



# Needs Council



1904 North Llano Street • P.O. Box 73 • Fredericksburg, Texas 78624 • 830-997-9756 • [info@needsCouncil.org](mailto:info@needsCouncil.org)



Backpack (no wheels)  
 Notebook Paper, wide rule  
 Binders, 3 ring- 1.5" & 2" sizes  
 Pencil Sharpener w/shaving collector  
 Pocket Folders with brads, all colors  
 Pencils  
 Subject Dividers, plastic with pockets  
 Pens black, blue or red  
 Crayola Crayons, regular & twist up  
 Highlighters, any color  
 Crayola Colored Pencils  
 Pink Pearl Eraser  
 Crayola Watercolors  
 Spiral Notebook, wide rule 70page  
 Crayola Markers, classic broad line  
 5 Subject Spiral Notebook  
 Expo Dry Erase Markers, all Colors  
 Composition Notebooks  
 Pencil Sharpener w/shaving collector  
 Glue Sticks  
 Elmer's Glue 4oz  
 Scissors, pointed and rounded tip

*Supplies can be  
 dropped off at  
 Needs Council  
 office during  
 regular business  
 hours OR*

**Join Us on  
 August 4th @  
 HEB & WALMART**



## SUPPLY OUR STUDENTS

Last year we had the privilege of distributing 702 bags of school supplies to area children! Children stood in line grinning ear-to-ear in eager anticipation, you would've thought it was Christmas. Children also received lunchboxes, dental hygiene kits and even haircuts – all at no cost thanks to our sponsors.

Some may wonder, why is giving school supplies so important? For families who are barely making ends meet, an extra \$75 expense could mean the choice between supplies and paying the electric bill. When the household has multiple school-aged children, it could

easily wipe out the entire monthly food budget! Families are forced to make a tough decision and sadly, children show up on the first day of school unprepared and embarrassed. By donating school supplies, you are upholding the dignity of families who are struggling. You will take part in allowing children to arrive on the first day of school, prepared and ready to learn! Last year was a record year and this year we expect to serve even more children. To do that we'll need over 18,000 pens, highlighters, scissors, notebooks, and most importantly YOU!

*“With four kids in school, I try to stretch every penny to meet their most basic needs. This year I was so worried because I knew my kids needed supplies (and lots of them) and I didn't have the extra money. Then I heard of the Needs Council! Thanks to them and people who donated, my kids were excited to start school with everything they needed. I always tell them getting an education will give them choices in life, choices I never had. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.”*

### WE NEED YOU!

Interested in rolling up your sleeves to help us sort and organize over 700 bags of supplies?

Please call 997-9756 and sign up for a designated time during the week of August 14-17th.



# MEMORIALS, HONORARIUMS & DONATIONS TO THE NEEDS COUNCIL



November 1, 2016 through May 31, 2017 (excluding campaign donations)

