

the newsletter of southeastern children's home

fall/winter
2015

Hope!



A real-life Cinderella story

PLUS: Honor the old-fashioned way, Be joyful always

southeastern
children's
home

where the heart is

Contributors

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April 5, 2015 to November 14, 2015

Honor the old-fashioned

Former Southeastern resident among the few, the proud

Recently, Matt Hudson, a former Southeastern Children's Home resident, finished basic training for the United States Marine Corps in Parris Island.

Not only did Matt complete basic training, he was an honor graduate of Platoon 2080. According to the Marine Corps website, "to be recommended as an honor graduate, a recruit must not only display honor, courage, and commitment during their three months of basic training, but they must excel in physical training, knowledge, and have a team player disposition."

"... Matt was always a leader. I don't think anyone is really surprised by Matt's achievements. We always knew he would achieve great things ..."

ago. It didn't take long to figure out that Matt

was a special young man."

Matt graduated from Byrnes High School and was a member of a championship 4A football team.

"Matt was always a leader," Director of Residential Services Vicki Stidham said. "I don't think anyone is really surprised by Matt's achievements. We always knew he would achieve great things."

Matt's path to become a Marine was not easy.

"There were times in my life where I really doubted myself," Matt said. "Even as an adult,

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"... There were times in my life where I really doubted myself. Even as an adult, there have been times when quitting was the easy way out. But, I've learned that hard work and perseverance pay off. I know that when you want something, you have to earn it. ..."

Be joyful, pray, give thanks

By Robert Kimberly
Executive Director

Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances..."

As many of you may have heard, I have a medical issue with my liver that has required hospitalization and further testing. Without going into great detail, I pray I'm on the road to recovery. I'm back at home, and I'm working as much as I can. However, I'm still in need of further treatment and I'm hoping God will heal me as quickly as possible.

Still, even in the midst of my sickness, I am thankful for so much.

I'm thankful that God has given the gift of family to so many.

I'm thankful I have the opportunity to work

with a wonderful group of people here at Southeastern Children's Home.

I'm thankful we have the ability to help

Continued on page 4...



Contact us!

Hope! is a publication of Southeastern Children's Home, **Robert Kimberly**, Exec. Director.

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way: earning it



Former Southeastern resident Matt Hudson at Parris Island

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April 5, 2015 to November 14, 2015

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April 5, 2015 to November 14, 2015

Real-life Cinderella story

New adoptive parents say it was "love at first sight"

Priscilla's Cinderella story is similar in some ways to the Disney character's, but times have changed and there's a new narrative for orphans in our society. The happiest part of Priscilla's narrative began right here at Southeastern Children's Home.

The youngest of three children, Priscilla was removed from her childhood home due to parental neglect, and then lived in a series of foster homes.

But the protections afforded birth parents and the many other legal hurdles involved can cause the termination of parental rights to take years.

This is why Priscilla was a teenager by the time the SC courts terminated the parental rights of her birth parents, and at that point, in the eyes of our legal system, she had no parents at all. She had become an example of what's sometimes referred to as a "modern-day orphan."

There are few families willing to adopt

teenagers in Priscilla's situation, so for a myriad of reasons, those in foster care are rarely adopted. Typically, they exit the foster system only when they turn 18 and become "adults."

"Most of the time, children placed with us are angry," said Southeastern Children's Home caseworker Ashely Remick. "Priscilla wasn't angry. She didn't have defiant tendencies. She was an optimist. She always saw the best in people."

Priscilla spent much of her time at Southeastern developing close relationships with our staff and co-residents. She excelled in school and consistently earned A's and B's on her report card. Yet, despite her upbeat attitude and stellar performance in and out of the classroom, there were no families willing to adopt this amazing 17-year-old girl.

Her story took an unexpected turn, however, when Priscilla volunteered to help out with one of Southeastern's yard sales several months ago. It was on that fateful day that one of our volunteer families, the Johnstons, met Priscilla.

"I guess you could say it was love at first sight," said Trevor Johnston. "We struck up a conversation with Priscilla as she was selling cookies at the yard sale. We really felt the Lord

".. We struck up a conversation with Priscilla ... We really felt the Lord was trying to tell us something ..."

Gifts that go far

By Philip Murphy
Development Director

Please consider making a gift to pay tribute to the lives and accomplishments of your loved ones, friends, neighbors, co-workers and employees while showing your support for Southeastern Children's Home. Memorial gifts are a special way to honor a loved one who has passed away, whereas Honor Gifts are a great way to honor your living relative, friend, colleague or loved one.

