



ALIVE! Wire

Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically

Summer 2005

President's Message

It's already July? What a year this has been, and how quickly it has flown by! Even though I feel we have accomplished a lot this year, it seems there is so much more to be done. However, there are many good-hearted people who are ready to rise to the task.

We have made many changes in the ALIVE! office. Our new executive director is working hard to learn the many aspects of ALIVE! and each of our programs. He has already streamlined several of the office procedures and some of our systems, strengthening our infrastructure and saving ALIVE! hundreds of dollars each month. Ken has also hired a talented administrative assistant for our office, Claire Maucieri, who has taken responsibility for much of the day-to-day routines that keep ALIVE! running smoothly. Zinnia Acosta, our new intern, is helping wherever she is needed throughout the next few months.

This is only the beginning. As Ken and Claire get acclimated to their new duties, our new president, Gerry Hebert, will be getting acclimated to his new role. Laying down the reigns is a little difficult, but I know they are being taken up by capable hands. I guarantee ALIVE! will be a better place at the end of this year.

Sincerely,

Laura Rogers, President

24th Step ALIVE! Walkathon -A Success

Allen Sadler, Step Alive! Chairman

Step ALIVE
Walkathon



ALIVE!'s 24th annual walkathon for the Child Development Center (CDC) was held on Sunday, May 1, 2005. Approximately 125 walkers – from preschoolers to octogenarians

- participated on a beautiful spring day. Beginning at First Christian Church, participants enjoyed a 5-mile loop through Old Town, passing many of Alexandria's historic places of worship. A picnic for walkers and volunteers was held in the church hall immediately following the walk. Participants also received Step Alive 2004 commemorative tee shirts. For the second year in a row, Jill Robinson raised the largest pledge amount (over \$1,100) from members of Trinity United Methodist Church. When all pledges have been received, we expect to have raised at least \$14,000.

The Step ALIVE! Walkathon is the Center's major fundraising event. **Alive! CDC** is the only nationally accredited, full day preschool/day care program for children of low-income families in the Alexandria area.

The support of Alive! congregations, our friends in the community, and all of our generous volunteers were essential to making this event a success. We would especially like to express our appreciation to First Christian Church for the use of their facilities, to the Junior League of Northern Virginia for their many volunteers and to Alfred Street Baptist and Christ Church congregations for providing water stations for the walkers.

STEP ALIVE! 2005 - Sponsors List

American Physical Therapy Association
BLT Shirt Printers, Inc.
Beth El Hebrew Congregation
Beverly Hills Community
United Methodist Church
Christ Church
Church of St. Clement
Church of the Resurrection
Diversions
Ebenezer Baptist Church
Fairlington United Methodist Church
Fair-Park Baptist Church
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Grace Episcopal Church
Greene Funeral Home
Johnny F. and Kim C. Brown
Junior League of Northern Virginia
Kiwanis Club of Alexandria
Minute Man Press
Safeway of Alexandria
St. Joseph's Catholic Church
St. Mary's Catholic Church
St. Rita's Catholic Church
Sentel Corporation
Thomas J. Fannon & Sons
Trinity United Methodist Church

Notes from the Executive Director

Ah, Summer. Time to relax, right? Sit by the pool; go on a picnic? Not around ALIVE! Serving those most in need takes no vacation. Our Last Saturday Food Distribution program was operating as usual the last Saturday of June - after school was out - as it will be during July and August. Hunger knows no calendar limitations.

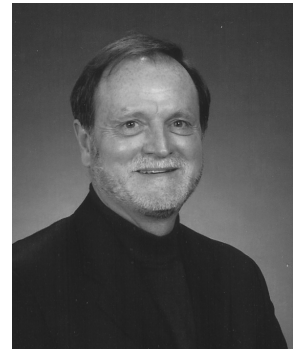
Children in the Alive! Child Development Center do get to enjoy some of the things other children enjoy during the hot, Summer months like a visit to the National Zoo and playing in the sprinkler during "summer camp." The CDC has several openings in each classroom, so now is a good time for parents to enroll their children and guarantee a place for Fall. Pass the word.

By the time this Summer Issue gets to you readers, we will have had a week of Catholic Heart Work Campers from all around the East Coast working in many of our programs areas. They are scheduled for early July to work in the Family Emergency Office, the Child Development Center, the Alive! House, the Housewares program area and the Furniture warehouse. Details in the next issue.

