

*We all must work
to make the world
worthy of its children.*

Ashe County
Volunteer
Advisory Board

Jennifer Richardson

Bevin South

Katrina Miller

Patty Gambill

Rebecca Williams

Judy Current

Donna Phillips

Ramona Renfro

Mauvine Shepherd



Terri Hopkins
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
Ashe County Volunteer Initiative
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West Jefferson, NC 28694
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Email: terrihopkins@ashecountygov.com

August 24, 2017

Ashe County Board of Commissioners,

I respectfully request permission to meet with you at your convenience regarding the Volunteer Initiative Program. I will go over the Volunteer Awards, Budget, School Supply Drive, Volunteer Fair and any other pertinent information that pertains to the Volunteer Program.

With your approval of new board members, the Volunteer Initiative Board will continue on with the other Volunteer Programs set forth in the Volunteer Newsletter.

Very truly yours,

Terri Hopkins

Terri Hopkins
Ashe County Volunteer Coordinator

Enclosures

ASHE COUNTY VOLUNTEER INITIATIVE PROGRAM UPDATE

August 2017

First, I would like to give an update on the 31st Annual Ashe County volunteer Awards Ceremony. The ceremony was held Thursday, April 27, 2017 at the Ashe County High School. We had a large attendance consisting of 300. Preparations for the entertainment, catering of the food, gifts, and plaques for the volunteers were planned with the Volunteer Advisory Board. We were entertained by Taylon Hope Miller. The food as always was excellent and was catered by the Ashe County High School Cafeteria. The Volunteer Advisory Board volunteered to help with set-up, decorating the stage, and clean up afterwards. The high School also provided a sound technician, along with the JR ROTC provided help serving as ushers, handing out gifts and certificates. They also help with serving refreshments in the cafeteria. Volunteers enjoyed refreshments in the cafeteria before the ceremony. Volunteers received a certificate of appreciation and a 4oz. glass jar of honey from Miller's Honey. Overall winners received a plaque as well along with having their certificates framed and a beautiful handcrafted mug created here in Ashe County by Created on The Mountain. Everyone seemed to have a great time and had comments of how smooth the ceremony went.

As you will see in front of you from the budget for the Volunteer Awards Ceremony was \$3200.00 and I exceeded it by \$186.37, ending with a total of \$3386.37. The cost of food is getting higher and I am afraid the plates are not getting any bigger; as well our nominations for the Volunteer Awards are growing greater each year. I tried hard to keep cost to a minimum and not to exceed my budget.

Next, I would like to give an update on the 2017 Governor's Award for Volunteerism. The Ashe County Volunteer Advisory Board nominated 10 outstanding volunteers; all were accepted and awarded by the NC commission on Volunteerism.

Winners were:

Martin Little	Norma Rupard
Ashe Outreach	Annie Brown
American Emergency Vehicles (AEV)	Julia Bassett
Ken Glover	Bob Phipps
Shelter Baptist Church	Deane Childress

Award winners were recognized with a luncheon celebration with the County Manager, and the Ashe County Board of Commissioners held at Winner's Circle Restaurant. Award winners received a beautifully framed certificate and a lapel pin from Governor Roy Cooper. I was very pleased with the nominations as each one has done such amazing volunteer work within Ashe County.

Next, I would like to give an update on the 31st Annual Christmas in July Festival. The festival went very well this year with comments stating that the festival had the largest crowd ever. Many have stated that it went very smooth. We had many new individuals who volunteered with the festival this year. I have received many other compliments from the community and from others from outside of the county and state.

The 12th Annual School Drive is now underway. The drive began on June 26th and will run through August 11th, 2017. Our drop off locations are: All LifeStore bank locations in the Jefferson and West Jefferson area. Fifth Third Bank, Ashe County Public Library, First Citizens Bank, Ashe Services for Aging/Senior Center, Family Dollar, Jefferson and West Jefferson Dollar General Stores, Jefferson Drug, and United Chemi-Con are also collecting school supplies for the drive. I hope that other agencies, organizations, and churches will collect supplies as well.

