



Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Kroc Center

What do you have when you combine the University of Dayton Pep Band, historians from Wright State University, descendants of the late Ray and Joan Kroc, speeches from prominent Salvation Army officials, a child's prayer and 90 degree weather?

On October 7, the official Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Kroc Center took place in front of 300 well-wishers, including the local Advisory Board, Mayor Rhine McLin and City and County Commissioners. Though it was hot, there were goosebumps all around as speakers thanked the Kroc family and proclaimed all the benefits the Kroc Center would bring to our neighborhoods, our city and our region.

With the Kroc Center's primary mission of serving children and families, it was fitting that the keynote speech would be given by Allison Fitzgerald, granddaughter of Joan Kroc. "As I stand here before you, I am strengthened by Grandma Joan's presence, and her abiding belief in faith, hope and charity. She enjoyed a good, strong relationship with The Salvation Army, and knew that they would be excellent stewards," said Allison.

Dr. Dan Curran, President of the University of Dayton, continued the message of hope for Dayton's children: "We are blessed to have this partnership with The Salvation Army. We are excited about UD's role in developing and operating the Kroc Center's Technology Café and Early Childhood Education programs. Not only will the children benefit, but our students will have opportunities to participate in practicums and internships."

Commissioner Lawrence R. Moretz, Territorial Commander of The Salvation Army's Eastern Territory, thanked the Kroc family and said, "Joan Kroc's gift has resulted in a quantum leap and serves as a catalyst for innovation. The Salvation Army will be able to institute new programs that we've never had before as we continue to search for ways to serve the whole person. As a center for worship and service, Dayton's Kroc Center will be a lighthouse."

A vocal selection, sung beautifully by William "Kip" Moore, could not have been more appropriate for this momentous and joyous occasion ... "In This Moment."

For more photos of the Groundbreaking Ceremony, please see inside!



The Salvation Army's Advisory Board

A Message From The Majors



Barbara and Tom Duperree

My Earliest Memory of The Salvation Army

Major Tom's speech at the Kroc Center's Groundbreaking Ceremony was so moving that we wanted to share it with all of our readers. Here is an excerpt:

It was a cold, wintry day and I was only five years old. The Salvation Army captain showed up at our house to take me – just me – to buy a brand new coat. Just for me!

We were going to the local G.C. Murphy store, which was the premier store for all of our shopping needs in the great metropolis of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. When you are number eight in a line of nine children and are surrounded by the challenges of poverty, getting my very own coat – not a hand me down – made me feel like I was the most important person in the world!

However, my affiliation with the Army began two years before that. I was three when my mother began taking us to church at the Army hall every Sunday. For my family, it became the source of fulfillment for all our spiritual and social needs. We were always down at the Army doing something like learning to play instruments, bible studies, singing, serving others, cleaning, worshipping and visiting shut-ins.

It is no exaggeration to say that we lived at the Army!

Then, something wonderful happened to me when I turned 13. The Salvation Army was conducting a weekend spiritual retreat for young people. At the worship service on Sunday morning, I don't know what we sang and I don't recall a word the preacher said. But when he finished, my heart was so heavy with conviction I thought it would burst. That morning, with tears streaming down my cheeks, my brother Roger told

me how I could be saved and led me to the Lord. I asked God to forgive my sin, and I would never be the same again.

When I consider my past and the path that God has given me to follow, I'm amazed at where He has brought me. And I'm convinced that if He can do that in my life, then the potential for children to find their destiny in God is greater than we can possibly imagine.

I never want to forget that little boy who got the coat from the Salvation Army captain.

I never want to forget the greatest gift God ever gave to me on that April morning in 1979 when He forgave my sin and gave me the gift of eternal life

Barb and I realize that we stand on the shoulders of those who have come before us. We've inherited magnificent ministries at a time when God is adding blessing upon blessing, and the opportunities for service continue to expand.

Whether you are a board member, an employee, a soldier, a volunteer, a Red Kettle Club member, part of the architectural or construction team, a local governing official, a member of a neighborhood or priority board or a friend ...

I thank you for supporting this project.
God Bless You!

It's Your Community Center

The late Joan B. Kroc, heiress to the McDonald's restaurant fortune, bequeathed more than \$1.5 billion to the national Salvation Army. Her will stipulated that the money would be used to build and sustain state-of-the-art community centers all across the country. Dayton, Ohio was one of the cities selected to house a new Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center, and will receive \$66 million from the estate. The Center will be located on 17.5 acres at the intersection of Webster and Keowee Streets and is scheduled to open Summer, 2009.

The Salvation Army looks forward to providing a full range of worship, education, sports, recreation and social services. Together, we can have a positive impact – on our children and on our community.



Architectural Design: John Poe Architects
Construction: Danis Building Construction Company

PICTORIAL REVIEW

of the Groundbreaking
Ceremony for the
Kroc Center



Future Kroc Center participants!



Mistress of Ceremonies
Sharon Howard



Dayton Mayor
Rhine McLin



William "Kip" Moore



Commissioner
Lawrence
Moretz,
Territorial
Commander



University of Dayton
Pep Band



The Kroc Family

Get To Know Our Advisory Board



Jeff Ireland

Jeff Ireland has served on the Dayton Salvation Army Advisory Board for 15 years. He is a former Board Chairman and most recently was Co-Chairman for the Kroc Center Fundraising Committee which raised \$7.5 million locally.

Jeff is a Partner in Faruki, Ireland, Cox – a law firm that specializes in litigation. Jeff is also the former Mayor of Oakwood, Ohio.

