

Wednesday, 22 January 2014 00:00

## Business notes

Written by Admin

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- A retirement reception for Becky Olson, the executive director of the Good Samaritan Clinic of Jackson County, will be held from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23, at the old Sylva Medical Center in Harris Medical Park. She spent more than 40 years in healthcare in North Carolina and has been affiliated with The Good Samaritan Clinic since its inception in 2001. [828.631.8716](tel:828.631.8716)

- "Best Practices for Motivating Employees" will be held at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, at the Laurel Ridge Country Club as part of the Haywood Chamber of Commerce's monthly Issues and Eggs series. Guest speaker will be David Jones, Ph. D of Lenoir-Rhyne University. Pre-register at [828.456.3021](tel:828.456.3021), [www.haywoodchamber.com](http://www.haywoodchamber.com).

- Elizabeth Wark has joined Western Carolina University's College of Health and Human Sciences as the director of clinical affairs. Wark will cultivate, develop and oversee academic and clinical collaboration with private health care companies and practices, providing training and instruction for students and cross-employment for faculty. [etwark@wcu.edu](mailto:etwark@wcu.edu).

- Drake Enterprises of Franklin has donated a laptop to be given away to a Southwestern Community College student who attends three or more of the 11 career seminars the college hosts throughout the school year. [828.339.4212](tel:828.339.4212) or [p\\_kirkley@southwesterncc.edu](mailto:p_kirkley@southwesterncc.edu).

- **Timberwolf Creek Bed and Breakfast** in Maggie Valley was named a **Guest Favorite for 2013 by BnB Finder**, a worldwide online search guide for B&Bs and inns. It's the inn's second consecutive Guest Favorite Award, having also received the honor last year. [www.bnbfinder.com/timberwolf](http://www.bnbfinder.com/timberwolf).

- The Haywood County Tourism Development Authority has officially revived the Haywood County Film Commission in an effort to promote TV, film and movie production in Haywood County. [www.haywoodcountytourismdevelopment.com/haywood-county-film-commission](http://www.haywoodcountytourismdevelopment.com/haywood-county-film-commission)

- Applications to enter the Macon County Business Plan competition are due Monday, Feb. 3. The competition, with a grand prize of \$5,000, is open to anyone who wants to start a business or who wants to expand a business into a new area. A series of free workshops will walk entrepreneurs through the ins and outs of starting a business. [www.maconedc.com](http://www.maconedc.com).

- The Folk, Round and Square Dance Federation of North Carolina has donated \$1,000 to Angel Hospice.

- Cellular Sales, the nation's largest premium Verizon Wireless retailer, opened a new store at 1409 E. Main Street in Sylva. "We recognize the process of selecting a new wireless plan, choosing a new phone and activating service on a new device is intimidating to some people," said Scott Love, regional director for Cellular Sales. [www.cellularsales.com](http://www.cellularsales.com).

- General surgeon Bill Sims and Amy Sims, N.P., of Mountain Valley Surgery in Sylva, are now seeing patients on the second and fourth Fridays of every month at WestCare Medical Park of Franklin. [828.586.3976](tel:828.586.3976)

- Adam Ray, a Western Carolina University senior from Cullowhee, was given the university's first Lily Community Engagement Award for his service to his community.

- Champion Credit Union in Canton is adding a new Member Solutions Center with five employees dedicated to handling telephone customer service inquiries, which have seen an increase in volume as a result of overall growth for the financial institution in the past few years.

- The Haywood County Tourism Development Authority has a series of promotional videos featuring Big John and his favorite spots to relax and have fun. The videos are at [www.visitncsmokies.com/galleries](http://www.visitncsmokies.com/galleries).

- Dr. Ron Fisher, a physician and Western North Carolina hospice and palliative care pioneer, was honored at a recent retirement party by his peers and colleagues for his 27 years of distinguished service.

- Dean Trader, assistant finance director, and Police Chief Bill Hollingshead were named employees of the year by the Town of Waynesville.

- Kostas Restaurant donated 10 percent of its sales from Saturday, Jan. 18, to the Hope Fund, which provides financial assistance to students in Southwestern Community College's service area, who want to improve literacy skills while developing career and employability skills.

- Town of Waynesville employees held a "Firemen's Boot Drive" in the parking lots of Ingles and Walmart last month to collect food and money to help replenish the food pantry at Haywood Christian Ministry. The drive netted \$2,687.66 and one truckload of food items.