



March 2018

First Quarter

Volume 3, No. 5

Newsletter

A Message from the President...

Since our Beginning

In October 2010

- 239,290 lunch meals served
- 57,126 Volunteer hours
- 100 – 200 meals served daily

GRAND CENTRAL STATION 2018 NEEDS/WISH LIST

- ✓ Natural Gas Tankless Water Heater
- ✓ Volunteer Licensed Plumber to install tankless water heater
- ✓ CANNED Coffee 3#
- ✓ Gallon sized tea bags
- ✓ Plastic Forks, Spoons, Knives
- ✓ Pam Cooking Spray
- ✓ Trash Can Liners, 13 & 33 gal
- ✓ Sandwich/QT/Gal Zip Lock Bags
- ✓ Brown Paper Bags 12#
- ✓ Razors
- ✓ Deodorant – small size
- ✓ Toothbrushes
- ✓ Travel size toothpaste
- ✓ Sweet Relish
- ✓ # 10 Canned Goods
- ✓ Louisiana Hot Sauce
- ✓ White cotton men's socks
- ✓ Bottled water
- ✓ Hand Sanitizer



In January, it was my great honor to begin serving my term as President of the Board of Grayson Grand Central Station.

My career in banking began right out of high school, where for 6 years I worked in the operations center of then, American Bank of Texas. After a short detour from banking, which included such things as retail, being an account manager for a local carpet store, running a construction office, and self-storage facility, I came back to banking. I have worked my way from the bottom up...from days at American Bank in the proof department to lending assistant at Independent bank, up to Credit Analyst and coming back to Sherman as a commercial lender with Legend Bank. This past January, I transferred to First Texoma National Bank as their Vice President of Commercial Lending.

I am very passionate about my community. I am a graduate of Sherman High School, Grayson College and Southeastern Oklahoma State University, where I earned my degree in mathematics and general business.

I also serve on several non-profit boards in our area; Board Chair of Wesley Village Retirement home, Treasurer and board member of Child and Family Guidance Center, Treasurer of North Texas Young Pro's, Board member of the Grayson College Alumni Association, Past President of Sherman Service League and now my role as President at Grand Central Station. I am engaged to a wonderful man, Jimmy Garcia, and we have a dog, Troy Aikman and a cat, Kitty Purry.

With the first quarter of the year almost gone, I wanted to take a minute to let you know some of the things your Grand Central Station board has been working on...and it's quite a lot of stuff!

We are working on the facilities, which means we are doing a comprehensive look at our facilities to see what we have, what we need and how to get there. While this is a daunting task our very own, board member, Webb Sanderson has done an awesome job turning big ideas into something we can manage.

2018 Board President Continued...

Kitchen crew, Karen, Ben, Dorothy, and many, many volunteers work so hard to keep the kitchen running...even through the extreme cold back in the winter where they had to order pizza due to frozen pipes. They were unable to prepare food to power outages where our neighbors were eating in the dark, but they conquered successfully.

(There is never a dull moment.) I can't thank you all enough for your tireless efforts!

There have also been some minor building issues to contend with at the Green House. These ladies have done a wonderful job and continue to bless each person that comes through the doors!

Tools 4 Schools is getting ready to ramp up with a twist this year. Deliveries will go straight to some of the schools! The last 3 years, your board member Jamie Riddles, has had all the school supplies delivered to her home where her and her husband would spend most of the summer sorting the supplies to get them ready for deliveries before school started! This year she has backed up the time line and hopes to have supplies delivered to the schools before everyone leaves for the summer!

Children's Express is nothing short of amazing! Did you know they purchase, unload, pack, and deliver about 500 bag lunches to the schools in our community (they serve every elementary school but two - (where a local church does this as their mission).

Additionally, be on the lookout for Public Servant Lunch and Service Academy for Youth dates coming soon! I think I covered all our programs, and I want to say that we couldn't do what we do without our wonderful volunteers! Speaking of our awesome volunteers - we are having a volunteer appreciation event at the kitchen on April 25th from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. I want to personally invite you all to this, where there will be refreshments and our friend Rudy will be doing some awesome magic!

