



Connections

Improving Our Detroit Metropolitan Community Through Hands-On Volunteering

900 Volunteers Needed

Metro-Detroit's 24th annual Youth Day to emphasize safety

Mark your calendars!!

The 24th Annual Metro Youth Day will be hosted on July 12, 2006, at Belle Isle Park in Detroit. 900 Volunteers 18 years of age and older are needed to assist with all sorts of activities. The festivities go from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. From 9:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. is when volunteers are most needed.

To sign up, volunteers should call the offices of the Michigan Food & Beverage Association (MFBA) at (586) 393-8800. Volunteer T-Shirts should be ordered through the MFBA offices by June 15th, 2006.

The MFBA's Metro Detroit Youth Day is held at Belle Isle each year, and helps to build good community relations between inner city youngsters and the food industry. Upwards of 20,000 children and their parents are expected to join in the fun and food during this year's event.

Metro Detroit Youth Day



Citizen service is the very American idea that we meet our challenges not as isolated individuals but as members of a true community, with all of us working together.

— Bill Clinton

Save the Dates

Metro Youth Day
July 12

Mitch Albom's Book Review
Sept. 27



Want to Volunteer and Enjoy Summer Fun Around Town?

Families, Groups and Individuals are Invited to Explore the Best of Detroit while Volunteering with Arts and Scraps.

June 30, July 2-4 Comerica Taste Fest, New Center, Detroit
www.newcenter.com/tastefest/2006/info.htm

July 7-9 Plymouth Art in the Park
www.artinthepark.com

July 12 Metro Youth Day, Belle Isle

July 15,16 Concert of Colors at Orchestra Hall

www.accesscommunity.org/coc

July 15 AAA Strollerthon at the Detroit Zoo
www.detroitzoo.org/option,com_events/task,view_detail/agid,42/year,2006/month,07/day,15/Itemid,413

July 20 Warren Summer Blast

July 21-12 Birmingham International Jazz Festival
www.bigbearmusic.com/festival/festival.html

July 27- 28 Michigan 50's Festival, Novi
www.michiganfiftiesfestival.com



We Have Your Volunteers!

If you know of a non-profit organization that is in need of help, tell them about VI. We are here to serve the community's needs. Volunteer Impact will post volunteer needs for any non-profit as long as the activity is not long-term or a fundraiser.

WHAT'S INSIDE!

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6960 Orchard Lake Rd.
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Suite 207 (Mail 204)
(248) 932-2580 Phone
www.volunteerimpact.org

From the Editor:

The Tale of Mr. Bissel



Seth M. Fisher

*Listen friends, and you shall hear,
of a group of people who volunteer*

With our illustrious president out of town for July 4, your somewhat less-than-illustrious *Connections* editor has been tasked with writing a few mishapen thoughts. This being our nation's birthday, it seems a number of those thoughts have turned to the spirit in which the country was founded, and how in the world this relates to why we volunteer.

So ponder this with me: it's April 18, 1775. Well, maybe a bit closer to April 19. It's late. And a Boston silversmith by the name of Paul Revere hears a knock on his door. It's Dr. Joseph Warren of the watch, and he's calling in a promise. You see, Mr. Revere, though his smithy had been quite busy, had offered up his services in case of a British invasion to ride across Massachusetts, sounding the warning.

This, my friends, was a volunteer.

And he wasn't the only one. Dr. Warren sent out a number of riders that night, and while Paul only made it 19 miles before getting his horse confiscated by the British, a man named Israel Bissel made it all the way to Pennsylvania. Unfortunately for Mr. Bissel, perhaps because his name didn't rhyme with "Listen children, and you shall hear," his efforts were largely forgotten.

What's more important, however, is that by daybreak, thousands of Americans had been mustered and managed to repel the British invaders at Lexington and Concord.

History forgot to record Bissel's thoughts,

but given what he accomplished, I think if you asked him, Israel wouldn't have cared. He'd point out that there were a lot of volunteers who rode forth in every direction that night, and that the important thing was that because of the efforts of all the riders, eventually there would be a country to give the silversmith his 'reverence.'

