

Postal food drive benefits Rusk Good Samaritan Center

By BETTY TOWNSEND
SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR

The spring postal service food drive to benefit the Good Samaritan was again a huge success with more than 1,600 pounds of non-perishables collected. Thanks to all the generous folks who contributed.

Volunteers Charley Burfoot and Glen Cotten hauled away eight old mattresses and an old sofa to the dumpster on the city clean-up day. These unuseable articles had accumulated under the open shed at the center. It seems there are some folks in our community who have no respect for the Good Samaritan organization and feel that it is okay to dump old furniture and garbage bags full of garage sale leftovers on the property.

The bags are torn into by children in the neighborhood and the contents scattered, resulting in quite a mess which volunteers have to clean up. So, please help us out, if you have clothes or items of any kind. Do not leave your donations under the shed. Bring them to the Good Samaritan between 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays or call (903) 683-4285 or (903) 683-2471 and someone will meet you there



It's a family affair at the Good Samaritan when these three sisters volunteer one day a month. They are Nita Walker, Billie Hardy (seated) and Wanda Nite.

to open the door.

A few people in Rusk have found that there are many bargains to be found at the Good Samaritan Center. It is even known as "the quarter store" because for 25 cents you can purchase any item of clothing or pair of shoes.

Household and kitchen items are also priced to sell

The public is invited and everyone will be surprised at the ever-changing variety of not only clothes but bed linens, curtains, books, toys and other items. Also, "good stuff" bags are priced at 25 cents and contain many useable, miscellaneous items of clothing.

The Good Samaritan Center



Betty Townsend and Billie Hardy sort food items brought to the Good Samaritan by postal employees. More than 1,600 pounds of non-perishable food items were donated in the post office drive.

is staffed entirely by volunteers and is located on Second Street just off Barron in Rusk. To receive food, an application is filled out, along with proof of residence in Rusk school district.

The annual volunteers' breakfast was held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church June 5. Food was prepared and served

by women of the church.

A short devotional was presented by Michael Caldwell, pastor of First United Methodist Church, in which volunteers were compared to the disciples sent out by Jesus to minister.

Keith Hassell, pastor of Grace Fellowship Church and president of the Ministerial

Alliance, spoke of the importance of the work of Good Samaritan volunteers and expressed appreciation.

Kay Epperson, director of Good Samaritan, spoke of the value of the services rendered by the organization.

She and the group gave a thank you to the women who prepared the breakfast.

Rusk veteran shares intelligence

As citizens pause July 4 to celebrate the nation's birth, one Rusk man will quietly reflect on a Naval career spanning 20 years that involved some of the country's deepest secrets.

Retired Naval Intelligence officer ISCS Charles McCullough, a member of the Rusk Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 3406, is proud of the time he spent in the military. A Q&A with ISCS McCullough follows:

How does intelligence gathering change over a period of time?

The 20 years that I was involved in intelligence was overwhelming. This was a great and rewarding career. I have served in many foreign countries, as well as throughout the United States. Navy Intelligence is a dynamic and demanding field. It is at the forefront of today's challenges to national security ranging from global war on terrorism to countering emerging regional threats.

How do you define "intelligence?"

Intelligence is knowledge based on collection and analysis of an adversary's strengths, weaknesses, capabilities and intentions. Such knowledge can be a key to conducting successful U.S. military operations.

What makes a good intelligence officer?

The Naval community expects the highest level of performance and dedication from its people. Naval intelligence personnel provide this performance through tactical, operational and strategic intelligence to support U. S. Naval forces, as well as joint and multi-national military forces and executive-level decision makers in the national government.

What are some of the areas of responsibility for an intelligence officer?

Naval intelligence is responsible for counter-terrorism, operational, imagery and human intelligence, as well

as tactical support to naval strike forces, intelligence support to SEALs and Special Forces. Naval personnel are involved in intelligence collection management, scientific and technical analysis, regional, cultural and linguistic analysis, civil maritime intelligence and geopolitical country analysis.

