



# Warming Center News

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 3

JUNE 2010

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Annual dinner photos	2
From the director	3
Mark your calendar	4
Directory of services	4
Board members	4

## A great night for a good cause!

More people than ever turned out for a fun evening at "Spring for the Homeless," the Macomb Warming Center's major fund-raiser for the year.

Extra tables were set up to make room for the record crowd April 29 at DeCarlo's Banquet Hall in Warren. And that's good news for the Warming Center, which serves hundreds of homeless persons each year.

"The dinner is so very important to the Warming Center since it is our only really big fundraiser," said Kathy Goodrich, director. "We like to think it is a win-win" event: We receive a much needed supplement to our funds, and our guests have a wonderful time!"

Mr. B's Salute to the Superstars provided live entertainment and guests sang along with Buddy Holly, Nat King Cole, Willie Nelson and Tim McGraw. Salute to the Superstars is Michigan's largest Vegas-style tribute show.

The Blues Brothers, Salute's signature act, got people out of their seats to clap and dance.

It was Cindy Willman's first year to chair the dinner committee and she was pleased with the results.

"The committee did an



Above, Buddy Holly poses with Michelina Plesco, board member, and Cindy Willman, who headed up the dinner committee. Below: Mellissa Willman dances with a Blues Brother.



excellent job of organizing the event and making sure everything ran smoothly," Willman said. "I really enjoyed watching everyone have a good time."

Committee member Nancy Panter agreed.

"Everyone had such a great time," she said.

Guests left with armloads of goodies from the

(Continued on page 2)

## June 23 event will highlight services

Next week, at a forum sponsored by the Macomb Warming Center, three local professionals will share important information for people experiencing economic hardship and other, related issues.

Speakers include Dan Pfaff, line manager for the department of Human Services Warren office; Lisa Weingarden, senior clinician for Community Assessment, Referral and Education or CARE of Macomb; and Jennifer Williams, program manager for Community Outreach and intake manager for Community

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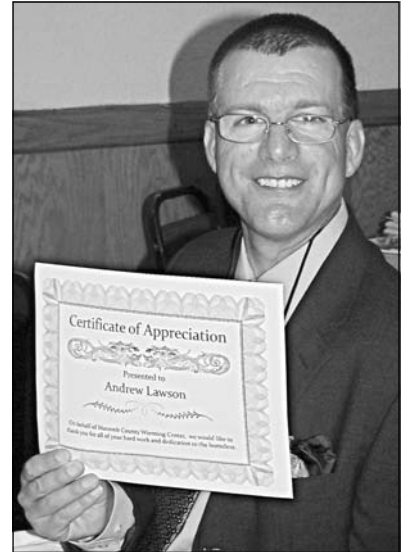


Comments from our guests: 'It's nice to know there are kind people ... I need to make change ... I feel welcome ... My fear is a little gone ...'



Clockwise from top: Extra table were added to seat all the guests; board members Joe Belfiori and Kathy Lancaster helped with the raffles; volunteer Andrew Lawson received a recognition award; the Blues Brothers were a big hit; everyone had a good time; Salute to the Superstars provided a great evening of live entertainment.

Photos by Donna Remer



# Dinner ...

(Continued from page 1)

basket raffle and a silent auction with everything from theatre tickets and dinner on the town to one-of-a-kind collector items.

The reason for the event was clear to guests after heartfelt comments from Rhonda Browder, who told of her appreciation for Warming Center services, especially the Peer Support Group. She now operates her own cleaning service.

"People cared about me in this program," Rhonda said. "They said we could do this if we set our mind to it, and we did it!"

"But, I couldn't have done it without the support of the people here.

"Don't give up on us," she urged.

Rhonda said the Peer Support pro-

**"I couldn't have done it without the support of people here. Don't give up on us!"**

*Rhonda Browder, Peer Support member*

gram gave her direction, encouragement and the tools she needed to make a better life for herself and her family. Now, she wants to share her experience so others can benefit.

"I don't want to forget where I came from," she said. "The only way to keep what I have now is to give it away to others."

Her comments earned a standing ovation from guests at the dinner.

The Macomb County Warming Center provides a safe, warm place to

sleep for hundreds of homeless persons during the cold, winter months. In addition, the Ray of Hope Day Center in Eastpointe hosts Peer Support meetings and other services designed to help the homeless help themselves.

Call (586) 321-0998 for information about Warming Center programs. Or visit [www.warmingcenter.org](http://www.warmingcenter.org).



... I'm tired of being sick and tired ... People here are very kind and polite ... I hope someday to be able to give back ... God bless and thank you. '

# Lots of activity for the MCWC this summer

A little over one month has passed since our fourth annual dinner and we are still overwhelmed by the support of so many who attended and helped in so many ways.

This was a wonderful event with great food and service, as usual, supplied by DeCarlo's Convention and Banquet Center and the usual outstanding entertainment offered by Steve Baker and the Salute to the Superstars!

