

Make A Difference



RSVP of Etowah & Cherokee County

July – September, 2015 Volume 12, Issue 2



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

- May Day
- Recognition Luncheon
- Quarterly Workshop

I can remember as a child thinking, "I can't imagine what it's like to be an adult and have to work through the summer." And now I look enviously at our volunteers who are retired and don't have to work at all! Our volunteers all seem happy, content, and full of joy.

That's not to say our

volunteers aren't busy – you are. But you are busy doing things you want to do, or things you feel need to be done, things that help others and things that help our community as a whole. Even though you are "working" through the summer, it seems that for reasons other than just getting paid makes it more worthwhile, better in some way.

So – are you happy and full of joy because you are retired, or because you volunteer?

This is one of those things all young people need to understand, and only people who have lived for many years and done many things can explain.

If only all of our young people would listen and learn!

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NEWS

We saw several of you at May Day in Talladega a few weeks ago. The East Alabama Area Agency on Aging does a wonderful job of that every year.

We posted some pictures on our Facebook page if you want to see them.

Then on May 20th RSVP volunteers and station representatives met us at the speakeasy (really the Senior Activity Center) for our Annual Volunteer

Recognition. We had a great time, with entertainment from a jazz band and some of the CharActers Entertainment group who sang & danced! People were dressed in their "Roaring 20's" attire, Morgan House catered a wonderful meal, Job Corps students served everyone, and there were plenty of door prizes to be won!

For our last Seniors Outfitted for Defense workshop, Kathy Boggs from Bradford Health Services spoke to our group about how to recognize addictive behavior in family or friends, and how *not* to be a victim to their destructive actions while at the same time helping them. Let us know if there is a topic you would like to learn more about!



SUCCESS STORY

Tax season has come and gone once again, and like always our volunteers have outdone themselves! This year, volunteers successfully completed 2,054 federal returns (279 more than last year!), helping our clients get back \$2,180,524 in refunds – all of which goes straight in their pockets!

Another success story – 2 local students have received college scholarships thanks to a program funded by the Gadsden Regional Medical Center volunteers. Brandon Matthews and Russ Payton both received a \$1,000 scholarship to help them pursue careers in physical therapy.

“One of the primary missions of the GRMC volunteers is to better the community our hospital serves, and the annual scholarship program is just one way volunteers make a positive impact in our community”, said Marketing Director Natalie Fleming.

Volunteers in action!

"Here's to all volunteers, those dedicated people who believe in all work and no pay."

~ Robert Orben

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Habitat for Humanity** - Habitat for Humanity needs volunteers to help with their Dragon Boat Festival which will be August 15th. They also need volunteers to help at construction sites, usually on Wednesdays & Saturdays. Call 256-549-8147 for info.
- **Extended Family** – volunteers are needed to help in the office with filing, computer input and other clerical duties.
- **Cherokee Historical Museum & Etowah Historical Museum** – volunteers are needed as tour guides & to help with displays.
- **MANNA** – volunteer drivers are needed to deliver meals to homebound people – it just takes a couple of hours once a week!
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters** – volunteers are needed to supervise Bigs (high school students) with Littles (elementary school students) at a local school.
- **For these & other volunteer opportunities, call RSVP @ 256-549-8147!**

STATISTICS

New volunteers – 5
 Total volunteers – 354
 Total stations – 50
 Volunteer Hours – 9450
 Value of Hours – \$167,265.00

(According to federal guidelines, the value of a volunteer's time is \$17.70 per hour)

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

This comes from Pat Hill, Director of the George Wallace Senior Center in Glencoe – “A special hats off to another of our volunteers (and we have many). His name is Charles Sealy, one of our Van Angels who

delivers meals to our shut-ins. It matters not if it's a planned work day or if we call him in 30 min. before time to go, he is here, ready to bless everyone and we are blessed to have him as a volunteer!