Is being an intelligence officer anything like what we read in books and see in the movies?

Naval intelligence is a specialist field. We do what you read about in books and magazines. If you see an operation going down on television, it is assured that Joint Intelligence was involved.

What about the technology involved in intelligence?

Naval intelligence personnel work in state of the art facilities. We use advance systems and analysis techniques, to include tactical and space based imagery, high speed computers, multilevel radars, acoustic sensors and

electronic systems.

How important are the contributions of an intelligence officer?

There are many things in life that contribute to your overall success. I consider the naval intelligence program one of them.

Intel is set up to provide great support to our nation and the Intel staff also. If you have a two-year college degree or better, no arrest records and good character, you may become part of our organization.

What does life after the military hold for you?

I operate Lone Star Athletic Design in Palestine. My wife, Sheila, is a sixth grade science teacher at Rusk Junior High School. We split our time between Rusk and Palestine.

As part of an ongoing series by Frank Bowden, the Cherokee Herald salutes veterans and spotlights individuals who served their country.

Adams

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Don Killingsworth and Sten Langsjoen represented Mr. Adams at the trial. Stephen Evans represented him on direct appeal. Jeff Haas is representing him in his state writ of habeas corpus appeal.

District Attorney Elmer C. Beckworth Jr. said last week that at the time of the murder, Mr. Adams had a prior juvenile robbery conviction. Mr. Cobb had a previous juvenile burglary conviction and a juvenile assault conviction. He was on adult probation for unauthorized use of a motor

vehicle charges.

Execution date for both men is expected to be within three to five years, Mr. Beckworth said.

The state was represented by Mr. Beckworth and then Assistant District Attorney David R. Sorrell. On direct appeal and on the writ of habeas corpus the state was represented by D.A. Beckworth.

The decision on the direct appeal by nine members of the Court of Appeals was unanimous.

Rail authority

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an election must be called for November."

Gov. Rick Perry signed the bill creating the operating authority on June 16.

The operating agency decided earlier this year to select American Heritage Railways Inc. as the contractor for the railroad. The company operates the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad in Colorado and the Great Smoky Mountains Railroad in North Carolina. If an operator had not been found the Texas

State Railroad was scheduled to become a static display on Sept. 1.

The operating agency/authority members were scheduled to meet jointly at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Citizens 1st Bank.

Attending the Rusk City Council meeting were Mayor Angela Raiborn; Councilmembers Kris Morgan, Walter Session, Don Jones, Donald Woodard and Sam Florian; City Manager Murray; and City Secretary Fran Wendeborn.

Minibus

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I couldn't get there a lot of times," he said. "Now I call them up. The bus is large enough to put my scooter on. He takes me to the doctor and to wherever I want to go.

"It's a good service," Mr. Jones added. "We've got one of the best drivers that the Lord could have given us."

"I've actually been with Minibus for four months now," Andy said. "I love it. It is a pretty good job. I am a people person anyway. You get to meet all kinds of interesting people doing this job."

The Minibus, which is an oversized van such as those used by transportation services at airports, originates at Minibus, Inc. in Longview.

It is a non-profit rural transportation service, supported by private donations and other sources such as the United Way.

"I think the best comment I could make is, the fact that House Bill 3588 set up regional planning groups such as the East Texas Regional Transportation Steering Committee," said Kay Dorman, Minibus executive director. "Our plan identifies strategic tasks to bring all of this region into the 21st century of public transportation.

"This House Bill also mandates rural and urban systems, as well as health and human service agencies to coordinate transportation services."

The existence of Minibus is also made possible through the help of the East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG).

Gladys Stoltz is a 70-year-old dialysis patient who

lives near Lake Jacksonville. Gladys enjoys riding the Minibus.

"They pick me up in the morning and take me wherever I need to go," she said. "It is very helpful. They have a hydraulic lift on the bus. They lift me up and I get to ride."

