

HAVEN NEWS

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Gala Moods Were Happy and Generous

Gloomy economic forecasts were far from anyone's mind at The Lake County Haven's annual Havenly Night Gala on May 2. The beautiful setting, charming company, exciting auctions and rockin' band all conspired to help attendees forget troublesome headlines and come together to help women and children who need it most.

The event, held at the Ivanhoe Country Club, is the primary annual fundraiser for The Lake County Haven, which empowers homeless women and children to achieve permanent, independent living.



The Haven was honored to host a wonderful group of generous attendees at the benefit, including newly elected Libertyville Mayor Terry Weppler and State Representative Kathy Ryg. Laura Sabino, a familiar face to many Haven donors and attendees, having served as The Haven's first Executive

Director from 1996-2005, was introduced as the returning Executive Director.

Thanks entirely to the generosity of all those who donated anywhere from \$100 to \$5,000 during the "Fund-a-Cause" section of the live auction, the shelter residents will benefit from a brand new kitchen. Remodeling will proceed this fall.

This year's event also featured the story of Haven graduate Patty M., who shared her experience; an amazing testament to the efficacy of The Lake County Haven's

programming. Volunteers Sarah Eichmann and Vanessa Griffin were honored with the 2008-09 Bradley-Gretz awards in recognition of their outstanding volunteer contributions (see page 4).

A brand new Mini-Cooper, a \$1,000 American Express Card and a weekend in Chicago were the prizes in the raffle. Since the minimum of tickets required to give away the car wasn't reached, the Haven and the winner split "the loot." The Grand Prize went to longtime Haven supporter Betty Ann Moore.

**Hardworking volunteers
are the fuel that makes the
Gala happen each year.**

Hardworking volunteers are the fuel that makes the Gala happen each year. Co-chairs **Annette Freyman** and **Lorraine Pritchard** led the organizational effort for the event, along with Women's Auxiliary President **Julie Daugs** and members of the Gala Committee including **Cyndi Anderson, Margaret Badyna, Maura Chamberlin, Debbi Duris, Debby Spitzer** and **Diane Sullivan**.



Carolyn Diesi and **Susan Lazzaretto** chaired the Auction Committee, providing guests with an amazing array of items on which to bid, including sports & theatre



tickets, vacation getaways, and even a heart-stoppingly cute puppy. Raffle Chair **Joanne Williams** made the raffle a reality.

Invitations and programs were once again designed by artist and Auxiliary member and **Stephanie Toral**. **Joy Schwerman** coordinated distribution of 5,000 save-the-date cards and invitations with help from **Mary Trifunovich** of Libertyville's **Mail Everything**.

Janet Cooper, Lynn Graves and **Marissa Zolna** chose an elegant theme and sumptuous decor as six-time Decorations Committee chairs, coordinating an elegantly decorated room appointed by **Floral Exhibits of Chicago**.

After a fantastic dinner, attendees grooved to a distinctly Motown vibe thanks to the musical stylings of The Moods. Some attendees even got their moment in the sun when the band offered up the microphones to Haven donors for two memorable numbers. *More on page 5.* ♥

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The Lake County Haven empowers homeless women and their children to achieve permanent independent living.



New Executive Director brings experience, commitment to The Haven



A conversation between new executive director, Laura Sabino and Ken Neumann, President of the Board of Directors

KN: Laura, on behalf of the Board of Directors, I'd like to welcome you back as the executive director of the Lake County Haven.

LS: Thanks so much! I am so happy to be here and honored to be invited back. I want to thank you and the entire Board for entrusting me with this responsibility.

KN: It is a lot of responsibility. What makes you prepared for it?

LS: I have a long history of nonprofit work experience which dates back to the mid-1980s. Most of my experience has been in working with homeless adults and children. I have a master's degree as well as certificates in finance and fundraising. I have 13 years experience as an executive director, with 9 of those years spent at the Haven. And I have a long history and commitment to the work of The Haven—taking on this executive director role is a bit like a happy homecoming for me.

KN: Now that you're getting reacclimated to The Haven, what are your goals for the agency?

LS: The Haven is truly a unique and wonderful place, and I want it to be able to serve as many women and children as possible. In order to achieve that, we need to turn to our many faithful donors. During this time of economic hardship, it is very difficult to procure donations. But we need those gifts now more than ever. I am asking our supporters to open their hearts and make a thoughtful, generous donation to us today.

KN: One of the trends we as Board members have noticed is more demand for services for the homeless during this recession. How is our agency helping those people?

