THANK YOU 2020 SPONSORS!

State Farm

Biz **NATION**







Bank of Tincastle













EddyAlexander



















Highlands

Bank

Laura Raurk



OF ROANOKE



RVTV3

























∭G A R L A N D**∭**















Ellerman

& Davis



Baker Law Firm

SCORE ///



App Studio































3WZ Radio First Citizens Big Lick Screen Printing Office Depot/Office Max T. Creasy & Company Whistle Creek





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Award Ceremony Agenda

Welcome

Annette Patterson, President Becky Freemal, Board Chair

Biz NATION Impact

Alleghany Highlands
Botetourt County, including Town of Buchanan
City of Roanoke
Roanoke County, including Town of Vinton
Rockbridge Region, including Buena Vista and Lexington

Community Focus

Brent Hershey, State Farm

Awards

Becky Freemal, Board Chair

Closing Remarks

Annette Patterson, President

Thank you to our partnering localities and organizations!











































Warrior Mediator: Warrior Mediator offers practical conflict prevention training coaching, and mediation solutions. Warrior Mediator's services can help prevent conflict and it's fallout along with offering Certified Mediator training and coaching.



White Wolf Soul Alchemy: White Wolf Soul Alchemy offers a variety of alternative and holistic products and services including Reiki energy healing, spiritual and empowerment coaching, and personal empowerment and natural healing products.



Woodlore: Woodlore salvages trees, sells live edge slabs, builds custom furniture, and provides portable sawmill services. Our mission is to offer new life to dead trees, and thereby provide customers with organic furnishings and artisan materials.



WOW Organizing: WOW Organizing creates space by sorting, decluttering, and organizing. Less clutter... more enjoyable time!





Zen My Brain: Zen My Brain is owned and operated by Dr. Maurie Sutton. She discovers the root of a person's emotional, mental, or physical problem through muscle testing and medical intuition. Once underlying, harmful, cellular memories are uncovered they are released and gone forever. Quick, effective, inexpensive, and ONLY positive side effects!





The WellNest: The WellNest Roanoke is a community gathering hub in downtown Roanoke that combines a healthful cafe, wellness retail, holistic services, a mindful meditation studio & classes, and events in one convenient place to make holistic entrepreneurship affordable to providers and to make wellness products and services convenient to our clients.



Total You Health: We help people feel great by offering non-toxic solutions to address their unique health needs. Whether you want help with chronic pain, depression/anxiety, or just need more energy, Total You Health can help!





Twisted Track Brewpub: Twisted Track Brewpub is a restaurant with brewery in Roanoke. With a focus on providing freshly prepared food, craft beer, and exceptional customer service, Twisted Track Brewpub will create a memoriable experience for guests.



Vasies: From weddings, to graduations, to a birth of a child - there's a Vasies for that! Our team is dedicated to quality design of our products that extend kindness, comfort, and heartfelt expressions of love and fun.





Vinyl Cuts: Vinyl Cuts creates decals and logos along with providing everyday gifts! We strive for honesty, integrity, a personal connection to our customers, and community enhancement.

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 6th Annual GAUNTLET Award Ceremony! The GAUNTLET, a community development project powered by The Advancement Foundation (TAF), began six years ago in the Town of Vinton with 15 entrepreneurs, 10 mentors, and \$12,000 in cash and in-kind awards.

It's hard to believe just six years later we welcomed 170 entrepreneurs across the Alleghany Highlands, Covington, Clifton Forge, Botetourt County, Buchanan, Fincastle, Troutville, City of Roanoke, Roanoke County, Town of Vinton, Montgomery County, Blacksburg, Rockbridge County, Lexington, Buena Vista, and Glasgow engaged over 200 mentors and will award over \$300,000 in cash and in-kind prizes!

TAF's proven strategies engage ALL community stakeholders to harness knowledge and resources that will fast track talented entrepreneurs. The program cultivates all types of businesses development including Main Street, early stage technology, food and beverage manufacturing, product development, and more. The distinctive power of the program is the action oriented approach that builds a strong entrepreneurial ecosystem.

TAF's programs provide the platform for entrepreneurs, resource agencies, investors, and community leaders to "practice" collaboration in real time by sharing what they bring to the table through highly coordinated interactions. The program has been recognized as the most effective business and community development program across the region and state. In fact, the GAUNTLET is Virginia largest business program and competition!

