



Mission of Love News

"You are not here to save the world,
but to touch the hands that are within your reach."

"WE LIVE OUR LIVES IN A RESPECTFUL MANNER, IN THE
SPIRITUAL WAY OF LIFE OUR FOREFATHERS LIVED AND SHOWED
TO US IN CEREMONY AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING..."



Kathleen Price, Director, Volunteer Members
Mission of Love, Youngstown, Ohio, and
Various other places

September 22, 2009

Dear Kathleen and Volunteers,



There are some of the people of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, who live day by day lacking many basic needs that can make life a lot easier, often ignored by authorities when needs could be met. We often come to a conclusion after living many years without our needs being met, that we must accept that way of life. Whenever we can afford to meet some of the needs, we can obtain those things which we will cherish until they literally fall apart.

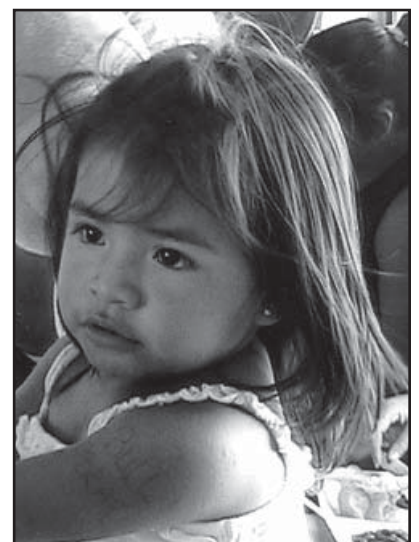
Of course we always remain grateful and thankful to Tunkasila, God, for giving us life and good health, and live our lives in a respectful manner, in the spiritual way of life as our forefathers lived and showed to us in ceremony and prayer of thanksgiving.

Sometimes there comes help, directed to our needs by Tunkasila's grace and love when we least expect it through the hearts and hands of our fellow mankind, who in a spiritual way are chosen to give help in those needs in ways that are unexpected. In those instances, we are affirmed by actions that interpret God's love for all of his children.

As I offer my Wopila-thanks, these thoughts cross my mind. For you, Kathleen, and all the volunteers who come on your Mission of Love, expressing the wholeness of Tunkasila, and his desire for mankind's help to one another with unconditional service. Truly, God-Tunkasila, holds your hand as you journey through life, hand in hand. The purity of your work is the way God, Tunkasila intended all mankind to do from the very beginning of Creation, and I am the recipient of this wonderful work that has been accomplish is such a short time.

My heart is very full with appreciation and joy. For this winter and beyond, I and my family will live in the comfort of a beautiful and warm home. A prayer answered by Tunkasila, through you and the volunteers.

Wopila heca.
Richard Broken Nose,
Pine Ridge, Indian Reservation



IN OUR FALL NEWSLETTER,

you will read about the work that has been accomplished by so many of you in the last ten months. There are stories that have been written by the Mission of Love volunteers who were able to be on site, witnessing and seeing first hand, our work of unconditional love. Gratitude has been written by the recipients of our efforts made, to help the forgotten ones of our society, the homeless, the orphans, the widows, the children. They just needed a hand, and not a hand out. Our circle is growing and know that the need is growing! We could not accomplish any of this work without your help and continuous support.

Plane after Plane has been loaded ~ truck after truck has been unloaded.....volunteer after volunteer has gone the distance, to areas where the Indigenous are. You will read about the suffering that is taking place and the hope that has been giving to our world by our Mission of Love. We are distributing basic HUMAN rights to so many families that are lacking the bare basics.

This year has been exceptionally hard with trying to continue with our legacy of being of service to those in need worldwide. Somehow ~ somehow our work has continued in ways that are unexplainable. So many wonderful Mission of Love volunteer's have continued with their commitment to making our world a better place by supporting our efforts, to love thy neighbor. The burden has been immense, to say the least! So much need!

Know that this is not my Mission of Love, but every-ones mission in life to be of service and give your talents in making our world a better place, by setting an example of what can be done.

We will be continuing our work of building missions throughout 2010. We will be going back to Casa Guatemala and build three homes, and Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to build our brothers and sisters homes. With homes, you have family, with family, you have community, with community you have culture and traditions and language. Know that we are listed in the new book, Volunteer Vacation Across America, written by Sherly Kayne.

Contact me, via email, amissionoflove@sbcglobal.net or call 330-793-2388 if interested in going on one of our building trips. Our newsletter will also be on our website, missionoflove.org.

"You are not here to save the world, but are here to touch the hands that are within your reach."

**With Love and Gratitude,
Kathleen Price, Founder/Director of Mission of Love
amissionoflove@sbcglobal.net
missionoflove.org
330-793-2388**

***A strong community can save a nation,
the Lakota Nation!***

Andrea Reedy - Mission of Love Volunteer

Overwhelmed – that's what I felt driving onto Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The first thing I noticed was the landscape... open, stark, beautiful, desolate, unfertile. I instantly had a spark of understanding of why our native American Indian communities struggle.

A hundred thirty years ago we set them up in a no-win situation. We forced them off fertile lands and onto the "bad"lands to become farmers. (I'm serious, The Badlands National Park is right there...and there is a good reason it's called the BADlands.) I would compare this scenario to dropping someone in the desert and telling them to make a livelihood fishing!

We took away their land, their culture, and their hope. In return we gave them desperation. We set up a huge welfare state. The results? High unemployment, short life expectancy, high suicide rates, gang violence, high tobacco and alcohol use, limited education opportunities, extremely limited housing, poor health care, lots of television watching, diabetes, ...the list goes on...

During my time there, Kathy and I went to the Oglala Sioux (Lakota) Housing office. I looked at the waiting lists on the wall. Some people have been waiting since 1995! Thirteen years waiting for an apartment to become vacant! It was unimaginable to me living in an area that has pages of for-lease and for-sale properties in every daily paper. We spoke to the CEO, Paul Iron Cloud, a dedicated man who has spent his life working on behalf of his people. I saw sadness in his eyes and weariness in his being which I recognized from black and white photos of American Indian Chiefs over the past century. The need so great; the resources so limited. As we drove around the reservation, I saw families, extended families, living in trailer homes and shacks. A majority of the structures certainly would be condemned if they were in Ohio.

Many have thrown up their hands in dismay, turned their backs, and walked away. Not Kathy Price and Mission of Love volunteers and supporters.

Kathy is dedicated to creating homes for the Lakota people. She says when The Mission of Love provides a house; parents have the opportunity to create a stable home. Where there is a home, a family can nurture and grow. Where there are families, communities are built. A strong community can save a nation, the Lakota Nation.

So that's our mission on the reservation...to provide safe housing for children and their families. It is working. These homes are not just another hand out from the government or white folk. The recipients of these homes are expected to work with The Mission of Love on their home to the extent of their finances and ability. In addition, they are expected to join our team and to "pay it forward"...to help The Mission of Love build homes for others on the reservation. They do.

I donate my resources to The Mission of Love because I know every dollar and hour of support go right to the people. There are no campaigns to finance, executive payroll to cover (in fact there's NO payroll), offices to maintain, government bail outs, or meetings in exotic places!

If you are not already financially supporting The Mission of Love, I ask you to do so. It's the perfect gift for those people in your life who just don't need any more stuff! Give them the gift of feeding the hungry and sheltering the homeless. Make a gift in the true spirit of CHRISTmas to The Mission of Love.



"It's all about the forgotten "children"...."



Mission Statement: Mission of Love

The Mission of Love organization, since inception 1989, has been able to help the poor of third world countries, Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and the Hurricane victims through it's airlifts and truck transports of medical supplies, clothes, school supplies, building supplies, and emergency vehicles. But this is only a band aid to a much larger issue. Mission of Love, is very much aware there is a long term objective to our relief effort.

From the beginning, 1989 we have striven to help the worlds poor but we have been mindful that our efforts are a drop in the ocean if matched against the poverty and need amongst the disenfranchised of the third world countries and on the Indigenous Indian Reservations in America. As an organization, consisting of all volunteers, we recognize the need to empower communities at grass roots level so they can help themselves in the fight against poverty and helplessness.

It was necessary to first establish this organization as a humanitarian relief operation before we could establish objectives and goals for the organization. Mission of Love has been operation now for twenty years and it has shown itself to be an established, viable, and dynamic organization. Essentially, it has evolved as an organization that supports Indigenous efforts at grass roots level. For example: a group of concerned Mayans started a clinic in a community in the Mexico City suburbs where there were no medical facilities for the poor.

Having heard of Mission of Love, they turned to the organization to help their efforts and Mission of Love has responded by agreeing to find medical equipment and pharmaceuticals for the clinic. This is fairly typical of the way the Mission of Love initiates it's relief efforts - responding to the need that has been identified by Indigenous people within country who are in touch with the community on a daily basis. Through this process, Mission of Love has developed contact with a network of such people and has developed long term projects and strategies.

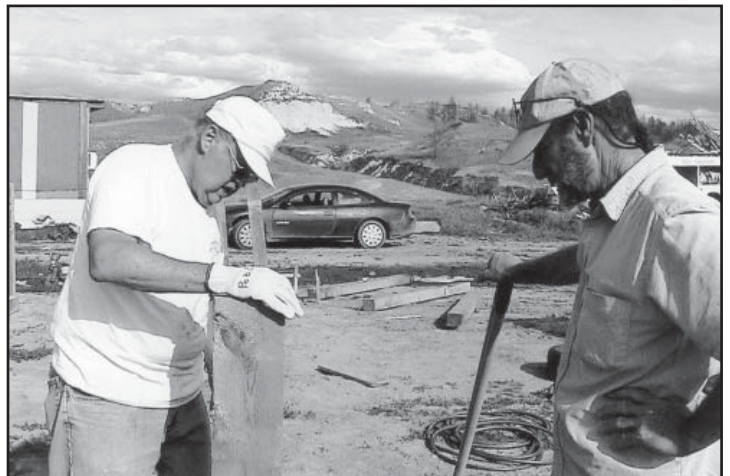
Mission of Love believes Indigenous peoples can best identify their most acute needs and identify where infrastructure and support can best improve the community. In addition, Mission of Love recognizes there are some programs important to long term strategic planning for the United States development effort that must be incorporated into their relief efforts. This would include child education, health, homes, schools and preventative medicine.

With these two ingredients, Mission of Love, has a foundation which it can articulate a long term strategy. To use grass roots in - country to identify how the community needs are best met and then to support these initiatives for medical facilities, education facilities, nutritional programs, child survival programs with donations of material and volunteer trainers. The strategy should aim to build into the support of child nutritional, educational, health and survival programs, building homes and orphanages.

Mission of Love aid has been delivered to:Afghanistan - Bahamas - Belize - Columbia - Congo - Croatia - Ethiopia - Guatemala - Haiti - Honduras - India - Louisiana (Katrina) - Kentucky - Mexico - Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota - Puerto Rico - Nepal - Peru - Sri Lanka



Donna Janis & Sieglinde Warren



Bob Elston and Tom Wilson making the foundation for the home of Richard Broken Nose and family.



WHAT MAKES US FEEL SPIRITUAL?

IT COULD BE THE QUIETING OF A SMALL AREA IN OUR BRAINS, A NEW STUDY SUGGESTS.

The area in question - the right parietal lobe - is responsible for defining "Me," said researcher Brick Johnstone of Missouri University. It generates self-criticism, he said, and guides us through physical and social terrains by constantly updating our self-knowledge: my hand, my cocktail, my witty conversation skills, my new love interest...

