



CAROLYN R. WILSON/FOR THE WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS

Mandy Allen and Tiffany McCutcheon (in background), volunteer their time to set up the consignment sales each season.

Semi-annual savings

Dozens of volunteers preparing for sale that takes place Friday and Saturday

BY CAROLYN R. WILSON
For the Washington County News

Alicia Arney doesn't like to take credit for the huge success of a semi-annual children's consign-

ment sale she helped to organize three years ago.

"God continues to bless the Wee-Cycle-It sale and all those involved in it. He really has," said Arney of Abingdon. "He has His hand all over this. I can't take any credit; He works out all the details. If a volunteer cancels, someone is standing by to take their place. This sale is definitely a God thing."

Arney and dozens of volunteers will

spend most of the week preparing for their next sale from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 9, and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10. The sale marks the eighth one they have organized.

Arney said the consignment sale occupies nearly every room at Woodland Hills Christian Church where the sale has been held since 2009 when it outgrew

See **SALE**, Page A2

Sale

From Page A1

the Fraley/Garrett House behind Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church.

The sale continues to grow each season, not only drawing volunteers and consignors from Washington County, Va., but also Russell and Smyth counties and the City of Bristol.

Arney reported she accepted 250 consignors for this sale in a record time of only two weeks after posting an online advertisement. As many as 31 consignors remain on a waiting list, she said.

Amanda Snodgrass is among 150 volunteers who are helping with Friday and Saturday's sales. Snodgrass started shopping consignment last year when the size of hand-me-downs from her sister no longer coincided with the season.

"I love a deal and was frustrated with the high cost of children's items that are used for such a short period. This time around I

decided to consign," said Snodgrass.

"My husband and I both work, but consignment shopping just makes sense, regardless of the household income. It seems wasteful to pay regular retail for all your children's clothes and baby items. I still buy some things in the store, but the consignment sale is a great way to fill in the girls' wardrobes and often with brand names that I wouldn't otherwise pay for."

The Wee-Cycle-It sales continue to benefit many people in the community, said Arney. "It helps local families who are buying and selling children's items. That's especially important in these hard economic times."

Items leftover from the sales are donated to Ecumenical Faith in Action, a Christian mission outreach serving Southwest Virginia.

Arney encourages customers to bring food donations to the sale, such as peanut butter, juice boxes and pudding cups, to benefit the Kids' Cupboard Weekend Backpack Program that sends food home

with area school children who may not have enough to eat during the weekend. A portion of the proceeds from the sales also helps support mission trips taken by Woodland Hills Christian Church Missions team, and overseas families in the Dominican Republic.

The consignment sales feature high quality, gently used items for infants, children and teens. "A lot of people don't realize we have a good selection of teen clothing, too," Arney said in addition to a large variety of toys, videos and clothing, customers also can shop this sale for bicycles, bunk beds, toddler beds, outdoor play equipment, and winter coats for infants through teens.

"This sale promises to be one of the best," said Arney.

Selected items at the consignment sale will be sold at half price from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday. Doors will close at 11:30 a.m. and reopen at noon.

To learn more about how to get involved in this consignment sale, visit www.wee-cycle-it.com.