

Letter from Mr. Shelfer, President & CEO, Goodwill Industries - Big Bend

We've wrapped up 2025 with strong income and service numbers. One of our standout achievements is the number of individuals we've helped—15,300 people this year—which places our Goodwill organization among the top 20 in the nation.

Heading into the new year, we're feeling positive about what lies ahead. Fresh programs have been launched in HR, mission services, IT, public relations, maintenance, and retail. Thanks to everyone's dedication, we expect even greater service offerings and increased income to support our mission, allowing us to enhance the support we provide to both customers and employees.



Since my last update, we celebrated the re-grand opening of the Crawfordville store. The event was a big success, generating over \$13,000 in sales on Saturday and \$3,500 on Sunday. The store has been refreshed, and the production area can now efficiently handle the high volume of donations. We're confident that performance and sales will continue to improve as time goes on.

We've deployed two mobile donation units that are actively accepting contributions, with additional units in the works. Donations are vital to our business model and making it easy for people to contribute is essential to our success. We're excited to see how these units will impact our efforts.

As winter settles in, let's remember to stay warm, maintain our positive outlook, and keep up the great work as we look forward to another promising year of service.

FIRE EVACUATION - Know your meeting area

1. Team Members and customers exit calmly through nearest exit.
2. Know who assists individuals needing extra help and checks the dressing rooms for anyone left behind.
3. Everyone moves to the designated emergency meeting area.
4. Manager conducts a headcount to confirm all team members are accounted for; staying out of the way of emergency responders.



DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING



Groundhog Day
Sunday, February 2nd



Super Bowl Sunday
Sunday, February 8th



Valentine's Day
Saturday, February 14th



President's Day
Monday, February 16th

IMPACT STORY



When Atreus first joined The Learning Pavilion, his family shared early concerns about speech delays and limited social interaction. Atreus often preferred quiet, independent play and initially found it challenging to connect with others through communication. But with intentional support, consistency, and the power of smart-play, his path forward began to unfold.

Atreus's teachers and therapy team took a thoughtful approach, building trust, incorporating his interests, and using playful strategies to encourage engagement. While he still enjoys time on his own, he has become noticeably more open to interaction. He's now participating more in group play, responding to peers and teachers, and showing a growing interest in the world around him.

His expressive communication has taken exciting steps forward, too. Atreus is beginning to repeat familiar words and phrases, and he's starting to share his wants, needs, and feelings verbally—an important milestone that's helping him build stronger connections and more independence in his daily routine.

The foundation of Atreus's progress has been the strong collaboration between his family, teachers, and on-site therapy team. Through patient guidance, consistent routines, and a nurturing environment, Atreus has found a space where he feels safe to grow, express himself, and take on new challenges at his own pace.

"Atreus has blossomed since coming to The Learning Pavilion. We love all the amazing staff and everything they do to make Atreus have a great experience! He's always excited to go play with his friends and teachers, especially on water days. His therapy sessions offered at TLP have helped him communicate better at daycare and at home. I'm glad I made the right choice for his daycare." – Atreus's Mom

At TLP, we believe every child's journey is unique; and with the right mix of play, patience, and purpose, amazing things happen.



Check out a video about another one of our impact stories by scanning the QR code or visiting:
<https://youtu.be/aMWF7RfD6A8>