Over 30 resource agencies across the region including county/city/town governments, five institutions of higher education, four chambers, SBDC, SCORE, and more than 100 corporations join forces to execute the GAUNTLET program. Over the last six years the GAUNTLET has awarded over \$900,000 cash and in-kind prizes, developed three business incubation centers, coordinated \$200,000 in AmeriCorps State resources, obtained over \$700,000 in grant funding for the region, developed community resource funds of nearly \$500,000 in loans and grant money for small business development, and leveraged mentor expertise valued at \$300,000. GAUNTLET alumni have created more than 400 full-time equivalent jobs and project an additional 200 jobs in the next 12-18 months!

In addition, the Advancement Foundation has worked with GO Virginia's Region 2 to promote the growth of new and early-stage high growth companies in the areas of manufacturing, technology, food and beverage, and life sciences. These companies have the potential for 25% growth per year, create high wage jobs of \$42,000 or more, and derive 50% of revenues from outside the region. Over 500 entrepreneurs have participated in the GAUNTLET and Innovation Mill programs.

It has been our sincere privilege to lead this expansive regional collaboration. We are grateful for all of your support over the years and hope that you will continue to contribute your time, talent, and treasure to this important endeavor.

Blessings,

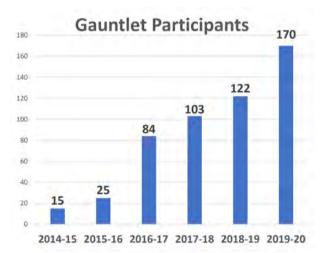
Annette Patterson

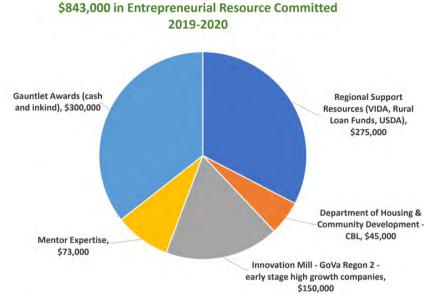
President, The Advancement Foundation



Biz **NATION**

powered by The Advancement Foundation







"GAUNTLET is the perfect example of what the power of community can do... it teaches the value of resourcefulness, planning, and mutual support. GAUNTLET is a guiding angel for the entrepreneurs embarking on a new journey!"





Red Newt Bikes: Red Newt Bikes is a full service bike shop focused on cycling in the Rockbridge area and the Alleghany Highlands. We are a place where you can get what you need to ride, gather to go for a ride, get advice on how/where to ride, pick up fuel for your ride, recount your adventures, and plan the next trip. Our concierge style service and sales helps you get the type of bicycle and equipment that will serve you well in this region, and enable you to enjoy life on two wheels.





Ribbon Me This: We've offered handcrafted ribbon and felt flower ornaments and girly accessories for the last 8 years. Now, the business is branching out to host art and craft parties, events, and summer camps for "crafty kids" and creative teens. With 15 years experience in education, owner, maker and crafty chaos manager, Sarah Boblett, intends to provide a range of artful experiences for youth in her community.





Roanoke Disc Golf: Roanoke Disc Golf is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The club provides a full spectrum of engagement opportunities in the Roanoke Valley related to the sport of disc golf. Our activities include hosting clinics for beginner players and children, working with public localities to build and maintain permanent disc golf courses, hosting PDGA-sanctioned tournaments and organizing team building activities for public events, charities, and corporations.



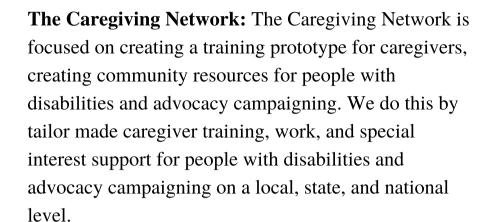


Star City Poop Scoop: As a pet waste management service company, we provide a clean yard for all fur babies and their families to enjoy time with each other!





TEBROC Campground: Our mission is to attract and cater to families, individuals, and organizations with a need for a facility that can meet their outdoor lodging and recreational expectations. We provide hospitality to these groups through superior customer service, funengaging activities, and quality of our facilities!





