

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Pioneers:

Time marches on as we enter the fourth quarter of 2018 and prepare for the end of year activities to complete the projects we have committed to for the year that are designed to make life better and brighter for folks less fortunate than we are. A review of the pages within will convince you of our Mission and Vision, of projects we have completed and plan to complete, and what it takes to perform them. Our Holiday season is always busy with historic projects with agencies that count on our support.

This is also a good time of year when expressions of appreciation are appropriate. The work of your faithful Board of Director members, Community Service committees, and Pioneer Office support staff, Marlene Yurochko and Dorothy Szykowny, whose efforts result in thousands of volunteer hours of activities throughout the year, is to be recognized and applauded. Their willingness to donate their time and talent to keep Fort Pitt Chapter alive and well cannot be underestimated.

To all of you active, Life Members and partners, without whose generous support we could not continue, we Thank You and send along our best wishes for a beautiful Holiday season, a very healthy and Happy New Year and Peace On Earth!

Gerry McLaughlin

*Chapter President, October 2018*

## Our Mission 2018

*Pioneers is a network of volunteers who effect immediate, tangible change in local communities.*

## Our Vision 2018

*To be recognized as a world-class leader in volunteerism. To continue to be respected and valued by our members, our strategic partners, the global community and our industry. To continue to be committed to the diversity and personal growth of our members, the success of our strategic partners and to continue to improve the quality of life in our communities.*



## Gateway Christmas Luncheon

Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at Noon

South Hills Country Club

Call Pioneer Office at 412-237-3206 or 412-237-3208

by November 26 if interested

## SHARING & CARING REPORT



The Annual Sharing & Caring Golf Outing, chaired by former Senator Jack Wagner, was held on July 9th at Edge-wood County Club. It was a beautiful day and very rewarding financially for Sharing & Caring. Two lovely gift baskets (one for the ladies and one for the men) created by Donna Gallagher, were used as auction items and much appreciated. Chapter made a \$100 donation toward a tee sign with the New Vision Pioneer logo. All proceeds benefit the cost for the Annual week long boat ride for the Veterans on the Gateway Clipper in September.



Bag Packing for the Vets gift bags was held on August 30th at Thad Stevens Fire Hall. As usual, I had a "fantastic group of volunteers", 35 to be exact. We packed approximately 400 bags to be distributed after the boat ride. Thanks to all who continue to help every year. Also a big thanks to those who helped set up tables and items the afternoon before. I COULD NOT do this without your assistance. GOOD JOB everyone!! I would be remiss if I didn't give a "shout out" to ALL who donated socks or sent monetary donations toward purchases. Peoples' generosity is amazing.



Pictured are some of our packers and the contents of the gift tote bags.



The Annual Sharing & Caring Boat Ride was held September 4th through the 7th. Hospitalized Veterans truly appreciate and look forward to their day on the Gateway Clipper, complete with lunch, games, prizes and entertainment. Don McIlrath, Gerry McLaughlin and I assisted with activities on the boat. 16 pioneers and partners passed out the gift bags over the 4 day period. Everyone who helps out, even in a small way should be very proud. Sharing & Caring is a remarkable nonprofit group who do endless amounts of work over the course of the year to give back to their fellow Vets. It's been a wonderful partnership for me and fellow Pioneers for 35 years.

Lynne Price



# BACK TO SCHOOL PROJECTS



One of our big back to school projects In August was our volunteer time in partnership with the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW). Pictured is Janet Pinnix-Ward, Charlene Sanders, Cindy Newman, John Holloway, Velma Harris, Rhonda Pace and Bonnie Adams. We all pitched in and helped the project by stocking the racks and distributing clothes and back packs to the students.



Other projects included purchasing basic school supplies for the special education class at Penn Trafford School and kindergarten class at Center Elementary.



## Easter Dinners



Another project we didn't want to miss telling you about are the food items that were presented to the food bank maintained by St. Maria Goretti Parish in Bloomfield for the makings of festive Easter meals to families in the Garfield neighborhood area of Pittsburgh. The start of each meal was a traditional ham along with other accompaniments personally delivered by Donna and Phil Gallagher. The letter we received acknowledging the donation said "our own resources are limited, and donations such as yours allow our mission to continue."



## Emmaus Soup Kitchen

In July, Yvonne Klick, our Meadville Club President, presented a check to Sister Mary of the Emmaus Food Kitchen to help support their food bank.





WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF  
Providing Education For All

## Western PA School for the Deaf

*The Golf Outing for WPSD, previously held at Championship Lake, is now hosted at Edgewood Country Club. It was held on May 24 this year with volunteers: Bob & Fran Miller, Art & Linda Yaw and I. Proceeds from the outing benefit the Infant Care Program at the school.*

*Another exceptionally nice event is the Annual Auction & Gala for WPSD which was held October 12 at Edgewood Country Club. 15 Pioneers, partners, and friends enjoyed fellowship, excellent food and a chance to place a winning bid on a lot of great auction items. Every year someone in our group walks away with at least one item if not more. It's always a fun evening and a good way to help our friends at WPSD with their projects to better the lives of the hearing impaired.*

Lynne Price

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## Quilts of Valor Fundraiser

Quilts of Valor will be hosting a fund raiser at the VFW in Lawrenceville in October and Fort Pitt Chapter will support them by donating a handmade gift basket prepared by Donna Gallagher. You may remember that Don McIlrath was a recipient of one of the Quilts of Valor a few years ago. One of the main items in the gift basket this year will be a Gift Certificate from Texas Roadhouse in Wilkins Twp. Phil and Donna Gallagher reached out to them for a donation to support Fort Pitt and the Manager generously provided food items and a certificate for Dinner For Two for the basket! The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.

