

Her job — making wishes come true

Armed with a van and donated goods, Lowell mother delivers for needy families

By PETER WARD
Sun Staff

LOWELL — On a recent arctic day, a shivering Donna Hunnewell lifted open the door of a local self-storage facility.

Lowell shelter chief stepping down/9

Whatever heat Unit 16 once contained got immediately sucked out and replaced by a biting wind. Inside were bags stuffed with disposable diapers, jackets, books, microwave macaroni dinners, bedposts

and too many things to explore on such a bitter day. Two years ago Hunnewell filled a niche, creating the Lowell Wish Project, which aims to help the city's neediest residents.

The high-energy 40-year-old mother of two is a wholesale supplier to the poor, a modern-day Robin Hood minus the criminal element. She even delivers goods personally in her van or for bigger loads in a rental box truck with faulty brakes.



Donna Hunnewell makes donations to needy families from supplies she keeps in a rented storage unit in Tewksbury. She's hoping someone can donate warehouse space for her operation.

SUN / BOB WHITAKER

The Wish Project locates items that individuals such as the homeless, displaced, new immigrants and bat-

tered women need fast. Agencies such as Community

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TOMORROW'S WEATHER



Partly sunny;
high of 35°
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MASS. DAILY

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LOTTERY REPORT

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