

## 'Shop With a Cop' Treats Avery Kids

Written by Steve Frank

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Santa arrived early—and with a badge—for some Avery County kids, taken on an excursion to have a little early Christmas. On the evening of December 9th, Officers and Investigators with the Avery County Sheriff's Office took eleven children from Avery County to the Spruce Pine Walmart for their "Shop with a Cop" program. Each child was able to purchase approximately \$250.00 of merchandise for themselves and their families, then were taken to the Pizza Hut in Spruce Pine where they enjoyed a meal with Officers of the Avery County Sheriff's Office. Funds for this event were raised by the Avery County Sheriff's Office Employee Activity Committee, according to Sheriff Kevin Frye, who said, "This is one thing our Sheriff's Office really enjoys doing each year. The looks on the children's faces which light up when they get to pick out their gifts mean more to us than anything and make all the effort all year long worthwhile." The Avery County Sheriff's Office also thanked Crossnore First Baptist Church and Randall and Kathy Aldridge for the use of and driving the church van.