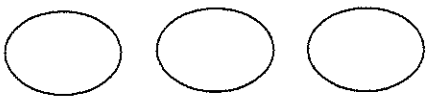


Make A Difference



RSVP of Etowah & Cherokee County

October-December, 2025 Volume 25 Issue 4



AmeriCorps Seniors

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Statistics:

New Volunteers: 6
Total Volunteers: 160
Number of Station: 31
Volunteer Hours: 3,681
Value of Hours:
\$ 105,055.74

(According to federal guidelines, the value of a volunteer's time \$28.54)

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 AmeriCorps.

Director's Corner

Summer will always be my favorite season, but autumn holds its own magic. There is a sense of nostalgia that comes with the start of school and football; the traditions that come with trick-or-treating and Thanksgiving; plus the colors (yellows, browns, golds) and smells (pumpkin, bonfires, smores) that all signal a fresh start.

We hope you are getting ready for a fresh start in your volunteering journey. Slow down for a little while and enjoy all of the sights, sounds, and smells of this season—because we need you more than ever! There are many things to get done and you are the best people to do them.

Take care of yourselves!

In the News

Did you enjoy our Luau? We hope so, we always enjoy planning and organizing this event. We also know that not everyone gets to attend. We look forward to getting to see ALL of our volunteers at some point during the year—because you do so much and ask so little!

We are planning another Shred/Drug Take Back Day for Saturday, October 25th, 10:00—2:00 in the parking lot of the Etowah County Courthouse. Remember to box or bag up all of your old and unused medicines so that the Sheriff's Drug Unit can dispose of them safely. If you need us to come pick up stuff from you, we can arrange that!

Success Story

The Gadsden Quilters Guild is a group of quilting pros, quilting wannabes and quilting aficionados. These ladies (and sometimes men!) meet twice a month at the Gadsden Senior Wellness Center to learn, teach, collaborate, lay out, cut, sew, quilt, connect, and eat lunch. But the best part about this group is that they make and donate crib quilts and lap blankets to agencies like DHR, the Pregnancy Testing Center and area nursing homes for people who need a little homemade love and care. If you would like to join this group, call us and we'll get you in touch with them!

Volunteer Opportunities

Etowah Baptist Mission Center & Freedom Center

Looking for help in the following areas: office receptionist, food bank, sorting donations, and helping in the clothes closet.

First Call for Help - United Way

Looking for volunteers in the 211 Call Center. Volunteers need to be computer literate & be cordial on the telephone.

Manna

Looking for volunteers to help deliver meals to homebound individuals. (office and pick up food location is located at Riverview Medical Center).

Reading Buddies

In need of volunteers to help elementary age students with their reading and comprehension skills.

Salvation Army

Looking for volunteers to help answer the telephone and greet visitors coming into office area.

Tax Counseling Program

Looking for volunteers to prepare tax returns this upcoming tax season. You will receive training and have to pass an IRS test (but it's an open book test!)

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please call our office at 256.549.8147.

Volunteer Recognition

On-time Timesheet Winner

The winner of our on-time timesheet drawing is Ms. Marjorie Matthews. She has been volunteering with RSVP since March 2025 and currently volunteers at George Wallace Senior Center. Ms. Matthews has 5 lifetime service hours. Congratulations, and thank you for everything you do!

Volunteer Highlight

This quarter we would like to recognize V.V. Davis. Mrs. Davis has been volunteering since 2016 with RSVP and is currently volunteering with the Etowah Pregnancy Testing Center. She volunteers as a reading buddy also. "V.V. is so loving and kind to our clients, and always makes them feel at home and welcome in our Center." *Submitted by Sarah Burragh, Etowah Pregnancy Testing Center Director*

Upcoming Events

October 1st— Senior Health and Resource Fair
9:00 am till 11:00 am @ Downtown Civic Center
Presented by Council on Aging of Etowah County
& Physicians Who Care.

October 9th - Etowah Pregnancy Center Annual
Fall Fundraising event. 6pm @ Meadowbrook
Church in Gadsden.

October 15th– December 7th– Medicare Open
Enrollment. Call Council on Aging at 256.543.3616
for an appointment to go over your plan

October 16th - Smarter Senior Workshop
10:00 am @Etowah County Courthouse Rm 205.

