



Feed Fannin Inc.

April 2014

Volume 5, Number 1

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Calendar of Events:

April

- ◆ Grand Opening of the Ada Street Garden
- ◆ 19th - Breathe Walk at Mercier's

May

- ◆ 3rd - Back to Basics at Cohutta Country Store
- ◆ 8th - Feed Fannin Meeting
- ◆ 24th & 25th - Arts in the Park

June

- ◆ 7th - Start of the Downtown Farmer's Market every Saturday
- ◆ 12th - Feed Fannin Meeting
- ◆ Stone Soup Day - Proclamation signing

Ada Street Garden—We've Been Busy!



(Above) Feed Fannin received help from over 20 physical therapists with the Therapy Management Corporation (TMC) to clean up the property at the new Ada Street Garden. (Right) Ada garden spot.

Feed Fannin is making great progress at the new garden site on Ada Street. Feed Fannin began working diligently to prep the land for planting after leasing the property from the Fannin County School Board. It is a bittersweet

feeling leaving Davenport Garden where Feed Fannin had its community garden for five years. Ada Street Garden is a wonderful new place to grow vegetables for those in need. The community has been so gracious in the whole process as well. Donations and discounts for materials come to us on a regular basis and we are so thankful for everyone's contribution! It also helps keep the funds where we want them to go...into the crops we will grow for the families who need them. Call and schedule a tour of the garden - 706-946-1001.



Bowls of Hope—Our First Fundraiser was a success!

The Bowls of Hope was a great success! The community came out, enjoyed soups and breads from many local restaurants and listened to live music while browsing the silent auction. We had over 80 beautiful items that came to us by way of donation for the auction that day. Potters from all over donated over 300 beautifully hand crafted bowls. Everyone who came to the event could select a bowl of their choice to take home as a symbol to remember all

those in need.

Angie Tankersly, the owner of Willow Creek Falls, was instrumental in the success of the event, donating time and resources to help make the day eventful. We received numerous compliments throughout the day of the event and continue to hear good input. Plans are already underway for next year's Bowls of Hope. Look for updates on our website and our Facebook page.



The Bowl Table at Bowls of Hope

Master Gardener Advice

Why we garden—

The fresh taste of edible pod peas eaten right off the vine. The symmetry of side by side rows of bright green lettuce. The smell after a sudden summer shower that was preceded by two weeks without a drop.

We do not wilt in the absence of certainty, [rain, drought, pests, disease] because invariably when some crops fail others flourish.

We garden because we are alchemist treasure hunting painters and our garden is

where the beet and pepper reds, the sweet corn and crookneck yellows, the sweet potato and habanero oranges, and the eggplant purples are all hiding beneath a canopy of verdant green, waiting for us to find them and bring them all together in soups, soufflés, salads and salsas.

But mostly we garden because we are made of soil, and water, and sunshine. The garden is where we came from and someday where we're going.



Volunteer Garden Coordinator, Reggie Lenoir, is working hard at prepping the land for future planting.

Education Classes



Class held out at Quinn's

The classes are off and running! Ginger Montgomery from Quinn's Greenhouse and Nursery kicked off the season with the first two classes. Around 50 people showed up to learn hands-on information pertaining to gardening.

A canning class was held at the Fannin County Farm Bureau on March 12th. Those who attend-

ed, both novices and experienced, said the class provided valuable canning tips. William Dills provided some wonderful stories based on experience. A nice lunch of sandwiches and snacks were served and prizes were given out during a question and answer session.

See our website for upcoming classes. Go to feedfannin.org or join us on Facebook.

Christmas Gift Cards

Feed Fannin purchased \$10,000 worth of gift cards from Food Lion for the families that receive food every month at the Family Connection food pantry. Each family received a gift card ranging from \$10 to \$25 based on family size. For Christmas this past year. As families came in to get their regular food box, they were directed to a Feed Fannin volunteer where they received the gift card. Hugs were not in short supply during those days and people were so thankful for that extra help over Christmas.



ETC Donates

ETC employees conducted a food drive in an effort to help Feed Fannin.

Would your business consider holding a food drive once or twice a year?

