

IN BRIEF

Philanthropic Award

Tom Sanford will receive the MelloDee Thornton Award given by the Idaho Chapter of the Association of Fund-raising Professionals. On November 16 at the Ninth Annual Idaho National Philanthropy Day luncheon, he will be recognized primarily for creating and developing Project PATCH. Kudos to Tom!

New Furniture in Girls Dorm

New furniture now decorates the living room of the girls dorm. The suede sofa and loveseat, two matching overstuffed chairs, three occasional tables and two lamps help make their space more comfortable and attractive. Thank you, Mor Furniture!

Goldendale Update

Gary Garvin is organizing the program at Goldendale. The road is close to being passable all the way from the county road to the property line. Thanks to John Mohr for his help in excavating rock for the road. Further projects will proceed as funds are available.

PATCH *works!*

God created me too



Each summer the staff at PATCH Ranch take the kids backpacking in the beautiful Sawtooth Mountains. Towering trees, shimmering blue lakes, and vast green meadows dotted with wild flowers envelope the PATCH teens and staff hiking through the wilderness. Any feelings of fatigue are

soon replaced with awe as they survey God's creation around them.

There were four backpacking trips planned this year. The girls hiked near the Trail Creek Lakes and Blue Lake, while the boys went into the Frank Church Wilderness area. One of the more strenuous climbs the girls attempted was to Observation Peak. At the top of the peak, a register filled with the names and comments of past visitors inspired our hikers. As the girls flipped through the register, they were struck by the numerous references to God. "God created this and me too." "God is such an awesome God and he loves me." Marge Van Dyk, Girl's Dorm Director, and Denise Tank, Administrative Assistant, hike supervisor, had the opportunity to talk about God's awesome plan for each one of them. The same God who made the mountains rise, designed each girl to be unique and wondrous.



Darrel's Story

Upon Darrel's arrival at the Ranch, he seemed alone, resigned and relieved to be at a treatment center, yet underneath the quiet loneliness a deep anger simmered.

Darrel spent his early years with his biological mother who, addicted to drugs and alcohol, introduced him to substance abuse at an early age. Unsupervised, he could go practically anywhere and do anything. Some of his "friends" took advantage of his naivete and abused him. The adults who should have kept him safe contributed to an environment that was anything but.

Darrel remembers the terrifying day the police came to take him from his mother. He couldn't understand what was happening. Then it was difficult to cope with the structure and boundaries his dad and stepmother required in their home. Soon it became too much, and he began to act out. His parents, knowing they could no longer keep him safe, turned to PATCH for help.

At PATCH Darrel learned he was far more capable than he had imagined. Now taught how to work and play, he grew more confident in himself and his capabilities. He did well in school. Darrel discovered the value of talking to safe adults and peers about his emotions and issues. He learned to trust, which helped build the self-confidence to keep himself safe, and interact safely with other teens.

As Darrel worked through his issues, his internal turmoil diminished, he developed a work ethic and gained the staff's trust. He began to make a real impact, in his own quiet way, on the rest of the boys in the dorm. Darrel and his family worked hard

during family visits and counseling sessions. They reached a new level of communication, and because Darrel discovered the true source of his anger, it now needn't color his relationship with his parents. He learned to be open about his feelings rather than holding them in and allowing them to fester.

At the celebration on Darrel's graduation day, he and his family enjoyed the fruit of their sacrifice and hard work.



There were many tears, and though it was sometimes difficult to talk, Darrel thanked everyone at PATCH for their contribution to his journey to health.

Darrel now lives at home with his dad and stepmother and attends a nearby Christian school where he plays guitar in the worship band. Although they still have disagreements, as all families do, now they are able to work through them in a healthy way.

Darrel returned to the Ranch as a volunteer to help build the chapel (*see chapel dedication story on page 5*) this summer. It was delightful to see him. As his counselor, I want to thank Darrel for the privilege of walking with him during his journey through PATCH. Thanks also to all of you who contribute to this ministry. Without your sacrifice, we wouldn't be here for kids like Darrel.