There are no Alive! Board meetings during July and August but everything else is open as usual. September comes quickly so Alive! Member Congregations, as well as other interested organizations, should look at their Fall schedules now and get an Alive! representative (like 'yours truly') to come to your church or business to explain the good work of Alive! This is the best way to keep our individual faith communities, and the Alexandria community at large, informed about the wonderful things that all of you do on behalf of Alive!

See you in September.

Ken



Ken Naser, ALIVE!'s
Executive Director

NOTE --- IRS Rules for Car Donations Have Changed

To get the most return from your car donation, give your vehicle to The Car Ministry at Catholic Charities or at 2C8 Corporation (2 Corinthians 8). They do not sell the cars for money, they give them to those in need of transportation. You will be able to deduct all of the fair market value of the car as a tax deduction. It will not be the middleman who takes the car away and sells it who makes most of the profit. When that situation happens, the donor only receives a tax write-off on the small profit that goes to the charity. Call Harry Burke (Catholic Charities) 703-841-2531 or Roger Penn (2C8 Corporation) at 703-278-9299 to donate your car.

Power of One

One song can spark a memory,
One flower can make one sing.
One tree can start a forest,
One bird can herald spring.
One smile can start a friendship,
One handclasp, lift a soul.
One star can guide a ship at sea,
One speech can set a goal.
One vote can change a nation,
One sunbeam, lights a room.
One candle can erase the dark,
One laugh can chase the gloom.
*One can make a difference.
And that one is you.*

(author unknown)

ALIVE! Recruits at Business Philanthropy Summit

ALIVE!'s Executive Director, Ken Naser and Administrative Assistant, Claire Maucieri attended the 7th Annual Alexandria Business Philanthropy Summit on behalf of ALIVE! in May. The event was hosted by Alexandria's Volunteer Bureau and Chamber of Commerce and brought together Alexandria-based businesses with the non-profit sector to benefit the community as a whole. It was an opportunity for ALIVE! to meet with local business leaders and discuss options for support through financial contributions and volunteer time.

Following the breakfast program, break out sessions were offered for attendees interested in learning about successfully seeking grants or major gifts, managing volunteers, and cultivating donors. The break out sessions also provided insight into how other organizations manage these responsibilities.

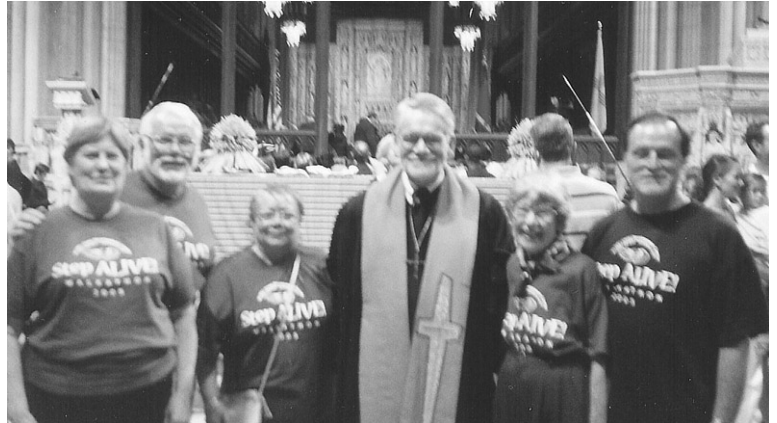
CDC Awarded Rotary Grant

The CDC was recently awarded a grant from the Alexandria Rotary Club. Allen Sadler, CDC Committee Chair, Pam Allen, CDC Director and Ken Naser, ALIVE!'s Executive Director were on hand to accept the donation during an awards ceremony at the Radisson Hotel in Old Town. Thanks to the support from Alexandria Rotary Club the CDC will continue to offer affordable and high-quality early childhood education to low-income and working families in Alexandria.

ALIVE! Endorses International and Interfaith Effort to End Hunger

ALIVE! was named an endorser of Hunger No More: an interfaith convocation held at National Cathedral on the eve of National Hunger Awareness Day. Representatives from all faiths across the nation and around the world participated in the ceremony dedicated to ending hunger.

Chris Hobgood, General Minister and President of Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) for the United States of America contributed to the program and was delighted to have his photo taken with ALIVE!'s representatives. Hobgood, former pastor of First Christian Church, is remembered for moving the CDC (formerly known as Mothers of Arlandria) to the current location in 1970 and saving it from closing down.



