



LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS
“Our Lady of Knock”
Division #87 – Organized February 4, 1992

November 2025 Newsletter

Hello Sisters,

Do you realize we are heading toward the holiday season? Just wait cause the frost on the pumpkin is coming.

November is packed with special days of celebration. We start off with All Saints Day and All Souls Day. There is Election Day, Veteran Day, Thanksgiving, and the start of Advent.

We have events coming up this month that I hope you can come and participate. Our annual AOH LAOH 2025 Division 87 Ball will take place Saturday November 15th 2025 starting with Mass at 6:00 pm at the Casbah Caterers to honor our Woman Hibernian of the Year, Angie Hines; Granuaile award winner DiAne McCausland & The Bill Whitman Award Megan Glanz, as well AOH Man of the Year Tim Burke, PUTSO winners Roger Mertz Jr & Billy Todd & with the winner of the Golden Shamrock Award Joe Lamb (Lamb General Contractor). So, as you can see, we have a lot to celebrate.

On the next day, Sunday November 16th, 2025 at the Irish Center, the Hall of Fame Dinner will take place and this year our LAOH PA State President, Carolyn Killion is being honored.

Please join us on Friday, November 21st, 2025, starting at 6PM for a special evening honoring our very own Sister Lisa Breslin SSJ who will be presented with the Anna Malia Ruddy Award given out bi-annually at the PA State Convention by LAOH State Board. Sister Lisa was unable to attend the convention so the presentation will take place that night. At Sister's request, we are having a bucket drop to raise funds for LAOH Division 87 charities of which we have many. There will be various folks from Sister's family serving up cocktails behind the bar and we may even get Sr to help out. All tips go right in the bucket. There will be fabulous baskets, food, music and lots of Hibernian comradery. Hope to see you there!!!

As we have done in previous years, we will be collecting non-perishable food for Thanksgiving Dinner for Providence House Shelter for families of domestic abuse. This will allow those in the shelter and outreach program to enjoy all the fixings for a meal that day. Canned goods such as cranberry or apple sauce, corn, green beans, mashed potatoes, stuffing and even ingredients for dessert are welcome. Your generosity over the years has been amazing.

Don't forget BINGO every Thursday at the AOH Clubhouse at 7:00 pm and our zoom book club is getting ready to start on a new and interesting book next month.

Prayers are needed for the families of our AOH LAOH members. Also, prayers for peace in Ireland and all over the world.

I hope to see you at the next Division meeting on Tuesday, November 4th, 2025 at 7:00 pm. Be sure to get out and vote first!!!

In Our Motto,

Maria Gallagher

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*Patricia Kozlowski
Judy McDevitt
Lynne Salayda
Marlene Sortino*

Prayer Requests



Gracious and Merciful Father,

As we gather before Your presence, we bring before You our joys and concerns, knowing that You care for every detail of our lives. We thank You for the moments of joy that have filled our hearts—a new life welcomed into this world, a restored relationship, answered prayers, and the simple pleasures that remind us of Your goodness. Our hearts overflow with gratitude for these blessings.

Yet, Lord, we also lift up our concerns and burdens before You. We think of those who are facing health challenges, financial difficulties, and emotional struggles. We ask for Your healing touch, provision, and comfort to be upon them. We remember those who are grieving the loss of loved ones, and we pray for Your peace that surpasses understanding to envelop their hearts.

In this sacred time, we lay our joys and concerns at Your feet, trusting in Your unfailing love and wisdom. May Your grace sustain us, Your peace guard our hearts, and Your presence guide us through every joy and every trial.

We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus, our Savior, and Redeemer. Amen.

- *Please offer up prayers for our sister, Terry Banford; she is having hip surgery November 7th, 2025*
- *Prayers for Jocelyn Lindsey, the sister-in-law of Terry Welsh. Jocelyn's cancer has returned with aggression.*

- Congratulations to Pat Pulaski-DeNight on becoming a first-time grandmom. Her son and daughter in law are proud parents to Anderson Nicholas DeNight Jr.
- Congratulations Shannon, granddaughter of Bernadette Coyne, who made her Confirmation on October 23 at St. Alfonsus' Church. Archbishop Perez confirmed the candidates.
- Congratulations to Shannon's 7th grade girls volleyball team at Sandy Run Middle School for winning the championship!



