

PANTRY PICKIN'S



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Upcoming Events

A Taste of Pickens

November 14, 2015

Financial Assistance:

First, Third and Fourth Friday of each month. The first 10 people through the door are seen

5TH ANNUAL PASTOR'S POT= SUCCESS!

One word describes the 5th Annual Pastor's Pot—SUCCESS!! This year's event was the most fruitful to date. An overwhelming sized crowd descended on the Jasper United Methodist Church on the morning of May 2. Patrons were ready to taste the delectable dishes that waited on the other side of the doors. Once released, they enjoyed BBQ, Chili, Cajun Shrimp Pistolets, soup, stews and scrumptious desserts. With drinks provided by Bojangles and Kroger to wash it down, the people left the building sated and satisfied. Mrs. Thelma Cagle provided our musical entertainment for the day and was wonderful!

When the dust settled and the money was counted, CARES was the one that had achieved success for the day. We were able to raise \$8,635 to allow us to continue serving that citizens of Pickens County that need a helping hand.

Awards were given for the Most Money Raised by a church, Larger Congregations and Smaller Congregations. The former was awarded to Jasper United Methodist Church and the latter was awarded to Mountain View Alliance Church. What an effort on the part of these two churches! The people voted on the Best Taste Award. This went to The Episcopal Church of the Holy Family for their wonderful Cajun Shrimp Pistolets.

Once again, the event was brought to fruition by Katharine Armentrout and Joyce Dewey. The remainder of the committee was made up of representatives from many of our area churches. We believe this helped to make this Pastor's Pot Run-neth Over Challenge the best that we have ever had. Mark your calendars for May 1, 2016. Get your napkins tucked in your shirt and your utensils ready.



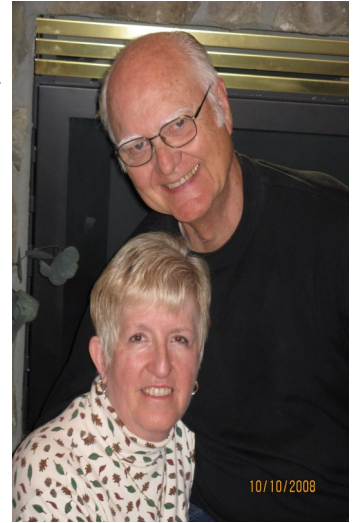
CARES VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

This quarter, we would like to highlight volunteers Jim and Amy Derr. We look forward to seeing their smiling faces every Monday. Often thought they are off traveling around the country. This is their story as told by Jim:

“We were married 56 years ago in Hillsdale, Michigan. When I go out of the Navy, we settled in Angola, Indiana for a few years and then on to Florida for 28 years where I sold house and car insurance and Amy worked as an office manager for three surgeons for 20 years.

Upon retirement, we moved to Jasper, Georgia and have lived here for 15 years. Five to eight years ago, Pegge and Ed Murphy asked us to join them to work at CARES and we have been here ever since. We enjoy what we do and the people we work with. As long as our health holds out, we plan to see you all on as many Monday’s as we can”.

Thank you both for your service and dedication to CARES, we hope to continue to see you for many years to come.



Jim & Amy Derr

“We enjoy what we do and the people we work with”.

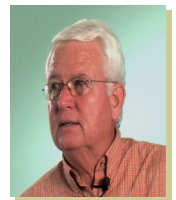
FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

CARES has just completed our 18th year of full operation. God has used us to help thousands and thousands of people in their time of need. We are currently giving out 24,000 orders of food per year and we have helped 265 families in the last 12 months with Financial Assistance. We have also helped some 24 clients get their GED, technical training and attend college this past year.

I am not big on numbers, but these numbers do a lot for me. Everyone can be extra BLESSED by seeing all we have served this past year.

I am not big on numbers, but these numbers do a lot for

“God has used us to help thousands and thousands of people in their time of need”.



Larry

Pantry Pickin's

FROM THE FRONT LINES

In past issues we have spoken about the Photo ID system and we are so thankful for our volunteers, Cindy Dunning, Mary Ann Stafford, Melanie Johnson and Cyril Russell-Howland, who greet our clients and get their visits recorded and direct them to the counselors if necessary.