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## kidsHELP..... AT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE

We are now donating dog and cat food to the Animal Rescue League every other month. The kids helped this past year by delivering the food and visiting with the pets. These food donations allow pets, who may be abandoned at the shelter, to stay in their homes with their owners. We also delivered many gently used cages and bedding to the shelter. The agency always needs blankets, bath and beach towels for bedding for the cats and dogs.



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Tell us what you would like to see in the Tele-All! We welcome any suggestions for consideration by our Board.  
[info@newvision-fortpittpioneers.org](mailto:info@newvision-fortpittpioneers.org)



# Cray Youth & Family Services Bowl-A-Thon

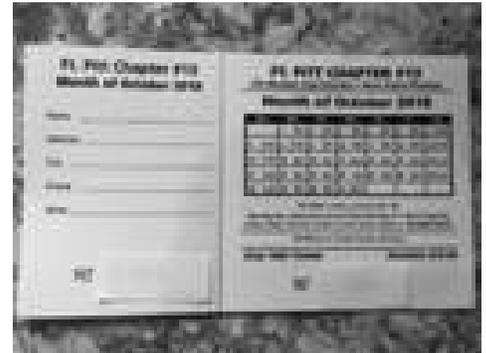
Earlier this year, we provided sponsorship for the Lawrence County annual fund raiser for Cray Youth & Family Services 1-2-1 Mentoring project. The event was a great success raising over \$20,000 to support one to one mentoring relationships between caring adults and at-risk youth in the New Castle community.



## Quarterly Chapter **Lottery Calendar**

Each year in January, April, July and October, Fort Pitt conducts our major fund raising event in the form of a lottery calendar. This is our best fund raiser for the Chapter, but it requires much effort to sell 1,000 chances, four times a year. In this issue, as you have seen in past issues, you will see the list of the winners of previous lottery with prizes ranging between \$50 and \$500.

You can help by purchasing a ticket for \$10.00. The January 2019 lottery will be our next ticket. We can also put your name on our mailing list to automatically receive your ticket(s) from Marlene & Dorothy at the Pioneer Office. Very often we have unsold tickets returned to the office so if you can help to buy any or sell a bunch please call Gerry McLaughlin at 412-823-7777 to purchase a ticket or to be put on the mailing list.



*All winners are paid within 30 days of the drawing date.*

*“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?”*

*Martin Luther King, Jr.*

## **BOX TOP\$ for Education**

Help us help the schools by cutting Box Top’s coupon from the many products that carry them! They are only requiring that you cut the “official coupon” for Box Top\$ (no UPC’s).



You can send the Box Top\$ in the US Mail to:  
Gerry McLaughlin 216 Ohio St., Monroeville, PA 15146

**MANY THANKS TO THOSE OF YOU  
ALREADY SENDING THE & BOX TOP\$!**



# In Memoriam

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Donald E. Aubel	Meadville	Karen Heppner	Greensburg
Pauline H. Austeri	Greensburg	Dorothy S. Hickey	Pittsburg
Dolores A. Bambach	Pittsburgh	David K. Hobbs	Apollo
Esther Barrow	Beaver Falls	John S. Horn, Jr.	Oakmont
George Beck	Florida	Myrna A. Huston	Cabot
Anthony P. Bello	Charleroi	James P. Irish	Pittsburgh
Richard G. Bender	Sharon	John A. Jenkins	Pittsburgh
Gerald J. Bialek	Shaler	Helen B. Kloss	Pittsburgh
John E. Bienia	Hunker	Roy Krzewinski	Florida
Ronald Boehmer	Canonsburg	Iris H. Medvid	Oakdale
John A. Bogus	Brownsville	Carl H. Nelson	McKeesport
Mary Boyle	Munhall	Fred G. Overfield, Jr.	North Huntingdon
Austin G. Boyles	Florida	Judith A. Pierce	Marienville
Frederick J. Bracco	New Kensington	Rita A. Reichard	St. Marys
Barbara A. Brink	Walston	Michael J. Rogers	Pittsburgh
Barry F. Brunner	Pittsburgh	Dolores C. Russell	Gibsonia
Grace M. Buckley	Pittsburgh	Helen M. Shirey	Latrobe
Ann Calaski	Pittsburgh	Jean S. Steele	Florida
Eileen L. Chec	Ohio	Paul J. Stratthaus	Bethel Park
Ralph D. Chianelli	Florida	Garnet P. Sutton	Indiana
Ronald T. Cully	Pittsburgh	William L. Swanson	Bradford
Richard H. Dean	New Castle	Harry Teti	Pittsburgh
Esther M. Dietrick	Cheswick	Ruth E. Tubbs	Ohio
John R. Duskey	Washington	Ronald F. Welch	Eldred
Frederick W. Enfield	Greensburg	Vernetta T. Williams	Nevada
Robert W. Etzel	Cabot	Jane L. Yanda	Zelienople
Donald L. Gasmire	Houston	Elizabeth K. Zubenko	Ohio
Anna M. Grippo	Greensburg		

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## Fort Pitt Club President & Past Club President In Memoriam

**We were saddened to lose two of our Fort Pitt Chapters Club Presidents, Barbara Brink & Esther Dietrick this year.**

For many years, Barb Astorino Brink, represented the DuBois Club, Mt. Laurel Council members as their President. Barb passed away in April in Brookville, PA. She was quite active not only with Pioneers but also at her Church serving as a Eucharistic Minister and working at the Church dinners.

