

# Places to Donate Items

Summer 2008

These agencies should be able to provide you with documentation for the IRS if you are making a donation. (Please help these agencies out by not donating things that should be thrown out!)

If you find an agency that is no longer accepting donations, please call Lyn Bond or Nancy Pennington at Lapham Center at 594-3620 so we can make that correction. Or, if you know of other agencies, please let us know.

## **Anything in good condition and usable**

**St Mark's May Fair** – call the church at 966-4515 to arrange pickup of books, dishes, lamps and other small household items.

**Church of St. Cecilia, Stamford** Call the rectory 322-1562 to arrange pick-up of furniture and all usable household items. They collect at your convenience and deliver all items to needy families in Appalachia.

**The Freecycle Network** connects you to locals who are looking for the very items you're getting rid of. Simply arrange a pick-up time. ([www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org))

## **Appliances, Furniture, and Household Items**

**Boy Scouts** – Troop 70, New Canaan – annual Tag Sale held in April – watch *New Canaan Advertiser* for information beginning in February. Will pick up.

**St Mark's May Fair** – call the church at 966-4515 to arrange pickup of books, dishes, lamps and other small household items.

**Person-to-Person** collects non-perishable food, clothing, linens and furniture at their site at St. Luke's Parish, 1864 Post Road in Darien. 655-0048

The **Salvation Army** may pick up furniture, clothing and household items. Call 1-800-95-TRUCK to schedule a pickup. They do not accept desks, exercise equipment, lawn furniture, grills, plumbing fixtures, platform or waterbeds. You can also take items to Salvation Army, 896 Washington Blvd., in Stamford, 203-975-7630.

You can donate clothing, household items, appliances and furniture to **Goodwill** on the second Saturday of every month at the **First Presbyterian Church** in New Canaan. Be sure to call the Church first at 966-0002 to confirm a pick up date. Or you can take your donation to Goodwill at 13 Cross Street in Norwalk, 840-0361.

**Family Centers** in Stamford will pick up appliances, 324-3167.

**Covenant to Care for Children** has an unending need for quality used beds and cribs. Call their Stratford office at 203-377-4037.

## **Books**

**New Canaan Library** – will accept books, tapes, records, etc. during open hours. 594-5000

**Smith College Book Sale** - Annual Book Sale in April at Waveny House; books accepted January – March only; bring books, records, videos, etc. to Waveny House (stairs near kitchen)

**Town Transfer Station** – Bin on site for Gotbooks.com (this is a for profit company). Books, Videos, CDs, DVDs & Audio Books

## **Building Materials and Supplies**

The **Materials Exchange**, which works with AmeriCares in Bridgeport, will pick up building supplies; call 335-3452.

## **Cars, Boats, RV's, etc.**

**Boy Scouts** – Troop 70, New Canaan – annual Tag Sale held in April – watch *New Canaan Advertiser* for information beginning in February of each year.

**Mothers Against Drunk Driving** has a tow program to remove unwanted vehicles. Call your closest MADD Chapter - Eastern Connecticut - 860-464-7010, Fairfield County - 203-386-0049 or toll free - 866, 233-6233

The **Arthritis Foundation**, [www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org) will remove your old car, boat or RV and you'll receive a tax deduction for its value. Trucks, vans, fleet vehicles, trailers, RV's and watercraft are also included in this donation program.

## **CDs, DVDs, movies and current software**

**Eco Encore**, a Seattle-based non-profit will sell your old media on the Internet for environmental causes. Items that remain unbought are delivered to literacy organizations or appropriately recycled. Get details at <http://www.ecoencore.org/>

## **Cell Phones**

Pet Animal Welfare Society (**PAWS**) at 504 Main Avenue in Norwalk, collects old cell phones, working or not, in conjunction with Donate A Phone. The Donate a Phone program recycles used wireless phones to help the environment and raise funds for a variety of charities. You can drop your old cell phone off at PAWS at 504 Main Avenue in Norwalk, Drop-off hours are on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 1-7 p.m. and on

Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m. Individual phones should be bundled with accessories. They cannot accept car phones, cordless phones or pagers.

## **Clothing and Shoes**

The **Thrift Shop of New Canaan** at 2 Locust Street accepts donations of new and used clothing, household items, toys, books and small appliances Monday through Saturday, 9-noon. Please do not leave items on the porch when the shop is closed. 966-2361

**United Methodist Church's Midnight Run** involves the gathering and delivering of men's winter clothing, toiletries and blankets for New York City homeless, six times a year. (The first Tuesday in January, March, May, July, September and November). Items can be put in the Methodist Church hallway any day between 7:30-10. 966-2666

**Person-to-Person** collects non-perishable food, clothing, linens and furniture at their site at St. Luke's Parish, 1864 Post Road in Darien. 655-0048

You can donate clothing, household items, appliances and furniture to **Goodwill** on the second Saturday of every month at the **First Presbyterian Church** in New Canaan. Or you can take your donation to Goodwill at 13 Cross Street in Norwalk, 840-0361.