UPCOMING classes

FEBRUARY 2026

Scan the QR Code to register! Or visit gwwirtualcampus.org



DATE	DAY	CST	EST	TITLE
2/3	Tue	9:00-10:00	10:00-11:00	Communication Skills
2/3	Tue	11:00-12:00	12:00-1:00	Workplace Conflict
2/3	Tue	12:00-2:00	1:00-3:00	IBM IT Fundamentals (Class 1 of 4)
2/3	Tue	1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	Email Etiquette
2/4	Wed	9:00-11:00	10:00-12:00	GoodCents Finance Fundamentals (Onsite)
2/5	Thu	9:00-10:00	10:00-11:00	Discover Your Career Path
2/5	Thu	11:00-12:00	12:00-1:00	Create Your Personal Brand
2/5	Thu	12:00-2:00	1:00-3:00	IBM IT Fundamentals (Class 2 of 4)
2/5	Thu	1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	Financial Fundamentals
2/6	Fri	1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	GED Cram for the Exam: Social Studies
2/10	Tue	9:00-10:00	10:00-11:00	Resume Prep
2/10	Tue	11:00-12:00	12:00-1:00	Interview Skills
2/10	Tue	12:00-2:00	1:00-3:00	IBM IT Fundamentals (Class 3 of 4)
2/10	Tue	1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	Mastering Indeed
2/11	Wed	9:00-11:00	10:00-12:00	GoodCents Finance Fundamentals (Onsite)
2/12	Thu	9:00-10:00	10:00-11:00	Job Search Routine
2/12	Thu	11:00-12:00	12:00-1:00	Chart Your Start On a Job
2/12	Thu	12:00-2:00	1:00-3:00	IBM IT Fundamentals (Class 4 of 4)
2/12	Thu	1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	Online Job Applications
2/13	Fri	1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	GED Cram for the Exam: Science
2/17	Tue	9:00-10:00	10:00-11:00	Communication Skills
2/17	Tue	11:00-12:00	12:00-1:00	Workplace Conflict
2/17	Tue	12:00-2:00	1:00-3:00	MS365 Word: Part 01
2/17	Tue	1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	Email Etiquette
2/19	Thu	9:00-10:00	10:00-11:00	Discover Your Career Path
2/19	Thu	11:00-12:00	12:00-1:00	Create Your Personal Brand
2/19	Thu	12:00-2:00	1:00-3:00	MS365 Word: Part 02
2/19	Thu	1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	Financial Fundamentals
2/20	Fri	1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	GED Cram for the Exam: Language
2/24	Tue	9:00-10:00	10:00-11:00	Resume Prep
2/24	Tue	11:00-12:00	12:00-1:00	Interview Skills
2/24	Tue	12:00-2:00	1:00-3:00	MS365 PowerPoint: Part 01
2/24	Tue	1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	Mastering Indeed
2/26	Thu	9:00-10:00	10:00-11:00	Job Search Routine
2/26	Thu	11:00-12:00	12:00-1:00	Chart Your Start On a Job
2/26	Thu	12:00-2:00	1:00-3:00	MS365 PowerPoint: Part 02
2/26	Thu	1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	Online Job Applications
2/27	Fri	1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	GED Cram for the Exam: Math



NOW ENROLLING FOR THESE UPCOMING CERTIFICATE CLASSES!

5-Week Construction Class

6-Week Bookkeeping Class

8-Week CNA & BLS Class

6-Week QuickBooks Class

Seven Online Digital Tech Courses from Google, IBM, & Meta

CARE CORNER



Wellness Works

Finding Calm in the Small Moments

Stress doesn't always announce itself – it often builds quietly through busy schedules, constant notifications, and mental overload. The Little Book of Mindfulness by Patrizia Collard offers a practical reminder that calm doesn't require major changes or long periods of time.

The book introduces mindfulness as something that fits naturally into everyday life. With short exercises that take just a few minutes, it encourages simple pauses to help reset and refocus during the day.

Key Takeaways

Mindfulness is about awareness, not perfection. Taking even a brief moment to notice your breath, body, or emotions can create space between stress and reaction. Over time, these small pauses can support better focus, communication, and overall well-being.

Sometimes, calm really does start with just a moment.



2024 - 2026 Strategic Goals and Objectives



SHOUTOUTS!



“Thanks to all who made it happen in a special way!
- Alan Malnoski



“Thank you all that helped make our Grand Re-opening at Crawfordville a huge success.” - Michele Dunzelmann



SHOUTOUTS!

Congratulations Training Completions

Lead Associates

Renarda Winbush-Quincy
Lanita Valcke-Chipley

Assistant Managers

David Dixon-Computer Store
Lanita Valcke-Chipley

Store Managers

Carrie Strickland-Port Saint Joe
David Dixon-Computer Store
Lanita Valcke-Chipley

MEET KIM GAY

Chief Operating Officer

I love the beach, reading self-improvement and leadership books, running, pink sunrises and coffee! I worked for 20 years in workforce development and job placement, and 10 years in non-profits, before coming to Goodwill. I served on the Goodwill Board for two years from 2016-2018 and went back to school at 45 years old to get my Masters Degree in Integrated Marketing Communications with 3 children at home. I have been married to my high school sweetheart for 35 years, who has been a high school football coach and school administrator. My motto is "Never Stop Learning" and "Never Give Up"! I love working at Goodwill and believe that the work we do everyday helps at least one person take steps toward a better life.



