

Food for Thought



Education · Nutrition · Connection

1075 General Newsletter

September 2021

Vol. 1 No. 2

Message from Executive Director Mary Ann LeRay

I am so excited to share the updates since our last newsletter!

Great progress is being made in fulfilling our mission of assisting with unmet needs in the areas of Nutrition, Education and Connection. Our annual Board Training was held on July 17, 2021 at Triune Holiness Church in Maysville. We are grateful to Triune and Sheri Smith, our board secretary, for hosting our meeting. During our time together, we worked on the Strategic Plan 2021-2025 and outlining the goals making sure the unmet needs of Jones County residents are being filled. Also at this meeting, the Executive Committee recommended and voted to offer the Executive Director position and I accepted. My heart is wrapped up in this great mission given to the church partners of Jones County. What a privilege to have the opportunity to work with our Board of Directors, volunteers, partners and donors!

Look how God has been blessing the mission!

- North Carolina Community Foundation funded a grant of \$40,000 from the Healing Communities Fund which will be used for general operations
- We received a grant of \$8600 from the VFG Fund through the Governor's Commission to hire a volunteer coordinator and create a training plan.
- 922 households were served from the Food Pantry July/August 2021

- 328.25 Volunteer Hours were logged July/August 2021
- 30 children benefited from the Art, Dance and Music Education during the week of July 19th made possible through a partnership with Atlantic Dance Theatre and NC Symphony
- Perfect 10 Fundraiser will be held October 10, 2021 - goal is to raise \$25,000 for the renovation and building of a teaching kitchen. We are delighted to have CarolinaEast Health Systems as our Title Sponsor!
- 150 children received new backpacks with non-perishable food/snacks at the Back to School Bash held at Jones Sr. High School/Partnership event with Jones County Parks and Recreation
- Asphalt Project completed with the leadership of John Taylor, Building and Grounds Chair

The Filling Station celebrates its 4th Anniversary August 2021.

Thank you for your support and most of all, prayers over this important work we are doing together as we assist in filling unmet needs in the areas of Nutrition, Education and Connection. You make a difference!

Mary Ann LeRay



Briles Johnson, NC Commission on Vol and Comm Service & Mary Ann

Board Member Spotlight: Charlie Dunn, Jr. Vice-Chair

Charlie Dunn, Jr. was born in Jones County, Phillips Crossroads Community. He graduated from Jones County HS in 1969 and moved to Hartford, CN. In January 1970 he joined the US Air Force from which he was medically discharged in 1980. He holds an Associate Degree From Coastal Carolina CC in General Education and a BA in Intermediate Education from UNCW.



Charlie is married to Shirley Barber Dunn and they have two children, daughters Nikki and Shannon as well as five grandchildren.

Charlie worked for the UFPS for 31 years before retiring and moving back to

Jones County in February 2012. Charlie was called to gospel ministry in 1982 and he is currently the pastor of Christian Faith Assembly Church in Trenton, NC. He is the Vice-Chair of the Jones County Commissioners and a Board member of Jones County Coming Together in Unity. He serves on the Jones County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, the Jones County Board of Health, and the Trillium Advisory Board.

The Filling Station is honored to have someone of Charlie's caliber who is passionate to help Jones County citizens with their unmet needs and to let his light shine before men that they might glorify his Father in heaven.

Staff Spotlight: Geraldine Eubanks

I was born and raised in Jones County on a farm. Graduated from Jones Central High School and married my husband of 57 years after graduation. I entered the workforce as a seamstress at the Kinston Shirt Company. After our daughter, Renae E. Banks was born, I returned to work at Richlands Textiles as a computer operator. I later had the opportunity to work with Jones County Schools. Our second child, Keith Eubanks was born and I stayed home for a short while. I continued to work with Jones County Schools until retirement in 2000. I had always liked to cook and try different recipes. In 2007, my husband, Felton, and I opened a restaurant/catering business in Kinston, NC. In 2013, my mother turned 100 years old and needed me to be home. We sold the building in 2014 and returned



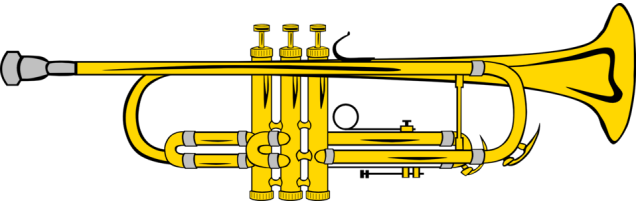
to take care of my mother until her death in December 2015.