Contact Feed Fannin at 706-946-1001

Youth Garden Club



Walt George is seen here teaching the kids about gardening.

The Cool Kids Grow youth garden club at Blue Ridge Elementary school has been very busy this year, and we'd like to share with Feed Fannin members some news about the things we've been doing lately.

The club, which has 13 members in either 3rd or 4th grade, meets every other Wednesday at the school, from 3-5 PM. This is the third year the club's been in existence, and it is growing in popularity each year; we had over 30 applicants this year, so we used a random lottery method to pick our members. In addition to the great young gardeners, there are 5 adults who generously donate their time with the club. Kate and Walt George, Sandra Zadroga, Donna Jenkins, Marie Allen, and recently we've been blessed to have Flora Grindstaff join us; she's a Master Gardener who is interested in starting another youth garden club in the county.



These girls are releasing Painted Lady butterflies into the garden.

We've also been thrilled to have some remarkable guest speakers come to our meetings and make presentations. These individuals from the community share their agrarian expertise with our young gardeners, and their help is much appreciated.

Some of the activities we've been doing with the kids this year include learning about gardening, cooking kale chips and making salads, the difference between cool and warm season crops, beneficial insects, birds, bees, worm composting, flower parts, butterflies, scarecrows, the water cycle, soils, herb identification, metamorphosis, wildlife tree decoration at Christmas, and the various types of consumers/producers/decomposers. These activities are hands-on, exciting projects, and often the kids take things home with them to share with their families. Last but not least, we have a delicious and nutritious snack at each meeting. Contact Kate George at 706-207-8476.



This young man is looking for beneficial insects in the garden.



Volunteer Donna Jenkins and students posing with "Frankie" the scarecrow.



Kate George works with the kids on butterfly activities.



Feed Fannin's youngest volunteer, Eian Holloway, is sitting on Santa's lap for the first time.

Light Up Blue Ridge Pictures with Santa

The City of Blue Ridge offered Feed Fannin the opportunity to photograph "Pictures with Santa" this past year. Many of the Feed Fannin volunteers showed up to help with the event and it was so much fun seeing all the kids. The line for Santa wrapped around the block as anxious kids waited to meet Santa.



Volunteer Kyah Mull is telling Santa what she wants for Christmas.

Feed Fannin Inc.

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Blue Ridge, GA 30513

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Chair: Connie Galloway: 706-374-4372
Email: feedfannin@gmail.com
Website: feedfannin.org

Consider donating to a great cause! Mail form below or go online to feedfannin.org

We appreciate your support of our local community.



