson Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15202-3499  
412-307-0069

and

Emanuel's Evangelical Lutheran  
10 North Fremont Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15202-3218  
412-732-0600

#### Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 9 AM - 4 PM  
(Other times by appointment)

email: [help@nhco.org](mailto:help@nhco.org)

website: [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org)

**Mission:** North Hills Community Outreach is an interfaith nonprofit organization that addresses the spiritual, emotional, physical and material needs of people in crisis, hardship and poverty.

**Vision:** Northern Allegheny County is a community where everyone shares with their neighbors in hardship and no one is cold, hungry or forgotten.

**Fay Morgan, Executive Director**  
[fpmorgan@nhco.org](mailto:fpmorgan@nhco.org)

**Wendy Gordon, Editor**  
[wbgordon@nhco.org](mailto:wbgordon@nhco.org)

## Sharing Projects are "People Helping People"

### Spring Share

This spring, 448 families received a grocery store certificate, and 540 children received candy baskets. In addition, 32 frail elderly neighbors received gift baskets through the Faith in Action program. Extra baskets were shared with Crisis Center North, VOICE Women's Abuse Shelter, Bread of Life Food Pantry and Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church.

Thanks to lead volunteers **Audrey Edwards**, **Jean Fitzgerald** and **Dottie Edwards** and to the following individuals and organizations for their outstanding efforts:

- **Kaylee Kenz**, **Tracey Bosack** and **Stephanie**, **Carissa**, and **Kalene Capilongo** made 49 baskets. This was Kaylee's sixth year of participating.
- The fifth grade class at **St. Alexis School** motivated the entire school to assemble 85 baskets.
- **Reserve Elementary** students purchased food, grocery certificates and children's items for 11 Shaler families.
- Large donations were received from **Bradfordwoods Community Church**, **Bradfordwoods Elementary**, **St. John's Evangelical Lutheran**, **St. Bonaventure's Women's Social Group**, **St. Paul's UMC**, **Brownie Troop #581**, **Oxford Club**, **St. Alphonsus**, **The Rainbow Girls**, **PMA Insurance Group** and **Jeffery Elementary**.

### Back to School

Throughout July, we will collect new backpacks and school supplies such as pencil cases, binders, markers, erasers, folders, crayons, notebooks, paper, scissors, rulers, pens and pencils. Financial contributions and clothing gift cards are also needed and appreciated.

Last year with your help, we distributed new backpacks filled with age-appropriate supplies to 607 children and shared the remaining supplies with other area food pantries.

Special thanks to lead volunteer **Rosemary Prager**.

### Winter Coats

Last year, 239 families received more than 980 gently worn coats at NHCO's annual free winter coat shop. We will collect coats from September 1 through October 15 (sorry, we cannot accept your donated coats before September 1 due to limited space). Financial contributions are also needed to purchase additional coats of certain sizes.

After everyone who needs a free coat receives one on October 21, there will be a public sale on October 23 from 10-4 at NHCO Allison Park. Leftover coats will be sold for about \$5 each, and proceeds will be used to help make the coat shop a self-sustaining project.

For more information about any of our sharing projects, contact Judy Murchak at 412-487-6316 or [jamurchak@nhco.org](mailto:jamurchak@nhco.org).

Clockwise beginning at top left are Spring Share volunteers **Jean Fitzgerald**, **Beth Stuijzand**, **Audrey Edwards** and **Jean Kirk**.



## Scholarship Recipient Graduates

Bellevue resident Kathy Dragone is a single mother of two teenage boys. Her job as a full-time secretary for the Northgate school district inspired her to become an elementary teacher. She moved one step closer to that goal on May 6, when she graduated from LaRoche College with a degree in elementary education (and a 4.0 GPA). Kathy was able to achieve this dream thanks in part to \$4,000 in scholarships granted by NHCO and funded by [Zonta Three Rivers North](#).

In her scholarship application essay, Kathy wrote, "I see the need to teach our kids self-esteem and self-worth. Receiving this scholarship will help me to achieve my goal of bringing hope to the children who need it."

