

---

## Message from Executive Director Mary Ann LeRay

**Progress** is the word for this Newsletter! Growth continues as we assist in filling unmet needs in the areas of Nutrition, Education and Connection to the residents of Jones County.

Thanks be to God for the many blessings over this mission. The impossible becomes possible when church families from all denominations throughout Jones County connect and use their time, talent and treasure to serve the residents of Jones County. Our foundation is built upon Psalm 107:5, "all those were hungry and thirsty, their lives were ebbing away". Our core values are Educate, Empower and Equip those who need a "hand up". Our corporate partners, service and onsite partners along with generous funding from Foundations make this work a joy.

**P - Partnership** - We are excited about a new **partnership** with the American Heart Association. "Together we are creating more community lifesavers. This county wide initiative was made possible thanks to the Harold H. Bate Foundation." Erin Fox, Sr. Director of Development.

**R - Renovation** - Our **renovation** plans are going well in spite of the challenges during a pandemic. We have 2 new offices and reopened the Lenoir Community College computer lab early September. In addition, we now have a beautiful classroom available for programming. Thank you Ed Jekel for taking the lead on this project and John Taylor, Building and Grounds Committee Chair, for many hours of expertise.

**O- Opportunity** - We had the **opportunity** to meet with Jacob Morgan, Jones County Extension Manager, in September about the vision of building a "teaching kitchen" to provide the much needed facility for nutrition education. "We look forward to partnering with The Filling Station if they are able to obtain the funds to build a teaching kitchen for both online and in-person food preparation classes." Jacob Morgan

**G - Gift** - Thank you to the Pollocksville Rotary Club who donated funds to be able to purchase drawstring Filling Station LOGO bags to be distributed at the Trunk or Treat event sponsored by the Pollocksville Fire Department on October 30, 2021. Over 100 **gift** bags will be handed out to the children of Jones County.

**R - Resource** - Thank you to The Anonymous Trust Foundation for their faith in our mission and supplying **re-sources** to purchase nutritional snacks for the children's bags distributed during the Trunk or Treat event sponsored by Pollocksville Fire Department.

**E - Energy** - The Filling Station continues to be blessed with volunteers who bring the **energy** necessary to serve on the Board of Directors, volunteer in the Food Pantry and beautification projects on our campus.

**S - Significant** - This is the word I would use to describe the committee who led our 1st annual fundraiser "Jones County - A Perfect 10". We set the goal in April to raise \$25,000 for building the Teaching Kitchen and it happened with this amazing committee led by Karen Plaster.. Also we are pleased to announce that the Filling Station received a \$5,000 grant in October from International Paper—for the teaching kitchen. [Click here](#) for information and pictures from A Perfect 10.



**S - Success** - Ingredients for "Jones County - A Perfect 10" **success** always includes a great Title Sponsor as Carolina East Health Systems and many other great organizations, donors, volunteers and hosts to highlight the beauty of Jones County while giving back to a great cause. Teamwork Makes the Dream Work!

*Mary Ann LeRay*



Above: Partnership with the American Heart Association

Left: LCC Computer Lab Coordinator Felecia Brinkley





## Spotlight: Clyde Murphy, Jr. Board Member

Clyde Murphy, Jr. was born April 7, 1952 and is a 1970 graduate of Jones Sr. High School. He married his high school sweetheart Julia Adell Ward in 1972. He and Julia have three children and four grandchildren.

Clyde joined USMC in 1973 and served for four years. He was stationed at Cherry Point, NC., while there he became an Aircraft Mechanic, A/C crew chief and air crew member. Clyde then worked at the Naval Air Rework Facility (NARF) for 33yrs, from which he retired in January 2010 as an A/C sheet metal work leader.

He has served as Jones Co. Recreation Department board member for over 25 years. volunteered as assistant coach for the Jones Senior High School Football team, coached T-ball, Coach Pitch, Little League Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, volleyball, and Jones Co. Pop Warner Football. Clyde was an instructor of the Jones County's first Girl Scout Drill Team in 1978.

Clyde is a member of Clinton Chapel Memorial AME Zion Church in Pollocksville where he serves as Trustee, Sunday School teacher, class leader of youth, and choir member.

When asked why he volunteers with the Filling Station, Clyde replied, "I like putting smiles on someone face. If I can help somebody as I live each day, then my living will not be in vain!"

The Filling Station could not exist without volunteers like Clyde!

