

EChO "E" Newsletter February 2013

Home Furnishing Store News

The Home Furnishing Store is selling furniture as quickly as it can be displayed. EChO is fortunate to be receiving a large volume of high quality furniture but the store need help to process and move it onto the sales floor. They are seeking volunteers to help move the furniture.

If there is a craftsman side to your personality, your talents are in demand as well. The store is looking for more volunteers to help with the repair and refinishing of furniture to prepare it for sale. If you like to tinker with electronics, we have a place for you too. Volunteers are needed to test electrical and electronic equipment.

SAVE THE DATES!!

Bridges Out of Poverty Workshop: Feb. 19

Volunteer Appreciation Brunch: April 26

Volunteer Spotlight!

Kate McDonald is an 8th grader at Evergreen Middle School. She organized and conducted a coat drive at her school and donated 15 wonderful coats to EChO. She and her mother Susan became involved with EChO through the National Charity League whose local chapter is continually devoted to supporting EChO projects. Our sincere appreciation to Kate!!!

EChO Jobs Update

There have been four Job Seeker Seminars held since they began in September. Attendees are acquiring skills, confidence and **EMPLOYMENT!!** The remodeled space above St. Raphaels is being furnished with office equipment so that resources will be available for job coaches to work with mentees. The job coaches are key components in the job seeking process. They provide advice and moral support to the job applicants. In addition to the clients who are attending the seminars, the program is being offered to the public so it is a service that is available to the community at large. Please encourage anyone seeking employment to register for the free seminars. The next one will be held in Douglas Hall on Feb. 21. Anyone who is interested in more information or in becoming a job coach is warmly invited to attend. **More Job Coaches are needed!!!** Training and coaching support are provided. The time commitment is flexible. Come to see what all of the excitement is about!

Arts and Crafts Instructors Needed

The upstairs of St. Raphaels has been remodeled and part of the space will be used for volunteers to work with clients to create art projects. The intention is to develop a program to bolster self-esteem, inspire creativity and offer the finished products for sale at the Resale Shop, Alternative Gift Fair and various venues in the Evergreen area. Please consider sharing your talents and hobbies with others.

Easter is March 31! Our own Easter Bunny, Ashley Snyder, will need help assembling baskets March 21 through 23. Watch for news on how you can help.

Food Bank News from Jim Shelton

2013 is the year of improved nutrition for our shoppers. We plan to publicize good nutrition via signage, nutrition hints and taboos. We also will do an analysis of what we offer to ensure that shoppers can find healthy food at the food bank. Finally, we'd like to do a random check of what shoppers are selecting (totally voluntary, of course) to determine if they are taking advantage of what we offer in the way of nutrition. We could use volunteer for nutrition tips, sign makers and analyzers.

Another major pathway to nutritious food is via the new community garden being established at Buchanan Park. EChO has been closely linked with this effort from the start and now it is time to get INVOLVED! We will have a plot where the produce comes to the food bank. We'll also offer a very limited number of plots to our shoppers at a reduced rate. We can assist in the construction and maintenance of the facility as well. Volunteers are needed: carpenters and fence builders; EChO plot planters, tender, harvesters, winterizers and an overall coordinator; gardening instructors and coaches; nutritionists.

Follow Resale Shop Sales Via Social Media

Check out the sale of the day on the EChO Resale Shop Facebook page; the EChO website and soon on Twitter.

Keep in touch with EChO happenings and sales by visiting our website at evergreenchristianoutreach.org

Please remember to take your clothing and household donations to EChO because the proceeds stay in your local community!!!