

A Necessary Good

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9/1/08

I am confronted with the pains of poverty everywhere we help with utility assistance, shelter, transportation, clothing, food, and daily necessities. We have talked in the past about excessive use of alcohol. I have seen firsthand how alcoholism hurts everyone in a family, from infants and children being physically and verbally abused, to adults being battered and abused.

We have talked about sexual predators exploiting adults as well as children.

There is an underlying safety net for all of us, and that is our police force. We employ the police to be sure the laws, that have been founded for social order are enforced. The police live and work in the same area as you and I, so they are our neighbors. They do not hide when duty calls them even if it means putting their life on the line. It takes a special type of person to be able to professionally wear a uniform to distinguish the position we hire them for. The police must possess the personality and demeanor to deal with the law breakers and they must complete schooling and training for their special position.

Whether you are in need of help, or just want to drive safely on the streets, you call on the police men and women for protection. They keep our streets safe. They keep our neighborhoods safe and quiet. Yes, these are a special group of people. It seems to be that the only time we thank these individuals is when a crime affects us personally. While they are doing their job we expect them to stay calm and we expect the most out of these individuals.

I have assisted many families that were affected by physical abuse. I have had to call on these special people, our police, many times over the past decades. The police have always answered calls for assistance with promptness and respect. They are always there to serve and protect at a moment's notice, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Many of us complain if we receive a traffic ticket and blame the officer for catching us speeding. The traffic laws are put in place to protect

everyone. We complain to our family and friends. At those times we need to step back and take a look at our own faults and respect them for doing the job we employ them for, keeping our streets and communities safe.

I have to admit to my own bad habit of trying to fit 36 hours into a 24 hour day, as a result I occasionally drive too fast. I recently was stopped for speeding. Many years ago I would get upset at myself and wonder, “Where was that police officer hiding?” or “Doesn’t he have anything else better to do than pull me over?” I have since matured enough to want what is best and safest for all of us. I want to have family oriented towns, a countryside that’s loved, protected and visited by many because of its natural beauty and the peace of mind because we are protected by outstanding police forces. When the officer came back to give me my ticket he said, “I was just informed by my dispatch that you are W.C. who writes The Time is Now columns.” Embarrassed, I acknowledged, “Yes.” I was very polite. In fact after he handed me my ticket I even thanked him. Before he walked away from my car he said, “You know, I have to thank you. You are one of the nicest people I have given a ticket to. I’m sorry I had to do it, but it’s my job.”

Now don’t get me wrong, I would have liked to only have received a warning, it would have cost less and warnings do get the point across. I accepted my ticket and the officer thanked me for respecting him for doing his job. As he walked away, I thought to myself I wonder how many times that officer stops someone who gets testy with him and upset about the ticket. This is only one area, but there are many where maybe we are not thoughtful or thankful enough for having these wonderful people do a job that most of us would turn away from. The only people who should be fearful of our police officers are the criminals, those that have bad intentions of inflicting pain, be it physical or financial against us or our property. I think our police officers do an incredible, God-caring job of protecting us.

I would also like to thank Bill McEssy for providing bullet proof vests to our police officers. When Bill heard there was not enough for their vests, Bill made a donation through The Time Is Now to Help, requesting the donation be used for the purchase of vests for the police. When we hire these brave men and women who are willing to risk their lives on the job to protect us we need to provide them with all the equipment necessary for

their very specialized job. Can you imagine having a job where you had to wear a bullet proof vest everyday? This is another reason why we owe a big “thanks” to these wonderful men and women who took the pledge to serve and protect.

Each and every day we owe the Police Department much gratitude, a big “**THANK YOU**” for the wellbeing of our neighborhoods, our streets, and please let us remember they have our laws to enforce and abide by. God bless and protect them each and every day.

Health and Happiness, God Bless Everyone, WC

Upcoming Event: The Golden State Foods Foundation will be hosting a golf outing to benefit both The Time Is Now to Help and the Ronald McDonald House Charities. The event will be held at Evergreen Golf Club in Elkhorn on September 9, 2008. Call Tom Ormsby at (262)472-7460 for more information.

Richard Driehaus \$30,000 Matching Grant: Please use this opportunity to double every dollar you give. Richard Driehaus has again generously offered The Time Is Now to Help a \$30,000.00 Matching Grant. For every dollar you give Richard will match it with another. God Bless you for Caring and Sharing for those in need.

Please Help: Make checks payable to: The Time Is Now to Help, P.O. Box 70, Pell Lake, WI 53157. The Time Is Now to Help is a federally recognized 501(c)3 charitable organization licensed in the states of Wisconsin and Illinois. You will receive a tax deductible, itemized thank you receipt showing exactly what every penny of your donation provided for the poverty stricken.

A Special Thank You to: Dave, Sharon, Zach & Maddie Flitcroft owners of Leatherlips Water Sports, Nicholas & Kim Marino, Dr. Mark & Cynthia Brower, Dennis & Christine Haak, Paper Dolls, Jac & Elizabeth Varco, Margarie Egger, Judith Caputo, Susan Woodcock, Leland & Linda Swenson, David & Mary Riesland, Susan Wilber, Cheryl Davis in honor of Dorothy Benson’s 89th 1/2 Birthday, J.D. Development, Dick & Jean Honeyager, Kunes Country Ford & Kunes Country Chevrolet & Cadillac, ALL of you who support The Time Is Now to Help donation boxes, and the businesses that allow our donation boxes. Anyone who would like a Time Is Now donation box in your business, please call (262)249-7000.

Desperately Needed Cars: Once again we have a desperate need for used cars. If anyone has a car they are thinking of trading in or an extra car you are not using, please think of those who are in desperate need of

transportation to get them to and from work so they can provide the daily necessities for their families. Without reliable transportation it makes their situation even more desperate. Please Care & Share.

Pick ‘N Save “We Care” Program: Please sign up for the “We Care” program at your local Pick ‘N Save. A percentage of each purchase will go directly to The Time is Now to Help. All you have to do is designate The Time is Now, account number **832410**, on your Advantage Plus Savers Club Card application.

Goodsearch for The Time Is Now: Search the web with www.goodsearch.com and help to raise funds for The Time Is Now to Help. Just make www.goodsearch.com your homepage, pick The Time Is Now as your charity and the rest is simple. You can even shop some of your favorite online retailers. It is a fun and easy way to help the poverty stricken.

Endowments/Helping Others through Your Will: For those of you who wish to leave an endowment for the poverty stricken, we would greatly accept any gifts. Please think of those in desperate need, good people, living in fear of poverty and consider helping them through your will.

Donate Stocks/ Mutual Funds, Let the Government Contribute: Consider donating shares of appreciated stocks and mutual funds to The Time Is Now to Help and receive twice the benefits from your gift. Please call 262-249-7000 if you would like more information.

Please visit: www.TimeIsNowToHelp.org