And just in August, we very suddenly lost our Allegheny Club Life Member President, Esther Dietrick. Esther was still working on her projects with the Little Sisters of the Poor on the Northside, Meals On Wheels in the Springdale/Cheswick area, helping with shut-ins and selling our quarterly lottery tickets. She also kept herself busy with bowling, baking and gardening.

We will miss both of these very dedicated Pioneers.

We strive to keep our membership list up to date, so if you become aware of another Pioneers passing, please notify the office with a copy of the obituary. Thank You

# Pittsburgh Inn ~ Erie, PA

The owners son fought in Iraq and has long since returned home, but Robin Weunski and her gang continue to send soldier care packages focusing on comfort items to the men and women who are still serving there. Even though you don't hear about it in the news, there are still about 5,000 soldiers still in Iraq. "If I can make just one day in their life just a little bit easier," she said, "then it's worth it." Yvonne Klick, our Meadville Club President, checks in with Robin to see what they are in need of and rushes to provide those items: baby wipes, batteries, toiletries, socks, foot powder, whatever we can provide to help fill the boxes that Robin mails.



## Some important information regarding Verizon / Bell Retiree benefits

Retirees, please make sure your Family is aware of the Death Benefit that you are entitled to! Many families have contacted the Pioneer Office for information and we thought we should share this with you to keep with your important papers.

It is recommended that all retirees call the benefits office to check on their eligibility, confirm their beneficiary information and ask for written confirmation. Verizon Benefits number is 1-855-489-2367. You will need to provide the last four digits of your social security number, your date of birth and your zip code. At this number you can check on your Life Insurance and also the Sickness/Pensioner Death Benefit (these are two separate benefits). The benefits office will provide written confirmation that you can keep in a safe place.



## Birthday Bags for Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank

In August, Pat Szyper presented 10 birthday bags to the agency, overflowing with items for a birthday party including a cake mix, icing, candles, balloons, etc. The Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank was very happy to receive these Birthday goodie bags provided by donations from Pat, Mary Palfy, Marilyn Fleischman, Sandy Patton, Mo O'Neil, Gerrie Muto, Barb Belanski and Karen Glotzbach.

*Thanks Ladies!*

## ***Penn Hills Service Association***

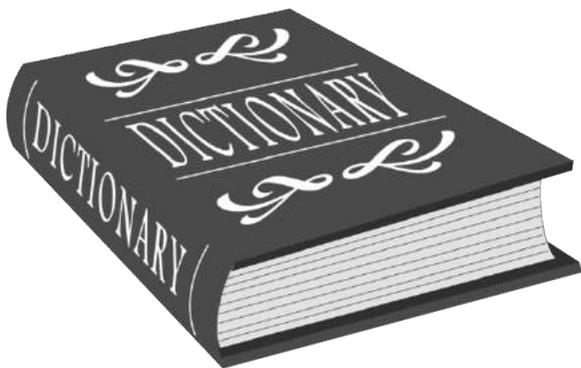
Don recently delivered a donation to Ed Hoover at the Penn Hills Service Association to help with their food bank. For the last four years we have been able to help with their supplies.



# Dictionary Report

In this age of electronic devices, print dictionaries continue to be an essential resource for students everywhere. A dictionary that is a book that a child can hold encourages browsing and discovery. By opening the pages of a dictionary, a younger user can immediately see all of the kinds of information about words that are shown. Exploring the pages of a dictionary triggers the natural curiosity of children and helps develop a love for language. The goal of Fort Pitt is to distribute about 40 dozen of these books! If you know of a third grade class that is in need of a dictionary or fourth grade class that can use a thesaurus, please contact Nancy Riley at 412-884-4711.

If we still have room left in the budget, we can get those books ordered for your school! Thanks for putting the word out!

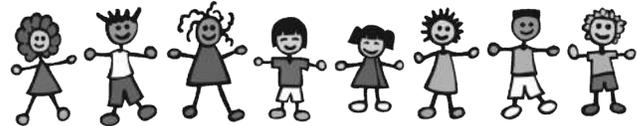


## 40th Annual International Sports Jamboree North Bend State Park July, 2018

For more than a quarter century, youths from across the United States and Canada have come to West Virginia's North Bend State Park in the summer to enjoy what many of us take for granted. Racing, softball throw, basket Frisbee, horseshoes, bump-me-ball, bowling and team relay are just some of the events, in addition to dancing and singing with fellow campers, and squirting each other with water guns. At the International Sports Jamboree for the physically challenged, a yearly event sponsored by the New Vision West Virginia Pioneers as well as AT&T Pioneers, young adults, teens and pre-teens who are visually impaired or physically impaired can participate in recreational events designed for them. The theme this year was "We Are All Wonderfully Made", was held July 20-22 and was a really big success with 39 participants.

Basketball hoops "beep" so they can toss free throws into nets they cannot see. Wheelchairs fly down 40-yard slalom courses. Participants form teams for special contests like a pilot race in which a visually impaired contestant pushes a partner in a wheelchair with ever so careful directions.