The other half of our reception area consists of Doris Martin, Janice Wolford and Carole Torrey. These ladies are the cog to our wheel. It is their job to write down each client that comes in, along with the number in their family and their ID number. This is crucial in allowing me to create reports showing how

many clients we serve weekly and monthly. They list the non-food items needed by each one and they pass their picklist to the shoppers in the warehouse. The picklist shows the number of family members, their ages and genders and any dietary restrictions they may have. Without this trio of ladies, and others that fill in, we would be unable to complete the cycle.

These ladies know our clients, they ask about their families, they are aware of problems and crisis that exist and they give snacks to the children that come. These are ladies that really care about the people that walk through the door. We commend you ladies, on an outstanding job!



Doris Martin



Carole Torrey



Janice Wolford

"These ladies are the cog to our wheel".

10 worst states in America to make a living in 2015—Erick McWhinnie, The Cheat Sheet

We all want to make a good living, but the rat race doesn't provide the same course obstacles in every state. America's status quo now includes a painfully obvious split economy. Some citizens are experiencing a rebound in prosperity, while others are dumbfounded by the use of "recovery" in headlines. Either way, location plays a major part in your personal finances.

The United States is a collection of mini-economies. MoneyRates.com recently analyzed every state to find where workers have the best or worst shot to make a good living, based on employment statistics and living expenses. The financial site evaluated the five key factors listed below.

Average wages: Average annual wage data is from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

State tax rates: MoneyRates analyzed the state tax information collected by the research group Tax Foundation.

Cost of living: Data was sourced from the Council for Community and Economic

Research's Cost of Living Index.

The unemployment rate: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Incidents of workplace illness, injuries, and fatalities: This workplace safety data is from the BLS, which sourced data from employer reports to the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the BLS Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses.

After finishing second on the list last year, Texas ranks as the best state in 2015 to make a living. The Lone Star State swapped places with runner-up Washington, while Wyoming finished third. All three top states do not have a state income tax, and offer attractive employment opportunities in addition to favorable cost of living environments. Virginia, Illinois, Michigan, Colorado, Delaware, Ohio, and Utah round out the best 10.

Let's take a closer look at the 10 worst states in America to make a living in 2015.

10. Connecticut
Connecticut ranks as the No. 10 worst state in America to make a living in 2015, despite

improving by five spots this year. The average income sounds impressive at \$55,060, but Connecticut has a high cost of living and high unemployment. In fact, Hawaii, California, Alaska, and New York are the only states with a higher cost of living. Workplace safety is also a concern. The estimated state tax on average income is \$2,578.30.

9. Rhode Island

Residents looking to flee Connecticut may want to think twice before considering its neighbor, Rhode Island. The Ocean State ranks as the No. 9 worst state to make a living. That's an improvement from No. 4 last year, but the state still has high unemployment and the average income of \$49,570 is not enough to make up for the high cost of living. On the positive, workplace safety is in line with the rest of the nation, and the estimated state tax on average income totals \$1,858.88, significantly lower than other states like New York, Massachusetts, Maine, and Connecticut.

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"Paradise is not cheap. . ."

89 Cares Drive
P. O. Box 1342
Jasper, GA 30143

706-253-4777
Food Ministry/Director

706-253-4778
Financial Assistance

Hours of Operation

Monday
12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
(food only)

Wednesday
10 a.m. - Noon
(emergency food only &
new clients)

Friday
8:30 a.m-Noon
(food)

*Financial Assistance is
provided the First and
Third & Fourth Friday of
each month. The first 10
financial clients are
assisted*

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

*If you know someone who
would like to volunteer,
please have them call
Larry Starr at
706-253-4777.*



Happy Birthday!!

April

- 8 Cindy Dunning
- 11 Barbara Nuccel
- 12 Kristal Beaver
- 13 John Rinehart
- 16 Rieko Candee
- 17 Tommy Bostick
- 27 Priscilla Apodaca
- 27 Bob Nuccell
- 27 Don Wilson
- 28 James Wilson

May

- 6 Tim Jordan
- 7 Edie Przemieniecki
- 20 Ralph Dobbins
- 21 Angie Jones
- 27 Jenny Hobson
- 31 Larry Starr

June

- 3 Allen Wilson
- 7 Katharine Armentrout
- 13 Diane Hales
- 18 Sue Parnell
- 26 Jim Derr
- 28 Jill Cohn



Continued from page 3

8. South Dakota

South Dakota has several positive factors, but still ranks as the No. 8 worst state to make a living. It has no state income tax, low unemployment, and relatively safe work environments. However, low unemployment does not appear to be translating into higher wages. The average income is only \$37,300, the second lowest in the nation (Mississippi is the worst at \$36,750). Furthermore, the cost of living index comes in at 101.3, the best on this list, but fairly average compared to the rest of the U.S.

