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Eddie Woodin

Anonymous (1)

Please contact Project G.R.A.C.E.
about sponsorship opportunities

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Forum

On September 11, 2008 a group of concerned citizens came together at the Scarborough Town Hall. The focus of the meeting was the sharing of available community and State resources. This winter will be a difficult time for many of our neighbors. With higher energy costs and increased food expenses, Scarborough residents will be faced with major financial concerns. Some may receive assistance through government agencies but others may need to rely on the goodness of their neighbors.

We asked those interested "neighbors," who may be in a position to help, to come together and identify the resources that are currently available to Scarborough residents. The result was a high-energy, positive forum that produced many ideas and solutions. Following a presentation by the invited panel of guests, attendees were motivated to think and offer new ways to meet needs.

Eddie Woodin, Scarborough resident, publicly challenged business owners to join him in making a contribution to Project G.R.A.C.E.'s Food and Fuel Fund when he donated three thousand dollars to the existing fund with a promise of an additional thousand for every ten thousand raised. Mr. Woodin also volunteered to act as a liaison with area businesses.

Part of the agenda also was presentations by a panel of representatives that included Sybil Riemensnider from the South Portland Food Cupboard, Karen Packhem *(continued on page 2)*

Bee Part of the Fun!

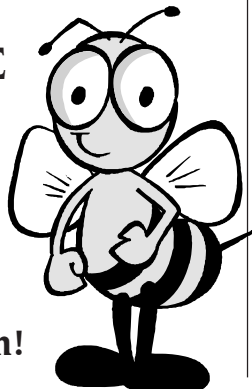
Last year's Trivia Bee was so much fun that we're doing it again! Join us for Scarborough's Second Annual **TRIVIA BEE** on **Thursday, November 13th at 7pm** at the Scarborough High School Auditorium! Three-person teams will be competing to see who will BEE this year's smartest team in town! Teams are encouraged to choose a name for themselves and to dress accordingly. It's an exciting and light-hearted evening of fun and trivia. We're tapping some of *(continued on page 2)*

TRIVIA BEE

**Thursday,
November 13th
at 7pm**

**Scarborough High
School Auditorium**

Free Admission!



Holiday Preparations

Enclosed with this newsletter are the 2008 Volunteer Sheets for Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you are planning to participate in our holiday efforts, please pay close attention to the details and deadlines on these sheets and return them to us ASAP.

Adopting an individual or a family is a great way to experience the joy of giving during the holidays. Families and groups of co-workers find great satisfaction in providing basics such as food and clothing as well as "luxury items" such as toys for children or gift certificates for teens and adults.

If you want to participate on a smaller scale, Giving Trees will be in the Narthex of St. Max from 11/29 through 12/14. You can choose a tag or tags for specific gift items. Gifts will be due by 12/15. We'll be collecting gifts for the Teen Center, Preble Street, and Oxford Street Shelter, as well as for any recipients that are not matched with a provider.

Bank of America

This summer Project G.R.A.C.E. was encouraged to apply for a grant sponsored by Scarborough's local branch of Bank of America and its corporate philanthropy. This grant asked for "local heroes" to apply. "Heroes who champion causes vital to their communities, heroes who inspire others to get involved." Project G.R.A.C.E. cannot report that we have been awarded this grant as yet. However, we have been invited to the celebration on October 15th.

Recipients Express Their Gratitude

Your steadfast generosity is encouraging to us and contributes immeasurably to the health and welfare of our community's most vulnerable youth, adults and families. We are grateful to you for supporting our mission and helping us shine the light of hope against despair in the lives of people struggling with homelessness, hunger and poverty.

Thank you so very much for the help you gave me with my electric bill. You are all wonderful and understanding people with such good hearts. I hope someday in the near future I can somehow help you out in some way for all you have done for me.

...the kindness the people at Project G.R.A.C.E. have shown us and our 4 grandchildren, since we have lived in Maine the last 3 years cannot be described through a note. We will never forget what G.R.A.C.E. has done for us...

We are truly blessed to have the caring and generous hearts of Project G.R.A.C.E. The spirit of caring and the expression of love that you provide to our youth cannot be calculated...