L-R: Linda and Mike Oliver, Barbara Cooley, Rev. Chris Hobgood, Doris Mela, and Ken Naser at National Cathedral.



Hunger knows no calendar limitations. LSFD is still operating in July and August.

Sidewalk Sale Successful!

The day dawned cool and sunny – perfect for drawing throngs of eager shoppers to the annual ALIVE! House sidewalk sale. For weeks donations had filled every corner of the office and basement – silver, bikes, original artwork, furniture, clothes, antiques, and more. Volunteers and staff scrambled at first light to display the treasures on tables spread down South Payne Street and even around the corner on Prince. We had acquired the necessary permit from the City and had posted flyers far and wide to announce the date.

Ann Matikan, a neighbor and steadfast volunteer, organized the event for the 4th year in a row. Other hard-working volunteers included Suzanne Lamb, Lindsay Boudreaux, Daniel Buzby, Beth Everett and Sarah Goldman. Our event was helped immensely by the Upper King Street Civic Association, which provided great publicity as well as many donations. We managed to sell some of the more unusual and valuable items on E-Bay and are pleased to report that our efforts netted a total of \$2,000. We are so fortunate to have such a supportive community! Many thanks to all of you who contributed your time and treasures for a worthwhile cause.

It Wasn't Me

by President Laura Rogers

Several people have commented on the work that I've done as President, and often said, "I don't know how you do it." The answer is: I don't. There are many people who volunteer faithfully to run ALIVE!'s seven programs, serving thousands of people. They actually did the work. Let me tell you about some of them and the job they have done.

Maureen Franks and Linda Coleman, co-chairs of our Family Emergency Program constantly recruit and schedule volunteers, carefully watching their budget. They give clients as much care and service as they can with the small amount allocated to each family.

Alice Quint and Bill Willis, co-chairs of the Food Pantry for many years, worked together to be sure that food received in the pantry was sorted and labeled properly for distribution to the hungry. Sometimes this requires recruiting and transporting day laborers and picking up massive contributions with the ALIVE! truck. Alice had to take an extended leave this year, so Jean Moore and Al Barke helped to fill in for her until she could return.

Our Housewares Program, chaired by Gerry Hebert, distributes donated housewares to families that need help making their house a home. Thanks to Gerry and his mother, Addy, people are now provided housewares at Last Saturday Food Distribution. Also, Gerry's church, Fairlington United Methodist, donated a van for which Gerry keeps finding new uses! Gerry took responsibility for repairing and maintaining it.

Our monthly event, Last Saturday Food Distribution, takes many volunteers, large quantities of food, and a good deal of preparation. The dedicated people who make this possible are Deborah Patterson, Joan Burchell, and Jean Moore. The work they do before we show up to package and distribute food, is time consuming and demands experience, information, and patience.

ALIVE! House, chaired by Susanne Arnold, is home to four families year-round. Susanne makes sure the families have everything they need to live, and tools to break the cycle of poverty. She also does the majority of the fundraising for the House and depends on donated office supplies, paper products, and food.

Mike Diffley chairs the Furniture Program, recruiting drivers, schedulers and movers to pick up and deliver donated furniture, often moving the furniture himself. A couple of years ago Mike applied for, and was awarded, grants to purchase and maintain the large panel truck that you see around town. He graciously shares the truck with other programs to keep overhead costs low.

Our Child Development Center, chaired by Allen Sadler, provides day-care to some of the most adorable children in Alexandria. These little students, whose parents are the working poor of Alexandria, receive quality state-certified childcare because of the work of Allen, Ellen Brown, and Linda Oliver.

Our annual gala, Fools ALIVE! went Irish this year, and was very successful because of Lesli Creedon and Mary Jo Johnson, our co-chairs, and many other volunteers who gave up evenings and weekends to prepare for a wonderful evening.

Pam Goodell recruited volunteers for events and for different programs throughout the year, often volunteering herself. We always had enough people to get jobs done well.

The next time you see Vivian Webb or Bob Barnett, be sure to thank them for the work they have done to thank our donors. They put in long hours every week designing and maintaining our donor database.

And I would be remiss to not say thank you to Jann Masterson for the incredible job she has done as recording secretary. It is beyond me how she makes sense of our discussions and reports them so accurately in the minutes.

Rick Glassco, our treasurer, dedicates many man-hours to distributing Family Emergency checks, and managing our finances. For this organization that takes a great deal of patience and astuteness.