Fort Pitt Chapter was proud to be a sponsor of this wonderful yearly event making a "Silver Level" donation in support of travel, accommodations and meals for participants.



## Southwestern Veterans Center Volunteer Appreciation Dinner



In April, Southwestern Veterans Center honored their volunteers with a dinner and entertainment. Attending was Don & Ro McIlrath, Gerry DeMeo and Gerry McLaughlin. The Sharing & Caring President, Bob Abbott, was honored as their Volunteer of the Year!

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# Senior Representative & Member at Large Report

All year long we prepare the Blessing Bags and can always use donations of soap and toiletries. We also supply yarn to our (Happy Hooker) who makes lap robes that we give to the elderly in nursing homes and to Alzheimer patients. We still visit Bethlehem Haven, Shepherd's Heart, Jeremiahs Place and St. Joseph's House of Hospitality with donations needed there. Some of the items needed are children's books, crayons, coloring books and also gently used Fall/Winter coats for Veterans and the homeless. Thank you!

Donna M. Gallagher, Member at Large  
Philip H. Gallagher, Senior Representative

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## Holiday Gift Tags

Remember when we used to collect the used greeting card fronts for St. Jude's Ranch? Well that project ended last year when we determined that St. Jude's Children's Ranch was no longer performing that project. But.....we had tons of assorted card fronts on hand.

Bonnie Adams granddaughter, Eve and five of her friends, "The Six-Pack" resourcefully came up with a fund-raising project to help Fort Pitt Chapter by creating Christmas gift tags! They have cut away the pictures from the cards, and on the back of the tag used a "TO" & "FROM" rubber stamp and attached pretty ribbons for tying the tags on your gifts.



They will be bagging 25 of these adorable gift tags and selling for a \$5.00 donation (plus \$1.00 for shipping).

Get your o

order in now, so the girls can get busy with their volunteer work and have the tags ready for your Holiday packages!

- Place your order with Bonnie at 2580 Grandview Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15235
- Make your check payable to: "TP-Fort Pitt Chapter"
- Email any questions to: badams1230@verizon.net or call her at 412-731-1641

*Thank you for your support!*

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## Southwestern Veterans Center

Our retired service members are provided assistance at Southwestern Veterans Center which is a residential care facility for over 200 patients. In September, Fort Pitt sponsored a bingo there and will return in November for a special holiday bingo when we sponsor the prizes, and provide refreshments for the residents. We also support their monthly birthday celebrations with a giant sheet cake that serves about 80 of the residents.

Also, Sharing & Caring sponsors a bingo at Southwestern Veterans Center monthly on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 2:00 PM. Please contact Don McIlrath if you would like to help at the bingo. Please come along to help serve if you are free, you will have a wonderful time interacting with the men and women there!

# Bell Telephone / Verizon / Pioneers Retirees Luncheon

When: Thursday, October 11, 2018 ~ 1:00 to 3:00 PM  
Where: Scott Twp. Firehall, New Castle  
Menu: Choice of Braised Steak ~ or ~ Stuffed Chicken Breast

## **Dessert & Soft Drinks included**

**Price: \$15.00    RSVP by October 5**

For reservations, call Helen at 724-658-9900 or Patti at 724-656-1086.  
If no answer, leave your name and phone number and we will return  
your call to confirm your reservation!



## **Discounts available to Pioneer Members**

Pioneer members have many benefits available to them! Maybe you have received an email or a flyer in the mail telling you of the benefits to our members, so this is a reminder of the Companies that offer discounts that our Headquarters have negotiated for us.

For additional information about the benefits the Companies offer to Pioneers, please visit the Member Benefits Center at [www.pioneersvolunteer.org](http://www.pioneersvolunteer.org)

# FINANCIAL UPDATE- Mid-Year 2018

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Many thanks to those of you who took the time to read and respond to the articles that were in our past issues of the Tele-All regarding our finances. You already know by now that we are no longer supported by a grant from Verizon to continue volunteer activities. Out of about 3,800 Fort Pitt members, only 133 are active employees paying dues (\$20 a year) of which we receive a portion. Also, as employees retire, and there are no more dues collected, even less is received. So far in 2018, we lost the dues of about 35 employees, and we are not permitted to solicit new members who are active employees.

From the request in our Spring issue, we have received 63 donations for a total of \$2,545 which is a little higher than this time last year. Only about 2% of our members are making a donation. Please remember, we are a self-sufficient charitable organization and we are always looking for new projects to benefit our local neighbors. We can only continue to do these community service projects with your help.

You can see the scope of the projects we perform and hopefully appreciate all of the good work that we carry on for the good of our local communities and to carry on the reputation of "Pioneers - Answering the call of those in need."

One way we can reduce expenses is to eliminate one issue of the Tele-All newsletter each year. The newsletter expenses have increased the past two years along with postage. Because this is our only means of communication with our members, this would be a last resort. You can help us now by making a donation in support of our projects, and the Tele-All printing and distribution

***If you would like to continue to read about our projects and receive the Tele-All, please consider making a donation today. Even \$10 goes a long way when many donations are received!***

Our goal is to demonstrate our commitment to community service opportunities for children, adults, seniors and veterans in areas of education, health and human services, and life enrichment projects. You have been reading about these projects in the Tele-All for years as the Clubs faithfully perform them. Please help us to continue to help these organizations!