LS: Currently about one third of our residents are homeless due to economic hardship alone. We are helping them with shelter and food. We are also helping them with case management so that they can pursue

new jobs and rebuild their future. It's important to remember that we can all work together to survive these tough times. One of my favorite quotations states that 'the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in times of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.' As an agency, we are ready to step up and help our neighbors to get through these challenging times. But we need the financial gifts of our supporters to do so.

It's important to remember that we can all work together to survive these tough times.

KN: I agree, and I think I speak for everyone on the board and for our dedicated donors when I welcome you back to The Haven. I'm excited about the future we'll chart together.

THE HAVEN NEWS



A quarterly newsletter highlighting the work of The Lake County Haven

Volunteer Editor:
Vanessa Griffin

Writers:
Vanessa Griffin
Astrid Guerra • Laura Sabino

Collaborators:
Rane Anderson • Liz Pleines

Photos:
Jess Smith

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Jennifer Larson, <i>Program Director</i>	Liz Pleines, <i>Office Manager</i>
Emmy Johnson, <i>Case Manager</i>	Rane Anderson, <i>Volunteer/Resources Manager</i>

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Phone: (847) 680-1703 • Fax: (847) 680-1342
P.O. Box 127, Libertyville, IL 60048 • www.lakecountyhaven.org

One Woman at a Time

This feature highlights the stories of people who are improving their lives with help from The Haven. Names may have been changed to protect client anonymity.

Lorie Lorie's life story is full of contradictions.

Well-spoken and energetic, she is known by friends and family as someone who almost always wears a smile. She is the daughter of a dentist and a social worker who earned straight A's in high school, graduated early and went on to earn a bachelor's degree in psychology. She had a marriage, three healthy kids, a great house, cars, even a couple of grandchildren.

And yet, this accomplished, intelligent 50-year-old was homeless and hopeless less than three years ago. Over a period of ten bleak years, she lost everything in a spiral of self-destructive behavior and unresolved pain.

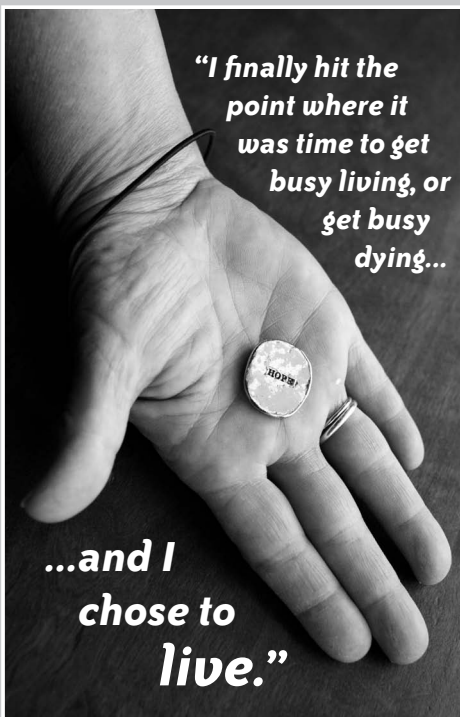
Lorie remembers almost nothing about her own life before the age of 12, having been sexually abused by her father in her early years. Not yet a teenager when introduced to drugs by a family member, Lorie embarked on a 38-year history of drug abuse. She was a victim of domestic violence. Eventually she was arrested and lost her driver's license. She was in and out of treatment many times.

"I finally hit the point where it was time to get busy living, or get busy dying, and I chose to live," she said. "I heard about The Haven while I was in treatment. My counselors told me about the [high] rate of success for people who go through The Haven's program, and I knew that's what I needed." This was her seventh run at treatment, and she was determined to make it work this time.

The first time Lorie applied to The Haven, her application was not accepted. But

she didn't give up. Knowing that she would have a better chance to thrive in the structured environment offered at The Haven, she wrote a letter requesting reconsideration of her application.

"It was the day before I was to be discharged from in-patient treatment



I got the call that I'd been accepted," Lorie said. "That was a God thing."

She spent six months in The Haven's shelter program, and calls it the hardest work she's ever done, but the most rewarding. Between daily Alcoholics Anonymous meetings, job searching, meeting with case managers, and household chores, shelter residents don't have much time to think about anything but learning how to shoulder adult responsibilities like working, budgeting, and healing past hurts.

"I did everything they told me to do," Lorie said. "I do everything I can to stay grateful, no matter what."

