

During this holiday season, we would like to thank you for your service to our communities and to RSVP.

Sometimes the joy and promise of the holiday season can get clouded with concerns and doubts about current events. Each generation has faced its difficult times, and we apparently won't be the exception. That doesn't mean we shouldn't identify and celebrate the positive in our personal and professional lives. We all have much to be thankful for. It just takes watching the nightly news on television to realize how fortunate we are, even in these challenging times.

Please pause to count your blessings, and how you positively affect so many others. Collectively, we make our communities a better place to live, raise our families, and grow older – and that's a wonderful thing that we can all be very proud of and thankful for.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

RSVP Staff

The other day I went to a volunteer luncheon and had a sudden realization that the same group of people is volunteering for multiple organizations. What I have long considered "my" volunteers don't really belong to me – they belong to our entire community. You may think this is a bad thing because all of the work is being done by the same people. But in our case we have a very large group of volunteers. So I don't think we need to worry for now anyway. We are thankful for this large group of compassionate, kindhearted, active people who are willing to do everything they can to help those in need.

Another example of this is our Senior Angel Tree. Every year we collect information from the Etowah Baptist Missions Center, Salvation Army & DHR on seniors who need some help at Christmas. Then we ask people to 'adopt' an angel and buy them a gift. This year we had 132 angels (more than we have EVER had) and they were all adopted before Thanksgiving (which has NEVER happened). So much for which to be thankful!

Volunteer Opportunities

***211 FIRST CALL FOR HELP**

Desperately seeking volunteers for their call center

***CHEROKEE VILLAGE ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY**

Volunteers are needed to help with activities, crafts, games, and anything to help the current residents

***ETOWAH COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER**

Volunteers are needed for clerical work
the shelter is open from 8-4:30 Monday-Friday

***EXTENDED FAMILY**

Volunteers are needed to help assist with activities and just love on the children in the program

***HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Volunteers are needed on Wednesdays & Saturdays for home construction

***HUMANE SOCIETY**

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

***MANNA**

Volunteers are desperately needed to deliver homebound meals to seniors once a week

***READING BUDDIES**

Volunteers are needed in elementary schools to help kids learn to read or with reading comprehension.

Please call RSVP if you are interested in any of these Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer Recognition

Faye Russell (Friendly Nursing Home Visitors) takes great pleasure in giving recognition to two special ladies who are dedicated in visiting the nursing homes with her. Mrs. Lucille Marbury & Mrs. Barbara Mosley are very committed to giving of themselves by bringing plenty of love and joy to the residents.

For all you do and for who you are, I will forever, be grateful!

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The winner of our on-time time sheet drawing is Mrs. Ping Pondick.

Mrs. Pondick currently does reminder calling for the Historical Society and calling the sick and shut in. She has been an RSVP volunteer for 11 years. She has a total of 3,555 hours on record. Thank you Mrs. Pondick!

# ASPIRE TO INSPIRE

# UPCOMING EVENTS

January 16– RSVP’s Smarter Senior Workshop at 10 AM in room 205  
of the Etowah County Courthouse

January 21—RSVP & Council of Community Services will host a Resource Fair at  
the Downtown Civic Center 9-1pm