September 2018 brought a life changing experience for us due to Hurricane Florence. Our home of 53 years was damaged and we found ourselves without a home. God saw the big picture and allowed us to see His goodness and mercy through friends, family and organizations such as The Filling Station. The Filling

Station was a vital part in our restoration process. I visited the FS and immediately I knew I needed to be part of this great place. The love and compassion goes far beyond expectation. This place is a ministry and I am grateful to have served as a volunteer and now welcomed as the new Volunteer Coordinator and Team Lead for the Food Pantry.

August in Pictures: Paving, Symphony Workshop, Dance & Art Camp





Lost your job? LCC is here to help YOU!

HRD Career Ready computer labs are open and available to assist you with:

- Updating your resumé
- Job application assistance
- Job searches
- Interviewing
- Changing to a new career
- Classes to upgrade your skills

Two locations are open to serve you! Starting September 7, 2021

LCC Jones County Campus:
Career Ready Lab
Room 111
Monday/Wednesday: 9 AM — 2 PM

The Filling Station:
221 Main St., Pollocksville
Computer Lab
Tuesday & Thursday: 9 AM — 1 PM

There is NO FEE if you are unemployed or underemployed!!!
Computer labs are social distanced and sanitized for your safety.

For more information, call:
Felicia Brinkley at 252.448.5021 or
Maria Robles at 252.527.6223, ext. 781

LENOIR
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
JONES COUNTY CENTER



Dear Jones County Community,

Save the Date

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2021 | 1:00-6:00

The Filling Station fundraiser,

“Jones County – A Perfect 10”



We are planning an afternoon of good country fun to raise funds and awareness of
The Filling Station and our community.

WE ARE “FILLING NEEDS”

We will be asking for support through voluntary donations.

The event will be held along 10 Mile Fork Road,
Kitty's Korner, etc... to Z.A.K.'s of Mallardtwn.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

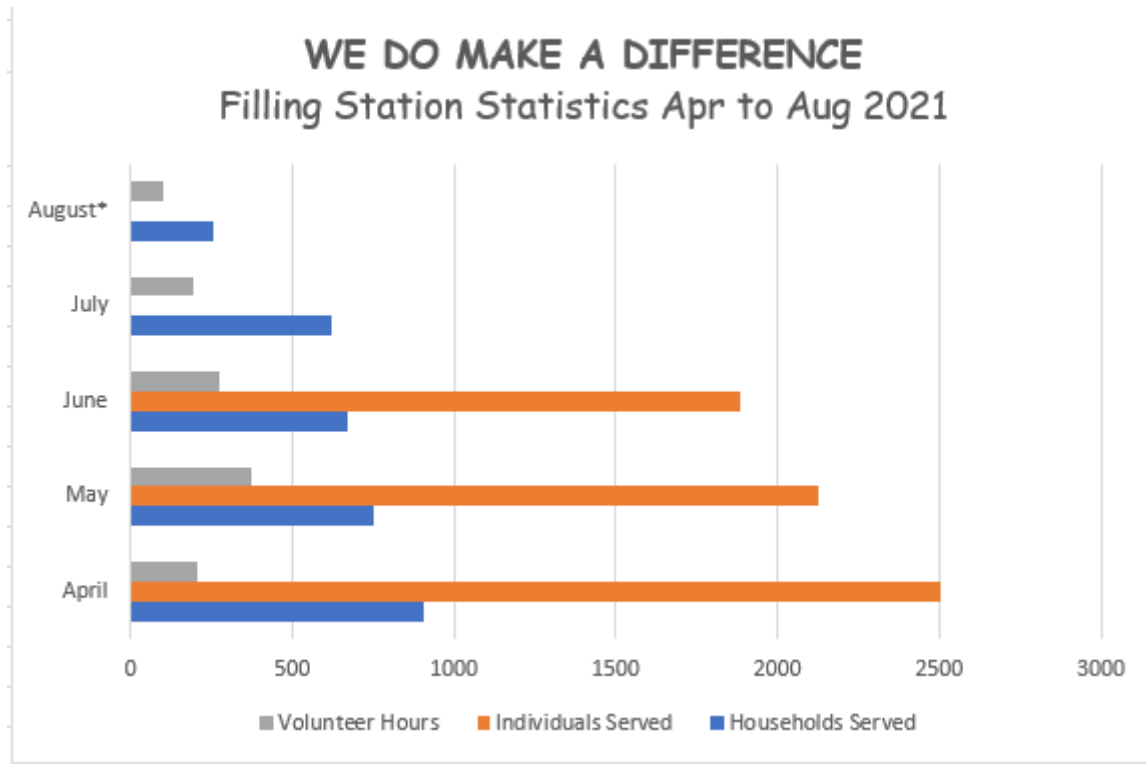
*Ceramics painting, Things From Yesteryear, a Hay Ride,
Moosical Entertainment, a Walk in the Woods, Farm Animals,
Cow Pie BINGO, and shopping at Z.A.K.'s.*