A personalized notification of your gift will be sent to the person being paid tribute, or to the family or friends of the person being remembered.

Wondering what to give the person who has everything? Celebrate Christmas, a birthday, your parents' anniversary, a friend's wedding or retirement with a gift in their honor.

If you need assistance or have questions about making a memorial or honor gift, please call us at 864.439.0259 or email us at pmurphy@sech.org.

Matching gifts are a simple way to make your contributions to the Southeastern Children's

Home go farther. Many companies, large and small, encourage their employees to donate to their favorite charities by matching their contributions. Some companies also match gifts made by retirees or spouses. Through a matching gift, the impact of your contribution to Southeastern Children's Home could be doubled or even tripled!

Honor the old-fashioned way

Continued from page 1

there have been times when quitting was the easy way out. But, I've learned that hard work and perseverance pay off. I know that when you want something, you have to earn it."

Matt is currently enrolled in the Marines' Infantry Training Battalion in Camp Geiger, North Carolina. Over the next few months Matt will receive additional class and field instruction to perform the necessary duties of an infantryman. After completing this training, Matt will receive additional training in his Military Occupational Specialty.

Please pray for Matt's safety as he honorably serves our country.

ends happily ever after

was trying to tell us something.”

Within weeks, the Johnstons and Priscilla had begun forming a close bond as Priscilla accompanied Trevor, Sherri and their three children on excursions and outings around town. It wasn't long before the Johnstons decided to adopt Priscilla.

“We had been discussing adoption for a while,” Trevor said. “It sort of just happened, though. When you leave room for the Lord to do His thing, amazing things happen.”

Since leaving Southeastern and joining the Johnston family, Priscilla has continued to excel. She is enrolled at North Greenville University and majoring in Special Education.

So no, Priscilla isn't a storybook character. She's something much better. Priscilla is a modern-day orphan to whom God has given a loving family ... and a *real* happy ending, after all!

We thank the Johnston family for adopting Priscilla! And we thank our many supporters who helped make this adoption possible!



Former Southeastern resident Priscilla's story ended in a way that defied the odds.

Be joyful, pray, give thanks

Continued from page 1

children in need.

I'm thankful for the children who have been brought to us.

I'm thankful for the amazing changes and healthy choices that our children continue to make.

And I'm thankful for you.

Words cannot truly express how thankful I am for the support many of you have shown during the last few months. Thank you so much for your thoughts and prayers. Thank you for being an encouragement. Thank you for supporting both my family and the Southeastern Children's Home family. Thank you.

May God bless you and your family.

Sincerely,



Executive Director Robert Kimberly with some of our Southeastern family.

Wish list

We are seeking donations of the following items. Please help if you can!

- toilet paper
- laundry detergent
- dish washer detergent
- twin bed sheets
- pillows
- paper towels
- used dependable cars

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- Mr. & Mrs. Donnie Williams
- Mr. & Mrs. Edward Williams
- Mr. Joe Williams
- Mr. & Mrs. Randy Willingham
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- Carolina Collision
- Central Church of Christ
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- Church of Christ on Hilton Head Island
- Clemson Church of Christ
- Clover Church of Christ
- Corinth Church of Christ
- Costco
- Denny's Corporation
- Double Spring Baptist Church
- Draxelmaier Automotive of America
- Duncan Church of Christ
- El Primo Mexican Restaurant
- Essex Village Church of Christ
- Ferncreek Creative
- First Baptist Church of Lyman
- First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- Fluor Foundation Matching Funds / Employee Gifts
- Friendship Baptist Church of Lyman
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- Spartanburg Co. School District No 5
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- United Way Of The CSRA
- United Way of The Piedmont, Inc.
- West Jefferson Church of Christ

