

# Hills-based WLLZ aids the hungry

Eleven stores and Farmington Hills-based WLLZ 98.7 joined in the fourth annual Wheels for Meals campaign to feed Detroit's hungry.

Bob Bauer, afternoon air personality of WLLZ-Farmington Hills, spent three straight weeks in a parking lot at the Northwood Shopping Center, 13 Mile and Woodward, Royal Oak.

"I will not leave until this 48-foot semitruck is completely filled with non-perishable food items," he said. "I believe that those that have should help those who have not. We can feed the hungry of Detroit. It can be done. One can at a time."

The public can help feed Detroit's hungry by dropping canned food and other non-perishables at 100 7-Eleven

store locations in the tri-county area. At the Northwood Shopping Center Wheels for Meals site, Bauer collected more than 60 tons of food, topping last year's total by 18 tons.

Bauer has been a part of the WLLZ food drive from the start. It began four years ago when Mike Isabella, programming director at WLLZ, read about a disc jockey sitting on a street corner for a day to collect food for the hungry, Bauer said.

"Mike approached me with this crazy idea to fill a small delivery truck with food, in December, I told him he was nuts. It's cold in December," Bauer said.

"THIS IS not the first time I have been involved in something wild," he added. "I wrestled a bear for Vietnam vets a couple of years ago."

"This food drive," he said, "has become my yearly reality check. It keeps my feet firmly planted on the ground. My problems never seem as big as I might think after this effort."

Bauer said he receives some interesting food items. "One year, a lady came by at 2 a.m. with a bottle of expensive champagne and a jar of caviar," he said. "Most of our food donations are of the normal sort."

Bauer broadcasts out of a "rock box," a remote broadcast unit daily 2-6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 3-7 p.m. Saturday. He lives in a mobile home heated with LP gas. "I get a strong northwest wind through the trailer. It's a battle with Mother Nature. I sleep with my clothes on and take a shower in a stall the size of a breadbox," he said.

"7-Eleven stores are happy to be involved in the spirit of the holiday season through WLLZ's Wheels for Meals campaign. It is our hope that with continued public awareness no one will have to go hungry over the holidays or any day," said Jeff Schenck, 7-Eleven division manager. All food donations will be equally divided between the Food Bank of Oakland County and The Gleaners Community Bank, Detroit.



Disc jockey Bob Bauer of WLLZ in Farmington Hills is broadcasting from a Royal Oak parking lot until he collects enough non-perishable food items, on behalf of the needy, to fill a semi truck.

## TV reporter to help aid stricken Armenian area

By Sandra Armbruster  
editor

WJBK Channel 2 reporter Bill Gallagher was among a group of 15 people who Friday were awaiting take off of a military transport aircraft bound for quake-stricken Armenia.

He will wear several hats in his work for the Southfield television station.

Besides reporting, he will try to contact an Armenian prelate "to relate the feelings of the community" for the Rev. Faren Avedikian of St. John Armenian Church in Southfield. Gallagher also will join the others in construction of tents to house those left homeless in the aftermath of the earthquake.

"I'm going to help, but I'll have my journalist hat on at the same time," he said. "This is one time when a reporter has to participate."

CARRIED OVER on the flight, along with the people from all over the country, will be 20 tons of Union Carbide plastics and tubing to build tents.

The material usually is used to cover boats in the winter. Union Carbide is donating the material and financing much of the trip, Gallagher said. Protect A Boat came up with the idea to make shelters with it.

Dealers are Red Dickerstaff from Gibraltar and Mike Stenberg from Traverse City.

Gallagher was notified Wednesday that the Soviet Embassy had cleared the group to travel to Armenia. Gallagher arrived in Springfield, Pa., outside of Philadelphia on Thursday for the trip. During a Friday afternoon phone interview, Gallagher said he learned that a blizzard in Armenia had delayed the trip, possibly until Sunday.

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