

# KENOSHA NEWS

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## Volunteers use time, skills to help community

### Local residents mark National Day of Service

BY BILL GUIDA  
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Greg Kruchkow and two of his employees, Dave Owens and Chris Johnson, were on hand Friday to help with some of the floor and ceiling work, carpentry repairs and other jobs to get the new Shalom Center food pantry, 8043 Sheridan Road, ready for occupancy and operation.

Kruchkow, owner of the local Mr. Handyman franchise, said he and his workers wanted to do their part to answer President Obama's call for citizens to participate in National Service Day.

Kruchkow saw it as an opportunity to honor those who've died serving the country or their communities, as well as a way to commemorate the lives of those killed Sept. 11, 2001, in the terrorist attacks on New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania.

"This is our second year doing it. The president said to pick a charity, and this year we picked the Shalom



KENOSHA NEWS PHOTOS BY BILL SIEL  
**Mr. Handyman owner Greg Kruchkow, right, discusses work at the new Shalom Center pantry Friday, where he and employees Chris Johnson, left and Dave Owens pitched in to help complete remodeling projects.**

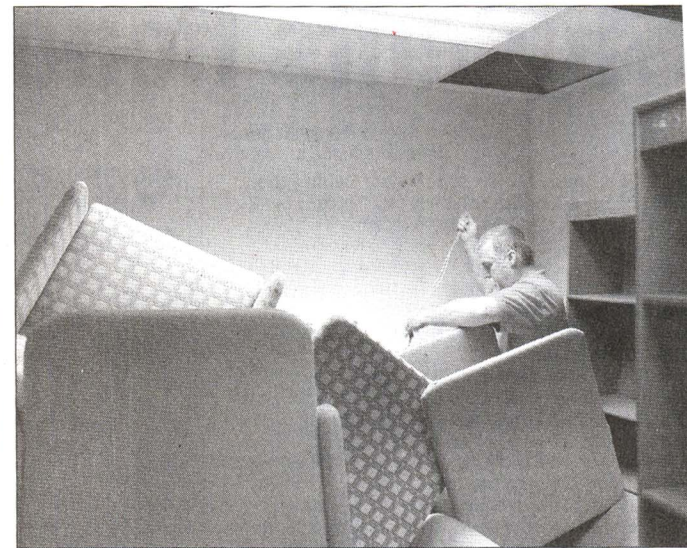
Center," Kruchkow said.

Mr. Handyman removed and replaced ceramic tile in the entryway, fixed a rear fence gate, installed a drop ceiling in the bathrooms and shades in the front reception area, repaired a sticking door and took care of other odds and ends.

Dan Melyon, Shalom Center executive director, appreciated their donated time and labor, just as he has been grateful for labor, time and materials donated by electricians, plumbers, masons and other members of local construction trade unions.

Melyon said without such donations from them, Riley Construction, which acted as volunteer general contractor on the job, Lee Plumbing and George Uttech Heating and Cooling, the non-profit center — which provides shelter and other services to the needy and whose pantry feeds the homeless and other less fortunate residents in the commu-

nity — couldn't fulfill its daunting mission. "We paid for some of it, but they donated a lot of time and material," Melyon said. He expects the new pantry to open later this month. The converted commercial building has 5,000 square feet of distribution space and a 6,000-square-foot storage warehouse, allowing the center space for frozen foods, lunch meats and other items not possible to store in the current Shalom Center location.



**Mr. Handyman employee Dave Owens works on new wiring Friday at the new Shalom Center pantry, where remodeling continues ahead of the expected opening later this month. Mr. Handyman employees donated their time and labor in recognition of President Obama's National Day of Service.**

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