The Cooking Mommas: A family owned, 4generation, catering company with mobile kitchen trailer. Our services include catering for weddings, parties, corporate events, anniversaries, as well as food truck events!





The Flower Center: Full-service flower shop! We also offer wedding and event rentals, suits and tuxedo rentals, and sales. The Flower Center is expanding to include a greenhouse, sustainable farming, and an event venue.

The Music Circle

The Music Circle: Music classes and instruction for the very young and the young at heart! Our mission is to enrich families' lives through music making!

Meet our Mentors & Faculty!

Thank you to these individuals who share their time and expertise to entrepreneurs.

Ramon A. Diaz Toledo

Carrie Dickey

Beth Doughty

Elda Downey

Tina Dressler

Dean East

Scott Easter

Jennifer Eddy

Peter Edwards

Kaila Elam

James Eller

Amanda Ellinger

Tom England

Jen Feazelle

Jessica Fintel

Wayne Flippen

Shannon Fogus

Amanda Forester

Carmen Forman

Allen Foster

Lvnda Foster

Catherine Fox

Marty Francis

Patrick Franco

John Franson

Becky Freemal

Michael Fulta

Beth Garrett

Suzanne Gandy

Kenny Garrett

Frank Giannini

Laura Godfrey

Adam Goetz

Pam Golden

Jamie Goodin

Diane Gracia

Kelly Green

Marie Green

Lary Hall

Chris Hamm

Teresa Hammond

Michael Hanger

Bruce Harrison

David Hawkins

Milan Hayward

Chris Henson

Brent Hershey

Michelle Hillis

Getra Hines Selph

Melinda Hinkle

Matthew Hogan

Walter Hogle

Jan Hobbs

Mark Henderson

Teffany Hendersor

Janice Gregory

Bradley Greenway

Kiesha Graziadei-Shup

James "Tucker" Frve

Gavin Fox

Amanda Forrester

Glenda Edwards-Gol

Andrew Dreszer

Kimberly Eakin

Jim Dillon

Marla Akridge Cornelius Alston-Colbert Stephen Ambruzs Megan Dillon Katherine Elamm Anderson Luke April Drew Arney Mott Atherholt Martha Atherholi Linda Bailey Tonya Baker Steve Baker Bill Baldwin Dustin Bays Elaine Bays-Murphy Beth Bell Robert Benninger Bobby Berkstresser Laxman Bhandari Judy Bibb Chelsev Blake Chelsev Blake Cody Blankenship Bradley Bommarito Brad Boothe Arleen Boyd Mary Beth Boyes Jay Brenchik Eric Bucey Levi Buck Darlene Burchum Jodi Burgess John Burrows Jeremy Butterfield Brandon Caldwell Antwyne Calloway John Carlin Sam Carpenter Megan Carter Allyson Davoll Cartwright Jessica Catley Lynn Chapmar Amanda Christiansen Jean Clark Shelia Clark Clarissa Clarke Clarisa Clarke **Bob Clement** Anthony Cline Siobhan Cline Fonda Coffey Chris Conner Kathryn Conner Dan Coy Todd Creasy David Crosier Andrew Crotts Debbie Custer Bill Custer Steve Dalton Jenefer Davies

Nate Day

Kelly Dean

Donald Deeds

Dawn Dehart

Jimmy Delgato

Grant Holmes Martha Hooker Karen Hough Frank Hough Jeannette Houghton John Hunter Cameron Hutto Pamela Irvine Heather Jackson Douglas Jackson Lois James Cortland James Eli Jamison Gail Johnson Jim Jones Sarabeth Jones Wendy Jones Jim Jones Ernest Juial Greg Keene Johnathan Kelly Tom Kennedy Bridgett Kidd Tom Kirby Lynn Kirby Carl Knoblock Simone Knowles Crystal Knuttgen Bill Kyle Ryan LaFountain River Laker Ken Lanford Susan Larkin Gary Larrowe Chris Lawrence Mary Beth Layman Betsy Lee Dawn LeMone Ariel Lev Angie Lewis Bob Lewis Paul Linkenhoker Ray Lipes Jill Loope Rosa Lopez Mark Lucas Rachel Lucas Teresa Lyons Greg Madsen Marcia Major Andre Majors Pat Malone Caleb Mann Denise Mann Cameka Manns Richard Mansel Todd Marcum Joe Martin Pam Martin Joseph Martin Steve Martin Bruce Maver John Mays Ed McArdle Jamie McBride

