

Blue Ledge Meals on Wheels Serving the community, one meal at a time!

NOV 2017

An Urgent Plea for Volunteer Drivers!

Ashley Carter - President

"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in." — Unknown

Had I known what a blessing it would have been to my life and those around me, I would have started this journey with Blue Ledge Meals on Wheels much earlier. We all see there is a need in the communities we live in, but we rarely have the chance to make a difference. When I signed up to be a volunteer driver in 2007, I had no idea how impactful this decision would become. With only 3 clients we were servicing at that time, I had no real understanding of the need our county truly had. I also had no clear vision for what we could provide. That need in Amherst County is still here. It is actually more present than ever. Our local Meals on Wheels program has expanded from our small group of 5 volunteers and 3 clients. Exponentially. From one route to 5, we are continuing to service your loved ones and neighbors. But the need is deep, and we need you to help us fill in the gaps.

Right now, we have openings for drivers on our North Route, our East Route, and our Faulconerville Route. These positions can be filled once a month, once a week, or whatever fits your schedule. There is nothing more fulfilling than the opportunity to share a moment with a homebound individual who only spends time with another person once a day. I always think about my grandmother that lived states away and had no one to visit. This is the chance to make a difference for those that have no one else around them.

Volunteer friends for MOW

Bonnie Ferguson and Carrie Davila met at Poplar United Methodist Church and have been friends for 15 years. Friends tend to enjoy doing activities together so Carrie got Bonnie interested in Blue Ledge Meals on Wheels at least four or more years ago. Carrie is well known in our organization as the "work horse". She substitutes two to three times a week and Bonnie fits into her work schedule substituting a couple times a month. Both ladies have had touching experiences with our clients relaying how one client was always on his front porch waiting for his meal. When he was not there when Bonnie delivered she investigated and found he had fallen. Carrie tells about a client that had tears in his eyes as he expressed his gratitude for all MOW does for him. They continue to substitute on almost all the routes including the Temperance route. Carrie and Bonnie are committed to Blue Ledge and both do not like lots of recognition. Bonnie says she holds serving people as a precious right and an obligation. She quoted a verse from the Bible "Matthew 6:3 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)3 "But when you give alms, do



Longtime friends and MOW volunteers, Bonnie Ferguson and Carrie Davila.

not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing". Carrie said when she was down and needed help, friends helped her so much she is now giving back. These two, as well as many of our volunteers, show love and concern to our clients beyond delivering meals. Carrie says if you want to experience fun, come join Blue Ledge Meals on Wheels.

Continuing in the giving spirit, the pastor at Poplar United Methodist Church, Reverend Judy Morris, and members lead by Bonnie and Carrie, provide a Thanksgiving and Christmas meal for all our clients the week before both holidays. Thank you Bonnie and Carrie, for your dedication to Blue Ledge Meals on Wheels.

VENDOR RECOGNITION

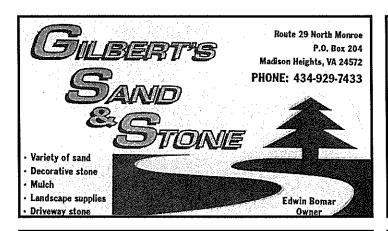
Amherst Corner, 1426 N. Amherst Hwy., Amherst, VA



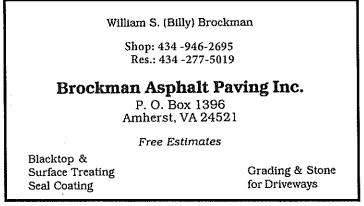
he Amherst Corner, Ice Cream Parlor, has been supplying meals for MOW every other Friday for the Temperance/151/Warrick Barn routes since December of 2014. Freeman Miller and his daughter Kristi run the business. When a friend, who is a volunteer driver for MOW, told the Millers about her experiences with Meals on Wheels, they wanted to show their support by becoming a vendor.

The friendly atmosphere is always inviting and Kristi plays a major roll in the operation of the business. Her warm smile and welcoming conversation makes you feel comfortable as you

scan the menu. With 32 flavors of ice cream to choose from, vanilla or chocolate to some would be a boring choice. Another way the Miller family and friends extend their community outreach is by singing Christmas carols to and with a number of people during the Christmas holiday. The Millers have had the opportunity to purchase the building, formally Tweedy's Produce, across route 29 from their present location. They are in the process of renovating it so Amherst Corner can provide more seating and an expanded menu for their customers. Look for the move to be sometime the first part of 2018. Our clients thank you for providing delicious meals for them and what a joy to receive ice cream for dessert.