Advertisements have been made with the Jefferson Post, Mountain Times, Ashe Services for Aging, Inc. website and Facebook page, Chamber E-News, and on WSKS. Once the drive is over, the supplies will be picked up, sorted, counted, separated, and delivered to all 5 Ashe County School Guidance Counselors to ensure that the children with the most needs will receive the supplies. Fletcher Memorial Baptist Church Youth group will be volunteering with the collection and delivery of the supplies.

The Volunteer Initiative Newsletter has been completed and mailed to over 400+ volunteers within Ashe County. Agencies and Organization received the newsletter by email this year to cut down on cost. The volunteer newsletter continues to showcase volunteer opportunities within the county. The newsletter also gives updates on initiatives within the volunteer program. I will continue to add names of volunteers for the next newsletter to be sent to, so that those volunteers can see what opportunities are available and that they might be interested in.

I want to share with you some of the upcoming events that the Volunteer Initiative Program is working on. We are in in the planning stage for the Volunteer Fair that will be held at the end of September or the first of October. National "Make A Difference Day" will be held on October 28th, 2017. The Volunteer Advisory Board is currently brainstorming ideas for that event. The Annual Canned Food Drive will begin in October as well.

I will continue to recruit volunteers for special projects and programs through advertisements and presentations. I will also continue to add to the new data base of volunteers so that they can receive information concerning volunteer opportunities. I will continue to hold the Volunteer Initiative Advisory Board meetings every 2nd Tuesday of the each month to get as much support and insight as possible from the board members. At this time I would like to have approval of two new board members, which are: Greg Topczewski and Kathy Elliott, both have

been approved by the Volunteer Initiative Board, we are seeking your approval of these two members at this time.

With the addition of these two new members the Board would consist of:

- Jennifer Richardson, Chair
- Bevin South, Secretary
- Donna Phillips
- Patty Gambill
- Rebecca Williams
- Ramona Renfroe
- Katrina Miller
- Judy Current
- Glenda Luther, Adhoc

Thank You,

Terri Hopkins

32nd Annual Volunteer Awards Budget 2017

	Price
Hobby Barn (Plaques for Overall Winners 9@ \$26.89 +tax)	\$ 259.95
Card Stock Paper for Certificates/Walmart	\$ 14.52
Created on the Mountain/10 16 oz Mugs for Overall Winners (\$22.00 ea. + tax)	\$ 235.40
Ribbon for Honey Jars/ Walmart	\$ 14.76
Ribbon for Honey Jars/ Walmart	\$ 10.70
Ribbon for Honey Jars/ Walmart	\$ 15.95
Walmart (Sheet Protectors for Certificates)	\$ 38.01
Lowes Hardware (Flowers)	\$ 201.03
Walmart (Picture Frames, Name Tags, Chocolate Bars for Volunteers)	\$ 183.06
Jelly Glasses for Honey (22 doz. @ 8.38 ea. + tax)	\$ 197.27
Millers Honey	\$ 500.00
Postage for 190 Nomination Forms	\$ 87.40
Postage for 414 Nomination Letters	\$ 190.44
Printing for 400 Programs in Color @ .08	\$ 72.00
Printing for 794 letters @ .02 per copy (black & white)	\$ 15.88
Ashe County Child Nutrition (Food for Reception - 300 plates @ \$4.50 per plate)	\$ 1,350.00

Total	\$ 3,386.37
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Budget	\$ 3,200.00
	\$ (3,386.37)
	\$ (186.37)

Thank you for choosing Ashe Services for Aging, Inc.

**Governors Awards
May 1st, 2017**

Invoice - May 23, 2017

10 Black Document Frames	22.99 ea. + Tax	\$ 245.99
Winner's Circle		\$ 291.38
Thank You Cards		\$ 35.00

Total Due:		\$ 572.37
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Thank you for choosing Ashe Services for Aging, Inc.

