



Chelsea Milling Co. employees Sharon Dusterhoft, Barb Jackowski, Martha Forner and Diane Johnson stand with the company's holiday donations.

## 'Jiffyville' makes a difference

By Sheila Pursglove  
Special Writer

Employees at Chelsea Milling Co. think "outside the box" – a giant, Plexiglass box known as the CMC Toy Box that is overflowing with toys and games for local children.

Throughout the year, the company saves pop bottles and cans from employees, and money collected from returns is used to purchase toys for local children.

"Over the years, we've given to different charities – Faith-in-Action, Toys for Tots, Toys for Tots and Teens and the Salvation Army to name a few," said Tracy Bumpus in CMC consumer rela-

tions, who has worked at "Jiffyville" for 18 years.

"One year someone gave bicycles. They were a blessing to a young couple that had unexpectedly and, in an instant, inherited her sister's kids, just before Christmas.

"We have so many things donated by all the great people here we usually have to put together another temporary box. Seeing the boxes get filled up and knowing all the kids the toys will go to makes my year."

Some employees donate money on a monthly basis that is used to buy groceries for the Jackson Interfaith Shelter. Others purchase Jiffy Mix sweatshirts and donate

them to the John George Home for Men in Jackson. Employees also post lists and gather items to send to U.S. troops stationed overseas.

"For the past few years, Jiffy has participated in the Supermarket Sweeps at Country Market in Chelsea – I believe we have a winning streak going," Bumpus said.

Employees give freely of their time, talents and resources to organizations such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, and the Christmas Adopt a Family program, she said.

"People are very supportive, generous and

caring when it comes to someone in need – not only through organizations, but when someone in the Jiffyville family or their extended or immediate families are down on their luck, terminally ill, have passed away, or had a house fire, or other disaster, within hours someone will have something posted asking for donations and help," Bumpus said.

"This tradition of caring was started many years ago and mirrors the company's philosophy of supporting the communities."

Sheila Pursglove is a freelance writer. She can be reached at [bingley51@yahoo.com](mailto:bingley51@yahoo.com).

"This tradition of caring was started many years ago and mirrors the company's philosophy of supporting the communities."