MISSIONS & CHARITIES COIN DROP!

There's no better time to clean out that purse, empty those pockets and lift those couch cushions!! Gather up all that spare change that is weighing you down and bring it to the meeting and drop off to Kris Bucko. Kris will accept the folding stuff too!

All proceeds benefit Columban Missions.

The LAOH has maintained a strong relationship with the Columban Fathers and Columban Sisters. The Columban Fathers have been the primary charity of the LAOH since 1935, and the LAOH added the Columban Sisters in 2006. The donations collected help those that answered the call to mission and help facilitate their work across the world.



GENERAL MEETING:

Tuesday, November 4th, 2025

7:00 PM

3524 E. Thompson Street, Philadelphia, PA.

Parking at Thompson and Tioga Streets.

Please do not park in numbered spaces

Zoom link will be sent out prior to the meeting!!

LAOH 87 BOOK CLUB



Our Book club is finishing up *A Good Man Is Hard To Find & Other Stories* by Flannery O'Connor

Please watch your email for the next book selection and meeting date. We would love for you to join us!!!

Interested in joining or have any questions please contact:
Terry Welsh (215) 280-5992 or via email at
TerryLAOH87@gmail.com

Hibernian Hunger Project Philly Lottery tickets are now on sale!!!

Help raise funds for the HHP to help feed our neighbors in need this Christmas Season!!!

4 CHANCES TO WIN!!

Based on PA Daily Number (PM)

Christmas Eve (12/24) - \$500

New Year's Eve (12/31) - \$500

Donation: \$10.00

Chances are available at the General Meeting





CHECK OUT OUR NEWLY REDESIGNED WEBSITE: WWW.LAOH87.COM

You will find links to valuable information including the current issue of the newsletter, links to State and National websites, and a link to the "Saint of the Day." Check back often for more information!!

ARE YOU RECEIVING OUR DIVISION EMAILS??

This is our primary way of communicating with you between meetings!!

If you aren't receiving emails, please send your email address to TerryLAOH87@gmail.com in order to be added.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO OUR SISTERS!



Patricia Fagan	1
Donna Foley	4
Joanne Walker	8
Bunny Clark.....	12
JoAnne McStravick.....	17
Donna Donnelly-Kearney	21
Lisa Mazzarelli.....	24
Susan Powell-Smith	24
Marie Griffitt.....	26
Joanne James	27

As you celebrate another year of life, may God's love and favor be upon you.
May His joy be your strength and peace be your constant companion.
Happy Birthday!

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Port Richmond
AOH LAOH Division 87
127th Anniversary Hibernian Ball
Saturday November 15 2025
Casbah Caterers 3461 Thompson Street
Eucharistic Celebration at 6:00 PM.
Then cocktails, dinner, awards, dancing.

HELP US CONGRATULATE AND CELEBRATE

AOH MAN OF THE YEAR
TIM BURKE

LAOH WOMEN OF THE YEAR
ANGIE HINES

PUSO AWARD (AOH 87 MVP)
MR. ROGER MERTZ JR.

MR. WILLIAM TODD

GRANVILLE AWARD (LAOH 87 MVP)
DIANE MCCASLAND

GOLDEN SHAMROCK AWARD
(WE HONOR A BUSINESS LEADER
FOR DOING GOOD WORK IN THE COMMUNITY)
JOE LAMB

LAMB GENERAL CONTRACTOR
THE BILL WHITMAN AWARD
(ENTERTAINMENT THAT VOLUNTEER FOR OUR FUNDRAISING EFFORTS)
MEGAN GLANZ

AWARD FOR EXTRAORDINARY FRIEND OF AOH DIVISION 87
ALWAYS HELPING OUR CHARITY EFFORTS.
PATRICK AND PATRICIA KINNEY.