This, my friends, is a volunteer.

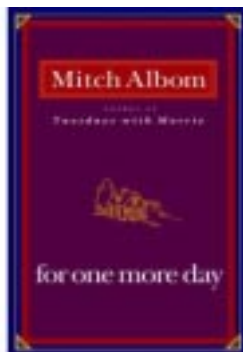
And volunteers are like that. Once in awhile, a local news camera will peek into a moment of volunteers handing out Christmas gifts to homeless kids, toasting a famous benefactor, planting a tree near Cass, or riding a few miles through 18th century Eastern Massachusetts beside Sam Adams and John Hancock. But others of us are in a corner of an elementary school classroom, reading Dr. Seuss while wearing a funny hat. Some of us are picking up garbage in an abandoned yard. Some of us are dropping off a few books at a friend's office, selling Coors to Steelers fans outside the Superbowl, sewing a mitten in a suburban basement, writing a small check to cover old mailing expenses, or scrubbing pots.

There isn't a lot of glamour at the bottom of a pot; I've looked.

But every VI volunteer instinctively knows that making Detroit a better place isn't about glamour, but making Detroit a better place. We have our own anniversary to celebrate: for a year now, we've been an all-volunteer organization. It goes to show that together, with everyone offering what they can or will, we actually do make a difference.

Happy 4th.

Mitch Albom Book Preview Party Coming this Fall



Save the Date! September 27 is the preview event for best-selling author, and VI enthusiast Mitch Albom's forthcoming book, *For One More Day*. The event will take place at the Millenium Theater in Southfield Proceeds from the preview book event will go to VI and to Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries, SAY Detroit Fund.

Mitch's latest touching novel explores themes of family, divorce and regrets, following the story of a boy who was forced to choose his father over his mother, only to see his father abruptly disappear a few years later.

Volunteer Opportunities for July 2006



ONGOING EVENTS

Arts and Scraps

Recycling for learning and fun. Located at 16135 Harper in Detroit, volunteers are needed on ongoing basis.

Warehouse volunteers usually come in groups and perform duties such as sorting materials and putting together project kits. When we go to events, projects are preassembled and volunteers can help assist there too...groups and individuals welcome! Requirements for volunteers...enjoy working with children and availability to volunteer a 3 or 4 hour shift. We welcome mature young people and/or those accompanied by an adult. We also like to engage seniors, retirees. Volunteers can visit our website...www.artsandscraps.org to learn more and view events where volunteers are requested. They may contact me at artsandscraps@hotmail.com to sign up.

The Children's Center, 79 W. Alexandrine, Detroit

Tutoring clients in a variety of subjects. Training and screening. Also need a tutor-liaison for M, T, W, TH, 4-6p.m. Contact: Amy Devone 313 262-1220 if interested. People needed: 3 or more per day. Ages: 18-50+

Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring

After-school homework help Contact Dr. Donald M. Lutas at (313) 896-1843.

Volunteer Impact Office Assistance, 6960 Orchard Lake Road, Suite 240, West Bloomfield

Volunteers are needed any M,T,W,Th or F to help staff the Volunteer Impact Office to answer phone, monitor VI calendar, help register volunteers and activities and general office assistance. Volunteer an hour or few days...whatever you can do to help would be great! Contact VI at volunteer_impact@yahoo.com or (248) 932-2580.

Hadassah Doll-Making Project

Hadassah and community volunteers of all ages are creating very cuddly rag dolls used in "medical play" for sick and/or injured children needing either in-patient or out-patient care. Volunteers trace, cut, pin, sew, stuff, dress and distribute dolls for the children to decorate and keep. Most project tasks do not require specialized sewing skills or training and are held at Hadassah House every Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - noon. Contact Greater Detroit Hadassah Office (248) 683-5030 or Eleanor Smith at (248) 626-0762 or elephil@comcast.net

New Hope Food Pantry, Melvindale

Need 10 volunteers to pack food boxes for distribution Tuesdays, 1-4 p.m.,

Last two Thursdays of the month 10 a.m.- 2 p.m., and the Saturdays which precede the last two Thursday of the month 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Noon Call Nancy at (313) 383-6577

Samaritan Care Hospice needs Volunteers

Samaritan Care Hospice is in need of Hospice Volunteers throughout metro Detroit. Volunteers can expect to see their assigned patient once a week while the patient is on our services. They would receive the appropriate training prior to their first assignment (our training consists of 10 hours of hospice specific information - usually consecutive Saturdays from 9-2 in our Southfield office). Volunteers are then free to choose the area in which to see their patients, throughout the metro Detroit area.

