

WOTL – 90.3 FM – Toledo, OH
Issues/Program List
“COMMUNITY BRIDGE”
A 5-Minute Program Heard Saturdays*
at 7:25 AM, 5:00 PM, and 7:55 PM
April – June, 2022

DATE	ISSUE	GUEST AND DESCRIPTION
April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2022	Taking a Stand Against Child Abuse & Neglect in Toledo	<p><u>Host:</u> Virginia Beehn <u>Guest:</u> Sherry Dunn, Foster Care and Adoption Care Supervisor, Lucas County Children Services (Toledo, OH). www.lucaskids.net <u>Description:</u> Sherry Dunn talked about getting the Toledo community involved by wearing blue to show their support in taking a stand against child abuse and neglect. The hope behind wearing blue is also to show that everyone is united in efforts to resolve these unfortunate situations. She discussed the potential signs/symptoms of someone who is being abused or neglected and steps to take if an individual has concerns.</p>
May 7, 2022	Comforting, Loving, & Praying for Those Experiencing Pain During Mother’s Day	<p><u>Host:</u> Charrie Slater <u>Guest:</u> Joannie DeBrito, Hope Restored Aftercare Coach, Focus on the Family (Colorado Springs, CO). www.focusonthefamily.com <u>Description:</u> Mother’s Day is an exciting time to celebrate and honor the mothers in our lives, but it’s also a holiday that can bring hurtful memories, sorrow, and pain to some. Dr. DeBrito wrote about the different difficulties and pain Mother’s Day can bring to some in her article, “When Mother’s Day Hurts.” Joannie shared some advice for women who are experiencing some type of pain during this season. She also gave great advice when it comes to comforting those who in need of that comfort and extra love.</p>
May 14, 2022	Optimizing Fuel Efficiency to Save Money on Gas	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Ron Ananian, the Car Doctor, Car Doctor Show (Waldwick, NJ). www.cardoctorshow.com <u>Description:</u> Prices at the pump have skyrocketed in recent weeks and consumers are feeling the financial strain. To optimize fuel efficiency, tire pressure is an often ignored but important factor towards conservation for automobile drivers. The door placard by the driver’s door directs proper tire size and pressure (front, back and spare) for best suspension, safety, and maximization of a particular automobile. Depending on the time of year, tire pressure should vary by only a few pounds of that number. Our guest cautions against referring to the tire itself for maximum pressure as it does not have the specific information for that vehicle. Use a good quality tire pressure gauge and/or air compressor. Regular oil changes are vital to efficiency maintenance, as well as using the manufacturer’s specified viscosity for fuel changes. Air filter</p>

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		changes should be scheduled regularly.
May 21, 2022	Fuel Conservation Tips to Reduce “Pain at the Pump”	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Ron Ananian, the Car Doctor, Car Doctor Show (Waldwick, NJ). www.cardoctorshow.com <u>Description:</u> Driving habits and style affect fuel economy and fuel economy affects the average driver’s finances as prices continue to increase at the pump. To optimize fuel conservation and save money on gas, vehicle efficiencies must be considered. If hauling a large vehicle, going fast may not be more efficient vs. a smaller automobile’s response to speed. Jack rabbit starts, remote starts, and letting the car idle for 15 minutes while getting coffee is inefficient. Experiment on whether driving fast or slower saves gas. Check miles per gallon at the gas pump against the car console’s miles/per gallon number. Go through the car and take out all the extra junk in the trunk as excess weight increases gas consumption. Hybrid vehicles may be a good long-term solution in the future vs. all electric cars, as the infrastructure to power the average consumer’s vehicle electrically is not in place.</p>
May 28, 2022	Helping Veterans Put Jesus Christ at the Center of Marriages	<p><u>Host:</u> Charrie Slater <u>Guest:</u> Edward Graham, Vice President of Operations, Samaritan’s Purse (Boone, NC). www.samaritanspurse.org <u>Description:</u> Edward spoke about the reasoning behind Samaritan’s Purse’s Operation Heal Our Patriots and how it has saved countless relationships and marriages. After completing an Alaskan program, veterans and their spouses leave refreshed putting God at the center of their relationships. So many lives have been transformed through this organization and programming and will continue to be transformed through God’s grace.</p>
June 4, 11, 18 & 25, 2022	Helping Toledo Alleviate Crime & Lower Poverty Rates	<p><u>Host:</u> Virginia Beehn <u>Guest:</u> Avis Files, Director of Family Support and Services, Brothers and Sisters United Program, Pathway (Toledo, OH). www.pathwaytoledo.org <u>Description:</u> Avis Files gave a high-level overview about a few of the different programs they offer – a program to help young dads or dads with young infants (with a goal of eliminating infant mortality) and another programming addressing co-parenting. She talked about data from a recent study and shared information about how listeners can sign up for their different programs in Toledo.</p>

