

Make A Difference



The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is a federal program charged with leading efforts to expand the use of service and volunteering as key solutions that respond to our nation's most pressing challenges. Our mission is to improve lives, strengthen communities and foster civic engagement, through service and volunteering. RSVP is sponsored locally by the Etowah County Commission, and federally by the Corporation for National & Community Service (CNCS).

Director's Corner

In the News

Tax Program Results

Recognition Lunch

Do you remember what it was like to be a child during the summer? You didn't have to get up early, and there weren't time limits for things to be done. You could go outside or stay inside, play games or watch TV; you could do basically whatever you wanted to. Well, that's how I remember it anyway. Is there a lesson here?

Sometimes adults can get so caught up in doing things that need to be done, or worrying about what is going on in the world, or what the future holds that we get tense and anxious. We forget things like: we should help others just because it's the right thing to do (not whether they deserve it or not), we shouldn't care what other

people think about us just as we aren't supposed to judge other people, and to just have some fun every once in a while.

Summer is the perfect time to relax a little and let your inner child come out and play. You can volunteer and have fun at the same time you know – just ask us how!

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News

Whew! Tax season is over! There are 24 volunteers who are happy about that. Just so you know, we prepared 2,167 federal returns, which resulted in \$1,886,207 of federal refunds and \$607,739 in Earned Income Credit. If you estimate that each of these people would have paid someone \$200 to prepare their return if our volunteers had not done it for free, we saved

them \$433,400 in fees alone. All of this is why we perform this service every year – so that working families (young or old) keep more of their hard earned money in their pockets.

Did you come to our Recognition Luncheon in May? I hope so! We had a genuinely good time with some wonderful food from the Fisherman restaurant, Job Corps

students helped serve the food again this year so no one had to stand in line, a very talented saxophone player was our entertainment and like always we had a ton of door prizes. Of course our RSVP staff (Faye and Sarah) came up with beautiful table decorations and our Advisory Council worked hard to put it all together. What shall we do next year?



Success Story

Our last Quarterly Workshop was presented by Leigh Ann Black of Camellia Hospice. Leigh Ann is also part of a partnership of community members and Riverview Regional Medical Center to understand why and help prevent people from being readmitted to the hospital for the same situation. Ms. Black gave us some good pointers

(we even got to play a game!) about contemplating what the most important things are for you in the event you cannot speak for yourself – and how you can handle those situations now.

Our next SOD workshop is scheduled for July 14th at 10:00 in the Etowah County Courthouse.

The speaker will Lisa Pierce from the Elliott Nutrition Center with smart ideas on things to do inside this summer so you don't get bored but you also don't run the risk of getting heat stroke by staying outside in the sun too long. Call RSVP at 256-549-8147 if you would like to join us!

“One of the virtues of being very young is that you don't let the facts get in the way of your imagination.”
~Sam Levenson

STATISTICS

New volunteers – 6
 Total volunteers – 310
 Total stations – 51
 Volunteer Hours - 10596
 Value of Hours – \$220,820.64

(According to federal guidelines, the value of a volunteer's time is \$20.84 per hour)

Volunteer Opportunities

- **Council on Aging** – volunteers are needed to help with clerical duties & answering the phone.
- **Head Start** – volunteers are needed to be greeters and helping teachers in classrooms.
- **Family Success Center** – help is needed with their Safe & Successful program which teaches children how to recognize & deal with bullying.
- **Habitat for Humanity** – volunteers are needed to help build houses, help families who are applying for houses, coordinate with churches & for the Dragon Boat Festival!
- **Catholic Center of Concern** – clerical and interviewing help is needed, also help is needed in the food pantry.
- **It's not too early to start thinking about the CommUnity Thanksgiving lunch – volunteers will be needed all that week!**
- **For these & other volunteer opportunities, call RSVP @ 256-549-8147!**

Volunteer Recognition

The volunteer we want to recognize this quarter is Linda Smith. Linda currently volunteers with the Carver Nutrition Center, and the Center Manager Delma says that when Linda first came there, she wasn't sure if she wanted to volunteer.

Well, that was 3 years ago and now anytime Delma asks Linda to help with something, Linda will say “maybe” – and then she does it! Thank you Linda!
 The winner of our on-time time sheet drawing

is Ms. Faye Shelton who has volunteered at the Etowah Pregnancy Testing Center since 2007 & has 883 hours of service on record. Congratulations Ms. Shelton & thank you for what you do!

Upcoming Events

July 4 – Independence Day

July 14 – RSVP Quarterly Workshop @ 10:00 in the Etowah County Courthouse. Call 256-549-8147 for reservations.

July 19 – the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) will offer a free training program from 2 – 4 PM. Call 256-549-4575 for more info.

July 23 – Etowah Baptist Missions Center Cardboard Boat Race @ Rainbow Landing in Rainbow City.

August 4-7 – World's Longest Yard Sale starts at Noccoalula Falls!

