

Scott's impact with United Way of Racine County

RACINE — One year after author and billionaire philanthropist MacKenzie Scott used her Medium blog to launch a new brand of giving, United Way of Racine County was one of 46 United Ways that joined forces to demonstrate the collective power of her gifts across the country.

In a Medium blog post titled "The United Way 46: One Year Later," the United Ways chronicle the impact of Scott's giving across their local communities, which range from urban to suburban to rural. From providing basic

needs and rebuilding supports in the aftermath of natural disasters to tackling systemic inequities by bolstering Black-led businesses and nonprofits and stabilizing vulnerable critical sectors such as child care, Scott is helping build stronger, more equitable communities, according to the blog post.

"Her giving allowed us to accelerate projects, dream up innovative ideas, and leverage the funds with purpose — just as she hoped, reads the United Way 46 blog post. "Thank you to Ms. Scott for seeing us for who we are... in-

novative changemakers implicitly focused on equity and inclusion."

At United Way of Racine County, Scott's transformational gift has already had a tangible impact on the community. With the cushion of Scott's significant financial support, United Way of was able to increase its equity-centered work through the creation of the Equity Innovation Fund, provide more support for the technology and training needs of local nonprofits through the creation of the Training and Technology Fund and increase funding

for United Way's LIFT initiative.

"We were humbled by the faith Ms. Scott placed in us to achieve results and our team set out immediately to maximize this gift for Racine County for years to come," Ali Haigh, president and CEO of United Way of Racine County said. "We invite others to follow Ms. Scott's lead and provide hope by investing for the common good."

In addition to the on-the-ground action these United Ways took, Scott's gift also sparked a learning community among

these 46 United Ways. Singled out by Scott for their strong leadership and results, this cohort has swapped insights and learnings as they put Scott's gift into action, Haigh said.

"As Ms. Scott wrote, her gifts are already creating a value beyond what was initially imagined," Haigh said. "And we're just getting started."

To learn more about the Equity Innovation Fund, the Training and Technology Fund and United Way's LIFT initiative, go to UnitedWayRacine.org.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Mason to speak on solar panels

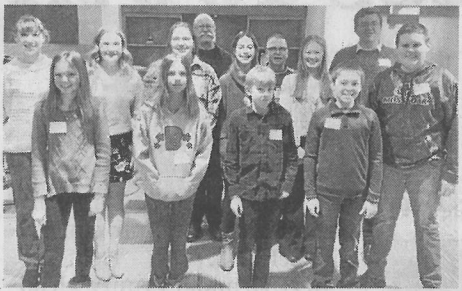
RACINE — March Forth to Earth Day environmentalists will host a public talk by Mayor Cory Mason titled "Go Solar."



Mason

The one-hour talk will be held at noon Friday, March 11, next to one of the city's solar installations at the City Hall Annex, 800 Center St. Mason will talk about the city's solar installations and his commitment to reducing our reliance on fossil fuels. He will share information about the city's partnership with WE Energies, and his efforts to respond to the Biden Administration's climate goals.

The Racine activists, which come from 10 different local environmental, gardening and social justice groups, are joining 15 other Wisconsin communities in planning eight Friday events culminating on Earth Day, April 22.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Eleven of 15 4-H Achievement Award recipients are pictured with Jeff Johnson and Fred Kaste of the Kiwanis Club of Racine.

Kiwanis Club honors 4-H members

RACINE COUNTY — The Kiwanis Club of Racine presented Achievement Awards to members of a number of Racine County 4-H clubs Jan. 18.

First-, second- and third-place awards were issued in three age categories as determined by club leaders for achievement of three or more projects as documented in composition and photos from their club record books.

Award recipients are: Erin Bartelson, Alaina Cushman, Emily Giese, Joshua Hardin, Connor Harris, Tucker Larose, Jason Liberto, Rabeka Liberto, Paige Pirocanac, Trent Robers, Shannon Roberts, Nora Rubach, Ashley Schaal, Abby Waterworth and Josie Weisen-sel.

Cash awards were given with proceeds from the annual Kiwanis peanut sale in October.

Center gets grant for youth program

RACINE — The Volunteer Center of Racine County Inc. received a grant from SC Johnson

to support its Youth Volunteer Corps program in Racine County.

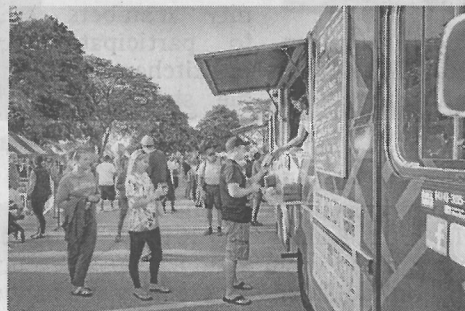
The \$20,000 grant will be used to hire one team leader to supervise and facilitate volunteer activities for participating youth.

"For 20 years SC Johnson has been our primary funding source for the YVC program, which the Volunteer Center has been hosting for over 20 years," said Michelle Ortwein, Volunteer Center executive director.

The mission of the Youth Volunteer Corps (YVC) is to "engage youth in team-based service experiences that build life and work skills while inspiring a lifetime ethic of service." The team leader creates and facilitates service-learning experiences that allow students to learn more about the community and complete service hours for scholarships and college applications, as well as gain skills that can be put on resumes and job applications.

The YVC is currently running Saturday projects as well as several virtual activities. The planning for the summer camp program has begun, which consists of volunteering at one location for a week at a time. This allows students to imbed in the culture and mission of that nonprofit as well as complete their service hours in a short period of time. Those who volunteer all summer can often earn 40 to 100 hours of service, which is the requirement for most clubs, such as National Honor Society, or to obtain sports letters or pins as well as resume credentials.