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April 2, 2022	<p style="text-align: center;">Relearning the Art of Face-to-Face Relationships</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(25-minute program)</p>	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Jeremy Keeton, Sr. Director of Counseling Services, Focus on the Family (Colorado Springs, CO). www.focusonthefamily.com <u>Description:</u> For a number of people, one of the side effects of the pandemic is forgetting social skills. In today’s digital age, with email, text messages, and social media (including the effects of the pandemic and other factors), the amount of face-to-face communication has diminished to the point where a person can go almost an entire day without actually (physically) interacting with other people. Jeremy Keeton clarified for listeners what the term “face-to-face communication” means and the advantages/benefits to being physically in the presence of another, listening to another person, and communicating with him or her face-to-face. He talked about how Americans have gotten out of some good habits as a society when it comes to engaging in meaningful ways, the negative effects of not engaging in this type of communication, and how individual, the family, the church, and the community are impacted.</p>
April 9, 2022	<p style="text-align: center;">Cultural and Spiritual Implications of Passover to Palm Sunday and Easter for American Christians</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(25-minute program)</p>	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Rev. Malcolm Hedding, International Spokesperson, Member of Board of Trustees, International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (Jerusalem, Israel and Nashville, TN). www.int.icej.org <u>Description:</u> Christians in America and throughout the world are preparing for what is one of the most important celebrations of the year...the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead (after his crucifixion and burial). Leading up to this triumphant celebration is Palm Sunday, which is connected to the ancient Israeli celebration of Passover that we read about in the Scripture or Old Testament of the Bible. To previous generations, the week of Easter was significant – if not more significant than – Christmas. But today’s society does not seem to observe the events leading up to Easter as noteworthy, even in our American Christian culture. Rev. Malcom Hedding explained what Passover is and talked about the Passover Seder and some of the events/celebrations – such as the Celebration of Pentecost – that are not celebrated much in today’s U.S. society. He shared how</p>

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		<p>Christian families now must realize it is their responsibility to bring their children up in the Lord and make sure they follow Jesus. He emphasized that there has to be some type of liturgy, devotion, and/or celebration that is dignified, loving and warm that involves children. He also shared a Christian Passover Seder Liturgy document for listeners to access, if interested.</p>
<p>April 16, 2022</p>	<p>Sharing the Gospel with the Next American Generation (25-minute program)</p>	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Dr. Adriel Sanchez, Pastor of North Park Presbyterian Church, Host of Core Christianity (San Diego, CA). <u>Description:</u> The media and academic messaging to our youth—telling them what is right, what is wrong, questioning their beliefs, even their gender, etc.—makes it confusing to our children and exhausting for parents and grandparents who are trying to instill Biblical principles in their children. According to a recent study, the number of Americans who identify as Christian dropped 12% in just the past decade. Trends continue to show the Christian culture is decreasing as the young generation gravitates towards the ways of the secular world. Dr. Adriel Sanchez suggested parents should ask themselves if they are exposing their children to Scriptures that help children understand what God said to His people through His Word. He also shared contributing factors for the decline in Christianity and, as church leaders, the importance of being faithful to the Scriptures, being a person of integrity and making sure the voice people are hearing is the voice of God on Sunday morning, pointing people to God’s Word.</p>
<p>April 23, 2022</p>	<p>Raising a Daughter Confident in Her Faith and God (25-minute program)</p>	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Dannah Gresh, Founder, True Girl / Pure Freedom Ministries (State College, PA) www.mytruegirl.com <u>Description:</u> Raising children in today’s culture can be challenging, but for parents raising a daughter, different challenges can present themselves – especially in a culture that is often hostile to God’s values. Social media peer groups, secular magazines, etc. can contribute to the negative influences that can erode a girl’s confidence. Dannah Gresh shared that the average American girl today scores so high on an anxiety test that she should have been placed within mental health care in the 1950’s. She shared the story of Miriam in the Bible and explained why</p>

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		hers is a beautiful example of a young girl who lived courageously for God. Dannah also encouraged parents to teach their daughter/children important habits that will help her combat lies and live fearlessly and expressed the importance of spending time with girls before they reach the age of 12 years and then also getting an older mentor who is a good mentor and Christ follower.
April 30, 2022	Providing a Source of Hope (Bibles and Study Aides) to War - Affected Ukraine (25-minute program)	<u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Pastor Scott Ross, National Director of Church Engagement, American Bible Society (Philadelphia, PA) www.americanbible.org <u>Description:</u> News and images of Ukrainian people struggling amidst unfathomable circumstances are heartbreaking. With odds seemingly stacked against them, hope for a better future becomes a fleeting dream. Here in America with soaring inflation, gas prices skyrocketing, an increase in homelessness, etc., Americans are also wondering what challenges lie ahead and about their own hope for a better future. Pastor Scott Ross shared news of daily updates from colleagues who are on the ground in Ukraine and the surrounding regions that we may not be hearing or reading about in the U.S. news. He talked about people in Ukraine longing for Bibles before food and medical aid, and how the American Bible Society is a part of a network of Bible societies around the world and their ability to work with many churches in the Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia, etc. to print Scripture resources for refugees and into the Ukraine. Pastor Ross told touching stories from the Ukraine – providing humanitarian aid, orphan care, and Biblical comfort amid the destruction to give them hope.
May 7, 2022	Learning from Women in Our Lives and the Bible: Mother's Day Special (25-minute program)	<u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest and Description:</u> Dr. Elesha Coffman, Associate Professor of History at Baylor University, Writer, for Christian History Institute (Waco, TX) gave some historical perspective about what we can learn from women of the Bible and the early Church on the importance of faith in the home. www.christianhistoryinstitute.org <u>Guest and Description:</u> Dr. Marina Hofman, Author, Professor, Palm Beach Atlantic University, (West Palm Beach, FL) shared