While student teaching, Kathy was unable to work and needed a little extra help. Utilizing a holistic approach to helping people in need, NHCO provided additional assistance with seasonal sharing projects as well as utility help.

This past spring term, 14 nontraditional students received NHCO scholarships totaling \$10,472. This program is funded entirely by local businesses like [Alicia Photography](#), civic groups and individuals. Donors who contribute at least \$1,000 can name their scholarship and specify requirements for recipients. Volunteers are needed to assist with fundraising for the scholarship program. To learn more, contact Harriet Gibbs at 412-487-6316 or [hzgibbs@nhco.org](mailto:hzgibbs@nhco.org).



NHCO scholarship recipient and LaRoche College graduate [Kathy Dragone](#) is one step closer to fulfilling her dream of becoming a teacher.

## NHCO's Youth Leaders Experience Leadership and Grantmaking Firsthand

Four Assistant Youth Leadership Coordinators (AYLC) joined NHCO earlier this year thanks to a youth leadership and philanthropy grant from [The Heinz Endowments](#).

This spring, the teens awarded \$8,100 to seven local youth groups and organizations. The funds were used to support the following worthwhile projects:

- [North Allegheny Intermediate Key Club](#) purchased supplies and materials to assemble 300 Easter baskets for NHCO's Spring Share program (project overseen by AYLC [Stephanie Bost](#), North Allegheny junior).
- [St. John's Lutheran of Highland's Youth Group](#) purchased supplies, materials and equipment and helped to refurbish Calvert Memorial Presbyterian's kitchen, used by the Bread of Life Food Pantry (Stephanie).
- [Perry Highway Lutheran's Youth Ministry](#) completed an "Extreme Makeover" of a Glade Run residence, held a Sponge-Bob Birthday Party for the facility's youngsters and organized a Hawaiian Luau Spring Fling for the older children ([Alex Oltmanns](#), Sewickley Academy junior).
- [St. John Neumann's Youth Ministry](#) purchased new games, toys and sporting equipment for children living at Holy Family Institute (Alex).
- [Deer Lakes National Honor Society](#) established the CommUnity Foundation to promote school pride through service projects and a scholarship program ([Maria Mercuri](#), Deer Lakes senior).
- [North Hills High School Hands for Service Club](#) improved the HEARTH transitional living facility recreation room with toys, crafts, computer programs and storage bins. Also, club members will volunteer in the childcare facility every Monday evening ([Micah Wright](#), Hampton junior).
- [New Community Church's Youth Ministry](#) spent a week in Mississippi, rebuilding and renovating homes destroyed by the hurricanes. They also provided outreach and activities for children and held informational events when they returned (Micah).

NHCO thanks Stephanie, Alex, Maria and Micah for their compassion, effectiveness and professionalism. It has been a joy having them here! For more information about NHCO's Youth Leadership Program, contact Susan Rohm at 412-307-0069 or [shrohm@nhco.org](mailto:shrohm@nhco.org).

## Two Programs Help Individuals Become Self-Sufficient

Starting in July, NHCO will offer computer literacy classes, thanks to funding from the [Allegheny County Department of Human Services](#). The **Computer Literacy and Employment Program** (CLEP) will incorporate computer literacy instruction with job search strategies. The program will also offer training in customer service skills, time management, resumé writing and interviewing. Skilled volunteers are needed to help conduct the computer trainings.

Sixteen women participated in the most recent **New Choices** program at NHCO, which helps women transitioning into new careers or into the workplace for the first time. A variety of topics were covered during this ten-week program, including skill and interest testing, interviewing, stress management and networking. This program was provided by [PA Women Work!](#).

Contact Carolyn Pschirer at 412-487-6316 or [chpschirer@nhco.org](mailto:chpschirer@nhco.org) for more information on either of these programs.