32 nd Annual Volunteer Awards Door Prizes

2 Adult Tickets to "Puddingstone" May 13th, 2017	Ashe Civic Center/Ashe Arts Council	\$ 32.00
Small T-Shirt "Paddle Faster"	Mountain Outfitters	\$ 19.95
Steven Shoemaker Print "Town of Lansing"	Steven Shoemaker	\$ 100.00
Steven Shoemaker Print "Feathered Friends"	Warren Miller	\$ 85.00
Print	Warren Miller	\$ 85.00
\$25 Gift Certificate	Creative Hairstyles	\$ 25.00
\$12 Gift Certificate – Manicure	Cutter's Edge	\$ 12.00
\$15 Gift Certificate	Harvest Cafe	\$ 15.00
\$20 Gift Certificate	Rose Mountain Butcher Shoppe	\$ 20.00
2-\$25 Gift Certificates	Winner's Circle	\$ 50.00
Gift Certificate/Small BBQ Plate	Smokey Mountain BBQ	\$ 12.00
75 Piece Socket & Ratchet Set	NAPA	\$ 24.99
20 Piece 3/8" Drive SAE & Metric Socket Set	O'Reilly's	\$ 34.99
5 pc. General Precision Tool Kit	Parker Tie	\$ 21.99
Bird Bath	Medi Home Health & Hospice	\$ 44.00
Bird Bath	ASA/Senior Center	\$ 44.00
5 Ferns	ASA/ Volunteer Initiative Program	\$ 45.00
2 Corydalises	ASA/Volunteer Initiative Program	\$ 29.96
1 Hibiscus Bush	ASA/Volunteer Initiative Program	\$ 14.98
3 Combination Flowering Containers	ASA/Volunteer Initiative Program	\$ 53.94
Total:		\$ 769.80

400 plus volunteers thanked for their service

BY BEN COSSADALE
ben.cossdale@mountain-times.com

WEST JEFFERSON — Ashe County Commissioner's William Sands and Paula Perry gathered on stage April 27, with other prominent county employees, to present the 32nd Annual Ashe County Volunteer Awards to various volunteers in the county.

"Tonight we are gathered in this room to honor you for your service to our citizens and communities," Ashe County Manager Sam Yearick said at the commencement of the ceremony. "Tonight we honor the best of the best volunteers in our county. Tonight we celebrate you."

According to Sands, volunteers commit approximately 1,000 hours of their time daily to serving Ashe County and, throughout the night, 414 of those dedicated volunteers were recognized by the commissioners and county administration for their service.

"It was just wonderful to have all these volunteers and what they do for us," Sands said following the ceremony. "I don't know what we'd do without them."