Spaghetti alla Carbonara

Ingredients

- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- 1 pound thick-cut, unsmoked bacon or pancetta
- 1 (16 ounce) package spaghetti
- 3 large eggs
- 10 tablespoons grated Pecorino Romano cheese, divided in half
- salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste



Directions

1. Heat a large skillet over medium heat; add bacon or pancetta and cook, turning occasionally, until evenly browned and crispy, 5 to 8 minutes. Remove from heat and drain on paper towels. Dice meat.
2. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Cook spaghetti in the boiling water, stirring occasionally until tender yet firm to the bite, about 9 minutes. Drain and return to the pot. Let cool, stirring occasionally, about 5 minutes.
3. Whisk eggs, 1/2 of the Pecorino Romano cheese, and some black pepper in a bowl until smooth and creamy.
4. Pour egg mixture over pasta, stirring quickly, until creamy and slightly cooled. Stir in meat.
5. Top with remaining Pecorino Romano cheese and more black pepper.

We want to hear your favorite recipes, so email your ideas and pictures to mjaap@goodwillbigbend.com.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Alanyah Medley - February 1
 Quion Wright - February 1
 Linda McCormick - February 1
 Michael Adams Jr. - February 2
 Gabriela Gonzalez - February 2
 Paul Ramsay - February 2
 Maria Gallegos - February 2
 Brandon Harper - February 3
 Beverly Oldham - February 4
 Lawrence Nobles - February 5
 Shareza Youman - February 5
 Shawki Williams - February 5
 Brandie Dorsey - February 6
 Lakendra Harris - February 6
 Jamese Lovejoy - February 6
 Amber Spates - February 6
 Amanda Gray - February 7
 Alander Crapps - February 7
 Raheem Bouie - February 8
 Brandon Tennyson - February 8
 David Richardson - February 8
 Ann Swenbeck - February 9
 Keldrick Mccray - February 10

Xiomara Montero - February 11
 Alecia Thornton - February 11
 Zaire Reynolds - February 11
 Dayton Gragg - February 12
 Yvette Amburgy - February 13
 Kathy Davis - February 13
 Michael Dyson - February 14
 Aaron Roberson - February 14
 Kerry Roberts - February 14
 Noah Green - February 15
 Donna Alliet - February 15
 Christine Ricardo - February 16
 Anthony Richardson - February 16
 Mary Thomas - February 16
 Terry Beard - February 16
 Judy Cene - February 17
 Mark Wright - February 18
 Aiden Liptak - February 18
 Romilda Loli - February 18
 Landon Barney - February 19
 Ian Gower - February 19
 Dekeldrick Anthony - February 20
 Hector Rivera - February 21

Lee Whitaker - February 21
 Christopher May - February 22
 Bronson Campo - February 22
 Jessica Bradley - February 24
 Earlie Mitchell - February 24
 Edward Tinsley - February 24
 Rolando Green - February 24
 Shayna Cadogan - February 25
 Chrystian Jackson - February 26
 Victoria Phillips - February 26
 Elven Mckay - February 27
 Thomas Kern - February 27
 Maria Flores - February 27
 KeEllis Brown - February 27
 Mark Anguiano - February 27
 Nylaa Ramos - February 28
 Natasha Castillo - February 28
 Rokita Raysor - February 28
 Brandon Brown - February 28
 Felicia Merritt - February 28
 Bernie Moore - February 29
 Denise Smith - February 29



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



Copeland Barrett - 25
 Brian Williams - 12
 Brianna Gray - 11
 Ashley Elliott - 10
 Jennifer Livingston - 9
 Craig Starke - 8
 Abraham Nicholson - 8
 Jodi Lee-Wolk - 7
 Kimberly Gay - 6
 Kristina Smith - 5
 Donna Alliet - 5
 Leslie Browne - 5
 Rokita Raysor - 5
 Michael Carr - 4
 Maria Coronado - 4
 James Young - 4

Davonte Blue - 3
 Jaleeya Hall - 3
 Lorenzo Crump - 3
 Chastity Russell - 3
 Robert Joiner - 3
 Harrison Covington Jr - 3
 Debra Ross - 2
 Joseph Joyner - 2
 Miguel Gil - 2
 Eleanor Schools - 2
 Austin Williams - 2
 Travis Dishon - 2
 Mamadou Dosso - 2
 Ble Ehouman - 2
 Aidan Wallace - 2
 Amanda Fullard - 2
 Lucille Jones - 2

Gail Jones - 1
 Clara Denson - 1
 Stephanie Carter - 1
 Sheila McBride - 1
 Samari Gallon - 1
 Yamil Calonge - 1
 Roderick Akin - 1
 Tavish Knight - 1
 Helen Weaver - 1
 Derrick Horne - 1
 Keith Cooper - 1
 Mark Davis - 1
 Willie Edwards - 1
 Jannah Dow - 1
 Rhonda Moore - 1