Jim Smith, Counselor

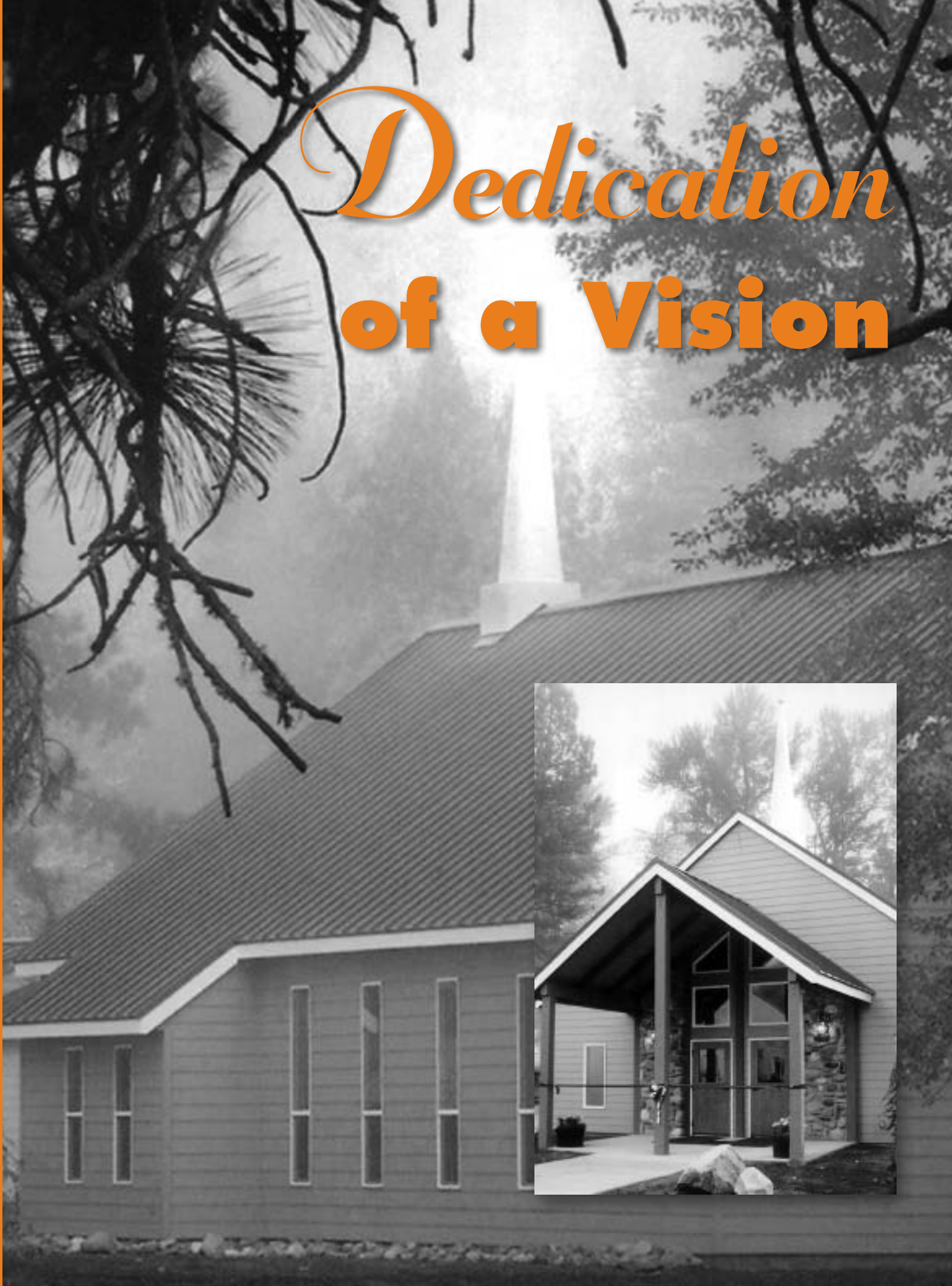


A Light at the End of the Tunnel

"Where has the time gone? Last year seems like yesterday, but of course it's not. I've spent so long trying to reach my goal. It's so unreal. For a while I had no hope for myself, for my parents, for God. For a while there was no light at the end of the tunnel. Then it happened. Suddenly I saw it, like someone turned a light on miles and miles away. Flickering here and there, I sometimes wasn't sure I had seen it at all. But, gradually as I worked through the dark past, and then my hard present, the light became clearer and brighter. The more I worked at reaching the light, the more I was rewarded with the ability to see, and the easier it became to work. Now that I am in the light, I realize what the light and darkness actually were. The darkness was Satan's hold on me, and the light was God calling me to Himself."

