



Making a Difference

July-Sept. 2012

Vol. XI Issue 2

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program of Etowah & Cherokee Counties
800 Forrest Avenue, Room 219, Gadsden, AL 35901 (256) 549-8147

In The News:

Summer Enrichment

Quarterly Workshop

“Life is like a mountain,
hard to climb, but once
you get to the top the
view is beautiful.”

~ Unknown

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Director’s Corner

It’s *Summertime!*

Everyone loves *Those Lazy Hazy Crazy Days of Summer*, including RSVP.

We have volunteer opportunities galore – from long term situations (Red Cross in Etowah & Cherokee County, Family Success Center, The Chamber, Gadsden Public Library) to short term posts (Summer Enrichment, Habitat for Humanity, & it’s never too early to mention Tax Counseling!) and everything in between.

News

Every summer Dr. Gertie Lowe manages a program called Summer Enrichment, which is located at the Wills Creek Baptist Association. This is a 6-week tutoring course offered to any student (kindergarten through high school) at no charge. Volunteer teachers and administrators spend this time helping students in school

Remember that RSVP wants to make sure that you are volunteering exactly when & where you enjoy it the most, because a happy volunteer is the best volunteer!

While our opportunities may change from time to time, our goals remain the same – we strive to place the right volunteer in the right opportunity within the impact areas set forth by our national guidelines – education, economic sustainability, disaster response/recovery and

subjects such as English, history & math, so that the students are up-to-date for the next school year. This year there are over 60 students involved. Thanks to 11 RSVP volunteers (and others) for devoting their time and talents!

Our most recent quarterly workshop was very informative. Local attorney Stewart Burns



veterans services.

So, whether you spend your summer *Under the Boardwalk, Saturday in the Park, in Kokomo or Margaritaville*, or in an *Itsy Bitsy Teeny Weeny Yellow Polka Dot Bikini*, remember we have *Hot Fun in the Summertime* & we’re always *Walking on Sunshine!*

spoke to our group of volunteers about making sure your affairs are in order. Mr. Burns covered several documents that everyone needs to have (will, power of attorney, living will) & what is needed for each of these documents to be valid. He also told us about Medicaid eligibility for nursing homes & guardianships & conservatorships.



STATISTICS

*New volunteers this
Quarter – 14*

*Resigned volunteers
This quarter – 35*

*Total volunteers –
402*

*Hours produced –
14,473.00*

*Value of hours –
\$256,172.10*

*“A perfect summer day
is when the sun is
shining, the breeze is
blowing, the birds are
singing, and the lawn
mower is broken.”*

~ Unknown

Success Story

Tax season may be officially over, but RSVP never really stops working on tax issues (volunteers have completed about 8 returns since the end of April).

Our success story this quarter has to be our Free Tax Preparation Service & the volunteers & area partners who work so diligently to make this

such a success.

Twenty volunteers worked from late December through April 20th to file 1,376 federal returns for over 2,000 people who received \$1,174,711.00 in tax refunds! ALL of this money goes directly to the taxpayers since this is a FREE service. We could not have accomplished this without our dedicated

volunteers, the Etowah County Commission (for their continued support & the space), City of Gadsden, United Way of Etowah County (who helped us with supplies), Family Success Center (who provided space for our Saturday volunteers) and the Gadsden Public Library for hosting our special events.

Volunteer Opportunities

- **Habitat for Humanity** – volunteers are needed not only to build houses, but to help with family selection & family support activities. Call 256-543-1898 or email gehabitat@comcast.net for more info.
- **Big Brothers/Big Sisters** – volunteers are always needed to mentor a ‘little’! BBBS is also looking for children who have a military parent for some special programs. Call 256-546-5079 for info.
- **Courthouse Information Desk** – volunteers are needed to man the Information Desk at the front door of the Courthouse & help people find the correct office or person. Call RSVP @ 256-549-8147 for more info.
- **MANNA** – volunteers are needed to deliver hot, nutritious meals to homebound seniors. Call 256-543-5876 for more info.
- For more information on these and other volunteer opportunities, call RSVP at (256)549-8147.

Volunteer Recognition

For the past 3 years Norman Pondick has been a regular at the Gadsden Public Library, volunteering his services for a long & tedious but fun & essential project. The library literally has thousands of old, historic photographs that need to be scanned & preserved for future generations. Norm handles the scanning of various sizes of print negatives using 2

scanners that the library has along with an assortment of photo adapters. Mr. Pondick has become very adept with his assignment, & will come to the library & head straight to his workstation to begin his duties without hesitation. The GPL has been very fortunate to have someone with Norm’s desire to assist us with this major project, & we thank him for all the time &

dedication he has given us!

