

Food for Thought



Nutrition · Education · Connection

1075 General Newsletter

January 2025

Vol. 6 No. 6

Executive Director's Message

"Write your vision upon tablets and wait for the appointed time. Though it will linger, wait for it and it will certainly come and will not delay." Habakkuk 2:2-3

We often hear this message at the beginning of a New Year.

January is full of conversations about new goals, vision boards, and resolutions.

Dr. John C. Maxwell says, "we overestimate the event and underestimate the process."

When I opened my January 2024 letter with this scripture reference, I didn't quite know how challenging the "waiting" would be as the new warehouse project unfolded

this year. You will see in this newsletter edition that after months of "waiting" and working, the vision for a new warehouse became apparent to the rest of the world.

While working on permits, procurements, contracts and schedules,

The Filling Station continued to assist in filling unmet needs in the

areas of Nutrition, Education and Connection serving the residents of Jones County.

What happened in November and December?

- Served over 1400 households from the Food Pantry

- Over 700 Volunteer hours (food pantry, admin and facilities)
- Leadership Jones - 10 Graduates
- Pollocksville Elementary "Leader in Me" program partnership
- Ham Radio Course - 8 new licensed technicians
- Sponsored 15 Angels with the Salvation Army
- Blessings in a Backpack partnership with Garber Church - 16 families
- Nutrition Education Classes held with N.C Cooperative Extension
- Sponsored 15 families - partnership with Jones County Schools
- Participated in Giving Tuesday Event with New Bern Chamber of Commerce
- Hosted Coffee and Cocoa with Santa during Christmas on Main in Pollocksville
- Groundbreaking for New Warehouse - November 13, 2024
- ANOTHER BIG THANK YOU to GoldenLeaf Foundation for the \$227,720 grant!
- Met the Anonymous Trust Challenge Grant \$10,000
- Awarded \$20,000 grant from Bate Foundation - new warehouse



Continued on p. 2

Mary Ann's Column Continued

- Awarded a grant from Weyerhaeuser \$5000
- Added a NEW class to the Teaching Kitchen - Dr. Lisa Yanni begins in January

The Board of Directors and I are deeply grateful for the privilege to carry out this great work.

Thank you for the continued love, prayer and support in this county wide mission.

Time, Talent and Treasure assist in filling unmet needs - You make a difference!

The Gift of Health and Wellness ALL YEAR LONG

Coming UP next year - Neuse River Bridge Run - May 2 & 3 , 2024 (sponsor a youth)

The Filling Station is one of 5 organizations to benefit from this annual event. (Bridgerun.org)

Mary Ann LeRay, Executive Director

Getting in the Spirit of Christmas



4 Thank you Sharon Bender, Jane Peele and Rachel Fisher for shopping and packing the gifts for the 15 Angels - partnering with the Salvation Army



Mrs. Claus and Elfie from the North Pole welcome clients to the Food Pantry on Dec 17th Thank you Barbara Smith and Janet Purvis



FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES PROGRAM

Leadership Jones Cohort 4 Graduates

LEADERSHIP JONES
...A GRASSROOTS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



COHORT 4 GRADUATION
You are cordially invited to join us in celebration...

Monday, November 18
11:00am - 1:00pm
Jones County Civic Center
832 NC- 58, TRENTON, NC

Sponsored, funded & supported by:



INTENTIONAL EXCELLENCE
SECU Foundation
PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED

Leadership Jones Graduation - Thank you to Chick Fil-A and State Employees Credit Union for funding this leadership program



Leadership Jones Graduates Nov 2024



Pollocksville Elementary School "Leader in Me" group attended the Leadership Jones Graduation



Leadership Jones Graduation - Thank you to the Jones County Civic Center for hosting



New Warehouse Underway



Approximately 80 people in attendance for the Groundbreaking Ceremony on November 13, 2024



Preparing for New Warehouse



Pictured Left to Right: Meredith Ball, GoldenLeaf Foundation, Bobby Darden, Board Chair of The Filling Station, Jennifer King, Deputy Director of Administration for Jones County, Jay Bender, Mayor Town of Pollocksville, Rep Chris Humphrey, Mary Ann LeRay, ED, Clyde Murphy, VP of The Filling Station, Bob and Carol Mattocks

