

The Ourplace



Volunteer

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Bruce E. More - Editor

Our Place Society

919 Pandora Ave, Victoria, BC V8V 3P4



Bob Dylan

Singer Bob Dylan reminisces about Christmas past, turkey dinners and his favourite holiday songs in a rare interview in a magazine for homeless people.

The 68-year-old singer has baffled fans and critics with his new album "Christmas in the Heart" -- a collection of carols and traditional yuletide songs delivered in his croaking voice. All proceeds will go to charities for the homeless and hungry in the United States, Britain and 80 poor countries.

Asked why he picked those organizations, Dylan told the interviewer: "They get food straight to the people. No military organization, no bureaucracy, no governments to deal with."

Donations

In this season, we especially need rain gear, coats, jackets and other warm clothing now that we are into winter.

We are always in need of new or lightly used basic adult clothing. SOCKS, underwear, more socks, fleece or heavyweight tops and jeans, socks again, seasonal jackets. Musical instruments and **art supplies**, boardgames, alarm clocks, toiletries, sleeping bags, blankets and coffee mugs. Our library is in need of good **paperback fiction**. Please contact reception by phone at (250) 388-7112, extension 221 or by e-mail at admin@ourplacesociety.com for any questions regarding donations.

A Homeless Christmas

Larry R. Linville

Where do you hang your stocking in your little cardboard home which you have insulated with some discarded foam?

Even if you had a chance and it was given you for free where underneath your bridge would you put your Christmas tree?

How does it feel to hold your "will work for food" sign as most people drive by to go home where they dine?

Do you wonder at the people and think it is so odd they ignore your desperation while arguing about God?

Do you know you're like Jesus and he was just like you? There is no room in the inn so he was homeless too.

How to reach your Volunteer Coordinator

antoinette@ourplacesociety.com
or 250-388-7112 Ext. 243

Volunteer Absences

If you know that you are going to be away in advance (for example, for a vacation), please contact Antoinette directly. If you are providing 24 hours' notice, please contact reception at (250) 388-7112 and ask them to let Antoinette and the manager in your program area know of your absence.

"Cold and flu season is upon us. So we would respectfully request that volunteers not take heroic measures to come in to volunteer if they are not feeling well. Thank you for your support.

Holiday Events

Angel Gifts

Dec. 16, 17 & 18. Our Place Chapel.

Holiday Feast

December 31. Our Place Dining Room.

CBC Dickens Reading

Wednesday, December 16 at 7 p.m. at the Victoria Conservatory of Music.

Volunteer Search

In addition to our ongoing efforts to recruit volunteers for the dining room and the nutrition bar in the drop-in centre, we are also currently looking for volunteers in the following areas: Hygiene Area; Clothing Room. If any of these current opportunities is of interest to you, please contact 388-7112, extension 243 or volunteer@ourplacesociety.com.

Personal Belongings

Volunteers are reminded (and strongly encouraged) not to bring personal belongings and valuables with them when they come in for their volunteer shifts. Unfortunately, thefts do occur every now and then, and we are unable to guarantee that your personal items and valuables will be safe here. If you do need to safely secure any belongings, please visit the clothing room, where lockers are provided to volunteers.

Ask Vickie

What kind of training opportunities are open to Our Place volunteers?



As part of our core value of having committed staff and volunteers, Our Place is committed to providing training opportunities to volunteers, including orientation sessions, food safe training and an invitation to attend the annual all-staff training days in May. Antoinette is also hopeful that volunteers will be offered an opportunity to attend a workshop in non-violent crisis intervention next spring. Please stay tuned for more information in the days ahead.

Next month's question: When will the next orientation sessions be held?

Ourplace: Hope And Belonging