

THE COUNCIL ON AGING COLLECTIVE

Newsletter of the Council on Aging for Henderson County



NEW YEAR, NEW DECADE

With the start of a new year and new decade, our agency is excited about continuing to actively engage with our community in meeting the needs of aging adults here in Henderson County. We are encouraged by the continued investment of volunteers, community partners, local schools, and organizations that help make this work possible. We hope to see our Thrift stores grow and thrive in 2020 - to see our Sammy Center reach more adults needing socialization, activity & a nutritious lunch in 2020 - and to eliminate our MOW waiting list! Will you go there with us!?



21 YEARS:

A special cheers goes out to these ladies Anne & Karen who have volunteered for 21 years with Council on Aging in our Thrift stores. These ladies not only have 2 decades of experience under their belts, but they are passionate & consistent. THANK YOU thank you ladies! Your impact is so very appreciated!





Meet Angie:

our vibrant, contagiously joyful **Assistant Store Manager**. Angie recently joined our team this past holiday season, and graciously helps provide support & assistance @ both store locations!

A lover of cinnamon glazed pecans, steak and chicken lo mein, you can find her often hiking in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains, hanging with family or watching a good movie on Netflix. Her adventurous spirit loves parasailing, but she also finds joy in the sweet and simple things like crafting and drawing.

One of her greatest prides in life is her children & being a Gigi! As a little girl, Angie wanted to work at Sea World, but now enjoys life in the mountains, where the closest thing to sea creatures are the critters in the local rivers!

This year Angie hopes to grow both personally and professionally as a member of our COA team, and we are truly stoked to have her aboard! When you meet Angie, we promise you're guaranteed to smile!!

Meet Scott:



Our new **Hendersonville Thrift Store Manager!**

An avid mountain biker & song writer, Scott's personal wellness goal for 2020 is to ride over 1,000 miles on his mountain bike. (and all the outdoor enthusiasts in WNC said "amen!!")

New to our COA team, Scott brings years of experience/expertise having worked with Habitat for Humanity & helping empower and cultivate motivated, encouraging, and effective team environments.

Scott grew up dreaming of becoming a rockstar - but the coolest part about this dream is it never fizzled out. He continues to actively perform his musical talents whenever able - and loves sharing this passion with others. When it comes to food, seared tuna is the way to this man's heart...but don't let his refined food tastes fool you - he just completed a 2,250 mile SOLO road trip in his 1973 VW bus to Key West, Florida & back. Incredible, eh!?

Come visit the Hendersonville Thrift store and meet Scott! Perhaps you can swap adventure stories or even twist his arm to learn your favorite rock ballad. Welcome Scott!

2019 Christmas Happenings:



Santa came to the Sammy!

Meals on Wheels drivers distributed hundreds of gifts & shoeboxes to home bound MOW clients this Christmas! Seeing their enthusiasm & joy in getting to be "Santa's little helpers" was priceless! Thank you to our dedicated volunteers who not only bless our clients with a warm lunchtime meal, but also dearly treasured companionship!



♥ Ms. Alice made a new best friend!



Mountain Community School 3rd graders spent a day @ the Sammy Center, making crafts, sharing lunch & finding new friends! It was a festive time celebrating Christmas with this crew! We love seeing these next generation volunteers engage!



Sammy member Carmen & her new 3rd grade friends from the Mountain Community school carefully examine the contents of her Christmas shoebox. It was such a treat having this classroom of kids invest & volunteer their time @ the Sammy Center this Christmas season! ♥



West Henderson High school students assisted our Director of Outreach & Volunteer Engagement during their Christmas break by handing out Christmas shoe-boxes at a local facility. They also delivered several gifts to Meals on Wheels clients. One nurse we spoke with teared up saying : "I can't believe you all would bring these gifts. I've been praying that someone, anyone, would think of the people here! This is an answered prayer!! Thank you!"

With that, THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to the purchasing, wrapping and donating of these gifts & shoeboxes in our community. The littlest, simplest of gifts have a powerful meaning and impact! Clients @ the facility were smiling ear to ear knowing someone was thinking of them this Christmas. That's why the Council on Aging exists in this community - to support, engage, and connect adults in our community as we age! Thank you all for your generosity this Christmas!



Volunteering, a family affair...

Learn more about volunteering with us on our website at coahc.org/volunteer
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IN LOVING MEMORY

Just as we love to celebrate the amazing things happening in this community, we wanted to take a moment to pause, reflect, and acknowledge the impactful lives of some of our volunteers who passed unexpectedly this year.

In their loss, we parted with some dear friends, but their memories, kind hearts, and legacies live on through the passion & dedication they invested in this organization! We are grateful they chose to spend some of their life with us - they will be truly missed:

- **Don (Sammy-Bingo) May 19'**
- **Rob Price (ETW Thrift) Aug 19'**
- **Mike Sharinus (MOW) Nov 19'**
- **Bill Wothke (MOW) Dec 19'**