People with less active Me-Definers are more likely to lead spiritual lives, reports the study in the current issue of the journal *Zygon*.

Most previous research on neuro-spirituality has been based on brain scans of actively practicing adherents (i.e. meditating monks, praying nuns) and has resulted in broad and inconclusive findings. (Is the brain area lighting up in response to verse or spiritual experience?)

So Johnstone and colleague Bret Glass turned to the tried-and-true techniques of neuroscience's early days - studying brain-injured patients. The researchers tested brain regions implicated in the previous imaging studies with exams tailored to each area's expertise - similar to studying the prowess of an ear with a hearing test. They then looked for correlations between brain region performance and the subjects' self-reported spirituality.

Among the more spiritual of the 26 subjects, the researchers pinpointed a less functional right parietal lobe, a physical state which may translate psychologically as decreased self-awareness and self-focus.

The finding suggests that one core tenant of spiritual experience is selflessness, said Johnstone, adding that he hopes the study "will help people think about spirituality in more specific ways."

Spiritual outlooks have long been associated with better mental and physical health. These benefits, Johnstone speculated, may stem from being focused less on one's self and more on others - a natural consequence of turning down the volume on the Me-Definer.

In addition to religious practices, other behaviors and experiences are known to hush the Definer of Me. Appreciation of art or nature can quiet it, Johnstone said, pointing out that people talk of "losing themselves" in a particularly beautiful song. Love, and even charity work, can also soften the boundaries of "Me," he said.

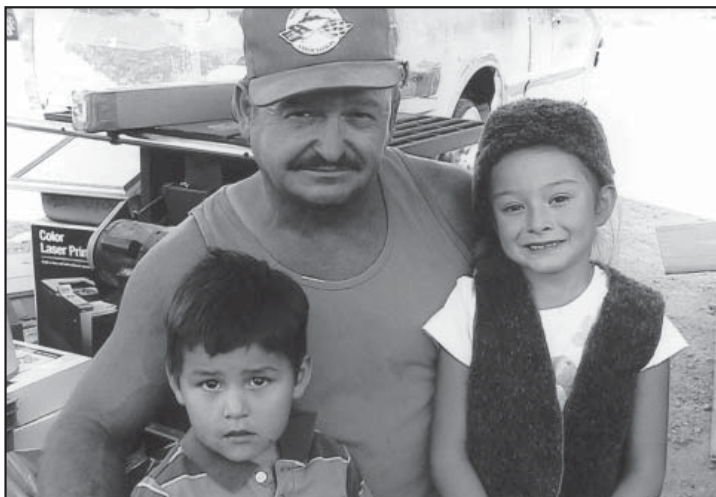
The greatest silencing of the Me-Definer likely happens in the deepest states of meditation or prayer, said Johnstone, when practitioners describe feeling seamless with the entire universe. That is, the highest point of spiritual experience occurs when "Me" completely loses its definition.



"If you look in the Torah, the Old Testament, the New Testament, in the Koran, a lot of Sufi writings, Buddhist writings, and Hindu writings, they all talk about selflessness," said Johnstone.

We may be finding the neurological underpinnings of these writings, he said.

Drawing by: Chevelle



Rusty Puckett and Chevelle and Grandson



"Pink Panther" Bob Carson, Claudia & Sophia

THE JANE GOODALL INSTITUTE

WWW.JANEGOODALL.ORG • WWW.ROOTSANDSHOOTS.ORG

14 - 4 - 09 - Dear Kathy,

It was so very delightful to meet you. You are doing something so absolutely wonderful, and so dear to my heart.

How rewarded you must feel when you visit the new Lakota Circle Village School - realizing how much difference it will make to what Leonard is trying to do for his people - safeguard their culture.

And to visit the building where our office is going to be - I was AMAZED to see that, on our way past after visiting the garden with the film team, the roof was just about ready. AMAZING!!

And what a difference that will make for Patricia and Jason. I was so glad the film team was able to record the construction - but for that interruption, of course, the roof would have been absolutely ready.

Finally - the simple, lovely shirt. It is so beautiful and I so much look forward to wearing it. Thank you so so much.

Kathy, I am so very glad our paths have crossed, Our organizations fit together so well.

I am sending much love along with my thanks and admiration.

JANE

P.S. And give warm greetings to your team!

P.P.S. And I treasure the little rock. It is with a small collection of precious things I carry with me.

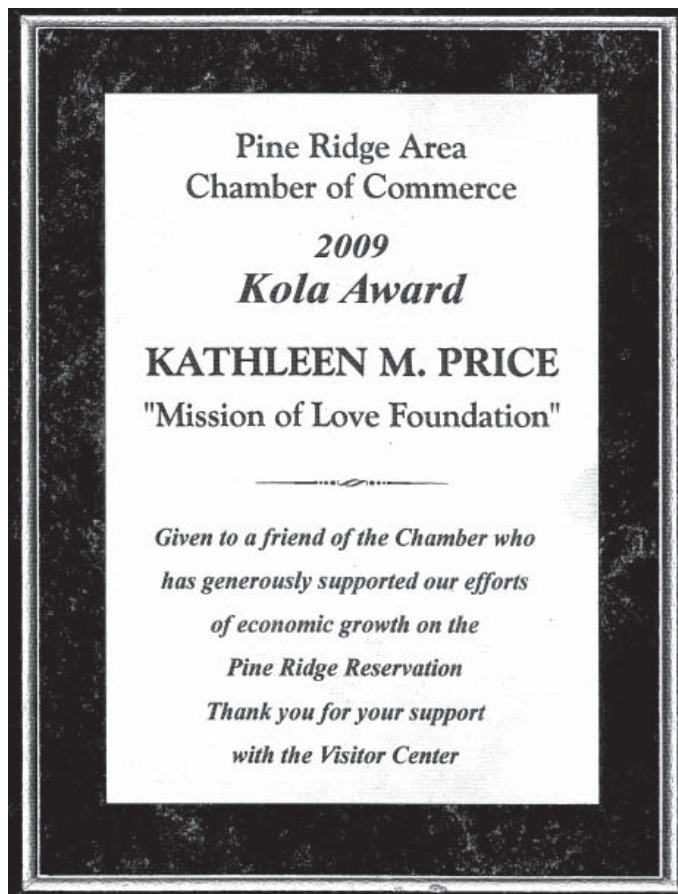


PINE RIDGE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2009

Kola Award

Kathleen M. Price

“Mission of Love Foundation”



On June 4, 2009, in a special ceremony, the Pine Ridge Area Chamber of Commerce, serving the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, recognized Kathleen Price, Founder/Director, Mission of Love, Youngstown, Ohio, by awarding the prestigious KOLA award, in recognition of her tireless work to aid the people of the Pine Ridge Reservation by providing homes and buildings for Lakota Indians.

Kathleen was recognized for her unconditional contributions by providing homes for children and their families who are victims of the disparaging social and economic conditions that continue to prevail on the Reservation. In receiving her recognition, Kathleen, spoke of her recognition and the needs of the people, and of, helping those who have exhausted all possible opportunities to obtain much needed and suitable dwellings.

In presenting the award, Ivan Sorbel, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, spoke of the great need to develop a viable social and economic base for the 45,000 people living on the Pine Ridge Reservation, but that the efforts to accomplish the work can only be realized by people like Kathleen who are willing to take the risks by working from the grassroots level upward.



"Mission of Love's mission is to provide humanitarian aid to those in need."



MISSION OF LOVE PHILOSOPHY

The following is a letter from Mother Teresa to Thomas Farrell, chairman of the Humanities Dept. at Johnson and Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island. In these words, Mother Teresa expresses her thoughts on helping the poor. She also expresses our own.

May 11, 1991, Calcutta

Dear Thomas Farrell,

I have just returned to Calcutta and found your letter. Sorry for the delay. Thank you for your interest in our work of love and for your offer to write an article. Your intention to get donations is good, but it is not in keeping with our charism. We are poor and fully dependent on divine providence which comes to us through the spontaneous sharing of the rich and the poor. If you want to help, share something of yourself-not from your abundance-but until it hurts. Give what costs you,-make a sacrifice-do without something you like, so you may share what you have saved thus with those that do not even have what they need. Then your giving will be truly giving-loving until it hurts. I pray for you that you concentrate more and more on raising funds of love and compassion and to see no one around feels unwanted and unloved. Be God's hands to serve the poor in your spare time and be his heart to love the poorest of the poor, all the time.

God bless you,
Mother Teresa

Dear Kathy,

It was lovely to see you again! Thank you so very much, and thanks to the Mission of Love for all the materials and for working to bring all those incredible volunteers to help us build our first Roots & Shoots Office on the Pine Ridge Reservation. Without the Mission of Love and those volunteers and materials, we wouldn't have that office. Together with Rusty Puckett and his family, you and the Mission of Love are truly on a mission to help those who are helping others.

I don't think that people realize just how much work can be accomplished in only 4 days by a dedicated crew of volunteers! Everyone's spirits were high and so much got done. Only a South Dakota blizzard slowed us down. But, we know we'll get the project finished soon and have a roof over our heads.

We look forward to working more with you in the future. Thanks again, Kathy. Thanks again, Mission of Love.

Sincerely,

Jason T. Schoch
The Jane Goodall Institute
Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots Native Americas Project
Pine Ridge Project Director

Sean Amos Internship - Cleveland, Ohio Dear Ms Price,

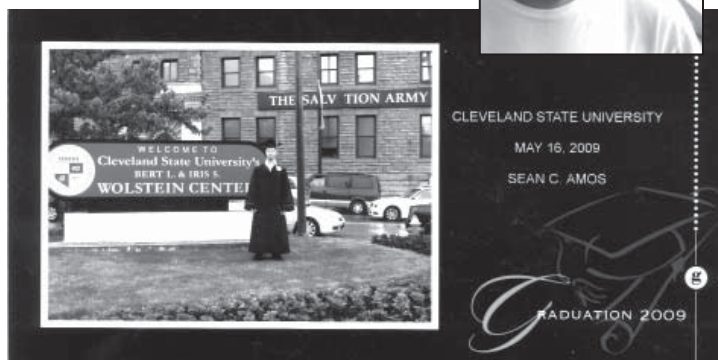
Thank you for that very positive and glowing review of Sean's work during his internship. It is very heartening to hear that one of our students in business has demonstrated a strong sense of service to others. This is a very important value that we want all of our students to acquire.

Please convey my appreciation to Mr. Leonard Little Finger for his very thoughtful and kind note. I will keep all these in mind as I grade Sean's report!

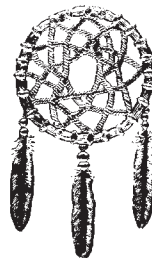
Best wishes to you and Mr. Little Finger for the holidays. May your work continue to thrive!

Sincerely,
Benoy Joseph

W. Benoy Joseph, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Interim Chair, Department of Finance
Nance College of Business Administration
Cleveland State University



Follow Your Dreams



*Won't you help dreams come true
for the Lakota (Sioux) children*

Legend of the Dreamcatcher

Native Americans of the Great Plains believe the air is filled with both good and bad dreams. Historically, dreamcatchers were hung in the tipi or lodge and on a baby's cradle board.

According to legend, the good dreams pass through the center hole to the sleeping person. The bad dreams are trapped in the web, where they perish in the light of dawn.

MAYAN ORPHANS GET SURPRISE THIS CHRISTMAS

BY J.T. WHITEHOUSE - TOWN CRIER

Crews at the Air Force Reserve base in Vienna stuffed more than 68,000 pounds of humanitarian aid into a C-5 to begin the trip to Guatemala last week as part of a Mission of Love project to help close to 250 young orphans.