Our volunteers are compassionate, caring individuals that are making a difference in the lives of our terminally ill patients and their family members by providing companionship and emotional support to them. They visit the patients in nursing homes and private homes throughout Metro Detroit. The time spent with patients can include talking, reading to them, taking them for a walk, playing a game, etc. Each case differs based on the patient's condition. This volunteer experience is extremely rewarding. If interested, please contact Chris Kokenos Volunteer Coordinator at Samaritan Care Hospice: chriskok@aol.com 1-800-397-9360

Jul 1 Sat

11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps
9:00p -12:00p New Hope Food Pantry

Jul 2 Sun

4:30p -7:30p Ronald McDonald House, ANN ARBOR
Comerica Taste Fest, New Center, Detroit with Arts and Scraps
www.newcenter.com/tastefest/2006/info.htm

Jul 3 Mon

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center
Comerica Taste Fest w/ Arts and Scraps

Jul 4 Tue

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps
1:00p -4:00p New Hope Food Pantry, Melvindale
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring

Comerica Taste Fest w/ Arts and Scraps

Jul 5 Wed

10:00a -12:00p Lighthouse of Oakland County- Packaging fruits and vegetables Volunteers needed to package fruits & Veggies when they are delivered to Lighthouse on the first Wednesday of each month. We could use 3 - 4 people between



Volunteer Opportunities for July 2006

Jul 5 Wed - cont.

the hours of 10:00 and 12:00. The job involves light lifting but does require some bending at the waist as we currently are packaging the bags on the floor.

Contact: Ken Fuerst 248-683-9788 - Leave message if you like. kenn1st@comcast.net

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Jul 6 Thu

9:00a -11:00a Hadassah Doll-Making Project

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring

Jul 8 Sat

9:00a -12:00p New Hope Food Pantry, Melvindale

11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps

Jul 10 Mon

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Jul 11 Tue

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps

1:00p -4:00p New Hope Food Pantry

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring

Jul 12 Wed

8:30a -2:30p Metropolitan Detroit Youth Day
This year's Metro Youth Day will be hosted on July 12, 2006, at Belle Isle Park in Detroit. We are seeking volunteers 18 years of age and older. Activities began at 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM, however, the bulk of volunteer needs began at 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Volunteers should call the offices of the Michigan Food & Beverage Assoc. at 586.393.8800.

Arts and Scraps is also looking for volunteers for Metro Detroit Youth Day. Groups, individuals & families are invited to volunteer for a 3-4 hour shift with Arts and Scraps. To volunteer, call Mary at 313-640-4411 x 5 or email her at artsandscraps@hotmail.com

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Jul 13 Thu

9:00a -11:00a Hadassah Doll-Making Project

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scrap

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring

Jul 15 Sat

9:00a -12:00p New Hope Food Pantry

11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps

Concert of Colors at Orchestra Hall w/ Arts and Scraps -

www.accesscommunity.org/coc

Strollerathon at the Detroit Zoo w/ Arts and Scraps

www.detroitzoo.org/option,com_events/task/view_detail/agid,42/year,2006/month,07/day,15/Itemid,413

Jul 16 Sun

1:30p -3:00p Arden Courts, Bingham Farms, Crafts with Alzheimer's Patients
Assist Alzheimer's patients with simple crafts. Persons needed: 5-8 Contact: Janet Evans (248) 644-8100

4:30 -7:00p Ronald McDonald House, Detroit—Pot-luck dinner for residents. Bring a dish to serve to families living at the Ronald McDonald House while their children are hospitalized. It takes 5-7 people to make and serve dinner. If you have never been there, the kitchen has several stoves and ovens so you can do some prep work there. Dinner is served at 6 p.m. and it is suggested that you arrive around 4:30 to set up, prepare anything that needs prep, and to get a tour of the facility. As for dishes to serve, try to avoid lasagna and Mexican. Meatloaf, chicken and turkey are great hits.