## Free Rides for Seniors Celebrates One Year

The **Free Rides for Seniors** program—part of **Faith in Action Hartwood**—began in May 2005. Since then, we have provided more than 7,200 rides to 284 local senior citizens (statistics as of April).

Volunteer drivers provide free transportation along Freeport Road between Blawnox and Sharpsburg to doctor and dentist appointments, grocery or drugstore, hair salon or lunch with friends. Regular riders are making friends with each other and with our caring bus drivers and dispatchers. This free transportation program is a wonderful opportunity for fun and fellowship.

Thanks to our advisory board members who provide guidance and support: **Judy Pistorius** (retired, St. Margaret Hospital), **Carl Rueter** (Fox Chapel Presbyterian), **Pastor Russ Horne** (Family Worship Center), **Mary Milne** (Good Shepherd Lutheran), **Lisa Silberg** (Adat Shalom B'nai Israel Beth Jacob), **Betsy Rodewald** (Fox Chapel Episcopal) and **Adrienne Deithorne** (St. Margaret Foundation).

Driving the bus (or serving as a ride-along dispatcher) is a unique opportunity, and we need more caring individuals to serve. Groups can follow the lead of the **Fox Chapel Rotary**, which has several members who volunteer throughout the week. Other regular volunteers include **Thomas Cramer**, **George Dull**, **Lou Greulich**, **Sanford Mankin**, **Reinald McCrumb**, **Jeffrey Medina**, **Elsie Miller**, **Carl Rueter**, **Robert Stauffer**, **Carmen Stillano**, **Richard Swarmer**, **Ralph Thompson**, **Joseph Tutchko** and **Keith Willard**.

Finally, thank you to **St. Margaret Foundation** for providing us with the 14-passenger van, office space and continued support.

If you live in the area and need a ride, call 412-782-2001 after 9:45 AM the day you need transportation. If you would like to learn more about volunteering to help your elderly neighbors in need, contact Kim Mikita at 412-784-5081 or [kamikita@nhco.org](mailto:kamikita@nhco.org).

## Making Vehicle Ownership a Reality

More transportation news at NHCO! Our partnership with **Community Auto** is proving to be an effective way to get donated vehicles into the ownership of low-income workers at prices far below market value. On average, each month five vehicles are donated, repaired and sold to help local individuals obtain or maintain employment and tend to other family needs.

Among the 15 people who have purchased cars this year is April, a single mother living in Ross Township. She is a full-time nursing student and needed a safe, reliable vehicle to get to school and eventually look for a job. April purchased a 1994 Ford Taurus at a savings of 34% off retail value to help her finish her schooling and continue into the nursing profession. This vehicle was donated by an NHCO supporter, and April herself was referred to Community Auto through NHCO.

April is so pleased with the compassionate and professional treatment she received that she has referred several people to Community Auto.

Community Auto can be even MORE effective with the help of volunteers who can make basic repairs to vehicles. Can you help?

To help, donate, volunteer or apply for a vehicle, contact Andrew Close at Community Auto at 724-443-8300 or [apclose@nhco.org](mailto:apclose@nhco.org).

Single mom April is grateful for her new car, which she uses for family matters and to travel to nursing school every day.



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"auto"

## Words of Thanks

"Many thanks for the Easter surprise. I loved the basket of treats (all my favorites) and the bunny. I did buy the Easter ham, which all my relatives enjoyed. **Your kindness is appreciated** so very much." *West View*

"The ministry you provide helps to **ease many burdens**. The people who volunteer to run the food pantry serve lovingly. Thank you." *Ross*

"Thank you for getting my washer set up to use when I came home from the hospital." *Millvale*

"I want to thank you for all the help that you have given me. I needed a bed and you found one for me. God bless." *Bellevue*

"Thank you for taking the time to work with me to help improve things in my life. **You made me feel comfortable** when it was scary to ask for help. I will do my best to better myself so you know that you helped the right person." *McCandless*

"Thank you for all of your help and support the past few years. I am not sure where I would be today without your **constant support** and concern." *Natrona Heights*

"This improvement is a real morale booster for our congregation. **We will always be grateful.**" *Pastor Beverly James, Calvert Memorial Presbyterian (See youth story on page 5 for project details.)*

"The people are so friendly, and they are willing to help and work with you to obtain the vehicle you need. **I'll be calling everyone I know** to tell them about the wonderful program at Community Auto!" *Pittsburgh*



Memorial Park Presbyterian volunteers **Chris Kaminski**, assistant youth director **Susie Wilding** and **Audra O'Rourke** share a fun moment while unloading fruit at this year's citrus sale.

