

PANTRY PICKIN'S



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>CARES Volunteer Highlights</i>	2
<i>From Your Director</i>	2
<i>From the Front Lines</i>	3
<i>Current Event Article</i>	3
<i>Happy Birthday!</i>	4
<i>Current Event—Cont.</i>	5
<i>Richard Ferguson, Board of Director—Highlight</i>	6

Upcoming Events

A Taste of Pickens

November 14, 2015

11:30 – 1:30

Chattahoochee Tech

Financial Assistance:

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

10TH ANNUAL A TASTE OF PICKENS NOVEMBER 14, 2015

Fall has fell (or fallen, if we must be grammatically correct). What's the biggest event besides Halloween and Thanksgiving in Fall? Why, A Taste of Pickens, of course! And this year is the 10th one. Ten years of fantastic food and fun! WOW!!

The committee has been diligently working to make this year's event the best so far. We are contacting the restaurants and getting them set up to once again offer a mind-blowing array of food to tempt your palate.

A few tasty selections already in place are Shrimp and Grits, Chicken Rice Casserole and Banana Pudding, Guapo Quesadillas, Chicken Wings and Chicken Tenders, and Cheese Straws. There are so many more to be tasted. You will need to come to taste the best food you might ever experience. Hey, I'm not lying. You won't know until you try.

We will also have a cake auction and a silent auction, bring your checkbooks and get ready to bid.

So mark you calendars. Come to Chattahoochee Technical College on Saturday, November 14th from 11:30-1:30. The event runs for two hours, but you will want to mark off the rest of the day as you will need time to recover from all the eating you do in that time period.

You can already purchase tickets from any CARES board member (see list below) or at the CARES office. \$10 gets you eight scrumptious tastes and a drink. We look forward to seeing you November 14th.



Dayton Adams
Susan Armstrong
Lorene Ballew
Kristal Beaver
Gene Berry
Fran Bishop
Kathy Bostick
Bob Coleman
Amy Denney
Richard Ferguson

Diane Hales
Angie Jones
Tim Jordan
Ben Laughlin
Frank Nissen
Ed Pottorff
Craig Reeve
Christine Van der Walt
Larry Starr
Peige Payne (CARES Office)
(706) 253-4777



CARES VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

Michael Keating has been a CARES volunteer since November 2009. His Bent Tree neighbors, Bob and Barbara Nuccel invited him to join them in their volunteer service.

A Connecticut transplant, "Mike" has three above-average children, Megan, the oldest, lives in Rome, GA and is the Executive Director of the Rome Little Theater. Kelly and her two children still reside in Connecticut where she is a landscape architect and Shane is the Director of Photography for Georgia Public Broadcasting and films Georgia Outdoors. He has a third grandchild arriving in February. Mike said that he is grateful to be able to serve at CARES because of the good work being done, the camaraderie with fellow volunteers, and the fact that Larry Starr lets him drive the big truck.

Mike volunteers on Mondays in the warehouse and drives the "big truck" to Kroger and WalMart for Monday pickups. He also helps to keep the warehouse clean by stacking boxes and breaking down boxes and generally straightening up behind the shoppers. Mike is a valuable volunteer at CARES and we appreciate his hard work, kind disposition and smiling face. He is a gem!

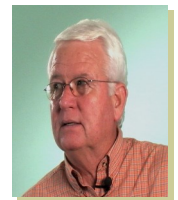


Mike Keating

"...he is grateful to be able to serve at CARES".

FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

"God's taking care of us," a regular quote from Melanie Johnson. God surely is taking care of us in every way (financially even more so). God CARES for us as we at CARES care for our clients. Melanie always ends her prayers at CARES, "Please, Lord, don't let us have to turn anyone away". We certainly hope we will not have to turn anyone away. It was wonderful to see so many of our volunteers completely organize and work a yard sale, hot dog lunch, raffle at Jasper Jump on October 10. It rained but we still make \$781. Another yard sale is scheduled for November 7 to sell the remaining yard sale items everyone gave us. Praise God!



Larry

"God's taking care of us".

Pantry Pickin's

FROM THE FRONT LINES

John Rinehart has been a fixture at CARES for the last 10 years. As he is not very old, that is quite an accomplishment. However, this summer, we had to say goodbye to John and his family as they moved to Indiana. Our Executive Director, Larry Starr, stated that John was "a well thought of,

fine, young man with a gentle spirit". His genuine smile and kindness will be missed by all those that were lucky enough to work with him. We wish him and his whole family the best in their new venture.



"John was a well thought of, fine, young man with a gentle spirit".

The Growing Poverty Problem in America's Schools
 CNNMoney (New York) January 29, 2015: 9:45 AM ET

The majority of children in America's public schools now are low-income. And that has major implications for the future of the nation's workforce.

The share of schoolkids who qualify for free or reduced lunches crossed the 50% threshold in 2013 according to a recent Southern Education Foundation report. That compares to fewer than 32% back in 1989.

Students eligible for subsidized school lunches come from families who are in poverty or just above it. A child living with a single parent would qualify if the family's income was less than \$28,000. A family of four would receive free or reduced lunches if their income was less than \$42,600.

There are three main reasons behind the increase,

said Steve Suits, the report's author.

*Though the economy is recovering, it's not producing enough good-paying jobs to lift families into better financial situations.

*The growth in immigration is bringing more low-income children into the school system.

*Higher-income families are having fewer kids.