August 11 – RSVP is sponsoring an AARP Driver's Safety Class at the Etowah County Courthouse. Call 256-549-8147 to register.

August 20 – Habitat for Humanity Dragon Boat Festival. If you aren't volunteering come enjoy all the action – it's free!

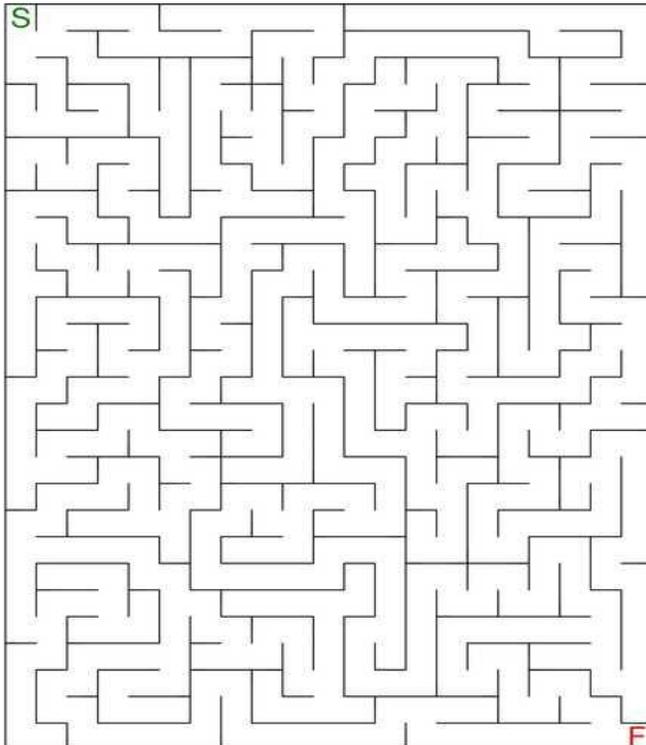
September 5 – Labor Day

Remember that most of our cities and libraries have summer programs for kids of all ages!

The Etowah County Council of Community Services meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month in the Gadsden State Cafeteria @ noon. Feel free to join – lunch is Dutch Treat! Call 256-546-4357 for more info.



MAZE – can you find your way out?



RSVP Volunteer Stations

"Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine." ~Anthony J. D'Angelo

AARP – COOSA VALLEY CHAPTER #3337	ETOWAH COUNTY DEPT. OF HUMAN RESOURCES	MOUNTAIN VIEW HOSPITAL
ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE	ETOWAH COUNTY PREGNANCY TESTING CENTER	NORTHEAST ETOWAH COMMUNITY CENTER
AMERICAN RED CROSS – ETOWAH & CHEROKEE CHAPTERS	ETOWAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY	PILOT CLUB READING BUDDIES
BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS	EVEN START EXTENDED FAMILY	RIVERVIEW REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
CATHOLIC CENTER OF CONCERN	FAMILY SUCCESS CENTER OF CENTRE	ROC-1 ST BAPTIST CHURCH
CENTRAL-CARVER FOUNDATION, INC.	FIRST CALL FOR HELP	RSVP ADVISORY BOARD
CHEROKEE COUNTY HEALTH & REHAB.	FRIENDLY NURSING HOME VISITORS	RSVP COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS
CHEROKEE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM	GADSDEN MUSEUM OF ART	RSVP DISASTER VOLUNTEERS
CHEROKEE MEDICAL CENTER	GADSDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY	RX HELP
CIRCUIT CLERK'S OFFICE OF ETOWAH COUNTY	GADSDEN QUILTERS GUILD	SENIOR NUTRITION CENTERS
CITY OF GADSDEN	GADSDEN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM
COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY	GLENCOE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	SWAT TAX COUNSELING PROGRAM
COUNCIL ON AGING	HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	TELE-CHEK
CULTURAL ARTS CENTER	HEAD START	THE CHAMBER
ETOWAH BAPTIST MISSION CENTER	HUMANE SOCIETY PET RESCUE & ADOPTION	UNITED WAY OF ETOWAH COUNTY
ETOWAH COUNTY COURTHOUSE	MANNA	