**Dress For Success: Mid-Fairfield County**, 431 Post Road East Suite #25R ,(Compo Shopping Center) ,Westport, Connecticut 06880, [midfairfieldco@dressforsuccess.org](mailto:midfairfieldco@dressforsuccess.org) 'helps low-income women make tailored transitions into the workforce' by providing them with an outfit for job interviews. Donations of clean business suits (either skirt or pant suits), blouses, unopened hosiery, shoes (gently worn), scarves, handbags, jewelry and other accessories are accepted by appointment only at 203-222-7620 X 10. There are also alternate drop-off places in Darien and Westport.

The free clothing room at the **Norwalk Emergency Shelter** (203-866-1057) also takes donations. Drop items off at 4 Merritt Street in South Norwalk.

The **Salvation Army** may pick up furniture, clothing and household items. Call 1-800-95-TRUCK to schedule a pickup. They do not accept desks, exercise equipment, lawn furniture, grills, plumbing fixtures, platform or waterbeds. You can also take items to Salvation Army, 896 Washington Blvd., in Stamford, 203-975-7630. There is a bin on site at the Town Transfer Station.

**Malta House**, 6 Prewitt Street, Norwalk, CT 06855, 203-857-0088, needs new or gently used baby clothes and supplies.

**Norwalk Hospital's** Woman's Board operates the **Treasure House**, a thrift shop, at 5 Isaac Street in Norwalk for the benefit of the hospital. The Treasure House, 866-7104, welcomes gifts of resalable merchandise and clothing in good condition.

**Soles4Souls** needs the 'gently worn' shoes taking up space in your closet. Round up shoes from your closets, bind each pair together with rubber bands and send them to:

Soles4Souls, Inc., 315 Airport Road, Roanoke, AL 36274. Shoes will be sent to needy people in poor countries or those who have lost homes due to hurricanes and other natural disasters.

## **Computers**

If you've upgraded your computer and have no use for your old one, consider donating it to one of the following organizations (please note that most have minimum requirements for donated computers so please check their website or call before donating).

The **National Christina Foundation**, located in Greenwich, provides computer technology and solutions to give people with disabilities, students at risk and economically disadvantaged persons the opportunity, through training, to lead more independent and productive lives. National Christina Foundation, 500 West Putnam Ave., Greenwich, CT 06830. 203-863-9100 <http://www.cristina.org/> e-mail: [ncf@christina.org](mailto:ncf@christina.org)

**Greenwich Academy** accepts donations of computer equipment for our various school technology programs. Contact: Joe Knowlton, Director of Academic Technology at 203.625.8917 or e-mail: [joe\\_knowlton@greenwichacademy.org](mailto:joe_knowlton@greenwichacademy.org)

The **Volunteer Center in Stamford** accepts equipment for its Item Donation Program. For more information, contact Kathy Fawcett at the Volunteer Center at 203.348.7714

**Computers 4 Kids Inc.**, located in Waterbury, CT, is a nonprofit community technology center whose "programs work to distribute affordable Internet-capable computers to families, schools, and organizations and to cost-effectively utilize technology, donated and new, to help achieve educational, economic and social gains for learners". Computers 4 Kids, 150 East Aurora Street, Waterbury, CT 06708; <http://www.c4k.org> Phone: 203.591.1714 Fax: 203.591.1730

**Connecticut Tourette Syndrome Association** welcomes donations of working computers running even the slowest Pentium processor. They will refurbish the computers and then distribute them, asking the new owner to send payment in the form of a donation to CT TSA. Laptops are always needed but they should have a CD-ROM drive. Contact Lynn Siegel at [lynnann.siegel@cox.net](mailto:lynnann.siegel@cox.net) who will arrange to have your donation dropped off at the home of a board member.

## **Eyeglasses**

Old glasses can be dropped off at **Spectacles**, 127 Main Street, 966-0336, or **New Canaan Eye Associates**, 22 East Avenue, 966-9480

## **Food**

**Person-to-Person** collects non-perishable food, clothing, linens and furniture at their site at St. Luke's Parish, 1864 Post Road in Darien. 655-0048

**New Canaan Food Bank** donations can be dropped off at the St Mark's Church office. Watch *The Advertiser* for lists of needed food.

**Interfaith Housing Association** 45 Jesup Road Westport, CT 06880, 203-226-1661,  
**Golf Equipment**

The **Metropolitan Golf Association**, a non-profit organization, collects golf clubs which are donated to inner city kids who want to play golf. Call Lou Cutolo at 914-347-4653 to find out which local clubs are accepting equipment donations.

