



Salvation Army Capt. Tom McDowell stands with a portion of the 19 truckloads of canned goods, clothing and household items brought to Council Bluffs from Omaha a week after the tornado. Mountains of clothing peaked at 7 feet. — Photo by Winnie Wilmarth.

C.B.ers found neighbors plentiful

By Winnie Wilmarth
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The people of Council Bluffs cared. Neighbors helped neighbors. Businesses made many donations. Crews left their families in Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. Some baked; some sawed; some strung new electrical cable; some manned canteen trucks; others looked out for elderly neighbors.

Neighbors from Nebraska and Red Oak came to lend a hand. The Minden Meat Market was a neighbor donating both ice and meat.

Twenty Red Cross staff members and volunteers listed on a national roster came to Council Bluffs from New Orleans, Yukon, Okla., Milwaukee and St. Louis helped give the mighty effort form with their expertise and organization.

They supervised the efforts of many local volunteers at the

Masonic Temple and Red Cross team trained workers at the service center where 187 families received emergency assistance.

The service center itself was a donation. Full Gospel Assembly loaded the Red Cross its youth center for as long as it was needed.

Although recovery for many families and businesses may take many months and care for damaged trees and public property may take as long as a year, cleanup efforts went more smoothly and faster than most people expected.

The success would not have happened had it not been for the generosity of many businesses and unselfish dedication of many individuals.

Blue Star Foods Inc. donated \$20,000 worth of canned food to the Salvation Army for distribution to tornado victims. Werner Enterprises in Omaha volunteered a truck to transport

the food which was stored in a donated semi-trailer at the Salvation Army's service center at 28 N. Seventh St.

Catherine Underwood, owner of Catherine's Catering, donated and delivered many meals to families without power and disaster crews. When the emergency was over, she threw a big appreciation dinner for 300 Red Cross volunteers.

Employees of Domino's Pizza made 20 pizzas, baked them in Omaha, brought them back and delivered them to disaster teams.

The Frito Lay Inc. which also sustained serious damage during the tornadoes, donated 100 cases of corn chips.

Residents of Omaha responded enthusiastically to Mayor Walt Callager's call for canned food, clothing, furniture and small appliances. The Salvation Army accepted the items at an unrented store (also a donation for

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