

# FLASH

## Newsletter

United Way  
of St. Clair County

1723 Military Street, Port Huron, MI 48060  
P: 810.985.8169 • [www.uwstclair.org](http://www.uwstclair.org) • [linkedin.com/company/uwstclair](https://www.linkedin.com/company/uwstclair) • [facebook.com/uwstclair](https://www.facebook.com/uwstclair) • [twitter.com/uwstclair](https://twitter.com/uwstclair)

### ~ THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER IS ~

Although Valentine's Day has come and gone, and Sweetest Day is far from now, we were reminded this week, of the truth that exists in the chorus of a song some of you may know...

All you need is love. 🎵  
 All you need is love. 🎵  
 All you need is love, love.  
 Love is all you need.

Without love, communities fall apart. People struggle to survive, let alone flourish. Quality of life erodes. We all suffer.

When you think about the place you live, a phrase that often comes to mind is **my community**. Community. What is that? By definition, it is a united group of individuals. United; coming together in harmony, working cohesively, looking out for one another, sharing both ups and downs, providing aid for each other, no man left behind. Doesn't community sound wonderful?!

Now it's time to ask, "What makes a *successful* community?" The answer is **LOVE**. Love is the motivation behind compassion and acts of kindness; especially kindness shown to complete strangers who may never again enter your life. **Compassion** leads to looking out for each other ~ celebrating the good times together and lending a hand when someone is facing an obstacle. This unity, *this community*, fosters an enjoyable quality of life for all. That is why our saying, **LIVE UNITED**, is so dear to our hearts. It represents the building blocks of life.



That brings us back to the beginning of this message and we're going to get a little personal. This week, we had the honor of beholding the beauty of love. **Love for our neighbors, for those unknown.**

Like many other service organizations, Mid City Nutrition Program's Soup Kitchen (MCNP) relies on the kindness of volunteers to be able to serve the community. Unfortunately, the pandemic has led to a significant decline in the quantity of available volunteers; from that quandary, though, a gift has emerged. A remarkable inverse relationship exists between the *quantity* of volunteers and the *quality* of those who are able to continue serving. This phenomenon was illuminated this past week by Alice Rieves, MCNP's Executive Director.

On a brisk, sunny morning, men and women of all ages steadily lined up along the sidewalk **with hope** that their gnawing hunger pains would soon be relieved. These modest residents welcomed us with friendly greetings and conversation. One at a time, we stepped closer and closer to the front door of the soup kitchen that was propped open to **serve** us. As we approached the door, more luring than the mouthwatering aroma of the much anticipated home-cooked meals, were the **kind** and **gentle** words of **encouragement** flowing from the two volunteer servers, Nigar and Lesley.

For years, Nigar has been volunteering regularly at MCNP. In response to the pandemic, she swiftly committed to serving six days every week to help fill gaps; exponentially increasing her hours of service! Nigar expressed that, for health reasons, many people hesitate to volunteer for the face-to-face serving station. With their guests being ever so nice and appreciative of the meals, coupled with her **love of helping others** tugging on her heart, she gladly stepped in where needed. Lesley shared Nigar's sentiments. The warmth in their hearts radiated through the chill in the air and lifted our spirits. In that moment of service, providing **goodwill** with a hot meal, we were **united**. Thank you to all of the **phenomenal volunteers** who **build communities** alongside Nigar and Lesley!



**Last  
Chance!**

**~ RSVP & Ticket Sales Ending Soon! ~**

Don't miss out on having some Irish fun with our drive-thru breakfast and testing your luck with our exciting raffle!

**Don't  
Wait!**

**Please Join Us!**

# ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION

**St. Patrick's Day Drive-thru Breakfast ~ March 17<sup>th</sup>**

Chef Mike and his team will be preparing this delicious menu with a bit of Irish flair!

Scrambled Eggs  
Bacon  
Sausage  
Breakfast Potato Casserole  
Homemade Cinnamon Roll w/ Festive Green Frosting

Your Choice Of:  
Orange Juice  
Irish Cream Coffee  
Regular Coffee



**UWSTCLAIR.ORG**

**Only \$1 - \$5 Each!**

**Raffle Tickets ~ \$2 Each!**



**UWSTCLAIR.  
CHARITYRAFFLES.  
ORG**

**St. Patrick's Day Breakfast RSVP by March 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Buy Raffle Tickets Online through March 15<sup>th</sup>**

~ or at our ~

**Drive-thru Breakfast March 17<sup>th</sup> 7:30am - 9am**

(cash only during event)



United Way of St. Clair County's Mission is...

to mobilize the community of St. Clair County to raise funds and/or resources to meet identified human service needs with the highest level of accountability and community involvement.