

Rotary Club of Salem

Bellringers

2/24/2021

Mark Hunter of Union Gospel Mission is ringing the bell 4 times honor the new Union Gospel Mission - targeted to come on-line mid-June of this year. It has been said - "Reality is often times dreams once had." The dream of a new expanded shelter and improved services for our homeless neighbors was launched more than 20 years ago. With diligence and the support of a generous community these past four years that dream will become a reality this summer. It will include:

- 150 more beds than the existing shelter, providing a total of 300.
- Recovery apartments that will serve 78 men working to leave homelessness and re-enter our community.
- A dining room that will seat 220 at one time rather than 60 in shifts.
- A health center that will allow access to physical and mental health needs.
- An expanded learning center with 4 classrooms, a GED testing lab, a library and computer lab with 20 stations
- And the cornerstone - a new chapel that will seat more than 250 and will be available for community events.

It's coming and it's coming soon. If you want a tour and to learn more about the last 120 days of this project, contact Mark Hunter at mhunter@ugmsalem.org or at 971-701-9311.

Ron Keleman is ringing the bell for Salem City Manager Steve Powers and all of the city staff that worked so hard to de-ice our streets, quickly clear the streets and parks during the ice storm.

Alison Kelley of Liberty House is ringing the bell in honor of our Guest Speaker today, Salem Police Chief Trevor Womack. Chief Womack brings extensive experience to Salem and we are lucky to have him. Chief Womack, we look forward to getting to know you and to working with you. I would also like to honor all the women and men of the Salem Police Department. Having had the professional privilege of working with many law enforcement agencies on various projects throughout my career, I very much appreciate Salem Police Department for their professionalism, expertise, and responsiveness. There have been times when we have had to request help from Salem Police for high-risk situations occurring on our campus. The officers who have responded have always been polite, professional, excellent communicators, and very thoughtful in their help. Policing can be extremely dangerous and there are a wide range of scenarios officers have to respond to. Obviously right now there are a lot of conversations about how policing tactics can improve, and it is my hope that those conversations can happen in the context of respect and appreciation for the challenges and for those who work in law enforcement.

Alison Kelley is ringing the bell in honor of Tom Hoffert and the Salem Area Chamber of Commerce! Thank you for all you do to promote economic vitality in Salem.

Alison Kelley is ringing the bell in honor of all the PGE crews and helpers who came from other states to repair infrastructure and restore electricity. They have been working in cold rain with falling limbs and ice and really dangerous circumstances. Thank you for restoring electricity to our households!

Warren and Linda Bednarz are ringing the bell for Salem Leadership Foundation and their 10th annual Rainfest Golf event. Warren and Linda were the last team to tee off, along with a third person (anonymous) who was their “ringer”) on Monday morning, which means they were the team who had a true “rainy rainfest” on the back nine. They were still honored to be playing in support of Salem Leadership Foundation and their good work in the community. Many of you know their work in building bridges between churches and neighborhoods, enhancing youth programs, serving homeless, etc. etc. Warren and Linda salute the Rotarians who have sponsored them in this year’s Rainfest, as well as those who sponsored other golfers! You know who you are! If you still want to contribute you have until this Saturday to pledge. Just let Linda or Warren know if you wish to contribute to SLF in this way. Ring the Bell for Salem Leadership Foundation’s 10th annual Rainfest and soggy golfing by Warren and Linda Bednarz.

Susanna Owens is ringing the bell for **Holly Berry** and **Rus McCracken**. During the 11 days Susanna was without power, Holly invited her over to do laundry, shower and have a hot meal.

Cyndi Leinassar joined the bell ringer because Holly also extended that generosity to her, offering a bed, a shower, and a meal. Thank you!