



Second Helpings

A PUBLICATION OF SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK

Second Harvest Unveils New Addition

A significant 10,000 sq. ft. warehouse expansion has been completed to better serve the increasing food storage and distribution needs of the community.

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Construction Displayed

Join us at the Eastwood Mall for the 1st annual competition, where teams created amazing structures from canned goods to benefit Second Harvest!

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YSU Students Volunteer

The Penguin family gathered to support the Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley, showcasing their commitment to community service.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anthony Modarelli, President
Sparkle Markets

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Community Representative

OUR MISSION

Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley's mission is to solicit, store and distribute food to hunger-relief organizations feeding people in Columbiana, Mahoning and Trumbull counties; and to provide education and advocacy.

OUR VISION

Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley believes that no one should go hungry and is dedicated to building a community that makes food accessible to all people.

CHARITY RATING

The Food Bank holds a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest and most-utilized independent evaluator of charities. A 4-star rating is Charity Navigator's highest rating.



This edition covers the time period of July through August 2024.



Second Harvest Food Bank

of the Mahoning Valley



A NOTE OF THANKS

from Michael Iberis, Executive Director

Fall is just around the corner and soon we'll be planning for the holidays! As it is with many of our own schedules, this year continues to swiftly go by, and we can barely remember what it was like to just be a child enjoying the leaves changing color and starting another new school year. With all the expenses a family with school-aged children may have at the beginning of a school year, it's possible that their food budget will have to decrease to meet these extra costs. Our School Pantry Program saw a 30% increase in students visiting their pantries for food during last school year. Many of the students visiting these pantries are getting food to help their siblings as well as their families.

September is Hunger Action Month with one special day dedicated as Hunger Action Day on Tuesday, September 10th. We would love to see our local businesses, supporters and volunteers team up to "Paint the Valley Orange" by wearing orange, the symbolic color of hunger, to raise awareness about hunger in the Mahoning Valley. Please be sure to share your photos with us on our Facebook page. In this edition of our quarterly newsletter, you will see our new addition to the Food Bank that will not only help us have more storage capacity for food, but plays an important role as part of a disaster response team with Akron Children's Hospital and the Mahoning County Disaster Services. Please see that story on page 3. Our first-ever experience in Canstruction is showcased on page 4. We are working with our friends at the Cafaro Company and Eastwood Mall on plans for next year's Canstruction, so stay tuned for the dates in 2025. We utilized some extra help from our volunteer groups, you can see them on pages 6 and 7.

As always, we thank you for your generosity and kindness toward our friends and neighbors who are hungry. As the Food Bank's 160 partner agencies and programs fill more than 15,000 requests for emergency food assistance each week in the tri-county area, your support gives us the ability to be there when our neighbors need us the most.

With Gratitude,
Mike

WAYS TO DONATE

Make a safe, secure monetary donation to help feed hungry families in our community by visiting mahoningvalleysecondharvest.org or scanning the QR code at right with your smartphone camera.

Make a food donation. The food bank is always in need of peanut butter, cereal, tuna fish, canned fruit and vegetables, dry pasta and more.



It is the policy of Second Harvest Food Bank to maintain the highest level of confidentiality with respect to donor information. We will not share donor names, addresses or fund-related financial information with organizations outside of the Food Bank. From time to time, donor names may be listed in Food Bank publications, but only after written notification is provided. In all cases, donors are given the option of remaining anonymous.



Growing to Serve

NEW 10,000 SQ. FT. WAREHOUSE ADDITION AND DISASTER RESPONSE EFFORTS MEET RISING NEEDS

The Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley is excited to announce the opening of a new 10,000-square-foot addition to its warehouse. This expansion was driven by the increasing need for food storage and distribution space to support the 160 pantries and partner agencies across Mahoning, Columbiana, and Trumbull counties.

“We’re seeing hunger increase unfortunately,” said Mike Iberis, Executive Director of Second Harvest Food Bank. “So we knew we had to prepare for the future if by some reason that should continue to go up, and we hope it doesn’t. But unfortunately, we are seeing an increase.”

The addition was funded by the generous people of Mahoning Valley, who contributed over \$2 million. Fundraising began in early 2023, with construction starting in the summer of the same year.

The new space not only increases the food bank’s capacity to store and distribute food but also symbolizes the community’s commitment to fighting hunger. With the added capacity, Second Harvest is better equipped to meet the growing needs of the valley.

In addition to addressing food insecurity, Second Harvest Food Bank has played a crucial role in disaster relief, demonstrating its flexibility and readiness in times of crisis. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the food bank collaborated with the National Guard to stabilize food distribution, handling around 50% more food than usual to ensure the valley’s residents were fed.