All volunteers were

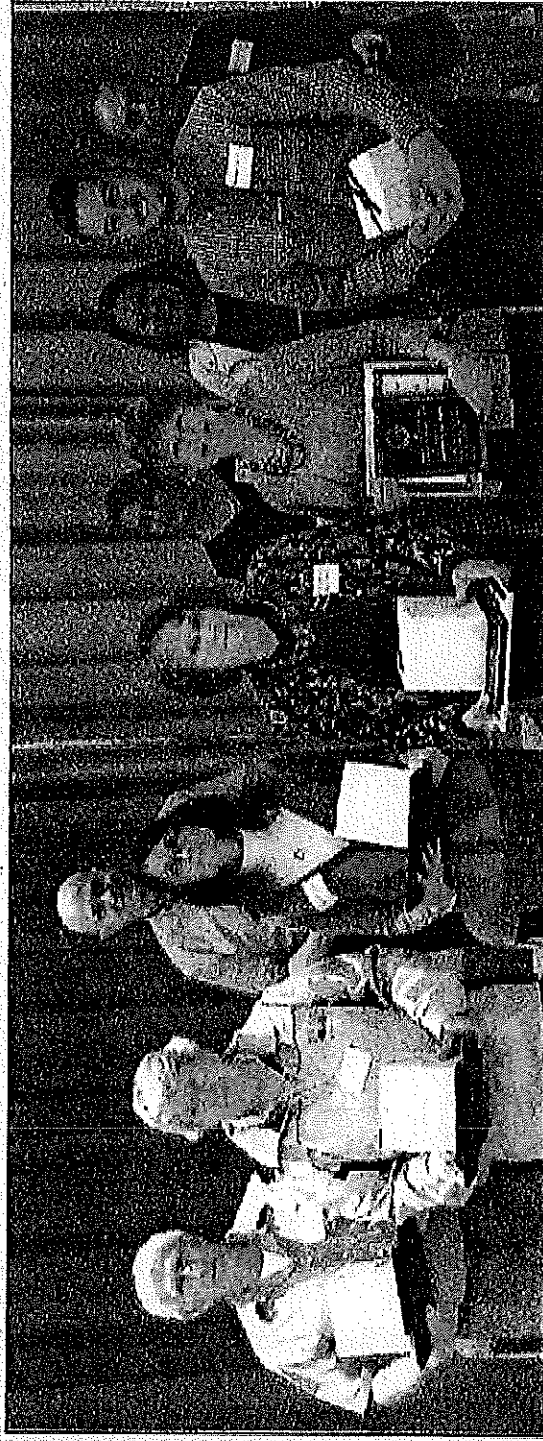


PHOTO BY BEN COSSADALE

Nine particular individuals and organizations were recognized for their service in specific categories. From left, back row, Greg Topczewski, Human Services Volunteer Award, Dana Johnson, Individual Volunteer Award, Hannah Barker, Youth Volunteer Award, Ron Huber, on behalf of West Jefferson United Methodist Church, Religious Volunteer Award. From left, front row is Jim Willes, Veteran Volunteer Award, Ruth Anne Phipps, Senior Volunteer Award, Bonnie Cox, School Mentor Volunteer Award, Arita Yates, on behalf of the West Jefferson Lions Club, Community Organization Volunteer Award, Jane Loran and Wesley Barker, on behalf of the Christmas in July Festival, Business Volunteer Award.

recognized throughout the course of the ceremony, but nine particular individuals and organizations were recognized for their service in specific categories. Those winners were:

- The Christmas in July Festival: business of the year
- West Jefferson Lions Club: community organization
- West Jefferson United Methodist Church: church and religious volunteer group

- Greg Topczewski: human service volunteer
- Dana Johnson: individual volunteer
- Ruth Anne Phipps: senior volunteer
- Bonnie Cox: school mentor
- Hannah Barker: youth volunteer
- James Willes: veteran volunteer

In addition, Jennifer Richardson, volunteer initiative advisory board co-chairwoman and volunteer coordinator for

- Medi-Home Hospice, also introduced the Governor Award winners. Those winners were Martin Little, Ashe Outreach, American Emergency Vehicles, Ken Glover, Shelter Baptist Church, Norma Ruppard, Annie Brown, Julia Bassett, Bob Phipps and Deane Childress.

Local singer/songwriter Taylor Hope Miller sang the national anthem and provided entertainment for the attendees of the ceremony.

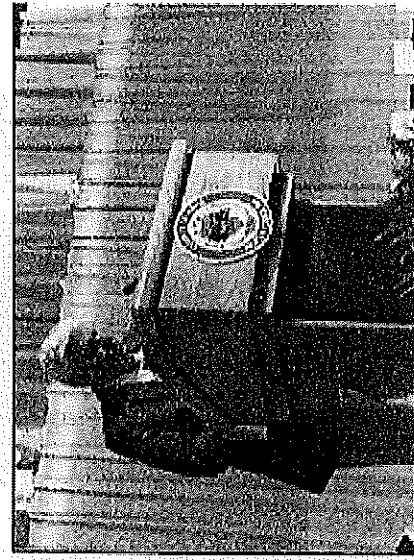


PHOTO BY BEN COSSADALE
Ashe County Board of Commissioners' Chairman William Sands thanks more than 400 volunteers for their service to the county.

Ashe County School Supply Drive is underway

ASHE COUNTY — Another school year is right around the corner. This can be a difficult and stressful time for many families who do not have the money to purchase needed school supplies.

The 12th Annual Ashe County School Supply Drive is now underway to help children in Ashe County. New school supplies can be donated from now through Friday, Aug. 11, and will be distributed among all five Ashe County Public Schools.

These supplies will be taken to each school where the guidance counselors will dispense supplies as needed.

Drop-off locations include the three LifeStore branches located in Jefferson and West Jefferson, Fifth-Third Bank, First Citizens Bank, Ashe Services for Aging, Medi-Home Hospice, Ashe Senior Center, Jefferson Drug, Family Dollar, United Chemi-Con and the two Dollar General stores.