I extend my personal thanks to two people who mentored, advised, and encouraged me: Cathy Thompson, our personnel committee chair, and Patrice Tighe, our former president. Then, there were the people who worked in the office this year. Thanks to Haven Cushman and Pam Goodell, the office ran smoothly and I was able to focus my energy elsewhere.

It is because of the dedicated service of these people that ALIVE! continues to serve and to move forward. I cannot express enough thanks to any of them for the job they have done and continue to do. I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve with each and every one of them.

*"I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send,
and who will go for us?
Then said I, Here am I; send me." Isaiah 6:8*

New faces

President - Gerry Hebert has been an Alexandria resident for over 30 years. He moved to Alexandria from his native Massachusetts in 1973 when he took a position as a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice. Leaving the DOJ in 1994, he has been a solo practitioner since that time. He specializes in election law, and has taught courses on election law at Georgetown University Law School since 1995.

Gerry is a member of Fairlington United Methodist Church, and has been active in ALIVE! for more than 10 years. He began as a volunteer on the furniture committee, and has chaired Housewares since 2003. He expanded the delivery of housewares to needy people adding a distribution of housewares at the Last Saturday Food Distribution's 3 locations. In 2003, he also formed a group at Fairlington United Methodist Church called the "Fabulous 52"--a group of 52 persons or families that would be willing to drive housewares to a needy family during one week of the year. The program was so popular, 98 families volunteered, affording even more needy families to receive housewares in a more timely fashion.



Vice President - Diana Day first became active in ALIVE! some 15 years ago, after she and other Alexandrians at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington won approval for their church to join ALIVE!. Initially a congregational representative, Diana also has served as ALIVE!'s recording secretary and as a member of the CDC Committee. She received her MBA from the University of Michigan and serves as a management consultant in program evaluation, long range planning, and project management.

Claire Maucieri joined the staff of ALIVE! as a part-time administrative assistant and has been working along side ALIVE!'s Executive Director Ken Naser since April. A lifelong resident of Alexandria, she was raised in the Northridge area and attended Trinity United Methodist Church. A graduate of T.C. Williams High School and Longwood College, Claire lives in Rosemont with her husband Mathew Maucieri. She is also a Realtor® in Old Town. Claire plans to reorganize the office so it may better serve ALIVE!'s programs and she looks forward to working with ALIVE!'s many volunteers.



Zinnia Acosta, is an Air Force officer assigned to Andrews Air Force Base, and currently completing an internship with ALIVE! She is originally from Puerto Cortes, Honduras but considers Miami, Florida her home. She was commissioned in 2002, after graduating from the Reserve Officer Training Corps at the University of Miami. She is finishing her Master's Degree in Human Relations at a local satellite location with the University of Oklahoma. She is a Special Agent assigned to the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, having recently returned from a tour in Iraq. Zinnia is working with Ken Naser, ALIVE!'s Executive Director, to obtain on-the-job experience with a non-profit organization. She hopes to become familiar with all of ALIVE's programs, and aid in any capacity.

ALIVE! House NEEDS LIST

Wet mop, Toilet tissue,
Laundry detergent (medium size)
Tall kitchen garbage bags,
Bleach, Clorox wipes

ALIVE! Food NEEDS LIST

Peanut Butter & Jelly

Alive! Inc. Elected Officers and Chairs Effective July 1, 2005

Gerry Hebert, President, Fairlington United Methodist
 Diana Day, Vice President, Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington
 Jann Masterson, Recording Secretary, Fair-Park Baptist Church
 Vivian Webb, Corresponding Secretary
 Rick Glassco, Treasurer, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill
 Ellen Brown, CDC Treasurer
 Linda Oliver, Assistant CDC Treasurer, Church of St. Clement
 Laura Rogers, Assistant Treasurer (General Fund) Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
 Susanne Arnold, ALIVE! House Chair
 Allen Sadler, CDC Chair
 Laura Rogers Congregational Representatives Chair, Good Shepard Lutheran
 Linda Coleman, Family Emergency Co-Chair, Trinity United Methodist Church
 Maureen Franks, Family Emergency Co-Chair, Fairlington United Methodist
 Jean Moore, Food Co-Chair, Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community
 Deborah Patterson, Food Co-Chair, Washington Street United Methodist Church
 Mike Diffley, Furniture Chair, St. Mary's Catholic Church
 Gerry Hebert, Housewares Chair, Fairlington United Methodist Church
 John Fitzpatrick, Publicity Co-Chair, Fairlington United Methodist Church
 Pam Goodell, Volunteers Co-Chair, Fairlington United Methodist Church
 Melanie Brevis, Volunteers Co-Chair, Christ Church
 Catherine Thompson, Personnel Committee Chair, Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community

MOAA campaigns for ALIVE!