*Thank You Very Much!*

Gerry McLaughlin, *President*

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Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Pioneer Office-Fort Pitt Chapter

Check Payable to: **TP-Fort Pitt Chapter**

15 E. Montgomery Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

Do you need a receipt? \_\_\_\_\_

Pittsburgh, PA 15212

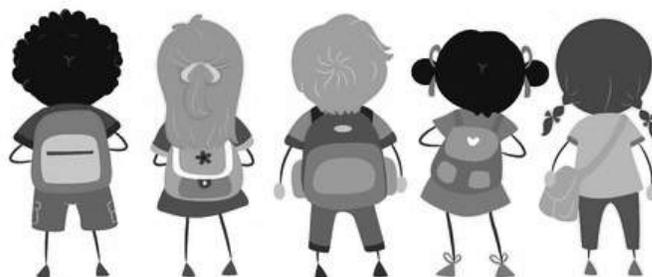
# KUDOS

- from Sharon at Freedom Guide Dogs: Thank you for your kind and continued support of Freedom Guide Dogs. We plan to place 40 new guide dogs in 2018. Your donation will be put towards the harness and harness handle plus the rest of the supplies issued with the guide dogs.
- from Peggy at the Epilepsy Foundation: Your support of the 3rd Annual Mason Langford Memorial Golf Outing was very instrumental in the success of the event with a tremendous accomplishment raising over \$19,000. The funds raised will help to provide information online and programs for families caring for children at risk of Sudden Unexplained Death in Epilepsy.
- from Paulette at Lower Allegheny Valley Meals on Wheels: Thank you for your very generous monetary donation to our organization. We have been preparing and delivering meals to shut-ins for over 45 years now and we greatly appreciate your support and kindness.
- from Martin at Support Our Troops: Thank you for all the time you spend clipping and sorting coupons for us to distribute to the overseas troops' families through Troopons. It is an invaluable service from one human being to another and makes a huge impact on their quality of life in tough situations, particularly helping their kids.
- from Greg at St. Joseph House of Hospitality: Your donation of toiletries, t-shirts and socks are greatly appreciated to clothe the gentlemen we house here. It is with the support of wonderful donors such as yourself and your volunteers that help make it possible for us to house men ages 50 and older who would otherwise be homeless.
- from Dan at the Humane Animal Rescue: Thank you for your in-kind donation of dog and cat food and treats. We truly appreciate your generosity and for thinking of the animals:
- from Captain David at the Salvation Army: Thank you for your generous donation to the Salvation Army of Bradford. We are called to assist those on the margins of life 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year and are always there to extend a hand of help to those in need.
- from Dan at the Humane Animal Rescue: Thank you for your generous donation to our organization. It is only due to the support of friends like you that we are able to continue to offer these programs, which we believe are vital to our community.
- from Katie at Penn Trafford School, Special Education teacher: WOW! Pioneers are amazing! Thank you so much. I truly appreciate all of your help. My Principal was very thankful for the back to school kits and we will share them with our less fortunate students. The world needs more kind people like you!
- from Allisyn at Cray Youth & Family Services: Thank you so very much for your sponsorship of our annual "Bowl-A-Thon". The event was a great success this year, raising over \$20,000 to support one to one mentoring relationships between caring adults and at-risk youth in our community.
- from Jeremiah's Place: Thank you for your donation to Jeremiah's Place. Your generosity allows us to provide needed supplies to the children in our care. We couldn't do it without you.
- from Sherry at Center For Victims: Thank you for your generous in-kind donations of bedding, toiletries and cleaning supplies. It is everything we needed. Pioneers are the BEST!
- from Sister Ligouri at Jubilee Kitchen: Bless you and all the members of Fort Pitt Chapter for your continued support of our ministries and for your recent generous donation of "a car full" of comfort kits, soap, paper towels, pickles and salad dressing.
- from Tom at Light of Life Rescue Mission: Thank you very much for the delivery! This time of year we go through a lot of deodorant, t shirts and underwear so we are always on the lookout. The towels and sheets are already being used!!
- from Dean at Hooked on Books: Thank you for the donation! The kids depend on you for the only books some will ever own.
- from Carolyn at St. Maria Goretti Parish: We gratefully acknowledge the kindness of your Chapter in supporting our work to feed the hungry in the Garfield neighborhood of Pittsburgh. Phil and Donna are people with a heart for their neighbors. Our own resources are limited and donations such as yours allow our mission to continue.
- from Christine at McKean County SPCA: Thank you very much for the generous donation to our shelter. We really appreciate it!
- from Chris at Southwestern Veterans Center: Please extend a thank you to your Board. The Bingo parties and the monthly Birthday Cake is appreciated beyond words. Our Veterans look forward to the cake each month and it has become one of their favorite activities.
- from Sister Mary at Little Sisters of the Poor: Everything we set out to accomplish is guided by the voice of our foundress, "Make the elderly happy – that is what counts!". Your support helps us to make these opportunities a reality for our Residents and gives them joy in their twilight years.
- from Dan at Life Of Life Rescue Mission: On behalf of the Light of Life Rescue Mission, many thanks for the hats and gloves. They will keep many warm this winter. Thank you New Vision Pioneers!
- from Robbin, teacher at Center Elementary School: Thank you so much for the wonderful school supplies your Chapter purchased for my class room! We will also share supplies with students who are disadvantaged. That was very generous of your organization and they will all be put to good use!

