

# The Winneconne News

Serving Village of Winneconne; Communities of Butte des Morts, Larsen, Winchester;  
Towns of Winneconne, Poygan, Vinland, Winchester and Wolf River



60¢

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## Winneconne Thrift & Gift Just Keeps Growing

By Becky LaDue

I have had the pleasure of observing the maturation of the Winneconne Thrift & Gift store since its wee beginnings. A handful of hardworking members of Lord of the Lakes Church had the notion to collect gently used clothing and household items and resell them to benefit their church. Back then they called themselves Lord of the Lakes Thrift & Gift, and housed their wares within a small classroom at LOL. Little did they know what was lurking on the horizon.

Fast forward to December 2012, and Winneconne can now claim to have its first true "Go Green" department store. Establishing a new home within the 7,000 square foot facility which was once part of Oshkosh Designs, this all-volunteer ministry/business is a true labor of love for its legion of 28+ volunteers who keep it humming like a well-oiled machine. And quite a machine it is, for in two weeks flat they mastered the move from the west side of the village to

the east side, and completely arranged their new store, hardly missing a beat.

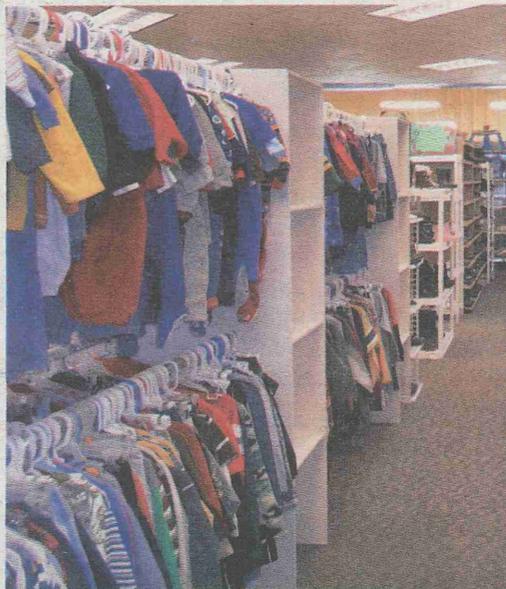
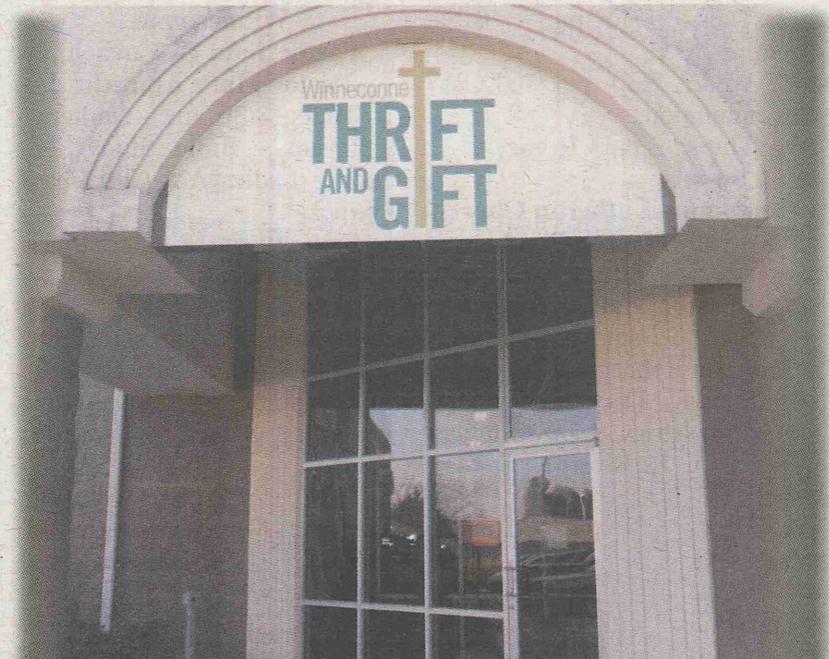
"We have really expanded into a true community organization," said one member Judi Greenfield. "Not only because the community has supported us throughout and supplied us with amazing donations, but because we also need volunteers from across the community – not just Lord of the Lakes – to keep this effort going."

Winneconne Thrift is an all-

volunteer ministry/business that turns its profits, after bills are paid, completely back to charitable causes – most local in nature.

"In this past month we donated \$1,200 to the Winneconne Area Assistance Center for personal care products it was in need of; \$240 to the Shoebox Ministry (personal care products for impoverished children) a Winneconne Christian Fellowship cause; \$250 to Res-a-Wreck, a car ministry that gets people's vehicles back in running order when in

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A view of the newly expanded Winneconne Thrift & Gift which is now located behind Winneconne's Kwik Trip, 911 E. Main Street. Gail Johnson, volunteer, also personally recognized Don and Carree VanOss, Thrift's former landlords on W. Main, "We are grateful for all they did, without their flexibility with that space, we wouldn't be where we are today."

— News photos