Elsewhere in the newsletter you will find pictures and stories about the many events and surprises of the evening as chronicled by our superstar journalist Donna Remer.

**Speaking of this,** I would like to introduce our staff, some of whom you may have been aware and others who are relatively new.

In alphabetical order, they are: Patrick Bossenbery, shelter night monitor; Alice Franco, caseworker and Peer Group leader; Glenn Goodrich, shelter night monitor; Ellen Guido, volunteer caseworker; Deana Henderson, office manager; Steve Morisette, Peer Group leader; Fred Pantelleresco, Peer Group leader; Chuck Rivard, shelter night monitor; Dennis White, shelter night monitor; Matthew Zech, Ray of Hope building manager.

**Then, of course,** we have our wonderful shelter season laundry team: Joanne Pierscinski, laundry manager; Mark Henderson, trailer

caretaker and driver; and the "Laundry Angels" Paula Weinreich and the Perpignon family Liz, Sarah, Marc and Karl. We will be featuring them individually in future issues.



*Kathy Goodrich  
Executive director*

**This summer**

we are planning another Macomb Resources Forum which will feature interesting and knowledgeable representatives from three major agencies:

- **Michigan Department of Human Services**, which is the headquarters for assistance with such basic needs as food and medical insurance assistance, utility bills and help for parents with dependent children.
- **CARE**, the county's steering agency for those needing substance abuse care as well as providing many community forums on parenting and other family-centered subjects.
- **Community Housing Network**, the agency instrumental in helping to provide housing to the many residents who are homeless or who have recently lost their homes due to the economic conditions in the area.

We will be meeting at Zion United Church of Christ in Mount Clemens – one of our long-time

shelter churches – on Wednesday, June 23 at 6:30 p.m. We will be serving a very nice light, summer-type meal with hot coffee and cold drinks. We strongly urge you to attend as our last forum was so enjoyed, and many who were there are looking forward to this one.

This forum is for staff professionals, members of the community who wish to learn more about the available services in the county and those who may be in need of helping services.

**Otherwise** our summer will be spent continuing the Peer Support groups, adding a new "Housing Maintenance" component for those members who have found housing, and working very hard to present our future plans in the form of proposals to seek funding for sustaining our programs and community collaborations in the coming years.

**As always,** we offer many thanks love and prayers to all of our partner churches, partner agencies, volunteers and, of course, you, our supporters!! We could not provide shelter and follow-up assistance without all of you!

*...Kathy*

*Kathy Goodrich is executive director for the Macomb County Warming Center. Reach her by e-mail: kmac0212@wowway.com or call (586) 321-0998. Send mail to our post office box: PO Box 53, Roseville, MI 48066.*

## Forum June 23 will explore local services

(Continued from page 1)

Housing Network.

"This will be a very useful evening for professional human services staff and for individuals ex-

periencing wage cuts, joblessness, housing needs, challenges with dependency, hunger and hopelessness," said Kathy Goodrich, director of the Macomb Warming Center.

The free event will begin at 6:30

p.m. on Wednesday, June 23, at Zion United Methodist Church of Christ, 85 Market Street in Mount Clemens. A light, summer supper will be served. Call (586) 321-0998 for more information.

Macomb County Warming Center  
P.O. Box 53  
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## Macomb County Warming Center and Ray of Hope Day Center



Kathy Goodrich, Executive Director  
(586) 321-0998  
Email: kmac0212@wowway.com

### OUR MISSION ...

Macomb County Warming Center seeks, along with our partner churches, to provide a safe, warm place to spend the night and simple, nourishing meals to those who would otherwise have no shelter.

The Ray of Hope Day Center, an extended service of the MCWC, will, in collaboration with like-minded organizations, provide our local homeless and needy individuals and families with referrals and resources in order to supply opportunities to move into secure, productive lifestyles.

### OUR BOARD ...

Kevin Goodrich, President  
Kathy McKinley-Goodrich, Treasurer  
Joannie Matiyow, Secretary  
Joseph V. Belfiori, Patrick Byrne  
Dan Heaton, Kathy Lancaster  
Michalina Plesco

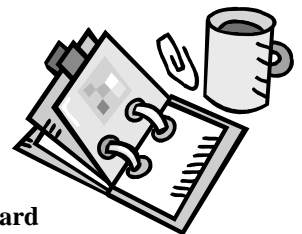
## Mark your calendar ...

Wednesday, June 23

The Macomb Warming Center will sponsor a Resources Forum at Zion United Methodist Church beginning at 6 p.m. The event is geared toward professional human

services staff and those who may need services. See story on page 1. A light supper will be served. The church is on Market Street in Mount Clemens.

For information, call (586) 321-0998.



**Board meetings:** Fourth Monday of each month, 7 p.m., Ray of Hope Day center in Eastpointe.



## Directory of Services

Support those who support the MCWC

This newsletter is distributed to more than 700 homes, businesses, churches and social service agencies in the tri-county area. For \$300 you can list your advertisement here. Call (586) 321-0998.



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