Mark McCaskill

Lauren McCaughrin Tammy Scruggs Terri McClung Jim Sexton Theresa McCoy Michael Shelton Crystal McDonald Tom Sibold Ken McFadyen Pranay Singh Brenda McGuire Regina Sink Andrew Milauskas Steven Smith Anne Millehan Stuart Smith Chance Miller John Smith Stevii Mills Jerry Smith Tamara Mills Matthew Snare Jamal Milner Cindy Snider Gene Moranno Lisa Soltis Casey Morgan Jordan Sorensen Nicholas Morgan Jules Sowder Rantonia Morgan Joe Sprangel Lisa Mormar Caroline Stanfil Josh Morris Eric Stelter Jill Morris Brad Stephens Leo Mulcahy Eric Stetler Bob Mullen Stacy Stevens Paul Murphy Janine Summer Stone Stephen Niamke Wayne Strickland Clay Nichols John Summerbell Dr. Alice Obenchain JD Sutphin Ashley Overbay Howard Swank Joy Parrish Lindsey Swank Kat Pascal Lynn Swann Tony Pearman Amanda Tacket Alexis Perry Hodnett Dawn Talty Kevin Persinge Tom Tanner Jason Peters Pete Peters Jonathan Tarris Bill Philips Aaron Taylor Linden Pinnock Philip Thompkins Carrie Poff Bryan Thompson Dr David Points Matt Thompson John Powell Barry Thompson Sandra Pratt Deborah Thompson Dan Presley Bryan Thompson Leo Priddy Matthew Thompson Jim Privetera Bryan Thornhill Dave Prosser David Tickner Spencer Pugh Timothy Tinger John Rainone Philip Tompkins Sam Rasoul Juan Toress Sandy Ratliff Richard Turner Steve Redden Rob Turner Kevin Reeder Dale Turner Jerel Rhodes Jason Turner Taylor Ricota Doloris Vest Randy Riggins Franklin Wagner Chris Riha Joyce Waugh David Robertson Charles Whiting Jeff Robertson Paula Williams Joe Rogers Kelly Willis Chuck Rogol Brian Wilson Susan Rollinson Bill Wilson Jeff Rorer Sheri Winesett Michelle Rucker Rob Winfield Barry Russell Rob Ruthenburg Melissa Woodsor Don Woodward Joe Scales Debrah Yancey Abrina Schnurmar Jonathan Young Keith Schult Chad Scott Chad Young Roger Scott Mary Beth Zirkle

Meet the 2020 GAUNTLET Entrepreneurs!

Bob Donnan William Alexander Sarah Kennedy Ruana Durevska Karie Kern Rebecca Almy Jeff Ellis Tyler Kerr Tripp Almy Noel Anderson Marcus Firebaugh Devin Kiger Neil Aneia Janice Foster Teresa Killen Cynthia Frazier Valarie Angle Kim Kristensen Jojo Friday Keith Krzeminski Linda Bailey David Bailey Ashley Gillespie William Landry Troy Barbour NaTasha Greenway Rena Lasch Xavier Bean Ivan Gribbin Ruthie Lawhorne Thomas Beltram Noah Guthrie Craig Lawhorne Toby Hagedorn Michael Lohr Ashley Bennett Stephen Bennett **David Hamilton** Sandi Lohr Ronald Bennett **Brooke Handy** Angela Lomasney Rudy Lyon Sarah Boblett Kendra Hankins Joshua Boblett Rashminder Hargis Karl Mardian Amanda Bocchi Mark Hargis Gene Marrano Patrick Harrison Athena Mason Jerime Boothe Adam Brown Erin Harrison Marie Mason Steve Hart Lisa Broyden Julie McClellan Christine Hart John McClure Robert Broyden Raven Cale Ellen Hartley Michael McCormick Colin Campbell Melinda Hemp-Gardzinski Rebekah McDonald Gerald Herring Michael Mcgeorge Brian Carroll Joe Hine Mallory McGowan Tracey Chaney Michael Clark John Hines Clifton McGowan Micah Cobbs Jim Hosch Chad McMillian Mark Howell Richard Cole Kandie McPeake Catherine Cole Erin Huffman Denise Membreno **Daniel Colston** Chris Huffman Anna Metheny Donna Hurt Joshua Mills Lori Conner Christopher Conner Caleb Jacks **Brandy Mitchell** Erin Conrad Laquisha Jemison Paige Morgan Jaylin Corbett Stephanie John June Morris Christy Corbett Tiffany Johnson Cheryl Mosley Brian Corbett Ronda Johnson Carla Nelson Jeffrey Johnson Daryanne Nielson Mickey Cowden Chris Johnson Claire Noel Bonnie Cranmer Barbara Crawford Ayanna Jones Lisa Oliphant Purity Osoro Melanie Crovo Robert Jones Elizabeth Crowgev Andrew Joseph Willisa Ottey Joe Kavanaugh Carrie Poff Ann Custer Maynard Keller James Poff Laura Denyes