7. Montana

Montana suffers much of the same economic pitfalls as South Dakota, and ranks as the No. 7 worst state to make a living. Montana enjoys low unemployment and an average cost of living index, but the average income is \$39,880. Unlike South Dakota, Montana also has a state income tax, costing an estimated average of \$2,208.72. Making matters worse, Montana's workplace safety ranks as one of the worst in the nation.

6. California

There's a steep price to pay for sunshine and ocean waves all year long. California has one of the biggest economies in the world, but managed to rank as the No. 6 worst state to make a living. The average income of \$53,890 does not go far with a cost of living index of 138.2, the second highest in the nation. Furthermore, unemployment is high and workplace safety is poor. The estimated state tax on average income is \$2,523, respectable when compared to other high-cost states.

5. Vermont

The Green Mountain State may not actually be a good location for you to earn some green. Vermont ranks as the No. 5 worst state to make a living. It has a low unemployment rate and a reasonable estimated state tax on average income of \$1,829.47, but that's not enough to compensate for a high cost of living and an average income of \$44,540. Vermont is also tied with Maine for the highest frequency of workplace safety incidents.

4. West Virginia

West Virginia ranks as the No. 4 worst state to make a living. The state suffers from one of the worst unemployment rates in the nation. When residents do find a job, disappointment may accompany their paychecks. The average income is only \$37,880, while the cost of living is slightly more than average. On the positive, the estimated state tax on average income comes to \$1,479.60, the second lowest on the list.

3. Maine

Maine ranks as the No. 3 worst state to make a living. The biggest negative factor impacting workers is the high amount of workplace safety incidents. Maine is tied for the highest frequency of workplace illness, injuries, and fatalities (5.3 workplace incidents per 100 workers). The cost of living is also above average, while the average income is \$42,140. The estimated state tax on average income is \$2,709.16.

2. Oregon

Oregon ranks as the No. 2 worst state to make a living, plummeting 11 spots from the prior year. The state's cost of living index is nearly 30% above the national average at 128.5. The average income is \$46,850. In addition to high unemployment, Oregon has one of the highest rates of workplace safety incidents in the nation (4.2 workplace incidents per 100 workers). In March 2015, Oregon noted that there was a slight rise in worker fatalities in 2014 from the previous year. The estimated state tax on average income is \$3,981.50.

1. Hawaii

Paradise is not cheap. Hawaii ranks as the No. 1 worst state to make a living in 2015. The state's cost of living index is a whopping 170.8, driven by housing costs. The estimated state tax on average income totals \$3,073.77. An average income of \$46,230 is in line with the rest of the nation, but when you adjust for taxes and the cost of living, workers in Hawaii get the equivalent value of just \$0.55 for every \$1.00 they make.

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Reminder: Register your Kroger Plus Card at www.krogercommunityrewards.com and choose CARES as your organization to support. When you shop, money is given to CARES. It's an easy way to feed those in need as you are feeding yourself. You need to re-register every year.

August is re-enrollment time!! Please remember to re-enroll your card in August 2015 and select CARES as the organization to donate to. Thank you!!





Lorene Ballew
Board Member since 2014

CARES SERVICE

Volunteer, Board Member

SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

Volunteer, CARES, 2011-present

Member, Marble Valley Friends

Member, Tate United Methodist Church, 2001-present

Lay Leader and other committees, Tate United Methodist Church

Previously, Mission Chair, Tate United Methodist Church; Mead West-Vaco 1963-2009, Group Leader for 25 years

EDUCATION

Diploma, High School

Married to Harley Eugene (Gene) Ballew 1974 until his death in 2009. Two sons, one stepson, two stepdaughters, four grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, three step great grandchildren

