

## Ashe County Chamber's New Location Attracts More Visitors

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Several months ago, we reported on the Ashe County Chamber of Commerce's move to a different location. Turns out, the move is paying huge dividends in the number of visitors that stop by the chamber's office.

Cathleen George, who works at the chamber, said the chamber is seeing an unprecedented amount of foot traffic at the office. For example, George said that 916 visitors stopped by the Ashe County Chamber's office in August 2008, while 1,472 tourists visited the office this past August.

George said one feature that is very popular at the new location is Ashe County's Front Porch. The Ashe County Homebuilders' Association donated their time and efforts to build a nook that looks like a front porch. McNeil Furniture donated the porch furniture and SkyLine/SkyBest donated free wireless internet connection at the porch. George said visitors are welcome to go and relax at Ashe County's Front Porch.

The chamber's new location is at the corner of West Main Street and North Jefferson Avenue. Their office used to be located on East 2nd Street, just about three blocks away.

George said it can be challenging dealing with the increased business and the office goes through office supplies and brochures. The Chamber is encouraging all chamber members to send brochures to the new office.