

LEND A HAND: Holiday season provides volunteer opportunities

By Staff report

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The United Way of West Alabama has some ideas for those looking to help charitable groups over the holidays.

- Arts 'n Autism needs volunteers to help with gift wrapping at Belk department store. They are also looking for a company to host a Christmas party for the kids at 4 p.m. Dec. 6. Call 247-4990 or email jansikes@me.com.
- Community Service Programs of West Alabama needs delivery volunteers for the Meals on Wheels program. Call Diane Lewis at 469-0383 or Keelin Bailey at 469-0357.
- Focus on Senior Citizens needs 100 turkeys and hams or combination of both. Monetary donations are needed for the Christmas fund, which gives grocery gift cards to low-income seniors. A volunteer is needed to call bingo from 8:30-9:45 a.m. on Tuesdays. Call Nicole Harshman at 553-3133 or email nharshman@focusonseniorcitizens.org.
- Hospice of West Alabama needs volunteers to trim foliage and decorate the building for the holidays. Call Sandy Milling at 523-0101 or email smilling@hospiceofwestalabama.org.
- King's Home/Hannah Homes' women and children's Tuscaloosa campus is closing on Dec. 20 and residents will need twin, full and queen sheet sets and comforters, dishes, pots and pans for their new homes. Call Gwen Solomon at 930-0144 or 618-0300 or email gwen@kingshome.com.
- The Salvation Army needs kettle bell ringers at local department stores. For more information, call Maj. Bill Shafer at 650-2532.
- Help Temporary Emergency Services stock their pantry for holiday meals by

dropping off canned goods, grains, staple pantry items or frozen meats. They are also accepting donations of space heaters, coats and socks. Drop off donations at 1705 15th St.

- UCP of West Alabama is requesting donations of seasonal gift cards of \$10 to local restaurants for the organization's 36 participants. Cards or donations can be made on or before Dec. 18. Deliver to 1100 UCP Parkway in Northport.
- West Alabama Food Bank needs holiday food items for families. Deliver physical donations at 3160 McFarland Blvd. in Northport on make an online gift at www.westalabamafoodbank.org.
- Wings of Grace needs help wrapping Christmas gifts, from 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays at Holt Baptist Church. Email Terri Hibbard at thmiracle@msn.com to schedule a time.
- YMCA of Tuscaloosa needs folks to sponsor children on its Angel Tree. Pick a child and buy three gifts within a \$75 spending limit. Call 345-9622 or email nbboggs@ymcatusc.org.