

Residential Treatment Services of Alamance  
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# Serenity Profile

A publication of Residential Treatment Services of Alamance, Inc.

September 2022

## Banquet set for November 3, 2022 featuring Comedian Jan McGinnis

From the  
Desk of  
**Ron Osborne**



We have a big evening planned for November 3, 2022, our largest fundraiser of the year. We have acquired Comedian Jan McGinnis as our keynote speaker.

Jan is originally from the Washington, DC area where she worked as a marketing executive for national non-profits. She is a graduate of Virginia Tech and has been performing as a professional comedian now for over 25 years. McGinnis has been traveling the country as a comedian and keynote speaker, sharing her humor and tips on how to use humor in business. She has been featured in the Wall Street Journal as one of the top convention comedians whose material is clean and in the Washington Post for her clean comedy writing.

Join us for this event for an entertaining evening while we recognize our Volunteer of the Year, Employee of the Year and Community Partner of the Year. The event will be held Thursday evening, November 3, 2022 at the Alamance Country Club. Doors will open up at 6:00 pm. Tickets may be purchased through a Board Member or by calling the Administrative Offices at 336-227-2994. Sponsorships are available for businesses and our higher individual donors. Individual tickets may be purchased while they last at \$75 each, which includes a meal, and fine entertainment while supporting those in need

of treatment for their substance abuse and/or mental illness.

We currently operate four facilities with a total of 43 beds in Alamance County providing non-hospital medical detoxification, facility based crisis services, halfway house services for men, group home services for both men and women who have persistent mental illness and a recovery home for homeless women with substance use disorders and/or mental illness.

This fundraiser will assist us in providing treatment services, staff and a clean environment in our facilities while improving the lives of adults with alcoholism, addiction and/or mental illness by providing the resources, counseling, support and encouragement they need to build strong programs of recovery.

We hope you will be able to join us for the evening, but if not, please consider a monetary donation. All donors will be listed in our program for the evening and every dollar counts. Visit our webpage at [rtsalamance.org](http://rtsalamance.org) to learn more about our organization.

Another way to help the agency is to make donations of clothing, household items, dishes, pots & pans, furnishings and etc. to our thrift store, Trollinger Treasures. This store has been assisting us in providing needed services since we opened on August 9, 2003.

Help us make this year one of our best years yet! Quality mental health and substance abuse services doesn't happen on it's own!



**Save The Dates!**

**Jewelry  
Benefit Sale**  
for Women's Recovery Home  
September 15-18  
Holly Hill Mall

**Celebration of  
Recovery**  
Recovery Speakers & BBQ  
Friday, September 23  
Hall Avenue Facility

**Banquet**  
w/ Comedian Jan McGinnis  
Thursday, November 3  
Alamance Country Club



24 Hour Mental Health &  
Substance Abuse Treatment

Providing recovery programs  
through the sale of donated goods

📞 336-227-8500

📍 403 Trollinger St • Burlington, NC

The following have made memorials and/or honorariums since our last newsletter.

## Memorials

### **R. Jack Ashley**

by Shirley Ashley

### **Dennis & Jamie Baker**

by Leoma Baker  
by Rhonda Baker

### **Ellen & Chris Baker**

by Buddy Baker

### **Elise Blair "Tootie" Burke**

by Ron & Janine Osborne

### **George & Sally Fox**

by Bob & Sandi Moulton

### **Howard Gibson**

by Victor E. Pate

### **Joe Hayes**

by Sylvia Hayes

### **Doris & L.P. Holt, Jr.**

by Connie Holt & John Shea

### **Art Springer**

by Wayne & Emily Mobley

## Honorariums

### **Margaret Beatty**

by Tom & Vickie Whitaker

### **Karen H. O'Hair**

by Shirley Ashley

### **Joseph Brent Rice**

by Barney Rice

### **Robin Weatherman**

by Shirley Ashley

## We Lost a Dear Friend

Elise Blair "Tootie" Burke a dear friend of RTSA died May 31, 2022. Tootie served on the Board of Directors of RTSA for nine years. She was instrumental in obtaining items for our silent auction and getting friends to donate to the organization. She was a native of Gibsonville and very active in her community. This community has lost a dear advocate and special person, especially the town of Gibsonville.



