

Community gives Union Mission a helping hand

Will Futrell/Herald Staff Writer

ROANOKE RAPIDS - There is food back on the shelves of the Union Mission but it will soon be heading to the pantries and tables of needy Valley families.

Demand for help continues to climb as the Mission struggles to help ensure no one goes hungry. Thursday, the results of the generosity of many Valley residents was reflected with the arrival of nearly 4,000 pounds of food from the Food Bank in Raleigh.

Linda Weeks supervised the unloading of the food saying it was all made possible by “the people of Halifax County's donation.”

The food purchased from Raleigh should help the Mission meet the local needs for the next several weeks.

The food from Raleigh is not the Union Mission pantry's main source of food. “We depend on the people in the area,” Weeks said. “We could not operate without them.”

Weeks is very grateful for such a participating community. The Mission receives donations of staple goods from individuals and churches. Food Lion stores send the pantry meats and other produce six days a week.

Volunteers help bring it all together. There are some 60 people who normally help the Mission in one way or another. The Mission still needs assistance and Weeks expressed her gratitude for the help the people have already provided. “We have never made a plea to the community that they haven't fulfilled,” she said.