There was no sleigh, no reindeer, no elves packing big red sacks, but there was a huge C-5 airplane and more than 68,000 pounds of supplies heading into the jungles of Guatemala last week as part of the latest Mission of Love project. The movement of supplies began the week of Dec. 1 from the Mission of Love warehouse in Ravenna. Mission of Love Director Kathy Price of Austintown said it took five semi-truck loads to get the supplies and materials to the air base. The loads included hospital beds, medical supplies, educational supplies, an anesthesia machine, ultrasound machine, construction material, shoes, toys, 10,000 pounds of corn and even three kitchen sinks. All the equipment will be given to Casa Guatemala, where 250 orphans live. This is where the first Tarzan movie was filmed. Price said the plan is to build greenhouses and a kitchen at the orphanage, and install some sort of screen material for the children's sleeping quarters. In the last couple months, 15 children have been bitten by the bats that gain access to the orphanage through vents in the roof that provide ventilation in the humid, jungle environment. "The children are being attacked by vampire bats," Price said. "We hope to protect them."

Among the furniture that will be heading to the orphanage are donations of school desks, tables and shelves that came from Austintown Middle School and Poland Union Elementary. Price said a lot of the school furniture was older wooden pieces that are welcomed in Guatemala. She said the newer metal furniture would rust very quickly in the dampness, but wood holds up much better. An important part of this humanitarian effort is the 10,000 pounds of corn donated by Lutz Farms of Warren. The corn will provide many meals to children who have very little. "These poor children don't have pictures of Hannah Montana on their walls," Price said. "They have pictures of food. That is what they want the most." Early in January, Price and a Mission of Love volunteer team will head to Guatemala to construct a greenhouse and a new kitchen facility at the orphanage. Some of the volunteers will also work at bat-proofing the children's sleeping quarters.

One volunteer in particular will be giving the children a health check-up. Dr. Rashid Abdu of Canfield is a constant volunteer with Price and the Mission of Love. He has offered his medical expertise on numerous visits to New Orleans, Mexico and Yemen and the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Abdu knows better than most what growing up poor is all about. As a child, he had to struggle to get to where he is today. Abdu was born on the Arabian peninsula of Yemen. "It's the poorest area in the Middle East," he said. "I left my village when I was nine. I attempted to fly the coop. Along the path he chose, he got a job at an American Airbase near Yemen, where his uncle drove the base car for the commander. He lived in a one-room house with his uncle and got a job at the Red Cross making doughnuts. His desire to become a doctor started when his cousin was admitted to a nearby British hospital. Abdu was selected to serve as the cousin's bed nurse. He got to observe doctors performing medical procedures and testing and he knew that was what he wanted to do." "I told my uncle I wanted to be a doctor," Abdu said. But he knew I had a one in 300 million chance of ever going to medical school. He did get his chance when a doctor he met at the hospital took him in. Eventually it led to a trip to the United States and the opportunity of his dreams. He not only got into medicine, but has since retired after a very successful career as a surgeon. He has since retired and has written an inspiring book about his life called **"Journey of a Yemeni Boy."** One thing Abdu enjoys in life is giving back to children who were not much different than he was as a young boy. He travels a lot with Price and the Mission of Love and offers medical care in some of the most remote and poorest sections of the world. Abdu, along with over a dozen other Mission of Love volunteers, met on Tuesday to prepare for the trip to Guatemala. In a few weeks, they will fly down to Casa Guatemala and construct the kitchen and greenhouse and make life a little more bearable for the orphaned children.

Price said, "Many thanks to all who have made this Mission of Love possible for the forgotten orphaned and Mayan people of Guatemala. We have made a huge impact on the lives of the Indigenous Maya with sending medical, educational, construction, and food to those within our reach."

missionoflove.org
amissionoflove@sbcglobal.net



We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

Sir Winston Churchill



Mission: 20 years, 50 flights

Group marks milestones in new year

By J.T. Whitehouse
Town Crier

The Mission of Love, based in Austintown, is hitting two landmarks as 2009 gets under way. Not only is the non-profit organization turning 20, but it has just sent its 50th shipment of humanitarian aid out under the Air Force Denton Program.

For Kathy Price, Mission of Love director, it has been a long and busy 20 years.

"There has been so much happening in the past 20 years that I don't even recall the first trip under the Denton Program," Price said.

The Denton Program was the brainchild of U.S. Sen. Jeremiah Denton, who established it in 1984. Prior to the program's start, Air Force cargo crews and ground support used to train by flying sandbags around, Price said. The Denton Program made for a win-win situation by using the crews training as part of delivering humanitarian aid around the world at no cost to the donor. It gave Air Force crews live training during a real mission.

For the Mission of Love, the Denton Program has enabled aid to be sent to the poorest of the poor throughout the world. Price's organization has served indigenous people in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Peru, Africa and Asia. On the home front, Mission of Love was there to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina and the 9/11 disaster. It also assists in helping the Native Americans on the Pine Ridge Reservation out west.

Last week's mission, number 50, was destined to go to Martha Betty in Peru. Betty is the South American version of Price. She also has dedicated her life to helping the poor in the mountains and jungles of the Peruvian rainforest. The airlift that left the Vienna Airbase last week contained medical and dental supplies, furniture, educational materials, clothing, nonperishable food, construction materials and household items.

"Children will be able to carry their first very own pencils and notebooks to a school that



Photos special to the Town Crier
Dr. Rashid Abdu of Canfield and Kathy Price of Austintown, talk with the KC10 pilot who was delivering the latest Mission of Love cargo to Peru.

Crews from the 910th Air Lift Wing in Vienna load the KC10 cargo plane last week as it prepared for the journey to an impoverished city in Peru. On New Year's Day, 15 volunteers accompanied Mission of Love Director Kathy Price on a trip to Peru to help with some humanitarian efforts.

previous airlifts from the Mission of Love helped build," said Mission of Love volunteer Mary Strong. "Women who might have died in childbirth will now live because Martha Betty's medics have been able to take portable birthing kits with them on boats up the narrow tributaries of the Amazon basin."

Price is very pleased with being the first person to reach the 50th airlift under the Denton Program, but for her it doesn't end there. On Monday, she was joined by 10 local volunteers and five from California as they flew to Guatemala to help build a greenhouse at an orphanage that serves around 250 children. Price said the orphanage grows its own food for the children and a greenhouse was needed.

While in South America, the team will also be helping out with a bat problem. Around the Amazon River basin, vampire bats are a common sight. They have been known to fly in windows and have a record of biting the children at the orphanage as they sleep. Price said roughly two dozen children have had to take painful rabies shots after being attacked in their sleep. The volunteers will be installing bat-proof netting to allow the children to sleep without danger while keeping the windows open during the hot, humid nights.

One volunteer who made the trip this week is Dr. Rashid Abdu, who also accompanied Price to the airbase last week. It was



his first time at the base where he got the watching the members of the 910th Airlift Wing load a cargo plane.

"I expected to see a few boxes bundled together for the shipment," he said, "only to find 13 pallets, 10-by-10-by-10 feet, which for weeks, Kathy, with little or no help, has carefully bundled in thick plastic sheets."

Each pallet, Abdu said, weighed between 2,500 and 3,000 pounds. Added to shipments earlier in December, it brought the total amount of aid to more than 50 tons.

Hauling the latest airlift was a huge KC10 cargo jet from the 305th AMW at McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey. The big plane landed at the Youngstown Air Base where local crews experienced loading the cargo from a side door, which was a little different than

the C-130s that are rear loading. As Price watched the big airplane take off for the trip to Guatemala, she had some time to reflect on the past 20 years and all that she has been able to do.

"We've had over 3,300 people from all walks of life join us as volunteers in the past 20 years," Price said. "They willingly gave of their time to help others. I

have given a third of my life to Mission of Love, but I don't regret one second of it. It is good to set an example to my children and grandchildren of how one person can make a difference."

While others were waking to the first day of a new year, Price and 15 volunteers kicked off the 20th year for Mission of Love en route to helping the 250 orphans of Guatemala.



When in balance with self, one may help others find the center, and thus bring about change.

One person cannot change the whole world, yet can change the world for one person, and that person can change the world for another. In this way, we may bring about change to our troubled societies. Begin the healing; stand at the center.



Douglas Spotted Eagle



HALF A DAY WITH KATHY;

Rashid A. Abdu, M.D ~ December 30, 2008

Kathy Price called me at 10:45 A.M. and asked if I were ready to go with her to the Air Force Base in Vienna, Ohio about 25 miles away, where she was delivering her 50th air lift cargo, utilizing the Denton Program, of which she is the largest user in the United States. This time the shipment was heading for the poorest of the poor in Peru.

I expected to see a few boxes bundled together for the shipment, only to find 13 pallets, 10x10 x10 feet, which, for weeks, Kathy, with little or no help, has carefully bundled in thick plastic sheets, at the warehouses in Ravenna. Each pallet weighed between 2500 and 3000 pounds, a total of 34 thousand pound. The cargo consisted of many different items to meet the needs requested, including hospital beds, clothes, school supplies, equipments for clinics and hospice, and a loom, for a lady to make rugs and earn a living.

Although I saw this airbase for the first time, Kathy was not a stranger. She seemed to know everyone! I stood there at awe, looking at the 13 huge pallets, thinking of the hours, days and weeks it took to collect their content, to transport them to the Ravenna Warehouse, to sort them, bundle them, load them on to large trucks, and bring them to the Air Force Base in Vienna, about 50 miles away.

Soon, they were loaded on to special transport vehicles that moved slowly to the huge KC10 jet aircraft. Using special high lift, each palette was lifted up, and carefully pushed through the huge side door, over special steel rollers, into the belly of this behemoth.

Except for about four seats for the crew at the front, the entire floor was covered with these special steel rollers, capable of rolling the load in any direction. It was an impressive sight. One of the crew told me that under the floor was a giant tank full of jet fuel for refueling other aircrafts in the air. With that huge load, I could not imagine that this huge airship could move, much less fly!

As the plane took off, I could see a glow of happiness on Kathy's face, knowing that she had met the needs of so many poor people, especially children, in far away Peru. No fanfare, no T.V. cameras, or glare of publicity, could have shown that glow, that satisfaction, on Kathy's face, than to know that her care, her toil, and concern for those less fortunate, is now in the air with lots of love. It symbolized Kathy's life and her mission.

Kathy and I stopped at a friend's warehouse and picked up several boxes of health related items for our trip to Guatemala, on January 1st. Yes, she had sent a large load to Guatemala recently to meet the needs of an orphanage of more than 250 children, where we will be working.

It was close to 5:P.M. when she dropped me by my house. I was exhausted, but not this wife, mother and grandmother, who was going home to sort all those items and to package them for our trip. She never seems to get tired. She is always on a mission—a mission of peace, a Mission of Love. I am grateful for the day's experience.



Brian, Harvey, Amigo, Fred (All Cousins), working for the children.

Doctor Rashid Abdu & Armando at Casa Guatamala



MISSION OF LOVE FOUNDATION

Offering aid to those in need worldwide...

Kathleen M. Price, Founder & Director



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CASA GUATEMALA - MISSION OF LOVE, Rashid Abdu M.D

With sharing comes love. With love comes peace!

