



## Marlington Students Join Alliance High Students as both Volunteer as Part of Class

The pantry warehouse crew will have some additional welcome help every week, thanks to the multiple disabilities class at Marlington High School. Jessica Schrock's students will be volunteering most Thursday mornings helping warehouse manager Terra Lashley and her team with a variety of jobs.

The Multiply Handicapped class from Alliance has done this for years under multiple teachers, currently Lucinda Owens. Students learn skills, but more importantly experience a situation where they were valued for what they contribute.

For these students, real world hands-on volunteering that gives them an opportunity to have work-place experiences and interact with adults is invaluable.

For the pantry, we benefit from young, energetic, enthusiastic high school students who want to do a good job. We value these volunteers.

Hats off to Terra, teachers and both school districts for facilitating this collaboration.

### Fall Carpet Cleaning Donated by *On The Spot*

In September, the pantry received a fresh new look when a crew from On The Spot Cleaning & Restoration gave the carpet a much-needed cleaning. Frank McIlvain and Josh Brown took on the challenge of both the shopping and waiting rooms, and the before-and-after result was a dramatic improvement. They attacked stains and refreshed the whole place.

Thank you **On The Spot** for once again donating your service, and a job well done!



Frank McIlvain and Josh Brown from On The Spot carpet cleaners

### FOCUS ON HEALTH

We were pleased to welcome back to the pantry this semester's Kent State nursing students in Pam Rafferty-Semon's Community Health class. Two of the students, Rachel Smith and Aysa Morrison, supplied health information to our clients and offered blood pressure screening, while two others volunteered as shoppers.



For back-to-back weeks they returned to the waiting room to replicate these activities. In conjunction with KSU nursing, we have provided health services to our clients for years.

### The Bounty of Giving

The pantry has always received amazing support from a cross section of the community. Sometimes that support is well-planned by individuals, businesses, schools and churches, and sometimes it happens unexpectedly. The following is a story by the Rev. John Partridge, pastor at Christ United Methodist Church, explaining how he and his wife, Patti, ended up bringing 93 cases of potato chips and 80 gallons of milk to the pantry.

Two weeks ago, Thursday, Patti got a phone call from a friend who volunteers at the Total Living Center (TLC), a ministry to the poor and homeless in Canton. TLC has been around for a long time, has at least one daily meal (maybe more, not sure), and has connections to local businesses.

On that particular Thursday, they got a call from the Herr's potato chip company that they had a large amount of overstock that would be incinerated by Saturday and they could have as much of it as they could take. Since they knew that we were connected to the Alliance of Churches and the Alliance Community Food Pantry, they called us and basically said, "If you can meet us within the hour in Massillon, you can have some too." We called Andy Magda to help load, hitched up our box trailer, and got on the road as quickly as we could. We filled the trailer, and then stacked more boxes in my pickup truck until the load was above the cab.



A few days after we delivered the chips, we got \*another\* call from TLC that they had some milk that was expiring soon, and we could have that, as well as some more chips, so Andy and I drove to Canton and returned with 80 gallons of milk and 30+ more cases of chips for the pantry, as well as more for the Alliance of Churches.

Hopefully, it all found its way to people who needed it. It is almost unimaginable how often this happens, and this editor can't help but wonder if founder Dave Puterbaugh ever imagined the bounty of blessings just "appearing" to feed our clients. Thanks to everyone involved for their time, their know-how and their willingness to help.

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