Service

Short Term

**Spring/Summer:** Friends of the Blue Ridge Parkway have several new projects in the works. Check them out:

- **May 6-8: Pisgah Campground:** This has been a signature project for Friends for a number of years. The campground opens on May 9 and Friends will be assisting May 6 through 8 to open the campgrounds. Work will consist of removing winter debris, repairing campsites, and preparing the amphitheater for painting and repair. During the summer two to four volunteers will be needed to assist at the campground. This will begin after Memorial Day and will usually be on Tuesday and Wednesday. Work consists of trash pick-up, fire pit cleaning, replacement of fire pits, trimming, repairing tent sites, etc. Good work and good exercise!

- **During the Summer: Visitor Center:** A large number of native wild flowers were planted in front of the center last fall and now they need to be watered and cared for. Although the time is sporadic (water if a dry spell), the flower beds will need to be weeded during the summer (chic weed and dandelions...no poison ivy, etc.).

- **June/July: Parkway Mile Markers:** This year Friends is planning to repaint the mile markers from mm 364 to 415. The effort will begin in the June/July time frame. The effort will require a steady hand and attention to detail.

- **April/May: Folk Art Center Interpretive Trail:** The Mountain to Sea Trail runs in front of the Folk Art Center then branches off to the east a few hundred yards from the main entrance to the Center. Friends has committed to maintaining the trail and cleaning the interpretative signage along the trail. Effort will begin after the pollen has fallen this year...April/May and again in the fall after the leaves have fallen.
Undetermined: Ditch Cleaning (near Tanbark Tunnel and the infamous "road crack"): Many of you assisted last year to clean a major ditch close to the Tanbark Tunnel area. Repair crews have been busy and working 24/7 to restore the Parkway north so it can again be open to the public for enjoyment. The target opening date is reportedly Memorial Day weekend and if there is a window of opportunity from the finishing of the repair and the Parkway reopening, the Park Service would once again like Friends to assist in cleaning out roughly 1/4 to 1/2 mile of ditch.

Undetermined: Invasive Species: We have a number of invasive species along the Parkway...Bittersweet being but one (and it is tough to get rid of). This project is in planning but Friends will need all hands on deck to make a dent and it will be a multi-year effort. Work will occur when the plants can be identified which could be a year round effort.

Undetermined: Painting the Leaning Parkway Signs: The Park Service has asked Friends for help in scraping and repainting the "leaning signs" at several entrances to the Parkway (191 and 70). An eight to ten foot ladder will be needed to reach the upper part of the signs. This is a good project for two to three people.

Beginning Now: Cleaning the Commuter Corridor: The Parkway is an economic driver to the success of Western North Carolina. Visitors from around the world come here to enjoy the beauty and to learn how we constructed the Parkway. It is indeed a shame to have litter along the corridor which stretches from the Folk Art Center at highway 70 to the Arboretum at highway 191(mm 382 - mm394). The Park Service has given Friends the permission to offer these miles for adoption which would be great projects for families and civic groups. The only restrictions would be to not park in no parking areas, to wear a reflective safety vest (which can be provided) and to not park right after a rain as tire tracks will be left on the road side. A group will be cleaning the corridor beginning Tuesday and this will be an "as required" project, but whomever adopts a mile (or more) will make the decision on frequency. Keeping the parkway clean of litter also protects the animals as they are drawn to the smells of human food.

For more information on any of these opportunities, or to volunteer, contact Dan Wells at friendsbrp.asheville@yahoo.com.

March 22: Rotary International will be hosting the 2014 Rotarians Against Hunger event at the Reuter YMCA in Biltmore Park. This is a large scale food packing event that engages over 700 community volunteers. The food packed at this event will be brought to MANNA and distributed to those in need. There are a number of volunteer shifts available. If you are interested in getting signed up to volunteer, please visit the following website: http://www.rotariansagainsthunger.org/helpPackMeals.php. Please be sure to get registered if you are interested in uniting with community members in the fight against hunger in WNC.

April 4-6: Black Mountain College Museum & Arts and the Media Arts Project are holding the ReHAPPENING on April 6 and need volunteers. 30 multidisciplinary art projects will be scattered across the old Black Mountain College Campus to pay tribute to Black Mountain College. Volunteers are needed on April 4 to help set up, April 5 for several positions such as parking, waitstaff, tickets, etc, and on April 6 for clean up. Minimum shift is 3 hours. Volunteers receive free admission to the event, a meal at 4:00 p.m. on the day of the event, and 2
drink tickets (if over 21). If anyone is interested in volunteering, contact Erin at (828) 350-8484 or email rehappeningvolunteers@gmail.com.