On a cold morning on January 1, 2009, Bob Price picked me up early in the morning, heading for our trip with the Mission of Love to Guatemala. Kathleen Price, the Founder and Director of the Mission of Love, had sent 75,000 pounds of building material, medical/dental equipment, and other supplies to Guatemala December 6. Kathy founded Mission of Love about 20 years ago. During her travel with her husband, Bob, to Mexico, she visited a clinic and found that she had more medicine in their medicine cabinet at home, than there were in the clinic on the Island of Isla Mujeres! From that day forward, Kathy has dedicated her life to helping the poorest of the poor in all parts of the United States and the world. This time, it was Casa Guatemala, an orphanage, of about 250 children, on the shores of Rio Dulce, about 250 miles northeast of Guatemala City.

It was at the request of another visionary, Angie Galdamez, originally from Honduras, a widow, mother and grandmother, who 30 years ago, visited an orphanage in Guatemala City, and witnessed malnourished, and ill cared-for orphans, that kindled the flame of love in her heart. Like Kathy Price's experience in Mexico, she decided to devote her life and resources to those who have no voice and no hope, the orphans. It is not strange that these two mothers and grandmothers, became close friends, each in her own way, making the difference in the lives of those less fortunate.

The 15 volunteers with the Mission of Love, came from Ohio, California and Florida. Many of us were repeaters. The mission was to build a greenhouse so the orphans can grow vegetables, protected from the elements, including vampire bats!

The 15 of us volunteers, headed by Kathy Price and her husband Bob, met in Houston, Texas, and then flew together to Guatemala City, followed by a 6 hour drive across beautiful mountains, and then by boat to the orphanage. There, all the lumber, that had been delivered from Youngstown in advance, in an Air Force C5, was in large piles at the water edge, about 0.4 miles from the building site! Kathy has a long standing arrangement with the Air Force to send large shipments through the Denton program. The program allows a charitable organization to send shipments to any part of the world, free of charge. Through this programs, Kathy has sent large quantities, including school furniture and supplies, ambulances and even fire trucks! She is the largest user of the Denton Program in the United States. Her 50th shipment, of 35, 000 pounds to Peru, was just before we left for Guatemala.

On our arrival at the orphanage, our volunteers started to work immediately, carrying the heavy lumber, including the 2"x10"x16' to the building site. There were also the extremely heavy 5"x4" by 16' posts. Kathy purchased this steel-like posts, locally. This wood was so heavy, they had difficulty driving nails through it. They called it "devils wood"! Our volunteers received help from the locals, including the older orphans, who carried more than their weight! They are hard working people with strength and stamina almost unmatched.

The orphanage is a village-like setting, with several basic buildings that house the administrative building, school, volunteers and the orphans, who range in age from infancy to 18 years old. There is only two hour a day of electricity, between 6:30 and 8:30 PM. The small generator depends on gasoline availability. Consequently, there is no refrigeration , so any fresh meat or fish has to be consumed on that day. All the children looked healthy, and happy and well cared for. Angie thinks of them as her own children. All activities are geared for the children's well being and safety.

There is a clinic manned by two volunteer nurses from Spain. There is school with mostly volunteer teachers, or those with small pay. After the 6th grade, Angie tries to raise funds for scholarships for those qualified to go to high school and beyond. At the same time, she owns the "Hotel Backpackers" with its restaurant, where many orphans work and get the experience they need to function in the real world that lies beyond the security of the orphanage. Angie knows where each child is, what he or she is doing, whether their needs are met, and what their aims and aspirations are. Each child knows his/her duties within this great "family", according to ability and age. I was impressed to see them engaged in those activities. They looked happy and proud of what they were doing. I saw them washing their laundry

(cont'd on page 10)



With Sharing comes love. With Love Comes Peace! Rashid Abdu, MD



CASA GUATEMALA - MISSION OF LOVE,

Rashid Abdu M.D

(cont'd from page 9)

in the river and hanging it to dry on clothes lines in the sun. I saw them work in the kitchen, preparing, cooking, and cleaning. I saw little boys and girls standing around a galvanized sink, next to the front door of the kitchen-dining room, like little brothers and sisters, washing the after-breakfast plastic dishes without the slightest discord! . I saw a little girl, no more than four or five years old, filling a small water container in the river, carrying it to the balcony of the office building's second floor, and watering the many potted plants. She looked so proud and happy that she was doing her job! I saw them helping the volunteers, carrying lumber, and stones, and the older ones pounding nails high on the building frame. But also I saw them play like brothers and sisters, in the water, in the school yard, and wherever the opportunity presented itself, and each flashed a smile that was contagious and heart warming. Many parents can learn from this orphanage on how to raise their children!

Besides our volunteers building an 30x90 foot greenhouse, there were other volunteers, college students from Colorado and Wisconsin, who were building a classroom house. They too, were hauling building material, including stones, on their backs for a long distance. I was most impressed to see these young people come from far away places, at their own expense, building, teaching, treating and nurturing these children. They come from all over the world, because they believe in what Angie is doing, and want to take part in this noble cause. It restores my faith and my hope in the new generation that believes in sharing. With sharing, comes love. With love, comes peace!

I met a young volunteer, from England. He has been working at the orphanage, teaching and working with the orphans on the village farm for a year and a half. They plant corn, vegetables, fruit trees, and raise cows, pigs, chickens, ducks and goats, for orphanage consumption. He was relatively a well to do Englishman, but when he found Casa Guatemala on the Internet, he decided to visit. He returned to England and sold his restaurant, and came back. His future plans are to visit his parents in England once in a while, and after they are gone, to return and live and work at the orphanage permanently.

Both, Kathy and Angie, have one thing in common: Each is making a difference in the lives not only of those who are less fortunate, but in the lives of those who discover themselves through their work, like the hundreds, may be thousands of volunteers, who were given the opportunity to see, to share and to love. Perhaps we did help the orphans a little during our short stay, but they gave us much more. The made us better and our lives richer, than before we arrived. I will always be grateful for the opportunity.

Thank you Kathy. Thank you Angie.

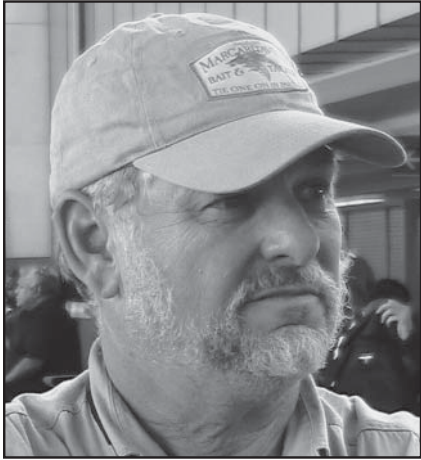
Rashid A. Abdu, M.D.



*Leslie Carson & Friends from
Casa Guatamala Orphanage*



*Mission of Love Volunteer Building Team
at Casa Guatamala Orphanage*



HOW TO RENEW YOUR SPIRIT, LOSE A LITTLE WEIGHT, AND DO A LOT OF GOOD IN TEN SHORT DAYS

By Bob Price

I love my life's work. I am an attorney and much of my work is involved with trying to help people to get through some difficult times in their lives when they become involved with the legal system. In my family law practice, I see families that tear themselves apart, often because one or both of the parties have made bad decisions. Folks who come to me with criminal cases very often put themselves in a bad position. In Probate Court, often family members stop being family members and become litigants against each other. A lawyer! This job is to try to analyze the other side's position as well as your own clients so that you are in a better posture to assist your client. The other party also has a lawyer who is doing the exact same thing on the other side. By presenting a fair analysis and realistic assessment to your client, often you can assist them to resolve the issue without the necessity of having a judge make the decision for them. This is a rewarding thing to do and I do enjoy working with people and helping them, but boy, do some folks just create their own problems by making bad decisions.

That is why I jumped at the opportunity to travel with my wife and a great group of people to the Rio Dulce region of Guatemala. I had been there twice before and knew that I was signing up for long days of hard work and conditions that were sometimes crummy. I also knew that I would wake up every morning to spectacular beauty and spend my day helping little children who were not in a bad place because of their wrong decisions, but just were not fortunate enough to be born as American kids.

Guatemala is the country that is just south of Mexico. It is a land of mountains and rivers and awesome beauty. It has its own unique history. When our group of fifteen volunteers arrived in the country, we spent our first night in the capital of Guatemala City and slept in a building that had been the residence of the President of Guatemala during the 1940s. The rooms were like something out of a movie, I think "Casablanca". We had breakfast in a large courtyard and enjoyed our eggs with fresh squeezed orange juice and fried plantains. After breakfast, we all boarded the bus for our six hour ride through the mountains to the river in the northeastern part of the country. It was wonderful to see so much green in January.

We arrived at the Rio Dulce late in the afternoon of January 2, and boarded a boat that would take us to the hotel where we would stay when we were not working. The Hotel Catamaran is situated on an island in the middle of the river. It is a fascinating study in contrast. In a country with so much poverty, the river was lined with marinas full of expensive boats. The Rio Dulce empties directly into the Caribbean, and many wealthy Americans dock their boats there. It is so strange to see and you must wonder if the Guatemalan people think that we all live like that.

Our rooms were little cabins built on concrete pilings that extended out into the river. Our days generally began early when the howler monkeys would start a low roaring sound in the trees just before dawn. Breakfast began at 7:00 and the hotel set us up with a complete buffet including omelets and fresh papaya juice. You could eat as much or as little as you wanted. As the week went on, I found that smaller meals were more satisfying. By 8:00 we were on the boat that would take us up river to the orphanage where we would begin work. I won't kid you, that part was not fun, but it is part of the deal. The work was tough and it was continuous. And that was the reason that we came. Our goal was to tear down an old green house and to erect a new one with minimal help from power tools. We had to contend with swarming ants and a Central American sun. Often members of our group would have to take a day off to recover from miseries that were a result of too much sun, not enough liquid, and just the change in living conditions. We worked side by side with Guatemalan men and children. Yes, children, who worked as hard as the men. These people have enormous pride, and frankly, it was tough to keep up with them, but we did.

The work was long, hard and tough. And now it is done. When we left Casa Guatemala, they had a new greenhouse that they plan to use to cultivate orange trees. They want to start an orange grove, to use as a teaching tool for the children, to provide food, and to provide some needed income.

At the end of the day, we would return, pretty worn out, to our hotel. Happy hour awaited and I looked forward to one or two boat drinks. Dinner was a seven, twelve hours since breakfast, and again, I found that I really was not interested in large meals. We all sat at the same table and forged our friendships. Bedtime was welcome, and usually early, because tomorrow was another full day.

The day before we all flew home, we travelled to the ancient city of Antigua, in the eastern part of the country. This was the original capital of Guatemala when the Spanish King's regent was the ruler and the Mayans were used by the Europeans to exploit the country's wealth for his most royal majesty. We visited magnificent buildings that were erected by people who lived in huts. Dinner was in the hacienda where the King's representative lived, in 1608, over four hundred years ago. Again, I felt like I was in a movie, this time, I think "Zorro".

Was the trip worth the time and expense? Oh yeah. Did I help somebody who never knew that I existed? I hope so. Did I return home exhausted and exhilarated? Yup. Would I do it again? Sign me up.

Right now Kathy is in the preliminary stages of planning a return to the orphanage in January 2010. Want to see a wonderful part of the world, help some kids, make some friends that will last a lifetime, refresh your soul and maybe lose a little weight? Come on along, we can sure use you.

DEAR KATHY,

I am taking this opportunity to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your continuous support, Casa Guatemala kitchen and school has been mainly equipped thanks to your generosity, sharing with us supplies to meet our needs.

The green house you kindly not only shipped the lumber and roofing material but you also came with your construction crew to put up all of the installation, thanks so much.