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		<p>her own near-tragic experience and how the women in the Bible served her as the ideal model for women and mothers. www.womeninthebible.info <u>Guest and Description:</u> John Fuller, Co-Host of Focus on the Family’s Daily Broadcast, Focus on the Family (Colorado Springs, CO) spoke about finding Biblical grace in the care of aging parents and loved ones. www.focusonthefamily.com</p>
May 14, 2022	<p style="text-align: center;">Back to Basics: How to Better Prepare and Handle Difficult Financial Times</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(25-minute program)</p>	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guests:</u> Vance Dillard, Senior Director of Programming (Tennessee); Virginia Beehn, Programming Coordinator (Illinois); Charrie Slater, Programming Coordinator (Pennsylvania); and Daniel Ridings (California). <u>Description:</u> A roundtable discussion between Family Radio team members from coast-to-coast, talking about how to better prepare and handle difficult financial times. They shared what some current situations people are encountering, the effects this has on individuals, the family, the church and the community. Personal stories were shared about how others endured tough times and what can be learned from those who went through difficult times (Great Depression, gas crisis, etc.). Discussion also included Scripture that can be a source of comfort and how this can be an opportunity to reach out to others, to share the Gospel, and grow deeper in our faith to honor God.</p>
May 21, 2022	<p style="text-align: center;">Communicating to Youth their Incredible Value</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(25-minute program)</p>	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Dr. Kathy Koch, Author, Founder and President, Celebrate Kids (Fort Worth, TX). www.celebratekids.com <u>Description:</u> Life is full of hopes and dreams for joy, happiness, and the good things in life. But sadly, today’s society views success as lots of money, fame, the latest gadgets and other materialistic possessions. Unfortunately, this can cultivate an environment filled with jealousy, an unquenchable thirst for more stuff and can lead to feelings of not being good enough or no longer of any value. One pressing issue is that American young people have an overwhelming negativity towards self, others, and life. Dr. Koch shared how God knitted us together and created life – for us to worship Him, for us to know Him, and make Him known. She talked about how life is worth living because God chose to create us and there is a uniqueness to us,</p>

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		referencing Scripture and what it means. What may seem like a weakness can be turned into a strength for God.
May 28, 2022	<p style="text-align: center;">Racial Harmony and Respect Comes from the Bible and Counter-Cultural Living</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(25-minute program)</p>	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Dr. Carol Swain, Award-Winning Political Scientist, Author, Speaker, TV Commentator, (Brentwood, TN). www.carolmswain.com <u>Description:</u> Today’s culture is filled with talk about the issues of racism, gender identity and marriage (to name a few) and it is not uncommon to hear the terms ‘counter-culture’ and ‘Critical Race Theory’ (CRT) all of which are hot topics for discussion, which can potentially be very puzzling and confusing. Dr. Carol Swain helped listeners understand what it means to be counter-cultural, as well as the meaning of critical race theory; as well as how these impact American culture. She offered examples of the importance of racial harmony and respect from the Bible’s guidelines and about the dangers of living as a secular culture, without racial harmony and respect. She also gave some practical ways Christians can live boldly yet humbly for Christ as countercultural followers of Jesus’ teachings.</p>
June 4, 2022	<p style="text-align: center;">Recognizing God’s Goodness and Sovereignty During Tragic News and Trauma</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(25-minute program)</p>	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Dr. Joannie DeBrito, Hope Restored Aftercare Coach, Focus on the Family (Colorado Springs, CO). www.focusonthefamily.com <u>Description:</u> After the tragic school shooting in Texas, Americans were left grieving the precious lives that were lost and the families, friends, and community members who were impacted. Tragedy, bad news, and moments of heartbreak can be difficult to navigate through, especially for people trying to deal with these unfortunate situations. Parents and grandparents can also struggle when having to share or discuss the news with their children/grandchildren. Dr. Joannie DeBrito talked about the signs/symptoms to be mindful of in helping parents identify the stress exhibited in loved ones. She shared how to talk about the situation, gave examples of questions to ask to get the person to open up, the type of appropriate responses that can be given, and the importance of communication and listening to the individual child. Dr. DeBrito stressed the importance of having fellowship with one another and gave good information on where</p>

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		to access resource to help people dealing with trauma and/or tragic news.
June 11, 2022	<p style="text-align: center;">The Bible’s Advice for a Financially Healthy Household and Society</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(25-minute program)</p>	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Chuck Bentley, CEO, Crown Financial Ministries (Knoxville, TN). www.crown.org <u>Description:</u> With the cost of things skyrocketing, people throughout America are concerned about how they are going to provide for their family and be able to save for other future expenses. Chuck Bentley talked with listeners about the Bible’s advice for a financially healthy household and society, even in the midst of inflation. He discussed the many problems that are converging and taking place: a supply chain problem, oil and gas problem, inflation, labor market shortages, all of which are creating more inflation than what he has seen since the 1980’s. Chuck shared Biblical examples and Scripture about being prepared, being prudent, and not waiting until the last minute but to trust God who is a God of abundance. He gave the example of a garden which enables you to have your own food supply and the opportunity to share with others. Chuck also talked about the dangers of America practicing <i>Modern Monetary Theory</i> and information about the economic wheel.</p>
June 18, 2022	<p style="text-align: center;">The Importance of Fathers and Fatherhood</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(25-minute program)</p>	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest and Description:</u> Dr. Ron Archer, Author, World-Renowned Inspirational Speaker (Cleveland, OH) shared a powerful message of hope and how the Gospel can impact the fatherless. He also shared staggering figures, a story about elephants, and how it is an example of the importance fathers have in the home. www.draronarcher.com <u>Guest and Description:</u> Jim Daly, President, Focus on the Family (Colorado Springs, CO). www.focusonthefamily.com He talked about how fatherhood is an opportunity of great joy but underneath the surface of masculinity, power and strength, there nevertheless lies an enormous amount of pressure and the fear of failure. <u>Guest and Description:</u> Larry Fowler, Founder, Legacy Coalition (Phoenix, AZ). www.legacycoalition.com Larry talked about the importance of grandparents investing in the spiritual lives of their children and grandchildren.</p>