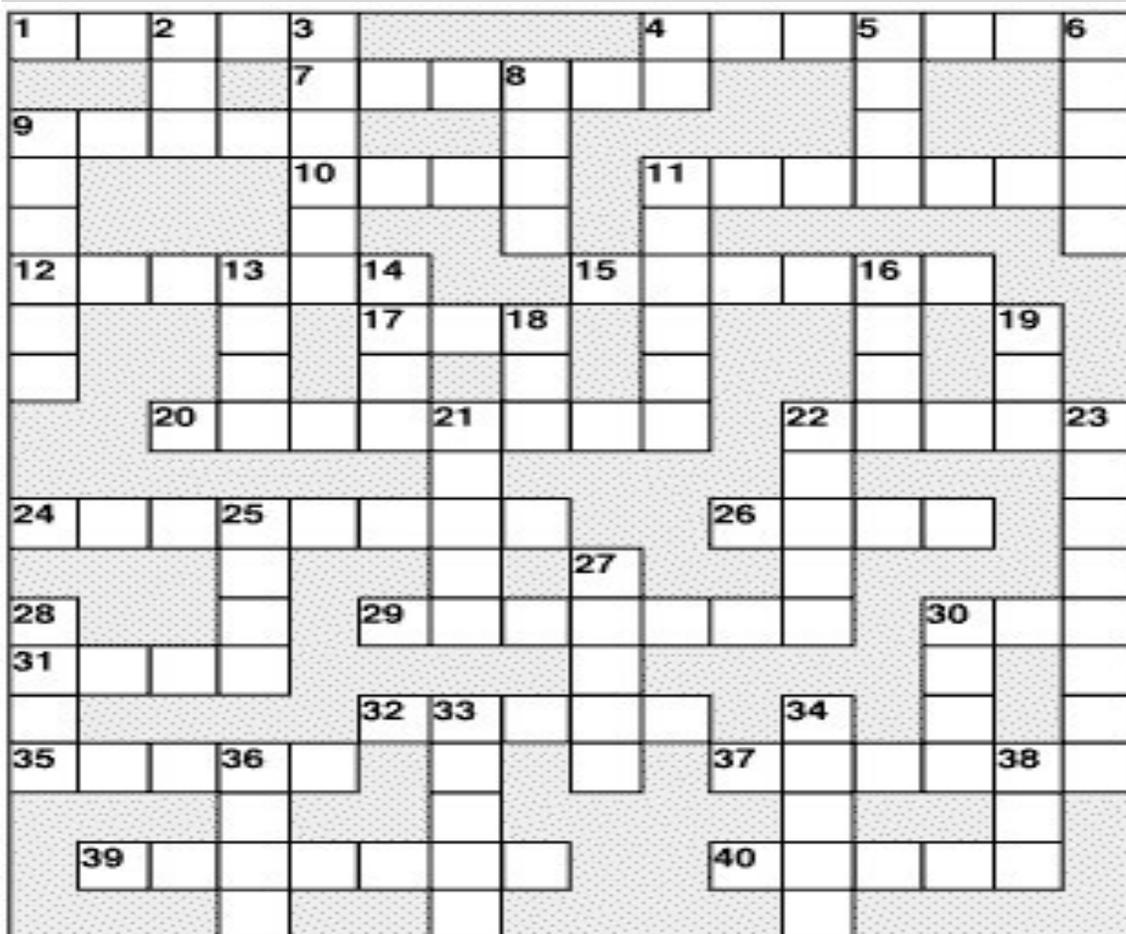
February 14th– Valentine’s Day

March 8–Daylight Savings Time, Spring Forward 1 hour

March 17– St. Patrick’s Day

March 27-29 — R.A.M at the Gadsden City High School

## Crossword Puzzle



DOWN:

2. Frozen water
3. Small
4. Myself
6. Small pie
8. Chilly
9. Used to move snow
11. A Season
13. Strong Emotion
14. Ripped
16. Nil
18. Bath \_\_\_\_
19. Cloud of water vapor
21. Last month of winter
22. Wooden snow vehicles
23. Winter road condition
25. Be carried on
27. Locomotive
28. Carried along by wind
30. Piece of hockey equipment
33. Make this in the snow
34. Winter foot wear
36. Faucets can do this
38. You hear with this

ACROSS:

1. Sudden cold breeze
4. Hand warmers
7. Hanging spike of ice
10. Show and \_\_\_\_
11. Conditions outside
12. Flowering plant, color
15. Achoo
17. Not in
20. Month of Winter
22. Carols, etc.
24. Valentine month
29. Keeps drinks warm
30. Small dog
31. Winter Olympic sport
32. Silky material
35. Breezy
37. Ice Sport
39. Foot Warmer
40. Direct a vehicle’s course

# *HAPPY BIRTHDAY VOLUNTEERS!*

**Poland, Cathea 01/02**  
**Vaughn, Teresa 01/02**  
**McDowell, Kellye 01/04**  
**Jelks, Doris 01/05**  
**Ward, Shirley 01/06**  
**Hudson, Carol 01/08**  
**Leatherwood, Dani 01/08**  
**Kendrick, Marcia 01/09**  
**Chestnut, Betty 01/10**  
**Hinkle, Bobby 01/10**  
**Ramey, Frances 01/10**  
**Smith, Delma 01/13**  
**Bellamy, J.L 01/14**  
**Conrad, Lori 01/15**  
**Scott, Valerie 01/15**  
**Williams, Shirley 01/16**  
**Crane, Judith 01/18**  
**Cox, Eleanor 01/22**  
**Nunnelly, Dennis 01/22**  
**Hudson, Kenneth 01/26**  
**King, Lois 01/27**  
**Smith, Carolyn 01/27**  
**Ford, Marian 01/28**  
**Hill, Sammye 01/29**  
**Wappelhorst, Sharon 01/30**  
**Marbury, Lucille 01/31**  
**Lee, James 02/01**  
**Wright, Richard 02/03**  
**Clontz, Judy 02/06**  
**Neal, Alice 02/06**  
**Dobbins, Sandra 02/08**

**Core, Frances 02/10**  
**Poland, Jeffrey 02/10**  
**Ballenger, Peggy 02/14**  
**Lolies, Melba 02/21**  
**Brittain, Jane 02/24**  
**Copeland, Susan 02/26**  
**Wagar, Genelle 02/26**  
**Chapman, Margie 02/27**  
**Spears, Venice 02/28**  
**Smith, Gloria 03/02**  
**Skinner, Agnes 03/04**  
**Godsey, Linda 03/05**  
**Guinn, Melissa 03/05**  
**James, Jean 03/06**  
**Hagedorn, Donna 03/08**  
**Smith, Linda 03/08**  
**Cash, Doris 03/10**  
**Hoyt, Clara 03/10**  
**Utter, Bryan 03/10**  
**Page, Jerolyn 03/11**  
**Harris, Dortha 03/13**  
**Bottoms, Barry 03/21**  
**Crowe, Betty 03/21**  
**Knight, Margaret 03/21**  
**Austin, Puretha 03/24**  
**Davis, V.V. 03/24**  
**Wagar, Stan 03/24**  
**Tommie, Cheryl 03/25**  
**Gober, David 03/27**  
**Breland, April 03/28**

*Youth is a gift of Nature.*

*Age is a work of ART!*

*-Stanislaw Jerzy Lec*