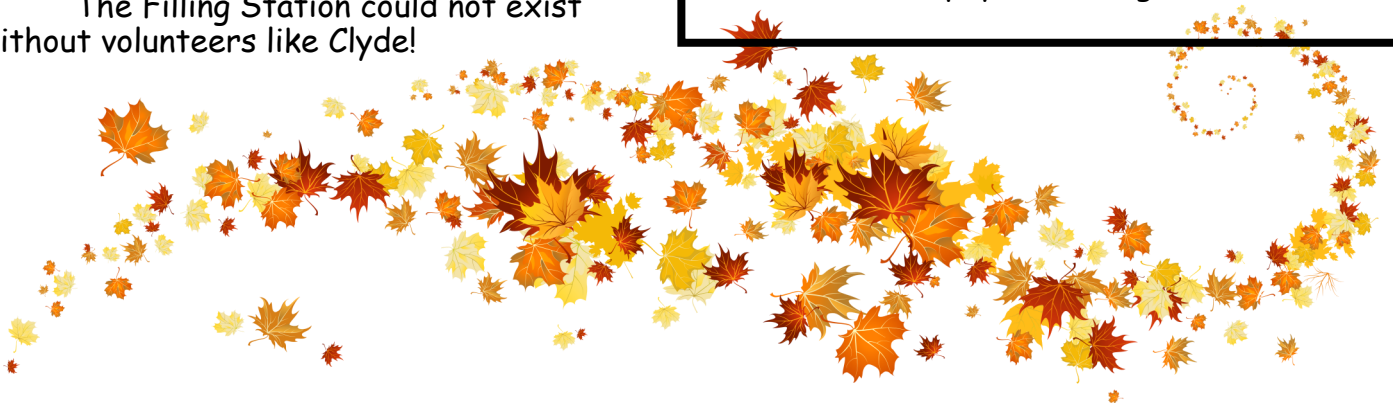
## Spotlight: Julia Murphy, Volunteer

Julia Murphy and her husband Clyde were honored on the 4th Anniversary of the Filling Station for logging over 200 volunteer hours as a couple—the most logged for volunteers.

Julia runs the Commodity Supplement Food Program which serves 125 senior citizens each month with a balanced food box. Her commitment to Service and connecting with those who need a "hand up" inspires those around her.



Julia Murphy on left and Clyde  
Murphy, Jr. on right.





Perfect 10—Was Perfect!





Perfect 10—Was Perfect!



Jones County - A Perfect 10

Thank you Sponsors!

CAROLINA EAST  
HEALTH SYSTEM

Mile Sponsors

Harold H Bate Foundation  
Jones Onslow EMC  
Segal Family Charities



## Giving Tuesday by Mary Ann LeRay

August 2017, The Filling Station opened its doors to the community in assisting with filling unmet needs in the areas of Nutrition, Education and Connection. We have experienced many successes this past year. Due to the excellent leadership of our Board of Directors, Food Pantry Director and a New Executive Director, we have been able to build momentum as we move into our 5th year. The Food Pantry has grown to over 800-1000 households serving over 10,000 individuals due to the increased demand due to the Pandemic. Plans are unfolding for the development of a Teaching Kitchen for the county. The mission continues to flourish with a new partnership Atlantic Dance Theatre to offer Art and Dance Camp in our Garden Venue and grow food to be used in the new kitchen. None of this would be possible without the support of our church and corporate part-

nerships throughout Jones County and beyond.

How does the Giving Tuesday project benefit your nonprofit?

The Giving Tuesday project benefits our nonprofit in many ways. As a new nonprofit, it is a great platform to connect with all types of organizations for encouragement. The creativity and excitement about the missions of each nonprofit promotes loving your neighbor as yourself. Our organization was founded in a town of 300 nestled in a county of 10,000 located in an area of 473 square miles. The Filling Station foundation is built on Psalm 107:5, "all those who were hungry and thirsty, their lives were ebbing away."

We invite you to learn more and partner in serving the residents of Jones County. [fillingstation1075.com/donate](http://fillingstation1075.com/donate)

## Filling Station Participates in New Bern GIV3

**NEW BERN GIV3**  
TIME TALENT TREASURES  
#GIVINGTUESDAY

*Carry it Forward*

NOVEMBER 30, 2021  
GIVINGTUESDAY EVENT

### THE GIVINGTUESDAY MISSION:

GivingTuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. GivingTuesday is now a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity.

