

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 better places to live, raise families, and grow old – 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 Holiday and Happy New Year!

RSVP Staff

2014 has been a very impressive year for RSVP! We continue to have over 300 active volunteers helping with 50 different agencies or activities. Our own programs this year have accomplished amazing things because of our volunteers: the Tax Assistance Program filed 1,775 federal tax returns; our Prescription Assistance Program helped 68 clients with

159 medicines; the Friendly Nursing Home Visitors continue to visit 7 different nursing homes or assisted living homes and socialize with their residents; our Tele-Chek program (a reassurance phone call for people living alone or homebound) has 2 new clients; at our Make a Difference Day event we shredded almost 2,500 pounds of paper or

important documents for area citizens and collected about 30 pounds of old drugs to be disposed of properly; and our Senior Angel Tree helped 90 senior citizens celebrate Christmas. And we continue to have amazing support from our community, sponsors and partners. It truly is a wonderful life!

Volunteer Opportunities

- **Humane Society** – volunteers are needed in the reception area to greet visitors and answer the phone, help with fund raisers and socialize with pets!
 - **Family Success Center** – needs volunteers for child abuse prevention programs for kindergarten through high school students.
 - **Red Cross** – volunteers are needed in Etowah & Cherokee County offices, and for the Disaster Services Teams. Call 256-547-8667 for more info.
 - **Habitat for Humanity** – needs volunteers to help build homes for partner families.
- Call @ 256-547-6888 for more information.
- Workdays are usually Wednesdays & Saturdays. Call 256-543-1898 for more info.
- For more information on these and other volunteer opportunities, call RSVP at (256)549-8147.

Volunteer Recognition

This comes from Ashley Baccus, Volunteer Coordinator at the Etowah Baptist Mission Center:
I would like to recognize Gerrie Jordan. Gerrie has been with us for 7 years & has been faithful in her hard work & dedication to the Lord & the Mission Center. We are honored to have her as a part of our team!

Just so you know Gerrie is an Intake Interviewer at the Mission Center & interviews clients who are asking for all kinds of assistance. The Mission Center utilizes a rigorous interview system so that their clients walk away with budgeting skills and a lot of resources when they leave; and this can take up to 3 hours!

The winner of our on time – time sheet drawing is Ms. Jerre McNeal! Ms. McNeal volunteers with the Tax Assistance Program, Gadsden Regional Medical Center & the RSVP Advisory Council. Jerre has volunteered with RSVP since 1992 & has 6,755 hours on record. Congratulations Ms. McNeal!



Upcoming Events

- **January 1** – New Year’s Day, Etowah County Courthouse closed Thursday & Friday.
- **Through January 31** – Let it Snow & Festival of Trees at Mary Hardin Cultural Arts Center. (Admission charged)
- **January 6** – 25th Anniversary kick off program & champagne reception at the Mary G. Hardin Center for Cultural Arts from 5-7 PM. This is a free event!
- **January 8** – Seniors Outfitted for Defense meeting. Etowah County Courthouse Room #205 @ 10:00 AM. Jaide Winn will be speaking about how to remain a *Healthy Senior*. Call RSVP at 256-549-8147 to reserve a seat.
- **January 18** – Sanctity of Life Sunday. Call the Etowah Pregnancy Testing Center @ 256-442-6101 to schedule a speaker or get bulletin inserts for your place of worship.
- **January 19** – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; Health Fair @ GSCC, Etowah County Courthouse will be closed.
- **January 26** – Free Income Tax Program begins. Call RSVP @ 256-549-8147 for schedule.
- **February 1** – tickets go on sale for the Etowah Pregnancy Testing Center Choose Life Banquet to be held May 7th.
- **February 7** – Dinosaurs Alive! Exhibit at the Cultural Arts Center opens. (admission charged)
- **February 11** – National 2-1-1 Day.
- **February 14** – Happy Valentine’s Day!
- **March 7** – Dancing With Our Stars at Mary G. Hardin Cultural Arts Center. Get tickets for this at the Center.
- **March 8** – Daylight Saving Time begins, don’t forget to move your clocks up one hour!
- **March 17** – St. Patrick’s Day
- **March 20** – 1st day of Spring!

PUZZLE

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- ANGEL
- BELLS
- BETHLEHEM
- CANDLES
- CANDY CANE
- CAROLS
- DECORATIONS
- EGGNOG
- FAMILY
- FRANKINCENSE
- FRIENDS
- FRUITCAKE
- GABRIEL
- GIFTS
- GOLD
- GREETING CARDS
- HOLLY
- ICLES
- JESUS
- JOSEPH
- LIGHTS
- MANGER
- MARY
- MISTLETOE
- MYRRH
- ORNAMENTS
- POINSETTIA
- SANTA
- SHEPHERDS
- SKATES
- SLEIGH
- SNOWFLAKES
- SNOWMAN
- STABLE
- STAR
- STOCKING
- THREE WISE MEN
- TOBOGGAN
- TOYS
- TREE
- WREATH

VOLUNTEER BIRTHDAYS

Rickey Patrick	01/01	Herman Johnson	01/29	Betsy Batson	03/03
Vickie Dobbins	01/02	Joan Grove	01/30	Charlotte Bedwell	03/05
Katherine Smith	01/02	Sharon Wappelhorst	01/30	Linda Godsey	03/05
Doris Jelks	01/05	Veronica Wilson	01/30	Melisa Guinn	03/05
Thomas Mintz	01/06	James Lee	02/02	Jean James	03/06
Carol Hudson	01/08	Ila Mae Wright	02/02	Linda Smith	03/08
Marcia Kendrick	01/09	Juanita Haynie	02/05	Janice Wininger	03/08
Betty Chestnut	01/10	Judy Clontz	02/06	Mary Jane Quinn	03/09
Imogene Davis	01/10	Linda Driskell	02/06	Doris Cash	03/10
Bobby Hinkle	01/10	Kathy Shaw	02/07	Clara Hoyt	03/10
Frances Ramey	01/10	Virginia Stanfield	02/07	Bud Utter	03/10
Charles Tolleson	01/10	Michele Bradford	02/08	Helen Morgan	03/12
Dannie Box	01/11	Irene Payne	02/08	Doyle Spinks	03/12
Georgia Ann Grimes	01/11	Ruby George	02/09	Troy Reeves	03/13
William Taylor	01/11	Frances Core	02/10	Doris Davis	03/14
Agnes Sprayberry	01/12	Dolores Smith	02/10	Nelda Fay Lambert	03/14
Delma Smith	01/13	Jaide Winn	02/15	Dewayne Long	03/14
Shirley Williams	01/16	Martha Ashley	02/17	Kathy Saxon	03/20
Jean Wood	01/16	Karen Willmon	02/19	Betty Crowe	03/21
John Madison	01/21	Paula Driskell	02/21	Veronica Epperson	03/21
Dennis Nunnally	01/22	Melba Lolie	02/21	Margaret Knight	03/21
Pearl King	01/24	Pat Porter	02/22	Karen Cruz	03/26
Chris Crauthers	01/25	Jane Brittain	02/24	Jack Fuller	03/26
Corene Burkacki	01/26	Jimmie Bailey	02/27	Jennie Amos	03/27
Kenneth Hudson	01/26	Sunita Graves	02/28	David Gober	03/27
Edna Cole	01/27	Susan Hall	02/28	Sarah Chapman	03/28
Lois King	01/27	Loretta Baker	03/02		
Rebecca Tillery	01/27	Gloria Smith	03/02		
		Sherry Stapleton	03/02		