

We would like to nominate Sherrie Norris, currently the editor of All About Women magazine and long-time free-lance writer with Mountain Times publications, who has spent most of her life helping others – young and old alike.

Most of her “work” has been centered up helping others –as a long-term care social worker for ten years and a writer for almost 30 years- she has helped bring attention to many situations that needed help for individuals, families and non-profit organizations.

She owned Lovin Spoonful Catering for eight years and many times provided food for the homeless and often donated food and her service for non-profit fundraisers.

Several stories she wrote drew attention to particular problems that received amazing results. One was about a handicapped child and her single mother who had no place to live. Someone reading that story was so touched that they bought a house for that little girl and her family.

Another time, she learned of a man who needed a kidney transplant and helped to raise awareness, which helped raise money the family needed. The family lived in a very small house and had a teenage daughter and son who shared the same room. She sent out a plea to the Three Forks Baptist Association to help them. The family received a new addition to their home at no cost.

She has helpoed promote everything from March of Dimes to Hospice and all in between. She is a founding board member of Celebrity Serve which raises money each year for a worthy cause – Hospice, Make A Wish Foundation, the soccer complex and now this year, for the Hospitality House.

At her insistence two years ago, her family donated a vehicle to a single mother of three with no transportation. Her family hosted a young boy in their home for one summer from the poverty-stricken country of Moldova, near Russia.

Sherrie transports elderly and disabled to and from doctor’s offices, grocery stores, etc. Visits shut-ins and provides meals and other assistance on a routine basis.

Community Service includes:

- Farm City Committee for many years
- Hospice Community Advisory Board, long-time Hospice volunteer and chair of Hospice telethon in 2004.
- Watauga County Council on the Status of Women, chaired Woman of the Month Committee and wrote about their accomplishments in the local paper; helped organize numerous forums and events for area women.
- Founding board member for Caregivers Haven in Avery County, a daycare facility for patients with Alzheimers and related dementias
- She was an active parent in the schools – on PTA board at Hardin Park, grade parent, chaperone, tutor, helped organize special events for 13 years.
- Was member and publicity chair for WHS Friends of Watauga for 4 years, helped with special events and volunteered weekly in the school office
- Member of Moms In Touch, weekly prayer group for school students.
- She and husband are members of Deep Gap Ruritan (even though they don’t even live in that community) – helps with fundraisers to serve the needs of the community.

- Active member of Mt Vernon Baptist Church - has been a Children's Sunday School leader, member of the Children's Council, Chair of the Social Committee, Bereavement Meal Team.
- She is involved with the Lighthouse Ministry, an arm of the church, located in Bradford Park, where she and her son have served as after-school tutors for families there, mostly Hispanic, and she has helped with special projects for the residents in the park.
- At First Baptist Church, Crossnore, she was a Sunday School teacher, member of the choir, and recognized as Daughter of the Year in the late 80's.
- She and her family have participated in numerous mission projects in and around the area - to the NC coast and Gulf Coast providing hurricane relief assistance and in Vermont helping to rebuild an historical old church. Sherrie cooked three meals a day for the entire missions team in Vermont.
- She is a blood donor who gives every two months, as allowed.
- Family active in High Country Classic Car Club – which raises money throughout the year for local charities and children's homes
- Sherrie has served on the High Country Caregivers Foundation, which seeks ways to raise money to help family caregivers who have a difficult time with their duties.
- Sherrie and her husband spent the last two years as board members to a private, nonprofit group called Raise a Roof, Rebuild A Life in Ashe County and helped raise money and awareness to build a home for a handicapped lady of 34, whose mother is very ill with cancer. They worked hard to help make the young woman's dream a reality.
- She helped the National Guard's Memorial Garden get accomplished and a stone with her name was placed there in her honor
- She was recognized in 2006 by Farm City as Adult Volunteer of the Year and received a special award for "excellence in community service."

Thank you very much,

Van and Garrett Norris, family members and friends of Sherrie Norris