The two dental clinic and equipment for gynecology clinic we received in the last air lift are already placed in the Red Cruz in Santo Tomas de Castilla where it is already in operation

The anesthetic equipment is in a rural hospital in El Estor.

Dear Kathy you are helping to give free medical care to many people in our area, we find doctors ready to help but without the equipment is not that much they can do, we all thank you very much.

Casa Guatemala has an humanitarian program and through them we identified needs in other organization doing similar work, with your shipments we become a distributors making sure the equipment gets to the right places where the much needed people can get serve.

Needs:

For these type of programs we can have a good use for

The fire truck: this truck will be use for distribution of water in the very poor neighborhood who have NO running water in their houses.

Medical supplies including masks and rubber gloves

5 computer tables-desks joined together with separation between each student

6 cafeteria tables are very welcome

Kitchen cabinets and shelving are very much needs it for Casa Guatemala kitchen

Windows, doors and all the Medical supplies you can get

The weaving loom can be use in the program we have with the young women from the local villages

We also need the lumber, roofing material, to rebuilt some of the houses in the Children village that were destroyed by the 1999 earthquake, these structures are still in service but very dangerous with the deterioration they show.

There is a big need of bed sheets, bed covers, towels, table cloths, kitchen clothing (white)

Thread for the weaving loom, Thread for macramé,

Embroider thread

Thanks so much and God may bless you
Angie



Fred Housel and a friend from Casa Guatamala

Casa Guatamala
Doctor administering aid to an orphan.



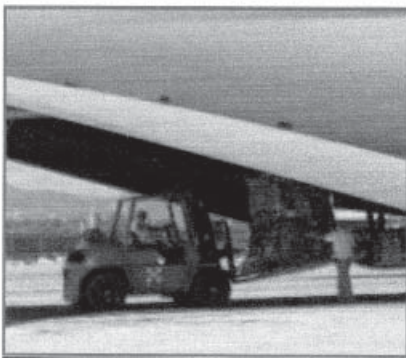
*Children at Casa Guatamala Orphanage
who taught us about the simplicity of life.
The way life should be!*

Dear Friends,

On December 6th Santa Claus came early this year but not in his usual sleigh with reindeer. This time he had a huge Galaxy C-5 aircraft which landed in the military air base in Guatemala City full of donations for Casa Guatemala. There waiting were 50 of us who had the pleasure to receive it.



The plane arrived loaded with 21 giant pallets of goods. It had been carefully packed so that we were able to offload some of the pallets with the forklift but the majority contained important building materials that were swiftly unloaded by our staff and volunteers by hand. This mission made us feel like we were the main stars in a movie since we had to get everything accomplished in only 4 hours 15 minutes!



We all worked very hard and were grateful to have the help of some of the soldiers from the base and the support from USAID, the US Embassy and Galaxy Crew. Here are some of

the comments from USAID Official Margaret Penedo:

"The mission was a huge success. Casa Guatemala had more than 40 volunteers helping to unload, plus the people from Transportes Medina, who provided (donated) land transportation on 4 trailers. The 21 pallets were unloaded, unpacked, reloaded in the trailers and off the airport ramp by 4pm on Saturday. Major Curtis Schmucker from US MilGroup and Enrique Olivet from our Executive Office were present as well, in addition to myself, as this very large shipment had caused us concern when information about its bulk was made known to us."

Major Curtis L. Schmucker, Air Force Section Chief/Training Manager USMILGP Guatemala had the same sentiments and said "Thanks to Casa Guatemala, Transportes Medina, the AMC manager, and the USAID reps for pulling this off in excellent fashion".

The idea behind sharing these details with you is to show our gratitude for all the efforts of Kathy and her team at Mission of Love did on their end. Mission of Love as well as the Denton Program and the American Embassy in Guatemala were afraid that if we were not able to meet the time requirements that at the last moment the plane would have to take off back to Charleston with the unloaded cargo still on board. Luckily we were able to successfully complete the transfer and the plane was able to leave empty on schedule.





We thank all those who helped acquire all of the donations that have arrived. The

lumber, roofing laminates, kitchen equipment and supplies, school and medical supplies, wheel chairs, dentistry equipment, the anesthesia machine, the scanner, the beautiful shoes, all the very nice clothing, and all the mattresses. The 10 wonderful tables with the attached seats were such a hit that as soon as the children saw them, they got the broken old tables out from the dinning area; went through all the boxes until they found the boxes with the colored seats and by themselves, put them together so that same day they could have dinner at their new tables! You could see how happy and proud they were to have brand new tables! And of course, there were all of the beautiful toys that will surprise and delight the children, bringing smiles to their faces come Christmas when they unwrap their presents.

And that wasn't all! There are so many more wonderful gifts to describe. We are grateful for the material to repair the organic green house and cannot forget about all of the supplies we got for the baby's house we have in the city. There are so many supplies that we still have



not gotten into all of the boxes! So please accept my apologies if some of the supplies sent are not in the description above. We are so grateful for this amazing gift and we thank you all very much.

These 33 tons of supplies are a Godsend. Getting such an amount of very useful supplies in the middle of the international financial crisis is something very special for which we feel incredibly privileged.



Our heartfelt thanks go out to every one of you: the donors; the staff and crew from the Denton Program; Margaret Penedo from USAID; the staff of the American Embassy in Guatemala; and Mr. Alfredo Molina who so kindly gave us so much support with 4 forklifts and three big trucks to transport all this cargo across the country 275 km from Guatemala to Rio Dulce. And of course, to my dearest friend Kathy Price, who only God knows how, was able to put all these wonderful contributions together, get the Galaxy C-5 and arrange to have it sent to us here in Guatemala. Her efforts have been and continue to be such a gift to us and the work that we do at Casa Guatemala. Kathy, we love you very much and are so grateful for your support.

Sincerely,

*Angie Galdámez
Executive Director,*

Casa Guatemala

IQUITOS PERU

Dear Kathy,

May you be in good health and at peace.

Please accept our loving greetings and God's infinite blessings. We are very happy and extremely grateful to you especially, your donors, your Mission of Love volunteers, Jim Ward, Kenneth Hundemer, Michael McAvoy of the Denton program, the cargo loading team Bob Moss, the pilot and crew of our airplane, and everyone else who made this miraculous January of 2009 mission of love to Lima, Peru possible.

The donation was placed for temporary safekeeping in a Lima transport agency warehouse. Your precious gifts are being sorted and sent by truck on a first leg down Peru's coastal highway through the desert. From there, the trucks turn to the east toward the high Andes mountains where they follow often narrow and unpaved roads up altitude as high as 15,000 feet surrounded by snowy peaks. After that, the trucks descend down the east side of the mountains to a jungle port on one of the Amazon's tributaries. Here, the donation gets loaded on boats that travel north up to a confluence with the mighty Amazon itself. Iquitos sits on this gigantic river's banks. Peru is a big country with many ecological zones, where travel, as you can see from my description, is not always that easy. Have no fear because our volunteers keep a close eye (we say we "have eyes all around our heads") on your donation from start to finish of its journeys. Most of the poorest of our many poor people live in the high mountains and the deep jungle, so your gifts will go to those regions. Your winter clothing will be given to families who have winter every night of the year in the high Andes where they live. Your summer attire will go to village people of the hot and humid rain-forest near Iquitos. School and health supplies, craft and building tools, medicines, preserved food, and medical supplies will go to both climatic areas.

You can only imagine what an enormous difference your labor and gifts make in the lives of our poor people, especially the children. Because of you, children learn to read and write, and with that knowledge they help themselves and their entire communities. Because of you, mothers survive difficult childbirths, and families get over simple infections instead of dying. Children grow up keeping their teeth instead of losing them, and have broken ones repaired so they can live a useful life instead of begging. Because of you, young people will learn a trade using a loom or building or cooking tools or sewing machines in your donation, and they will not have to participate in illegal drug production in order to feed their loved ones. Because of you...

You have worked hard, and taken risks to come to us with this wonderful bounty. We pray for you that God may love and protect you, and I send you our deepest gratitude.

Martha Betty
Iquitos, Peru

Dearest Kathy, Mission of Love Volunteers, and Others who helped us so much, more than I could possibly tell you,

May you be at peace and in good health. I want you to know that the wonderful donations that came to Peru in that enormous airplane a few months ago are being put to good use. They are both improving and actually saving the lives of so many poor people, especially our children.

You are aware that people actually die of infections here in our Amazonian jungle, and you have sent the best of antibiotics to keep that from happening. Your other medications relieve pain, heal wounds, and lower fevers. Your medical instruments help our doctors, dentists, and nurses assist at births and perform common procedures that bring babies into the world, save mothers, repair teeth, and help people return to active life instead of, literally, departing from this world too soon.

Your clothing graces us and makes us able to go to work and school with pride. Your food fills us and gives us the basic energy and joy to live and contribute in a normal way. The children in our small Inca Indian orphanage, we call it "El Huambrillo" ("The Little Child" in local dialect) that Mission of Love helped to build years ago is full of healthy smiling boys and girls because of you.

Your books and educational materials are helping our children learn and become productive members of the society to come. Tools help us build homes and schools and clinics. Tools also help train young people for jobs. Our youth are learning baking (Mission of Love helped build and furnish our baking school!), carpentry, machine shop, and sewing. In this way, young people learn to be responsible workers and parents.

Your very wide multi-user loom is in operation under the expert eyes and hands of a group of master textile artists. With this treasure they can collaborate to make extra large versions of their exquisite tapestries and blankets in one piece. Weaving, you know, is probably the most well-known of our traditional crafts in Peru.

We are so grateful for the superhuman effort all of you put into this absolutely huge donation for our poor people and above all our children. We have you in our prayers always, especially you, Kathy.

May God bless you,
Martha Betty, Iquitos, Peru



The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain. - Dolly Parton



LOVE ENERGY AT WORK: Mary Strong, New York - Mission of Love Volunteer

One woman sends fiftieth Denton Program Airlift of humanitarian aid

Kathy Price is an everyday person like you and me, but with a big difference: she is sending airlift number fifty full of help for the destitute to Peru this January, 2009. Kathy is the founder and director of Mission of Love, an all-volunteer organization that works without large grants of any kind. She recognized the great needs of poor people early in her life. Serious illness struck her again and again, and while recuperating in Mexico, she answered a spiritual call to dedicate her life to helping others less fortunate. Since then, she and her volunteers have served Indigenous people in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Peru, and the Sioux Reservations of our own Great Plains. Mission of Love also helped the victims of 9/11 in New York City, refugees from hurricane Katrina in Louisiana and Mississippi, as well as groups of the hungry and sick in Africa and Asia.

Kathy goes beyond sending aid, because she takes herself and volunteers to build hospitals and health clinics, schools and vocational centers. Doctors, dentists, nurses and educators often accompany her to provide care and program development while the building goes on. She has even brought clowns to entertain the children! Kathy goes beyond building and short term care. She makes sure the clinics are permanently provided with medicines, instruments, and health professionals, and the schools with educational materials, sports equipment, and teachers and even school buses.

How does she do it? And why? You might find the answer in a quote from an email I once received from Kathy:

“There is way too much suffering in the world. If only each and every one of us would just step back and realize how simple living really needs to be. Can you imagine the type of love energy we could create as human beings for our world. It is a basic 101 class in life.”

A few decades ago, Senator Denton had a vision in line with Kathy’s philosophy. He decided that perhaps the U.S. government and the military could do something better than just train cargo pilots with airplanes full of sandbags. “Why not send humanitarian aid instead?” he thought. Thus the Denton program was born and Kathy Price became its most frequent user.