Rodney Pressley William Quirk Daniel Ralph Jonathan Roberts Yitza Rodriguez Lee Roe Matt Rose Mary Rosser-Furr Laura Ruark Hannah Ruark Derrick Ruben Gregg Rutland Stantay Rutland Mark Schafer Jake Scull Andrea Sexton Lynette Sherman Juanita Smith Beth Snyder Debra Squire Rosemary St. Jacques Michael Struble Margaret Sutton Aaron Taylor Vanessa Turner Terrisa Vaughn Dave Walsh Tasha Walsh Mary-Ellen Weller Sarah Wheeler Lucas Wheeler Jacob Wheeler Christine Whittaker Pam Whittaker Dawn Wilson Ron Wilson Krista Wirt Spring Witt DeShawn Wooding Christian Worth Sidrick Wright Justin Yun

The Advancement Foundation is very proud to honor the 2020 GAUNTLET cohort! This group truly embodied the spirit of entrepreneurship as they pivoted to an entirely virtual program in response to COVID-19.





On Our Way: We are a vacation rental company located in the Alleghany Highlands providing a convenient, comfortable, and cozy place to stay! We offer guests an experience with the local area as it provides a private atmosphere for you and your family.





Patina Creek Silver: Patina Creek Silver specializes in silver fingerprint jewelry that is made using a special process in which the finger is pressed directly into the silver. The piece that is touched is the same one that becomes your jewelry.





PorchStory: PorchStory Realty is a modern real estate boutique located in beautiful Roanoke, Virginia. PorchStory serves clients in the greater Roanoke Valley including Botetourt, Smith Mountain Lake, Christiansburg, and Blacksburg.



Previal Care Assisted Living: We are a residential and assisted living care company that will be located in Roanoke, Va. Our mission is to provide the best residential and assisted living care while giving residents peace of mind through the journeys of life.





Mimi's Meal: Mimi's Meal offers delicious home cooked meals and snacks. Our food is vegetarian and vegan, with a focus on organic and clean ingredients. Pure, unadulterated, wholesome, and yummy!





110% Melody: Affordable social media content creation, in-house music production, and livestreaming services. We connect brands, bands, and ultimate fans!





Mountain View Champions: Mountain View Champions provides responsible dog lovers with healthy Labrador Retrievers, providing a lifetime of companionship and service.





Anchorage House: The Anchorage House is a bed & breakfast, small-luxury wedding venue, and event house space located in the Town of Buchanan, Virginia. We create a "home away from home" for our guests to experience the riches of Botetourt County.





New Beginnings Archery & More: We are an archery equipment sales and service company located in the Alleghany Highlands. We strive to supply the hunting community with quality bows and excellent service!





Anderson Music Therapy: At Anderson Music Therapy we understand how frustrating and worrisome it feels to be stuck without answers or a specific direction to grow. We use evidence-based music therapy, art therapy, and counseling to empower our clients to overcome barriers and be their best selves at home, work, and in the community.





New Moon Creative Media: New Moon Creative Media, LLC, is a full service video production company and entertainment content provider. NMCM produces Roots2Rock, our live streamed music show. Roots2Rock streams from the region's unique venues and craft breweries. Coming soon "Cooking with Real Food," a nutrition and wellness show.





Aunt Dude's Glamping: Aunt Dude's Glamp Camp is a glamping business located on the quiet end of Smith Mountain Lake close to Roanoke, VA. We provide a beautiful and comfortable place for individuals and couples to leave their stressful day to day lives and come rejuvenate in nature on the water.



