

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 4

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Change is in the air! When seasons change it brings such excitement and anticipation. It's the same way with RSVP! We are working on new things we've never tried before, old things and making them new again, some things we are leaving just as they are. Why mess with perfection?

A new thing we're trying for the first time is working with the Probate Office and the guardians/conservators and wards who are under their care. We are planning to train volunteers to monitor cases.

An old thing we are making new again is our Tele-Chek program. We have a couple of volunteers who love to talk to people and we want to put them to work on the telephone talking with home bound seniors who need to hear a friendly voice.

And what are we leaving the same? Well, our Tax Assistance Program of course. The only difference here is we are missing a retired CPA we had come to rely on. But we shall carry on and do great things!

What does this season of change hold for you? If it's a change in volunteering or adding a new kind of volunteering let us help!

STATISTICS

New Volunteers: 11

Total Volunteers:296

Total Stations:60

Volunteer Hours:7,478

Value of Hours:\$ 155,844.02

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

NEWS

If you are on Medicare and need to examine your plan during the Open Enrollment season this year (October 15 - December 7) you will have to register at MyMedicare.gov. It's not hard but if you need help volunteers with Council on Aging and RSVP will be available to help with that.

RSVP and Family Savings Credit Union will host Free Shred Days again this year: October 25th at the main branch of Family Savings and October 26th from 10:00 - 2:00 in the parking lot of the Courthouse. Shred It has a big truck that can shred paper (paper clips are okay - not heavier metals) so this is a good time to get rid of all your sensitive papers that you don't have to save anymore.

We will have our Senior Angel Tree again this year so we may be asking you to "adopt" an angel. Our angels are people 55 and older who have asked for Christmas assistance through the Etowah Baptist Missions Center, Salvation Army or DHR. We will let you know when angels are ready to be adopted!

Our last Quarterly workshop was presented by Renee Baker & Sheila Buckelew.

They informed seniors about independent housing options and/or possible repairs.

Our next Smarter Seniors Workshop will be October 17th at 10:00am in the Commission Chambers on the first floor in room 108 of the Etowah County Courthouse. Mr. Michael Delozier with Coosa Insurance will be speaking on Long term care insurance.

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

SUCCESS STORY

In September, RSVP and MANNA hosted a Suicide Prevention Workshop. While we don't like to think or talk about something like suicide, sometimes we need to. People in this workshop learned about QPR. This stands for Question (ask gentle questions and don't make someone feel even worse if they have been contemplating suicide), Persuade (persuade someone to get professional help with circumstances they are dealing with and *really* listen to someone if they are telling you about their problems) and Refer (if you know a good mental health professional call them yourself or call one of these suicide hotlines: 1-800-273-TALK or 1-800-SUICIDE).

Let us know if you would like information about hosting this training yourself!

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Jenifer Grace would like to recognize Carol Hudson and Maureen Latronico for all of their volunteer work for The Council on Aging. They both play a huge part in the Medicare open enrollment program and attend several trainings throughout the year. Mrs. Hudson does anything she is asked to do on top of her already busy schedule. Mrs. Latronico is the technical guru and helps fix any problems we have come our way. Council on Aging would not survive without the dedication and commitment these two volunteers give to the organization.

The winner of our on-time time sheet drawing is Mrs. Janice McClure. Mrs. McClure volunteers at the H.D. Buttram Senior Nutrition Center. She has been an RSVP volunteer for 8 years. She has a total of 900 hours on record.

Thank you Mrs. McClure!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

*211 FIRST CALL FOR HELP

Desperately seeking volunteers for their call center
Contact Ruth Moffatt 256.546.4357 or email: callhelp@uwoec.org

*AMERICAN RED CROSS

Gadsden office needs a volunteer to help answer phones and help with light office duties. The Disaster Services team in Gadsden needs 1-2 people to help do inventory of supplies. Call 256-547-8667 or email: tammy.burks@redcross.org

COUNCIL ON AGING

Volunteers are needed to help enroll Medicare recipients for medicare.gov
Medicare Open Enrollment is October 15-December 16th, various locations and times.
Contact Jenifer Grace for more information. 256.543.3616 or
email: jenifer.grace@etowahcoa.org

*HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Volunteers are needed on Wednesdays or Saturdays for home construction
and if you are interested in serving on a committee

Habitat for Humanity is accepting resumes for their open job position of
Construction Project Manager!

Call RSVP if interested

*HUMANE SOCIETY

Volunteers are needed for clerical work 10-12 or 12-4
& various upcoming events
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

YOU ARE ENOUGH!

BIRTHDAYS

O
C
T
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B
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R

Sarah Trammell 10/01
Joan Williamson 10/01
Betty Woodward 10/03
Lucille Harris 10/04
Connie Wappelhorst 10/06
Jeanne Chambers 10/08
Mary (Liz) Howell 10/08
Myrtle Cushing 10/10
Janice Glover 10/11
Shirley Steapleton 10/12
Patricia (Patty) Mayo 10/13
Betty Causey 10/14
Dianne Williams 10/18



Troy Word 10/20
Bess Estis 10/21
Bonnie Childs 10/22
Rose Higgins 10/24
Lena Faye Jones 10/24
Sonya Nesbitt 10/24
Norman Hindman 07/20
Theresa Beverly 10/25
Glenda Thorton 10/26
Katherine Edwards 10/27
Tony Hilley 10/28
Wayne Farley 10/29
Barbara Mosley 10/29

It is not
Happy
people
who are
Thankful.

N
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V
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M
B
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R

Ellie Higgins 11/01
Ray St. John 11/04
Sherre McGinnis 11/11
Gloria Ansley 11/13
Nancy Phillips 11/14
Jackie Hamilton 11/19
Teresa Brannon 11/22



Alma Alford 11/23
Treasia Spelce 11/24
Millie Cartrett 11/26
Jeanette Boggs 11/28
Jimmie Leonard 11/29
Richard Wappelhorst 11/29
Rebecca Hilleke 11/30

It is
Thankful
people
who are
Happy!!

-Author
Unknown

D
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C
E
M
B
E
R

Portia Foster 12/01
Sue Myers 12/01
Victor Mendez 12/02
Dolly Thomas 12/02
Sally Shamblin 12/04
Sue Young 12/04
Kathy Blattel 12/05
Kenneth Mayo 12/07
Eloise Turk 12/07
Judy Smith 12/08
Rebecca Tinker 12/08
Deborah Leach 12/10
Nina Tenerani 12/17



Les Wilsey 12/17
Maureen Latronico 12/18
Evelyn Westcott 12/21
Erma Davidson 12/22
Kenneth Means 12/22
Sandra Coffey 12/25
Frances Lipscomb 12/25
Beth Serrentino 12/25
Stephen Scharfenburg 12/26
Linda Ellison 12/28
Patricia Hill 12/28
Helen Jones 12/29
EllaJay Willis 12/29
Sheila Freeman 12/30

HAPPY



BIRTHDAY

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:

Portia Foster

Secretary:

Deborah Lankford

Treasurer:

Deborah Henderson

Jenifer Grace

Ebonee' Horn

Carol Hudson

Kenneth Hudson

Jeff Little

Judith Moon

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 Gardens
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