

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 3

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Well summer got here quick, didn't it?
I am so thankful for air conditioning.

And I thankful for all of our volunteers, partners,
staff, and our sponsors.

Our RSVP volunteers are some of the most hard working, intelligent, thoughtful people on the face of the earth. Our partners all conspire to provide services and opportunities for everyone. The RSVP staff is the perfect group—combining the knowledge, common sense and imagination to perform a multitude of jobs and activities. And our two major sponsors—the Etowah County Commission and the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) together give us the funds and structure to recruit, retain and recognize all of you—and to make sure that all of your efforts are noticed by local, state, and federal legislators and influencers.

How can I ever thank you enough for all that you do?
Let me know you thoughts and ideas,
my door is always open!

STATISTICS

New Volunteers: 8

Total Volunteers:302

Total Stations:45

Volunteer Hours:9,782

Value of Hours:\$203,856.88

**(According to federal guidelines, the value of a
volunteer's time \$21.92 per hour.)**

NEWS

Did you come to our Recognition Luncheon? Did you have fun? We hope so! Brian Reaves was our magician; I liked the way he got some of our volunteers involved. Lunch was catered by Donna Isom and it was good! Of course Job Corps was there to serve lunch so we didn't have to stand in a buffet line. And we could never have a good recognition event without all of the hard work from RSVP staff and our Advisory Council. These people really go all out to make sure everything is well thought out: we have enough seats; invitations are sent out in a timely manner; decorations are ordered, made & look good; we have plenty of door prizes (nice door prizes I might add!); and we have people there to greet you as you come in. What will we do next year?

Our last Quarterly workshop was presented by the students from Pathways Academy. They helped seniors learn how to use their cell phones and tablets.

Our next Smarter Seniors Workshop will be July 16th at 10:00am in Room 205 of the Etowah County Courthouse. This should be a very informative session, we will have speakers talking about options locally for senior living when it gets to the point a person can't live on their own. Do you know what your choices are?

Call us at 256-549-8147 to reserve a seat!

SUCCESS STORY

Tax Season ended in April, and there are 27 volunteers who are getting a much deserved rest!

This year these volunteers prepared and filed 2,350 federal tax returns (this includes 58 prior year returns, which means some people had 2 or more returns to file) and these people collectively got back \$2,429,169 in refunds! And they didn't have to pay someone to do this for them!

We provide this service specifically to help low-income and senior citizens so they don't have to spend hard-earned or limited money to file their federal and/or state returns. Having said that we try to help as many people as possible, so unless you have an extremely complicated return we can help you too!

Our tax volunteers are trained and certified so they know how to best prepare returns. This way, returns are prepared correctly and also to benefit clients as well as possible.

Let us know if you want to volunteer for this or if you want us to file your returns next year!

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

We would like to recognize Sandy Grant for all the hard work she does with our Reading Buddies Program. She goes above and beyond for her students. This year she even wrote a book based on a true story about her dog "SHUG" and gave a copy to each one of her students. She is also trying to start up a book library for all of our Reading Buddy volunteers to use with their children through the year! Keep up the good work Sandy!

The winner of our on-time time sheet drawing is Mrs. Sarah Ann Spear. Mrs. Spear volunteers for Council on Aging, Etowah Historical Society, MANNA, and she is a Friendly Nursing Home Visitor. She has been an RSVP volunteer for 8 years and counting. She has a total of 1,017 hours on record! Thank you Mrs. Spear!

great
job 😊

UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY:

- 4th- Independence Day. Etowah County Courthouse will be closed
 8th-AARP Drive Safety Class at the Cherokee County Public Library 9-330pm
 Call 256-927-5835 to register
 16th- RSVP Smarter Senior Workshop for volunteers! Senior Living!