Gift cards and monetary donations will also be appreciated. For example, a \$15.00 gift card can be used to purchase a book bag filled with paper, pencils, glue, scissors and crayons. Likewise, monetary donations and gift cards will be distributed equally among the five county schools.

If your business, church, agency or civic organization would like to participate, please contact Terri Hopkins, Ashe County Volunteer Coordinator at 336-246-4347.

While North Carolina is not having a tax-free weekend this year, Tennessee is having one on July 28-30 and South Carolina and Virginia are offering tax-free weekend on Aug. 4-6.

The school supply drive is sponsored by the Ashe County Volunteer Initiative Program.

ASHE COUNTY

Donations n Ashe County

STAFF REPORT

Another school year is just round the corner and with that comes buying new school supplies. However, this time can be stressful for many families who do not have the money to purchase needed school supplies.

That is where Ashe County Volunteer Initiative Program comes in with their 12th annual school supply drive to help children in Ashe County.

where the distribute

Drop-off three LifeS Jefferson Third Ban Ashe Servi Hospice, ferson Dri Chemi-Co eral stores Gift car

Supply Drive is now underway to help children in Ashe County. New school supplies can be donated from now through Friday, Aug. 11, and will be distributed among all five Ashe County Public Schools.

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ASHE COUNTY

THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2017

Donations needed for annual Ashe County school supply drive

STAFF REPORT

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Gift cards and monetary donations will also be appreciated. For example, a \$15 gift card can be used to purchase a book bag filled with paper, pencils, glue, scissors and crayons, organizers said. Likewise,

monetary donations and gift cards will be distributed equally among the five county schools.

If a business, church, agency or civic organization would like to participate, contact Dayna Price, Ashe County volunteer coordinator, at (336) 246-2461.

While North Carolina is not having a tax-free weekend this year, Tennessee is having one on July 28th - 30th and South Carolina and Virginia are offering tax-free weekend on August 4th - 6th.

The school supply drive is sponsored by the Ashe County Volunteer Initiative Program.

2017 School Supply Drive

The Ashe County Volunteer Initiative School Supply Drive concluded on August 11th and, thanks to the generous hearts of the people of Ashe County, was very successful.

We appreciate all the drop-off locations for allowing us to place boxes in their places of business since June 26th. Those locations include Fifth Third Bank, First Citizens Bank, all LifeStore branches located in Jefferson and West Jefferson, Ashe County Library, Medi-Home Health and Hospice, Ashe Service for Aging and Senior Center, Dollar General Stores in Jefferson and West Jefferson, Jefferson Drug and Family Dollar. We would also like to recognize the employees of United Chemi-Con, who placed a box in their administration office and collected a large number of school supplies among themselves.

The amount of items collected this year was remarkable: Everything from bookbags, packages of loose leaf paper, 3 ring binders, glue sticks, composition notebooks, scissors, index cards, crayons, colored pencils, markers, hand sanitizers, pencil cases, rulers, pens etc., totaling 959 items. All these items were distributed among the five county schools. Monetary donations were also received and divided among the five schools.

The Ashe County Volunteer Initiative Advisory Board and Terri Hopkins, Volunteer Coordinator, offer our appreciation to the churches, businesses and individuals who supported this drive and freely gave so much. Special thanks go out to our Senior Center congregante lunch crowd who donated money for supplies. Also, special thanks go out to Fletcher Memorial Baptist Church Youth and Pastor Cory Halsey for helping to pick up, sort, and deliver the school supplies to our local schools. You all are what makes Ashe County the most wonderful place in which to live and raise a family.