A special  
“Thank You” to  
all of our  
anonymous  
donors

ACI Trash	Ray & Susan Connelly	Cayenne Goodman	Bernard & Sara Kopp	Daniel & Sandra Poole	St Rose Society
Myra Adams	Richard & Linda Conoley	Helen Green	Lothar & Kate Koschmieder	<i>In Memory of Erno &amp; Elanor Buldenhaues</i>	St Thomas
Sam & Bea Aldrich	Jane Convery	Ralph & Stirling Greenlee	Jo Ann Krauskopf	Michael & Mary Porter	Lisa Stapleton
Amazon Smile Foundation	Ann Courtney-Thurman	Gregory Andreassian, MD, PA	<i>In Memory of Darel E Allen Jr</i>	Britt & Christy Pounds	Stark Martin Charitable Trust
Anchor Moving Services Inc	Ruben & Connie Crenwelge	<i>In Honor of Area Doctors</i>	Steve & Nicole Kroeger	Neal & Mary Priestley	Gary & Denise Stehling
<i>In Memory of Mary Ransleben</i>	Jim & Annette Crowhurst	Isaac & Claudia Grimmer	Larry & Jeanine Kuhlken	Mark & Rita Puckett	Edward & Annabel Stein
Armadillo Farm Campground	<i>In Honor of Tom &amp; Betty Anderson</i>	Erline Grona	Clovis & Dorothy La Fleur	Naomi Pyka	Richard & Diane Stevens
Anita Arnold	Ronald & Laverne Cuddy	<i>In Memory of Arlie James</i>	Lady Bird Johnson Golf Course	Charles & Susan Quindry	Street Dreams
Jack & Lucy Ann Arnold	<i>In Memory of Elizabeth Peet, Anita Usener, &amp; Werner Bauer</i>	Ray & Diana Gutierrez	James & Donna Lambert	Richard & Joann Rangel	Sue J Birdsong Fund
<i>In Honor of Crystal Fox, James Speer &amp; Beverly Speer</i>	Dorothy Cunningham	Bettye Hall	Gertude Land	<i>In Honor of Peggy Reeh</i>	Kenneth & Jana Sultemeier
Donna Atwood	<i>In Memory of Leroy Cunningham &amp; Diane Holly</i>	Hannah Circle - UMW	Beth LaPenna	Karl Ransleben	Sunnyside Lawn & Landscaping
Avenue Kindergarten	Customized Concrete Contractor	Elmer & Mary Hansen	Frankie Law	Wade & Wendy Reeh	Glenda Swink
Mr & Mrs Baldwin Jr	Curtis Darte	Roger & Carol Hansen	Donald & Sharon Lawson	<i>In Honor of Carol &amp; Robbie Reeh</i>	Barbara Tabor
<i>In Memory of Mary Ransleben</i>	Clare Davenport	Mary Hardie	Michael & Karla Lawson	Wayne & Elaine Reeh	Philip & A. Ellenbrook Taetz
Dale & Roxie Ball	Rebecca Davis	Brad & Susan Hardin	Fonza Lawther	Patricia Renick	David & Loyce Tatsch
Ronald Ballard	Brenda Freed & Michael D'Eath	Drew & Sherry Hardin	Joan Lennon	Resurrection Lutheran Church	The Hudson Family Fund
<i>In Memory of Janelle Ballard</i>	Charles & Carolyn Debus	Kiff & Brenda Hardin	William & Janet Lindemann	Resurrection Lutheran Church- Mary Martha Guild	The Judith & Jean Pape Adams Charitable Foundation
Jim & Arvella Bauman	Dietel & Son Printing	Harper 4-H Club	Joseph & Ruth Litzelfelner	Rajah Khan & Monika S Ribeiro	The Optimist Club of Fredericksburg
Marjorie Bennack	Bur & Melissa Dobbins	Kenneth & Linda Harrell	Jack & Jill Locy	Joan Richards	Paul & Betty Thomas
Marc & Cindy Bennett	Michael L & Karen H Dolezal	<i>In Memory of Leota Daniel</i>	Jerry & Judith Luckenbach	<i>In Memory of John Richards</i>	Isabelle Toliver
Millie & Bill Bennett	Klaus & Elaine Drobeck	Joanie Harris	Laura Lundeen	Riparian Research Corporation	Richard & Susan Traugott
Christina Berger	Ann Dunifer	John Hatcher	<i>In Memory of Anita Usener</i>	<i>In Honor of Dr Lindy Rachal, Dr Greg Andreassian, Dr Daniel Roberts, Jan Hahne &amp; Mark Peterson</i>	Rod & Lori Travers
Bradley & Lindsey Bertrand	Doris Dunn	HEB Employees	Michael & Susan Mahoney	Wayland & Judith Rippstein Jr	Vernon & Linda Treibs