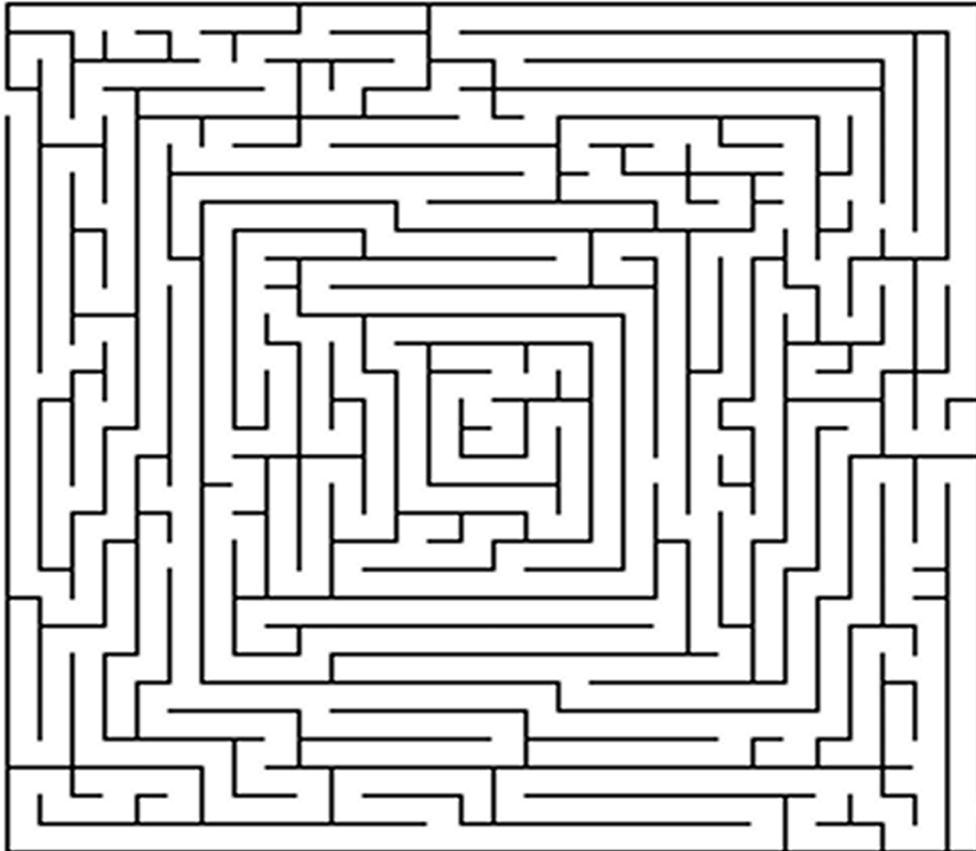
AUGUST:

- 2nd-4th: World's Longest Yard Sale starts at Noccoalula Falls
 5th- Red Cross Blood Drive at the Gadsden Mall- Premiere Cinemas 1-7pm
 9th- Red Cross Blood Drive at Riverview Hospital- 2nd floor conference room 11-4pm
 17th- Habitat for Humanity's 8th Annual Dragon Boat Festival
 23rd- Red Cross Blood Drive at the Gadsden Mall- Premiere Cinemas 1-7pm
 26th- Red Cross Blood Drive at the Gadsden Mall- Premiere Cinemas 1-7pm

SEPTEMBER:

- 2nd- Labor Day, Etowah County Courthouse will be closed
 27th- AARP Driver Safety Class at the Gadsden Public Library 9-3pm
 Call 256-549-4699 ext. 2120
 27th- Red Cross Blood Drive at the Gadsden Mall- Premiere Cinemas 1-7pm

**M
A
Z
E**



*When asked if
 my cup is
 half-full or
 half-empty,
 my only
 response is
 that I am
 thankful I
 have a cup!
 -Sam Leikowitz*

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

*AMERICAN RED CROSS

Volunteers are needed for the office at the Gadsden location
& to help with local blood drives & local disasters
Contact Tammy Burks at 256-763-1237 or email: tammy.burks@redcross.org

*BIG BROTHERS/ BIG SISTERS OF NE AL

Retired school teacher or social worker needed for case management or
to supervise after school programs (1 day a week)
Contact Valerie Shannon at 256-458-3738 or email: vshannonbbbs@bellsouth.net

*ETOWAH COUNTY PREGNANCY TESTING CENTER

Volunteer counselors are needed
Contact Tammy Harris at 256-442-6101 or email: pregnancycentereptc@juno.com

*GADSDEN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Volunteers are needed on the 2nd floor to answer phones and help retrieve patients for doctors
Call RSVP if interested

*HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Volunteers are needed for new home construction and for the
8th Annual Dragon Boat Festival on August 17, 2019!
Call 256-543-1898 or email: info@gadsdenhabitat.com to volunteer

*HUMANE SOCIETY

Receptionist needed & anyone who is interested in fostering animals on a weekly or monthly basis
Call RSVP if interested

*MANNA

Volunteers are desperately needed to deliver homebound meals to seniors once a week
Call 256-543-5876 or email: director.mannagadsden@gmail.com

*READING BUDDIES

Volunteers are needed in local elementary schools to help kids K-3rd grade learn to read
or help with reading comprehension.
Call RSVP if interested

*RIVERVIEW HOSPITAL

Volunteers are always welcome throughout the hospital
Call RSVP if interested

*UNITED WAY

Receptionist needed Monday-Friday 10-2pm, hours and time are flexible
Contact Pat Presley at 256-547-2581 or email: ppresley@uwoec.org

MINDSET IS EVERYTHING!