Students interested in participating should contact Sarah Webb, team leader, via email at teamleader@volunteerracine.org or call 262-886-9612, ext. 103.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Customers wait in line for RollMKE Burgers at the fourth annual Franksville Food Truck Festival at Franksville Memorial Park.

Franksville beer garden partners with food bank

FRANKSVILLE — The Franksville Craft Beer Garden (FCBG) will partner with the Racine County Food Bank this season to collect donations during the beer garden's monthly food truck nights and the fifth annual Franksville Food Truck Festival.

"We appreciate the opportunity to partner with such a great organization," said Ken Michel, FCBG co-owner Ken Michel. "The food bank fits perfectly with our goal of helping to support our community."

The Racine County Food Bank has operated a successful emergency food program

for more than 30 years. The food bank supplies more than 90,000 pounds of food each month throughout Racine County. Two of the food bank's largest annual fundraisers take place in March — a virtual Thoughts for Food on March 5 and the Empty Bowls online auction March 14-19.

"Our supporters have helped us contribute to the community well beyond just creating everyone's favorite gathering space," added Michel.

The FCBG has supported numerous community-based organizations and nonprofits since it opened in 2018. Through donations and the hosting of events, the beer garden helped raise more than \$90,000 in 2021 for groups such as Health Care Network, Racine Founders Rotary, Venmo Challenge Racine and others.

The FCBG will once again be working with a number of community organizations during their upcoming season in addition to the food bank.

The monthly food truck nights brings six to eight food trucks to the beer garden along with live music and more than 22 craft beers from Wisconsin. They will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. Fridays, May 27, June 24, July 29, Aug. 19, Sept. 16 and Sept. 30.

The Franksville Food Truck Festival will be held on Sept. 9-10 and will feature more than 18 of southeast Wisconsin's food trucks.

The Franksville Craft Beer Garden is located in the Franksville Memorial Park (formerly the Caledonia-Mount Pleasant Memorial Park), 9614 Northwestern Ave., and is Racine County's first and only permanent beer garden.

Humane Society vaccine clinics

MOUNT PLEASANT — The Wisconsin Humane Society Racine Campus, 8900 16th St., will hold a vaccine clinic for dogs and cats from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays, March 17 and 31.

Appointments are required. If a person is bringing more than one animal, they will need to request an appointment time for each animal.

To best prepare for the clinic these tips should be followed:

- Wear a mask or face covering.
 - Dogs should be on a leash and cats in a carrier.
 - Bring the animal's prior vaccine history if they have any. A signed rabies certificate is the only acceptable form of proof for prior rabies vaccines.
 - Animals must be healthy, not pregnant, and able to be safely handled.
 - The animal's guardian must be present to give vaccination consent.
- Costs are: Distemper, \$15; rabies, \$15; bordetella, \$20; microchip, \$25.

To make an appointment, go to wihumane.org. For more information, call 262-554-6699.



An artist works on a painting at a RAM painter's studio.

RAM campaigns are a success

RACINE — Racine Art Museum (RAM) is honored to report the success of the museum's 2021 Giving Tuesday and Year-End Matching Financial Campaigns. The museum's enthusiastic supporters met — and exceeded — the challenge of RAM's matching partners who provided a one-to-one match up to \$36,000, doubling the impact of donations and museum memberships through the end of 2021.

A total of 233 donations were received between Nov. 15 and Dec. 31, and represent a 27.5% increase over donations received during the museum's 2020 year-end campaign. Additionally, RAM memberships provided another form of vital support to the museum. During this six-week period:

- 119 households renewed their current RAM memberships
- 50 households became new RAM members
- 43 households renewed a lapsed membership

RAM Board of Directors and staff extend their gratitude to the museum's matching partners: Andis Foundation, David Charak and the Ruffo Family Foundation.

"RAM is thrilled and honored to have the partnership of these long-time, dedicated supporters to help encourage donations during this very challenging time," said Laura D'Amato, RAM director of operations and development.

Community support of RAM in these ever-changing times continues to help enrich the lives of children, families, and artists in Racine and beyond in many ways. Award-winning outreach programs like RAM on the Road and SPARK! deliver free hands-on experiences to students in schools and seniors with memory loss in a variety of venues. Studio classes — offered both in-person at RAM's Wustum Museum of Fine Arts and online via Zoom — provide opportunities to study, practice and develop artwork from novice level to professional. RAM's nationally recognized exhibitions showcase works from the collection that feature local as well as international artists.

CLUB CALENDAR WEEK OF MARCH 6

MONDAY
Retired Involved Nurses Group: 11:30 a.m., Crystal Bay, 3900 N. Main St. Lunch is at noon. The cost of membership is \$15 and lunch is \$15. A business meeting will follow. For more information or reservations, call Marge Orth, secretary.

children of the world. To attend a meeting, contact Mike Mucha, membership chair, at 262-721-7996 or email mikemucha150@gmail.com.

THURSDAY
Racine Art Guild: 6:30 p.m., Holy Communion Lutheran Church, 2000 W. Sixth St. Social time at 6 p.m. Dan

getting involved in philanthropic and social activities. For more information, call 262-456-7872.

DAILY/OTHERS
Racine Duplicate Bridge Club: Each week two ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge games are played in Racine — at 12:15 p.m. Monday and

Salvation

From D1

during the weekend. The food pantry serves approximately 200 families a month providing non-

meat, milk, cheese, butter, eggs, fresh fruit and vegetables as available. Hygiene items, baby formula, diapers and wipes are also given as available. The Racine community's generous support

season and throughout the year makes these programs and others possible. A thank you goes out to the Racine community for its generous hearts. To learn more about The Salvation Army, go to