Margaret Bierschwale	Joyce Dunning	Charles & Winifred Heidenreich	Mamacita's Mexican Restaurant	Earl & Marsha Robinett	<i>In Memory of Mary Ransleben</i>
Ross & Elaine Bigelow	Dutchman's Market	Ann Heifner	Marburger Orchard	Dirkes & Jimmie Lee Rolston	Bill & Betty Treude
Michael & Sandra Birdlebough	Myrtle Eckert	Cindy Heifner	Mark Martin	Ronald & Karen Poidevin	Trinity Lutheran Church
Elizabeth & Alfred Bispo	<i>In Memory of Anita Usner</i>	<i>In Honor of Kathy Schinofen &amp; Mary Ann Lucy</i>	Sherrie Maurer	Paul & Mary Rothband	United Methodist Women
Ray & Karen Bluhm	Ecolab Foundation	Charles Helvie	Maxwell Locke & Ritter LLP	Buzz & Mary Roye	Paul & Jaydean Urban
Glenn & Kathy Blundell	<i>In Honor of John Brown</i>	David & Carla Herbig	<i>In Memory of Mary Ransleben</i>	Bill & Pat Sadd	<i>In Memory of Rhett Urban &amp; Mary Ransleben</i>
Mary Boenker	Edge Media Agency Inc	Dean & Julie Herbort	<i>In Memory of Mary Ransleben</i>	Sage Real Estate	Weldon & Patricia Vaughan
<i>In Memory of Mary Ransleben</i>	Mike & Judy Eilers	Beverly Hernandez	Genevieve McCaffrey	Mohammad & Mary Saiidi	Vernice Visser
Carey & Rhonda Bonn	Harvey & Vernell Ellebracht	Kathi Herzog	<i>In Memory of E.L "Mikie" Mikulik</i>	Saint Barnabas Episcopal Church -Men's Breakfast	Vista Creek Ranch, LLC
Kermit & Laverne Boos	James & Geneva Ellis	<i>In Memory of Gil Tolan</i>	Phil & Patricia McConnell	Salvation Army	Frederick & Phyllis Vogt
<i>In Memory of Linda Dietz, Kenneth Dietz &amp; Lillian Dietz Brown</i>	Russell F & Suzanne Engelhardt	Colin Higgins	<i>In Honor of Mr and Mrs John Draper &amp; Mr &amp; Mrs Robert Mosley</i>	Sam Morin Trust	Marilyn Vordenbaum
Phyllis Borden	Jason & Sandi Englert	<i>In Memory of Mary Ransleben</i>	DG & Berlee McCoury	George & Mary Ann Sanchez	<i>In Honor of Gastehaus Schmidt</i>
Richard & Jane Bowersox	Allen W & Debra Ersch	Hill Country 4H	David & Eloise McGinnis	Stanley & Virginia Sauer	Stuart & Gloria Vordenbaum
Laura Bowman	Essence Women's Choir	Hill Country Church	Pat McGowan	Edward Savell	Troy & Ellen Wadzeck
Gordon & Kathleen Bradford	Matthew Fatheree	Hill Country Pest Control	William McPherson	Joe & Susan Schaefer	Bob & Becky Walch
William & Susan Brandt	Sue & Tim Fatheree	Hill Country Shrine Club	John & Paula McRae	Jackie & Toni Schandua	Ginny Walker
Andy & Andrea Bray	Theresa Featherston	Hill Country WELCA Conference	Peter & Sharon Mear	Lisa Elaine Schandua	Martha Walton
Brilliance	<i>In Memory of Mary Ransleben</i>	Danny & Charlotte Hirt	John Mendeke	Gerald & Patricia Schmidt	<i>In Memory of David Bowers</i>
Keith Hoefel & Jenna Broughton	First Baptist Church	Sharon Hodges	Ed Millis	Carol Schreider	Mary Ann Weber
Dale & Gayle Brown	Fiscal Design	Thomas & Bunni Hoefel	Darrell & Deanne Moellering	Mary Schumann	Paula Weber
John & Sherilea Brown	Charles & Diana Fishel	Holy Ghost Lutheran Church	<i>In Honor of Holy Ghost Lutheran Grace Notes</i>	Lauren & Flo Schverak	<i>In Memory of Charles Wanner &amp; Cynthia Kuhlmann</i>
Alton & Florine Bruns	Fred Fletcher	Bert & Frances Huebner	Jean Lois Mohr	Charles & Geneva Schwartz	Mary Webster
<i>In Memory of Jody Haggard &amp; Karen Robinson</i>	William & Mary Flintom	Bob & Rose Huff	Rick & Mara Moretti	Walter & Carolyn Schwing	Carl & Julia Weden
Bruce & Cindy Busby	Lloyd & Sue Flynt	William & Helen Huffman	Mike Moseley	Vernell Scott	<i>In Memory of Anne Marie Wallace</i>