Well, you might ask just what does Kathy do to prepare for each airlift? First off, you should know that Kathy is “of a certain age” like this writer. Despite the rickety backs and squeaky knees typical of folk like us, this is what Kathy does for each airlift:

1. Ask for donations. This means calls of compassion to schools, hospitals, and businesses. There are also talks and slide shows at church supers and club meeting halls, cake, flower, and craft sales. **“Whatever it takes”** is a phrase Kathy often uses.
2. Pick up the donations. This means cajoling friendly drivers and trucks to go and get the donations. Kathy often drives herself, and loads and unloads the cargo alone or with a few stalwart volunteers.
3. Sort the donations, pack and box them, write up a manifest, palletize the cargo, shrink wrap the pallets. You have to see in your mind’s eye that this gets done without benefit of forklifts and other modern conveniences. Kathy hopes for a pallet jack for Christmas. Santa, are you listening?
4. Load the cargo on trucks and take it to an airbase. For the Peru mission, this meant loading to trucks, each 48 feet long and filled from bottom to top. Then there was the long cold ride to the base in temperatures near zero.
5. It doesn’t end here, because then Kathy must work with the consignee (person designated to receive and distribute the cargo at its destination). She and the consignee make sure the donations actually arrive in the hands of the people who need them. This can be a very tricky process because there are many unprincipled people along the donation’s journey who would like to take it and profit from it themselves.
6. There is more, because for example many donations contain the building material Kathy and her volunteer crews will use to construct clinics, homes, and schools. So Kathy coordinates her calendar to arrive with her team in time to receive the airlift and start the work on site.

This fiftieth mission will go to Martha Betty in Peru and her group of volunteers. She is another Kathy who has worked all her life to help the needy, particularly Indigenous children in the mountains and jungles of her very poor country. This airlift contains such wonderful things as medical and dental supplies and furniture, educational materials and supplies, clothing, non-perishable food, construction materials and tools, and household items. These gifts are treasures for people who have practically nothing in the way of material goods, and who have no access to health care or schooling of any kind. The donations will light up the eyes and put color on the cheeks of children who will feel healthy for the first time without the constant weakening effect of parasites, infections, low nutrition, and inadequate clothing. Women who might have died in childbirth will now live because Martha Betty’s medics have been able to take portable birthing kits with them on boats up the narrow tributaries of the Amazon basin. Children will carry their first very own pencils and notebooks to a school that previous airlifts from Mission of Love have built. Elder people will have a bed upon which to rest out their last days in a hospice Mission of Love has furnished. Young people will learn trades using tools such as weaving looms and sewing machines and household items like cooking and construction implements from this airlift.

This is “the basic 101 of life”. Are you ready to sign up for the course? Better hurry, because registration ends soon.



MI CANTE ETANHAN WOPILA ECICZYAPI!
TRANSLATION:
FROM MY HEART, I SAY "THANK YOU-!"

TO KATHLEEN PRICE, FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR,
MISSION OF LOVE,
AND
VOLUNTEERS

In behalf of the relatives from the past, present, and future, I want to express great appreciation for your personal time, effort, and expenses in the fulfillment of a vision. Our grandfather, Chief Big Foot, had a vision of establishing a school for the children to educate them so that they could survive impending changes. His vision, although agreed on by the federal government officials, never happened. Instead, 8 years later, he and his people, were massacred at Wounded Knee Creek.

126 years later, now stands the fulfillment of that vision. You and I, are now in the presence of the reality of his vision in a beautiful building. The work of many hands, without the help of the federal dollars, attest to it's near completion.

Realize that you are an integral part of this history that is unfolding for this generation along with the generations to come as the Lakota who have survived the Wounded Knee Creek Massacre reclaim their rights to their culture, history, and language.

I want you to consider yourself as a family member, as we jointly struggle to rebuild the right way of life in body, mind, and spirit, for all.

IN DEEP GRATITUDE- MITAKUYE OYASIN
Leonard Little Finger
"SITANKALAKOJA"



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, INDIGENOUS VOICES

Who are indigenous peoples?

It is estimated that there are more than 370 million indigenous people spread across 70 countries worldwide. Practicing unique traditions, they retain social, cultural, economic and political characteristics that are distinct from those of the dominant societies in which they live. Spread across the world from the Arctic to the South Pacific, they are the descendants - according to a common definition - of those who inhabited a country or a geographical region at the time when people of different cultures or ethnic origins arrived. The new arrivals later became dominant through conquest, occupation, settlement or other means.

Among the indigenous peoples are those of the Americas (for example, the Lakota in the USA, the Mayas in Guatemala or the Aymaras in Bolivia), the Inuit and Aleutians of the circumpolar region, the Saami of northern Europe, the Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders of Australia and the Maori of New Zealand. These and most other indigenous peoples have retained distinct characteristics which are clearly different from those of other segments of the national populations.

Understanding the term “indigenous”

Considering the diversity of indigenous peoples, an official definition of “indigenous” has not been adopted by any UN-system body. Instead the system has developed a modern understanding of this term based on the following:

- Self-identification as indigenous peoples at the individual level and accepted by the community as their member.
- Historical continuity with pre-colonial and/or pre-settler societies
- Strong link to territories and surrounding natural resources
- Distinct social, economic or political systems
- Distinct language, culture and beliefs
- Form non-dominant groups of society
- Resolve to maintain and reproduce their ancestral environments and systems as distinctive peoples and communities.

A question of identity

- According to the UN the most fruitful approach is to identify, rather than define indigenous peoples. This is based on the fundamental criterion of self-identification as underlined in a number of human rights documents.
- The term “indigenous” has prevailed as a generic term for many years. In some countries, there may be preference for other terms including tribes, first peoples/nations, aboriginals, ethnic groups, *adivasi*, *janajati*. Occupational and geographical terms like hunter-gatherers, nomads, peasants, hill people, etc., also exist and for all practical purposes can be used interchangeably with “indigenous peoples”.
- In many cases, the notion of being termed “indigenous” has negative connotations and some people may choose not to reveal or define their origin. Others must respect such choices, while at the same time working against the discrimination of indigenous peoples.

Culture and Knowledge

Indigenous peoples are the holders of unique languages, knowledge systems and beliefs and possess invaluable knowledge of practices for the sustainable management of natural resources. They have a special relation to and use of their traditional land. Their ancestral land has a fundamental importance for their collective physical and cultural survival as peoples. Indigenous peoples hold their own diverse concepts of development, based on their traditional values, visions, needs and priorities.



United Nations

**PINE RIDGE
AREA CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE**

March 25, 2009
Mission of Love
Kathleen M. Price
Hemlock Court
Youngstown, Ohio 44515



Dear Ms. Price,

The Pine Ridge Area Chamber of Commerce (PRACC) is a nonprofit organization on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Our mission statement is: "A voluntary non-profit corporation, whose purpose is to create, sustain and enhance Indian Owned Businesses, therefore improving the quality of life on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Applying the Lakota Values of Honesty, Wisdom, Respect, Courage, Fortitude, Responsibility and Generosity to the economic setting."

We were founded in 1999 and incorporated in 2000 with a hand full of members. Today we have 127 members of which approximately 70% are native owned or located on the Reservation.

It has been a goal of PRACC since our inception to build an office building on the reservation. We have worked toward this goal all of our 10 years and strongly within the past two years. We have received a small award from a trust fund and have put some dollars in savings. With our cash match we partnered with a local business owner, Rusty Puckett and set out to accomplish our goal. We have purchased all of the raw material and have been able to pour a cement foundation. Mr. Puckett attended a construction auction and purchased material at half the cost of a commercial dealership, saving us thousands of dollars. In addition Mr. Puckett has granted us a lease on his personal property at no charge for the life of the building.

With your help in securing two houses from the Oglala Sioux Tribe and the aid of your volunteers we see our dream becoming a reality. We have been able to obtain other construction at minimal cost.

PRACC knows the importance of new infrastructure on the Pine Ridge Reservation. In today's fledgling economy it is extremely important to the people of Pine Ridge to capitalize on outside dollars. We expect the new building will aid in this effort.

The new building will not only serve as office space for PRACC but will house a number of other nonprofits that at this point do not have affordable space available. In addition PRACC will commit the large center portion of the building to a visitor center to accommodate reservation business promotional material. The visitor center will become a hub if you will for tourism related business to promote themselves at little to no cost to them. Reservation artists will have a place to display their extraordinary works of art providing them much needed exposure.


We anticipate the building of this new structure will afford visitors with a centralized place to obtain information of the Pine Ridge Reservation. At this time there is a void in this area as the Oglala Sioux Tribe does not have a tourism department. There are few scattered sites across the reservation to obtain literature. The new visitor center will fill this gap and bridge the outside world to the reservation.

PRACC would like to extend our gratitude to the Mission of Love for all of your support in the achievement of our dreams. We are grateful of the work you do in our area and of the work you do in other areas as well.

You may obtain more information about our organization at www.pineridgechamber.com or at vivvw.lakotamall.com.

If you have any questions please call at 605-455-2685.

Sincerely,


Ivan Sorbel
Executive Director
Pine Ridge Area Chamber
of Commerce



On a mission to help



Photo by J.T. Whitehouse, Town Crier

Students in the Glenwood Middle School classes of Judy Welsh and Jennifer Dravecky surround Mission of Love Director Kathleen Price with school supplies they collected and are donating to the children of Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

I attended the Ohio Cultural Alliance dinner meeting at Mt. Carmel Hall in Youngstown April 6. Kathleen Price, founder/director of "Mission of Love Foundation" presented a program that kept 220 people spellbound. This "Mission of Love" is the best kept secret in Youngstown.

"You are not here to save the world, but to touch the hands that are within your reach" is their motto!

The Mission of Love Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides humanitarian aid to those in need worldwide, especially children. Backed by individuals, local businesses and the U.S. Military's Denton Program, the Mission of Love airlifts clothing, medicine and food and building supplies to third world countries, including the poorest community in the U.S. — Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota — and to Hurricane Katrina victims in Louisiana. Once the supplies arrive, groups of people, both young and old, from all walks of life, are there to utilize the supplies by building medical clinics, repairing orphanages, administering medical treatment to the ill and serving those who need help. In addition, their Good News for 2009 is to build and rehab a home addition for a paraplegic in Youngstown, build homes at Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, airlift aid to Iquitos, Peru, Guatemala and Honduras.

Every \$1 donated generates \$122 worth of goods and services.

I found this evening's presentation to be an inspiration and that their work, a true "Mission of Love." missionoflove.org

DOLORES IANNUCCI
 Boardman, Ohio

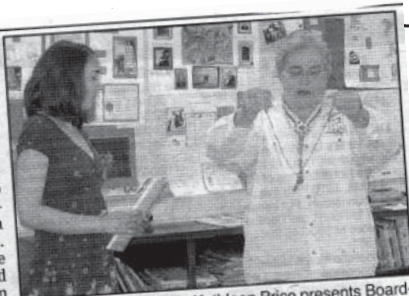
Students give back

BGMS classes help school on reservation

By J.T. Whitehouse
 Town Crier

Last Friday, the Glenwood Middle School fifth-grade students from Judy Welsh's and Jennifer Dravecky's classes got a special surprise visit from the Mission of Love. The classes had a project going to raise school supplies for the indigenous children in South Dakota.