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June 25, 2022	<p style="text-align: center;">Spreading Hope Across America: A Community Bridge Road Trip</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(25-minute program)</p>	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Gregg Fishman, Public Information Officer, City of Sacramento Department of Community Response (DCR) (Sacramento, CA). www.cityofsacramento.org Gregg told us how they partner with other organizations to get homeless people in Sacramento off the streets and into shelters. He expressed that it's difficult to get them off the streets because there is just not enough space in the shelters since there are roughly 11,000 people in need in the area. Gregg shared a story about a veteran who used DCR to get in contact with his pension and other benefits, along with a non-profit who helped get him an apartment and his services that he needs. Please visit their website for more information.</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Keith Bergthold, CEO, Fresno Metro Ministry (Fresno, CA). www.fresnometmin.org Keith told us about their mission and programs to go along with providing food for those in need in Fresno. He first told us about their Food to Share program that partners with community gardens and other resources. Next, he told us about the food system and how they try to use food that would otherwise be wasted to feed people. There is a high poverty rate in Fresno along with a food access problem. They provide healthy food, as well as access/distribution and have partnered with a local church to create a warehouse.</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Ron Francis, General Manager, Indie Dwell (Pueblo, CO). www.indiedwell.com/pueblo When they began building affordable housing, shipping containers were used. Today, cold rolled steel is used, and the floor plans can be adjusted to become 1- 2- or 3-bedroom homes and work well for the builders as well as the owners in Pueblo. Prices have nearly doubled for materials over the last couple of years, but Indie Dwell is working successfully to bring these costs down. Low-income owners cannot afford high-cost maintenance. These are permanent houses and are built on concrete bases. Homes are not for sale from the builder, but Indie Dwell works with municipal organizations and home providers.</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Dr. Margaret Brady, Housing Rehabilitator (Shenandoah, IA). In 2019, area flooding caused</p>

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		<p>many to be unable to find housing in Shenandoah. Dr. Brady saw dilapidated housing, unkempt houses and yards, and wondered, “could these homes be renovated and restored?” In cooperation with the City Administrator and Attorney, she got involved in purchasing houses in Shenandoah that were structurally salvageable and hired local professionals to restore the roofs, electricity, plumbing and then did aesthetic work herself. She noted that having a beautiful community instills pride and optimism, as well as causes neighbors to better care for their homes. Those interested in rehabbing other homes in Shenandoah can always stop by Dr. Brady’s latest project and take a tour or contact her at Healthy Tails Retreat for details.</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Kathy Langley, President, Shenandoah Pregnancy & Resource Center (SPaRC) (Shenandoah, IA). www.shenandoahpregnancyresourcecenter.com</p> <p>Diapers are a basic necessity for keeping babies and children clean, dry and healthy; however, with soaring inflation, 33% of families are struggling to get the diapers they need. SPaRC is responding with a monthly diaper drive in dash to give away free diapers, wipes, and clothing. Open for families on Mondays (2-6 p.m.) and Wednesdays (9 a.m.-1 p.m.), they are offered these items, plus prayer. SPaRC seeks to heal hearts and build lives, not just for the tiny beating heart inside a pregnant mother, but also of the parents. Increased financial need met through diaper outreach shows families the love of God and may introduce them to Jesus Christ. Prayer is needed and financial support can be sent to SPARC at PO Box 477, Shenandoah, IA 51601.</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Traci Flowers, Executive Director, Grace Wins Haven (Newport, OR). www.gracewinshaven.com</p> <p>This is a helping place that provides services to homeless and low-income people in Newport. They help with food, clothing, etc. and take it to those who cannot come get the supplier for themselves. They maintain a thrift shop where everything is free. Donations can be dropped off or call for an appointment. People served include the homeless, impoverished, seniors, disabled folks, military, and anyone in need.</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Michael Washington, Executive Director, ServErie (Erie, PA). www.serverie.com</p>

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		<p>Michael explained how ServErie works with connecting volunteers to ministries/organizations in need of volunteers. Some people want to help and volunteer their time and services but don't know where to go, so ServErie bridges that gap for them. Michael shared a story about someone who greatly impacted someone else in need in the Erie community. Michael also shared about different ways to become involved within ServErie and told us how anyone can help! Please visit their website for more information.</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Bridget Laird, CEO, Wings for Kids (Charleston, SC). www.wingsforkids.org</p> <p>“Wings for Kids” is teaching children how to behave well, build healthy friendships, and make good decisions, Children are taught through after school programs in a fun, engaging environment. Too often we teach kids the academic skills like reading and math but forget the social skills. “Wings” began when the founder struggled with making good decisions for herself. She picked up a book that talked about emotional intelligence and started teaching children these skills to ensure their productive and healthy adulthood. The program is free to parents and is funded through donations.</p>