**Undetermined:** The Salvation Army’s Center of Hope Shelter needs a few semi-skilled people to assemble dressers for its Women’s Shelter. Tools and equipment will be provided; the only thing needed is hands for assembly. There is no set schedule, it only needs to be completed as soon as possible whenever someone can help. If you are interested in helping, contact Lea Brooks at (828) 253-4723.

**Long Term**

Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP) is looking for summer and fall interns. Interns are a vital part of the ASAP team, and support a wide variety of our organization’s operations. They offer unpaid internships with the following departments: Local Food Campaign, Growing Minds Farm to School Program, Local Food Research Center, Communications, Photography, Graphic Design & Production, and Operations/Administration. They are currently accepting applications for summer interns. To see a full description of our summer internships click here, or view the attached flier. ASAP's fall internships will be announced at asapconnections.org by March 14, and the deadline for fall applications is April 18. To apply, email a resume, cover letter, and two references or letters of recommendation to internships@asapconnections.org. Please note which internship(s) you are applying for. Remember, the application deadline for summer internships is Friday, March 7.

The West Asheville Tailgate Market is seeking interns for the 2014 market season. Located in the heart of West Asheville, our farmer-run & community-supported market will provide students an opportunity to get actively involved in Asheville's local food movement! The positions available are: Growing Minds @ Market (Kid's Tent) Coordinator and Assistant Market Coordinator. Internships average 10 hours/week and run for 12 weeks. We are seeking students for spring, summer & fall terms. For more information and if interested, visit http://www.westashevilletailgatemarket.com/#!get-involved.

Girls on the Run is looking for Assistant Volunteer Coaches. The requirements are to attend one lesson per week (around 1.5 hrs after school), Assist the Head Coach with setting up/breaking down activities, participate in games and activities, serve as a role model for participants, run/walk with girls during workouts to provide encouragement, communicate with the coach regularly, and believe in the mission! Prospective volunteers will have to pass a background check and a 30 min. online training. For more information visit http://www.gotrwnc.org or register at https://www.raceplanner.com/volunteer/signup/Spring_2014_Coach_Registration.

Kids at Work is a non-profit organization which works at UNCA on Mondays to teach youth culinary arts, interpersonal skills, and healthy behaviors. They are looking for a volunteer who can help on Mondays and/or Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Prospective volunteers will need to submit to a background check. If you are interested, visit http://aspireyouthandfamily.com/kidsatwork.html
Friends of the Blue Ridge Parkway is needs volunteers to help preserve and protect the Blue Ridge Parkway. Most of the service opportunities include maintaining the landscape such as campsite repair and trail maintenance. Volunteers will be trained with tools provided. Opportunities usually happen on Saturdays. Email Dan Wells at dawells1967@yahoo.com for more information or to get involved.

Eliada Homes is currently looking to partner with students to build some fitness programs for the enrichment of our residential students. The goal would be to offer two classes a week of a fitness activity led by student athletes, recreation majors, or other interested parties. The campus has a variety of facilities available to access including: Basketball/Volleyball Court, tennis courts, driving range, fitness center, climbing wall, and open space for track or field sports. This offers a wonderful opportunity for a CES project, or other service-learning. If you are interested in this opportunity, email Thomas Russo at trusso@eliada.org.

AC Reynolds High School needs college student mentors/tutors to work one on one with English as a Second Language students. Mentor/tutors would help students in complete work in Academic subjects, develop a strong relationship, and talk to ESL students about college and career goals. Shifts are from Monday-Thursday, 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. For more information, email Emily at emily.dodson@bcsemail.org.

The Boys and Girls Club of West Asheville has many volunteer opportunities available. They serve high need children of poverty. There are 3 units: children ages 5-13 as well as a Teen Center, ages 14-18. An additional site at Johnston Elementary School, also in West Asheville, serves children ages 5-10. For more information, contact Molly at (828) 255-0266 or email her at molly.dennehy@uss.salvationarmy.org.

Brandi Nichole Family Enrichment Center is a therapeutic foster care agency for families who have children with mental illness. Student volunteers will have the opportunity to help out with creative projects, administrative duties, assisting with layout and text edits, photo retouching, file management, and website maintenance. They will be able to have hands on experience using the techniques and training they have learned in their graphic design or communication classes. They will also be able to learn about the foster care system and human service field. The student will have some flexibility to introduce their own design that may be used for marketing and distribution. They can use this experience on their resume and the marketing work in their portfolio. The student will be haven a unique opportunity this early in their career to design something that will be used and seen by many. They would have to understand the targeted audience and design material that will be appealing to that demographic. For more information visit http://www.brandinichole.org/ or email Charlene at charlene@brandinichole.org.