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# Blessings in a Backpack

*Feeding The Future Of America*<sup>®</sup>



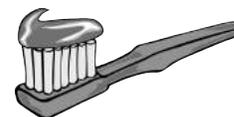
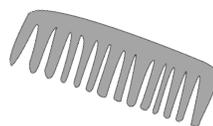
Since 2005, Stephen Foster Club has been directly involved with the Blessings in a Backpack operation in the Wilkinsburg School District. Blessings in a Backpack is a national program that started with two schools and now serves more than 76,000 students in 44 states. It provides food for elementary school children who qualify for the federal free or reduced-cost meal program to take home for food for 38 weekends during the school year. We are proud to be affiliated with this project for almost 15 years.

All of the food is purchased with donations and costs about \$2.10 per child per week. Each week at 1:00 PM on Thursdays, the Founder, Linda Lafferty and volunteers, pick up the week's order from Sam's Club and then they head to Kelly Elementary School to pack 550 bags. They are usually done by 3:00 PM. The bags are filled with a package of macaroni and cheese, crackers, an individual size box of cereal, two juice boxes, a crisped rice treat, a cup of pudding or fruit, a package of microwave popcorn and fruit snacks.

Blessings need help with their packing operation! If you can help, at Kelly School in Wilkinsburg on any Thursday, please contact Linda Lafferty at 412-327-9742.

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## TOILETRY COLLECTIONS



As you travel, please collect the sample size soap, shampoo, lotion and any complimentary items provided by the hotels. These items are used to pack hygiene kits for the homeless folks and sent to Operation Save-A-Life, Operation Safety Net, Family Links and Jubilee Kitchen in Pittsburgh. We are no longer packing at the Verizon Garage in Monroeville and have moved the operation to Linda Schirano's home in Monroeville.

These kits are crucial - the agencies we serve continue to ask for them all year round and we typically prepare and distribute 100 kits a month. Other items that are always needed to complete the kits are washcloths, sample size toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, combs and quart size zip lock bags.

**You can mail the toiletries in the U.S. Mail to me: Gerry McLaughlin, 216 Ohio Street, Monroeville, PA 15146, or if you are local, please call me and we can coordinate a pick up. My number is 412-823-7777. Thank you all very much!**

# \$\$ FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FORT PITT CHAPTER \$\$



Internet Fund Raising

At the Group level, and as an attempt to help all of the Chapters raise money for their organizations, New Vision Pioneers Resource Development Team has researched and recommended the following two Companies for purchase of their products. Every purchase you make generates a 'royalty' that is directly returned to our Chapter. These promotions are typically seasonal and great products and values. Thanks for looking and give them a try!

RADA Manufacturing Company is located in Waverly, Iowa and has been manufacturing cutlery since 1948 and has earned the reputation of being remarkable.

Their products are 100% American Made, and are used in millions of homes every day. Now Pioneers, their friends and family have an opportunity to purchase this remarkable product and at the same time support Pioneer projects.

Please take a moment to look at the on-line catalog and make a purchase which is "Made in the USA" and has a Lifetime Guarantee. On-line ordering instructions:

1. Go to this website: [www.bit.ly/2yhCnLR](http://www.bit.ly/2yhCnLR)
2. Click on BROWSE and browse the Catalog
3. Place your order

# Flower Petal

The New Vision Pioneers Fort Pitt Chapter #13 have partnered with flowerpetal.com to provide you a state-of-the-art shopping experience and unparalleled service for purchasing flowers and gifts online.

## How does it work?

flowerpetal.com is a Las Vegas-based e-commerce provider servicing the flower and gift industry. They handle order processing, fulfillment and customer service, all backed by their 100% Satisfaction Guarantee. Flowers are reasonably priced, available for any occasion and are filled by local florists!

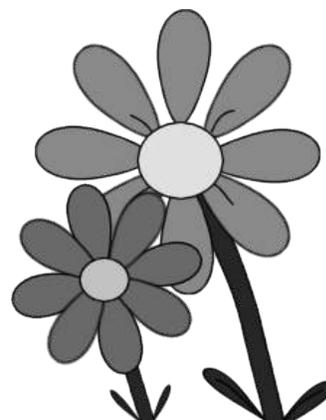
In addition to their website, you can also order by calling toll free:

**1-800-444-0531**

**(24 hours a day/7 days a week)**

**or by FAX at 1-800-530-6059**

Many of our members have used Flower Petal for ordering flowers and have been very pleased. Give them a try for your next flower delivery!





New Vision Pioneers and Fort Pitt Chapter are pleased to announce a new fund-raiser with Terry Lynn Quality Foods.

They have earned their reputation as one of the most committed and respected ingredient suppliers in the United States by producing consistent, quality ingredients. Terri Lynn is a direct source supplier of nuts, dried fruits, chocolate-covered and yogurt-coated products. Their clientele consists mainly of confectioners, bakeries, dairies (ice cream manufacturers), restaurants, retailers and fundraising organizations. Products are roasted, cut, mixed, candy coated, processed and shipped directly from the Elgin, Illinois Headquarters.

We were lucky enough to sample their high quality products at one of our meetings and were quite pleased. Terri Lynn Fundraising features only the highest quality products, attractively packaged at prices that simply can't be beat. Please take a look at their on-line catalog using the link below to help us with our fundraising efforts. Consider ordering their dried fruits chocolates and nuts for Holiday gifts...you won't be disappointed!