I get asked a lot, why I put so much of my effort into my community. My answer can be summed up in my favorite Dr. Seuss quote "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, it's not going to get better. It's NOT". I also know that if I love as I am loved then we will make a better place for everyone around us. Denison Mayor, Jared Johnson, said two things this year's economic development summit that really stuck with me. He said, "Culture has EVERYTHING to do with what we have built rather than what we want" ... "just because we want something doesn't mean it's just going to fall into place...we have to BUILD and work for it. He also said, "Our future has everything to do with how we envision it"!!! So, if we work for, and envision our success, we are bound to succeed!!!

I am truly humbled and honored to serve as your 2018 Board President. I know this year is going to be a great one! ~ Leigh Ann Sims

GRAND CENTRAL STATION

GRAND CENTRAL STATION Appreciates Your Continued Support!

Grand Central Station needs and welcomes your donation in any denomination! Every dollar counts and is used for food for our neighbors, **Children's After School Food program**, **The Green House** and day-to-day operations for our Soup Kitchen.

Your donation is TAX DEDUCTIBLE. Please send your donation to:

Grand Central Station, P.O. Box 3173, Sherman, Texas 75091.

**GRAND CENTRAL
STATION
DINING CAR
SERVING LUNCH TO
THOSE IN NEED**

**110 THROCKMORTON
SHERMAN, TX
(Between Lamar and Houston)**

Monday—Friday 9:00 am -1:00 pm

Coffee, Juice & Rolls Served at 9 am

Hot lunch served between 11-1

**Saturdays - bag lunches served 9 am
until all food is gone**

**Showers, washer, dryer available
M-F**

TV & Computers with WIFI

**Volunteer assistance with
applications and forms**

OUR PURPOSE

Provide for the underserved

OUR VISION

**A hopeful and nourished
community in
Body, Soul and Spirit**

OUR MISSION

**We provide food, clothing,
tools for learning, advocacy
and life solutions for
our neighbors in need,
in an environment
of safety.**

Executive Board

**Gail Utter, Leigh Ann Sims,
Laura Wheeler, Sara Tarvin,
Scott Jasper**

Board of Directors

**Debbie Allison, Dayla Callen,
Natalie Hulsey, Allen Martin,
Leslie McGee, Rita Noel, Jamie
Riddels, Samantha Riddels, Webb
Sanderson, Peter Schulze,**

**Executive Director: Karen Bray
Kitchen Manger/Chef: Ben Merrill**



A Special

THANK YOU

from

**THE
GREEN HOUSE**

to

**TRINITY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH!**



Pantry Clean-up Day

Eight volunteers from Trinity Lutheran Church recently spent a morning deep cleaning our food storage areas. All food items were moved out, so that shelves could be wiped down. Plastic pallets were taken outside to be hosed off. Floors were vacuumed, scrubbed; even in places that rarely see the light of day. Refrigerators and freezers were also cleaned. Once everything was dry, shelves were organized and re-stocked.

We do so appreciate their labor of love and our clean, fresh pantry!

The Green House is an organization under the Umbrella of **Grand Central Station** that helps families with clothing and mostly non-perishable food.

Located at 921 E. Houston in Sherman, **The Green House** is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1-4 pm.
903-868-2604



Sherman High Leo Club spreads love on Valentine's Day



Credit: Drew Smith, Herald Democrat

The Sherman High School Leo Club spread a little love on Valentine's Day by volunteering at Grand Central Station's Dining Car Wednesday.

The group of roughly a dozen students spent the morning handing out gifts and essentials, including jewelry, socks, lip balm and candy. Many of the students also took the opportunity to sit down with those who rely on the center's resources as they ate breakfast to engage in friendly conversations.