April 5, 2015 to November 14, 2015

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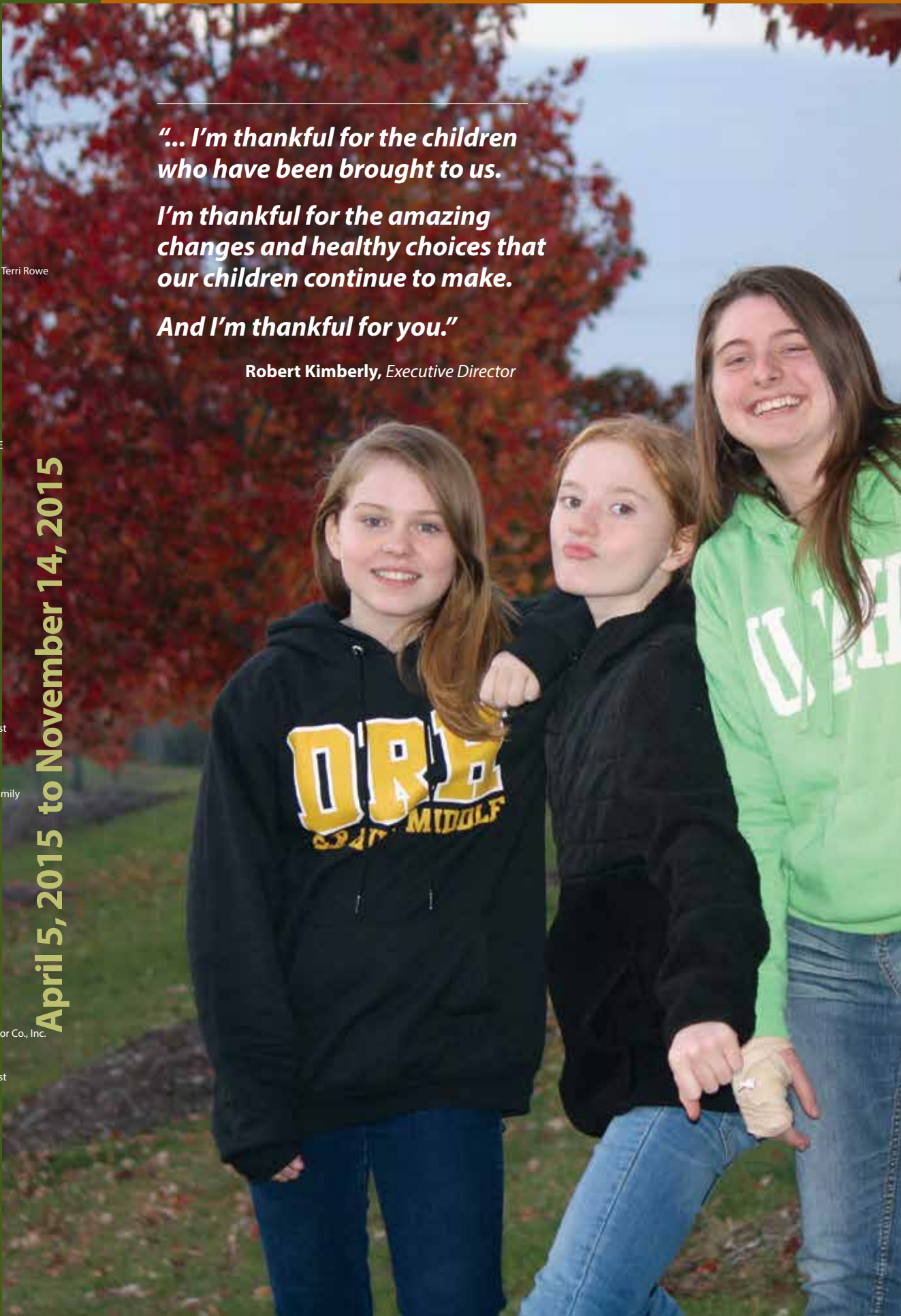
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*".. I'm thankful for the children
who have been brought to us.
I'm thankful for the amazing
changes and healthy choices that
our children continue to make.
And I'm thankful for you."*

Robert Kimberly, Executive Director



Memorials

MARY EVELYNE MORROW
Mr. James Morrow
Mr. Grant Mitchell
MARQUIS WEAST
Mr. Douglas Adee
PATRICIA NIGH
Mr. & Mrs. Max Nigh
HUGH AND MARTHA PALMER
Mr. & Mrs. Wesley H. Davis
SOPHIA PLYLAR
Mr. George A. Beam
Ms. Rhonda Billings
Ms. Lillie Brewer
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Caldwell
The Elders at Central Church of Christ,
Spartanburg, SC
Ms. & Mrs. Robert E. Dickenson
Mr. & Mrs. James Drake
Mr. & Mrs. John Greene
Mr. & Mrs. Neil Martin
Mr. James Morrow
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Scruggs
Ms. Elmira Swofford
Ms. Nell "Suzie" Wiles
Ms. Frieda Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Williams
ZIGMUND PRIOR
Grand Strand Church of Christ
ELAINE PYLE
The Elders at St. Andrews Road
Church of Christ
DOROTHY ELAINE PYLE
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Bailey
TM Floyd & Company
MARTHA RADEMACHER
Thomas Campbell & Terri Rowe
MARSHA ROGERS
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Satterfield
The Elders at St. Andrews Road
Church of Christ
KATHERINE SLOCUM
Mr. & Mrs. James Drake
JUDY STOGNER
Mr. Michael Stogner
Ms. Joann Gentry
ED STRICKLAND
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Bailey
Todd & Ansley Taylor
HAZEL THOMPSON
Mr. & Mrs. Herb Smith
ERIC PATRICK WILSON
Mr. & Mrs. Franklin
BUD WRIGHT
Ms. Myrtle Wright