**[nvpioneers.terrilynncares.com](http://nvpioneers.terrilynncares.com)**

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We are excited to be partnering with FUN PASTA FUNDRAISING! Shop now and order some creative, delicious pasta goodies. It's simple, and you'll love the selection – great for any special occasion, fun for the kids or just for yourself!

With each sale, our group earns 40% which helps us reach our Dish It Up fundraising goal to feed healthy food to families in need. Plus you get free shipping over \$50! There are some great packages that are great for Holiday gift giving, swaps or Teacher gifts. Thanks for your help!



**[www.funpastafundraising.com/shop/new-vision-pioneers-3](http://www.funpastafundraising.com/shop/new-vision-pioneers-3)**

Your order will be shipped from Nashville, TN within 3-5 days

**We will once again be selling Koeze Nuts  
during the 2018 Holiday Season.**

**If you are interested in ordering,  
please call Marlene at the Pioneer Office for a price sheet.  
412-237-3206 or 412-237-3208**

# Telecom Pioneers Charitable Foundation

Fort Pitt Chapter was the recipient of another Grant this year from the Telecom Pioneers Charitable Foundation. The theme for this Grant was "Pioneers Giving Hope". We decided to stretch this budget as far as possible and used it for 10 local projects to help the following agencies:

**Auberle Home**  
**Erie City Mission**  
**Jubilee Kitchen**

**Center For Victims**  
**Jeremiah's Place**  
**St. James Shelter for Men**  
**Shepherd's Heart**

**Community Shelter Services**  
**Greenhouse Womens Shelter**  
**Light of Life Rescue Mission**

Overall, 22 volunteers worked 123 hours to serve 436 clients with essential products such as pajamas, toiletries, cleaning products, socks, underwear, sheets and blankets, food and cooking supplies, towels, a vacuum cleaner, paper towels, diapers, and baby wipes. In addition to the Grant, Chapter matched some of the funds used for this project. The agencies were very grateful for our support as you can see in our Kudo's!

Here are some pictures from our projects:



**Jeremiah's Place**



**Shepherd's Heart**



**Greenhouse Women's Shelter**



**St. James Shelter**



**Auberle Home**



**Community Shelter Services**

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**?? CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR REMOVE FROM TELE-ALL MAILING LIST ??**

\_\_\_\_\_ Change of Address

\_\_\_\_\_ Remove from Mailing List

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to:** Pioneer Office, 15 E. Montgomery Ave., 1st Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

# APRIL 2018 WINNERS–Chapter Lottery Calendar

## AFTERNOON DRAWING

## EVENING DRAWING

1	Chuck Snyder	500.00	1	Josephine Valenti	500.00
2	Patti Eurich	50.00	2	Donna Butler	50.00
3	Carol Witt	50.00	3	Adam Dunmire	50.00
4	Nick Kuzy	50.00	4	Marion Samber	50.00
5	Jennifer Ward	50.00	5	Tom Long	50.00
6	Rene Bohonok	50.00	6	Brittany Weaver	50.00
7	Matthew Skelley	100.00	7	Charlene Phillips	100.00
8	Dave Lovis	100.00	8	Gerry Donnelly	100.00
9	Ray Stephenson	50.00	9	Harold Little	50.00
10	Nancy Chisnell	100.00	10	Jeanne Rowe	100.00
11	Nancy Fenton	50.00	11	Eleanora Milbert	50.00
12	Arlene Vitril	50.00	12	Dorothy Overlingas	50.00
13	Janet Sobek	50.00	13	Josephine Markulin	50.00
14	Dawn Cramer	100.00	14	Elizabeth Lysy	100.00
15	Sue Schultz	100.00	15	Lawrence Spontak	100.00
16	Carrie Lowe	50.00	16	Pat Fitzgerald	50.00
17	Kimberly Amadio	50.00	17	Jacob & Ella Pedley	50.00
18	Janet Sobek	50.00	18	Judy Rushe	50.00
19	Gary Wiegand	50.00	19	Nick Kuzy	50.00
20	Mabel Williams	50.00	20	Dorothy Graham	50.00
21	Mary Yelich	100.00	21	Lauren Valenti	100.00
22	Jamie Daugherty	100.00	22	Eleanor Rose	100.00
23	Barbara Samber	50.00	23	Mary Ann Voetman	50.00
24	Maria Kunkle	150.00	24	Chris Morris	150.00
25	Romaine McIlrath	50.00	25	Cece Prosser	50.00
26	Renee Lazuka	50.00	26	Caitlin Vlosich	50.00
27	Gloria O'Hara	50.00	27	Josephine Valenti	50.00
28	D. Gregg	100.00	28	Anna Marie Solomond	100.00
29	Barb Manning	100.00	29	Mary Ann Voetman	100.00
30	Herbert Brown	50.00	30	Edwin Yates	50.00

