

December 2011

PRESS RELEASE

Local Bank Celebrates The Refuge Network Holiday Giving Tree

Each Christmas for over the past 20 years, Landmark Community Bank's customers and employees generously provide holiday cheer for the children of The Refuge Network.

A Giving Tree is set up in the bank's lobby and decorated with ornaments containing information about each child. This year over 50 children received the blessing of caring from our community through Landmark's Giving Tree project.

But those who shop for a child always receive the biggest blessing. Some parents chose ornaments of children the same age as their own children and share the joy of shopping as a family. Two sisters have participated with the Giving Tree for the past fifteen years, beginning with donating their allowances and now they each choose a child as soon as the tree is set up, saying: "This is the highlight of our Christmas." Along with shopping for several children this year, Adèvia Spa & Salon in Cambridge also organized a winter coat drive, giving the gift of comfort to many other children.



Landmark Employees helping gather all of The Refuge Giving Tree gifts

Most of those who give go above and beyond with special touches—packing gifts into a fun backpack, adding a handwritten message of love or tucking a handmade wallet containing a gift card into a pair of jeans. Many of Landmark's employees take several ornaments every year, seizing the opportunity, along with others in our community, to give the gift of hope by showing a child that someone cares.

Since 1986, The Refuge Network's mission has been to bring an end to domestic violence by providing supportive, non-judgmental services, because "no one deserves to be abused." In the past 21 years, The Refuge Network has helped 18,473 victims of domestic violence with 55,450 follow-up contacts. Visit The Refuge Network website at therefugenetwork.org for information on their vital work in our community.

Landmark's President, Kevin Johnson noted, "Our customers and employees are blessed by this unique opportunity to support The Refuge Network. Watching our community work together on such a deserving project is an inspiration to everyone."

Landmark Community Bank wants to again acknowledge and extend appreciation to everyone for their ongoing, generous support in purchasing gifts for the children of The Refuge Network. A special thank you to Barbara Ness and Brianna Satterlee for their time and effort on this project. To everyone who supports the Giving Tree, thanks for caring—it makes a huge difference to these children. As Mother Teresa said, "We cannot do great things on this earth, only small things with great love."