TICKETS ARE \$70 PER PERSON
INFO CALL THE CLUB (215) 639-6733 OR JIM CARR (215) 620-6547

Please join us in celebrating the

Delaware Valley
Irish Hall of Fame

24th Annual Dinner & Awards Ceremony


To benefit the
Commodore John Barry Arts & Cultural Center (Irish Center)

Sunday, the 16th of November 2025
Doors open at 4:00 p.m.; Dinner at 5:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$65.00 per person

Tickets available online at theirishcenter.org
Questions? Contact
Tommy Higgins thiggins@kw.com 215.275.0591
Lor Murphy llmurphy@a@gmail.com 215-260-9599

The Commodore John Barry Arts & Cultural Center
6815 Emlen Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119



LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS, INC.
NATIONAL FUNDRAISING RAFFLE 2025-2026

30 CHANCES TO WIN!
If you win, your ticket goes back in the bin!
6 months of winners

Drawings

- **Early Bird Drawings**
 - o \$100.00 - Thanksgiving 2025
 - o \$100.00 - Christmas 2025
- \$100.00 - St. Patrick's Day, March 17th 2026
- 26 weekly drawings \$25 each
 - o Mondays starting on January 5, 2026
- Grand Prize drawing \$1000
 - o To be drawn at the National Convention in 2026

Tickets are \$20.00 each
Make checks payable to LAOH, Inc.
Mail to: Ellen McCrane, LAOH National Fundraiser
21 Titus Court, Richboro, PA 18954
If you need additional tickets, please email Ellen at nationalaohrafflechair@gmail.com
Get your entries in early to be eligible for the 2025 Early Bird drawings on Thanksgiving and Christmas
Winners are posted weekly on our website: www.ladiesaoh.com/NationalOfficers/2024-2026/Fundraiser



LAOH Division 87
WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO JOIN US
FOR A SPECIAL EVENING AS WE HONOR
Sister Lisa Breslin SSJ
WITH THE ANNA MALIA RUDDY AWARD
FROM THE PA STATE LAOH

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21 6 PM - 9 PM
3524 E THOMPSON STREET,
BETWEEN TIOGA AND VENANGO

CASH BAR. YOUR FIRST DRINK
IS ON DIVISION 87

BUCKET DROP FUNDRAISER:
PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE LAOH CHARITY FUND.
ALL BARTENDER TIPS WILL GO TO FUNDRAISER.
WE MAY BE ABLE TO TALK SR. LISA
INTO GETTING BEHIND THE BAR.
COME CELEBRATE WITH US! ENJOY GOOD FOOD, GOOD MUSIC
GREAT COMPANY
AS WE SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE!

*EXCITING AUCTION BASKETS UP FOR GRABS.

PARKING AVAILABLE IN THE CASBAH CATERING LOT ON TIOGA.
(DO NOT PARK IN NUMBERED SPACES)
CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Sr. Lisa Breslin, SSJ

There is great irony in our country's November celebrations. In our Church, we remember our deceased brothers and sisters on All Souls Day. Before Vatican II, vestments for the masses were black. Today the emphasis is on that great gift of Resurrection. I had a dream recently that deepened this truth in me and in my life. As many of you know, I lost my sister, Maureen, suddenly, about 5 years ago. Her memory, her presence and her felt absence are with me on a daily basis, especially when I am with my LAOH family. In the dream, Maureen was young, beautiful, whole and healthy. I hugged her and said, "I missed you so much when you were dead." Read that again..." WHEN you were dead." In other words, she is no longer dead but risen. I still miss her, but my faith consoles me. She is, as the Irish say, "in a better place and wouldn't trade places with me." That grace of consolation which came in my dream leads me to the next November celebration: Thanksgiving! It is a national holiday, but it is also a time to remember the source of all we have.

So let us pay particular attention to God's many blessings upon us, especially those we so easily take for granted during our busy lives. The rapid, hectic pace of our lives, the multitude of activities we are engaged in, the frenetic movement from one thing to the next, the preoccupations of the moment and our planning for the future, the demands placed upon us and the demands we place on ourselves: all this blurs our vision of what surrounds us and exists within us. Pause in silence from all your distractions to be mindful of the abundant blessings that envelope us.

