



Food Bank

<http://foodbank.centreconnect.org>

News

Fall/Winter 2004

volume eleven

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A Publication of the State College Area Food Bank

Alternative Christmas Fair

By Pat Coble, Food Bank Executive Director

The State College Food Bank is once again participating in University Baptist and Brethren Church's *Alternative Christmas Fair*. It will be held on Sunday, December 5, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the basement of UBBC, 411 S. Burrowes Street, State College. The Fair provides an alternative means of giving during the holiday season. Donations may be made to the Food Bank and/or any of nineteen other local, national or international charities in honor of family and friends. Gift certificates inscribed in calligraphy are provided to inform the recipient a donation has been made in his or her name, and may be customized for any holiday. A homemade soup/BBQ luncheon is available during the fair, and baked goods may be purchased as well. A Children's Festival and Alternative Store will run from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Please come and support us and these other worthy organizations!

- Alternatives in Community Justice
- Interfaith Mission
- Meals on Wheels
- Centre Wildlife Care
- Church World Service
- Red Cross Disaster Relief
- Heifer Project
- Save the Children
- Women's Resource Center
- Interfaith & Community Coalition
- CentrePeace
- Bread for the World
- MidPenn Legal Services
- Park Forest Day Nursery
- Habitat for Humanity
- PAWS
- Hope for Kids
- House of Care
- Youth Service Bureau

How Your Gift Helps Us

\$5.00 – Provides fresh milk & eggs to a family of four

\$10.00 – Provides frozen meat to a family of four

\$25.00 – Allows us to obtain more than 125 boxes of cereal from Second Harvest

*The Food Bank phone number is 234-2310.
Please call now to volunteer!*

A Word About Your Donations During the Holiday Season

The holiday season is our busiest time of the year. From November 1 through December 23, we will be here to serve clients and to accept your donations of food and clothing on:

Monday	1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday - Friday	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Clothing donations may also be dropped off on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings between 8:30 and 11:30 a.m.

If you are unable to drop off your donation during these hours, please call us at 234-2310 to make other arrangements.

As always, we welcome monetary donations as well as grocery store gift cards. You may drop these off during our service hours or mail them to us at:

Food Bank of State College
P.O. Box 907
State College, PA 16804

*We Thank You for
Your Continued
Support & Wish You
a Warm and Joyous
Holiday Season*

A Special Place for Special Volunteers

By Ernest Boyd, Food Bank Assistant Director

The Food Bank of State College is a community-based organization. Our clients are the citizens of Centre County and our donors are also local community members. The volunteers for the Food Bank also span a range of individuals and groups. Many very young volunteer groups, such as Brownie Troops, serve by creating birthday bags for our client families. These



Bob Wilson

contain the three essential elements for a festive birthday – a cake mix, frosting and candles. They help to insure that our client's children's birthdays are special days. Boy Scout and Girl Scout Troops work together to bring tons of donations to local Food Banks. Middle School and High School students volunteer to pack bags for client distribution.

Penn State students help with major projects and volunteer on a regular basis at the Food Bank. Postal Carriers deliver tons of food for our local Food Banks every spring.

We also work with individuals with special needs. Bob Wilson came to us from the Skills program. He has volunteered for two and a half years. He works in the mornings and helps to prepare the Food Bank to serve clients in the afternoon. He has been a reliable and Skillful addition to our volunteer staff.

We also have the volunteer help of Michael Hernandez. Michael volunteers once a week to repackage donations for client distribution. Pictured below is Michael with his father Victor bagging bars of soap for clients.



Helping others is an important part of the human experience. We try to create opportunities for everyone to participate in the joy of serving one's community.

Voter Registration at the Food Bank

This fall both the League of Women Voters and high school Student Carrie Peters set up a table to register voters and provide information concerning local, state and presidential candidates. Carrie describes her experience in her own words:

When my senior year at the State College Area Delta Program began this past September, a seed that my father had planted earlier germinated in my mind: Organizing a voter registration drive. Over the summer, I had become very in-

involved with current events, and wanted to do my part in the upcoming election, which I felt would be of utmost importance. A chance meeting with Pat Coble of the Food Bank sealed the deal – although I had not thought of the Food Bank as a location before.

I was, nevertheless, eager to begin. From mid-September through mid-

October I set up a voter registration table outside of the Food Bank office. First I encouraged and assisted patrons to register and, after the registration deadline, continued to provide information concerning presidential and other candidates. It was fun. I gained a true appreciation for not only the election



Carrie Peters

process and the importance of

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2004 Volunteer Recognition Banquet

In early 2004 we held our first of hopefully many volunteer recogni-



Volunteers Les Urbanski, Shirley Criste and Bob Wilson chat during the mingling session.

Boyd, with a little help from board member friends, prepared a feast for volunteers and board members. We (Pat and Ernest) wanted to do something for our volunteers. It also was an opportunity for volunteers and Board Members, some of whom had served for years but had never met, to know one another. We provided some surprise entertainment – Ernest played his vintage drums. But mostly we wanted to blow the horns for our volunteers and Board members.

Thanks for all your critical support.

Look for your invitation to the Second Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet sometime in February 2005.



Volunteer and Board Member Deb Murray enjoys herself while volunteers in the banquet line serve themselves.

tion dinners. Executive Director Pat Coble and Assistant Director Ernest

Food Bank Receives Golden Rule Grant Award

The State College Area Food Bank was delighted to receive Koch Funeral Home's Golden Rule Grant Award for \$1,000 on September 28, 2004.

The grant was requested for and will be used to help fund the Food Bank's fresh produce program by contributing to the cost of two Full Year shares from Tait Farm's Community Harvest Program.



Front Row (L-R): Farmers Dave Sandy & Sara Eckert; Back Row (L-R): Rev. Dr. Pam Ford, Grace Strong and Bob Ott, members of the Grant Review Committee, Pat Coble & Ernest Boyd, State College Area Food Bank, Kim Tait, Tait Farm Foods, and Nancy Brink, Koch Funeral Home & Grant Committee Chair. (Photo Taken in Tait Farm's Community Harvest Barn)



Voter Registration

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voting, but also for the patrons of the Food Bank themselves. Working there for the short time I did opened my eyes to members of the community to whom I am not often exposed. As I interacted with Food Bank clients, previous prejudices and stereotypes of which I was not even aware were wiped away.

Upon reflection, I find that I learned a great deal about the nuances of the election process. It is an experience that I will seek out again.

FOOD BANK WISH LIST

- Grocery Gift Cards
- Sharpie Fine Point Markers
- Large (>30 gallon) Trash Bags
- Diapers Size 2 and Up



We regret to announce the demise of our CD player. It was a major player, especially at holiday times, and brought harmony as well as melody to our client service office.

Our holiday CDs are idle and Mozart is Hayden. Anyone interested in rectifying our loss will be greatly appreciated



A Member Agency of
the Centre County United Way

Fill Up the Food Bank

Grace Lutheran Church will host the State College Suzuki Program's "Fill Up the Food Bank" concert on Sat. Dec. 11 at 7p.m. In lieu of an admission ticket, people are asked to bring a non-perishable food item to the concert. Grocery store gift certificates or a tax-deductible contribution to the Food Bank will also be accepted. Mark your calendars and plan to come for a festive evening of music to Fill Up the Food Bank!



Phone: 814.234.2310

<http://hscouncil.centreconnect.org/Foodbank/>

State College, PA 16804
P.O. Box 907

The State College Area Food Bank



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