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with Jason Frentsos

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April 1, 2022	Spreading Kindness	Some are calling him America’s Chief Kindness Officer – an 8-year-old boy in Virginia has been going the extra mile to help the homeless in Washington DC. “Zohaib” says it’s a problem he sees with his own eyes and feels in his own heart... and so as part of Global Youth Service Day, Zohaib and other homeless advocates headed to the outskirts of Washington DC to pass food, toiletry kits and supplies to people in need. Each kit was filled with donations from local companies to whom Zohaib personally reached out.
April 4, 2022	Bake Sale for the Ukraine	A Kentucky congregation raised approximately \$145,000 at a bake sale last weekend to help those displaced by the war in Ukraine. The bake sale took place at Nicholasville church on Saturday.... attendees were given lunch and access to around 100 different donated baked goods that were for sale. Victor Selepina, who organized the bake sale, said that most of the church's members are from Ukraine or have family members living there. Other churches across the U.S. have launched similar efforts. Earlier this month, four Minnesota churches came together to pack 100,000 meals for those in need, with half of them going overseas to Ukraine.
April 11, 2022	Pets Helping Veterans	A homeless dog that brought comfort to U.S. soldiers overseas is starting a new life in America with one of those soldiers. The three-year-old mixed breed became like family to Sergeant Kelsey and his Army unit in Kosovo last year after they found him looking for food around their base. Sgt. Kelsey bonded with the pooch he named Duke and wanted to get him to a better life, out of danger. The staff at the New York-based charity <i>Paws of War</i> promised to help, so Duke and the sergeant could be together once more. <i>Paws of War</i> launched a fundraising campaign to help cover the cost of Duke’s flight to the U.S, as well as his lifetime medical care. Sgt. Kelsey expects to be reunited with his pooch later this month.
April 12, 2022	Blankets for Ukraine	Hundreds of school children across the nation are sending blankets wrapped in handwritten notes of encouragement to people experiencing homelessness, including Ukrainians who were forced to flee their country after Russia's invasion. It's a way to remind these individuals that they are not alone. The effort started six years ago when two brothers from Brooklyn, Mike and Nick Fiorito, quit their day jobs to hand-deliver what they call "blankets of hope" to people living on the streets of New York City. The family project quickly blossomed into

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		global nonprofit, helping students practice empathy & kindness in life-changing ways! Hundreds of schools around the nation are currently registered with <i>Blankets of Hope</i> .
April 13, 2022	Large Donation for Pet Adoption	To everyone’s surprise, a 9-year-old boy from Idaho walked into an American Humane Society earlier this week with a bag full of \$2000 in cash! Beaming with a sense of pride, “Ben” stepped up to the front desk and said, "We did a lemonade stand last weekend and we raised this money!" The first time Ben did a lemonade stand, he raised \$200. The second, about \$600. Each year the support for Ben's lemonade stand grows bigger and bigger. For his most recent stand, people saw it on social media, heard about it on the radio, and showed up in droves. And he's so happy to hand all the money he raises over to the Idaho Humane Society.
April 15, 2022	Supporting Firefighters	Firefighters from all over the U.S. are helping a daughter in Iowa make a special gift for her dad! “Alli” posted a video on social media asking for help for her project. Her father had recently retired from the Des Moines Fire Department and his 61st birthday is coming up in August. Since he hasn't had the chance to visit all 50 states, she realized the quilt would be a "great gift." Since posting her video, Alii has received T-shirts from all 50 states — plus more! She has 100 shirts and counting, including a few from overseas fire departments in Iraq and Afghanistan. Along with the shirts, she's received handwritten letters from firefighters.
April 18, 2022	Critical Care for Ukraine	As millions of people flee Ukraine, Americans continue to step it up to help refugees in Romania. For paramedic-turned-nurse Teresa Gray, that meant traveling 4,500 miles from her home in Anchorage, Alaska, to offer critical medical support. Teresa is the founder of Mobile Medics International, which deploys medical teams to natural disasters and refugee crises. She and several volunteers set up shop in Galati, Romania, where they provided care -- and comfort -- to hundreds of Ukrainians.
April 20, 2022	Free Home Repair	Veterans in St. Louis, Missouri, recently received free home repairs from a group of volunteers, who say it’s their way of saying “thank you” to those who served the country. <i>Rebuilding Together</i> , which helps repair homes for people in need, teamed up with the Home Depot Foundation to repair veteran Kenneth Young’s home in St. Louis, putting down new floors and painting walls. Elain Powers, of

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		<i>Rebuilding Together St. Louis</i> , said there was yardwork and cleanup involved, and they also worked on railings for the home front steps. One volunteer was grateful for the opportunity saying, “It literally is the most fulfilling day of my career! Not only is it fun, but you’re giving back! And you’re giving somebody something they couldn’t have done on their own or didn’t have the means to do it.”
April 22, 2022	Sheltering Ukrainian Refugees	An Ohio-based Christian charity is helping evacuate and shelter over 1000 orphans from the war-torn regions of Ukraine, transporting them to safe havens throughout the country as the conflict continues. New Horizons for Children has partnered with orphanages in Ukraine since 2009, providing basic childcare needs, but now Executive Director Sherri McClurg says their work has become even more significant! “We clothe them, feed them, and tuck them into bed.... just help to calm their worlds down.” As a Christian nonprofit, McClurg said there is no doubt in her mind that God called New Horizons “to this moment.”
April 25, 2022	Meals of Kindness	Around 850,000 people have been fed thanks to some 30,000 volunteers who all have a love for lasagna! In 2020, prompted by the COVID-related struggles of families in her community, Rhiannon Menn started <i>Lasagna Love</i> -- a non-profit that connects community members through gestures of kindness, goodwill, and support. “There were so many moms that I knew who had lost childcare, who had lost jobs. They were just feeling stressed out,” the San Diego mom said. “And so literally one day, I was just like, I’m gonna make extra meals.” In just two years, <i>Lasagna Love</i> has successfully united participation of more than 30,000 men and women from around the world. More than 200,000 meals have been delivered through the platform, feeding over 850,000 people.
April 27, 2022	Teen Raises Money for Cancer Research	An Arizona teenager has given up a decade of birthday gifts to raise thousands of dollars for cancer research. This year marks his 10th straight year “Kia” has asked for donations to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society instead of presents for his birthday. When Kia was 5 years old, his stepdad had a cancer scare. He knew he wanted to do something about it, so he started raising money! Kia thought of the biggest number that he could; at the time, it was 100. “I was turning 6,” he said. “And so my goal was \$106.” He ended up making the goal for his sixth birthday. It made him feel so good he decided to do it again