Gladys enjoys socializing with Andy and other passengers on the bus.

"I actually came from New Iberia, La. two years ago," Gladys said. "I came here with my son. He was supposed to take care of me, but I take care of him. He is my oldest of six boys."

"She keeps saying that, but I'm starting not to believe her," quipped Andy. "She says she is from Louisiana, but everyone I know from Louisiana can cook and she still hasn't brought me any gumbo."

Mrs. Stoltz laughed as she rode the bus to her home following her dialysis treatment on Wednesday afternoon.

"That does it," she said. "I'll bring you some gumbo next week."

The Minibus also stopped by the Cherokee Sheltered Workshop to pick up Lydia, a 30-year old woman who travels to the workshop from southern Cherokee County five days per week via the Minibus service.

"Been riding a couple of months," Lydia said. "Yeah, I like it. They come and get me and bring me home. It is \$2 one way and \$2 back again. Before this I didn't go anywhere, I stayed at home.

"Now I am able to get to the workshop, get out of the house and earn some money."

"We picked up some doughnut holes this morning," Andy said, gazing backwards at a stop sign, using a mirror positioned to allow the driver to see the passengers.

"We tore those doughnuts up," he said. "I am glad we did. I was so busy this morning, I didn't have time to get another bite to eat until 1:15 (p.m.)."

"We are going to stop at the fruit stand and get some peaches today," Lydia said.

"Oh yeah, those peaches are good," said Andy. "They've got some peaches that are better than Georgia peaches. They are so juicy that the juice runs down to your elbow when you take a bite."

Riders on the Minibus pay \$2 to ride one-way, no matter where in East Texas the destination is.

Individuals over 60 are not required to pay, though Minibus accepts donations if passengers wish to donate. Gladys looked out at the forest along Farm-to-Market Road 747 east of Jacksonville as the bus neared her home.

"I have two little dogs," she said. "Chihuahuas. They are sweet. One of them, the little one, is only about four months old. My son wants me to get rid of him. He said two dogs are too much to have.

"I'll keep the dog and get rid of him," she said with a grin. "I've got six sons. I've only got two dogs."

Minibus passengers are afforded freedom to leave home and remain mobile.

A common theme among those who ride is, without Minibus, many would become prisoners in their own

To make a reservation, call
1-800-590-3371

homes.

Minibus gives them the ability to do shopping, visit friends, make doctor appointments and even keep jobs.

And the trip gives passengers a welcome chance to socialize.

"There's a wasp in here," Lydia said, pointing at the insect that had landed on the door.

Andy pulled to a stop at a corner and opened the door. The wasp flew out and disappeared.

"Nobody rides for free," Andy said with a smile. "Actually, if someone didn't have any money, we would still come get them. We can work something out."

"We aren't going to leave someone stranded just because they don't have two bucks."

In no time, the ride with Minibus came to an end.

"We are off to take Lydia home," Andy said. "Any time you need a lift, just give us a call. You do have to call the day before, by 2 p.m. to make a reservation."

"Don't you forget my peaches," Lydia said.

"You read my mind," Andy said.

With that, the door closed and Minibus moved on to complete its appointed rounds.

To make a reservation with Minibus, call (800) 590-3371.

SCFCU winner



Jake Carter, left, from Alto accepts four tickets to Six Flags, four tickets to Hurricane Harbor and \$200 in cash from Davy Hobson of the Southern Cherokee Federal Credit Union in Rusk. The "Fun in the Sun" promotion was sponsored by the credit union and KWRW-FM. The next drawing will be July 20 for four tickets to Moody Gardens and hotel accommodations in Galveston.

RESALE SHOP

Open

1st & 2nd Friday of each month
9 AM - 1 PM

545 Castner Street, Rusk

(Off Hwy 69 N., turn west just north of Sonic)
Christmas In July Sale
Shop has been completely restocked

Proceeds go to support the
Volunteer Council for the Rusk State Hospital, Inc.