***Submitted by Craig
Scott, Librarian***

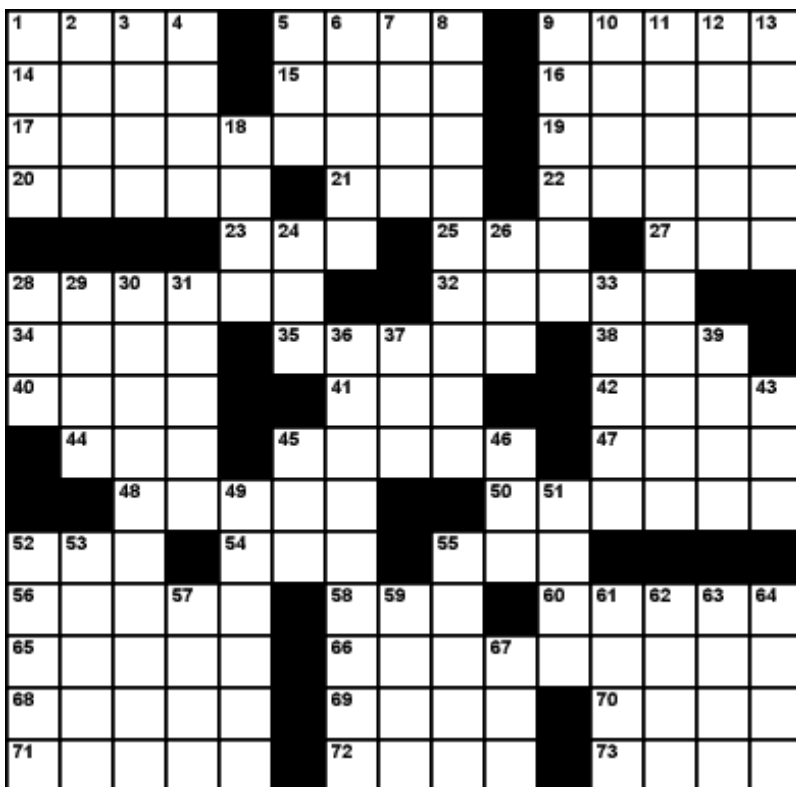
The winner of our on time – time sheet drawing is Mr. Dennis Nunnelly, who entertains people all over Etowah County & beyond! Mr. Nunnelly has volunteered with RSVP since January, 2007 & has 1,612 hours on record. Congratulations Mr. Nunnelly!



Upcoming Events

- **July 4** – 4th of July, the Etowah County Courthouse will be closed.
- **July 19** – RSVP Quarterly Workshop, 10:00, Etowah County Courthouse Room 205. The speaker will be Lori Parker, Title 2 Technical Expert from the Social Security Administration, speaking about Survivor Benefits. Call RSVP @ 256-549-8147 to reserve a seat.
- **July 20** – AARP Driver’s Class, 8:30 – 4:30, Room 205 of the Etowah County Courthouse. Call RSVP @ 256-549-8147 to register.
- **July 24** – AARP Driver’s Class, 8:30 – 4:30, Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce Arena, Centre. Call RSVP @ 256-549-8147 to register.
- **July 27 & 28** – Alabama Families of Prisoners Conference @ McElwain Baptist Church. Visit www.alabamafpc.or, or call Laure Clemons @ 256-557-0485 for more info.
- **August 4** – Family Success Center’s Cram the Van to collect school supplies for area children at Wal-Mart from 10 - 1 (this is also the tax free weekend!)
- **August 18** – Dragon Boat Festival sponsored by Habitat for Humanity, an all day long event at the Gadsden Boardwalk, behind Chili’s.
- **August 21** – District 4 Masters Games will be held at the East Gadsden Community Center. Registration deadline is July 31, 2012. Call Gadsden Parks & Rec. @ 256-549-4833 for more info.
- **September 3** – Labor Day, the Etowah County Courthouse will be closed.
- **September 22** – Autumn begins.