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		the next year and the year after that. Now, Kia is turning 15 years old and celebrating \$50,000 in total donations.
April 29, 2022	Running Chairs for the Disabled	Well, for Steve Scott, running races for kids with special needs became a driving motivation for him mile after mile. At first, he ran alongside the kids but now he brings them along for the ride. Scott was given a specialized running chair from Hoyt Running Chairs, the company associated with Dick Hoyt who pushed his paralyzed son Rick in over 1,000 races including marathons, triathlons, and 6 Ironman races. The special chair makes it safe and comfortable for the kids to experience the thrill of running a race.
May 2, 2022	Heart Donation	A 4-year-old who asked for a new heart has received his birthday wish early. “Sammy” of Huber Heights, Ohio, was born with hypoplastic left heart syndrome, meaning the left side of his heart wasn’t functioning. Although he underwent three surgeries over the last four years to remedy the issue, complications arose last year. As a result, he was placed on a heart transplant list in December. But on April 4, 2022, nearly three weeks before his fourth birthday, Sammy underwent a 14-hour lifesaving heart transplant surgery at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, which was a success!
May 3, 2022	A Village for Veterans	They say, “Home is where the heart is,” and no one believes that more than Dana Spain -- the driving force behind <i>Veterans’ Village</i> , a new 47-unit housing community for veterans in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. “The mission of the foundation is to provide the American Dream,” Dana said, “which is where every veteran has a safe, respectable place that they’re proud to call home.” <i>Veterans’ Village</i> will give veterans coming out of transitional environments an affordable place to live. It’s estimated that 40,000-plus veterans are homeless on any given night. More than 4,000 are women — and many are single mothers. Dana adds that “addressing and reducing these numbers has become a priority as <i>Veterans’ Village</i> lays its foundation.”
May 6, 2022	Special Needs Sports Complex	A New Jersey math teacher and his wife have built America's first sports complex for people with special needs, raising millions of dollars to fund it! Christian Kane and his wife, Mary, were committed to completing the 3.5-acre project for their son, Gavin, who suffered a traumatic brain injury at just 19 months old. It started out as a baseball field, but the dream kept growing. They decided to create an all-inclusive playground where every kid could play at the same level.

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		Now 5 years and 3.6 million dollars later, families are flooding into the Field of Dreams in Toms River for the first time.
May 9, 2022	First Graders to the Rescue!	It's first graders to the rescue! A group of Alabama elementary school students are being hailed as heroes today for taking quick action to help their teacher during a medical emergency. The 5-and 6-year-old students were sitting at their desks after singing and dancing around the classroom, when their teacher, Tracy Hodges noticed her vision was becoming blurry. One boy recalled that Ms. Hodges was shaking but thought she was joking... then she fell out of the chair and hit her head." Before losing consciousness, Hodges says she remembers asking the kids to go for help but wasn't sure if they would understand. But the kids received the message loud and clear. While two students remained in the classroom to make sure she was alright, the rest split up to get the nurse and other teachers. When Ms. Hodges eventually awakened, she says she was surrounded by teachers and medical personnel.
May 10, 2022	Adult Literacy	Reading is essential and literacy is in focus at one California program helping adults learn how to read. <i>Project Second Chance</i> has volunteer tutors who teach basic reading, writing and spelling to anyone 16 years or older. Judi Karcher, a <i>Project Second Chance</i> tutor says, "Most of the students that we teach have English as a second language. Many of them go through school not ever learning how to read because teachers don't know how to teach them. So, it's wonderful to have them come to our program and watch them learn."
May 12, 2022	Organ Donation	The associate pastor of a church in Nebraska announced that he will be receiving a kidney transplant and that the matching donor is none other than the lead pastor. Last year, Pastor Walter Hooker announced to his congregation that his kidneys were only functioning at about 10 percent and that he undergoes dialysis three times a week. In November, Pastor Hooker was placed on the kidney transplant list after beginning his screening process earlier in June. Lead Pastor Andy Kaup, who also did a screening process, learned last month that he was a matching donor for the associate pastor. Kaup said that being the matching donor for Hooker was more than just a coincidence.
May 13, 2022	Free College Scholarships	Dozens of students in Arizona were surprised this week with a "full-ride" scholarship to college! During an assembly at Bernard Elementary School, district officials announced that 63 third graders

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		will be awarded a full-ride scholarship covering tuition, books, and room and board. What’s more, students will have the opportunity to attend any college of their choice. As you might expect, the room was soon filled with cheers and tears of joy. One father said, “I just couldn’t hold it back because it just means for sure my son is going to college. I don’t have to think about it. He’s going!” The good news was made possible by a private foundation created in 2005 to help Hungarian students find scholarships for college.
May 16, 2022	Advances in Physical Therapy	A physical therapist from Florida is helping his paralyzed patients walk again through new technology designed with clients’ needs in mind. From standing to driving to walking, Dr. Guy Romain simply wanted to help people achieve their goals. So, he developed a high- and low-tech equipment facility for quadriplegics, paraplegics and those with brain injuries. A robotic frame called the “Exoskeleton” lets patients stand and even walk without assistance! “It’s a wonderful feeling.” Dr. Romain said, “It’s priceless to see somebody that came in on a power chair, and all of a sudden, they’re able to achieve standing balance.”
May 18, 2022	Mercy Flights for Ukraine	They’re calling it “God’s mercy flight!” More than two dozen Ukrainian refugees have arrived in Canada after Samaritan’s Purse transported them there over the weekend. The prominent Evangelical charity announced Sunday that it had airlifted 28 Ukrainian refugees from Poland to Toronto, Ontario, on its DC-8 aircraft. Samaritan’s Purse will likely continue to evacuate Ukrainian refugees out of the country every week for the foreseeable future. Additionally, in the past 3 months, Samaritan’s Purse has airlifted more than 330 tons of relief supplies on 13 airlift missions... and has their team of doctors and nurses have treated more than 8,700 patients so far.
May 20, 2022	Ending Childhood Street Violence	If the key to reducing youth violence and unlocking a safer future is simply to build bonds with the next generation, then some high schoolers in Sacramento have found their way... on the asphalt! Showing kids a love for skateboarding to keep them from being tempted into violence is the aim of <i>Project Lifelong</i> . Using a wooden board, four wheels, and a love for shredding pavement, they are creating an alternative way of connecting and communicating with others. The program works by pairing up a high school student to mentor middle school students. In return, <i>Project Lifelong</i> takes the high schoolers on out-of-town educational trips.