He and his wife, Ellen, have two daughters, Elizabeth and Olivia. Jeff's outside interests include golf, reading, swimming, running and travel. We are extremely fortunate to have Jeff on our Board.

How did you originally become involved with the Salvation Army? "My involvement with the Army comes naturally because my father was a Board member for many years. As Reggie Winters tells the story, my Dad came to him when he retired and told him that I would be a good Board member. My Dad also told Reggie that I would decline a Board appointment because at the time I was Mayor of Oakwood and my excuse would be that 'I was too busy.' My Dad told Reggie not to give up. Reggie invited me to a lunch with Dan Sadler (another Board member) and I finally agreed to a Board position at their urging. I have never regretted one day of my service to The Salvation Army. The Army officers are wonderful people and I can't imagine finding anyone more committed to doing good work in this community."

What has been your involvement in making the Kroc Center a reality? "Getting a Kroc Center grant involved hard work on the part of many people, and certainly the Advisory Board played a huge role in that. I got involved early on and accompanied Major Tom, Reggie and Sam Lumby on a trip to see the original Kroc Center in San Diego, CA. That's where our dreams met reality. Major Tom had the vision for a Dayton Kroc Center while Reggie, Sam and I sized up the business component. When we got back to Dayton, the wheels began to turn. We organized a fundraising effort that the Miami Valley community had never seen before. We identified possible donors from our personal networks, and developed strategies for raising the \$6 million we needed. With the generosity of many and the Lead Gift of \$3 million from the Mathile Foundation, we were able to exceed our goal in about 6 months."

What impact do you think the Kroc Center will have on the surrounding neighborhood and the community as a whole? "I truly think we will see a revitalization of the Old North Dayton neighborhood. This is exactly what happened in San Diego after the construction of the first Kroc Center. Once homes have been refurbished and the revival has begun, businesses will follow. And businesses will have a pool of prospective employees to pick from within walking distance - many prepared for work by the various programs available through the Kroc Center. As I see it, it's a WIN, WIN, WIN situation for the city, the community and the Salvation Army!"

International Walk to School Day

In celebration of International Walk to School Day on October 3rd, students from Kiser School participated in the "Safe Kids Walk This Way" program. Students were joined by their parents, Kiser staff and volunteers from the Safe Kids Coalition, Children's Medical Center, Federal Express and the City of Dayton. Walking began from several neighborhood locations, including the former Webster Elementary School, the E.C. Doren Public Library and the Stuart Patterson Community Center – three easily identifiable landmarks for students living near the future Kroc Center.

"Not only did students, parents and community volunteers meet each other, get some exercise and learn valuable safety tips, but they also had the opportunity to have some fun!" says Amber Rose, Kiser Neighborhood School Center Site Coordinator. "Our community will really benefit from participation in this and future events because it allows them to see the potential dangers and barriers our children may face when walking to school."

Thanks to The Salvation Army and E.C. Doren Public Library for donating special prizes for all participants.



Second Annual Family Picnic Night

Earlier this summer, The Salvation Army hosted its Second Annual Family Picnic Night at Claridge Park. Over 500 neighbors enjoyed food, games, entertainment and prizes. The photos say it all!



Kiser Students Get Close To Nature

This past summer, third and fourth grade students at Kiser School participated in an Overnight Nature Immersion Program at Glen Helen Nature Center. The program included an introduction to the study of biodiversity, science experiments led by college students, hiking and camping. Most importantly, it gave the students a chance to learn about nature outside of a traditional classroom.

This inaugural event was possible with support by the University of Dayton through a "Learn, Lead and Serve" grant received by UD student Elizabeth White and her professor Mr. Nielsen. Six additional student volunteers also joined the group at Glen Helen. Additional funding and support was offered by the Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center.

We are very interested in your comments and suggestions about this newsletter and about the Kroc Center. Please contact Major Tom Duperree at 222.1435 or tduperree@use.salvationarmy.org.



The Salvation Army
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DOING THE MOST GOOD

“... For service is our watchword, and there is no reward equal to that of doing the most good to the most people in the most need.” –Evangeline Booth

Sewing Seeds of Kindness

Many of the children attending Camp SWONEKY, an overnight camping ministry run by The Salvation Army, arrive without items they'll need during their 6-night stay. Thanks to the Dayton Chapter of the American Sewing Guild and Harry Russell Elementary School, this summer's 80 campers had everything they needed ... and more!

Approximately 15 members of the Guild sewed drawstring bags for all of the campers, each made with unique fabrics and patterns. To fill the bags, the Guild's Community Services Coordinator, Jennifer Easterling, and Chapter President, Dallis Hardwick, coordinated

a fundraising effort with Harry Russell students to help purchase items for the bags. Each bag contained a pair of flip flops, sunscreen, shampoo, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush and comb. Also included were small blankets provided by The Salvation Army.

The bags served to provide items the children would need, and made it fun for them in the process. "It was such a joy to see how excited the children were to receive the gift," said Mrs. Easterling.

Major Barbara Duperree, Director of Special Services for The Salvation Army, is appreciative, too. "We want to thank all those involved in this worthwhile project! It's always a joy to meet people who want to 'sew' seeds of kindness into the lives of others."

Back Row, L to R: Captain Jason Knaggs, The Salvation Army Corps Officer; Jennifer Easterling, American Sewing Guild; Captain Leslie Knaggs, The Salvation Army Corps Officer; Sarah Hall, Youth Services Coordinator, The Salvation Army

Front Row, L to R: Diahntae Taylor, James Eller, Deangelo Powell, Christopher Eller and William Eller