If you have a group that would like to serve the whole meal, please email Volunteer Impact so that we can remove the event from the open calendar. Please sign up online. You may contact the Project Coordinator, Karen Hanson, to coordinate food: karenerik96@yahoo.com

Concert of Colors at Orchestra Hall w/ Arts and Scraps

www.accesscommunity.org/coc

Jul 17 Mon

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Jul 18 Tue

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps

1:00p -4:00p New Hope Food Pantry

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring

Jul 19 Wed

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Jul 20 Thu

9:00a -11:00a Hadassah Doll-Making Project

10:00a -2:00p New Hope Food Pantry,

Melvindale - Pack food boxes for distribution

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps

4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Warren Summer Blast w/ Arts and Scraps

Jul 21 Fri

Birmingham International Jazz Festival w/ Arts and Scraps - www.bigbearmusic.com/festival/festival.html

Jul 22 Sat

11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps

Birmingham International Jazz Festival w/ Arts and Scraps - www.bigbearmusic.com/festival/festival.html

Jul 24 Mon

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Jul 25 Tue

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps

1:00p -4:00p New Hope Food Pantry

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring

Jul 26 Wed

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Jul 27 Thu

9:00a -11:00a Hadassah Doll-Making Project

10:00a -2:00p New Hope Food Pantry

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps

4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Michigan 50's Festival, Novi, w/ Arts and Scraps - www.michiganfiftiesfestival.com

Jul 28 Fri

Michigan 50's Festival, Novi, w/ Arts and Scraps

- www.michiganfiftiesfestival.com

Jul 29 Sat

11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps

Jul 31 Mon

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center



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Agencies Now Can be 'Events Agents'

As of July 1, Volunteer Impact's website has been revamped again. Agencies can now input their own information directly onto the calendar. All they need is to register an account on our website, and then email us and ask to be an "events agent."

When you go to our home page, you'll immediately see the list of volunteer events and announcements on the right side of the page. In addition, if you have an account, when you log on, you will receive announcements which merit your attention.

Your profile will now include your cell and home phone numbers so that we can contact you with last minute information. It makes it a lot easier for our project coordinator to reach you if the project is canceled due to a snowstorm, or for some other im-

portant reason. This information will not be used for anything other than contacting you with information about the project.

Tributes are easier now and you can make tributes in honor of or in memory of someone on line. Simply provide the information in the on-line form, pay with your credit card and VI will send out a tribute card.

Many of the changes are visible only to those of us who administer the website each day. We hope these upgrades will make your volunteer experience easier and more enjoyable.



Many useful options accompany VI's lovely new online digs.

Ten Suggestions to Help VI Make an IMPACT:

Be a title sponsor for one month of <i>Connections</i> , our newsletter	\$2,000.00
Sponsor one month media buy	\$1,000.00
Provide breakfast for <i>Hands on Detroit Day</i>	\$500.00
Provide activities and crafts for VI Events	\$250.00
Supply a pizza lunch for homeless children at a VI event	\$100.00
Sponsor a Youth Board Meeting	\$75.00
Sponsor a project for one <i>Dr. Seuss' Birthday</i> party	\$50.00
Pay for one month of DSL Internet Access	\$36.00
Provide consumable office supplies	\$25.00
Send a Volunteer Impact Honorary or Memorial Tribute (\$10 min)	\$10.00

Corporate donors who wish to give a donation in lieu of buying gifts, please contact VI.
For individual tributes, please attach a list with names and addresses

Yes! I want to support Volunteer Impact.

I'm sending a gift of: \$ _____

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Required for confirmation of donation. If you wish to receive e-mail from us, register online

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Please make checks payable to Volunteer Impact or charge my tax deductible donation of \$ _____

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