

Goodwill employee grateful for community

On April 10, The Post-Crescent's Goodwill's Sack It Campaign began, in which folks of the Fox Cities are asked to donate items to Goodwill for curbside pickup on Saturday. I just wanted to let folks know just how much good your items do for North Central Wisconsin.

I was in prison for 6 ½ years for drunken driving. Upon my release, I was told about Goodwill's Community Circles of Support Program, in which people who are just coming out of prison can talk with others who have gotten out and a group of wonderful volunteers to help people transition back in to the community. Part of this includes an eight-week program working at one of Goodwill's many stores and training centers.

During my eight weeks at the Darboy store, I got experience in real-world work and some money. After my eight weeks ended, I was asked to stay on as a seasonal employee. After the seasonal ended, I was asked to stay on as a permanent Goodwill employee.

Instead of being a burden on society, I now pay taxes, shop and am a productive member of the community. There is also no finer place to work than Goodwill. I am now able to help people just as I was, and I probably will never leave Goodwill.

Goodwill does many things for the people of North Central Wisconsin; the money from the sale of items stays right here, helping your friends and neighbors.

I'm extremely grateful to the donors and the shoppers for making such a difference in my life. I cannot thank you enough. Rest assured that each item that you donate will help many people you may never meet, but we are all very grateful.

**John B Schaus
Appleton**