



Thankful Thursday for Jan. 6, 2011

Published: Thursday, January 06, 2011, 7:25 AM



By **Plain Dealer** readers

"A little over three years ago a gray-and-white cat wandered into our lives. It came at a good time since things were kind of depressing. His presence helped us get through a very difficult situation. I live in a building with just seven apartments. He became everybody's friend, and every day he greeted everyone -- even the grumpy people who didn't like cats. He got into everybody's heart. His health deteriorated quickly and we had to put him down. We buried him in the back of the apartment building. Everyone in the building came out and helped bury him, and we all said great things about him and what he did for us. It's truly amazing how a little ball of fur can help you so much and touch so many lives. He is greatly missed."

-- *Lakewood*

"I would sincerely like to thank Tina at Dominion East Ohio gas company for going above and beyond to have the power restored as a Christmas gift to my loved ones."

-- *Cleveland*

"The Rockefeller Greenhouse was beautifully decorated at Christmas. Thank you."

-- *Euclid*

"Thanks to St. John Nepomucene parish in Slavic Village for stabilizing the neighborhood for over 100 years."

-- *Seven Hills*

"On Dec. 23 I found myself absolutely stuck in the snow with my little shopping cart trying to reach my car in what was probably the farthest parking space available. I uttered a few unprintable words when out of the blue a wonderful young man came toward me, pushed the cart to my car and loaded all my groceries in the trunk. What a relief for this old lady who cannot do the things she used to do."

-- *North Royalton*

"Recently I spent a month in Lakewood Hospital. And when you have a problem you find one or two people

who can help you with your problem you feel lucky. Everyone I came in contact with in Lakewood Hospital really tried to help me. The food was good, the nurses were good, the therapists and everyone I came in contact with was very helpful. I'd like to extend a special thank you to Lakewood Hospital and all its employees."

-- *No city*

"I would like to thank my neighbors, a young couple who came to my door on Christmas Eve to give me a beautiful poinsettia and wish me a Merry Christmas. I was surprised and a very happy senior."

-- *Parma*

"I would like to thank our mail carrier, Willie Brack, for his wonderful service. He is retiring after 40 years with the U.S. Postal Service, and he is the best mail carrier we have ever had. I would like to extend to him a happy and healthy new year and retirement."

-- *Pepper Pike*

"I very much appreciate the employee from Zagara's in Cleveland Heights who noticed a folded \$20 bill that fell from my pocket as I was preparing to exit the store. He called out 'Sir' and returned it to me. Unfortunately, I didn't think to get his name, the store was pretty busy at the time, but I'd like to thank him and his employer."

-- *Cleveland Heights*

"I am so very thankful to the staff on Four-South at the St. Augustine Manor Nursing Home in Cleveland. Every staff member -- from the registered nurses to the aides to the housekeeper -- is caring and gentle. They each give 100 percent to the residents every single day."

-- *Lakewood*

"My wife and I were driving on Hilliard Boulevard in Westlake at about 7 p.m. on New Year's Day. Absent-mindedly, I drove through a red light. As well we should, we were stopped by the Westlake police. I'd like to thank the officer for not giving me a ticket. He was very professional and very courteous to me and my wife."

-- *No city*

"On the Sunday of the storm the week before Christmas, I jumped out of my car in the Willowick Marc's parking lot to stop a runaway cart. When I asked a man going into the store to help me by taking the cart back to the store, he turned his back on me. 'Some spirit of Christmas,' I thought dismally. In the meantime, I had kicked a present out of my car by accident and did not realize it. Later I returned to the

parking lot to look for it and went into Marc's just on a whim to see if someone had turned it in -- and there it was. Someone had turned it in. The spirit of Christmas lives."

-- *Euclid*

"My brother and I are 14 and 15, and we were shopping at the Willoughby Target on Christmas Eve day. We wanted to get some nice stuff for our family. We only had \$80 to spend. The lines were filled with last-minute shoppers, but it was not too bad. When it was finally our turn, we realized we were \$8 short. All of a sudden, the woman behind us poked my brother and handed him a \$10 bill. She said, 'Keep the change and do this for someone else someday.' We want to say a sincere thank you to her and tell her that we will always remember what she did for us."

-- *Euclid*

"To my neighbor, Bob, who gave me a big bag of bird seed. I thank you, and the birds thank you."

-- *Parma*

"I'd like to thank once again the nice gentleman who helped me up when I fell in front of Third Federal Savings and Loan at Southland in Middleburg Heights on Tuesday. I appreciated his concern and assistance very much."

-- *Cleveland*

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