BIRTHDAYS

J
U
L
Y

Larry "Pat" Griffith 07/03

Jean Pierini 07/04

Pearl Spanks 07/04

Donna Wrenn 07/05

Nettie Hooks 07/06

Mary Ann Reid 07/06

Kathy Snyder 07/08

Dorothy "Dot" Bentley 07/09

Mattie Eubanks Bolden 07/09

Shirley Hufstetler 07/12

Darla Johnsons 07/14

Dianne Knowles 07/14

Nancy Smith 07/14

Johnny Farmer 07/16

Theresa Frye 07/16

Vivian Johns 07/16

Sandra Jackson 07/17

Deborah Lankford 07/18

Billy Vance 07/18

Norman Hindman 07/20

Jane Bishop 07/24

Bonnie Hilley 07/25

Lurene Kerley 07/25

Sedalia Sealy 07/26

Maxine Mintz 07/27

Brenda Logan 07/29

Dominique Young 07/30

Carol R-Stephens 07/31

A
U
G
U
S
T

Iva Patty 08/02

Ray Woodard 08/03

Jill Moran 08/04

Vicky Griffin 08/06

Ruby Ness 08/07

Annie Dixon 08/09

Mary Jackson 08/09

Sheila Billingsley 08/10

Shirley Dupont 08/10

Frances Bearden 08/11

Rhonda Jones 08/12

Larry Williams 08/13

Johnnie Harris 08/15

Willie Mae Jordan 08/15

Faye Shelton 08/15

Alexcia Hembree 08/16

Gail Reeves 08/17

Mary Owensby 08/19

Joanna Ross 08/19

Linda Santangelo 08/19

Valerie Keelin 08/21

Jennifer Long 08/21

Sandy Grant 08/22

David Coffey 08/23

Spence Adcock 08/24

Roselene Jenkins 08/24

Beverly O'hara 08/24

Angela Wappelhorst 08/24

Dot Phipps 08/25

Charles Brown 08/26

Patsy Duck 08/27

Beatrice Oliver 08/28

Donna Patterson 08/28

Betsy Norton 08/29

Larry Reeves 08/29

S
E
P
T
E
M
B
E
R

Barbara Kines 09/01

Carolyn Nichols 09/04

Valerie Reynolds 09/04

Wayne Rhodes 09/06

Jeannette Allen 09/07

Barbara Beshears 09/07

Taylor Knowles III 09/07

Louise Blackwell 09/08

Ruth Mims 09/09

Joyce Farrell 09/10

Thomas Page 09/10

Vivian Burnett 09/11

Patsy Lee 09/12

Betty Sue Nelson 09/13

Durwood Jones 09/15

Gertie Lowe 09/17

Dale Penn 09/17

Cenda Price 09/19

Tonnie Teague 09/19

Betty Wicker 09/19

Phillip Scott 09/20

Charles "Chuck" Keith 09/21

Daniel Brock 09/22

James "Jim" Bryan III 09/22

Faye Hooker 09/24

Reba Mathis 09/24

John Bentley 09/25

Joy Ann Smith 09/26

Adelle Morris 09/27

*I've
reached
an age
where
my
train of
thought
often
leaves
the
station
without
me!!!*



RSVP
800 Forrest Avenue
Room 219
Gadsden, AL 35901

PHONE NUMBER
256-549-8147

FAX NUMBER
256-549-5351

EMAIL
tpondick@etowahcounty.org

WE'RE ON THE WEB!!!
See us at:
www.etowahcounty.org

FRIEND US ON FACEBOOK



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/327258517069>

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!



[Twitter.com/etowahrsvp](https://twitter.com/etowahrsvp)

ADD US ON INSTAGRAM!



https://www.instagram.com/volunteers_of_etowah/

RSVP Staff

Director:

Traci Pondick

Van Driver/ Volunteer Coordinator:

Faye Russell

Secretary/ Reading Buddies Coordinator:

Samantha Snow

RSVP Advisory Council

President:

Pat Hill

Vice President:

Craig Scott

Secretary:

Millie Cartrett

Treasurer:

Deborah Henderson

Portia Foster

Theresa Frye

Jenifer Grace

Sandra Jackson

Deborah Lankford

Judith Moon

Jeff Little

Sarah Trammell

Please shop at these local businesses & say

“Thank You!” for supporting RSVP!

Advance Auto Parts
Advanced Cardiovascular Associates
Alabama Teacher's Credit Union
ATI Physical Therapy
BlingsNThings
Cadence Bank
Clinical Urology Associates
Cold Creek Honey
Collier Butler Funeral Home
Discount Pest Control
Dress Out Boutique
Dusty Things Antique
Exchange Bank
Family Savings Credit Union
Foote Brothers Carpet

Gadsden Dental Implant & Denture
Gadsden Foot Clinic
Gadsden Lighting & Showroom
Jefferson's
Johnson's Giant Food
King's Olive Oil
Life Insurance Company of Alabama
Lookout Mountain Goat Ranch
Magnolia Garden
Maraella's Winery
Noccalula Falls Park
Northeast Alabama Audiology Clinic
Pack's Nursery
Physician's Home Health Superstore

Publix
Red Lobster
Regions Bank
Rick's Drugs
River Bank & Trust
Rococo Floral Studio
Roselene Jenkins- Avon
Snap Fitness
Southern Care New Beacon Hospice
Sportsmania
Stevi B's Pizza Buffet
Super Bee Pharmacy
Sutton Bridge Exxon
T. J Maxx
The Choice/ 278 Restaurant
The Coffee Bar
The Myers Institute
The Taming of the Ewe
Will's Creek Vineyard