## Fruit and Mini Golf Mean Help for Neighbors in Need

This year's **citrus sale** resulted in \$13,000 and provided the opportunity for 150 caring volunteers to give more than 450 hours of service. Special thanks to **Betty Miller** and **Shirley** and **Howard McIlvried** for countless hours of data entry; **St. Paul's UMC** for the use of their fellowship hall for distribution; **Bill Ammer** and **Boy Scout Troop 17** (Parkwood UPC) for volunteering and loaning us their rollers to ease in unloading; and **Memorial Park Presbyterian** youth group and **North Allegheny Intermediate Key Club** for their extraordinary volunteer efforts.

Another NHCO tradition is the annual **Mini-Masters Miniature Golf Tournament**. This year's event brought in \$6,985 for the North Boroughs Satellite and food pantry. Congratulations to overall winner **Lisa Blaney-Stewart**. Special thanks to committee chair **Althea Worthy** and her husband **Oscar**, who contributed time, talent, auction items and prizes. Thanks to the rest of the committee: **Paul Cusick**, **Mayor George Doscher**, **Edie Haughton**, **Karen McDermott**, **Jennifer Nelson**, **Kent Nelson**, **Doris Richert**, **Chuck Rosenberg** and **Jo Stone**.

**Allegheny General Hospital, Suburban Campus** is home to NHCO's North Boroughs Satellite and food pantry, and we thank the hospital leaders for their ongoing support of the Mini-Masters and NHCO.

## Delicious Dessert Theatre

On July 10 and 12, **The St. Paul's Players** will perform Larry Shue's comedy, *The Foreigner*, for NHCO's annual Dessert Theatre benefit. The July 10 performance has been designated NHCO Volunteer Night, and all volunteers are encouraged to attend on this night to socialize with fellow volunteers (but you don't have to be a volunteer to come on the 10th!).

Desserts and silent auction begin at 6:30 PM; the play starts at 7:30. Tickets are \$22 each and all proceeds help local families in crisis and hardship.

We encourage you to invite friends and family who may not be familiar with NHCO's service to the community. We are also accepting donations of auction items and desserts. Finally, we need lead volunteers to organize various aspects of the event. For more information, contact Ginny Giles at 412-487-6316 or [vmgiles@nhco.org](mailto:vmgiles@nhco.org).

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"dessert"

## Final Year for 84 Lumber Classic

Don't miss your chance to attend the last 84 Lumber PGA Golf Classic at Nemacolin Woodlands from September 11-17. Tickets are \$15 each or four for \$50, and NHCO receives 100% of the purchase price. In addition to a world class golf tournament, the ticket price also includes a craft show and evening concerts.

We are looking for individuals to sell tickets on behalf of NHCO to their co-workers, neighbors, golf buddies, club members, etc. This is an easy fundraiser for us and we are sorry to see it go. Let's make this year count! Contact Kerry Mink at 412-487-6316 or [kamink@nhco.org](mailto:kamink@nhco.org) for tickets.

