

That's How It's "Dun" – Andi Sharp Recognized for Her Service to Dunlap

Andi (Thomsen) Sharp is this quarter's recipient of DCDC's "That's How It's Dun" Award. This award is part of a community service recognition program created to honor those who go above and beyond in their volunteer service contributions to the Dunlap community.

Andi grew up on a farm north of Dow City. She and her husband, Tyler Sharp who is the Boyer Valley Elementary P.E. teacher currently live in Dow City with their two sons, Daxton, 8 and Bennett 6. Andi is the Senior Branch Office Administrator at Edward Jones in Dunlap.

Andi served on the Dunlap Community Food Pantry Board for over 10 years. This summer, as part of the Edward Jones "Day of Caring" Program, with help from Tami Reetz, Andi scraped and repainted a storage shed at the Dunlap Food Pantry .

Andi serves on the Dow City-Arion Alumni Association Committee and recently shared her expertise with the Boyer Valley Alumni Association to help them make improvements to the Boyer Valley Alumni Banquet. She also helped Boyer Valley Schools recently by sitting on the community representatives committee during the BV Superintendent and Elementary Principal hiring process.

Andi is very active in her church, St. Patrick Catholic Church of Dunlap. She currently serves as the Regent for the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Monica #300. She teaches third grade religious education, serves as a lector and eucharistic minister at masses and helps schedule volunteers for masses.

In July, Andi can often be found assisting with Dunlap's community vacation bible school program and volunteering her time at both the Dunlap 4th of July celebration and Art at the Park.

Andi is a regular blood donor. Through the years, she has donated over 35 units, which equates to about 4 gallons of donated blood.

Andi has found ways to balance volunteer roles in both the Dunlap and Dow City communities.

"Dunlap is as much my home as Dow City," she explained. "I lived here for a few years when I first moved back to the area. I went to high school here, work here, and so much more. The energy Dunlap has to thrive and not just survive has become so apparent the past few years and I'm excited to see what this community will be in the coming years."

“Andi moved back to the area many years ago and jumped in headfirst to be a strong representative of her community,” shared nominator Nicki (Tremel) Junarek. “She knew the value of returning to her hometown and the commitment it takes from community members to step up and lead. This means volunteering for many things that will improve the community for oneself and generations to come.”

“I have 2 boys that I would love to spend time with and enjoy community events,” said Andi, “but if there aren’t people to step up and plan and volunteer there won’t be an event. I hope that volunteerism is something they learn from me. Whenever my mom was asked to help, she couldn’t say ‘no.’ If I got that from her, I’d like to think I could pass that spirit onto my kids.”

“People always tell me ‘I could never read at church’ or ‘I can’t write something for the paper.’ Those are the talents that God gave me. Lord knows he didn’t give me a singing voice,” Andi joked. “We don’t always need the leaders or the board members. We need the people to help stuff envelopes, to stay and clean up after a meal or fundraiser, or to cover a shift at the food pantry, or donate blood. If you’re looking to give of your time, start by asking what you can do. Start with two hours a month.”



Know someone who deserves recognition for their service to Dunlap? Visit dunlapia.com and click the Resources tab to access the "That's How It's Dun" nomination form. Four Dunlap area residents will be recognized annually. Contact Jill Schaben with questions at dunlapcdc@gmail.com