Be You: Be You helps to create memories that will last a lifetime through our custom t-shirts and personalized gifts. Our goal is to bring families together for celebrations for years to come!





Horse Mountain Farm: HMF is a small farm specializing in selling Dunstan Chestnut trees raised from seeds. Composting with organic matter from local businesses and vermicomposting are other aspects of this business. We want to lead the way in encouraging green habits and believe education is the key to creating more green advocates who will also work to protect the environment and our natural resources as well as provide more secure, sustainable food sources.



Blue Ridge Essentials: We provided quality essential oils, natural and handmade zero-waste bath and body products, along with hands on product making courses to our customers.





James River Drip: Located in Buchanan, James River Drip is a coffee cafe that provides to-go food, local items, and gifts from local vendors! We aren't just a coffee shop, but a people shop!



Bob Donnan Photography: Bob Donnan Photography provides top quality aerial imagery for clients with beautiful images that captures the eye and leads to increased interest and awareness!





Love.dee Creations: Love.dee Creations provides custom drinkware and resin furniture. Our mission is continuing to build community connections by producing and selling local, handmade, custom items that start conversations one piece at a time.



Budget Couture: Budget Couture offers rare and discounted top-quality brands in beauty, clothing, and accessories. We are "sassy, classy, and smart"!



MiBr: MiBr is a sober bar dedicated to providing a substance free space to help foster healthier relationships and social interactions in the local community.





Greenway Distributors: We are an authorized independent AMSOIL dealer located in Roanoke, Virginia. Our store front is stocked with AMSOIL products! We sell wholesale to the public, up to 25% off of retail prices.



Chillin' Shaved Ice: Chillin' Shaved Ice is a soft shaved ice covered with flavored syrups sold from a concession trailer located in South East Roanoke. We also attend community events.





Heirlooms Food: Our family heirloom cinnamon roll recipe is something that has been crafted and refined for many years. We are known throughout our community as the place to find a truly decandent cinnamon flavored treat!



Corethentic Enterprises: Corethentic Enterprises innovates programs and systems into products for self-help and personal growth. Corethentic is developing several products including a patented 30 day program to inspire others to discover their own authentic journey.



Her Perfect Day Boutique: We are a wedding attire shop like no other! Our mission is to provide clients with an experience in which they feel important, pampered, and offered quality products.





Cowden Technologies: Developer of drone technology to enable management of remote environments without the need for human interaction



Highlands Home Inspections: We provide high quality home inspections to clients that are purchasing a home or people who want to get their home ready to sale! Highlands Home Inspections prides ourselves on providing comprehensive home inspections so clients have honest and accurate information.



Cultivate Craft Bar: We are a craft/DIY bar in downtown Covington, VA. We sell art supplies, DIY projects, space to create, and more!



D&G's Wonderland: D&G's Wonderland provides a safe, fun, and a one-of-a-kind experience for children and their families by providing a variety of interactive and unique activities for birthday parties, social gatherings, and all the days in between.



Glitzcamp: Glitzcamp USA's mission is to provide affordable, quality constructed glamping tents and domes to the glamping and camping industries.



Directions: Directions helps to guide adults to tap into their natural talents and find meaningful work through individualized coaching and workshops!





Gravista: Gravista is an outdoor-athletic event company that plans bicycle rides. We are rooted in the locals and embody positivty and a go getting spirit!





Dr. Auto Spa: Dr. Auto Spa provides professional auto detailing and ceramic coating paint protection services. Our mission is to change the world one vehicle at a time!





Green Earth Naturally: Green Earth Naturally offers environmental services and products. We are dedicated to the clean up, restoration, and mitigation of environmental pollutants in our community and throughout Southwest Virginia.



GermZAPP: WashURHands, LLC proudly showcases its product, GermZAPP. GermZAPP is a unique fully integrated hand washing guidance and compliance system, following the CDC guidelines for 5 steps of proper hand washing. It is a physical reader device, smart card tag, cloud analytics dashboard that develops good hand washing habits for employees of restaurants, businesses, workplaces, day cares, and hospitals.



Greens and Grubs: We are a greenhouse that grows fish, micro greens, and several types of insect that are for human consumption. Everyone and everthing needs to eat!