This month Haven of Rest celebrates 74 years of service to our neighbors in need through Christ’s provision. As most of you know, Haven of Rest has relied 100% on voluntary contributions from friends of the ministry since our doors opened in 1943; the Mission has never accepted government funding. How great is our God, the Steadfast Provider!

Through the years, the needs of men, women and children coming to the Mission have grown. Things have changed so much that Haven of Rest has expanded from a small storefront Mission to a three-building campus, serving not only men who struggle with alcoholism but people of all ages who struggle to overcome drug addiction, physically and verbally abusive homes, unstable mental health, generational poverty, and much more.

In the Mission’s June 1972 edition of this newsletter, then called The Haven of Rest Bulletin, the Mission’s founder Rev. C. C. Thomas, Sr. wrote an article titled “The First Step in Every New Advance is Prayer.” Though this article mostly focused on the need for a new building to do Ministry, there is a line that applies as well today as it did 45 years ago: “Let us keep on praying – for prayer changes things. As each year brings new challenges and opportunities from all sides, please join us in continued prayer for God’s plans and love to abound at Haven of Rest. ✞

Haven of Rest is celebrating National Volunteer Month! Here is what some of our volunteers had to say about serving at the Mission:

Cindy, Development Office Volunteer, has been donating her time for about five years, helping in any way she can in the office. “When I was working I came and volunteered and was so impressed with all Haven of Rest does and just how nice and clean it was. Everything is so organized and done so well. Everybody is so appreciative and it’s really nice. I always wanted to work for a Christian company or somewhere where you are really appreciated and treated nicely and everyone here has always made me feel really good about what I do. It’s a good atmosphere.”

Howard, Men’s Day Room Volunteer, started volunteering in 2014. He helps out in the Day Room with storage totes, phone calls, and ministers to men in need. “A lot of people have a lot on their hearts and I like being a sounding board for them. Haven of Rest taught me to love people. People are going through tough times so I try to encourage them to stay in the Word. We are fishers of men and God’s ambassadors. It’s important that we help them know who Jesus is.

I just like being down here and having a chance to be with other Christians. It’s so great we get to pray together or share scripture with each other. A lot of people don’t have that. It’s really important.”

Jan, Women’s Auxiliary Volunteer, started serving in 2002 and has been volunteering for Women’s Auxiliary ever since! “When I was teaching, my kids did a mission project and brought pies for Thanksgiving for homeless people and that just stuck in my heart. My favorite part is the people. We have fun and we have one mission and it’s Jesus. Once you walk in the door you just feel different. You can really feel the presence of the Lord. I pray people will see Jesus in us. Not by what we say, but by what we do and how we treat them.”

Praise the Lord for the steadfast service of our volunteers all over the Mission! If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please call the Mission at 330-535-1563 and continue to pray for everyone doing God’s work at Haven of Rest each day! ✞
Dear Friends:

There is much to be thankful for as we prepare to celebrate our 74th Anniversary on April 28, 2017, at Haven of Rest Ministries.

One of the many areas that I am thankful for is our volunteers. During this past year, over 6,616 volunteers came to the Mission to offer their services, talents, and resources. Our volunteers have always played a vital role in our ministry even from the very beginning in 1943 when the Mission opened its doors at 41 North Howard Street. At that time, the volunteers helped clean and paint to make the Mission a welcoming environment for guests. Today is no different as families, individuals, churches, groups, and businesses come to the Mission to help in a variety of different ways. These include preparing food, making beds, sorting clothing, and cleaning throughout the buildings. There are many creative ways our volunteers have ministered alongside us to make our guests staying at the Mission feel welcomed and loved.

As we celebrate 74 years of God’s faithfulness this month, I invite you to join in this wonderful celebration as we come together and give thanks to the Lord. He has led Haven of Rest to where it is today. In 2 Chronicles 15:7 the Bible says, “By ye strong therefore; and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded.”

Thank you to the many who have stood side by side with us as together we are rebuilding lives through Christ.

Blessings In Christ,

Rev. Jeff Kaiser
Executive Director

Haven of Rest Nights at Canal Park

$3.00 of every ticket purchased will be donated to Haven of Rest

rubberducks vs. erie seawolves* fri., 9/1/17 $8
rubberducks vs. richmond flying squirrels** sun., 7/23/17 $6
rubberducks vs. harrisburg senators thur., 6/15/17 $6
rubberducks vs. bowie baysox sat., 5/27/17  $6

rubberducks vs. richmond flying squirrels** sun., 6/18/17  2:05 PM $6
rubberducks vs. highpoint rockie rebels povac* sun., 7/2/17  1:05 PM $6
rubberducks vs. erie seaotters fri., 6/9/17  7:05 PM $6

* fireworks games included • all fireworks games cost $3
** may have одного or two extra games based on the number of fans at each game.

To order tickets, and for Haven of Rest, Akron, Ohio, 44309 or to fax to (330) 535-8917.

Katrina Henry, phone (330) 535-1563 email, khenry@havenofrest.org

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