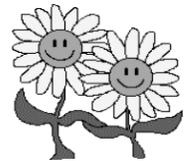


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DISABILITY PARTNERS EXPRESS



MEET THE CANDIDATES

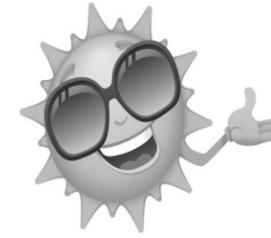
LEARN WHERE CANDIDATES STAND ON TOPICS IMPACTING OLDER ADULTS.

Please join in on an interactive legislative meet and greet. Candidates for Buncombe County Commissioners, Sheriff, District Attorney, NC House, NC Senate and US House will be invited.

When: Tuesday, June 5, 2018 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Where: UNC Asheville at OLLI in the Reuter Center, Manheimer Room

This collaborative event is hosted by the Council of Aging of Buncombe County in collaboration with the Buncombe County Aging Coordinators Consortium (ACC) Public Policy Committee, UNC Asheville OLLI, DayStay Adult Day Services, AARP NC, DisAbility Partners, and MemoryCare.



DP EXPRESS
SUMMER 2018



ONLY SERVICE DOGS ALLOWED

Having a dog for many people is one of the great pleasures in life. A large number of pet owners identify their beloved dog as part of the family, a best friend and a loving companion. These pet owners would love to take their dog everywhere they go but unless it is a service dog, pets are not allowed in public businesses such as restaurants, stores, movie theaters and so forth. People with legitimate service dogs are constantly challenged to enter a business due to the negative experiences businesses endured with pet owners passing their dog as a service dog. There have been too many incidences at businesses where a pet disguised as a service dog displayed inappropriate behaviors such as growling, biting, jumping on people or defecating on the floor.

Service dogs are not pets. Service dogs are an assistance to a person with a disability in performing a particular task due to the person's limitations. Without a service dog, many people would find it difficult to participate in certain daily activities at home and in the community. These service dogs are not only trained to perform tasks but are also trained to be well-behaved in a social setting. The dog handler has constant control over their service dog. If the dog does display inappropriate behaviors and the handler has no control over the dog, a business has every right to have the dog removed. It does not matter if the dog is a legitimate service dog. In this case, the dog may require further training.

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), service dogs are not required to have certification and businesses are only allowed to ask two questions; is this a service animal due to a disability and what task does this animal perform? The mild restrictions placed by the ADA leads pet owners to think they can get in a business claiming their pet to be a service dog. Even so, the growing challenges of entering a business whether or not the service dog is legitimate steers people to websites for certification believing this will provide valid proof. Many people are unaware these websites are bogus and out there

Continued on page 2

DisAbility Partners - Asheville Office





Service animals (continued)

just to take your money. Legitimate certification is provided by some trainers but mostly by the organizations providing trained service dogs. Registration of a service dog is not required but is available through North Carolina Health and Human Services. To voluntarily register a service dog, applicants must provide verification that their service dog is trained to provide a task due to a disability.

More states have laws in place making it illegal misrepresenting a service dog. "In North Carolina, it is unlawful to disguise an animal as a service animal or a service animal in training" "Violation shall be a Class 3 misdemeanor" (168-4.5. Penalty). The toughest law is in California, where the maximum penalty is a \$1,000 fine and up to six months in jail.

There are a number of businesses who are pet friendly and will allow dogs such as a hotel or a restaurant with outdoor seating. Emotional support dogs may be accepted at some businesses due to their own policies otherwise emotional support animals are not covered by the ADA and are not allowed in most businesses. So think twice before venturing out with a pet and identifying this pet as your service dog. You are not only doing an injustice to yourself but making it more challenging for a person dependent on a service dog to be out and about in the community.



DisAbility Partners - Asheville Office

ENERGY EFFICIENCY FOR LOW INCOME HOMEOWNERS

Energy Savers Network supports volunteer-based solutions to the energy efficiency problems that disproportionately impact low-income and minority communities.

If you are a Buncombe County resident in need of weatherization and energy efficiency help for any reason we are here for you.

Contact us Today!

EMAIL: INFO@ENERGYSAVERSNETWORK.COM

PHONE: 828.655.3649

WEBSITE: <http://www.energysaversnetwork.com>



CHOOSING THE RIGHT NON-ORGANIC PRODUCE

More people are going organic when it comes to fruits and vegetables which buying organic is a safe way to go. For many people though, purchasing organic produce doesn't quite fit within their budget. Still, people can find certain fruits and vegetables that can contribute to a healthy diet since they are grown with little or no pesticides.

- **Onions** keeps away pest, so they don't need pesticides to grow.
- **Avocados** have very thick skins protecting them from accumulating pesticides.
- **Pineapples** is a fruit with tough skin which provides protection from pesticides. 
- **Mangos** are another fruit with thick skin just like pineapple and avocados.
- **Asparagus** also drive away pests like onions, so only a few sprays of pesticide are given as it grows.
- **Sweet peas** have the least amount of pesticide residue in all of the vegetables in this list.
- **Kiwi** has a sturdy peel that protects itself against pesticides.
- **Cabbage** may not have skin like some of the produce in this list, but it is one of the veggies that don't need a ton of spraying as it grows. 
- **Eggplants** have skin and are impenetrable by pesticides.
- **Papayas** do have pesticides residue but it remains on the skin only.
- **Cantaloupes** are very thick on the outside which makes it impossible for pesticides to penetrate in to this produce.
- **Cauliflower** does not attract many pest during its growing days so there is not much spraying done.
- **Sweet Potatoes** are hardy enough so they don't contain much pesticides.
- **Grapefruits** don't have as much pesticides as other fruits, such as apples and peaches.

WHETHER IT IS THICK SKIN OR NOT, ALWAYS RINSE YOUR PRODUCE THOROUGHLY!