Lots Going On in November & December



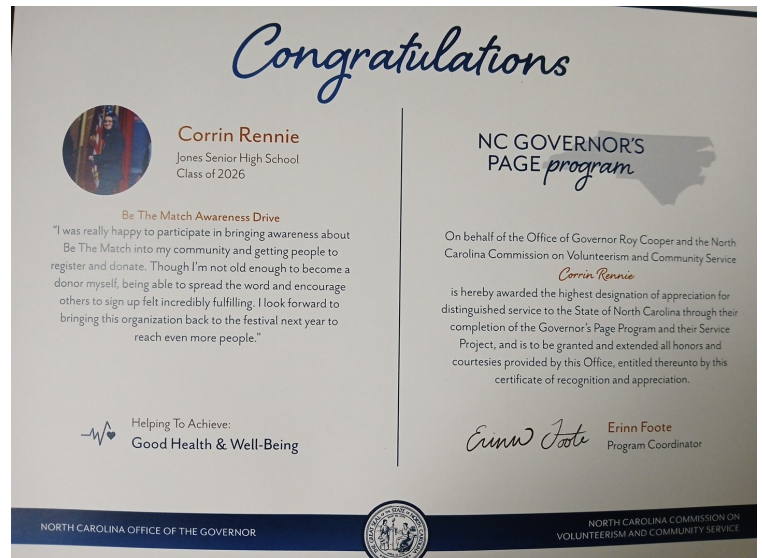
Truck from Wisconsin delivered the freezer and refrigeration panels for the new warehouse



Continued progress preparing for the new warehouse



Mary Ann LeRay, Commissioner for N.C. Commission for Community Service and Volunteerism, attended the Governors Page Reception at the Governor's Mansion to honor Corrine Rennie for her service as a Governor Page



Certificate honoring Corrin Rennie



Warehouse taking shape

Making and Using Flour



Sarah Ware, N.C. Cooperative Extension, leading a class on Flour Milling



Making Pasta



Lots Going On in November & December



Great to partner with Pollocksville Elementary School "Leader in Me" program - group visited to learn more about The Filling Station story and take a tour



Thank you Coastal Center for Hope and Healing for your partnership all year long



Giving Tuesday 2024 held at Union Point Park celebrating with over 50 non profit organizations Pictured left to right: Mary Ann LeRay, John Taylor (Facilities Chair), Marcy Hoffman



Thank you to the Catholic Daughters from St. Paul's Church for the generous donation of snacks for our food pantry.