The project got its start two weeks ago when fifth-grader Natalie Wilson was studying various Indian tribes. In the late 1880s a delegation of Lakota Native Americans made a trip to Washington to ask for assistance in building a school on the reservation. Shortly after the trip came the massacre at Wounded Knee where men, women and children were killed. The Wounded Knee incident was something the classes had read about in their course of study involving native peoples. Price went on to tell the students about a fellow on the reservation named Leonard Little Finger, who



Mission of Love founder Kathleen Price presents Boardman Glenwood fifth-grader Natalie Wilson with a Lakota necklace as a way of thanking her for being what Price called "a messenger angel." Wilson and her teacher initiated a school supply collection two weeks ago to send to the Pine Ridge reservation for the children in Sacred Hoop School.

\$1.00 DONATION = \$122.00 WORTH OF GOODS & SERVICES

"WE ARE ALL CAPABLE OF LOVE IN ACTION"

Karen Studer, Mission of Love Volunteer

In the past couple of years I have had the privilege to go on several trips with Mission Of Love. The first trip was with my boys and father. We drove 20 hours straight to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota to meet the rest of our team. We worked for several days in over 100 degree weather. It was one of the most memorable and humbling things I have ever done. The feelings I experienced seeing my children and father give of themselves and their time can hardly be put into words. I suppose if I had to explain, simply put, it is LOVE in ACTION! **Short of the love of when my children came into this world there is no greater experience.** I've never felt this kind of thing on a family vacation, so what's up with that? I'll tell you, and it is something many people miss out on and never get to experience because of the lives we get caught up in. My family and I go on these trips and will continue to keep going because of the love we feel as a result of simple selfless acts. Love that is shown through the action of helping those less fortunate than we are to have a better life. Whether it be through building school houses, homes, or green houses it is the act of love that brings us all back for more! The strange thing is I don't think we are helping those we have gone to help as much as they have helped us! Perhaps this is why we go back for more. Whatever the reason we care, we have been blessed, we are all capable of love in action, but too few are willing. Even though we are few so much can be done and has been done as a result of us giving just a little bit of our time throughout the years. If only more people would let go and step outside their comfort zone, oh how blessed they would feel! We go into the situation without judging, we have a job to do and it is never easy, but we always get it done. Even though it is very hard work through brutal weather and sometimes extreme physical labor, our spirits are always high, the joy is unexplainable! I suppose this is why I keep going back for more, not just to help meet the needs of the less fortunate but to experience the joy of doing God's will for all mankind!. WOW what a blessing !

Thank you Mission of Love for inviting me to join your team!



Renee Paar Mission of Love Volunteer

PINE RIDGE INDIAN RESERVATION

Steve Yellow Mag Pie needed a hand, not hand out to keep his four children warm this winter

We went to visit Kevin Poor Bear. It was his son's birthday, and Kathy heard his bike had been stolen, so she brought one on the semi trailer to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, for Timmy.

Kevin was very glad to see us as we entered the run-down, drab kitchen. The bright spot was the kitchen table, where Kevin's art work lay, fluttering in the brisk breeze.

Asking how he was doing, he pulled his pants leg up, exposing the stump of his right leg, rubbing it and saying that he's only had it amputated a month and a half before. It looked very good, and Kevin held it up proudly, for us to see. Clear eyed, articulate, jubilant Kevin was, telling us that soon he could re-hab, and he plans to walk again. Knowing Kevin, that is exactly what will happen. He joked about how his people call him half-pint, since he is now minus both of his legs.

Much quiet talk around the table, Kevin saying that his leg does hurt all of the time, but that he dislikes the heavy pain medication the doctor prescribes, and it was suggested that some herbal alternative be sent out to him.

Meanwhile Josephine brought out her bead-work, and the room began to come alive with hope as we dreamed together of what can be a beautiful future for Kevin and his beautiful family. Some land, a safe warm home on the edge of town, horses and a proper market for display and sales of the work of these two gifted artists.

"We gotta get to work on this, you guys" Kathy said very deliberately. "Look, your baby is already three years old." Will you work on a wish list for us? I'll need it tomorrow when I come back. "And so, after extracting a promise from Kevin so that they would do so, we left.

On the way out, in came four little beautiful girls, grandchildren of Josephine. We were introduced to

(cont'd on page 23)

(cont'd from pg 22)

PINE RIDGE INDIAN RESERVATION

Steve Yellow Mag Pie needed a hand, not hand out to keep his four children warm this winter

Steve Yellow Mag-Pie, a very polite and dignified, yet warm. In his soft voice he humbly asked if we might have a little insulation for his families home. You see, he had recently bought a Mobile home, from a lady. "We didn't have anywhere to go, and it was real hard going and staying with this and that family. So I gave her \$400.00 and she said I could pay her when I could. It only cost \$800, and I'm working two jobs, he explained as we worked our way around the front to the back entrance.

The mobile home we entered wasn't worthy of the name. In Ohio it would have been condemned and burned, or at least told. "its yours for free, if you move it."

Rickety steps, rotting wood everywhere inside and out. How Steve, his wife and four daughters stay in the hovel is unimaginable. But Steve, his eyes bright with pride in his accomplishment told us, "See I have the drywall, and I have a week off, to fix up this one big room, so that my girls can be warm this winter.

Well the word "poverty" doesn't come anywhere close to the state of this trailer. But the hope, the bright spirit of these two Lakota families cancels out the present.

The quiet pride of the request "All I need is a bit of insulation." Steve doesn't want a hand out, he just needs a hand. He's bright, hopeful, and has a plan as to how he'll fix one room at a time. We will go back tomorrow and give this family a hand. It is a good day!

Pine Ridge Reservation, S.D.

March 20, 2009

Dear Kathy, "Mission of Love",

It is almost three years now since June 26, 2006, when Mission of Love gave us a home and know that it is a nice home. It is a home we could call, HOME and we are all very thankful for this blessing. We would like to thank you very much.

During the blizzards of 2008 and 2009 we survived the storm because we had a wood stove. Many of the people were out of electricity and out of propane for weeks at a time. Know that our families were kept warm and cooked on our wood stove.

The Mission of Love, gave us this home and we don't have to pay rent, and we don't have to worry about getting kicked out from living with relatives. We are no longer homeless! Know that in the winter time we have five families living with us!

Our health is better, and know that we are taking better care of ourselves since we received our home.

It seems the people that treat us nice are the ones we forget.

Darrell and Donna Janis & Families

April 13, 2009

DEAR MISSION OF LOVE,

We are James and Lana Whirlwind Horse. We have been married eleven years and have 3 wonderful children, 2 boys and 1 little girl who we're trying to adopt. Our boys are 10 and 6 years old, and our little girl is 8 months old, we got temporary custody of her when she was only 15 days old, our boys were born very tiny, I could only carry them until I turned 26 weeks, my oldest son was born at 1 pound 13 oz and my 2nd son was 1 pound 3 oz they both were in the hospital until they were at least 5 to 6 pounds, before we got to bring them home they had to go through surgery, due to hernia's in the groin. But our boys are healthy **angels**, nothing wrong with them, **I thank and pray** every night for my family, especially for my husband, he's a real good, hard working husband, father and friend. We bought a house in Rapid City in 2000, just last year of 2008, we had to move out of our house, because we couldn't afford to live in it, our payments went sky high, so did our utilities, so we had to move out and back down here to Pine Ridge to my Mom's. We are a family of 5 who stay in 1 small bedroom. For our little girl, we would be able to adopt her if we had Our own home, here on the reservation. We are selling our house in Rapid City, we probably will get nothing out of it, but that's OK. Can you please help with a home so we can **adopt our baby girl** and my family can stay together? We hope you'd understand our situation, were having it hard by living in 1 small bedroom, but there no where else we can go.

Thank you for your time of listening and helping us.
Thank you!

Love us,
Lana & James Whirlwind Horse
James Jr., Caesar & Jisela
Kyle, South Dakota



**“CHANGE WILL NOT COME IF WE WAIT FOR SOME OTHER PERSON OR SOME OTHER TIME.
WE ARE THE ONES WE’VE BEEN WAITING FOR. WE ARE THE CHANGE THAT WE SEEK.”**

– BARACK OBAMA

I am finishing up this article on the morning that President Barack Obama has accepted his Nobel Peace prize joining Woodrow Wilson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Jimmy Carter as the fourth US president to receive the award. Men who have lead this country with the values and ideas of a world guiding them, not just a nation. All of which seems so far away from the place where I am writing from in my memory. Having been back now from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota for two weeks where the original residents of this country live in rotting trailers with little or no heat and heading into another long winter.

In a time where Americans are worrying about a 9% unemployment rate Pine Ridge has been hovering at 80% for years. Food comes in packaged containers frozen, boxed, or bagged. If a family has a trailer or house it’s usually packed with multiple families and friends. Yet as Joni, one of the many who pitched in to make Richard Broken Nose’s home, said to us after describing the dilapidated room she shared with her partner without running water or a bathroom, “there’s no shame in it, were Indian and that’s how it is, its what we know.” And unexpectedly after a few days, I forgot all the comforts of home so jadedly wondered before how the Natives lived without.



*Kevin Poor Bear & his son Timmy
showing his artwork.*

Devoid of a bathroom, my face was just as smeared with dirt as little three year old Sophia’s by the end of the day and I was having just as much fun. My regular meals of fresh vegetables and garden burgers shifted to be thankful for the many grilled cheese sandwiches and packages of trail mix that could be found from vending machines in the hotel. Lacking regular commodities much less luxurious past times such as Internet and HBO television, entertainment became about the people we met. Spending an afternoon with the Fastwolf’s fourteen children, where volleyball was played over a rope tied to the porch and a tree. Playing games with Christina Yellow Magpie and her sisters who squealed with unequaled joy from a simple gift of dolls from Kathy. Their four little faces filled with tenfold the excitement that of my little nieces and nephews have though their toys are twice as elaborate and expensive. Listening to Kevin Poor Bear talk about his high school days of being a track star before he was confined to a wheelchair. The nightly comforts of Rusty’s hotel, his family, and friends gathering around the restaurant for late dinners where anyone including a cattle rancher might be serving you your burger.



These people became so much more important than the routine comforts of home. My religion has always been a belief in people and here at Pine Ridge these spirits became our purpose for staying focused laughing at each other and ourselves and admiring the team effort that went into building a shell into a home.

The completion of Richards house took much more than we came with. Not only did it take every one of the volunteers every day but also everyone else we encountered. Volunteers, local merchants, and residents of Pine Ridge all needed to work together one step at a time to complete the home. Rusty, Jim, Aussie, Raphael, Jeff, Earl, Claudia, Troy, Jonathan, Jeff, and Mike all unknowingly came together. On our final day in Pine Ridge there was running water, the last of the siding, and electricity in the home.

Imagine the work now we all have to do to lift up the rest of the reservation. We, being residents of Pine Ridge and the rest of America must come together to refuse to allow families to live though another winter without a home, plagued by high suicide rates, and alcoholism.

Obama’s words ring in my head, *“we are the ones we have been waiting for”*.

Hillary Carson, Mission of Love Volunteer



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**United State Senate
136 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-4103**

Dear Senator,

This is presented to You, seeking your support in a matter that pertains to your constituency in South Dakota. It is a significant problem affecting the lives of the Lakota people on the Pine Ridge Reservation. As you are well aware, the lack of housing on the Pine Ridge Reservation continues to persist. The ever-increasing population growth, deterioration of existing homes, and lack of funding to support the needs impacts the on-going social and health conditions of the people, young and old.