As Joyce Rupp wrote: "It is amazing isn't it, how we can miss so much of life? The key to gratitude is surprise. When we lose our sensitivity to wonder and awe, when we simply trudge or zoom through the days, we can so easily miss the daily gifts of life. When we stop and awaken to what is within us and around us, when we savor, relish, and taste life fresh each day, our heart holds much more gratitude for our blessings. (Joyce Rupp, The Cup of Our Life: A Guide for Spiritual Growth)

Pray with me ...Gracious God, for your bountiful gifts to us, we are most grateful but also, unfortunately, often forgetful. Lead us to be ever attentive to and appreciative of the blessings of each day to the sights, the sounds, the smells, in those dear to us and the people we meet, to the experiences of each moment, and to the blessing of life itself. Let us not squander your gifts but see and live each day anew with grateful hearts. Amen.

In our motto with deep thanks for YOU,
Sister Lisa

STATE OF THE HEART



The next State of the Heart will be held on November 17th, 2025 at 7:00 PM. It will be held at AOH 87 Hall (2nd floor).

State of the Heart is a meeting facilitated by Sister Lisa Breslin. This is a space for meditation, prayer and sharing where you are at the present moment.

In Case You Missed October's Irish History Report:

Biddy Early – The Magical Lady of Clare

Born in 1798 in Faha, Kilanena, Bridget Ellen “Biddy” Connors was the daughter of a poor farming family. Biddy was baptized Bridget Ellen Connors, but later adopted the “Early” name which was her mother’s maiden name. At 16, her mother died leaving Biddy in charge of the household. Just six months later, her father died. Biddy was sent to work as a servant girl and later to Kilbarron to work for a doctor. It was necessary for Biddy to go into service at such a young age to help her family survive in such hard times.

It was in Kilbarron that she met and married Pat O’Malley, and the couple had one child, a daughter. Pat died, however, after a few short years of marriage and Biddy was a widow at age 25. She later married her stepson John and he passed away leaving Biddy a widow once again at age 42. Her third husband was Tom Flannery from Carrowroe, who was much younger than she was and who sadly died when their only child Tom was only 8 years old.

It was about the time of this husband’s death that the first story of Biddy’s magical powers occurs. Biddy, being unable to pay the rent to the local landlord because of her husband’s death and the expense of rearing her young son, was served with an eviction notice. The night before the eviction was to take place, her dead husband Tom visited her and told her that when the police arrived the following day to tell them to “stay where you are”, and they would leave and return no more. Thus, the following day when they arrived, Biddy said the words her husband had told her to say and the five policemen and sheriff were stuck to the roadside for two hours being unable to move. After two hours, Biddy told them to go away and never return, and the lock which Biddy had put on them was broken and they ran off with their tails between their legs never to bother this lady and her magical powers ever again.

Of all the tales of Biddy’s magical powers, none were as fascinating as her “Blue Bottle” with which it was said she could see the future. Her son Tom died as a young man, but being worried about how his poor widowed mother would survive now that he was dead, Tom returned from the dead, to give her this magical “Blue Bottle”. He told her “take this mother and it will make a living for you”, and this bottle did indeed make her a living. People from all over the country were to seek Biddy’s predictions for the future which were said to be amazingly accurate down to the last detail. It was also said that if a weary traveler was coming many miles to meet Biddy, she would see him coming in the bottle and meet him half way.

Biddy was visited also, for her great healing potions which it was said healed most ailments. Biddy had a well at the side of her house, the water from which possessed the most magical powers, and if given with her consent, could cure a person of any affliction. Animals were of enormous importance, the death of a cow or pig could mean failure to pay rent and the death of a working horse could mean destitution. In this time of no veterinarians, Biddy was relied upon to cure the most serious of animal ailments of which it was said she could cure very effectively with a drop of water from her well, or one of her potions. Biddy, not being a selfish woman, did not make a great fortune from her powers, she only accepted a jug of poteen or whiskey, or perhaps some food for her services but never money. It was said that never was a tired traveler turned from her door and many a passer-by was given a jug and a seat in front of her warm fire.

