Volume 18, Issue 2

Fall 2017



## Midwest Sunsplash Festival was a success!



On Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Main Street in Menasha was blocked off from Racine Street through Chute Street. 0.2 miles of Downtown Menasha was lined with three music stages, ten food trucks, 20 vendors, two ticket tents, two beverages tents, a Youth Go information table, and sidewalk sales by the downtown businesses. Local community members joined together to celebrate diversity with an assortment of food options, many different genres of music, and a variety of art and artists. Many thanks to all of the amazing sponsors that helped to make this inaugural year possible: Bergstrom Corporation, Community First Credit Union, Faith Technologies, Festival Foods, RLJ Dental, Valley Management, Wisconsin Distributors, Neenah Foundry, McClone, Cranked Bike Studio, Mihm's Charcoal Grill, Creative Touch Designs, US Bank,

Island Music,

Watters Plumbing, JVS Construction, Willie Beamon's Bar & Grill, Brazee Hardware, Modify Hair Studio, Wild Apple Glass Studio & Gallery, Renewed and Reclaimed, Your Daily Grind, Lemon Loves Lime, Wisconsin Public Radio, 91.1 The Avenue, the City of Menasha, Packerland Portables, and Valley Liquor.

We are looking forward to bringing the event back in 2018! We'll keep everyone posted when dates and details are available!

Special thanks to Kay Holbrook and Pita Kotobalavu for choosing to partner with Youth Go for this incredible community event!



## **School Year Hours and Opportunities**

We just wanted to provide all of our families with a reminder of when Youth Go is open during the school year.

### Middle School Program (youth in 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade)

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 3:00-5:30pm Fridays from 3:00-8:00pm

**High School Program (youth in 7<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade)**Mondays-Thursdays 6:00-10:00pm

Fridays from 3:00-8:00pm

Transportation provided from Maplewood, Horace Mann and Shattuck to Youth Go.

Rides home offered to youth who live in the City of Neenah or Menasha at 9 pm Monday-Thursday.

At Youth Go there are no membership fees and everything that takes place at Youth Go is FREE. Youth are not required to come any certain number of days each week and they don't have to stay the entire time. Youth Go is a drop-in center and our goal is to provide a safe and supportive place for youth to spend their time after school and in the evenings. We also believe it is important to provide quality programming, interesting activities, qualified staff, and a place to have fun!

## The Go-Go Garage

All of us at Youth Go are so grateful to Leadership Fox Cities graduates Carlyn Andrew, Brett Christofferson, David Govier, Dr. Melissa Koehler, Tina Krueger, Amy Rutz, and Jim Vander Sanden who took on this project which they called the "Go-Go Garage." Thanks to their leadership and hard work, Youth Go now has a 20' x 30' garage to house our two mini-vans and for much needed storage.

Many thanks to Appvion, Nurses PRN, Corcoran Glass and Paint, Sanderfoot Construction Company, Home Depot Grafton Store, an anonymous donor, and the following funds through the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region: William and Helen Burger Memorial Fund, Leland O. and Leone F. Skowen Charitable Fund, and Robert Dohr and Lilas Dohr Current Community Needs Fund for your contributions toward this amazing project!



# **Open Doors Program**

To assist with monthly in-service days and early release days in the Neenah School District, Youth Go will be offering the Open Doors Program again for the 17-18 school year. Forms to sign up are available at YouthGo and on the website.

#### Important to remember:

- We will do our best to communicate with parents when and if any changes are made.
- Our plan is to serve meals (breakfast, lunch and a snack on no-school days and lunch and a snack on early release days), provide guided recreation time, offer crafts, and watch movies.
- This service is only for youth in grades 5-12.
- We ask that all youth are signed up by Monday before each Professional Learning Day or Early Release Day.

### On the following No-School Days for NJSD,

Youth Go will be open from 8am-6pm:

Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>

Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>

Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>

Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup>

#### On the following Early Release Days for the NJSD,

Youth Go will provide transportation from Horace Mann, Shattuck and NHS and the center will be open from 12pm-8pm:

Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>

Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> (No NHS)

Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>

Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> (No NHS)

## **Badges for Baseball**





We had another successful summer of Badges for Baseball. We are grateful for the support of the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation in allowing us to provide this program to youth in Neenah and Menasha. We are thankful for all of the Police Officers and Correctional Officers, as well as the community volunteers and the Youth Go teens who spent their afternoons with the youth helping them to learn about baseball, build their character, and have fun!

## **Riverside Picnic Family Night**

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Many thanks to the Schmidt Family and the volunteers who shared their time and talent to prepare and serve an amazing meal!

On Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, over 150 youth, family members, staff, and volunteers joined together for our Riverside Picnic Family Night. Families enjoyed delicious food, won door prizes (thanks to Kwik Trip, Alta Resources, and Pick 'N Save), were able to watch or participate in the Price is Right, and got to spend some quality time together. Save the date for our next Family Night on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at Youth Go.