Food Pantry - Wonderful Healthy veggies from the Food Bank of CENC

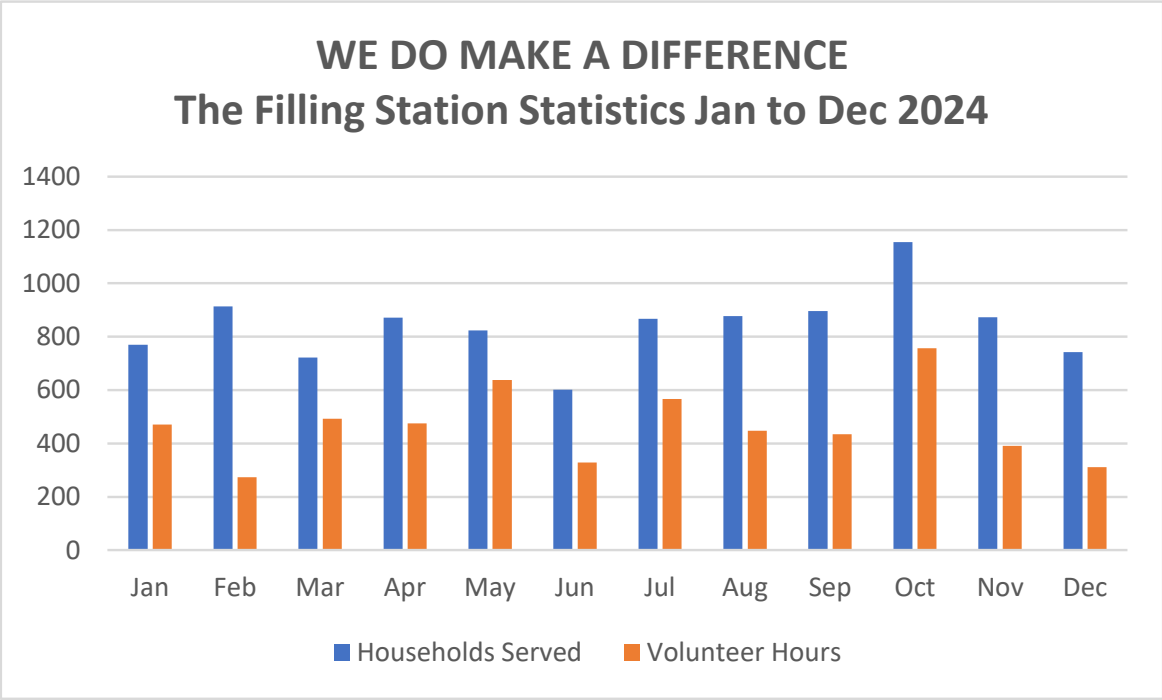
Christmas on Main in Pollocksville



Marcy Hoffman, Admin Coordinator, Bobby Darden, Board Chair, Mary Ann LeRay, ED - Christmas on Main in Pollocksville sponsored by the Pollocksville Rotary Club. The Filling Station offered HOT cocoa, coffee and cookies PLUS photos with Santa in the front lobby. Mary Ann, with Hilda and Jimmy Bender.



Christmas on Main Elves and Friends gathering in the Front Lobby



June: Food Pantry closed last week due to camp.



Annual Board Training | New Bern Chamber of Commerce
— July 2024 —

Front row: Carol Mattocks, Board Advisor, Bobby Darden, Willie Smith, Mary Ann LeRay
Back Row Left: Greg Thornburg, John Taylor, Estelle Surles, Emily Andrews, Colby Jordan, Christopher Rogerson
Back Row Right: Kenneth Spivey, Michael Pretty, Charley Jones, Sheron Bender, Ella McDaniel, Ellis Banks
Board Members not pictured: Clyde Murphy, Jr., Beverly Collins



Nutrition · Education · Connection

Our mission is to assist with filling the unmet needs in the areas of nutrition, education and connection serving the residents of Jones County.

PO Box 222

221 Main Street
Pollocksville, NC 28573

252.224.1127

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

Board Members

Chair: Bobby Darden

Vice-Chair: Clyde Murphy

Treas: Willie Smith

Secretary: Beverly Collins

Emily Andrews

Ellis Banks

Sheron Bender

Charley Jones

Colby Jordan

Ella McDaniel

Michael Pretty

Christopher Rogerson

Kenneth Spivey

Estelle Surles

John Taylor

Greg Thornburg

Carol Mattocks, Board Advisor

Tharesa Lee, Consultant

Mary Ann LeRay, Ex. Dir.

Judy Hills, Editor

Lutheran Meal Prayer

God of Promise,

*Your Word is as sweet as honey, and your
promise fills us with life.*

*As we gather around the table to eat and drink,
we remember all those who go without the
nutrition needed to sustain them.*

*Bless the farmers who work in the fields,
helping them produce what is needed for life.*

*Bless the children whose growing bodies need
the nourishment of the harvest.*

*And bless us with the wisdom to meet them
face to face.*

*Give to us all your daily bread, and fill us with
your everlasting promise of life.*

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Filling Station, a dream born out of a long vacant, propane company building, opened its doors on August 28, 2017. Why the Filling Station name? During a walk-through of the building, someone noticed a red hazardous material warning sign with a flame and the number 1075, the DOT classification for propane. The group discovered that Psalm 107:5 read: "They were hungry and thirsty; their lives were slipping away." A new mission was launched and it was called "The Filling Station" to refer to the building's prior use as well as to its new purpose. Our mission is to assist with filling unmet needs in the areas of Nutrition, Education, and Connection serving the residents of Jones County.