Project Rise is a YMCA tutoring and mentoring program that serves grades 4 and 5 at Oakley, Sand-Hill Venable, and W.D. Williams Elementary Schools, and grades 5 and 6 at Eblen Elementary School. The program runs from 2:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. during which time there
will be multiple activities regarding development, tutoring, and enrichment. For more information, and to receive the volunteer packet, email Caroline Jackovich at caroline.jackovich@gmail.com.

21 Century is a YMCA tutoring program that serves grades 6 through 8 at Owen, Erwin, Enka, and Reynolds Middle Schools. The program runs from 3:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. during which time volunteers participate in tutoring and enrichment programs. For more information, and to receive the volunteer packet, email Caroline Jackovich at caroline.jackovich@gmail.com.

Clare Bridge of Asheville is a Brookdale Senior Living community which provides assisted living and memory care to residents who have been diagnosed with dementia. Students who wish to volunteer will be involved with recreation therapy for residents. Students will help engage residents in a variety of activities including intellectual, emotional, physical, and spiritual engagement. This provides service-learning opportunities for planning and problem-solving, and gaining an understanding of how people with dementia can maximize their remaining physical and mental abilities. Students who are interested will need to attend a four-hour orientation course which will provide an overview of dementia and how to effectively engage memory-care residents. Students will work under the supervision of the community program director. Volunteers are needed Monday-Friday from 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. For more information, visit the website at http://www.brookdaleseniorliving.com, or contact Craig D. Andrews at (828) 687-0155, or email him at candrews@brookdaleliving.com.

William Randolph, the alternative program of Asheville Middle and Asheville High School, is currently seeking volunteers to support their at-risk student population. There are many opportunities, including, but not limited to: mentoring and/or tutoring students in grades 6-12, assisting in classrooms, and leading enrichment activities. If you would like to get involved and help make a difference for these students, contact Carlye Gates at (828) 350-6932 or email her at carlye@acsf.org.

Emma Elementary needs volunteers to help distribute Manna food bags for students that need them. This happens every Friday from 12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m. Students will need to meet at Emma Elementary at 12:30 p.m. and be walked through the process. Manna has already provided the food; volunteers only need to distribute it to the right class. If you are interested in helping, contact Carol Murray at (828) 232-4272 or email her at cmurray89@gmail.com

The Francine Delany New School for Children is looking for motivated and driven students and/or faculty and staff to teach after school elective classes. Their classes range from Soccer and Basketball to Drawing and Computer Programming. Drama, Art, Music, Keyboarding, and other sports are just a few of the classes that are in demand, but they are open to anything that may be of interest to middle school students. Classes happen on Fridays from 12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m., 1:20 p.m. – 2:20 p.m., or 12:15 p.m. – 2:20 p.m. For more information, come see us in the Key Center or contact Chris Corral at FDNSC directly at chris@fdnsc.net.
The Girl Scouts are providing many opportunities for service learning within walking distance from campus. They need help with communications, social media, events coordination, retail sales & services, Spanish communications, and troops with special populations. For more information, visit us in the Key Center or contact Kristi Brooks at 828-252-4442, or email her at kbrooks@girlscoutsp2p.org.

ABCCM’s Our Circle program needs volunteers! There are many great opportunities available such as childcare and data entry.

- **Childcare:** Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 3:30-6:30. Assist childcare workers in working with children whose parents are attending job readiness programs.
- **Data Entry:** Flexible hours Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Enter volunteer hours and other key program information once per week.

For more information, visit us in the Key Center or contact Julia Dearing at 317-468-5194, or email her at Julia.dearing@abccm.org.

The ABCCM has many other volunteer opportunities available. The Steadfast House and Veteran’s Restoration Quarters need kitchen volunteers as well as mentoring volunteers. To volunteer, visit [http://www.abccm.org/volunteer-sign-up](http://www.abccm.org/volunteer-sign-up). There is also the Hearts and Hands program which needs volunteers to help sort and distribute clothes at the ABCCM Donation Center and Thrift Store. To volunteer with this program, stop by the center Monday-Friday from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The center is located at 217 Coxe Avenue. Or call (828) 250-5322.

ABCCM’s Crisis Ministry is in need of volunteers to help those whose WIC benefits have ended. ABCCM has been asked to be the emergency food provider in this area, and they need help. To volunteer, contact Cheryl Wilson at (828) 259-5326 or email her at cheryl.wilson@abccm.org.

Asheville High School is looking for tutors, specifically in Math and Spanish. For more information, contact Amy Leitner at amy@acsf.org.