**BACK 2
SCHOOL**



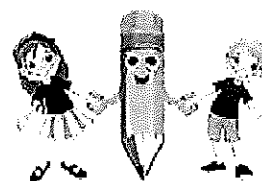
**DROP OFF
HERE!**

**12th ANNUAL
ASHE
COUNTY
SCHOOL
SUPPLY DRIVE**

June 26 - August 11

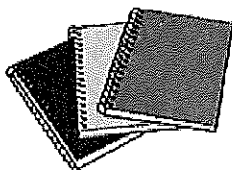
**FOR STUDENTS
IN NEED IN
ASHE COUNTY.**

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES
WILL BE
DONATED AMONG
ALL ASHE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

**Terri Hopkins @
336-246-4347**



**SPONSORED BY:
ASHE COUNTY
VOLUNTEER INITIATIVE**

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR**

Ashe County Volunteer Initiative School Supply Drive
August 11th, 2017

	Amount
Sharpies	3
Pencil Cases	13
Pencil Sharpners	9
Cap Erasers pk 25	10
Pencils pk 20	59
Gluesticks	97
Mechanical Pencils pk10	15
Pens pk 11	23
Scissors	12
Hand Santizers	16
Wide Ruled Paper	44
College Ruled Paper	50
Wide Ruled Notebooks	92
College Ruled Notebooks	105
Wide Ruled Composition	27
College Ruled Composition	13
Construction Paper	6
Colored Pencils pk 12	34
Markers	25
Crayons pk 24	81
Rulers	18
Index Cards	1
Calculators	3
Folders	124
Binders	13
Erasers pk 3	12
Bookbags	23
Staplers	2
Index Dividers	5
Tissues	3
Glue Bottles	20
Protractors	1
TOTAL	959

The Volunteer Voice

Ashe County Volunteer Initiative Program

The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others.



Meet one of our Overall Volunteer Winner's "Greg Topczewski." Greg volunteers here at ASA, Ashe Assisted Living, Mid-Way Baptist Church, the R U OK Program and serves as Chaplain to the Sheriff's Department. If you see Greg out and about thank him for all of his volunteer service.

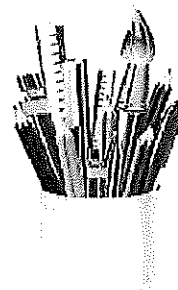
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County of Ashe—Where Volunteers Make the Difference

12TH ANNUAL SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE UNDERWAY

Now that the Ashe County school year is over, it is time to begin planning for the year ahead, which will be here before we know it. It seems the cost of sending children to school increases every year. This can be a stressful and difficult time for families, placing a hardship on many who struggle financially, which is especially true if they have to purchase the necessary school supplies for more than one child. In order to help these families and students, the Twelfth Annual Ashe County School Supply Drive began June 26th and will run through August 11th. School supplies that are donated will be divided and taken to all five schools where the Guidance Counselors will distribute supplies as needed. Drop off locations include LifeStore branches in Jefferson and W Jefferson, Fifth Third Bank, First Citizens Bank, Ashe Services for Aging, Jefferson Drug, Family Dollar, Dollar General Stores in Jefferson and W Jefferson, Ashe County Library, Medi Home Hospice and United Chemi-Con. Gift cards are also appreciated. For example, a \$15.00 gift card can be used to purchase a book bag filled with paper, pencils, glue, scissors and crayons. When purchasing please remember our high schoolers needs too!! If your business, church, agency or civic organization would like to participate, please contact Terri Hopkins, Ashe County Volunteer Coordinator at 336-246-4347. The Ashe County Volunteer Initiative Program sponsors this drive and thanks you for helping our youth succeed in school.



Ashe Services for Aging
Comprehensive Support for Better Senior Living



**NEEDS YOUR HELP
VOLUNTEER TODAY**

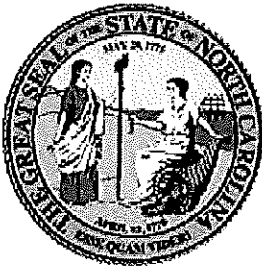
Ashe Services for Aging has volunteer opportunities with their Home Delivered Meals Program. Volunteers transport meals from Ashe Services for Aging, where they are prepared, and then to the homes of qualified individuals within the county. Volunteers are taken on a route with a staff member or another volunteer until they learn the clients, routes, and rules. Volunteers donate about two or three hours per day. Individuals can volunteer one day a week and up to five days a week. You may deliver independently or team up with another volunteer. If you would like to volunteer with the program or would like more information, please call Terri Hopkins, Ashe County Volunteer Coordinator, at (336) 246-4347.