The food bank also responded swiftly to the East Palestine disaster, becoming the central hub for disaster control in the area. “There were semis coming in from all over the country with water, first aid supplies, clothes, and other necessities for the people in East Palestine. Our vehicles were down there three to four times a week loaded with supplies,” Iberis recounted. This intensive effort lasted about a month before the situation stabilized.

Recognizing its vital role in disaster response, Second Harvest Food Bank has been invited to join disaster teams of prominent

organizations like Akron Children’s Hospital and the Mahoning County Emergency Management Agency. “In the event of any kind of disaster that would really impact our ability to feed our patients and our staff, we can call on Second Harvest and they’ll respond,” said Paul Olivier, Vice President for Akron Children’s Mahoning Valley Enterprises.

“The fact that they can offer storage and climate-controlled refrigeration,

those are big things and especially on the level they can do here,” noted Robin Lees, Deputy Director of the Mahoning County Emergency Management Agency.

As the needs in the Mahoning Valley continue to grow, especially among senior citizens facing inflation and fixed incomes, Second Harvest Food Bank remains a steadfast source of support. The new warehouse addition and its ongoing disaster relief efforts underscore the food bank’s mission to serve and uplift the community in times of need.

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UNVEILING OF THIS YEAR'S

Canstruction Designs

The Eastwood Mall is excited to host its first annual Canstruction design and build competition, benefiting the Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley. On Friday, August 2nd, seven local teams gathered in the Eastwood Mall Food Court Concourse to construct creative structures using canned goods. This year's theme is "Summer Bites: Building Joy One Can at a Time." The impressive structures will remain on display for a month, giving the public plenty of time to vote for the People's Choice award. The winners from the official judging on August 3rd are as follows:

Structural Ingenuity

Ear of Corn by Senior Care Insurance

Best Meal

Blast Away Hunger Rocket Ship by OH WOW!

Best Use of Labels

Apple Logo with Heart by Second Harvest Food Bank

Best Original Design

Ice Cream Cone by The Cafaro Company

Most Cans

Ice Cream Cone by The Cafaro Company

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Canstruction judges: Scrappy and his helper Lexie, Charles Connolly of Cumulus Media Youngstown, and Bruce Sekanick of Phillips Sekanick Architects. Your expertise and enthusiasm were vital to the success of this event.

A special thank you to our emcee, Jimmy Wendolek of 21 WFMJ, for keeping the energy high and the event running smoothly. Your contribution helped make this day truly memorable.

This event is proudly sponsored by the Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley, Eastwood Mall, Hot 101, CW WBCB, 21 WFMJ, and Boak & Sons. Participating teams include OH WOW!, Pizza Joe's, Cafaro, Senior Care Insurance, Second Harvest Food Bank, Dan Haggerty & Team, and Boak & Sons.

Canstruction will return to the Eastwood Mall in 2025, with more details to be announced as the dates are confirmed.



Boak & Sons



Boak & Sons



Daniel Haggerty



Cafaro Company



Cafaro Company



OH WOW!



Canned Goodness

THE ESSENTIAL ROLE OF CANNED FOODS IN FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Canned foods are vital in ensuring we can provide long-lasting, nutritious, and convenient meals to those in need. By donating canned foods to Second Harvest Food Bank, you can help us maintain a steady supply of these essential items. Your contributions make a significant impact on our community, providing sustenance to individuals and families during tough times. Canned foods are essential for several reasons:

Long Shelf Life – Canned foods can last for years, minimizing waste and ensuring a steady supply of food when needed.

Nutritional Value – Many canned foods are packed at their peak freshness, preserving essential nutrients.

Convenience – Canned foods are either ready to eat or require minimal preparation, making them crucial for individuals with limited kitchen access or those in emergency situations.

Strategically located throughout the tri-county area, these donation sites make it easy for individuals and businesses to contribute canned foods and other essential supplies. By dropping off donations at these locations, you directly support our efforts to fight hunger and make a tangible difference in the lives of our neighbors in need.

Second Harvest Food Bank – 2805 Salt Springs Rd. Youngstown, OH 44509
Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The donation drop-off box is located inside the main entrance. Our receptionist will assist with donation acceptance, and we can even help you unload. We accept donations of unopened, non-perishable food from individual donors.



THE FOOD BANK
DISTRIBUTES
\$10 WORTH
OF FOOD
FOR EVERY
\$1 DONATED.