# Thank You!

...to **Rhonda Baker, Dean Barrett, Greg Blackburn, Katie Wright Boon, Tammy Cobb, Randy Cousins, Dwayne Gerni, Greg Getsinger, Sylvia Hayes, Debbie Mason, Mark Montgomery, Sam Moore, Sarah Osborne, Suzanne Troxler, Gene Walker, Thomas Walker, Kristie Ward, Debbie Best Womack & Sarah Lewis Yow** for making facebook donations totaling \$1,395 for Residential Treatment Services of Alamance in honor of Ron Osborne's birthday. These monies have been used toward renovations. Your contributions definitely helped out at the Hall Avenue facility.

...to **all who purchased tickets for the Reverse Raffle, 50/50 Raffle tickets, made donations for the silent auction and to those who purchased items at the silent auction.** A fun time was had by all while \$10,000 in prize monies were given away and the agency netted over \$8,200 in revenues.

...to **the men of the Hall Avenue facility** who have volunteered as painters. The halls and stairway, several bedrooms along with the lounge have a fresh coat of paint making the facility look extra special. They also cleaned all the carpet throughout the facility. The place is looking better and the men are taking care of the building.

...to **David & Larry Hunt** for doing some repair brick work at **Trollinger Treasures**. Your repair work was truly appreciated and we are ever so grateful for the donation of your talent and time.

...to **all the donors and those who have recently cleaned out parents homes** and donated clothing, household supplies, furniture, tools and etc., to **Trollinger Treasures**. All proceeds benefit the recovery programs operated by RTSA.

...to **Christmas Cheer** for the donation of body wash, soaps and hand sanitizers for the use of our residents in our four facilities.

## Alcohol Deaths Sour During Pandemic

Americans who died of alcohol-related causes increased precipitously during the first year of the pandemic, according to a new study funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Binge drinking increased, as did emergency room visits for alcohol withdrawal. The number of alcohol-related deaths, including from liver disease and accidents, soared. There was a big increase in self-reported stress and big increases in anxiety and depression. Alcohol-related deaths went up for everybody - men, women, as well as every ethnic and racial group. "What we are doing now is not sufficient. **"We need to help people live meaningful purpose-filled lives"**, said John Kelly, a professor at Harvard Medical School and the director of Recovery Research Institute at Massachusetts General Hospital. SOURCE: *The New York Times*, March 2022

*There has been some confusion!*

**Ron Osborne, Executive Director of RTSA is not the Ron Osborne running for NC House Seat 64 against Representative Dennis Riddell.**

## From Addiction to RTSA Management Team

Growing up in a normal middle-class family gave no indications of the horrible path that was yet to come. ADHD was an issue from an early age, which resulted in situations such as the time I was strapped to a desk in the second grade and was unable get out of the building during a fire drill. High school years were spent playing sports, dinners at grandma's house and going to church every time the doors were open. I graduated at 17, had not gotten the football scholarship that I was so seeking, and felt I had lost my identity. At 18 I drank alcohol for the first time and felt like I had found a comforting friend. In a short time using other substances was a regular occurrence. The new found friends that surrounded me gave the acceptance that I longed for during that time in my life. Looking back I realize that I was starting an avalanche of pain and misery from the time I took that first sip of alcohol.



Todd Perry  
Hall Avenue  
Facility Manager

Alcohol and drugs gave me comfort, relieved my pain, was a friend, a sense of belonging and seemed to never let me down. Whether it's calling these things a mirage, an illusion, or distorted thinking does not really matter. The cold hard truth is that alcohol and drugs were full of pain, suffering, misery, loneliness, hopelessness, and helplessness. Living for 18 years with the avalanche continuing to cover me up and drive me further into the ground gave me the feeling that I would never be able to come back up. I hated the person that I had become even though I did not recognize that person.

In early 2019, an angel in the form of attorney Frank Greene gave me the hope needed to start a beautiful transformation. The compassion I felt from Mr. Green, his willingness to go out of his way to get me into Residential Treatment Services of Alamance (RTSA) gave me the glimmer of hope that I could become free from the grips of addiction. During my 14 months at RTSA, I was able to get a jump start on my path to recovery and start my college endeavor.

After completing the program in July 2020, I was able to get my license back, a new car, a new home with my girlfriend, and transferred to UNCG. I finally found my purpose in life. As a Peer Support Specialist I was able to assist other alcoholics and addicts. I found the meaning of life when I was hired on as the Hall Avenue Facility Manager in April of this year. I am going into my senior year at UNCG and will be completing my field placement (internship) at RTSA. RTSA is like a family, a place that lives to help others, and always view alcoholics and addicts as people first. Without RTSA that avalanche would defiantly still be pushing me deeper into despair, but most likely would have killed me by now. I will be forever grateful for the opportunities that RTSA has afforded me.