#### A MISSION TO CARRY IT FORWARD.

GivingTuesday has been observed in the New Bern community since the movement began in 2012. Typically a day of recognition for local nonprofits, it was realized that the global day of giving could be more.

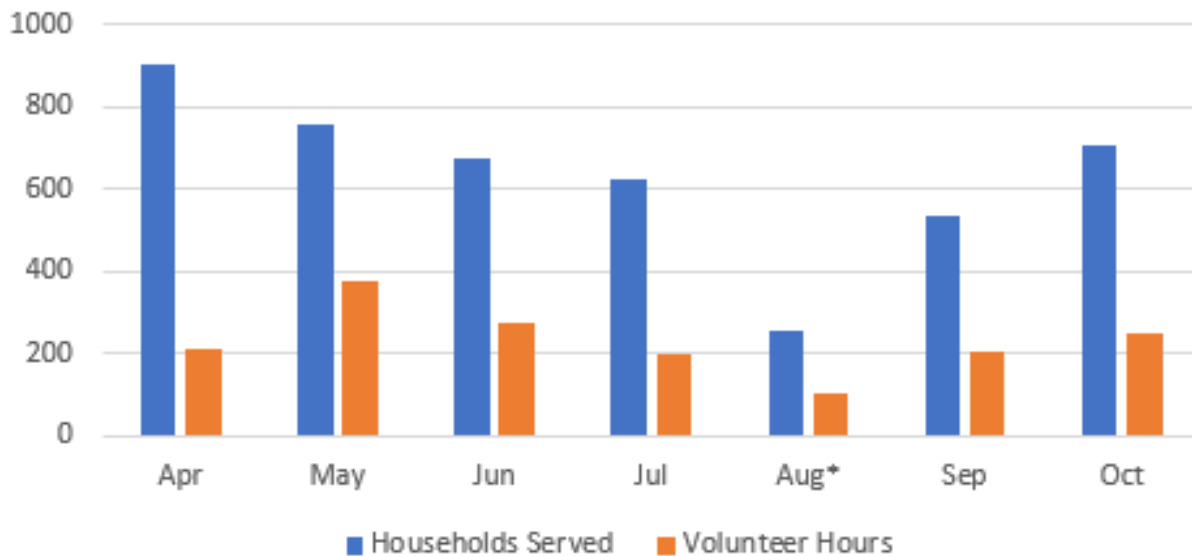
The first annual Carry it Forward event was held in 2020 and aided close to 40 local nonprofits in generating over \$15,000 in support of their community-centered missions. Organizations safely gathered and stood "together" in the midst of one of the toughest years that has ever been faced by nonprofits. This would not have been possible without the support of donors and community leaders like you.

Your sponsorship of this event is shared with all of the participating nonprofits, making a wide-spread impact in your community. Please consider sponsoring the 2021 event.



## WE DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

### Filling Station Statistics 2021



\* Food Pantry operations closed 2.5 weeks for paving project

## COVID-19-One Year Later: Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC



"Without the Food Bank in this crisis, we would have no way to feed the number of clients we are serving and certainly not be able to provide the fresh fruit and vegetables we provide. Our partnership with the Food Bank is the only reason we are the success we are right now."

Roxann Lansdowne Mother Hubbard's Cupboard (our Partner Agency)

*From the Winter 2021 Food Bank Newsletter*





Education · Nutrition · Connection

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

PO Box 222

221 Main Street  
Pollocksville, NC 28573

252.224.1127

[info@fillingstation1075.com](mailto:info@fillingstation1075.com)  
<https://fillingstation1075.com/>  
[Facebook.com/FS1075](https://Facebook.com/FS1075)

### **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:

**Digging Deep** There are several passages in the Bible where God's goodness to his people is demonstrated by his willingness to provide food and drink for them, and where having enough of the things we need seems to be connected to our righteousness. This raises some difficult questions when we grapple with the reasons why so many innocent people go hungry in our world.

Ask people to get into groups of 3-4, then invite them to study a Scripture on this theme. (Some suggestions: Psalm 65:9-13, Psalm 107:4-9, Psalm 145:8-21, Proverbs 13:20-25, Luke 1:46- 55).

Invite them to use the following question as a springboard for their discussions: "What can we conclude about God's promise to provide for the poor and hungry when so many are forced to live without enough food?"

Encourage groups not to worry about finding easy answers, but simply to air their thoughts and questions. Then ask all the groups to spend 10 minutes or so in prayer, allowing their discussion to shape the prayers they pray.