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Celebrating the value of all youth

www.youthgo.org



### **Dates to Remember**

Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> – closed for Labor Day

Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> - Open Doors Day - Center open from 8am-6pm

**Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>** – Center Closed for Haunted House Dress Rehearsal (Shattuck Tutoring Still Offered)

ALL Fridays in October - Center Closed for Haunted House

**Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>** – Open Doors Day – Center open from 12pm-8pm (transportation provided from Horace Mann, Shattuck and NHS)

 $\label{eq:continuous} \textbf{Friday, November 3}^{rd} \quad -\text{Open Doors Day} - \text{Center open from 12pm-8pm(transportation provided from Horace Mann and Shattuck )}$ 

**Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>** – Thanksgiving Family Night 6-8:30pm (Shattuck Tutoring Still Offered)

Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> - Open Doors Day - Center open from 8am-6pm

Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup> – Center Closed for Thanksgiving Break

## Haunted House is right around the corner!

### Are you interested in getting involved?

All <u>youth</u> in grades 5-12 are invited to be a part of Youth Go's Haunted House. No experience is necessary! **Permission slips are now available at Youth Go and on our website.** 

Our Build Days are set, the dress rehearsal is scheduled, and we are getting excited for another season of Haunted House.

The Dress Rehearsal is scheduled for Thursday, October 12th from 5:30pm-8pm at the Haunted House at 333 West Cecil Street in Neenah.

<u>Adults</u> interested in volunteering should fill out the "Adult Volunteer forms" that are available on our website or contact Alice at 722-1435 or alice@youthgo.org. We need help with make-up, staffing the youth breakroom, security, parking, and acting.

### Want to visit one of our Haunted House Events?

Please consider attending all three of our Haunted House Events!

#### "The Hallows"

Join us if you dare for a haunted trail walk at Memorial Park. You don't know who or what you'll encounter as you maneuver yourself through the woods with only the light of a single lantern.

Tickets: \$5

Dates/Times: October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> from 7pm-10pm

Location: Memorial Park at 1131 Tullar Road in Neenah

### "Children's Day at the Haunted House"

A child-friendly, lighted tour of the Haunted House including trick-or-treating, carnival games, face painting and visits from the fire department and local mascots.

Tickets \$5 for kids and adults

Dates/Times: Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 12pm-4pm

Location: Neenah's Old City Garage at 333 West Cecil Street in Neenah

### "Youth Go's Haunted House"

Youth Go is ready to celebrate our 32<sup>nd</sup> year of haunting in the Fox Valley. Tickets \$10 for adults and (NEW THIS YEAR) \$5 for students Dates/Times: October 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, and 28 from 6pm-9:30pm Location: Neenah's Old City Garage at 333 West Cecil Street in Neenah



### Want to become a sponsor?

We are still looking for Trick-or-treat and Carnival Game station sponsors for "Children's Day at the Haunted House" and Nightly Sponsors for "Neenah's Most Haunted." You can obtain more information at the website or by contacting Kelly (kelly@youthgo.org) or Alice (alice@youthgo.org).



## Another summer to plant some SEEDs

Thanks to funding from the Fox Cities Morning Rotary Club, Youth Go was able to offer SEED, our summer career exploration program to all youth in or soon to be entering High School. Over the course of the summer 18 youth explored one or more of the following places or careers: Goodwill, the YMCA, Salon Professionals Academy, The Growing Tree (therapy), Bemis, Valley VNA, High Cliff (DNR), Pierce Manufacturing and Women in Welding.

SEED is a really great opportunity for youth in the area to get out and see what kinds of careers and trades there are out there. Whatever their passion, there is something even in the local area that they can pursue. This program creates an ease of mind for them knowing that they have so many awesome options and opportunities this close to home. All of the youth that attended learned a lot about themselves and what they would have to do in order to pursue their goals, whether they want to become therapists, welders, or nurses, to name a few. All of our contacts and visitors have been so gracious in offering help to the youth attending, outside of the SEED program, for internships, help with resumes, and really with any questions or concerns they have about going into one of the professions that we looked at. It was a ton of fun to get out and see the youth explore different career options for their budding lives.









Happy Retirement to Kathy!

After 27 years, our beloved Business Coordinator, Kathy Vander Velden is retiring at the end of August. This has been a hard thing for all of us to accept. You see, Kathy is so much more than just a co-worker. She is a friend, a mentor, someone to share stories with, someone to learn from, someone who has leant a listening ear to countless Youth Go staff members over the years, and someone who has quietly given so much to this organization. Thank you Kathy for all you've done to help make Youth Go a great place! We wish her nothing but the best!



Welcome Jackie!

Jackie VanDeVoort is the new Business Coordinator for Youth Go and she is excited to be here! Jackie was born in the Fox Cities and has lived here her entire life. She just became an "Empty Nester" after 28 years as her youngest child of four just left for college. Jackie enjoys her weekends in Door County. She also enjoys cooking and baking, biking, hiking, and anything water related, especially the water parks in the Dells!