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"84"

## Early Results of Phone Campaign

NHCO has received \$21,865 from 223 generous donors who answered the call for their support. Thanks to **Luciano's Pizza** in McCandless for donating three nights of pizza for our enthusiastic volunteer callers and mailers:

Teresa Amelio	Helen Fabina	Agnes Rhodes
Lorna Andrew-Jaja	Mel Huerbin	Ron Sarver
Janice Ashe	Jean Kirk	Beth Scicluna
Bud Baker	Delores Kirschbaum	Jane Slagter
Pat Bakich	Donna Lodovici	Bill Snyder
Clemmy Brodsky	Judy McDowell-Daniels	Janet Soltis
Gerda Bummer	Lorraine Miller	Dick Spahr
Fran Chervenak	Ruth Mliakan	Gwen Spahr
Mary Churchill	Elisa Montemurro	Rob Weber
Mary Ciccone	Heather Mrazik	Althea Worthy
Karen Condle	Jean Muth	
Mary Lou Corcoran	Janice Peischl	

**YOU CAN HELP!** We truly appreciate it when businesses, civic groups, schools, congregations and other groups plan and implement fundraising events on our behalf. Contact Kerry Mink at 412-487-6316 or [kamink@nhco.org](mailto:kamink@nhco.org) if you are organizing a benefit for NHCO and local families in crisis and poverty.



## Thumbs Up!

- **St. Bonaventure's 7<sup>th</sup> grade CCD class** raised \$160 for NHCO's food pantries by conducting a bake sale and raffle.
- Pantry participants enjoy delicious cookies every month thanks to **Mrs. Field's** in Ross Park Mall.
- Several businesses are donating space to store supplies and furniture for the Millvale Satellite Expansion. Our thanks to **Guardian Self Storage** (O'Hara), **Atlas Self Storage** (Millvale), **Bishops, Inc.** (Millvale), **EZ Storage** (Ross) and **Store Express** (Etna).
- **Preston Van Gorder** organized a pancake breakfast for his Shaler Area High senior project, resulting in \$600. Thanks also to **Beattie Career Center Culinary Arts** program for providing the pancakes!
- Recent contributions to the Millvale Satellite Expansion: **Christ Lutheran** in Millvale continues to be a significant supporter of NHCO, donating \$2,334. The **Little Brown Jug** in Millvale sponsored a week-long putting contest and raised \$1,000. **New Sun Rising** raised \$1,135 by organizing a concert at **Mr. Small's Theatre**.
- More than 85 people attended a Satellite Expansion Party at **Monte Cello's** on Babcock Boulevard in April. The restaurant kindly donated the space and free appetizers for all in attendance. Thanks to **Rhea Nicotra** and **Bruce Gay** for picking up the tab for the soft drinks and **Nurturing Hands Massage** for donating a door prize. Thanks also to Millvale Mayor **Vince Cinski** and County Councilman **Jim Burn** for speaking about the positive impact this project will have on Millvale and 22 nearby communities.
- Volunteers **Bob Jeke** of McCandless and **Rick Lidey** of Shaler cut down a large decayed tree that was hanging dangerously over our Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry.
- **Allison Park Travel** sold Entertainment Books with \$700 in proceeds benefiting NHCO.
- The **NOMIC Youth Group** at **St. Paul's UMC** held an Easter party for twenty families served by NHCO. Festivities included an egg hunt, games and a delicious dinner. Special thanks to **Cindy** and **Bob White** for organizing the event and to all the donors at St. Paul's who sponsored NHCO families.
- **Max & Erma's** in RIDC Park donated \$299, 20% of one day's sales from NHCO supporters who participated by using special coupons.
- **John Walsh**, a Pine Richland Middle School student, was named a 2006 Outstanding Young Citizen by the *Pittsburgh Tribune Review*, thanks in part to his volunteer service at NHCO.

Ingomar Middle School's **Becky Napoli** was inspired to collect cereal for her Family and Consumer Science project by NHCO's "Pantry Item of the Month" list. [June - canned pasta; July - 1-lb. boxes of pasta, sauce; August - canned fruit and applesauce; September - baking mixes]

## Extra Special Food Drives

April was **Scouting for Food** month. We received more than \$11,000 worth of food collected by several area boy/cub scout groups. Special thanks to **Troop 237** (Greenstone Methodist), **Pack 82** (Bradfordwoods Church), **Troop 335** (Northmont Presbyterian), **Pack 329** (Memorial Park Presbyterian), **Troop 195** (St. Catherine of Sweden), **Pack 270** (St. John's Lutheran), **Pack 935** (Marshall Elementary), **Troop 17** and **Pack 13** (Parkwood UPC) and **Troop 83** (West View UMC).