PUZZLE



ACROSS

- Hawkeye state
- Grocery, e.g.
- Scruffs
- Comparison, abbr.
- Throb
- Bay window
- Deluxe insulation
- Above, prefix
- Lost, figuratively
- Indian bread
- Associate
- Commercial free network
- Hole in the head?
- Martini option
- Kindle
- It has riser & tread
- Tom, Dick & Harry, for example
- So _____

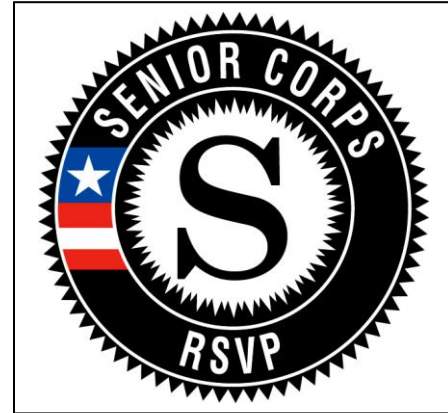
- These in Ste-Therese
- Omen
- Lyric poem
- Baseball Hall of Famer Slaughter
- Frat letter
- Paid the pot
- Westwood campus
- Gloucester good byes
- Opie to Bea
- Afternoons
- Compass pt.
- Michigan or Ontario in French
- Very eccentric
- IV tripled
- Minor official
- Braid
- Limitless
- Bunsen burners
- Once more with a difference
- Salty sea
- Sashay
- Period of calm
- Just
- Wild sheep
- Hand tool with jaws
- Spooky
- Incline
- Engrossed
- Maude portrayer
- _____ Z
- “___ You” (Hollies hit)
- Film crew member
- Bit of bedroom furniture
- Ancient Greece
- What windows do in cold weather
- Platonic
- Banned pesticide
- Dover fish
- Spotted
- Support grps.
- Test often in the news
- African bloodsucker
- Color of unbleached silk
- John Paul et al
- Opposite of uni-
- Slander
- Iranian dollar
- Northern natives
- Within, prefix
- The ideal garden
- Scallopini, often
- Whirlpool
- Potter bird

DOWN

- UN Nuclear watchdog
- Taking care of (as a task)
- Large amounts
- Away from the wind
- Boy
- Desktop images
- Unstressed vowel
- Volunteer state
- Cosa _____

RSVP Staff

Director – Traci Pondick
 Van Driver/Volunteer
 Coordinator – Faye Russell
 Administrative Assistant –
 Jan Kelley



*“Twenty years from now
 you will be more
 disappointed by the
 things you didn’t do than
 by the ones you did do.
 So throw off the bowlines.
 Sail away from the safe
 harbor. Catch the trade
 winds in your sails.
 Explore. Dream.
 Discover.*

~ Mark Twain

RSVP Advisory Board

<i>Chairperson</i> – Pat Hill	Jane Brittain	Joe Neal
<i>Vice Chairperson</i> – Joyce Farrell	Lisa Dobbins	Jean Pettis
<i>Treasurer</i> – Deborah Lankford	Thelma Edgar	Nettie Robinson
<i>Secretary</i> – Wanda Neal	Juanita Elrod	Ila Mae Wright
	Perry Gwin	CiCi Whiteside
	Jerre McNeal	

Local Merchants who Support RSVP

*Visit these local
 merchants and say
 “Thank you for
 supporting RSVP”!*

Advance Auto Parts	Hick’s Shoes	Pruett’s BBQ
BBVA Compass Bank	Hokes Bluff Drug Shoppe	Red Lobster
Belk’s	Johnson’s Giant Foods	Regions Bank
Cadence Bank	Keystone Bank	Regis Hair Salon
Cravings Bakery	Kyuka Water	Renu Salon & Spa
Discount Pest Control	Mae Khan’s Egg Rolls	Rick’s Discount Drugs
Downtown Deli	Mater’s Pizza & Pasta	Sports Mania
Etowah Foot Specialists	Northeast AL Audiology	Stevie B’s Pizza
Family Christian Book Store	Observer Office Supply	Sutton Bridge Exxon
Family Savings Credit Union	Pack’s Nursery	Things of Desire
Flip Side Café	Peoples Independent Bank	Uncle Sam’s BBQ
Gadsden Foot Clinic	Peppermint Pony	Wells Fargo Advisors
Generations Bank	Physician’s Home Superstore	Western Sizzlin’
Gold’s Gym	Popeye’s Chicken	



These are all of the places where you can volunteer!

AARP Coosa Valley Chapter #3337
American Red Cross – Cherokee County
American Red Cross – Etowah County
Big Brothers Big Sisters of NEAL
Central – Carver Museum
Cherokee County Health & Rehabilitation
Cherokee County Historical Museum
Cherokee Medical Center
Circuit Clerk’s Office of Etowah County
City of Gadsden
Community Action Agency of Etowah County
Council on Aging
Cultural Arts Center
El Señor Club
Etowah Baptist Mission Center
Etowah County Council of Community Services
Etowah County Courthouse Information Desk
Etowah County Dept. of Human Resources
Etowah County Pregnancy Testing Center
Etowah Historical Society
Even Start
Extended Family
Family Success Center
First Call for Help
Friendly Nursing Home Visitors
Gadsden Museum of Art
Gadsden Public Library
Gadsden Quilters Guild
Gadsden Regional Medical Center
Habitat for Humanity
Head Start
MANNA
Mountain View Hospital
Northeast Etowah Community Center
Pilot Club
Riverview Regional Medical Center
ROC – 1st Baptist Church of Centre
RSVP Advisory Board
RSVP Community Service Volunteers
Rx Help
Salvation Army
Senior Nutrition Centers
Seniors Outfitted For Defense
Summer Enrichment Program
SWAT Team
Tax Counseling Program
Tele-Chek Program
The Chamber-Gadsden & Etowah County
United Way of Etowah County
Veterans Affairs