The winner of our on-time timesheets is Rick Lankford! Mr. Lankford has been an RSVP volunteer since 2008 & has 647 hours on record (mainly with MANNA). Congratulations Mr. Lankford!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 4** – Independence Day! Cherokee County Historical Museum will have a reenactment with period dress, food & music from 9 AM – 1 PM. FREE FOR EVERYONE!
- July 15** – Workshop on herbs from 10 – 2 at the Etowah Cooperative Extension office.
- July 16** – Seniors Outfitted for Defense workshop. 10:00 in the Etowah County Courthouse Room 205. Call 256-549-8147 to reserve a seat.
- July 25** – 2nd Annual Cardboard Boat Race at Rainbow Landing in Rainbow City, benefitting the Etowah Baptist Missions Center. Hope it floats!
- August 8** – Family Success Center's Cram the Van will be at both Wal-Mart locations from 10:00 – 2:00, collecting school supplies for children in need.
- August 15** – Habitat for Humanity's 4th Annual Dragon Boat Festival will be at Gadsden's Riverwalk park (behind Chili's) beginning @ 9 AM. FREE ADMISSION!
- September 7** – Labor Day, the Etowah County Courthouse will be closed.
- September 23** – 1st day of autumn!
- September 26** – Northeast Alabama Heart Walk sponsored by the American Heart Association @ the YMCA. Festivities begin at 8 AM.



“This, then, is the state of the union: free and restless, growing and full of hope. So it was in the beginning. So it shall always be, while God is willing, and we are strong enough to keep the faith.” ~Lyndon B. Johnson

CRYPTOGRAM

YR XHO HNKHSO UTTA FS IEYPHRT VLAPYVRYLA RXHR HAS FHA KXL IZRO
 XYO YARTNNYBTAVT ZI HBHYAOR H GYOX HAC NLOTO XHC YR VLFYAB. –
 DLXA ORTYAUTVJ

J QGJM PZ HGF JMKJUZ LAJHF FG YA VAJDEAI, PF GSFAH ZAVNAZ ZPLCMU
 JZ ZGLAFEPHQ FG JPL JF. – YVRDA MAA

*In a substitution cipher, each of the letters in the original message is systematically replaced by another letter. So for example, all of the A's in the original message **might** be replaced by M's in the encrypted message. Anywhere there is an M in the encrypted message, you would replace it with an A to return to the original message. **These 2 cryptograms have different solutions.***



RSVP Volunteer Stations

“Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain loving one another.” ~Erma Bombeck

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
BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS	EVEN START	RIVERVIEW REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
CATHOLIC CENTER OF CONCERN	EXTENDED FAMILY	ROC-1 ST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CENTRE
CENTRAL-CARVER FOUNDATION, INC.	FAMILY SUCCESS CENTER	RSVP ADVISORY COUNCIL
CHEROKEE COUNTY HEALTH & REHAB.	FIRST CALL FOR HELP	RSVP COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS
CHEROKEE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM	FRIENDLY NURSING HOME VISITORS	RSVP DISASTER VOLUNTEERS
CHEROKEE MEDICAL CENTER	GADSDEN MUSEUM OF ART	RX HELP
CIRCUIT CLERK’S OFFICE OF ETOWAH COUNTY	GADSDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY	SALVATION ARMY
CITY OF GADSDEN	GADSDEN QUILTERS GUILD	SENIOR NUTRITION CENTERS
COMMUNITY ACTION	GADSDEN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM
COUNCIL ON AGING	HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	SWAT
CULTURAL ARTS CENTER	HEAD START	TAX COUNSELING PROGRAM
ETOWAH BAPTIST MISSION CENTER	HUMANE SOCIETY PET RESCUE & ADOPTION	TELE-CHEK
ETOWAH COUNTY COURTHOUSE	MANNA	THE CHAMBER
		UNITED WAY OF ETOWAH COUNTY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Sybil Glenn 07/01	Eileen Gray 08/01	Betsy Norton 08/29
Betty McElroy 07/01	Pat Herrod 08/01	Faye Morgan 08/30
Pat Griffith 07/03	Iva Patty 08/02	Sandra Davis 09/01
Therese Henderson 7/3	Joe Neal 08/03	Barbara Kines 09/01
Pearl Spanks 07/04	Dianne Treadwell 8/3	Ronda Duke 09/04
Gloria Lindsey 07/05	Hilda Moody 08/06	Carolyn Nichols 09/04
Nettie Hooks 07/06	Ruby Nuss 08/07	Thelma Edgar 09/05
Connie Martin 07/06	Nancy Bolton 08/09	Brenda Garrard 09/05
Shirley Gillilan 07/08	Annie Dixon 08/09	Mary Lamparty 09/06
Dot Bentley 07/09	Shirley DuPont 08/10	Wayne Rhodes 09/06
Gary Beck 07/10	Frances Bearden 8/11	Barbara Beshears 9/7
Mary Billingsley 7/10	Joyce Neighbors 8/11	Taylor Knowles 09/07
Roberta Harville 7/10	Hazel Oliver 08/11	Louise Blackwell 9/8
Linda Reynolds 07/10	Joyce Stephens 08/11	C.C. Whiteside 09/08
Frank Umphrey 7/10	Mable Boatwright 8/13	Ruth Mims 09/09
Shirley Hufstetler 7/12	Aris Mayo 08/13	Joyce Farrell 09/10
Charles Gilchrist 7/13	Elea Bradford 08/14	Patsy Lee 09/12
Nancy Harrison 7/14	Emma Crayton 08/14	Dot Woodward 09/12
Debra Johnson 07/14	Johnnie Harris 08/15	Betty Nelson 09/13
Dianne Knowles 7/14	Willie Mae Jordan 8/15	Sylvia Fincher 09/15
Bobby Gillilan 07/15	Faye Shelton 08/15	Durwood Johns 09/15
Johnny Farmer 7/16	Linda Kindon 08/17	Gertie Lowe 09/17
Theresa Frye 07/16	Pat McGee 08/17	Sharyon Ramsey 9/17
Sandra Jackson 07/17	Gail Reeves 08/17	Bob Wilbanks 09/17
Ruth O'Donnell 07/17	Joanna Ross 08/19	Betty Wicker 09/19
Deborah Lankford 7/18	Martha Umphrey 8/19	John Vanek 09/20
Jane Wilson 07/18	Patricia Butler 08/20	Chuck Keith 09/21
Jerry Foster 07/19	Nell Gober 08/20	Daniel Brock 09/22
Norman Hindman 7/20	Jennifer Long 08/21	Jim Bryan 09/22
Barbara Morgan 7/23	Gail Morris 08/21	Faye Hooker 09/24
Rena Smith 07/23	Viola Franklin 08/22	Reba Mathis 09/23
Gerald Smith 07/24	David Coffey 08/23	John Bentley 09/25
Lurene Kerley 07/25	Spence Adcock 08/24	Joy Ann Smith 09/26
Mary Spinks 07/25	Roselene Jenkins 8/24	Brenda Dunning 9/27
Sedalia Sealy 07/26	Dot Phipps 08/25	Adelle Morris 09/27
Maxine Mintz 07/27	Charles Brown 08/26	Floyd Wininger 09/27
Hellice White 07/28	Patsy Duck 08/27	Geneva Cole 09/28