The **National Association of Letter Carrier's** annual **Stamp Out Hunger** food drive on May 13 brought in \$26,000+ worth of groceries. Special thanks to residents and postal workers in 15090, 15101, 15202 and 15237 zip codes.

NHCO serves 350-375 hungry families every month at two food pantries and relies on the generosity of local individuals and groups to donate more than 90% of what is distributed. We tend to see a significant drop in donations during the summer when many people are away on vacation.

Hunger is not seasonal! We would truly appreciate it if you would organize a food drive at your business, congregation, neighborhood association or other group. For tips on conducting a food drive, contact Natalie Klaum at 412-487-6316 or [naklaum@nhco.org](mailto:naklaum@nhco.org).

Nine-year-old **Matthew Schuetz** of Hampton (bottom right) asked his friends to bring grocery store gift cards to his birthday party in lieu of gifts. Here, sister Katie, mother Sherri and brother Michael help Matthew display \$340 in gift cards donated by party guests to help local families in need.



GREAT IDEA!



## Reaching Out to Stop and Prevent Tobacco Use

Smoking cigarettes hurts your health and your pocketbook, and it also negatively impacts the health of your loved ones. It is estimated that secondhand smoke inhalation is responsible for 40,000 lung cancer and cardiovascular disease deaths every year (*American Cancer Society*).

NHCO's **Tobacco Free North** program, funded by **Tobacco Free Allegheny** and the **PA Dept. of Health**, is a great resource for helping at-risk youth, low-income adults, pregnant women and others stop smoking and using other tobacco products.

If you are trying to quit smoking or are concerned that your child might pick up the habit, contact Nicole Davis at 412-821-0904 or [nmdavis@nhco.org](mailto:nmdavis@nhco.org).

On June 27 from 10:30-1:30, NHCO and the **Pittsburgh Riverhounds** will sponsor a free soccer clinic for children ages 8-12 at the Ross Community Center. Contact Nicole at the number above to add your child's name to the list (space is limited!).

## Goodbye Greenpoints!

All local Shop 'n' Save stores have either closed entirely or discontinued their Greenpoints programs. Any points you have left cannot be used in stores and can only be redeemed through a catalog service. Why not donate them to NHCO instead? We can add them to points received from others and redeem them for food certificates (like Burger King) and store certificates (like Home Depot) for distribution to those in need.

To donate your points to help your neighbors in need, call **1-800-435-5674**. Our account number is **420069597639**. Thank you for your support!

**Eugene Blackwell** (Bethesda Presbyterian), **Thomas Felmley** (Mission to the World/ Disaster Response Ministry), **Joanna Deming** (Hilltop Health Ministries Consortium) and **Lateresa Blackwell** (New Hope Church) create a volunteer job description at a recent mentoring workshop.

## Mentoring Program Helps Groups Maximize Volunteers

As part of its **Compassion Allegheny** program, NHCO is providing a series of trainings for smaller faith- and community-based organizations across Allegheny County. Group training sessions include strategic planning for nonprofits, stewardship and leadership development.

On May 9, 22 leaders from 14 organizations attended a volunteer management training facilitated by **Cheryl McDonald** of **KEYGroup**. The participants learned how to effectively recruit and retain excellent volunteers as well as how to provide meaningful opportunities for them.

"I learned how to do a better job training, motivating, and most importantly, affirming those who serve through us," said participant Kathy Sweeney of Hilltop Health Ministries Consortium.

Special thanks to the **Pittsburgh Presbytery** for providing space and refreshments for the session.

Funding for Compassion Allegheny comes from a \$260,000 Compassion Capital Fund grant from the **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**.