Another great power which Biddy is accredited was her ability to talk to and cure the wrath of the fairies. People used to come to her who had been bewitched by the “little people”. One man had his entire herd of cattle cursed by the fairies and they all became violently ill. On the advice of one of his friends, he went to see Biddy. After looking into her bottle, she saw the problem. He had planted a whitethorn bush along a fairy path

in his field. She instructed him to go home and remove the bush. As soon as he had done this, his entire herd immediately returned to full health.

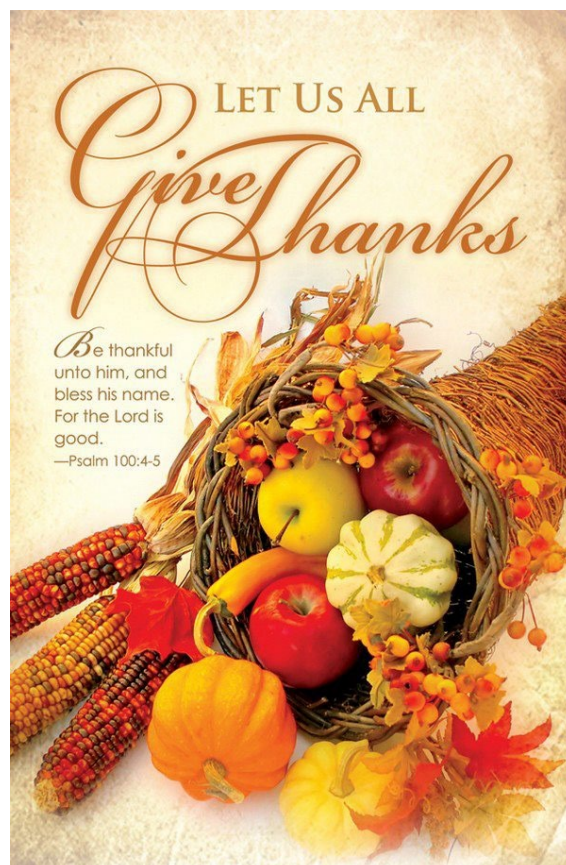
It is said by some that Biddy had six husbands, of this they cannot be sure, but know that she had at least four, the last being a man less than half her age. A man called O'Brien from Limerick visited her who was close to death and asked her to cure him. She said she would only cure him if he married her to which he agreed, and after he recovered, the couple were married.

In 1865, Biddy was accused of witchcraft under the Witchcraft Act of 1586 and was brought before a court in Ennis. This would have been unusual in the 1860's. The few who agreed to testify against her later backed out. She was released for lack of evidence. Many of the local people supported her.

Although Biddy possessed such great powers, she was unable to prevent her own death. She died in poverty in April of 1874. Her magical bottle was never seen after her death and it has been said that she only had a loan of the bottle from the fairies who took it back upon her death.

Submitted by: Anne Foody, Irish Historian, Division #87
October 7, 2025

See: <https://www.clarelibrary.ie/eolas/coclare/people/biddy.htm>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biddy_Early





We are so very fortunate to have so much good stuff to share – we can't stuff it into one envelope!!!!

The following two exciting articles are shown in their entirety in the newsletter published on www.laoh87.com!!!

If you have any trouble accessing the website; contact Terry Welsh (215) 280-5992.



Those annoying spam texts and robocalls (anyone else receiving the “Medicare open enrollment” calls?)

Submitted by DiAne McCausland

These unwanted calls and texts can waste time, cause frustration, and sometimes expose individuals to scams. Americans receive tens of millions of unsolicited automated calls and texts daily, with millions of robocalls reported each month. This is an issue at the top of consumer complaints, and there are various strategies to combat them, such as using spam-blocking apps and registering on the National Do Not Call Registry.

Spam-blocking apps

These services use databases to identify and block unwanted calls and messages. Free versions are available, but premium features like more advanced call identification and blocking often require a paid subscription.

Apps can sometimes produce "false positives," blocking legitimate calls, so users should monitor their blocked call logs.

Major mobile carriers also offer their own call-filtering services.

