

# Goodwill News

April 2008

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Issue I



Delegate Assembly



## Goodwill's Shining Stars



LaWanda Clark, winner of the GII Edgar J. Helms Graduate Staff Award.

LaWanda has won the GII Edgar J. Helms Graduate Staff award. She will be honored at the Delegate Assembly's Recognition Banquet in June in Washington, DC. LaWanda has been with Goodwill for 22 years and has risen through the ranks, overcoming many barriers. She now practically runs the whole agency as the Administrative Assistant. Her work ethic is phenomenal, which is something that all employees should strive for. Congratulations to LaWanda!



Denice Cooper, winner of the GII Volunteer of the Year Award.

Denice has won the GII Volunteer of the Year award. She will be honored at the Delegate Assembly's Recognition Banquet in June in Washington, DC. Denice is a survivor of Hurricane Katrina and found herself in East Texas at Goodwill where she dedicated herself to service through Goodwill's Summer VISTA program and our TMC MentorCorps AmeriCorps program. She has volunteered over 1,200 hours mentoring youth and adults in our area. Congratulations to Denice!



Nikki Roberts, AmeriCorps Program Manager, will serve on the GII Volunteer Services Advisory Council in Washington, DC.

Nikki Roberts has been chosen as a GII Volunteer Services Advisory Council member. She will also attend the Delegate Assembly in June to meet with other Volunteer Services Advisory members to help develop volunteerism in mission services within the Goodwill movement. Nikki served at Goodwill within our VISTA program contributing over 4,000 hours of volunteer service. She has received the Presidents Lifetime of Service Award for her volunteer service. Nikki now works in our agency as a staff member. Congratulations to Nikki!



# 200 + Families Helped



The VITA Site (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Site) offering free income tax preparation is being sponsored by Goodwill Industries with the help of the Internal Revenue Services. The program has helped over 200 families in the first year that this new service has been offered locally. Taxes are prepared in the LaWanda Clark Center at Goodwill Industries.

Michelle Nash, IT Director for Goodwill Industries and Donna Brammer an AmeriCorps member, have filed income tax for clients from age sixteen to ninety five. The average amount that the clients are receiving on their return is \$600, plus the stimulus package offered by the government that will go out in May.

The program has helped a number of people who would not be able to file because of the cost. Michelle said, "Another benefit of the VITA Site being here is that our Family Strengthening team members have been able to reach more people they might not have reached before, and we want to thank all of the volunteers who have helped with the Tax Preparation Program. They have really worked hard and are really appreciated."



## Nacogdoches Store Renovation

Nacogdoches store is getting a major renovation. The store is getting fresh paint on the interior and the exterior. The new awning on the front is a fresh welcome sight to the customer and the new back awning is an added attraction to the store. New doors to the production area will make the area more accessible to the workers. Employees and customers will have a new more convenient access to the restroom area. The warehouse has a new roof. Two donation houses will be placed outside the gate which will make the donation drop off more convenient. The store is close to completion and store manager Kim Karnes said, "We are so thankful to have the opportunity to have a fresh, clean store and want to invite everyone to come see all of the improvements."

## TEAM WORK

Oliver, Kim and Lynn and their leader Annette will represent Goodwill at the 2008 Women's Lifestyle Expo on Tuesday, April 29 from 12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. The special event will be held at the Pitser Garrison Civic Center. Approximately 30 merchants are participating in the event. Goodwill's team has put together a very nice booth with an antique theme. Stop by and see how well we are represented by our Goodwill team.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAYs! (April)

April Houston, April 14  
AmeriCorps

Chelsea Lorenz, April 21  
Nacogdoches Store

**Store Managers Meeting**  
April 16, 2008

## Lufkin Store Makes February Goal



**Congratulations!**

**Oliver Duirden  
and Crew**

## "Name the Newsletter Contest"

The winner of the name the newsletter contest will be announced in the next issue.

Three judges, one from Janitorial, one from Retail and one from the Administrative

Department will decide on the winners. They will have a hard time picking from all of the great entries. Thanks for your participation!