...your work with the School's nutrition program is an important part in allowing all our students to have a balanced and healthy snack

From the Desk of the Director

During the last six months I have been in the very best of company. I have been mentored and encouraged by a group of caring individuals. They have shared with me the vision of Project G.R.A.C.E. by their example and guidance. I want to honor them and their commitment with my assurance that our mission will always be served.

That end can only be reached with volunteers. They are the most important component of the equation. From my own experience, when asked in person most will say yes to: "would you like to volunteer?" Unfortunately, to contact many I use this written forum to express what I would much rather say to you in person.

It may only be an hour that you have to give, an hour once a week or an hour once a month. Each volunteer brings with them a wonderful and unique variety of talents. Please join us. I promise it will be one of the most rewarding activities you ever do.

*With warm regards,
Mary E. Rollo
Executive Director
207.883.5111; mary@projectgracemaine.org*

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.
~Margaret Meade

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS, from Page 1

from Project G.R.A.C.E., Betsy Sawyer-Manter from PROP, Brian Smith, Director of Scarborough's Department of Human Services and John M. Kerry from the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security.

As the facilitators, **Project G.R.A.C.E. has planned a follow-up meeting for Wednesday, October 29 in the Scarborough High School Cafeteria. Time for networking and volunteer information begins at 6:30pm. The meeting is 7-8:30pm.** It is our hope to involve as many residents as possible, to fill any gaps that may exist. Our idea is very simple: share information, resources and gifts to improve the lives of others.

BEE PART OF THE FUN!, from Page 1

the local personalities in town to serve as judges and referee. The public is invited to come and cheer for their favorite teams (admission is FREE!). Questions cover a range of subjects— from cartoon characters and pop music to geography and anatomy and lots in between! In addition to the Trivia Championship honor, prizes will be given for Best Team Name, Best Costumes, and Most Enthusiastic Supporters. Last year we raised almost \$9,000!

Here's how to Bee part of the fun and support Project G.R.A.C.E.:

- 1. Create a team. A team consists of 3 people, with an entry fee of \$300.**
- 2. Sponsor one or more teams. We'll match you up with a team of students or civil servants**

Contact us for more information or to enroll as a team or team sponsor. Email us at triviabee@maine.rr.com or call 883-5111.

Project G.R.A.C.E. Makes a Good Business Partner

Sam Kelley, Board President of Project G.R.A.C.E. takes the mission (improving the lives of our neighbors...) seriously and literally. He was inspired by KIVA, a non-profit organization that supports fledgling businesses with low-interest loans. We "advertised" in our newsletter for an interested recipient and we found one...Mary Reno!

Friends of Project G.R.A.C.E. formed a separate Board of Directors for this new venture, Hand-Up. They meet twice a month and guide Mary through the process of building a new company with a formal business plan, balance sheets and a brochure. They also share years of experience, though it's the support and encouragement that mean the most.

As a single mother of six dealing with serious chronic health issues, working from home with a flexible schedule was imperative. Selling items on Ebay seemed to be the answer. But the Board convinced Mary to think "big"—really big. With Sam Kelley's help she now lists a 45-foot storage trailer among her items for sale.

Mary was recently interviewed by Bill Nemitz of the *Portland Press Herald*. In that article she said, "I just want to provide for my family and not to worry if I'm going to be able to buy toilet paper or paper towels or a gallon of milk." Her sentiment is echoed by all of us. Hats off, Mary!

If you would like more information you can reach **Mary at 671-3809** or visit her store on **Ebay.com, The Hungarian Gypsy.**

Junior League call for Pantry Basics

The Junior League of Portland has selected Project G.R.A.C.E. to benefit from their fall "Done-in-a-Day" campaign, where on a given Saturday all members volunteer together to make one big impact.