"I think it's all about the joy of giving," Grand Central volunteer Janet Fletcher said of the club's work.

Fellow Grand Central volunteer and purchaser Carol Noltensmeyer said the students and their gifts were a welcome addition to the daily offerings at the center, which range from free breakfast and lunch, to showers, laundry, computer access and placement services.

"They really like the friendship," Noltensmeyer said. "Some people really enjoy just having someone to talk to. It makes us feel good to know that they get that here and get to see some new faces today."

Sherman High junior Lena Dungan said she and her fellow Leo Club members prepared for their morning of service by organizing the jewelry and then helped recipients pick pieces that matched their personalities. She said the reception they received was warm and welcoming.

"They're really grateful and thankful," Dungan said. "There was one woman who came by after we were taking a picture and she was just saying to tell our teachers how we were all so kind had smiles on our faces. That was really nice to hear."

Brian Duane Thomas, who visits Grand Central several times per week, said it can be difficult for those who need a little extra help from time to time to ask for it. But with the students on hand to show them some added kindness on Valentine's Day, Thomas said recipients didn't need to hesitate.

COUNTLESS INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS, ANONYMOUS DONATIONS,
CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION DONORS, MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO FEED
OUR GRAND CENTRAL STATION FAMILY! THANK YOU!!

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH Carol Noltensmeyer

If you have not met Carol Noltensmeyer, you need to. For most of the existence of Grand Central Station she has been our loyal, dependable, "Shopper". Every M,W,F she waits for Ben's text message. This is her first challenge of the day as the phone does not always understand or spell correctly Ben's order. Sometimes, it is like reading a different language. After receiving the order, she goes to Sam's Club and as she shops speaks to all the employees that she knows by name. Our positive relationship with Sam's is due to Carol. After delivering the groceries she goes back out on the road to pick up the frozen leftovers from Olive Garden, Chipotle's, Target, Ruiz, Tyson and other businesses that donate to GCS. Again, everyone knows Carol and vice versa as her friendliness is irresistible. Her kindness is another characteristic we love and appreciate about her. Carol has a soft heart for our clients and has been generous in many ways to them. While waiting to pick up the donuts from Southern Maid at noon on these days, she talks with and assists our visitors who share our appreciation of her. The number of hours she puts in are highest of all the volunteers. Carol also has brought in her husband, Tom, and her son, Jake, who have worked with us since Junior High School. (He is now in college at Texas Tech.) It's a family affair and we are grateful. Carol is always ready and willing to help any of us with extra projects both at the kitchen and at the warehouse. Her greatest gift is her smiling face regardless of encounters. She keeps all of us up and cheerful when she is there.

Along with her soft heart for our visitors, she also has a heart for animals and we like to hear about her 7 dogs and 3 cats. The soup kitchen and our clients are blessed to have Carol as a volunteer.



GRAND CENTRAL STATION NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

*Is your Church or business looking for a mission /outreach program?
Are you personally looking for a meaningful volunteer opportunity?*

Grand Central Station's existence depends on volunteers to prepare and serve meals, greet our visitors, sort and hang up clothes, pack food bags for our children, pick up and deliver food and help with our ministry!

For more information on a program that meets your individual, church or organization's needs, please contact our volunteer coordinators below!

Dorothy McKee – Dining Car - dodiemckee@gmail.com;

Deb Allison – Green House - debora_allison@yahoo.com; or

Suzi Hamel – Children's Express at suzi.hamel@gmail.com



On behalf of **Grand Central Station**, Visitors, Staff and Board, we thank you for your continued support!

Thanks to your support, you have helped feed hungry families and individuals throughout Grayson County and provided life-changing programs that help our struggling neighbors. We are grateful for your generosity. As many of you know, **Grand Central Station** relies heavily on the support of individuals like you to continue our mission.

Please donate today, or send a check to: **Grand Central Station P.O. Box 3173 Sherman, Texas 75091.**



110 South Throckmorton
Sherman, Texas 75090