### **Greeting Cards**

New and used greeting cards are used by children at St. Jude's Ranch, a ranch/residential facility for homeless, abused, abandoned and troubled children and teens from across the U.S. The children recycle greeting cards into new cards which enables them to earn money and learn the value of work while providing income for the Ranch. Send cards (fronts only, please) to St. Jude's Ranch for Children, P.O. Box 60100, 100 St. Jude's Street, Boulder City, NV 89006-0100

### **Guns**

**Hansen & Hansen** at 244 Old Post Road in Southport (1-800-571-7337) will consign guns, swords, knives, war souvenirs, decoys, old ammo, etc.

### **Medical Supplies/Equipment**

**Mercy Home Care**, 28 Knight St., Norwalk, 852-0773, currently handles the loan closet (walkers, canes, wheelchairs, shower chairs, etc.) for Nursing & Home Care. Call first to make sure they have a need for your item.

### **Miscellaneous**

**Department of Human Services**, 594-3076; **United Way of New Canaan**, 966-4447

### **Musical Instruments**

Call the music department in your local school to see if they can use your instrument. NCHS - 594-4600, Saxe - 594-4500, East - 594-4200, South - 594-4300, West - 594-4400

### **Pets**

To help pet owners prepare for the unexpected, the Humane Society has a comprehensive kit, "Providing for Your Pet's Future Without You." The kit includes forms and sample language to help design a will and other estate plans to provide financially for your pet, as well as outlining possibilities for future care. Whatever decisions you make, be sure to

review them periodically and make necessary changes. Over time, people's circumstances can change and businesses can close. Remember that in the confusion that accompanies a person's unexpected illness, accident, or death, pets may be overlooked. In some cases, pets are discovered in the person's home days after the tragedy. To prevent this from happening, the Human Society offers the following suggestions:

Find at least two responsible friends or relatives who agree to serve as temporary emergency caregivers in the event that something unexpected happens to you. Provide them with keys to your home; feeding and care instructions; the name of your veterinarian; and information about the provisions you have made for your pet. Make sure your neighbors, friends, and relatives know how many pets you have and the names and numbers of those who have agreed to serve as emergency caregivers. Carry a wallet "alert card" that lists the names and phone numbers of your emergency pet caregivers and post signs inside your front and back doors with the same information.

To receive the free kit: "Planning For Your Pet's Future Without You," call (202) 452-1100 or write The HSUS, Major & Planned Gifts, 2100 L St. NE, Washington, DC 20037. Include your name, address and publication title. You can also read it on-line at <http://www.hsus.org/ace/11834>

## **Pet Supplies**

**Strays and Others**, P.O. 473, New Canaan, CT 06840; call Sherry Brown, 966-6556; to see what they need, [www.petfinder.com/shelters/straysandothers.html](http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/straysandothers.html)

**Wildlife Orphanage**, P.O. Box 4706, Stamford, CT 06907, 888-727-ORPHAN, needs used or new pet containers, tanks, cages, crates, pens, bowls, toys, cage accessories, outdoor dog kennels and outdoor rabbit hutches

**PAWS**, 504 Main Ave., Norwalk, CT 06851, (203) 750-9572, [paws@pawsct.org](mailto:paws@pawsct.org), needs various pet supplies including canned or dry food, collars, cat litter, treats, toys and also cleaning supplies like large trash bags, paper towels, laundry detergent and bleach.

## **Sports Equipment**

**I Love Schools** allows you to search a nationwide database of teachers and coaches who've requested specific gear, such as basketballs or rock-climbing equipment. ([www.iloveschools.com](http://www.iloveschools.com))

**Nike's GO! Campaign** turns any brand of old sneakers into ground-up rubber destined for building playgrounds and athletic fields; visit [www.nikego.com](http://www.nikego.com) for drop-off locations.

**Sports Gift, Inc.** provides athletic supplies and training to underprivileged children all over the world. ([www.sportsgift.org](http://www.sportsgift.org))

## **Stamps**

Members of the **Stamp Club at Lapham Center** have put together “Notes for Non-Collectors Trying to Sell Stamp Collections”. Call 594-3620 to request a copy.

Stamps for the Wounded (part of the Lions International Stamp Club) will take donated stamp collections at P. O. Box 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041-1125.

**Toiletries** (unopened travel or regular sizes)

Can be dropped off at the **Norwalk Domestic Violence Crisis Center** - 5 Eversley Avenue, Suite 203 Norwalk, CT 06851 - (203) 852-1980 - hotline (203) 853-0418 or **Stamford Domestic Violence Crisis Center** - 141 Franklin Street Stamford, CT 06901 - (203) 357-8162 - hotline (203) 965-0049

**Toys**

VNA Thrift shop, 2 Locust Avenue, New Canaan – 966-2361. New and used accepted.

**Yarn**

Amounts of at least one skein can be given to **Lapham Community Center**, 594-3620, where volunteers will turn it into hats, baby blankets and more.