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May 24, 2022	Young Boy Feeds the Homeless	After his aunt took him to feed the homeless, one teenage boy started a non-profit dedicating to helping his newfound friends! Fourteen-year-old “Jahkil” is the founder of <i>Project I Am</i> , a nonprofit devoted to helping the homeless. <i>Project I Am</i> brings awareness to homelessness and provides support to those in need. Jackson began the initiative when he was just 8 years old! Today, he packages “blessing bags” containing different daily essentials for the homeless. Jahkil says he hopes his actions inspire others to be change agents. He said, “I’ve been blessed to set an example for my generation. So not only is our future looking bright, but your future is also, too!”
May 25, 2022	Celebrating 911 Dispatchers	The nation’s 911 dispatchers are everyday heroes. But for Denver 911 dispatcher Asisha Milton, a 3-hour-long call from 800 miles away is one call that she may never forget! She received a call from a woman whose husband had a stroke in the car while driving alone through Denver... and she didn’t know what to do! Asisha was able to reach her husband on his cell phone, but couldn’t find his location. Working with Denver police, she pinged his phone and a search was launched. All the while, Asisha stayed with him on the phone. Roughly three hours later, police were able to locate the man and transport him to the hospital.
May 26, 2022	Memorial Day Fundraising	John Brunelli, of Attleboro, Massachusetts, is commemorating Memorial Day while raising money at the same time. The 53-year-old Navy veteran is doing 11 hours and 11 minutes of pull-ups at a local gym in honor of those who served. The money Brunelli raises will go to Homes for our Troops, which builds specially designed homes for wounded veterans. “I think a lot of people forget about the families and what they have to go through,” Brunelli said. “I think it’s a great organization, and I’m privileged to be able to do this for them.” Homes for our Troops builds houses in the areas that veterans choose to live and continues its relationship with veterans after home delivery, to assist them with rebuilding their lives.
May 31, 2022	Turning Junk into Treasure	A South Carolina man is turning one man’s junk into another’s treasure. Eliot Middleton is a mechanic who in his spare time repairs junk cars and donates them to people in rural South Carolina. Eliot has repaired more than 30 vehicles just this year. He says he does it to bridge the transportation divide and to bring the community together. “I felt that by being a mechanic for over 17 years that I can help in that

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		area,” Eliot said. His selfless act began with a social media post last year.
June 2, 2022	National Homeownership Month	A statewide program launching in Florida will help those who serve our country every day, including first responders and teachers, to purchase their first homes! The \$100 million Hometown Heroes Housing Program helps with down payments, closing costs, and offers a lower mortgage rate to first-time homebuyers – allowing them to purchase a home in the community where they work. Florida’s governor said, “Our hometown heroes are the backbone of Florida communities and making sure that they can afford to be homeowners is a great way to give back to them and support the future of the American Dream.” Funds will be available starting June 1, 2022, which coincides with National Homeownership Month.
June 6, 2022	A Charitable Café	A south Los Angeles Café is putting the community first, serving up coffee and connection. Joe and Celia Ward-Wallace, two lifelong South Los Angeles residents, are passionate about coffee but wanted their community to have access to fresh, affordable, healthy food options. So, they created their very own grocery giveaway. Celia said that for more than 100 weeks now, the couple has distributed free groceries to 1,000 people a week in the community. Celia said they primarily fund the grocery giveaways through donations, and \$40 feeds a family of four for a week.
June 8, 2022	Dad Spreads School Kindness	A Massachusetts dad is dedicated to sending positive messages of kindness at his daughter’s school to combat bullying. After hearing stories about bullying getting out of hand, Stephen Mandile has been standing in front of Whittin Middle School holding homemade “kindness” signs. One sign reads, “Choose kindness always.” Another says, “You are loved. You are amazing.” Stephen says that it really takes the community to make sure these kids have the best opportunities available to them. And his positivity is already making a big difference! Now the students call him “Mr. Kindness” and parents say they’re seeing changes in their kids’ attitudes.
June 10, 2022	Future Leaders Serving the Community	With all the ingredients for success, a student running her own bakery business while balancing academics and extracurriculars graduated from a North Carolina high school this week. “Nicole” not only makes an effort as an involved student and athlete, but also operates her business <i>Homemade Nicole</i> , baking cupcakes, cakes, pies and other