For more information on future training opportunities, or on how to become a participating organization in year three of Compassion Allegheny, contact Keith Caldwell at 412-732-0600 or [kjccaldwell@nhco.org](mailto:kjccaldwell@nhco.org).

## Emotional Support Available

NHCO offers the following support groups in partnership with **Trinity Hospice** and **Orion Assisted Living**. Unless noted, groups meet at NHCO Allison Park. Pre-registration for all groups is appreciated by contacting Harriet Gibbs at 412-487-6316 or [hrgibbs@nhco.org](mailto:hrgibbs@nhco.org).

- **Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia** (for caregivers):  
Second Tuesdays, 7 PM
- **Young Widows/Widowers**: First Thursdays, 7 PM, King's Restaurant in Wexford
- **Bereavement**: First Mondays, 2 PM

We can also provide referrals for additional support groups not currently offered by NHCO (e.g., depression, divorce, anxiety, etc.).

Wondering about the blue circles scattered throughout this newsletter? Thanks to **Brian Hillwig** and **Kerry Schenker** of **Information Solutions and Management**, NHCO's website is now equipped with a **search function**. When we don't have enough room in the newsletter for extra details, special acknowledgments, ticket order forms, etc., we'll direct you to [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org) with the search word(s) to use!

**Try it out today!**

## PLEASE ACCEPT MY GIFT TO FORWARD NHCO'S MISSION!

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Search word:  
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Phone (in case of questions) \_\_\_\_\_

### GIFT AMOUNT & PAYMENT METHOD

\$35  \$70  \$100  \$250  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed.

MasterCard # \_\_\_\_\_

Visa # \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### OPTIONAL

Apply my gift to the **Kresge Challenge for the Millvale Satellite Expansion!**

Save postage! No acknowledgment necessary.

This is my first financial gift to NHCO.

Please contact me about volunteering.

Please contact me about including NHCO in my will.

This gift is:

in honor of  in memory of  in celebration of

\_\_\_\_\_

Please notify:

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\_\_\_\_\_

NHCO is an IRS-approved 501(c)3 organization.  
Your donation qualifies as a charitable deduction.

S06NEWS

## Wish List Priorities

- Windowless air-conditioner (15,000 BTU)
- Carpeting (materials and installation) for Satellites
- White/color copy paper
- Scrap paper (outdated letterhead is perfect!)
- Manilla/pendaflex file folders
- Post-its, binder clips, tape, scissors, pens
- 6' x 6' resin Rubbermaid garden storage shed (2)
- Funds or services for upkeep and repairs to NHCO's van, truck and bus (about \$3,000 per year)

nhco.org  
Search word:  
"wish list"

To donate, contact Dianne Buirge at 412-487-6316 or [dmbuirge@nhco.org](mailto:dmbuirge@nhco.org). For a complete wish list, visit [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org).

## All About Volunteers

Get involved today and help to ensure that no one in northern Allegheny County is cold, hungry or forgotten!

### Immediate Needs

- Free Rides for Seniors drivers and dispatchers
- Faith in Action volunteer caregivers
- Satellite Expansion painters
- Dessert Theatre bakers, servers and table hosts

### E-Newsletter

The **Volunteer View** is a new monthly e-newsletter filled with upcoming opportunities, success stories and extraordinary efforts. It's an economical (free!) way for us to maintain regular contact with our volunteers. To add your email address to our distribution list, contact Ginny Giles at 412-487-6316 or [vmgiles@nhco.org](mailto:vmgiles@nhco.org).

### Orientation

This one-hour session offers an overview of services and volunteer opportunities and is suitable for current and prospective volunteers ages 14 and up. RSVP to Ginny Giles at 412-487-6316 or [vmgiles@nhco.org](mailto:vmgiles@nhco.org).

- July 18, 10 AM, Allison Park
- August 10, 10 AM, Millvale
- September 14, 10 AM, AGH-Suburban Campus
- October 19, 7 PM, Allison Park



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