# JULY 2018 WINNERS–Chapter Lottery Calendar

## AFTERNOON DRAWING

## EVENING DRAWING

1	Shirley Chelli	100.00	1	Denny Howarth	100.00
2	Roger Jordan Matthews	50.00	2	Terrie LaPlace	50.00
3	Roy Glockel	50.00	3	Joanne Oregia	50.00
4	Patricia Ann Maxwell	500.00	4	Mark Garrity	500.00
5	Romaine McIlrath	50.00	5	Dolores Strube	50.00
6	Rob Pedley	50.00	6	Janet Rominski	50.00
7	Jared Nikolic	100.00	7	Edwin Yates	100.00
8	William Scranton	100.00	8	K Eadie	100.00
9	Nancy Kosanovic	50.00	9	Judith Biedzinski	50.00
10	Dolores Strube	50.00	10	Anna Suchy	50.00
11	Marie Perticone	50.00	11	Raymond Kondas	50.00
12	Judith Mullin	50.00	12	Karen Muscia	50.00
13	Mattie England	50.00	13	Loretta Petrigo	50.00
14	Lloyd Higinbotham	100.00	14	Sharon McAfee	100.00
15	Phyllis Valenti	100.00	15	Sharon Pogue	100.00
16	Yvonne Mangan	50.00	16	Sophia Berdai	50.00
17	Rebecca Farabaugh	50.00	17	Grace Fike	50.00
18	Jim Connors	100.00	18	Carol Wateska	100.00
19	Mary Zavislan	50.00	19	Raymond Stephenson	50.00
20	Paul Haas	50.00	20	Cassie Pendleton	50.00
21	Tony Mendicino	100.00	21	K & K Kelly	100.00
22	Mary Ann Sadler	100.00	22	Debbie Hill	100.00
23	Tom Decaro	50.00	23	Nancy Schick	50.00
24	Tom Berkowitz	50.00	24	Diane Sobon	50.00
25	Gary Wiegand	50.00	25	Laura Reed	50.00
26	Pat Girard	50.00	26	Terry Meyers	50.00
27	Janet Kelly	50.00	27	Heather Perkins	50.00
28	Diane Sobon	100.00	28	George Sanko	100.00
29	Chuck Murphy	100.00	29	P. Stamerra	100.00
30	Tina Manning	50.00	30	Mary Eleanor Rose	50.00
31	Jeffrey Haney	50.00	31	Denny Stormer	50.00

# CLUB PRESIDENT & COMMITTEE PROJECTS

**Allegheny Club, Esther Dietrick:** Little Sisters of the Poor, bingos at Kane Hospital, Springdale/Cheswick Food Bank

**Frontier Club, Kim Scranton:** Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl-A-Thon in New Castle, coordinator for yearly Kennywood Ticket donation and lottery license

**Gateway Club, Marlene Yurochko:** Light of Life Mission on the Northside, the Western Pennsylvania Humane Society, Freedom Guide Dogs, Fund Raising Coordinator and Pioneer Office Staff

**Bradford Club, Carol Felmlee:** McKean County SPCA, McKean County Food Bank, Christian Church Food Bank and Smethport Food Bank

**DuBois Club, Nancy Williams:** DuBois Food Bank and DuBois Salvation Army, Church support services

**Meadville Club, Yvonne Klick:** Community Shelter Services, Erie City Mission, Greenhouse Women's Shelter, Crawford County Humane Society, Project Troops (postage), Vietnam Vets Post 52, Salvation Army, St. James Shelter for Men, the Pittsburgh Inn Military Care package project, Hooked on Books, and Emmaus Soup Kitchen

**National Trail Club, Pat O'Brien:** First Christian Church, Calvary Methodist Church, Canonsburg Meals on Wheels, and Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh

**Stephen Foster Club, Mary Palfy:** Birthday Bags for Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, Project Star holiday project, Blessings in a Backpack, Power Women's Shelter, Plum Food Bank, Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank and Western Pennsylvania School for the Blind Easter Egg Hunt

**Warren Club, Casey Jones:** Monthly bingo's at Warren State Hospital

**Member At Large, Lynne Price:** Sock drive for the Sharing & Caring Boat Ride, The Annual Western Pennsylvania Golf Outing and Boat Ride for Sharing & Caring, and the yearly auction for the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf

**Member At Large, Bonnie Adams:** Summer camp for volunteer coaching, kidsHELP card sorting for Sharing & Caring Veterans, "Change for a Change" fund raiser for Christmas project, school supplies for NCJW, Prom Event with NCJW organization, Christmas project for toys and PJ's for various agencies and women's shelters

**Member At Large & Senior Representatives, Donna & Phil Gallagher:** Preparation of 3 gift baskets for various fundraisers, Shepherds Heart food and clothing donations, Blessing Bags, Bloomfield/Garfield Food Bank, St Maria Goretti Food Bank, Arden Court, St. Joseph House of Hospitality and Jeremiah's Place emergency crisis shelter for children

**Member At Large, Don McIlrath:** Sharing & Caring golf Outing and Boat ride and monthly bingo at Southwestern Veterans Center, Penn Hills Service Association, Quilts of Valor Fund Raiser

**President, Gerry McLaughlin:** Humane Animal Rescue, Southwestern Veterans Center, Hillcrest Pre-School, Ladies of Charity Food Bank, Center For Victims, Valentine's Day Project at ICCC, school supplies for various schools

All Clubs go outside of their budgeted projects to help with shut-ins, donate their time at Church, nursing homes and schools, collect pop-tab, toiletries, glasses, cell phones, greeting cards, socks, Box Tops, supplies for the animal shelters and cut grocery store coupons for the Troopons project!

New Vision Pioneers  
15 E. Montgomery Avenue, Floor 1  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Phone: 412-237-3206  
Voice Mail: 412-237-3208  
FAX: 412-231-2369

Email: [ftpitt.pioneers@verizon.net](mailto:ftpitt.pioneers@verizon.net)

[www.newvision-fortpittpioneers.org](http://www.newvision-fortpittpioneers.org)

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