

### CELEBRATING A COMMUNITY HERO

Debbie Bass's 90th Birthday and Her Lasting Legacy

The community is coming together to honor Debbie Bass, a trailblazer whose dedication has profoundly shaped local efforts to combat food insecurity. In celebration of her 90th birthday, a special food drive called the **Founders Food Drive** sponsored by Park Printing Solutions, will be launched on July 28th, to pay tribute to her lifelong commitment.

# PRINTING POLUTIONS **NEWSLETTER**

#### **SAW THE NEED**

Debbie Bass's journey as one of the founders of the Verona Food Pantry began with a humble church closet at Salem United Church of Christ in Verona. Recognizing a need in her community, she laid the groundwork for what would become a vital resource for countless families



#### THEY PLANTED THE SEED

In 1986, the Verona Food Pantry evolved significantly under Debbie's guidance. Originally, the pantry offered government cheese and bread to households in need. As demand increased, the pantry relocated to a loading dock at Park Printing Solutions, expanding its offerings and introducing pre-packed grocery bags to better serve the community. By 1993, the pantry found a new home in the basement of the Verona Public Library, providing clients with a more dignified grocery store-like experience.

#### THE SEED GROWS

In 2002, community leaders from local faith organizations collaborated to establish a shared support network. This effort led to the formal incorporation of the organization as Verona Area Needs Network (VANN), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. The Verona City Council passed a resolution ensuring the pantry's future, providing free space in perpetuity. The organization continued to grow, relocating in 2011 to a larger facility at 1200 Verona Avenue, featuring an expanded pantry, commercial kitchen, and support offices.

By 2015, VANN rebranded as Badger Prairie Needs Network to serve households beyond Verona, Dane County. Today, it boasts of over 250 volunteers and provides food assistance to 87,000 individuals.

#### LET'S CELEBRATE DEBBIE BASS

We are proud of Debbie, whose parents founded Park Printing Solutions in 1952. Debbie joined the company twenty years later, working in administration until her retirement in 1998.

The Founders Food Drive honors Debbie's 90th birthday and recognizes her pioneering spirit, dedication and compassion.



## HONORING A VERONA LEGACY!



Park Printing Solutions is sponsoring a food drive to celebrate Debbie Bass's 90th Birthday!







JULY 28 - AUGUST 6

No one should go hungry -YOU CAN HELP!

parkprinting.com





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