– Darrel (at his graduation)

Dedication **of a Vision**



"Thank you for giving to the Lord, I am a life that was changed, Thank you for giving to the Lord, I am so glad you gave."

There was not a dry eye in the overflowing Chapel as 30 Project PATCH residents sang their thanks to the Maranatha Volunteers International. The words of the song, *Thank you for Giving to the Lord* by Ray Bold, slightly rewritten to better express their gratitude, were sung by grateful teenagers for the new chapel that was now theirs.

September 10, 2005 is a date that will remain in our hearts forever. It was on this day that we dedicated the Maranatha Memorial Chapel—a testimony to the Lord for all He has done to make PATCH possible. Approximately 200 people braved the cold morning to join in the celebration of this event.

"One by one we came, far as the eye could see, each life somehow touched, by your generosity, little things that you had done, sacrifices made unnoticed on the earth, in heaven now proclaimed."

Special recognition was made to Dan & Margi Rotthoff, who by gifting their land to Project PATCH years before made it possible for this Ranch to be here for these kids. Ken & Joyce Casper, who were inspired by the vision of PATCH and have supervised all the Maranatha projects at the Ranch were also recognized. Maranatha Volunteers International was gratefully acknowledged for the many years of including PATCH in its schedule and making this dream a reality.

"There were tears in your eyes as Jesus took your hand, You stood before the Lord, He said 'My child look around you, For great is your reward.'"

For many years Project PATCH staff felt a growing need for a building designated specifically as a chapel, a place of solace and worship. Ken Casper, who had directed Maranatha projects at Project PATCH for the past 12 summers, asked Executive Director Tom Sanford what PATCH needed. Tom said "We really need a chapel." "Great," Ken replied. "We'll put it on the schedule. But, do you have the money for it?" "No", responded Tom, "but that has always been the least of our worries. If God wants us to have it, then He'll provide the money."

Tom was unaware that Ken already had a plan in mind. Several people who had been at PATCH over the years had prayed for a chapel and began a fund raising campaign for the project. By May of 2005 those volunteers raised over \$100,000. In all of PATCH's history this is the only project that was completely funded.

"I dreamed I went to Heaven, You were there with me, We walked upon the streets of gold, Beside the crystal sea"

The addition of the chapel was the crowning act of the comprehensive plan for the Ranch. It will greatly enhance PATCH's philosophy of encouraging personal change from the inside out—which can only come about through a personal experience with Jesus Christ.

"Thank you for giving to the Lord, I am a life that was changed"

Not only were the lives of the grateful teens changed, but our lives were changed as well.

