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.)
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!

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!

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!
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 Noccalula 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

When asked if my cup is half-full or half-empty, my only response is that I am thankful I have a cup!
-Sam Lelkowitz
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: pregnancycenter@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.manna@mannagadsden.org

*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
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

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

RSVP Advisory Council Members:
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