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) kicked-off a three-week fundraising campaign on behalf of ALIVE! in the month of June. Ken Naser attended the kick-off at MOAA's headquarters in Old Town and thanked MOAA for a commitment to ALIVE! that dates back to 1991. Last year MOAA raised nearly \$6000 for ALIVE! and this year hopes to increase the amount significantly. This year's campaign was moved from the fall to June so as not to compete with other fundraising activities.

MOAA is the nation's largest independent, non-profit, non-partisan association of military officers. MOAA's members come from every branch of service and include active duty, retired, National Guard, Reserve, and former officers and their families.



L-R: Tray Linnemeier, Campaign Manager, Ken Naser, ALIVE! Executive Director and Admiral Norbert R. Ryan, Jr. USN (Ret), MOAA President



CDC class of '05 photographed at their June 17 graduation ceremony

Lend a hand to the CDC!

CDC needs substitute teachers this summer. Work with great kids while earning a little extra money. For more information call Pam Allen at 703-548-9255.

The US National Letter Carrier Food Drive Makes a Huge Splash for ALIVE!

Around 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 14, approximately 30 volunteers eagerly awaited the first delivery of food from the Annual National Letter Carrier Food Drive. Neither they nor ALIVE! was disappointed. All in all, three post office delivery trucks pulled up with food donated by the Alexandria community. One by one the cartons of food were unloaded, sorted, boxed, and stored. Even a severe thunderstorm with torrential rain and momentary hail did not deter the volunteers – or the postal workers – from the task at hand. Final results: approximately 130 banana boxes of food were filled and stored. This translates to 6,000 – 7,800 pounds of food! Whew! ALIVE! extends its deep appreciation to everyone in Alexandria who donated food. ALIVE! also thanks all the volunteers who helped out to make this event a success!



LSFD volunteers sort and hand out food to recipients at Cora Kelly site on June 25.

ALIVE! Wire

ALIVE!
2723 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22302
703-837-9300
www.alive-inc.org
E-mail: alivetoo@aol.com

Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Alexandria, VA
Permit Number 567



ALIVE! is a nonprofit organization founded in 1969 to help Alexandrians facing emergency situations become self-sufficient community members. ALIVE! has grown from a handful of organizations and volunteers to a vigorous organization of 39 congregations and many volunteers. ALIVE! offers needy Alexandrians help through ALIVE! House Shelter, Furniture, Housewares, Food Pantry, Family Emergency, Child Development Center and Last Saturday Food Distribution Programs.

Contact ALIVE! at
703- 837-9300
E-mail : AliveToo@aol.com
www.alive-inc.org

Summer/Fall 2005 Calendar

July

30 – Last Saturday Food Distribution at Church of the Resurrection, Cora Kelly Recreation Center, and Ladrey High Rise

August

27 – Last Saturday Food Distribution at Church of the Resurrection, Cora Kelly Recreation Center, and Ladrey High Rise

29 - September 6: CDC Closed for Cleaning/Staff training

Food Collection: Agudas Achim Congregation, First Christian, Good Shepherd Lutheran, Old Presbyterian Meeting House, St. Joseph's Catholic, Trinity UMC, Unitarian Universalist, Zion Baptist

Furniture Pick Up: Grace Episcopal, Church of the Resurrection, Fairlington Presbyterian

September

6 – ALIVE! Board Meeting – Fairlington Methodist Church

25 – Last Saturday Food Distribution at Church of the Resurrection, Cora Kelly Recreation Center, and Ladrey High Rise

Food Collection: Agudas Achim Congregation, Christ Episcopal Church, Church of the Resurrection, Fairlington UMC, Grace Episcopal

Furniture Pick Up: Blessed Sacrament Catholic, Westminster Presbyterian

October

4 – ALIVE! Board Meeting – TBD

25 – Last Saturday Food Distribution at Church of the Resurrection, Cora Kelly Recreation Center, and Ladrey High Rise

Food Collection: Blessed Sacrament Catholic, Fair-Park Baptist, First Baptist, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, St. Mary's Catholic Church

Furniture Pick Up: St. Paul's Episcopal, Unitarian Universalist