"I remember one time I was walking to my job on a rainy morning—it was a two-mile walk one way from the shelter to work. I called my case manager and told her 'I'm walking to work in the pouring rain, and I'm still grateful!!' And I was!" she said. "I've been given a second chance at life, and it's a gift and a miracle."

Her life today is far simpler than it once was. She is happily living in Stage II housing with a roommate. She still holds down the job she got during her first few weeks at The Haven, which grew from a part-time position to full-time manager level with a key to the business. She is trusted by her employer, and is working slowly but surely to improve her relationships with her children. She serves as a peer mentor to Haven shelter residents and groups of people who are currently in drug treatment. She's thinking about professional and educational goals down the road.

Lorie has 18 months clean and sober, the longest time she's been drug-free since she was twelve. She attends therapy weekly and is working on resolving the abuse in her past. She's in the best physical shape of her life—flexible and strong thanks to her commitment to a yoga class. And she feels hope for herself.

"I'm not exactly sure why I've been given this second chance, but I have a feeling it's because I'm supposed to help other people who are struggling," Lorie said. "And if I can overcome it, anyone can." ♥

The Haven helps women who are homeless and in difficult financial situations. If you or someone you know is in need of shelter, call (847)680-5408, ext. 1 for more information.

Congratulations, 2009 Bradley Gretz Award Winners!



Ken Neumann and Sarah Eichmann

The success of The Lake County Haven is the result of the commitment of the people involved. Volunteers have played a crucial role in The Haven's history. At the beginning they did everything, from running the shelter, completing maintenance and repairs to fundraising and administrative duties.

These days, The Haven is professionally staffed, but volunteers still play integral roles in the day-to-day work of the organization, and the Women's Auxiliary raises approximately 20% of the organization's annual revenue through two primary fundraising events.

Each year two of those volunteers are recognized with the The Bradley-Gretz Award for outstanding volunteer contributions.



Vanessa Griffin and Ken Neumann

Sarah Eichmann is involved in year-round collection drives and parties to benefit The Haven. Since she became a committee member in 2004, her enthusiasm and energy have brought a new breeze to our events. The evolution of our Holiday Boutique to an exquisite event which produced \$22,000 last year has her signature.

For some of our volunteers, The Haven is the way to put their professional skills to use for the greater good. This volunteer's dedication, understanding of The Haven' mission and professional skills make her an invaluable asset in our efforts to reach out to the community. If you've ever have marveled at the quality of both the visual and written components or if your heart has been moved by the human touch of the stories in our quarterly newsletter, that is the work of **Vanessa Griffin**. ♥



The Lake County Haven Women's Auxiliary invites you to

Holiday Boutique 2009
benefitting

The Lake County Haven

Friday, November 13, 2009 • 7pm–11pm

ADVANCE TICKETS ARE \$60/PERSON

Saturday, November 14, 2009 • 12pm–4pm

ATTENDEES ARE ASKED TO MAKE A \$15 DONATION AT THE DOOR

Enjoy food, wine and great people while you shop for the holidays at the home of Wendy & Ron Turner.

For more information please call Sarah Eichmann at 847-549-1832.

**Mark
your calendar!**

A Heavenly Night 2009

100,000 thank yous! In spite of the difficult times all around, our Heavenly Night Gala was as exciting as ever. The event, the raffle and the auction were a huge success and it takes very committed, loyal, special people to make it so. All of us at The Lake County Haven would like to express our deep and heartfelt gratitude to all involved, from our Gala Committee under the dedicated direction of Annette Freyman and Lorraine Pritchard, our staff and volunteers and specially all of you who shared this wonderful night with us.

Everybody moved to the rhythm of The Moods.



Haven Board members and 2009 Heavenly Night Co-Chairs Lorraine Pritchard and Annette Freyman led the efforts resulting in a lovely night and more than \$100,000 that will help many women and children on their way to independent living.

The night started with a lavish three course meal.



Ken Neumann, President of The Haven Board of Directors, Julie Neumann and Libertyville Mayor Terry Weppeler.



A week in South Carolina, a Ravinia package and a balcony at a Cubs game had bidders at the edge of their seats during the live auction. Their generosity will also help shelter clients to enjoy a new kitchen.

The silent auction included a guitar signed by Bono.



State Representative Kathy Ryg and Beth Shea.



Our talented volunteers on a very different realm: showbiz!

Event Photography donated by Jess Smith (jess.photosmith@sbcglobal.net)

HAVEN HAPPENINGS

It takes the generosity of ALL the surrounding communities to keep the lights on and the doors open at The Haven. The Haven continues the fight against homelessness with the assistance of many individuals, families, houses of worship, corporations, and groups.

