

Ansonia Chargers, officials volunteer at Salvation Army pantry 150 families receive food for Thanksgiving

By Sharon Voroschak
Special to the Valley-Voice

Photos by Agathe Likoba and Sharon Voroschak

ANSONIA - The Ansonia High School football team, community leaders, and energized volunteers Friday gathered at Salvation Army Greater Valley, 26 Lester St.



Their mission was clear: Unload fresh produce for Thanksgiving food bags.

When Salvation Army Major Juan Ramos was unloading the many pallets of produce he exclaimed “Food for the community!”

By noon time, the room was packed with food, people, and hopefulness!

Then the room was energized as 30 members of the Ansonia Chargers football team came through the door.

With the guidance of Major Caroline Ramos and work

stations organized by Bobbi Tar, the players went to work and food bags were assembled in an hour.

On hand to help out was Coach Thomas Brockett, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph DiBacco and Assistant Superintendent Stephen Bergin.

DiBacco said, “Ansonia is about a community that cares for one another.”

Members of the Ansonia football team exemplified this, with their “happy-to-help” positive approach.

When finished, team members asked if they could sweep and mop and if there was anything else they could do for them.

Everyone there was moved by the athletes’ eagerness to help.

State Sen. George Logan commented, “It was heartwarming to see those kids so happy about doing a good deed.”

Continued on P.2



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Continued from P.1

Tar said, “I want to thank those who donated at the last minute to fill the gap, especially Thanh D Ngo, owner of [Tips to Toes](#) nail salon who donated the rest of what the Salvation Army needed.”

Majors Caroline and Juan Ramos thanked everyone “for their compassion to participate in the Thanksgiving effort. [Thanks to them] 150 families will be served.”



Thanks go to the following for their time and efforts: Advisory Chair Bob VanEgghen, Mayor David Cassetti; Reps. Themis Klarides and Nicole Klarides-Ditria; Aldermen Lori Vaccaro; Chicago Rivers; Alderman elect Tony Mammone; Matt Shwartz, Irene Krom-Kirby, Dawn Anthony Ossie and Jeremy Musinicki, *Orange You for Ansonia*; Agathe Likoba; Tanya Lathrop and Barbara Howard; Ansonia Dunkin Donuts.

Sofferman family continues 33-year tradition Shelton dentist collects food, funds for Spooner House

By Patricia Villers

SHELTON - The holiday season is one of giving, community, and tradition.

And for the past 33 years Dr. Bruce Sofferman, his wife, Deborah, and their daughter, Sophia have epitomized all three.

On Thursday the Soffermans once again dressed in Pilgrim costumes and Sophia wore Native American style clothing as they collected turkeys and non-perishable food items for Spooner House food bank.

They braved the cold outside of Sofferman’s Smile Dental office at 1000 Bridgeport Ave. to greet those who stopped by to drop off food and make cash donations.

A turkey-costumed Brendan Carey accompanied them, as he has in the past.

Spooner House homeless shelter is at 30 Todd Road. The food that was collected will be included in Thanksgiving baskets for 600 needy families in the Valley.