About 90% of America's children go to public school. Test scores clearly show that low-income students are far less proficient in math and reading than their better-off peers.

American children who go to schools with fewer than 10% of students eligible for subsidized lunch score close to the top in math tests given to 15-year-olds, just behind China,

Singapore and Taiwan. But kids in schools with 25% to 50% of peers in subsidized lunch fall about 16 rungs to the lower third of developed countries.

That doesn't bode well for America's future, especially when these kids enter the job market.

"The nation's performance as a whole will decline until we assist low-income students to perform at higher levels," Suits said. "These poorly educated adults are going into the workforce and the economy."

While employers increasingly look for more educated workers, students are increasingly leaving school with fewer qualifications. That skills gap will deepen the shortage of qualified job candidates, and keep the next generation from finding good positions, said Anthony Carnevale, director, Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce. "It's a downward spiral of economic opportunity," he said. (cont. page 5)

"These poorly educated adults are going into the workforce and the economy".

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!!

July

27 Richard Ferguson

August

1 Lorene Ballew
8 Daniel DeMay
13 Jeanne Doran
14 Pam Wilson
23 Cleo Silver
27 Craig Reeve

September

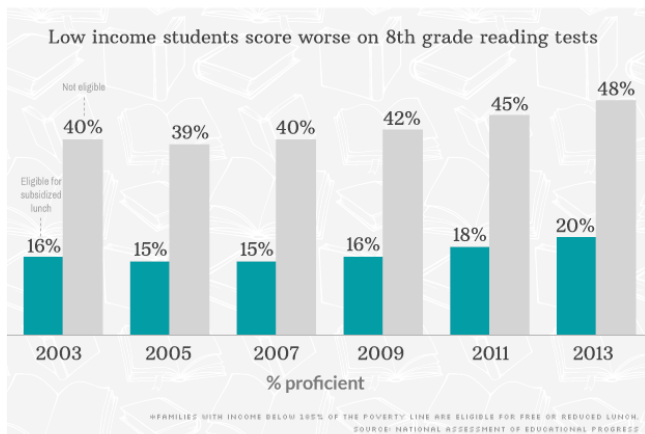
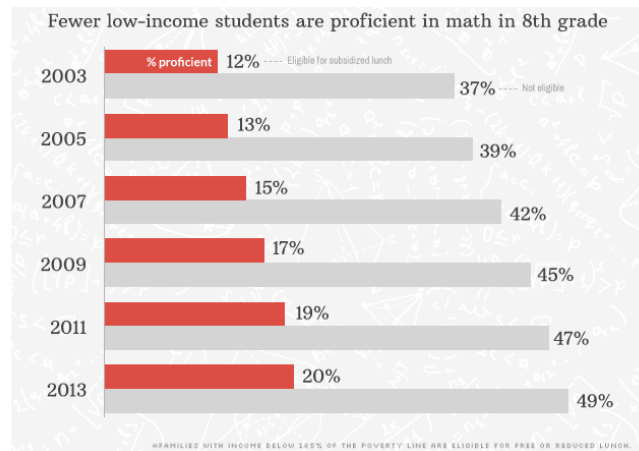
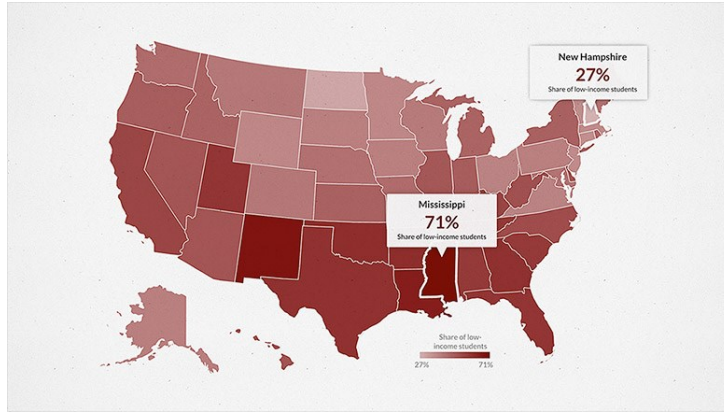
13 Lawton Baggs
18 Christine Van der Walt
25 Doris Martin



Please send your birthday month and day to Peige Payne at CARES (cares@etcm.com) so that we may include it in upcoming issues. We love our volunteers and enjoy honoring them any way we can.



Continued from page 3



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.

CARES is registered with Amazon Smiles. When shopping on Amazon, choose CARES to receive a donation based on your purchase.





Richard (Fergie) Ferguson
Board Member since 2010

CARES SERVICE

Food Counselor since 2008, Board of Director since 2010

SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

Counselor for Promise Land Ministries, 1999
Service Leader, Promise Land Ministries, 1999
Chaplain, The Brotherhood of Jesus Christ, 2002
Minister, Gilmer County Jail, 2002-2007
Member, Pickens County Anti-Drug Coalition, 2005-2011
Minister, Pickens County Sheriff's Department, 2007-present
Ordained as a Minister by Pastor Charles Sineath, Mountain View Alliance Church, 2006
Member, Christian Motorcyclists Association
Member, Men's Christian Fellowship
Volunteer Firefighter, Pickens County
Member, Auxiliary Sheriff's Department, Pickens County
Chaplain, American Legion Post 149

EDUCATION

Pacifica High School, Garden Grove, CA
Attended University of Connecticut