When our young people give their time and energy to help those in need, we know we can have some hope for our future. For the second year in a row, the **Lincolnshire Lightning 5th Grade Girls Traveling Basketball Team**, coached by **Dwight Ekenberg**, raised over \$5,100 to benefit The Haven. Instead of presents for their 8th grade graduation party, **Brett Peterson** and **Connor Dickman** had their guests bring a donation for the shelter. The donation included cereal, toilet paper, laundry detergent, paper towel and garbage bags. **Mechanics Grove School 2nd grade class** and their teacher **Kelly Farmer** made a quilt and donated household items like canned foods and paper goods.

Lake County Haven residents will live safely at a shelter that is beautiful and ready for the summer, thanks to the **Libertyville Sunrise Rotary Club** and their president **Dennis Kratochwil**; **Rebuilding Together North Suburban Chicago** and their Executive Director **Sharon Riley**; and **Dan Monckton of Dan Monckton Painting Company**. Thanks to their coordinated joint efforts, volunteers prepped the walls

and power washed the shelter before spending a long day painting. **Nancy** and **Anthony O'Brien** helped with landscaping. Shelter residents will enjoy cool summer nights thanks to **John Anderson** and his son **John**, who installed the air conditioners.

Our housing units' residents will be ready for the summer as well. A special thank you to **Joanne Mayfield**, **Mary Ann Urbaszewski** and **Margaret Redden** for the many dedicated hours they spent preparing our Stage II apartments for our clients. They cleaned the apartments until they were spotless and then they decorated them until they had a homey feel.

Clients also enjoyed delicious meals thanks to many groups in our community like **Heart Financial Services** and **Logs Network** who coordinated food drives, **Trinity Church Highland Park** who donated groceries, **Einstein Bros.** who donated bagels and **Roberta Norcia**, who donated a Mother's Day Cake to the shelter.

Other groups cooked meals for our residents: **Libertyville Young Women's Club** and **Mary Nee** donated a homemade meal and dessert. Under

the guidance of Troop leader **Marjjean Snarski, Girl Scout Troop #2401** prepared 8 meals. They also raised funds and donated extra food and Girl Scout cookies, as did **Brownie Troop #41178**. Thanks to troop leaders **Gina Zinbarg** and **Jessica Lewit**.

Medline has been donating items such as wipes, bed sheets and blankets to The Haven, brought in by Medline employee **Mary Peplinski**. **St. Peter United Church of Christ** held a household items drive. In addition to their very generous monetary donation, **Hawthorn Woods Women's Club** donated school supplies and spring bags. **Carol Lucas** donated Easter Baskets filled with lots of goodies for the children in the shelter. **Laura Pérez** gave a welcome basket that included a handmade scarf by her mother.

Touché Salon in downtown Libertyville held its 6th annual Day Maker Event April 24. They catered supper and did hair and face makeovers for Haven residents, providing them with an opportunity to feel beautiful and pampered. ♥

If you are interested in learning about new and different ways to help at The Haven, please call 847-680-1870 or check our web site at www.lakecountyhaven.org.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

Cindy Harger has 'done it all'! For many years, Cindy was a mover and a shaker on our Women's Auxiliary. Cindy went on to serve as a Board member for The Haven, including two terms as Board President. And then, when The Lake County Haven asked her to step in as Executive Director, Cindy agreed. Throughout these many different roles, there were a few constants. Cindy has always been dedicated to helping homeless women and children to become independent. Cindy always approached tasks in an intelligent and fair manner. And finally, Cindy's warm and caring heart was the energy that took her forward. Cindy, for all that you have done for The Haven: thank you! ♥





THANK YOU FOR THE MANY WAYS YOU GIVE!

The Lake County Haven appreciates all of the individuals and organizations who have contributed to our work. This list recognizes donations received during the Spring and Summer of 2009 and reflects only a fraction of those who contribute during the year. If we have somehow failed to acknowledge your gift or donation, please accept our apology and contact us so we may thank you properly (847-680-1703). Your generosity is greatly appreciated! ♥