Ned & Margaret Butler	James & Crystal Fox	Barbara & Royce Hunter	Janet Mott	Bernard & Betty Scrogin	Julia Weed
<i>In Memory of Brandon Hahne</i>	<i>In Honor of Beverly &amp; Jim Speer</i>	Michael & Marsha Hurst	<i>In Memory of Bea Chambers</i>	Michael & Kim Sedgwick	<i>In Memory of Mary Ransleben</i>
Capital Group	Mimi Fox	IFF Foundation Inc.	Dorothy & Ernest Mueller	Lindy Segall	Marion Welgehausen
<i>In Honor of Mark Mazur</i>	<i>In Memory of Rex &amp; Peggy Fox</i>	<i>In Honor of Katherine Hudson</i>	Estella Nebgen	Irene Segner	<i>In Memory of Oliver Welgehausen</i>
Patsy Capps	Richard & Rita Franssen	George Isleib Jr	Keith & Tracie Neffendorf	Marion Seiter	Larry & Isabel Werts
<i>In Honor of Elvis</i>	Fredericksburg Dentistry	Sylvia Izard	Steve Nitsche	Bobby & Carolyn Shaffer	Forest & Cindy Wheeler
L D & Charlotte Casey	Fredericksburg Farms, Inc	<i>In Memory of Leota Daniel</i>	Victor & Marian Nixon	Paul Nixon & Esther Shaffer	Alice White
Catholic Daughters of the Americas	Fredericksburg United Methodist Church	Mell & Nancy Jackson	<i>In Memory of Mary Ransleben</i>	Carol Shepherd	Auguste White
Cave Creek 4H	Church	Archie & Kathleen Jacoby	Nixon Real Estate	Judy Siracusa	Bill & Janey Wiemers
Central Texas Electric Co-op	Frost Bank	<i>In Memory of Mary Ransleben</i>	Raymond Nolin	Geneva Smith	Bain & Linda Williams
Paul & Victoria Chamberlain	Tim & Marsella Fults	Dr Roy & Frances Jacoby	Oak Hills Church	Raymond & Diane Smith	John & Megan Willome
Chocolat	<i>In Honor of Jon &amp; Marilee Pankratz</i>	Laurie & Daniel Jenschke	Nancy O'Neal	Cliftine Solbrig	Alfred & Mary Wilson
Jerry & Linda Christensen	FUMC - Encouragers Class	David & Stacy Johnson	Moneca Osbon	Sons of Hermann Fredericksburg Lodge	Pamela & Benjamin Wilson
Church of Christ - Ladies Bible Class	Mary Gallagher	Sharon Johnson	Gladys Ottmers	Steven & Kelly Sosland	David Wisniewski
Virginia Clark	<i>In Memory of Dahmen M Brown</i>	Lorraine Joyce	Bill & Carol Pace	Juliet Southwick	Fred Witters
Thomas & Sherry Cleckler	Ray & Cecily Gallagher	Barry & Paula Kaiser	Kathleen Paige	Lyle & Jo Ann Spaeth	Mary Ann Wofford
Cynthia England & David Clements	Lisa Gamel	Geroge & Kathleen Keller	Palo Alto Materials Inc	<i>In Memory Joe &amp; Julia Esquell &amp; Raymond &amp; Laura Spaeth</i>	<i>In Memory of Della Mae Kneese</i>
Camille Cohn	Clara Garber	Ken, Betsy, Bernice & Kathy Hickman	Paul's Auto Body & Paint	Jim & Bev Speer	Woodmen of the World Chapter 58
Coldwell Banker D'Ann Harper,	Sandra & David Gasmire	<i>In Memory of Leota Daniel</i>	Pedernales Brewing Company, LLC	<i>In Honor of Crystal Fox</i>	Brian & Kay Wright
Realtors	Gastehaus Schmidt Reservation Svc.	James & Kristi Kent	Ola Mae Pehl	St Anthony's Catholic Church	<i>In Memory of Rose Mae Stehling</i>
Tom Cole	Helen Gazewood	Rosalee Kent	Rose Petermann		Evelyn Yates
<i>In Memory of Joyce O'Rear</i>	Gillespie County 4H	Kent Stehling Insurance	Robert Petersen		Eugene & Judith Yentzen
Claire Collins	Michael & Eileen Goldsen	KFAN Hill Country Broadcasting	Joan Petty		Darlene & Michael Young
James & Ann Collins	Bruce & Jane Good	Tami & Cam King	Cloyd & Betty Phillips		<i>In Memory Fannie Stech</i>
<i>In Honor of of Kelly Albrecht &amp; Rex Rhodes</i>		Marian Doebbler Klein	June Phillips		Phil & Anne Zink
		<i>In Memory of Mary Ransleben</i>			Zion Lutheran Church
		Margaret & Gary Klenzing			