NC Cooperative Extension Service partners with communities to deliver education and technology that enrich the lives, land and economy of North Carolinians. Delivering timely, unbiased, and relevant educational programs that meet critical local needs in the areas of agriculture, family and consumer sciences, 4-H/youth and community development is the cornerstone of Cooperative Extension's mission. Throughout the year there are multiple opportunities to assist with community programs, agricultural field demonstrations and research projects. Programs are based upon pressing community needs and are therefore dynamic and ongoing. Cooperative Extension is a strategic community partner, allowing students to work with a diverse clientele. Program areas include sustainable agriculture, food systems, family and consumer sciences, 4-H/youth and community development and are based upon relevant needs
of the citizens of Buncombe County that may also address larger, regional issues. For more information on how to get involved, contact Meghan Baker at (828) 255-5522 or email her at meghan_baker@ncsu.edu.

Mountain Area Volunteer Lawyers Program has an internship opportunity. The MAVL Intern will assist in the implementation of the Mountain Area Volunteer Lawyers program of Pisgah Legal Services. In this program over 300 volunteer attorneys agree to represent low income clients in pursuing protection from domestic violence, accessing safe housing, securing medical care and meeting other basic needs on a pro bono basis. The MAVL Intern will follow up with attorneys to whom cases have been referred to ensure that clients have contacted them and the case is proceeding. MAVL Intern may assist with contacting clients and coordinating clinics and consultation programs. Learning opportunity: will learn about complex workings of nonprofit law firm, will learn about many different issues that arise in a civil case and be exposed to challenges facing people living in poverty. Volunteer requirements: available at least 3 hours per week for a semester, ability to communicate well with clients and professionals, willingness to learn to use PLS’ case management software. Contact Sam Galloway at (828) 210-3425 or email him at sam@pisgahlegal.org for more information.

Funding Opportunities.

The Peace First Prize
Deadline: March 17
The Peace First Prize recognizes young people between the ages of 8 and 22 for their compassion, courage, and ability to create collaborative change. The goals of the Prize are to: invest in young leaders whose work and ideas demonstrate tangible youth peacemaking; learn from the work of these young peacemakers to advance the field of youth peacemaking; and, create advocates and spokespersons for the importance of teaching peace and for changing social messages to youth about peace. Between five and ten Prize winners will each receive $25,000 over two years to further their education and peacemaking work. They also receive training, mentoring, and professional development. Only projects that have occurred primarily in the U.S. are eligible for the Peace First Prize. To apply, visit http://www.peacefirst.org/prize/.

Sodexo Foundation Youth Grants
Deadline: January 31st
Grants provide funding of up to $500 for youth (age 5-25) to lead projects focused on ending childhood hunger in their communities. Learn more

Spencer Foundation New Civics Initiative Grants
Deadline: February 6th (Grants up to $50,000)
and April 29, 2014 (Grants up to 350,000)
The foundation is accepting research proposals that ask critical questions about how education can more effectively contribute to the civic development of young people. Of special interest are
projects designed to improve understanding of the avenues for and impediments to civic learning and civic action among young people who do not attend college, who reside in marginalized communities, who are recent immigrants or immigrants of different legal statuses, or who are less economically privileged. Learn more

Scotts Miracle-GRO1000 Grassroots Grants
Deadline: February 17th
Grants of up to $1,500 are awarded to local communities to help bring edible gardens, flower gardens, and public green spaces to more neighborhoods. Learn more

Dollar General Literacy Foundation Grants for Adult Literacy, Family Literacy and Summer Reading
Deadline: February 27th
Grants support nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and libraries that offer literacy programs in communities served by Dollar General. Learn more

Opal Apple Youth Make a Difference Initiative Grants
Deadline: February 28th
Grants support initiatives where youth, ages 6 - 25, take leadership roles in addressing one or more of the issues of food security, nutrition, agriculture, or food politics and education. Grants will be awarded in the range of $5,000 - $20,000. Learn more

Ben & Jerry's Foundation Grassroots Organizing for Social Change
Deadline: March 14th
One-year grants of up to $20,000 to nonprofit, grassroots community-organizing groups to further social and environmental justice and support sustainable and just-food systems. Grants can be used to support either programming or operations costs. Learn more

Dollar General Literacy Foundation Youth Literacy Grants
Deadline: May 22nd
Grants support schools, public libraries, and nonprofit organizations that work to help students who are below grade level or experiencing difficulty reading. Learn more

Key Center for Community Citizenship and Service-Learning
University of North Carolina at Asheville
248 Highsmith Union
Email: keyctr@unca.edu
Phone: 828.251.6400
http://keycenter.unca.edu/