



President's Corner

by: Linda Chappelle



THANK YOU for attending and supporting the CSC Main Fundraiser - Our Annual Spaghetti Dinner

The CSC thanks the entire community and our winter visitors for supporting our **17th Annual Spaghetti Dinner** fundraiser event on February 20th, 2019. The proceeds of approximately \$40,000 will be used to support the Center's mission to provide food and emergency aid to families in need in Gulf Shores, Orange Beach, and Fort Morgan. In 2018, your generosity allowed the CSC to assist 1,875 families, consisting of 5,776 people including 2,219 children. This assistance would not have been possible without the incredible support of our community. CSC extends a big thank you to Gulf Shores United Methodist Church for the use of their facilities for our event and to our entertainers, Andi and Chris Carstens and Jimmy Warren, for donating their time and talents.

Special thanks to the following sponsors: **Presenting Sponsor-** Holy Spirit Thrift Shop **Platinum Sponsors-** Counseling Centre, LLC; Gulf Breeze RV Resort Church; Gulf Coast Media; Gulf Shores Garden Club; Gulf Shores United Methodist Church; The Mullet Wrapper; Don Meghreblian **Gold Sponsors-** Columbia Southern University; Culver's; Judie and Sissy Flanigan, In Memory of Matt Flanigan; Lagoon Baptist Church; Longhorn Steakhouse; South Baldwin Regional Medical Center; St. Andrew by the Sea Community Church; St. Andrew by the Sea Men; St. Andrew by the Sea Women **Silver Sponsors-** Grant, Sanders & Taylor, PC; Gulf Shores Womens Club; Steve and Sandy Bookout **Bronze Sponsors-** CC's Salon Day Spa and Boutique; Fran's on 59; GNC Plumbing; Pilates Center of Alabama; Wayne and Alice Villadsen; as well as 22 businesses and individuals who donated items for the raffle.

18TH ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER SET FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2020

Christian Service Center Offers Summer Breakfast/Lunch Backpack Program

When school gets out for the summer, most of us think about endless days of sun and beach. Unfortunately, some of our Pleasure Island children have to worry about where they are going to get breakfast and lunch. To eliminate that worry from young minds, the Christian Service Center provides a Summer Backpack Program for income qualified families in Gulf Shores, Orange Beach, and Fort Morgan. The Summer Backpack Program provides breakfast, lunch, and two snacks for each weekday. Parents sign up and come to the Christian Service Center in Gulf Shores for pickup each week until school begins. This is the second summer the program has been funded by the **Mystics of Pleasure Mardi Gras Krewe**. Last summer, their generosity allowed us to serve 96 children! This year, 109 children are registered!



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!
Mystics of Pleasure Mardi Gras Krewe



Pictured Above: Diane Urban, Summer Hillman, Rodney Monroe, Kay Knitter, Angela Peters

Christmas now begins in October at the Christian Service Center!!!

Santa's helpers, at the CSC, want every child to have the best Christmas possible!

Last year, we served 190 families which included 556 children!

But, the last few years have been harder than usual to give these wonderful, deserving children the gifts they request because we're not getting our unwrapped gifts back to Toyland early enough for the elves to get them packed! Soooooo.....

Angels will be given out as soon as they're available beginning the middle of October.

A more detailed letter will be sent to all churches and businesses who have helped in the past towards the end of September. And if you're a business who would like to help, please call the CSC and let us know!

Our thanks for understanding –

Mary Ann Bousquet Mary Lee Harms



Wildflowers Christmas Fundraiser

This fabulous, fun event returns to *Perdido Beach Resort* again this year on **November 16th**. More than \$20,000 was raised last year. We're excited to gather again to raise funds to provide a Merry Christmas for the children of area families in need. We provided toys for over 550 children last year. Mark your calendar and plan to join us!



I AM.....

(In a client's words)

I am a 60-year-old woman asking for help for the first time in my life. My husband is suffering with cancer and is in hospice care now. We have never been well-off; we have struggled at times, but we've always made it through hard times on our own. But now, after a series of health problems for both of us, loss of work, expensive medications, and other setbacks - we are behind on everything --- rent, power bill, car payment. We are overwhelmed, and there is no way out of this on our own.

Asking is so difficult for us, but everyone at the Center was so kind and reassuring by telling me that this is why they are here - to be a blessing to those in need. I know they are certainly the answer to my prayers.

They helped me with our rent and utilities, gave us food for a week, offered medical equipment, as needed, and referred us to Council on Aging. I left feeling blessed and relieved in the midst of the difficulties we are facing.

Gifts to the Christian Service Center

MEMORIALS

DOLORES COVEY	EDNA P COULTER
WALLY HUGHES	Shelia Creech
W. R. & Hope Becklund	Irene Creech
BILL PASSUELO	BOB LINDERS
Wayne & Charlotte Jobe	Karon & Phillip Noll

IN HONOR OF

LINDA CHAPPELLE	JUDY DEAN
Eula Myer	Gail Spake

MOLLY GEIGER
Antoinette & Phillip Turner



Grace Lutheran Church, Gulf Shores, had their annual Pancake Breakfast/Yard Sale with all proceeds benefitting the Christian Service Center on Saturday, February 9, 2019. The event raised \$3,821. Presenting the check to Linda Chappelle (center) are Reverend Hope Knobler (r) and Earl Janssen (l).

The Christian Service Center
has more than
200 volunteers!





CLIENT REFERRALS

Beyond providing food and emergency aid, the Christian Service Center often makes referrals to best serve our clients. We may help set up an appointment for someone to be seen at Franklin Primary Care or Hope Center for a medical problem. Another client may benefit from an appointment for mental health counseling with AltaPointe. A homeless family is referred to Family Promise for shelter and a new beginning. Someone dealing with abuse is referred to the Lighthouse. An expectant mother, with no family support, is referred to Mary's Shelter and To Be. A client needing glasses is referred to the Lions Club for assistance. An elderly client may be referred to the Council on Aging for additional services. A person seeking a recovery program will be referred to Big Fish Ministries in Foley.

In some medical cases, we may be able to offer financial assistance for services needed. Many referrals are to resources for which there is little or no charge. We strive to meet client needs as broadly as possible through knowing all the available resources.

Calendar

August 2019

12-Monday - Board Meeting - Noon

September 2019

2-Monday - Office Closed - Labor Day

9-Monday - Board meeting - Noon

October 2019

14-Monday - Board Meeting - Noon

November 2019

11-Monday - Board Meeting - Noon

Office Closed-

11/27/19 thru 12/01/19

December 2019

No Board Meeting

Office Closed

12/19/2019 thru 01/03/2020



The Christian Service Center is a "Hand Up" rather than a "Hand Out" agency.

Clients are given immediate emergency aid as well as guidance on finding solutions to their problems. The CSC is a 501-3C volunteer agency funded by the churches of Pleasure Island, various community organizations, including the United Way of Baldwin County, and interested individuals.

For more information, please call the CSC at 251-968-5256 or visit www.cscgs.com