MAKING A DIFFERENCE

By Ashley Carter



Blue Ledge Meals on Wheels remembers Kendall Brockman, pictured third from left.

will never forget the moment we received our first call from Brockman Subaru requesting a partnership that would allow Blue Ledge Meals on Wheels a chance at a grant for the "Share the Love" event. After fighting every moment for every dollar and penny we could scrounge together, this provided a real avenue to make a difference for Amherst. Subaru offers a yearly grant opportunity for those charities where local dealerships are willing to participate with a local non-profit. That call from Kendall Brockman was a beautiful moment in the Blue Ledge Meals on Wheels story. It was the first step to the realization that this wasn't just a homegrown organization destined to fade away. He gave us a real solution to a need in the community that only a local citizen could recognize.

Our first year partnering with Brockman Subaru to "Share the Love" was an incredible success. Kendall arranged for Amherst residents to drop off non-perishable items. These were what would be delivered to Blue Ledge, Inc. clients for those winter days that prevent the volunteers from getting up driveways or navigating snowy and icy roads.

We at Blue Ledge, Inc. are proud that we were able to partner with such a tremendous person as **Kendall Brockman**. We are forever indebted to he and his daughter Simms who were such great stewards of their community. He will be missed, but his legacy remains strong.

Kendall Brockman March 25, 1952 - September 13, 2017

BLUE LEDGE MEALS ON WHEELS

P.O. Box 1332 Amherst, VA 24521 (434) 942-4864 coordinator@blueledge.org



VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

For Blue Ledge Use Only For Blue Ledge Use Only

Date of Application
Beginning Date
Route

Name	Male Female
Street Address	
City	Zip
Mailing Address	
City	Zip
Phone Date of	Birth
Email Address	

Place of employment (if employed)	
How did you hear about Blue Ledge?	
Please list a reference (personal or professional such as st	aff at work, civic organization, church):
Have you been, or do you stand to be, convicted of either	a felony or a sex offense? NOYES
Please read and sign the following:	
Although Blue Ledge will do everything in its power to endeliver meals to clients who may have an infectious disease	-
Signature:	
FOR SPECIFIC ROUT DETAILS, PLEASE SEE THE WEBSITE www.	blueledge.org OR CALL TAMMY (434)942-4864
I would like to be a: Driver every week Driver 1 ST	& 3 RD week Driver 2 ND & 4 TH week
Substitute Driver	
on: M T W Th F	
For: an Amherst route at end of day Lowesvill	e or Warrick Barn/151 Route at noon

FOOD DRIVE

Please Donate To Our Food Drive!



ach November, Blue Ledge Meals on Wheels organizes a Food Drive to collect non-perishable items. The goal is to collect and distribute enough goods so that clients have food over the winter months in case bad weather prohibits meal deliveries. This year, Amherst Dry Cleaners have generously offered their facilities as one of the two drop-off locations. "We love supporting Blue Ledge and try to help in any way we can," said Julie Mays of Amherst Dry Cleaning.

The new Amherst Chamber of Commerce building will serve as the second collection point for the food drive. "We are delighted to partner with Blue Ledge Meals on Wheels to help those in need," commented Vanessa Angus, Director of Amherst Chamber of Commerce and Tourism. "It's a great opportunity for members of the community to stop in and see our new building".

Top Notch Inc. T/A



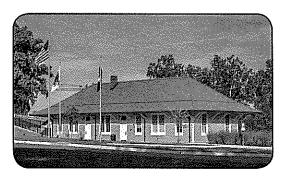
Bill's Body Shop

Full Service Collision Repair & Auto Sales

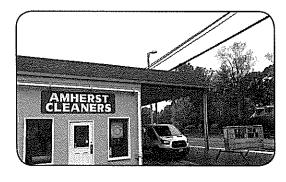
1340 North Amherst Hwy. Amherst, VA 24521

Office: (434) 946-1115 Fax: (434) 946-7788 **24 Hr. Towing: (434) 942-5169** billbodyshop@hotmail.com

Drop off at either location - Thank You!



Between 11/15 - 12/19

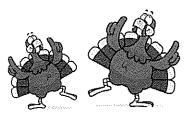


Amherst County Chamber of Commerce
328 Richmond Hwy, Suite A

<u>Visitor Center Hours:</u>

Wed - Sat 9am - 5pm

Sun 1pm - 5pm



Amherst Dry Cleaners 455 S. Main Street

Mon - Fri 7am - 5:30pm Sat 9am - 1pm

Suggested items for our yearly MOW food drive

Soup(s) Vienna Sausage Canned beans Puddings Crackers/Nabs Beanie-Weenies Canned spaghetti Jello

Peanut Butter Canned Tuna Instant Oatmeal Bottled Water

Cereal Small Canned Ham Applesauce Granola/Energy Bars Canned Corn Beef Canned Fruit

(Cans should be easy open)

Blue Ledge, Inc.

PO Box 1332 Amherst, VA 24521 Non-Profit Org U.S. Postage PAID Amherst, VA 24521 Permit No. 295 ECR WSS

Postal Customer Amherst, VA 24521



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Coordinator: Tammy Martin Events Coordinator: Kelli Hollowell

Webmaster: Sarah Ogden

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Website: www.blueledge.org