# Mary's Legacy of Love



The name Mary is believed to have derived from the root "mry" which means "beloved". After speaking with Karl, Mary Ransleben's husband, it was apparent that she was not only loved, but beloved to him and everyone who had the pleasure of knowing her. Mary was certainly a treasured friend to the Needs Council and like the rest of our tight knit community, we were greatly saddened by her passing. She lost her battle with cancer on November 21, 2016.

Mary was known for her artistic flair. She always had a twinkle in her eye and a smile on her face. She lived her life to the fullest, and even though she retained an active business and personal life, when called up would drop everything to help Needs Council clients. Whether the need was blankets, help with utilities or a unique need for a client, she always gave generously of her time, talents and treasure. "She would respond gratefully as though she was the one receiving the gifts," Executive Director Cindy Heifner said. "That's just the type of person Mary was. The joy she had in giving flowed into our joy of receiving."

"She had a super big heart and loved helping people," Karl said with a big smile. "Mary could see things in people they couldn't see in themselves. Most often she would work behind-the-scenes to help them and just wouldn't give up."

Of all her remarkable qualities, her loving heart was the guide in everything she did. Whether it was serving the Needs Council, family, employees or lending her artistic talents to both the chapel at Good Samaritan Center and the chapel at the University Center; Mary's heart longed to make a difference for people and to bless others with the gifts and talents she possessed.

The Needs Council was blessed to have been designated as one beneficiary of her IRA upon her passing. Karl revealed, "As one of her chosen charities, she saw how beneficial this gift could be to the Needs Council and the people of this community."

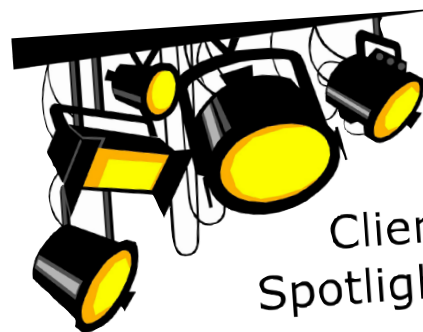
"Sharing and passing it on is what we've endeavored to do. You may not have the money, but you may have the time or a special talent," Karl said. "It was never about money for her, but the connection and the difference she made in someone's life. *For others to follow her legacy of love; that would truly be pleasing to Mary.*"

**DID  
YOU?  
KNOW**

In 2016, we drove  
**216** clients to nearly  
**500** appointments!

If you have a heart to serve the elderly, this is the job for you! Our Medical Transportation program relies on drivers just like you to bring homebound seniors to their doctors appointments.

Call 997-9756 to get started!



## Client Spotlight

*"Christina" came in with the weight of the world on her shoulders. Her son Brad suffered massive injuries as a result of a car accident in Houston, he was lucky to be alive.*

Going out of town to see her son in ICU forced Christina to miss work without pay. Compounding this challenge, her husband Jeff had been out of work and unable to find employment. Not only were we able to help them with their initial need of rent and



utility assistance we were able to connect Jeff with a new job! Counseling was also offered to the family to deal with the tremendous stress. Initially she declined; however, months later with her son still in the hospital, she reached out to accept our offer. Thanks to your support, your *Neighbors in Need* are well on their way to recovering both mentally and physically from a dire situation.

## WISH LIST

### school supplies

1



### fans

2

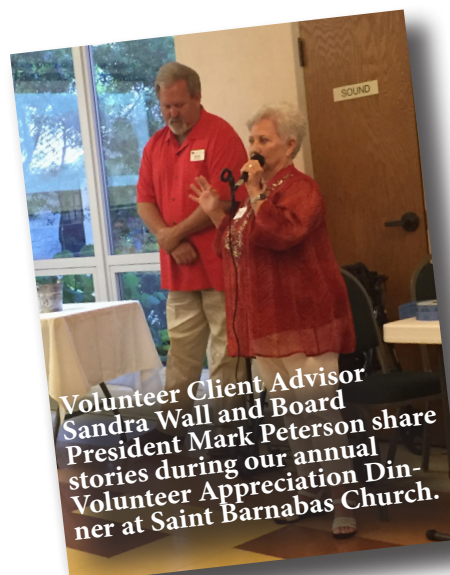


### food 4 kids items

3



Drop items off at the  
Needs Council  
during regular  
business hours



Volunteer Client Advisor Sandra Wall and Board President Mark Peterson share stories during our annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at Saint Barnabas Church.