In honor of

AL & NORMA BERGERON
Mr. Kenneth Hyder
ALLAN & DONNA ELDRIDGE
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Walton
JOE PALMER
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Palmer
FRANK PATRICK
Mr. & Mrs. John Lindler
LAURA NICHOLS
Mr. & Mrs. John Lindler
LESLIE SCOTT
Middle Tyger Ruritan Club
De LOIS SHORT
Mr. & Mrs. Bernie Krantz
CAROLINE TURBEVILLE
Mr. & Mrs. James Edwards

In honor of anniversary

BILL & LINDA YOUNG
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Bailey

In honor of birthday

MR. BILL YOUNG
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Bailey
MR. LEE WILSON
Mr. & Mrs. James Edwards

In honor of wedding

MATT & KATIE HOWLAND
Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Putnam
Mr. William Woodroof
Mr. John Howland
Ms. Wendy Deaton
Ms. Julie Waycaster Cooley
Mr. James Waycaster
KELLI MCKENZIE & DENNIS BROWN
Ms. Linda McKenzie
Ms. Amanda Bishop

In-kind gifts

Ms. Mamie Aiken
Ms. Gwen Almond
Ms. Clara Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Andrews
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Atnip
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Axsom
Ms. Rebecca Back
Mr. & Mrs. Phil Blanton
Mr. & Mrs. Gene Bloomingburg
Mr. & Mrs. James Bookless