VOLUNTEER BIRTHDAYS

Betty McElroy	07/01	Pat Herrod	08/01	Charles Brown	08/26
Pat Griffith	07/03	Iva Patty	08/02	Patsy Duck	08/27
Therese Henderson	7/03	Joe Neal	08/03	Donna Patterson	08/28
Jean Pierini	07/04	Renay Stokes	08/03	Betsy Norton	08/29
Pearl Spanks	07/04	Dianne Treadwell	8/03	Sandra Davis	09/01
Nettie Hooks	07/06	Ruby Nuss	08/07	Barbara Kines	09/01
Shirley Gillilan	07/08	Nancy Bolton	08/09	Ronda Duke	09/04
Dot Bentley	07/09	Annie Dixon	08/09	Carolyn Nichols	09/04
Mattie Eubanks	07/09	Shirley Dupont	08/10	Sharon Covington	9/5
Gary Beck	07/10	Frances Bearden	8/11	Thelma Edgar	09/05
Mary Billingsley	07/10	Jan Guyton	08/11	Brenda Garrard	09/05
Roberta Harville	07/10	Joyce Neighbors	08/11	Wayne Rhodes	09/06
Frank Umphrey	07/10	Joyce Stephens	08/11	Jeannette Allen	09/07
Doris Armstead	07/12	Aris Mayo	08/13	Barbara Beshears	9/07
Shirley Hufstetler	7/12	Larry Williams	08/13	Taylor Knowles	09/07
Nancy Harrison	07/14	Emma Crayton	08/14	Louise Blackwell	9/08
Debra Johnson	07/14	Johnnie Harris	08/15	CiCe Whiteside	09/08
Dianne Knowles	07/14	Willie Mae Jordan	8/15	Ruth Mims	09/09
Bobby Gillilan	07/15	Faye Shelton	08/15	Joyce Farrell	09/10
Theresa Frye	07/16	Linda Kindon	08/17	Vivian Burnett	09/11
Sandra Jackson	07/17	Patricia McGee	08/17	Patsy Lee	09/12
Deborah Lankford	7/18	Gail Reeves	08/17	Betty Sue Nelson	9/13
Jane Wilson	07/18	Joanna Ross	08/19	Durwood Johns	09/15
Norman Hindman	7/20	Martha Umphrey	8/19	Gertie Lowe	09/17
Joan Peek	07/20	Patricia Butler	08/20	Sharyon Ramsey	9/17
Barbara Morgan	07/23	Nell Gober	08/20	Betty Wicker	09/19
Jane Bishop	07/24	Jennifer Long	08/21	Chuck Keith	09/21
Lurene Kerley	07/25	Viola Franklin	08/22	Daniel Brock	09/22
Mary Spinks	07/25	Sandy Grant	08/22	Jim Bryan	09/22
Sedalia Sealy	07/20	Spence Adcock	08/24	Faye Hooker	09/24
Maxine Mintz	07/27	Roselene Jenkins	8/24	John Bentley	09/25
Hellice White	07/28	Beverly O'Hara	08/24	Joy Ann Smith	09/26
Eileen Gray	08/01	Dot Phipps	08/25	Adelle Morris	09/27
				Floyd Wininger	09/27



*"The secret of staying
young is to live honestly,
eat slowly, and lie about
your age." ~Lucille Ball*

RSVP

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E-mail

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We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.etowahcounty.org/rsvp

Friend us on Facebook!



<https://www.facebook.com/etowahrsvp>

Follow us on Twitter!



<https://twitter.com/etowahrsvp>

And on Instagram!



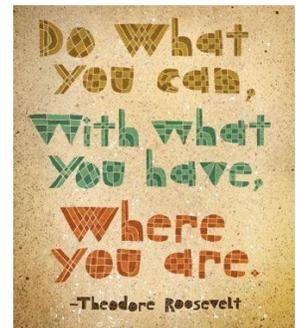
https://www.instagram.com/volunteers_of_etowah

RSVP Staff

Director – Traci Pondick

Van Driver/Volunteer
Coordinator – Faye
Russell

Secretary/Bookkeeper –
Sarah Kelley



RSVP Advisory Council

Chair – Pat Hill
Vice Chair –
Treasurer – Jane
Brittain
Secretary– Millie
Cartrett
Lisa Dobbins

Thelma Edgar
Theresa Frye
Jenifer Grace
Jennifer Harold
Deborah Henderson
Sandra Jackson

Deborah Lankford
Carolyn Parker
Jean Pettis
Craig Scott

Please shop at these local businesses & say “Thank You!” for supporting RSVP!

ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	HOKES BLUFF DRUG SHOPPE	RAYMOND JAMES ADVISOR MIKE JONES
BAKER TIRE	JOHNSON’S GIANT FOODS	RED LOBSTER
BELKS	JACK’S OF GADSDEN	REGIONS BANK
COTHRAN’S BAKERY	MARAELLA WINERY	REGIS SALON
DISCOUNT PEST CONTROL	MATER’S PIZZA & PASTA	RIVER BANK & TRUST
FAMILY SAVINGS CREDIT UNION	MCDONALD’S OF GADSDEN	SPORTS MANIA
FIRST EQUITY HOME LOAN	NOCCALULA FALLS PARK	STATE FARM AGENT DANNY CLAYTON
GADSDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY	OBSERVER OFFICE SUPPLY	STEVIE B’S PIZZA
GADSDEN VARIETY & ANTIQUE MALL	PACK’S NURSERY	SUTTON BRIDGE EXXON
GOLD’S GYM	PHYSICIANS HOME HEALTH SUPERSTORE	TRE RAGAZZI’S RESTAURANT
GOTTA HAVE IT	PREMIERE CINEMA 16	WILLS CREEK VINEYARDS