32nd Annual Ashe County Commissioners Volunteer Awards Update



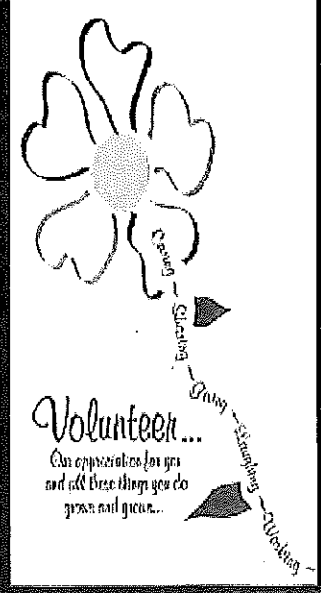
The Ashe County Volunteer Awards were held on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at the Ashe County High School with registration and refreshments at 6:15. The Ceremony began at 7:00 pm. Volunteers enjoyed entertainment from Taylon Hope Miller, who sang the National Anthem and several of her own songs from her new album. Volunteers received a certificate of appreciation and a gift. The 2017 Volunteer of the Year Awards winners are: Christmas in July Festival, West Jefferson Lions Club, West Jefferson United Methodist Church, Greg Topczewski, Dana Johnson, Ruth Anne Phipps, Bonnie Cox, Hannah Barker, and James "Jim" Wiles. The Volunteer of the Year award winners received a plaque, a framed certificate, and a gift. Over 414 volunteer nominations were received this year. *Thank you Ashe County Volunteers for all you do to make a difference in the lives of the people of Ashe County.*

Governor Awards Update



Each year, the Ashe County Volunteer Initiative Program sends volunteer nominations to the North Carolina Commission of Volunteerism for outstanding volunteers to be recognized on the State level. The Ashe County 2017 Governor Award winners are: Martin Little, Ashe Outreach, AEV (American Emergency Vehicles), Ken Glover, Shelter Baptist Church, Norma Rupard, Annie Brown, Julia Bassett, Bob Phipps, and Deane Childress. A private awards luncheon was held Monday, May 1, 2017, at Winner's Circle with the Ashe County Commissioners and County Manager. Volunteers received a framed certificate, a thank you letter from Governor Roy Cooper, and a lapel pin. *Our appreciation to each of you for always going that extra mile!*

Volunteers Needed



Ashe Services for Aging is in search of volunteers to help with clerical duties and someone to help in our exercise room.

We are looking for individuals who are courteous, friendly, and those who are advocates for seniors. Our Clerical volunteer will greet and direct visitors, answer and direct phone calls and perform some recordkeeping duties. In our exercise room, our volunteer we are looking for someone who knows their way around exercise equipment and can show others how to use the equipment. Make sure they stay hydrated and provide a safe environment for our seniors.

Volunteers give about four hours per day. Individuals can give one day a week and up to five days a week if desired.

If you would like to volunteer or would like more information, please call Terri Hopkins, Ashe County Volunteer Coordinator, at (336) 246-4347.



Hospice Volunteers Needed

What is Hospice?

Hospice is a special way of caring for individuals who are in the final stage of their lives due to a terminal illness. Hospice focuses on palliative care and symptom management rather than curative care. It is our goal to make sure our patients are as comfortable as possible and provide as much quality to their lives as possible. We strive to meet each patient's medical, emotional, psychological, social and spiritual needs.

What is a Volunteer?

Volunteers are truly the Heart of Hospice. They provide support to the patient and their families in many ways.

- Home visits, friendship, companionship
- Reading aloud, playing cards
- Respite for primary care giver
- Running errands or helping with Chores
- Listening

Other ways to Volunteer

- Covering the phones
- Making copies
- Filing
- Preparing newsletter mailings
- Sending bereavement mailings
- Public speaking in the community

There is so many ways in which you can help. If you have a caring and compassionate heart and want to be a help to others, then Hospice is a perfect way. If you are interested in becoming a Hospice volunteer, please call or email Jennifer Richardson to sign up today

Jennifer Richardson
Hospice Volunteer Coordinator
jrichardson@msa-corp.com, 336-246-6443