\$1 = \$10
OR 5 MEALS



Sodexo Roth Employees



PinC Women's Ministries

Thank You

TO OUR HUNGER CHAMPIONS

FOOD & FUNDS DRIVES

With gratitude, we thank those who contribute to helping us feed hungry families in Columbiana, Mahoning and Trumbull counties.

Goodness Grows

220 pounds of produce

Haley Beachler of Burgan Real Estate

\$1,000 and 934 pounds of food at her 4th annual Fill the Truck fundraiser

Ohio Wine, Heidelberg Distributing

\$900 and 378 pounds of food

Sodexo Roth

95 pounds of food

GRANTS

Aldi via Feeding America

\$2,000 for Retail Product Sourcing

J. Ford Crandall Memorial Foundation

\$25,000 for Pallet Racking in New Warehouse Addition

Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation

\$5,000 for food

United Way of Trumbull County

\$6,000 for School Pantry in Warren City Schools

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you to the companies that contribute in-kind services. Your efforts are truly appreciated and are making a difference to those without enough food to eat.

VOLUNTEER GROUPS

We are grateful not only to our regular, weekly volunteers, but to our volunteer groups that came in to lend a hand.

Enterprise

415 bags of pears

PinC Women's Ministries

600 bags of apples

Sodexo Roth

800 bags of apples



Ohio Wine, Heidelberg Distributing



Sodexo Roth Employees



Enterprise



Goodness Grows



Haley Beachler



Sodexo Roth

YSU Penguins

VOLUNTEER IN SUPPORT OF SECOND HARVEST

On June 13th, the Penguin family, including students, faculty, and President Bill Johnson and First Lady Leeann Johnson from Youngstown State University, gathered to support the Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley. The event, organized by the Honors College under the leadership of Dr. Amy Cossentino, saw a large turnout of volunteers eager to give back to the community. "We're really excited to have so many people here today," said President Johnson. "Dr. Amy Cossentino and the Honors College have done a fantastic job rallying our students."

The volunteers spent the afternoon packing pears, with most of the produce destined for senior facilities in the region. The effort highlighted the critical role Second Harvest plays in addressing nutritional needs in the Mahoning Valley. "Our region has a lot of needs, and Second Harvest plays a vital role in meeting those nutrition needs," he added. "It's a great day for us. We're proud to bring the Penguin family together to participate in this."

When asked about the importance of community service, President Johnson emphasized the values that Youngstown State University upholds. "Penguins, both in nature and at Youngstown State, are family. They stand with each other, take turns weathering the cold, and protect the nest. This family-focused culture is what makes Youngstown State special." The event was a testament to the spirit of Youngstown State University and its commitment to supporting the local community. As the volunteers worked side by side, it was clear that being part of the Penguin family means more than just academic achievement—it's about making a difference together.





WHERE THE FOOD COMES FROM

- Growers
- Manufacturers
- Community Food Drives
- Distributors
- Retailers



SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK

Storehouse of food for our friends and neighbors facing hunger.



FOOD IS DISTRIBUTED

- Food Pantries
- Meal Sites
- Homeless Shelters
- Senior Programs
- Youth Programs
- Residential Programs



FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS FACING HUNGER

- Families with Low Incomes
- Elderly
- Homeless
- Victims of Domestic Violence
- Children
- People with Disabilities
- Veterans

Call the Food Bank at 330.792.5522, or visit our website at mahoningvalleysecondharvest.org for additional information.



Second Harvest Food Bank

of the Mahoning Valley PARTNER FOOD BANK OF FEEDING AMERICA

2805 Salt Springs Rd.
Youngstown, OH 44509

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 526
YOUNGSTOWN, OH

Consider Partnership

THROUGH OUR ENDOWMENT FUND

The Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley Endowment Fund was established to provide for the growth of principal and the generation of future income to benefit our mission at Second Harvest. We invite you to become an endowment donor. Charitable planned giving can provide many options with significant tax benefits to you, as the donor, while benefiting Second Harvest. Gifts to the endowment can be made by donations of cash, marketable securities, real estate, or life insurance. Donations can be structured in many ways:

Lifetime gifts of stock or cash - A current gift may be advantageous under the new income tax rules.

Bequests - Name Second Harvest Food Bank in your will or trust.

Income-Producing Plans - Set up a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust to receive income for your lifetime with the remainder to Second Harvest Food Bank.

Charitable Lead Trusts - Support the Food Bank now and still leave assets to your heirs.

Life Insurance - Second Harvest Food Bank can be named as beneficiary or owner of your life insurance policy to make a substantial gift.

Second Harvest can work with you to include the Food Bank in your estate plan. Please call Michael Iberis at 330.792.5522 ext. 106 for more information. All information is confidential.

