



Community Feature

Board of Commissioners

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 15, 2012

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WAKE ANNOUNCES 2012 VOLUNTEER AWARD WINNERS

The Wake County Board of Commissioners recognized outstanding volunteers with an award and recognition program during its regularly scheduled meeting **today, Monday, October 15, 2012**. The Board announced The Assistance League of the Triangle Area and Ricky Layton as the winners of the Commissioners' Awards for Volunteer Service from Wake County. The Assistance League was named the Larry B. Zieverink Volunteer of the Year and Layton was named the County Government Volunteer of the Year.

"Wake County is honored to recognize these community members for their volunteer time and efforts," said Commissioner Phil Matthews, chair of the Volunteer Award and Recognition Committee. "It is because of their passion and involvement in the community that Wake County is able to provide the highest level of service possible to the public."

The Assistance League donates the majority of their time and effort to providing new clothes, shoes and backpacks to children in need. Group members purchase and assemble clothing items and deliver them to students each October. Last school year the League supplied items to over 1,100 children in 14 different schools. The group supports the Women's Center of Wake County, assists the Kids' Place at WakeMed, provides scholarships, donates vases and cups to the Flower Shuttle, and gives books to Read and Feed. The League's volunteer and fundraising efforts involved 70 members volunteering almost 19,000 hours last year. The Assistance League has provided invaluable services to Wake County and the region in the past 14 years.

Ricky Layton has coordinated a picnic in September and breakfast in December for the participants and volunteers of the Wake County Sheriff's Office Citizens Well-Check Program for the last five years. Participants in the Well-Check Program--seniors living alone--receive an automated call 365 days a year asking if they are in need of assistance. Layton treats these seniors to a fish fry or BBQ lunch at his home each September and a breakfast before they participate in the Raleigh Christmas Parade each December. Ricky's wife, Pam, died of ovarian cancer in July of 2011, but even after this loss the Layton family sought to continue the yearly picnic that September. Ricky and his family have shown true commitment to the participants in the Well-Check Program by hosting these gatherings and caring for these Wake County seniors.

Each year the Board recognizes several outstanding volunteers in coordination with state-level volunteer awards. Volunteers are nominated by county government groups, as well as outside

agencies, including non-profits and community partners. A selection committee then evaluates the nominations based on the volunteer efforts, accomplishments and impact in the community.

For more information on volunteer opportunities in Wake County, visit www.wakegov.com/volunteer.

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