Ms. Jackie Bowers
Mr. & Mrs. William Bright
Mr. & Mrs. Kent Brown
Ms. Amy Buby
Ms. Deb Burke
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Cannon
Ms. Jennifer Carrion
Ms. Cynthia Cathcart
Mr. & Mrs. John Chewning
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Clark
Ms. Lois Cohen
Ms. Udra Cohen
Mr. & Mrs. Richie Colquitt
Mr. & Mrs. Walden Denton
Mrs. Sara Dexter
Mrs. Shirley Duke
Ms. Linette Durrah
Ms. Ruthie Elliott
Mr. & Mrs. Etherage Farr
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Ferguson
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Fowler
Mrs. Kaye Gehr
Dr. & Mrs. George Glenn
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Glymph
Ms. Linda Graham
Ms. Leslie Gray
Ms. Linda Greer
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Ms. Mary Hanson
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Mr. & Mrs. Darvin Helvy
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Henney
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Mr. & Mrs. Jim Hopkins
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Mr. & Mrs. Jim Martin
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Mason
Mr. & Mrs. Toby McCall
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Mr. & Mrs. Mike McKinney
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Mr. & Mrs. Seth Mull
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Mr. & Mrs. Tim Parks
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Ms. Karen Quinn
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Mr. & Mrs. Mark Ragsdale
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Richardson
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Roberts
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Rogers
Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Rust
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Scott
Mr. & Mrs. Dudley Scott
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Seif
Mr. & Mrs. Herb Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Smoak
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Stanley
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Stidham
Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Strickland
Ms. Debra Sullivan
Ms. Rhonda Vaughn
Ms. Angie Waddell
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Walker
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Watson
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Weatherford
Mr. & Mrs. Donnie Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Rahheem Wofford
Mr. & Mrs. Barry Wood
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Zimmerman
7-Eleven
Advanced Auto Parts
Alabama Theatre at Barefoot Landing
Apalache Baptist Church
AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-AM
Auto Zone
Barnsley Resort
Bert's Automotive
Big Frog Nursery
BI-LO of Lyman, Store #446
BMW Manufacturing Co.
Bob's Car Wash & Oil Express
Bristol Motor Speedway
Cannon's Nursery
Carolina Fresh Farms
Carolina Hurricanes Hockey Club
Carolina Panthers
CentraArchy Restaraunt
Management Co.
Centre Stage
CFRA, LLC
Chick-Fil-A
Chimney Rock State Park
Christian Supply, Inc.
Church of God of Prophecy
CJ's on Main
Coca Cola Bottling of Spartanburg
Coffee Underground
Copper River Grill
Cornerstone Baptist Church
Costco
CPM Federal Credit Union
Deal Mart, Mauldin
Demetre's Gourmet Grille
DISH Network
Double Spring Baptist Church
Draexlmaier Automotive of
America
Drury Hotels
Duncan Police Department
El Mexicano Restaurante
El Primo Mexican Restaurant
Elite Car Rental
Encore Enterprises
Espresso Cafe
Fast Lube of Lyman
Flat Rock Playhouse
Fluor Corp
Friendship Baptist Church of
Lyman
Furman University Golf Club
Furniture Liquidators
Gastonia Church of Christ
Gerald's Tires and Brakes
Gilmore Entertainment
Gold Hill Road Church of Christ
Grahams Ice Cream Co.
Grand Strand Church of Christ
Gray's Auto Service
Greenville Zoo
Hartness International
Hendersonville Church of Christ
Hickory Tavern & Grill
Holland Park Church of Christ
Holly Springs Baptist Church
Hollywild Animal Park
Holy City Hospitality
Home-Grown Industries of
Georgia, Inc.
Hurricane Martial Arts Center
Hyman's Seafood & Aaron's Deli
Jasmine Title Agency
Lancaster Church of Christ
Link's Body Shop
Mauldin Church of Christ
McAlister's Deli of Spartanburg
McDonalds - AMC Management
Corp.
Middle Tyger Community Center
Mountain Island Church of Christ
Obsessions Salon & Day Spa
Olive Tree Restaurant
Outback Steakhouse
Papa John's Pizza
Papa Murphy's Pizza
Paradise Lanes Family
Entertainment
Paula Deen Enterprises
Peach Bowl Lanes
Pest Management Solutions
Poplar Springs Baptist Church
PPG Architectural Coatings
Rapunzel's Hair & Nails
Red Lobster
Reflections
Restoration Church
Ripley's Aquarium
River Falls Plantation
Riverbanks Zoo and Gardens
Rogers Stereo, Inc.
Roper Heating & Air
Ross Stores, Inc.
S&S Tire, Inc.
Sharon United Methodist Church
Shelby Church of Christ
Silver Bay Seafood of Simpsonville
Sims BBQ
Sims Tire & Muffler
Soleil Salon and Day Spa
Sonny's Camp-n-Travel
Southern Barbecue
Spartanburg Scale Modelers
Spirit of Excellence
Subway
Sully's at River Falls
Taylor's First Baptist Church
The Children's Museum of the
Upstate
The Good Dog
The Iberian Pig
The Lighthouse
The Pepperoni Express
The Phone Zone
The Preserve at Verdae
The Skillett Restaurant
The Spice Diner
TLC Motors
Twist - A Modern Salon with a
Southern Twist
Upstate Mattress & Furniture
Outlet
Vic Bailey Ford
Wesley's Water World

Wireless One
Woodland Church of Christ
Zaxby's of Duncan

Volunteers

Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Ferguson
Mr. Jason Ferguson
Ms. Denise Brooks
Ms. JoAnn Hand
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Hewitt
Mrs. Beth Evans
Mrs. Karen Brewster
Mrs. Judy Keller
Ms. Beverly Dorsey
Ms. Rhonda Vaughn
Ms. Ann Brewton
Ms. Sarah Brewton
Mrs. Eddie Sue Thompson
Mrs. Shanda Mays
Mr. & Mrs. Kent Brown and family
Ms. Wanda Roberts
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Link
Ms. Samantha Link
Ms. Mikel Kelley
Mr. Jamel Hager
Mrs. Denise Brooks
Mrs. Judy Bryant
Ms. Maybelle Thompson
Mrs. Crystal Smith
Ms. Lisa Briggs
Ms. Madison Hoslev
Ms. Shane Ericks
Mr. Kyle Lambert
Ms. Nyala Smith
Ms. Nora Lamb
Mrs. Lori Tripp
Mr. Nathan Tripp
Ms. Nakeshia Pearson
Mrs. Holly Foster
Mrs. Sally Ragsdale
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Martin
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Kelly
Ms. Ebony White
Ms. Latoya Fuller
Mr. & Mrs. Toby McCall and family
Mr. Shane Byars
Mr. Lewis Byars
Mr. & Mrs. Rudy Whitener
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Shedrick
Ms. Carole Jessup
Ms. Linda Graham
Mr. Matt Holiday
Mr. Bob Fogel

April 5, 2015 to November 14, 2015

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