Continue reading on www.laoh87.com!!!



What You Find Behind That Door.....Feeding the Riverwards, One Knock at a Time

The "Food Is Love" initiative was started by Patty-Pat Kozlowski to deliver food to vulnerable seniors and veterans in Philadelphia's Riverwards during the COVID-19 pandemic. The project began with free farmers' markets for residents afraid to shop and evolved into a home delivery service, highlighting the isolation of many elderly and disabled individuals and emphasizing community connections beyond just providing food.

Continue reading on www.laoh87.com!!! A great read and a wonderful example of “Ordinary people doing extraordinary things”!



Those annoying spam texts and robocalls (anyone else receiving the “Medicare open enrollment” calls?)

Submitted by DiAne McCausland

These unwanted calls and texts can waste time, cause frustration, and sometimes expose individuals to scams. Americans receive tens of millions of unsolicited automated calls and texts daily, with millions of robocalls reported each month. This is an issue at the top of consumer complaints, and there are various strategies to combat them, such as using spam-blocking apps and registering on the National Do Not Call Registry.

Spam Blockers & Caller IDs: Most blocking services use a database to identify and block spam, scam, and robocalls. While some are available as a free app for iPhones and Android phones, most have optional premium features that can identify incoming calls so you know if an unfamiliar number is safe, can automatically block calls based on known spammers, as well as numbers you manually add.

With most of the free versions, the key and most effective features are not available. (Most apps and phone carriers have transferred these features to the paid subscriptions.)

*****False positives:** While these apps provide a great tool to combat these unwanted call/texts, they may also sometimes block legitimate calls, so it's good to check the app's settings or monitor its behavior (blocked call logs), especially for essential contacts like the doctors! Call blocker apps for iPhone/Android

Hiya: Spam Blocker & Caller ID **It is pre-installed on some Samsung devices as a built-in feature called Samsung Smart Call.

Common Subscription cost- \$9.99/month

Truecaller: (iOS, Android)

\$9.99 per month or \$74.99 per year. Family and Gold plans up the cost and include more features.

Nomorobo - Robocall Blocker

Basic: \$1.99 per month or \$19.99 per year.

Max: \$4.17 per month or \$49.99 per year.

Landline is Free: The service is free for landline use.

Friends & Family Plan: Covers up to four devices for \$79.99 per year.

Robokiller * Spam Call Blocker 4+ Stop 99% of Robocalls & Texts

RoboKiller Lite is \$3.99 per month or \$29.99 per year

Standard is \$4.99 per month or \$39.99 per year

Premium is \$5.99 per month or \$49.99 per year.

Call Control. Subscribe for:

\$9.99 per quarter or 29.99 per year.

Mr. Number: (Spam call blocker) There are also in-app purchases, but a subscription is now required for all users.

3.99 per month or \$24.99 per year.

Service Carriers:

AT&T ActiveArmor® is a free app (iOS, Android) that filters out potential fraud and spam calls, labels telemarketers as "nuisance calls," and sends unknown callers to voicemail. The app also checks your passcodes and provides data breach alerts.

ActiveArmor Advanced Mobile Security: \$3.99 monthly

T-Mobile Scam Shield: T-Mobile has Scam Shield for postpaid T-Mobile and Metro customers.

Scam Shield Premium: adds voicemail-to-text, block lists, and an option to send certain calls to voicemail. \$4 monthly

Verizon Call Filter: \$3.99 a monthly per line, the paid version of Call Filter adds Caller ID, a personal spam list, and other features.

Federal Communication Commission: Consumer Guide

https://www.fcc.gov/sites/default/files/stop_unwanted_robocalls_and_texts.pdf

**** Disclaimer: This information is educational only; it is not intended to be advice. The prices listed are effective as of the date of this article ****



What You Find Behind That Door.....Feeding the Riverwards, One Knock at a Time

~ Submitted by Patty-Pat Kozlowski

An 83-year-old retired Catholic school-teacher, wrapped in a shower curtain to keep warm.

Two spinster sisters, seamstresses by trade living on Aramingo Avenue, sharing a tea bag and eating birdseed on a cracker with peanut butter.