Visit <https://fillingstation1075.com/> or call Karen at 252-635-0828
for more information.

A County Wide Mission: Nutrition, Education, Connection

Our Partners: Lenoir Community College / Jones County Center
Coastal Women's Shelter / New Bern Radio Club

RAIN DATE OCTOBER 17, 2021



What your \$10 gift
buys at the store.



What your \$10 gift
buys at the Food Bank.



WHILE WE APPRECIATE DONATIONS OF FOOD, CASH DONATIONS ALLOW US TO PURCHASE MORE FOOD AND MEET OUR ORGANIZATIONAL EXPENSES.



Education · Nutrition · Connection

*Providing for the unmet spiritual,
nutritional and development needs
of Jones County residents.*

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Board Members

Chair: Maria Robles

Vice-Chair: Charlie Dunn, Jr.

Treas: Dr. Norma Sermon-Boyd

Secretary: Sheri Smith

John Bender

Bobby Darden

Willie Jones

Zack Koonce

Sylvia Miller

Clyde Murphy, Jr.

Karen Plaster

Cheryl Simons

Willie Smith

John Taylor

Carol Mattocks, Board Advisor

Tharesa Lee, Consultant

Mary Ann LeRay, Ex. Dir.

Judy Hills, Editor

Idea for Praying on Hunger

Taken from Tearfund: Enough Food For Everyone IF:

Unity adds another dimension to our praying. As we join together with others in the Body of Christ to make our requests before God, our agreement has power. We encourage you to make space in your church services or small group meetings to pray for the hungry.

- As a symbolic act - ask people to line up to receive a handful of rice each. (If you can try to estimate 80g /3oz of rice before and use this same method of measuring as you distribute - it can be a small container). For many in our world, this small portion represents their daily food intake.
- Invite people to spend 5 minutes in silence, feeling the rice in their hands and reflecting on what it would be like to have so little food, and so little variety in their diet.
- Invite everyone to use this silent time to let God's Spirit stir up a prayer within them. It doesn't have to be clever or complex ... it should just be a heart-cry to God.
- Then give 5 minutes for people to pray together in groups, or to speak their prayers out loud for the whole group.
- At the end of the service or small group you can gather up the rice that was distributed in a container and use it in a communal meal.

LET'S COVER OUR COUNTY SEAT IN PRAYER!

Calling all Jones County believers!

Sat., Sept. 25 beginning 9 am at King's Chapel FWB Church

Purpose: To encourage and energize our churches & pastors and bring revival in our Jones County.

Participants may walk or drive. We will stop to pray and bring encouragement to 6 churches and conclude at the County Courthouse.

Sponsored by Jones County Coming Together in Unity

In the future we would like to do this in each Jones County community.

