Honor Your Long-time Volunteer Harriette Scott

The Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry honored Harriette Scott at our Swing Into Spring Dinner Dance on May 4. We thanked her for her many years of dedication and leadership, and for the creativity, passion and compassion she has shared.

Harriette came to us in 2004 through her membership at Bedford Presbyterian Church. Beginning as a distribution volunteer, she soon expanded her role, taking on a variety of tasks and learning about every aspect of the Pantry. After joining the Board in 2009, she was soon asked to serve as Vice President and was named Board President in 2011. She served as Board President during difficult economic times when our client numbers were growing fast. Harriette led the Board not just in meeting this growing demand but with long-range planning. She arranged for produce to come to the Pantry from local farmers and she began our program cooking made from Pantry products!

Since leaving the Board, Harriette remains active in Pantry activities. She is often found at distributions, with her signature friendly smile, greeting our clients, and lending a helping hand wherever one is needed.

Choice. Many clients do not have outdoor space for gardens, but tomato plants can thrive in containers. One plant can yield up to fifty tomatoes during the growing season. That’s ten pounds!

“I realized that I could bring my passion for nutrition to benefit the community through this project,” she says. Her interest in nutrition grew after working on a science research project on sustainability in a school class.

About food insecurity, Caroline says, “Just because we don’t see that every day doesn’t mean it isn’t there.” Caroline looks forward to bringing her project to more food pantries in the area.

Caroline Gershman

Caroline Gershman, fourth from the left, with clients in her planting class.

Caroline Gershman

Caroline Gershman truly has the volunteer spirit! “It’s different from other jobs, because here you are helping the community.” Since 8th grade, Nicholas has made six trips to rural West Virginia with Appalachian Service Project. He will be pursuing his passion for music next year at The Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam.

Let’s let them know how much they are appreciated!

Seniors.

“Senior Bus” (continued from page 1)

\[\text{Seniors to shopping even more. Currently, there are 12 seniors at Pinecrest who have signed up for the bus, but Horowitz expects that number to grow. To make shopping more senior-friendly, the Pantry has started amplifying wait-room announcements to make them easier to hear.}\]

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Our Mission
The Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry is an affiliation of faith-based congregations dedicated to providing supplemental food to underserved residents of northern Westchester. We are committed to creating a healthier and stronger community. Our volunteer efforts respect the dignity of those we serve and are an expression of the spiritual mission of our member institutions.

Please send your gift to:
MKIFP
P.O. Box 834
Mount Kisco, NY 10549

Please make checks payable to:
The Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry

To donate online, go to:
www.mountkiscofoodpantry.org

The Food Pantry is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. Your gift is tax deductible.

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A Visit to the Pantry is Getting Easier for Seniors
by Suzanne Chazin

SENIOR use of the Pantry has jumped 16% over the past year, making seniors the fastest-growing segment of clients. For many seniors however, the challenge is getting here.

"Many seniors don't have their own transportation," notes Roberta Horowitz, Director of Operations and Programs. The cost of a cab in Mount Kisco—about $6 each way, plus tips—can be prohibitive for someone struggling on a budget.

But thanks to a new initiative begun in March, seniors now have a free and easy way to get to the Pantry.

Every other Wednesday, seniors can take a bus from Pincrest Manor, an affordable housing complex located at 1100 Amuso Drive in Mount Kisco.

The complex has more than 60 residents over the age of 61, so there is a large group of potential clients who can take advantage of the service. "These are seniors living independently," says Horowitz, who came up with the idea. "Many could make use of the Pantry, if only they could get here." The bus departs at 9:45am and returns about 25 minutes later. It's a time when lines are usually short, enabling

A "Growing" Teen Activist
by Erica Dunne, Our Teen Reporter

Caroline Gershman, a sophomore at Horace Greeley High School in Chappaqua, has found a simple way to do this. On Tuesday May 14, she came to the Pantry and taught nine clients how to grow tomato plants in containers.

The complex provided instructions in both English and Spanish on how to plant and care for "Patio" tomatoes, which are easy to cultivate. She gave each client a starter tomato plant, a stake, and a five-gallon bucket pot, all generously donated by Michael's Garden Gate Nursery in Mount Kisco.

Caroline showed clients how to plant and where to

Yes, I want to make a tax-deductible contribution!

Name(s):
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City/State/Zip:
Email:
Amount:  $25  $50  $100  $150  $250  Other:
Honoree's Name:
Amount:  $25  $50  $100  $150  $250  Other:

(See "Teens," cont'd on page 2)