



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**C&L WARD PLAYS SANTA BY DONATING A FREE ROOF FOR FLINT HOMEOWNER IN NEED**  
***Recipient chosen for new roof to be installed just in time for Christmas***

**November 21, 2016 (Davison, MI)** – In an effort to play Santa Claus this holiday season, C&L Ward has chosen a recipient through their annual “Shingles for Shelter” contest for a brand new roof. The contest ran from November 1-15 on their website and the awardee was chosen on circumstance, merit and condition of the roof. C&L Ward received over 75 entries of very deserving homeowners. **Gidget Arcand of Shaw Street in Burton** was ultimately chosen and will be the beneficiary of the gifted roof.

Ms. Arcand, affectionately known as “Miss Gidget” to the faculty and students at Flint’s Freeman elementary school where she works as a secretary, was nominated by her co-workers. In the nomination, they wrote, “Miss Gidget works as the secretary at Freeman Elementary. She is the kindest and most giving individual that I know. She helps EVERYONE whenever they need help and keeps our school running like no one else could. We most DEFINITELY could not live without her. Recently, her doctor found a mass along the ENTIRE right side of her body which she humbly shared with her "Freeman family"... the staff. She only asked for prayers and thoughts of a positive outcome. Because Gidget works for our district and is a secretary, she does not receive any paid time off from work and is the sole person responsible for her personal bills, children, and property. She does not receive help from anyone. Therefore, on the very small salary she makes, she had to go without a pay check for several weeks. I am not sure how she could actually live without an income. Thankfully, the huge mass was removed and it was not cancerous. Yet, Gidget still has enormous medical bills and is suffering from the loss of income. Recently, she has returned to work, never complains and always has a smile on her face. Without her smiling face and hard work, many families, students and staff members just wouldn't come to school or work every day or even attend Freeman. She keeps things manageable and even helps everyone to smile when things seem tough. She actually sings during morning announcements sometimes to motivate students and teachers! She is truly the ROCK of Freeman! We love her and many of us would not want to come to work or to school without her smiling face there to greet us. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE give her a light in her struggle! She is our light at school and work! I cannot think of ANYONE who deserves it more than she does!”

The C&L Ward marketing team surprised Gidget at work this morning and told her the good news. After a few tears and the initial shock wore off, Gidget replied, “This is just so amazing. I am so eternally grateful for everyone who did this for me!”

This is the third year that C&L Ward has been able to play Santa to a homeowner in extreme need. Carlos Fordham of Flint was the recipient of the roof for his mother in 2014 and Kristopher Shiel of Flint was chosen in 2015.

“We recognized that there are many homeowners, like Gidget, right in our own backyard who are struggling to make ends meet. Replacing a roof is the last thing they need to be burdened with, especially around the holidays.” stated Patrick Ward, President of C & L Ward. “We received many touching stories for many deserving homeowners but felt her circumstances embodied what this contest is all about. We’ve see a lot of failing roofs over the years in our business but nothing is more heartbreaking when you see someone who is genuinely trying their best to do all of the right things and still can’t afford to take care of something that is

crucial to their own shelter and safety. This community has been very kind to us and we are in the position where can pay it forward to someone who isn't able to make the necessary improvements to their home to keep themselves and/or their family safe." He continues, "We look forward to working with Gidget and making life a little better for her."

Project coordination for the new roof is currently underway and the installation of the roof will begin soon (weather permitting). Another press release will be sent when the installation start date is set for those wanting photo and interview opportunities. ABC supply Co. Inc. has partnered with C&L Ward and will donate all of the shingles for the new roof as has Metro Sanitation who will be providing the dumpster.

*C&L Ward hosts several community goodwill programs throughout the year, such as Shingles for Shelter, **Stuff the Truck**, which will take place at the Dort Federal Event Center this Wednesday, November 23rd* and a "Likes for Dollars" campaign through their Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/clwardbros](http://www.facebook.com/clwardbros)) that benefits organizations in Genesee County, the Great Lakes Bay Region, Metro Detroit and Greater Lansing. They also give away a \$10,000 Home Makeover annually for those who register at an event or online.

#### **ABOUT C & L WARD**

C & L Ward is one of Michigan top providers of exterior home improvement replacement products and services. Founded in 1972, C & L Ward is a family-owned and operated corporation that is strongly committed to complete customer satisfaction. They have three interactive showroom locations displaying windows, siding, roofing & decking products & service the following market areas: Flint, Tri-Cities & Metro Detroit. Recognized by both *Qualified Remodeler* and *Remodeling* magazines as one of the nation's top remodeling firms consecutively since 2010 and have over 30,000 satisfied clients and offer FREE in-home consultations. They are known for quick response repair services for existing roofs, windows, doors and siding with highly trained & certified installation teams. For more information, visit them at [goclward.com](http://goclward.com).

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