Where do you fit?



Happy Birthday to all of our summer babies!

Sybil Glenn	7/1	Hellice White	7/28	Sandra Davis	9/1
Betty McElroy	7/1	Eileen Gray	8/1	Susan Watkins	9/1
Julia Wadsworth	7/1	Pat Herrod	8/1	Thelma Edgar	9/5
Norman Pondick	7/2	Iva Patty	8/2	Brenda Garrard	9/5
Wanda Fox	7/3	Janie Jackson	8/3	Mary Lamparty	9/6
Catherine Grogan	7/3	Joe Neal	8/3	Wayne Rhodes	9/6
Therese Henderson	7/3	Paula Stewart	8/3	Barbara Beshears	9/7
Gloria Lindsey	7/5	Ron Downey	8/5	Taylor Knowles III	9/7
Nettie Hooks	7/6	Joan Sheets	8/5	Louise Blackwell	9/8
Edna Gunnells	7/7	Hilda Moody	8/6	CiCi Whiteside	9/8
John O'Neal	7/7	Ruby Nuss	8/7	Sue Eidson	9/9
Shirley Gillilan	7/8	Shirley DuPont	8/10	Ruth Mims	9/9
Dot Bentley	7/9	Mary Lipham	8/10	Doris Sheeler	9/9
Mattie Eubanks	7/9	Joyce Neighbors	8/11	Joyce Farrell	9/10
Garfield Lambert	7/9	Hazel Oliver	8/11	Patsy Lee	9/12
Gary Beck	7/10	Joyce Stephens	8/11	Patricia Owens	9/12
Roberta Harville	7/10	Mable Boatwright	8/13	Dot Woodward	9/12
Lee Jordan	7/11	Aris Mayo	8/13	Betty Sue Nelson	9/13
Doris Armstead	7/12	Emma Crayton	8/14	Ronda Duke	9/14
Aaron Turner	7/12	Joysie Wooten	8/14	Durwood Johns	9/15
Nancy Ruth Harrison	7/14	Willie Mae Jordan	8/15	Barbara Lee	9/15
Bobby Gillilan	7/15	Faye Shelton	8/15	Gertie Lowe	9/17
Johnny Farmer	7/16	Gerald Watkins	8/15	Sharyon Ramsey	9/17
Theresa Frye	7/16	Linda Kindon	8/17	Bob Wilbanks	9/17
James Starling	7/16	Patricia McGee	8/17	Joseph Miller	9/18
Sandra Jackson	7/17	Fannie Robinson	8/18	Betty Wicker	9/19
Johnnie Morgan	7/17	Joanna Ross	8/19	John Vanek	9/20
Ruth O'Donnell	7/17	Judie Walauskis	8/19	Chuck Keith	9/21
Deborah Lankford	7/18	Nell Gober	8/20	Mariam Thompson	9/21
Jane Wilson	7/18	Viola Franklin	8/22	Jim Bryan	9/22
Brenda Emery	7/20	Sandy Grant	8/22	Charmaine Phillips	9/22
Norman Hindman	7/20	Rosa Owens	8/22	Dalton Bradley	9/24
Ernestine Coats	7/21	Aline Gardner	8/23	Faye Hooker	9/24
Robert Malone	7/21	Charline Webb	8/23	Reba Mathis	9/24
Ethel Carson	7/24	Roselene Jenkins	8/24	John Bentley	9/25
Gerald Smith	7/24	Dot Phipps	8/25	Joy Ann Smith	9/26
Lurene Kerley	7/25	Charles Brown	8/26	Brenda Dunning	9/27
Maxine Mintz	7/27	Patsy Duck	8/27	Adelle Morris	9/27
Ernestine Nickols	7/27	Donna Patterson	8/28	Geneva Cole	9/28
Barbara Nix	7/28	Betsy Norton	8/29	Doma Wheeling	9/29
Harold Smith	7/28	Faye Morgan	8/30		