A well-stocked pantry is an asset in any kitchen. The Junior League of Portland will be collecting **PANTRY BASICS for Project G.R.A.C.E. on Saturday, November 1st, from 9am to 1pm at St. Maximilian Kolbe Church (Room 11)** in Scarborough. Requested items are:

Beans, canned: black, red kidney, white; dried lentils, split peas, pintos

Chocolate unsweetened squares, semisweet chips, cocoa powder

Coffee: ground, instant; Tea

Cooking spray, oil olive and canola

Bread crumbs; Cornmeal; Cornstarch; Baking Soda; Baking Powder

Extracts: vanilla, lemon, almond

Flour: all purpose, whole wheat, bread flour; Yeast

Peanut butter; Jam, jelly, preserves

Gelatin: powdered, unflavored

Milk: evaporated and condensed

Nuts: almonds, peanuts, pecans, walnuts

Pasta, Noodles, Rice

Soup, canned and dry bouillon beef, vegetable, chicken

Sugar: granulated, confectioner's, light and dark brown

Tomatoes: canned whole, crushed, chopped, puree, sauce,

Tuna, canned ...and/or Non-perishables for a Thanksgiving Dinner



NEWS BRIEFS

■ Grant Writing Seminar

Project G.R.A.C.E. was awarded a scholarship to attend a week-long seminar in Bath where attendees will learn the art of Grant Writing. Every non-profit knows the trials of grant writing and the benefits of writing a successful grant! We are very excited about the prospects of learning how to add to our income.

■ WOW! What a "ribbon cutting!"

Saco Biddeford Savings Institution invited Project G.R.A.C.E., along with three other non-profits, to celebrate the opening of their new location at 41 Gorham Road with a ribbon cutting except the "traditional" ribbon was substituted for one made of \$20 dollar bills. Many thanks for the generous surprise of \$500.00!

■ Memorial Park Luncheon

On Wednesday, September 17th Project G.R.A.C.E. spoke about its mission and resources available to Scarborough Seniors at the WOW luncheon in Memorial Park. Thank you to Terri Hatt for the invitation and to Community Services. Visit: www.scarboroughseniorwow.org

■ Best of the Best

Project G.R.A.C.E. was voted the Best Non Profit Agency in the Reader's Choice Contest sponsored by the Current, the Scarborough Community Chamber and South Portland Community Chamber. Thank you to all who voted!

■ Students head back to school...

with new supplies, provided by Project G.R.A.C.E. We had many requests for the supplies this year; however we were pleased to learn that many children are still making use of the back packs that they received last year. We appreciate your donations and the program's coordination from Betsy Moore.

Presents for Parents

Please mark your calendar and plan to bring any children in your life to this fun event at **St. Max's Parish Hall from 9am to Noon on Sunday, December 7th.** This is an opportunity for children to "shop," wrap and tag their gifts with or without assistance from volunteers. There is a \$2 suggested donation for each item.

If you have any appropriate white elephant-type items or gift wrapping supplies to donate, please drop them off at St. Max clearly marked "Presents for Parents." **This is a great opportunity for teen service hours.**

When you are finished with this newsletter, please pass it along to a friend, neighbor or coworker!

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS are held every other Tuesday at 10am at St Maximilian Kolbe Church (Room 11) in Scarborough. October 28th and November 18th are the next scheduled meetings. We extend a welcome to all who would like to attend. For more information, please contact Allison at 883.5111 or pgme@projectgracemaine.org.

HELP US FIND POTENTIAL RECIPIENTS

Particularly during the upcoming heating season, we are always concerned about families in our community who could really use assistance, but who may be hesitant to ask for help. If you become aware of someone who is struggling, please consider referring him or her to us. Even if you think they would be uncomfortable about receiving help, call us at 883-5111. Perhaps together we can find a compassionate, anonymous way to reach out to them.

Project G.R.A.C.E.

P.O. Box 6846

Scarborough, ME 04070-6846

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Please add my name to the mailing list, so that I will receive quarterly newsletters through the mail.

I have enclosed an optional donation for \$ _____, to be used for _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

Town/City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email address _____

Our address is Project G.R.A.C.E., P.O. Box 6846, Scarborough, ME 04070-6846.

Visit our website at www.projectgracemaine.org to learn more, or to register to receive updates and bulletins.

All donations are tax-deductible. Thank you for helping us Grant Resources and Assistance through Community Effort