

St Charles Moose Family Center provides Turkeys and Pies to Lazarus House for Thanksgiving Dinner

Staples of the St. Charles community, the St. Charles Moose Family Center and Lazarus House, provided Thanksgiving Dinner for 200 to 300 people in need this holiday season. The kitchen at the St. Charles Moose Family Center has cooked many a meal, but today it baked 16 turkeys and 12 pies for a community Thanksgiving dinner.

In early November, Pete Baldino, administrator for the St. Charles Moose Family Center called Darlene Marcusson, Executive Director of Lazarus House, to ask how many turkeys they needed for Thanksgiving Dinner. The answer Baldino received was 16, but he was told they only had 1. Baldino then committed to Marcusson that the St. Charles Moose Family Center would provide the additional 15 turkeys.

Volunteers Dave Kuntsman, Paul Fortman, Dick Barr, Scott Gramme, Roy Brown and Baldino planned to get the birds ready at 6 a.m. They removed the racks from the pizza oven, cleaned the turkeys, put each turkey in its own cooking bag and aluminum tray, and slid them in the oven.

About four hours later, the turkeys become the main course for the Lazarus House Community Thanksgiving Feast. The members of the St. Charles Moose cooked 16 turkeys and 12 pies. "It's giving back to the community, that's what it is," Gramme said. "That's just what the St. Charles Moose is all about."

The more than 200 pounds of roast turkey fed 200 to 300 people at the 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. dinner today at The Salvation Army.



Pictured L to R: Paul Fortman, Duane Wogen, Frank Ritt, Dick Barr, Pete Baldino, Scott Gramme, Dave Kunstman, and Roy Brown



Room set up for Thanksgiving Dinner

Lazarus House, located in Geneva, offers three major programs to serve men, women and children connected in the school districts of St. Charles, Geneva, Batavia and western rural Kane County who are homeless or at risk with safe shelter, food and support services. Lazarus House is:

1. The only Emergency Shelter serving mid Kane County open 365 days a year.
2. The only transitional housing program (Center for Transitional Living) in the Tri-Cities and western rural Kane County area.
3. An outreach program, funded by grants, that provides rent and utility assistance to qualifying households.

For more information on the Lazarus House visit www.lazarushouseonline.com or call 630-587-2144.