



New Year = New Pantry Manager - Let's Meet Her

Debbie Skubiak has led a life of giving back, and she will continue giving back as manager of the Alliance Community Pantry. Skubiak was named manager, but she is certainly not new to the pantry. She first started volunteering seven years ago after she retired following a 35+ year teaching career at Marlinton, and since 2015 has served as Monday Team Leader at the pantry with Judy Douglas.

A graduate of Marlinton High School, she received her bachelor's degree from Mount Union College and her master's from Kent State University. She taught fifth grade in the district, and finished her career at Lexington Elementary School. She's currently an adjunct professor in the UMU education department.

In addition to her teaching career and volunteering at the pantry, she served for 10 years on the Alliance Habitat for Humanity Board where she loved to work on houses, especially painting, and she is active at First Christian Church.

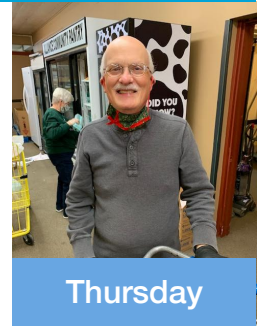
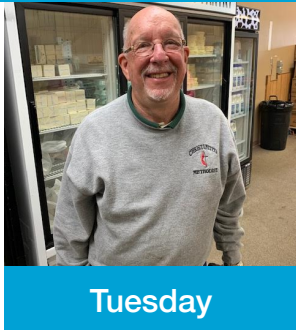
Her current focus is the pantry. "I've made some good friends here and it's a very comfortable giving-back situation," she said. "The pantry has changed so much, and it's always improving."

Skubiak joins a fine line of managers during the pantry's first 10 years. Others serving since the pantry opened in 2010 have been Ron and Corliss Vuksta, Vicky Dugan, Rich McCrea, Don and Judy Kingan, Dr. David Goldman, and David Floyd.



"We are happy to have Debbie in this role because of her experience as a day team leader," said Kathy Kramer, president of the board. "It will be an easy transition for her." Skubiak will be working closely with Terra Faulkner, warehouse manager, Day Team leaders Judy Douglas, Jim Greiner, Joan Gecina and Jim Perone, and all the other volunteers.

Working with Debbie in the day-to-day management, these Day Team Leaders keep efforts flowing. From Left: Judy Douglas, Jim Greiner, Joan Gecina, and Jim Perone.



TIP CLUB ARE GREAT TIPPERS!

One item we try to keep in stock now that kids are home all day, is peanut butter and sometimes we just can't get it. Members of the Tip Club delivered 225 jars of peanut butter, other food items, and \$135 check to the pantry in December.



Making it possible, was Teresa Lins who wears many hats at BelAir Senior Living Community, including social service and marketing director. She encouraged

nursing home staff, residents and visitors to donate peanut butter.

Other member of the tip club include: Karen Perone, Stacie Weimer, Stephen Poindexter, Mark Johnson, Mark Locke, Melinda Byelene, Julie Lee, Ashley Moore, Jeff Kozy and Denise Downare.



Thanks to all for their efforts.

Alliance Community Pantry Board Members

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2020 - A Year We Will All Remember in Lots of Ways

As we watch the end-of-year reflections on the news and entertainment shows, the focus is on the varied crises that affected us in 2020. They list those who won't be with us, suffering by those who have become ill or lost jobs, and of course, those who need assistance. We share those reflections too, but as I glanced through the 12 newsletters from 2020, I was filled with gratitude for our community and the creative problem solving of our volunteer staff and volunteers.

Our donors never wavered from making sure we had money to purchase food for our clients. Even as pandemic news worsened, our donations continued to insure that we could continue.

From March our Operations Committee, headed by VP Mike Patterson, made accommodations and changes to protect both staff and clients, first, changing food pick-up methods and eventually instituting methods to check in and pick up food without leaving their cars. Our volunteers wear masks and adopted COVID protocols for the protection of all. Meetings were held over Zoom, and new volunteers stepped up as some who were more vulnerable, took leaves. I stand in awe of their persistence and efforts.

While we miss the friendly atmosphere and the selection of particular foods for each family, we appreciate all the volunteers have done to stay open and continue serving. Looking forward in 2021 to a return to normalcy.