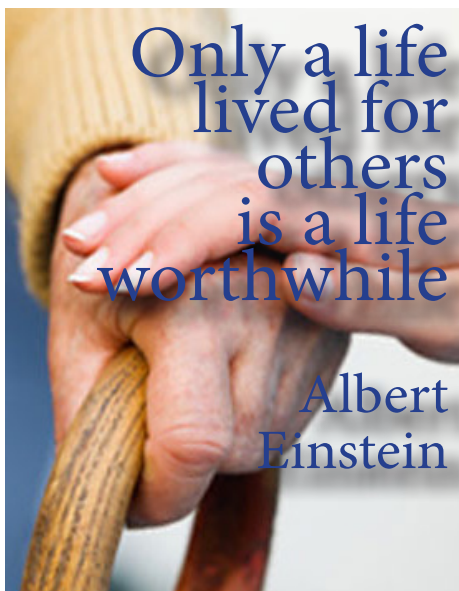


Heritage students get a chance to meet the homebound senior they've been calling all year long as part of our Care Calls Program. These students are paired up with a senior and call them multiple times each week to visit.



## Needs Council 2017 Board Members

Mark Peterson - President  
 Andy Bray - Vice President  
 John Brown - Treasurer  
 Becky Walch - Secretary  
 Bea Aldrich  
 Rev. Bur Dobbins  
 Brad Hardin  
 Carla Herbig  
 Julianne Hohn  
 Laurie Jenschke  
 Kelli Olfers  
 Elizabeth Rodriguez  
 Troy Sifford



# Meet Virginia

*Volunteer Client Advisor with a sweet spirit and heart of pure gold*

We sat down with Virginia Higdon, a volunteer advisor with the Needs Council for over 12 years. Hope you enjoying meeting Virginia as much as we have enjoyed working alongside her!

### Why do you volunteer for the Needs Council?

*Because it has truly been enriching to me. To work in a Christian environment where people care about others, I am truly blessed. It's so important to be involved. We have to give back, it's the most important thing we do.*

### How did you first get connected with us?

*In 2005, my neighbor introduced me; they were looking for a Client Advisor. I had earned an associate's degree in Human Services and I've always been comfortable in a helping situation, especially with adults. It's fulfilling to help people who are hurting. I really think it was a God-directed thing.*

### How would you explain your role as a Client Advisor?

*Most importantly it is to listen and have understanding of how people are feeling at the moment. It's so hard for some to come and ask and the majority are so grateful for the help. It may not even be money someone needs, it may be emotional. They just need someone to listen and show they care.*



## Director's Corner

Working alongside volunteers like Virginia is one of the intangible gifts I receive daily at the Needs Council. As you read her interview (above the fold) you will get a glimpse of the genuine care Virginia gives to everyone she meets. Such is the beauty of service – it brings out the best in all of us. Anyone who gives of themselves soon realizes the joy they find in volunteering far outweighs the sacrifice of time. One of my favorite role models, Mother Teresa taught that service is the essential component of love. Our staff and volunteers experience that love; sometimes in very subtle ways but often in bone crushing hugs from the clients they help!

The poverty of loneliness and feeling uncared for is only cured by caring people. New volunteers sometimes express feelings of inadequacy in the face of client's overwhelming hardships; to that I answer with Mother Teresa's words, "No act of kindness – no matter how small, is ever wasted".

If the opportunity arises, I invite you to listen a little more than usual – it will lift your spirits as well as those around you...and it just may give someone a reason to feel better about themselves!

*Cindy Heifner*  
 Executive Director

### What is your first memory of working with our clients?

*The story that has stayed in my mind and has kept me grounded is of helping a young man. He was a cook in a restaurant, married with two children. A family member died and he took off a couple of days for the funeral without pay, so he was short on rent. When I told him we could help him he started crying and hugged my neck saying, 'I don't know what I would've done if you hadn't helped me'. This young man and his story really left an impact on me. We never know how people are hurting right here in this community.*



### What might someone be surprised to know about you?

*That I'm over 80. I told everyone I was 60 until my daughter threw a surprise party for my 80th! Now the cat's out of the bag.*

### What do you do when you aren't volunteering with us?

*I love to play MahJongg and Bridge and have always enjoyed cooking. I also am involved with Stephen Ministry and P.E.O., a philanthropic education organization. I have three daughters, four grandchildren and six great grandchildren that I love to spend time with every chance I get.*

### What would you tell someone who is thinking of volunteering?

*The Needs Council is so very needed. When I moved here I thought I had moved into the perfect community but there are some stories I've heard that will just bring you to your knees. Give back all the wonderful things you have been given. If the community wasn't so generous, the Needs Council couldn't be of any service. If you have the time, you should give it.*

HILL COUNTRY COMMUNITY  
  
**Needs Council**  
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