On this day...

dance like no one's watching,
sing like no one's listening,
love like you'll never get hurt, and
live like it's heaven on Earth!

Wishing you a **Happy Birthday** and many happy returns of the day.

"Youth is a wonderful thing.

What a crime to waste it on

children."

~ George Bernard Shaw

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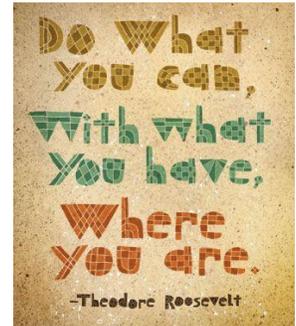
GETTING THINGS DONE.

RSVP Staff

Director – Traci Pondick

Van Driver/Volunteer
Coordinator – Faye
Russell

Secretary/Bookkeeper –
Sarah Kelley



RSVP Advisory Council

Chairperson – Jane
Brittain

Vice Chairperson –
Joyce Farrell

Treasurer –
Secretary– Millie
Cartrett

Lisa Dobbins
Thelma Edgar

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Pat Hill
Jennifer Howard
Sandra Jackson

Jerre McNeal
Carolyn Parker
Jean Pettis
Nettie Robinson
Craig Scott
Doralynn Thomas
CiCi Whiteside

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

We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.etowahcounty.org

Like us on Facebook!



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/327258517069/>

Follow us on Twitter!



[Twitter.com/etowahrsvp](https://twitter.com/etowahrsvp)

ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	REVENUE COMMISSIONER LINDA BARRETT-VAUGHN	PHYSICIANS HOME HEALTH SUPERSTORE
APPLEBEE'S	Mae Khan's Egg Rolls	PREMIERE CINEMAS
DISCOUNT PEST CONTROL	MARY'S ALTERATIONS	RAINBOW AUCTION
FAMILY SAVINGS CREDIT UNION	McDONALD'S	REGIONS BANK
GOLD'S GYM	NOVEL CAFÉ	RSVP ADVISORY COUNCIL
A HEALTH HUT	PAPA JOHN'S	SASSY SCISSORS
JACK'S OF GADSDEN	PEOPLE'S BANK	SPORTS MANIA
JOHNSON'S GIANT FOODS	PHYSICIAN'S APOTHECARY	STEVIE B'S PIZZA
L. A. BROOKE SALON		SUTTON BRIDGE EXXON