Ashe County Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers. We have many ways to get involved. Volunteering on the construction site is a terrific way to really see our mission in action, and to see the fruits of your labor at the end of the day. We welcome volunteers of any or no skill level who are over the age of 16. Volunteers age 16 and 17 must have a signed youth waiver in order to volunteer. We generally work on Saturdays 9am-3pm and lunch is provided. You don't have to swing a hammer to be an essential part of our work! We welcome volunteers to help out with our monthly, one-day Restores and other fundraising events or join one of our committees. To find out more or to see when our next work day at the site will be, contact us at:

Office Ph.: 336-846-2525 or Email: info@ashehabitat.org / Website: Ashehabitat.org / or find us and like us on Facebook. Come check us out at our new resale store, located at 127 Beaver Creek School Road, West Jefferson, NC 28694.



Habitat
for Humanity



**Ashe County
Volunteer Initiative
Program**

County of Ashe

Terri Hopkins, Volunteer Coordinator

Ashe Services for Aging
180 Chattyrob Lane
West Jefferson, NC 28694
Phone: (336) 246-4347
Fax: (336) 246-5724

OUR MISSION

*To support and enhance
volunteer opportunities and
services
in Ashe County*



Be the voice for a child in your community!

Guardian ad Litem volunteers:

- Advocate for abused and neglected children who are involved in court proceedings
- Give a few hours a week to working with the child's case
- Receive free training and the support of program staff
- Come from diverse backgrounds and share a united concern for our community's children

Guardian ad Litem Ashe County (336) 651-4421

www.volunteerforal.org



The 31st annual Christmas in July Festival opened Friday evening, June 30 at 3 pm with music, a street dance, and festival food at 5 p.m. to start off a weekend full of family fun. The Opening Ceremonies at 5:45 offered the presentation of colors, the National Anthem sung by Aubreanna Lovell, words of welcome, and a visit from Santa Claus himself! Festivities continued on Saturday, July 1st from 9am-7pm. Original, unique, hand crafted art and crafts was available from 100 vendors on Main Street and College Avenue. The Backstreet fea-

tured more crafts and our "Non-Profit Row" with samplings of the many organizations and agencies working in Ashe County. No festival would be complete without food and our Christmas in July promised a full selection of food options ranging from Asian, Greek, barbecue, sausages, and burgers to the traditional funnel cake, bloomin' onion, and Poppin' John's ice cream.

The Farmers Market was open on Friday Night and Saturday, Civil War Re-enactors offered a full schedule of activities in the Town Park and on the streets, the Arts Council offered Creation Station for children's arts activities, with St. Nick who made an appearance on Saturday and festival-goers enjoyed the roving street performances by Stilt walker Mark Lippard, the Magician Professor Whizzpop, the Interactive Theatre of Jef, and the Balloon Lady. The Main Stage featured the best of local and regional traditional music with a new band each hour, and the Community Stage featured dance presentations by local dance schools and the Junior Appalachian Musicians (JAM) Program.

Special thanks go to this year's corporate sponsors who made this event possible and to the many, many volunteers who worked hard all year long to plan and implement the Christmas in July Festival. For more information and a completed schedule of events, check out the website at www.christmasinjury.info.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY? CONSIDER THESE UPCOMING EVENTS AND CALL TODAY:

Volunteer Fair at Ashe County High School (Date yet to be determined by ACHS)

2017 Buddy Walk of the High Country (September 9 at Ashe County High School)

The Canned Food Drive (Begins in October)

National "Make a Difference Day" (October 28)

The Children's Christmas Project (December)



**When You
Volunteer
We All Grow!**



Come with your friends and join the fun.

Be a part of the ACHS

Volunteer Fair

Oct. 5th & 6th, 2017

11:30 –12:30 in the Auxiliary Gym

**VISIT THREE OR FOUR BOOTHS, FIND PLACES OF
INTEREST TO *YOU*. TALK TO THOSE INDIVIDUALS IN
ORDER TO HELP *YOU* TO DECIDE WHERE *YOU* MIGHT
WANT TO DO *YOUR* 30 HOURS OF
VOLUNTEERISM.**



Sponsored By: Ashe County Volunteer Initiative Program — Terri Hopkins, Volunteer Coordinator — 336-246-4347