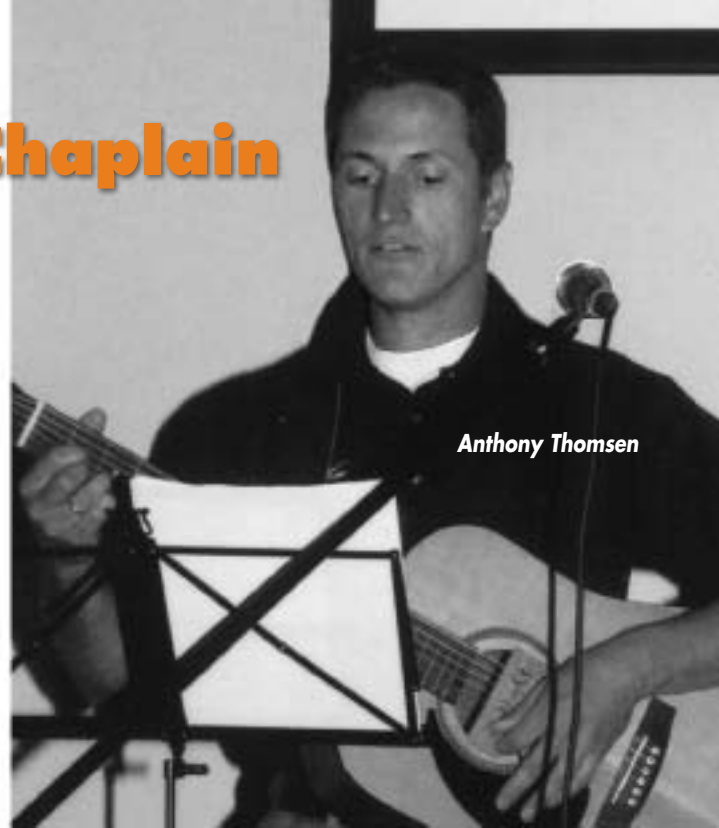


Introducing our new Chaplain

What makes a good Chaplain? Is it someone who has a Masters in Youth Ministry from Andrew's Theological Seminary? Perhaps a good chaplain has a lovely wife named Elizabeth and three beautiful children named Tyler, Seth and Grace. Maybe a good chaplain is someone who has served his country in the Air Force or has prior experience as a minister. Some may think a calling to work with youth and a dedication to ministry make for a good chaplain. But maybe what makes Anthony Thomsen a good Chaplain at the Project PATCH Ranch is how he eats a peanut butter and jelly sandwich in church and rafts down the South Fork of the Payette River with teenagers.

"Taste and see that the Lord is good," Psalms 34:8, was the scripture reference used one Sabbath as our new Chaplain ate a peanut butter and jelly sandwich to illustrate the goodness of God. One worship included rafting down the South Fork with some of the boys, singing and filling the air with laughter, while focusing on Proverbs 15:13, (paraphrased) "Laughter is good medicine for the heart." Anthony strives to bring creativity, energy and humor to all his interactions with the kids. He exemplifies the Christian life and Christ's message of love by engaging young minds and challenging them to seek God for themselves.

The other staff at the Ranch are amazed by Anthony's constant willingness to go beyond the call of duty to reach these kids. His dedication manifests itself in organizing scavenger hunts and community service projects. He helps residents understand their faith and teaches them the importance of giving back to others. Yes, Anthony has the right education and background, but what makes him a good chaplain for PATCH is that he illustrates God's love creatively, in every activity, to the youth at Project PATCH Ranch.



Blue Ribbon Projects

The wood shop was busy this summer! Projects included birdhouses, miscellaneous boxes, and a replica of the new Maranatha Memorial Chapel here at the Ranch. We entered five young men with their wood projects in the Idaho State Fair. The boys brought home mostly all

first or second place ribbons. We recently acquired a brand new scroll saw that will enable us to cut out our pinewood derby cars for a tournament to be held sometime this fall. Both boys and girls look forward to using the shop year round.

"Talking" Jesus

It takes a lot of work to move a bunch of kids from one spot to another, whether it's one mile or sixty! Such was the case on Friday night, the 29th of July. Our destination was Boise, Idaho. Our primary goal was to attend a worship program in which Bruce Marchiano was the main speaker. If you don't know who Bruce is, just watch the video series on Matthew. You can't miss him; he plays Jesus.

The boys made it to the church with time to spare. About 10 minutes before the worship team started to sing, I received a call from our chaplain, Anthony. He informed me that the girls' bus had broken down on the outskirts of town. With the heavy evening traffic it would take at least a half hour to get back to them. But I was able to make the drive in less than 20 minutes with the help of some prayer and all green lights. It showed me that God even cares about the small things. The girls were only a few minutes late and arrived about the time Bruce started speaking.

What an awesome evening! As I remember watching the video of Bruce playing Jesus, what sticks in my mind is the joy it seemed to bring him. It was no different in watching and listening to him in person that Friday night. Bruce is a man who speaks with his whole body, and the message he delivers is dynamic. It matters not whether you are eight or eighty; the Holy Spirit uses Bruce to change hearts.