INDIVIDUALS

Wendy Holder Aaron
Danielle Ackerman
Matt & Carolyn Adler
Richard Adler
Arch Ahern
Jason & Shannon Akin
Donald & Suzanne Albanese
Kenneth & Carolyn Aldridge
Susan Aldridge
Jonathan & Julie Alexander
James & Gretchen Allen
Julane & Jerry Alt
Joseph & Lori Amato
Aynsley & Marco Amidei
John & Rane Anderson
Mark & Cynthia Anderson
Tom & Cathy Andrews
Charles & Mildred
Applegate
William & Jill Argall
Stephen & Margaret Badyna
Susan Ballinger
Patricia Ann Barker
David & Donna Barnett
Doug & Andrea Behm
Elaine C. Bennett
Robt. & Helen Berland
Anthony & Nicketta
Bernardi
Kathleen Bernhardt
Rasa L. Bertuzis
Sam & Karen Bloodgood
Daniel Boggs
Gary & Bonni Bohl
Marion Bongiorno
Michael & Jennifer Bott
Peggy Bradley
Matthew & Susan
Breckheimer
David Brewer
Mary & Christopher
Broccoli
Clint & Sheila Brooks
Debbie Burke
Catherine Burke
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Thomas & Kathleen
Chowaniec
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Jeff & Angela DePew
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John & Leslie Donovan
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Nancy Eckrich
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Christine Everett
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Tammi Hartsworm
Kathy Ryg & Tom Hedlin
Jill Heidrich
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Scientist
First Presbyterian Church of
Lake Forest
First Presbyterian Church of
Libertyville
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Glenbrook Excavating &
Concrete Inc.
Golden Girls
Group Benefits Associates
Harris Bank
Hawthorn Woods Women's
Club
Helen Brach Foundation
How Impressive
Illinois Tool Works
Foundation
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Women's Auxiliary
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Libertyville Junior Women's
Club
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Wauconda, Inc.
Network For Good
New England Research &
Management, Inc.
North Shore Unitarian
Church
Power Construction
Company
Sensability Inc
Serio Landscaping
Southwind Financial Ltd
Special Distribution Account
United Way
Spirits Marque One
St. Peter's United Church
of Christ
Sysmex America
The Kapoor Charitable
Foundation
The Targeted Consulting
Group, LLC
The Ted and Lynn Cowen
Fund
The Mulch Center
Touche Salon
Trustmark Foundation
United Church of Christ
United Protestant Church-
Circle 7
United Way of Lake County
United Way Of Metro
Chicago
United Way of the North
Shore
US Department of Housing
and Urban Development/
Lake County Community
Development Division
Wintrust
WW Grainger Inc.
Z F Sales & Service North
America, LLC
Zengeler Cleaners

WISH LIST*

General products: Paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, freezer bags, tall garbage bags, aluminum foil, sponges, plastic wrap

Office supplies: Postage stamps, fax machine, copier, reams of paper for printer and copier, pads of paper, invisible tape

Foods: Frozen meats including chicken breasts, ground turkey and beef, frozen fish, dry and canned goods

Cleaning products (eco-friendly if possible!): Powdered laundry detergent, bleach, softener sheets, dishwasher detergent, Pledge-type dusting products, lint traps for washing machines

Gently used items: Vacuum cleaners, automobiles, towels, alarm clocks, laundry baskets, umbrellas, twin bedding sets, twin quilts, twin blankets women & children's seasonal clothing

Gift Cards: Sunset, Jewel, Home Depot, Lowes, Target, Wal-Mart, Walgreens, gas, phone

**Please call Rane Anderson at 847-680-1870 to hear our most up-to-date wish list and to set up a drop-off time.*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Come join us for our annual **Auxiliary Fall Kick-Off** on **Tuesday, September 22 at 7 p.m.** New and established volunteers can enjoy a fun evening and learn more about The Lake County Haven and its work. *For more information about the event or the Women's Auxiliary, call 847-680-1870.*

Enjoy food and wine while you shop for the holidays at our annual **Holiday Boutique** on **Friday and Saturday, November 13 and 14.** *For more information, contact Sarah Eichmann at 847-549-1832 or eichmann4@comcast.net.*

The Haven is hosting a festive **Holiday Open House** at the shelter on **Wednesday, December 9, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.** Local neighbors including adults and families are invited to join our residents, staff, volunteers, and Board of Directors as we open our doors and celebrate this holiday season.

Please RSVP or get directions by calling 847-680-1703.



The Lake County Haven empowers homeless women and their children to achieve permanent independent living.


The
**Lake County
Haven**
P.O. Box 127
Libertyville, IL 60048
www.LakeCountyHaven.org
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR TO HELP HOMELESS WOMEN & CHILDREN

Holiday Boutique 2009 – Friday & Saturday, November 13 & 14

Enjoy food, wine and great people while you shop for the holidays! See page 4 for more information.