We Would like to seek your support in our efforts to share in the resolution of this great and tremendous unmet need. This letter introduces you to the efforts that have been undertaken from the private sector involving members of the tribe, and an organization dedicated and committed to offering assistance in addressing the housing needs for that Lakota people on the Pine Ridge Reservation. From the private sector of tribal membership is Mr. Leonard Little Finger, and Mr. Richard Broken Nose, both in leadership roles through their tiospayes (Band) affiliated through the traditional roles of Lakota clanship predating the reservation era of the Lakota. Their affiliation to address the housing issues is through Kathleen Pi-ice, Mission of Love, a non-profit organization, located in Youngstown, Ohio, which has been involved in the building of homes, and community structures, through their efforts of fund-raising, donation of materials and supplies, and volunteer workers. The efforts have resulted in the building of numerous homes and community structures, now occupied and utilized by many Lakota people on the Pine Ridge Reservation. In this effort, those individuals and their families, haveworked together in the building process. Upon completion, they have been given "turn-key" homes, through the total efforts of the private sector. Their buildings have become their inspirations to return to life in a near-normalcy in social and health lives. Attached are supporting documents to substantiate our efforts.

We seek your support and assistance to our efforts, in potential funding resources, federal or private foundations. In our efforts, our goal is the develop a national project directed and aimed at seeking funding through various efforts, including concerts, similar to the efforts accomplished by Willie Nelson, and the Farm Aid project. Through the local Lakota people's involvement and participation, co-joined by the assistance availed by the Mission of Love, we want to assist all efforts, tribal and federal government, to address the identified needs for the Lakota people of the Pine Ridge Reservation.

Sincerely,

Leonard Little Finger
Sitanka Tiwahe, Box 47, Oglala, SD 57764

Richard Broken Nose
Wakacaka Ecu, Box 7063, Pine Ridge, SD

Kathleen Price
Mission of Love, Youngstown, Ohio



Richard Broken Nose and Leonard Little Finger admiring this award winning artwork of an Eagle. The artist is Pete Lukanec, a Mission of Love volunteer. Pete donated this unique art-piece to the Lakota Circle Village.

Seven Values of Lakota Life

1. **Woc'ekiya** ~ Praying; finding spirituality by communicating with your higher power, this is communication between you and Tunkasila without going through another person or spirit.
2. **Wa o' hola** ~ Respect; for self, higher power, family, community, all life.
3. **Wa on'sila** ~ Caring & Compassion; love, caring and or concern for one another in a good way, especially for the family, the old ones, the young ones, the orphans, the ones in mourning, the sick ones, and the ones working for the people.
4. **Wowijake** ~ Honesty & truth; with yourself, higher power, and others with sincerity.
5. **Wawokiye** ~ Generosity & Helping; helping without expecting anything in return, giving from the heart.
6. **Wah' wala** ~ Humility; we have a spirit, we are no better nor less than others.
7. **Woksape** ~ Wisdom; practice with knowledge comes wisdom.

SURVIVAL OF A NATION

March 23, 2009

Firstly and foremost, a heart-on-heart gratitude to our Creator for bringing the Volunteers of Mission of Love on to our Pine Ridge Reservation and doing the work of building and re-building of not just lumber and nails but in bringing back our "old ways" of working cooperatively, of just simply helping one another. Then, a I want to thank the volunteers themselves individually; those who used their "vacation time" to come here, to a place rampart with poverty and many needs; to those who came a very long distances to work in the coldness of weather, rains and wind to do a job, a job that comes thankless at times because it is overlooked without malice or intent but because they are just too busy and tired at the end of the long days to even expect it.

They come (these kind hearted people) from all walks of life- as lawyers, re-tired teachers/professors, engineers and carpenters to come to a people they do not know or not even familiar with our cultures and despite our social ills, they come anyway. WHY?

That's what the mission of love does—it brings in the love of the volunteers to DO a job, wherever their next project will be, whether it be in the jungles of Guatemala or the swamps of Louisiana, they come because they care. Why do they care? One does wonder.

Sitting in the front seat of a rental car belonging to the founder/director of the project of Mission of Love, Kathleen Price, I can see why the project is called a Mission of Love and received the answers to the many questions I had about this group of volunteers and why they are here. Love for people! That is the engine behind this movement . Not BECAUSE we know so, and so or we are related to someone in the project or even shamefully because we have bought favors. LOVE for people especially children! Children didn't ask to be born yet they become the victims of our society because of many reasons some intentional and some not but for whatever reason many, many families are homeless.

It is windy today. The harsh South Dakota prairie winds blow dirt on to the workers but they don't stop. In fact, it seemed to me that there is an underlying momentum to hurry along because there is a forecast of a blizzard coming in from the Black Hills and westward. Two of the workers hail from the eastern part of the state and they are both in their early 80's. Other workers drove from Ohio, flew in from California. A lawyer; taken time off from his busy schedule to help in the construction of this huge undertaking to house a gardening project for Roots and Shoots Jane Goodall and a Head-start for our communities. Many young Lakota men are involved in this also. They are sons of three families who are recipients of newly constructed homes several years back, so they are here too, giving back to Mission of Love for their homes. What goes around does come back around. The Circle of love, that's what we're about.

So, in closing, the Mission of Love is God in motion. He does provide the money, and manpower and He also leads us to where we are to go next.

From my hand to yours, Patricia Catches The Enemy
Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, SD

IN THANKSGIVING

Sunday morning October 10, 2009 marked a special day for the ones left behind when Lana Marie L. Finger-Ten Fingers, was recognized in prayer at a catholic mass at Our Lady of the Sioux, in Oglala, SD. She, along with 3 other family members of her husband, Scott; Jordan "Sparky" Ten Fingers, Tony Moses Ten Fingers, Wilmer Ten Fingers , too, were remembered in prayers. It was both a joyous and sad event. Sad because Lana left her family so suddenly at a young age, a son, husband, brothers and sisters, father and mother. Sad, for the other relatives of her husband, because two of the departed, both young having not reached the age of 22 took their own lives in despair. Sad, also, for the third was found dead in White Clay, possibly due to excessive drinking.

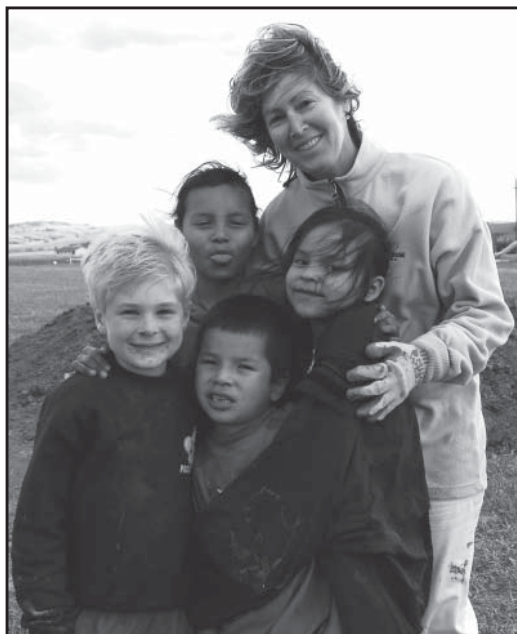
Comfort from prayer, both at the church along with prayers at the gravesites affirmed the love of Lana and her family by marriage. In the two worlds that we live in, a Episcopal and Catholic priest, blessed the graves. A Lakota holy man, also offered his prayers, using an eagle feather and sage to purify each grave, including the monument provided by Don Agler, in prayer, thanking him for his contribution. The prayer to God asked for many blessings to him and his family, along with Kathleen who also made it possible for this generous contribution.

God was asked to forgive the manner of their deaths, as it was not of their circumstances, but from the results of what has been done by others. God was also asked to forgive those who had caused their death, for they may not fully understand what they have done.

The sadness of the event was covered over by the joy of having had the gift of life given to them in their brief lives. For the joy of their laughter and happiness that was shared throughout the short time they were on Unci Maka, for all those memories that will never be forgotten. The holy man told us that they came from the earth and have returned back to be a part

of the sacred grounds. But, their spirits will continue on watching over us, seeing our love for them, sharing our lives on Mother Earth, until we all unite once again in the spirit world where there is no suffering, only happiness.

Immeasurable gratitude to Kathleen Price, who is committed to making life better to countless people, and to Don Agler, who gives freely of his hands, the gift given to him by God. Truly, in the likeness and image of God. Wopila taka heca.....



Dr. Edwina Burke, son Tyler and Lakota Children

Leonard Little Finger

TREES OF LOVE

It was a cold windy spring day, the Saturday before the holy day of Easter, there was a gathering of people of all ages at the Sacred Hoop School in Oglala, South Dakota. The cook was busily making Indian tacos and wojapi (a favored pudding made from berries) and the aroma in the air was filled with expectancy, wonder and good food and it was great to see relatives or friends we hadn't seen in a while; so on this special day we were called together for the celebration of a re-birthing or planting an old new June Berry bush on the grounds of this new school.

To go back in history a bit, as the writer of this article can recall, some sixty years ago, as a child we used to pick these June berries. These berries are non-existent today for many unknown undocumented reasons however it was still wonderful to experience the planting of these new berry bushes for the future generations. Prayer was said before the meal and all enjoyed the wonderful meal before the actual planting took place.

There were a total of four trees planted that day, one was planted by Jane Goodall and the Gardening Project, Roots and Shoots. The second tree planted was planted by Mission of Love organization and their group of volunteers, the third tree was planted by the Youth/adult category and the last one was planted in the ground by the children. The four trees representing the cycle of life, from birth to elders.

After the planting of the June berries, all returned to the school house where an honoring took place for Jane Goodall in which she was wrapped in a satin star blanket as is the custom of the Lakota people. A painted picture image of Leonard Little Finger's great grandfather, Chief Big Foot on a feather was given to the founder/director of Mission of Love, Kathleen Price for all her contributions to our people on the Pine Ridge Reservation and especially because Mission of Love organization built the Sacred Hoop School in 2007.

In conclusion, the Spirit of Oneness was in action that beautiful day. We, as human entities individually do not and can not control people, places or things but collectively we do impact lives; those close to us and those around us. "WE" make things happen, thoughts are things. To all the volunteers, all those involved with the Mission of Love, I salute you and honor you. So be it.

Patricia Catches The Enemy
Oglala band of the Lakota Nation

nly One...

*My Child... I've often heard your question...
and this message is my answer... hear Me well:
You're concerned about the hungry world, the millions who are
starving... and you ask, "What can only one do?"*

FEED ONE

*You grieve for all the unborn children, murdered
every day... and you ask, "What can only one do?"*

SAVE ONE

*You're haunted by the homeless souls who wander
city streets... and you ask, "What can only one do?"*

SHELTER ONE

*You weep for those who suffer pain, disease and hopelessness...
and you ask, "What can only one do?"*

COMFORT ONE

*Your heart aches for the lonely, the imprisoned, the abused...
and you ask, "What can only one do?"*

LOVE ONE

*Remember this, My Child... two thousand years
ago, the world was filled, just as it is today, with those in need...
and when the helpless and the hopeless cried out to die for mercy,
I sent a Savior...*

(Hope Began)...With Only One...

B.J. Hoff



Rose Spotted Bear with the picture of her Grandfather, Chief American Horse.

While on a building mission we took Rose to the Crazy Horse Memorial, where for the first time she was able to see her families photo's. All of the tourist were so happy to meet her, and she was just thrilled that she was treated as, someone special. Together, we had a wonderful day, learning the old ways. Know the Mission of Love had built the Spotted Bear family a home, ten years ago, in Wounded Knee, SD. While in Guatemala, we heard that Rose passed away.

She will be missed by the Lakota Nation and the Mission of Love volunteers.