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		sweets right out of her kitchen. When not serving delicious baked goods, Nicole serves as vice president of Future Business Leaders of America at her school, while taking honors and Advanced Placement classes. She is also active in her church.
June 13, 2022	Bookstore on Wheels	A 70-year-old woman has been to 30 states, traveling across the country with her bookstore on wheels — and she shows no signs of slowing down soon! Since 2015, Rita Collins has operated <i>Rita’s Amazing Traveling Bookstore and Textual Apothecary</i> out of her white Sprinter van. She said it’s called an apothecary because of how books make people feel better. Rita wanted to open a bookstore after retiring from teaching, but soon realized that in a small town in Montana, it wouldn’t be financially feasible. So, she took the show on the road to where the people are and she hasn’t stopped travelling since.
June 16, 2022	Neighbors Helping Neighbors	After being threatened with eviction, a retiree was able to buy the house she had rented for two decades after a quarter-million dollars was raised by the community on her behalf. Known for having a heart of gold, Linda Taylor was a beloved neighbor in her Minneapolis community. After arriving in the area 19 years ago as a volunteer to help the homeless and needy, her landlord decided to sell the property and gave her until the end of January. When she told one neighbor, word got around and the tight-knit community rallied around her, striking a deal with the landlord that if he would give Linda until the end of June to raise the money to buy the house. Through countless small donations, and other community-fund drives, they raised the money a full month ahead of the June 30 th , 2022, deadline.
June 17, 2022	Single Dad - Adoption	A North Carolina foster dad is being hailed a hero after adopting a 13-year-old boy who was abandoned as a child at the hospital by his adoptive parents. Peter Mutabazi is a single, foster father who says it’s truly been a joy to welcome 24 foster kids into his home over the last 3 years, and now, he’s changes 13-year-old Tony’s life forever. When he was 11, Tony's adopted parents left him at a hospital and never returned. That’s when Peter received a call asking if he could take Tony for the weekend. Tony and Peter have been together ever since. Father and son are looking forward to welcoming a new foster child who will join their home soon.

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June 20, 2022	Disabled Teen Completes Boot Camp	An Ohio teen diagnosed with spinal cancer recently made one wish... to go to Parris Island, South Carolina, and to endure two days of training at the Marine Corps boot camp. “Sam” is just 16 years old and struggles to walk and keep his balance. In 2018, doctors found a tumor on Sam’s spine and neck. The tumor was removed in surgery, but within a year the cancer aggressively returned. But Sam has always wanted to be a Marine. So back in April, with the help of the Make a Wish Foundation, Sam went through a shortened, two-day version of boot camp, where he trained on obstacle courses, went through the gas chamber, and even completed “the Crucible.” At his graduation ceremony, Sam received the emblem of the U.S. Marine Corps and was named an honorary Marine.
June 22, 2022	Overcoming Food Insecurity	A group of students in St. Petersburg, Florida, is helping other students with food insecurities and in need through a local nonprofit organization. Gina Wilkins founded the nonprofit <i>The Kind Mouse</i> in hopes of feeding hungry students. They provide for families through many agencies in town like after-school programs but they’re also a part of the <i>Pack A Snack Program</i> through the Pinellas County School Boards. Volunteers for the program are other students, who range from ages 5 to 18 years, to help fill up bags with non-perishable food.
June 23, 2022	Uniting the Community	It’s said that giving connects two people together – well, a group of police officers are proving that once small act of giving also connects the community together! Earlier this week, Chicago police officers surprised a group of children with a new basketball hoop – after seeing them playing instead with a milk crate – and even stuck around to shoot some hoops in the neighborhood. Photos shared on social media show a group of at least nine officers opening the box and reading the directions to assemble the hoop for the children. Once the hoop was up, the officers then played a quick game of basketball with their new friends!
June 24, 2022	Lessons in Fatherhood	If parenting came with a how-to manual, it would make our jobs a whole lot easier. <i>The Dovetail Project</i> aims to do that by teaching teens and young men about fatherhood, helping them be more responsible, and giving them the resources to build a better future for their families. Sheldon Smith, the organization’s founder, said his life story impacted the start of this organization. He was raised by two teen parents who had him at the age of 18 years. He said his father struggled and he

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		<p>wanted to help provide a better way for children by serving fathers. “Our young men, what they need the most is mentorship, brotherhood, and resources such as housing and employment to support them as they move on their journey.” Smith founded the organization 12 years ago. Since then, he’s helped 550 young dads.</p>
June 28, 2022	Dedication to Charity Knows No Age	<p>A dedicated charity shop volunteer spends 12 hours a week commuting to and from work—and he’s doing it at 100 years old! David Flucker celebrated his centennial birthday this week, but still went into work the next day, as usual, at the St. Columba’s Hospice shop. David spends four hours traveling roundtrip to the shop—which he does rain or shine. The grandfather-of-seven says the shop terminal gets a lot of donations, and he checks them all out to see if they’re OK. But what he loves the most is the social aspect of his work—when people “come in just to chat.” David, who retired at age 72 years and was widowed in 2010, said his advanced years were no barrier to enjoying himself. He also spends time building model railways which he auctions off to raise money for a local hospice.</p>
June 30, 2022	An Autism Awareness Shop	<p>A thrift store in Tampa, Florida, is giving back in a big way by selling secondhand goods to help those living with autism. Back in 2015, Jennifer and Scott Band opened the <i>Autism Awareness Shop</i> with two goals in mind: increase awareness and acceptance for people with autism and establish employment for their son, who was diagnosed with autism in 1999. The shop’s manager Tyler Russo said, “We currently provide a slew of services for adults on the spectrum. The best way that we help them succeed is with occupational therapy, speech therapy, behavior therapy, as well as the main component, which is the job training.” Russo believes their shop is unique in that it allows one-on-one on-site training, something lots of other organizations don’t necessarily provide.</p>