Saturday morning before church my co-worker, Bryan, and I were trying to find a way to go back to Boise for the Saturday night program. The girls dorm had decided to stay on campus all day Saturday, which left the boys dorm with enough vehicles to transport them all as well as two staff. We left at three o'clock in the afternoon, first stopping at Boise's Ann Morrison Park. After two hours of hanging out and getting good and wet playing frisbee and football, we headed for the church.

As the worship team came on to sing songs of praise, I took a timeout to use the restroom. You'll never guess who I ran into while there. That's right, Bruce just happened to be in there, too. It's not like we were total strangers; we had chatted a little the night before. Some of the best conversations in life take place in the restroom.

I told Bruce that one of the boys commenting on Bruce's speaking the night before had said, "He sure did talk an awful lot about Jesus." And, of course, he decided to share the comment with the audience, along with the fact that he heard it in the restroom. It was nice that he didn't mention my name. But, then, why be ashamed when it comes to Jesus!

It was another great night. Bruce ran overtime again, but it didn't matter. The boys were on the edge of their seats most of the night. At the end of the Saturday night program, Bruce gave an altar call for those who wanted to have a new life in Jesus. At least one of our boys decided to take that monumental step.

Two nights of working late, a broken down bus, and late night paperwork was well worth the expression I saw on that young man's face after he invited Jesus into his heart. I'm so glad all Bruce did was "talk about Jesus!" Thanks, Bruce.

Mike Van Dyk, Boys Dorm Director



Bruce Marchiano at far right, talks with the boys.



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Comments are welcomed please contact 503-653-8086 or patch@projectpatch.org

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PATCH works! BOUQUETS

Regarding new chapel:

It will really add to the spiritual atmosphere – we really need it. There's something about worshipping in the core building and having to set up for lunch right afterwards that diminishes the sense of God's presence, which is so important!

– Mike Van Dyk, Boys Dorm Director

It will be so nice. It's really hard to worship in the core building what with the kitchen noise and all. It's just not a worshipful atmosphere.

– Girl resident

It will be so good to have a quiet place where I can go to pray.

– Boy, resident

I'm so excited for the chapel to be finished. It's so cool. – Girl resident

Awesome! – Boy resident

PROJECT PATCH WISH LIST

- RAKES (EACH)\$10
- SHOVELS (EACH)\$13
- WARM GLOVES (EACH)\$15
- WORK GLOVES (EACH)\$9
- FLASHLIGHTS AND BATTERIES (EACH)\$10
- 1 LARGE WALK-BEHIND SNOW BLOWER\$2,200
- 1 INDUSTRIAL CLOTHES DRYER\$2,900
- 1 INDUSTRIAL WASHING MACHINE FOR SLEEPING BAGS\$2,900
- GYMNASIUM FLOOR MATS??
- 12 1/2" PORTABLE PLANER, DELTA-15 AMP MOTOR\$200
- VARIABLE SPEED ZIG SAW, GRIZZLY\$60
- VARIABLE SPEED SCROLL SAW, 1/5 HP. 1.4 AMP, 60 HZ
16" THROAT SIZE – DELTA\$110
- ORBITAL FINISH SANDER 5" SANDING DISKS – GRIZZLY\$25
- HAND PLANER 3 1/4" BLADES – GRIZZLY\$50
- BRAD POINT DRILL BIT 25 PC SET 1/8" – 1/2" – GRIZZLY\$20
- 35 PC ROUTER BIT SET
WITH ALUMINUM CASE 1/4" SHANK – GRIZZLY\$120
- COMMERCIAL RICE COOKER, 20 QUARTS OR LARGER?
- HEAVY-DUTY AIR CONDITIONER FOR KITCHEN?
- VEHICLES IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION
- URGENT NEED A LATE MODEL ECONOMY VAN IN GOOD
WORKING CONDITION

Our heartfelt thanks to Don and JoAnn Mattson for providing funds for the fire pumper!