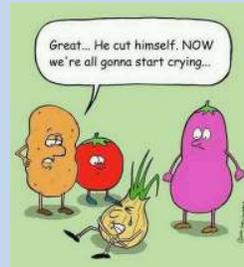
We're on the Web!
feedfannin.org

Business Spotlight

FEED FANNIN Bowls of Hope Sponsor Board

<p>SPONSORS:</p> <p>Speaker of the House, David Raistrom Town & Country Furniture Necessity Of Blue Ridge Stason Lee Homes Tri-State EMC Two White Holes (Dr. Stefania Starnes) Farm Bureau Insurance - Phil Wilson Kathy's Thrift Come Shop We Have Stuff Mountain Valley Flowers Sleson Corporation Statonic Shower, MD North Georgia Ford Integrative Sports Medicine & Wellness Linda Clemens, Mountain Plaza Realty Mason Tractor Co. Tom Owensley</p> <p>ADDITIONAL SPONSORS:</p> <p>Blue Ridge Design Marketing Culinary Country Store Excel Graphic Services Fannin County Farm Bureau Kovins Fannin Insurance Oaks Nest Quick Signs Silylla The Mail Box Co. Zeddy's</p> <p>MUSICIANS</p> <p>Bob Daniels John Andry Bobby Don Bloodworth Jonah Danner</p> <p>EMCEE</p> <p>Wendie Roland</p>	<p>FOOD PROVIDED BY:</p> <p>Angela's Italian Gourmet Market & Deli Black Sheep Restaurant, Bar & Patio Blue Ridge Brewery Bumblebee's Cafe Cantaberry Restaurant Cheryl Lee's Courtyard Grill Faith Presbyterian Church Harvest On Main L & L Sausery Mecia's Orchard & Deli In Sisters Kitchen Rene Woblers & Jennifer Walker, Caterers Dairy Queen Flowers Discount Brand Sevensley Garden Cafe Shoppers General Store & Deli Southern Charm Sweet Shoppe Custoo Rustica</p> <p>SPECIAL THANKS</p> <p>Advanta Auto Parts Buddy Epps Blue Ridge Grocery Chandler Of Commerce Copper Basin Vet Clinic ETC Fannin County High School Art Class Folger Gas Ingrid Ann June Walker Chevrolet</p> <p>Stacy Davis, Chiropractor Slate Farm - Charlie Edwards Tanglee Salon The Fannin Sentinel The News Observer United Community Bank - Blue Ridge United Community Bank - McCaysville Postor Sloss Willow Creek Falls</p>	<p>POTTERS:</p> <p>Conover Creek Pottery (Saches, GA.) Mountain Oak Pottery (Ellijay, GA.) Barefoot Pottery (Blue Ridge, GA.) Potter For The People (John Ridge, GA.) John Andry (Mineral Bluff, GA.) Little Millhoning Creek Pottery (Bucklesburg, PA.) John C Campbell Folk School (Brazzstown, NC.) Harry Hearnin (Brazzstown, NC.) Whitella Tove Pottery (Ellijay, GA.) Chela Tsoiforo (Blue Ridge, GA.) High Country Art & Antiques (Blue Ridge, GA.) Fishbone Pottery (Blue Ridge, GA.) Caweman Pottery (Cleveland, GA.) Payne Pottery (Linnton, GA.) Sullivan Morris Pottery (Cleveland, GA.) Marcia Bagg (Brazzstown, NC.) Mornings Work Pottery Co. (Blairsville, GA.) Gleason Expressions (Murphy, NC.) Mountain Hope Pottery (Blairsville, GA.) Murphy Pottery (Murphy, NC.) Sweetest Pottery (Murphy, NC.)</p> <p>SILENT AUCTION SPONSORS:</p> <p>Blue Ridge Adventure Wear Blue Ridge Bitter Seed Company Blue Ridge Theater Center Pointe Studio Chris Tesoriero Photography Harry The Potter Home Depot Kevin Nicholas Photography More Than Wedgins North Georgia Sports Zone Old Union Golf Course Organic Artful Tote Ow's Nest Seventy In The Mountains Tosbrees Boutique Spa Thruville The Village & Market On Main Bill Voyles Beth & Judy Seeger Debbie Guloway Debbie Peterson Doris Rigger Adala's Kitchen At Maricler Orchards Jany & Horn Kimzey Jasena Swamy Judy Jefferson Kathy Thompson Kim King Liane Helman Marpha Hunt Melinda Walk Sandra Byrne Nancy Zimmerman Nola Hogstad Pat Hunt Priscilla Cashman Sandra Wolfey Sue Campbell Tina Alue</p>
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We would like to thank all those who sponsored our first annual Bowls of Hope event.



The hard working Forge Mill volunteer garden crew

Volunteer with the Feed Fannin Family

If you're into hard work and having fun we would love to have you join us! Gardeners from all over are welcome. It is that time and we need your help more than ever. The new garden on Ada Street is beautiful but it needs many hands on it to make it grow into a bountiful garden for the community. We have many mouths to feed and you can make a difference.

To volunteer, contact Joanne Searcy at feedfannin@gmail.com, or call (706) 946-1001 and leave a message. If you would like to speak with our current Chair, call Connie Galloway at 706-374-4372.

Donate



Feed Fannin Gift Form

Your name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Would you like to be added to our email list to receive information about Feed Fannin? Y ___ N ___

Amount of gift donation: \$ _____

Need a tax receipt? Y ___ N ___

Please make checks payable to:

Feed Fannin

Mail form and donation to:

Feed Fannin
P O Box 1085
Blue Ridge, GA 30513

YOUR GIFT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

OUR MISSION

Working together to educate and encourage our community towards self-sufficiency while providing food for those in need.

"Feed Fannin is a 100 percent volunteer organization"