A Vietnam Veteran in Bridesburg, laying on his kitchen floor after tripping and waiting for someone to find him.

Those are just some of the hungry senior citizens and veterans that LAOH 87 member, Patty-Pat Kozlowski and her volunteers find when they knock on the doors and deliver food baskets and prepared meals with their Food Is Love organization.

Kozlowski started Food Is Love after seeing the need to provide grocery staples to seniors and needy families during the Coronavirus shutdown. As a founding member of Port Richmond On Patrol & Civic (PROPAC), their board members and volunteers began having weekly free farmers' markets in the community during the Covid-19 restrictions.



"Our seniors were afraid to grocer shop with the virus, the crowds and fights and even if they did make it to Shop Rite, they couldn't get food, it was sold out or too expensive," she said.

Anne and Ken Paul of PROPAC had a great relationship with Caring For Friends, a huge food bank in Northeast Philadelphia and every week they would rent a U-Haul truck and go pick up as much food as they could-fresh produce, bread, dairy and meats.

Kozlowski was managing partner of a food truck business and had a full inventory, canceled events and an empty commissary still having to pay rent so it was the perfect storm to simply give all the food away to those who needed it.

Bridesburg Rec Center, Samuels Playground, St. George schoolyard and the Grace Church Incarnate became the place to go when PROPAC sent out Facebook posts letting people know food was

ready to be distributed. The first day about two dozen people showed up, the next week about 50 and soon, hundreds and hundreds of people were lined up down the block.

If there were any leftovers, Kozlowski would bag it up and simply leave it on senior's front porchsteps or in their alleyways. Once, she delivered gallons of whole milk to an entire block in Bridesburg- "I was like the old-fashioned milk man, I didn't have a horse and carriage, just a Jeep and a tubby dog named Gary riding shotgun!"



"We held those food markets for almost two years and it was a life saver for some people," Kozlowski said. "Not only did our hungry families need the food, but they need to see and hear people after being locked down during the worldwide virus. "A ten-minute wait in line and then a simple conversation through facemasks-the simple human

interaction made a world of good."

On weekends, PROPAC and Food Is Love volunteers would make hundreds of sandwiches and salads and drop off food to police, fire and hospitals to feed the staff who were on the front lines. When Philadelphia was hit with riots and looting in 2020 and 2021 due to civic unrest, their volunteers fed the National Guardsmen that were stationed on Aramingo Avenue along the commercial strip. Local businesses like Kitty's Luncheonette, Donna's Bar, Czerw's Polish Provisions, Pat's Auto Tags and Marie's Beauty Shop helped feed over 1500 law enforcement officers over a long weekend.



Long after Covid, the need to feed seniors, veterans and families in need continues. As the 2025 holidays approach, Food Is Love has fed over 25,000 people in the Philadelphia riverwards.

"Our seniors and veterans need grocery staples, we try to give them fresh lunchmeats, Tastykakes, coffee, butter and they always want ginger-ale! If they have a dog or cat, we give them pet food too because these seniors will give their dog a piece of ham before they themselves eat."

The LAOH87 has always been a supportive partner every season and donated funds to feed seniors and Vets in Fishtown, Port Richmond, Bridesburg and Kensington. LAOH87 members like Anne Marie Kuvik, Joann Walls and President Maria Gallagher have packed baskets during Thanksgiving and Easter Week at St. George Hall as well.

Food Is Love 2025 already has a list over 300 residents asking for Thanksgiving meals and baskets. Kozlowski plans fundraisers and relies on local businesses and residents for donations to feed the community. The people of the riverwards always take care of their own.

To donate to Food Is Love 2025 for this upcoming holiday season, you can VENMO @yopattypat or volunteer Thanksgiving Week to pack up baskets and platters.

“You never know what’s behind that door you knock on, it’s heartbreaking to see our greatest generation in poverty and having to stretch their food,” said Kozlowski. “If we run out of money or supplies, I order them a cheesesteak or ask my mom to make to-go platters from whatever she made for dinner the night before because nobody goes hungry in the Philadelphia Riverwards.”