October 25th– Shred/Drug Take Back Day
10:00 am till 2:00 pm @ Etowah County Courthouse

November 2nd – Daylight Savings Time ends

November 11th - Veteran's Day
Thank you to all who served!!!
(RSVP office will be closed)

November 27th - Thanksgiving
(RSVP office will be closed the 27th and 28th)

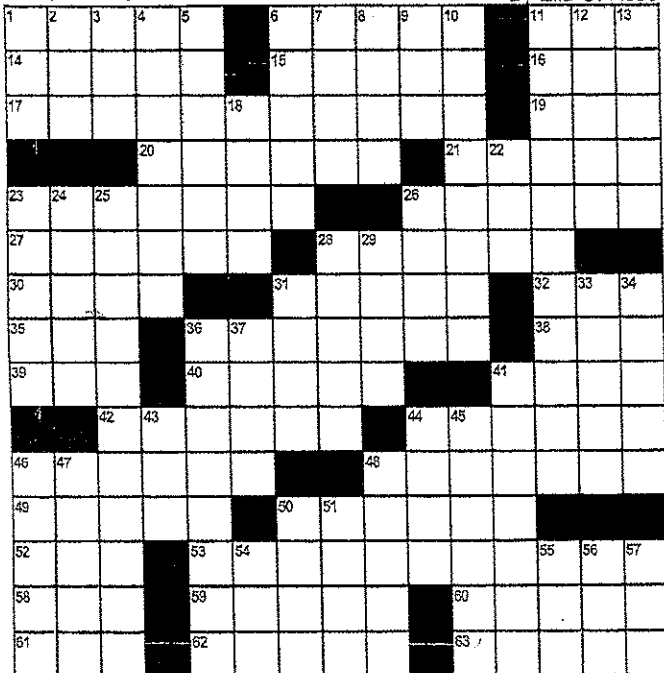
December 9th, 16th & 18th - Right Bite
Healthy Eating for Diabetes (& everyone)
10:00 am - 11:30 am. Room 205, Etowah
County Courthouse.

December 25th - Christmas
(RSVP will be closed 24th, 25th & 26th)

Crossword

MUSIC LESSON

By Ella G. Rose

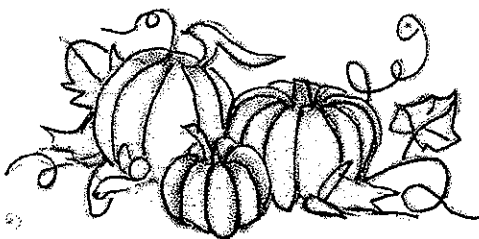


ACROSS

- 1) Web journals
- 6) It's better than never
- 11) "The ___ of All Fears"
- 14) Yawn-inducing
- 15) Convex molding
- 16) Bonanza find
- 17) The Rockettes, e.g.
- 19) Louse-to-be
- 20) Most edible, in a way
- 21) "The FBI's J. ___ Hoover"
- 23) Get back on track
- 26) "Tommy" band
- 27) Acted badly?
- 28) More agile
- 30) ___-bodied
- 31) Fore-and-aft-rigged vessel
- 32) Babysitter's handful
- 35) Albanian currency
- 36) Common vacation souvenirs
- 38) Even, as a score
- 39) Robinson or Doubtfire
- 40) Lickety-split
- 41) Characteristic carrier
- 42) Lacking 46-Across
- 44) Medicine chest door, usually
- 46) Sound powers of mind
- 48) Cruei folks
- 49) American symbol
- 50) Enjoyed the water, in a way
- 52) Anger
- 53) Desi Arnaz and Duke Ellington
- 58) ___'easter (strong wind)
- 59) Depth charge target
- 60) Grassy plain
- 61) Half the width of erns
- 62) Bride's gift of yore
- 63) ___ ease (relieve one's mind)

DOWN

- 1) U.K. network
- 2) "Well, ___ -di-dah!"
- 3) Lennon's wife
- 4) Infamous Spanish collar
- 5) Floodgate
- 6) Theater boxes
- 7) Bird of old Rome
- 8) Cause of civil action
- 9) Architect's wing, often
- 10) Vitamin C source
- 11) Bruce Springsteen and Chuck Berry, e.g.
- 12) Heap of "David Copperfield"
- 13) Paris transportation
- 18) Chip veggie
- 22) Barely passing grade
- 23) Coin of the ___
- 24) Fire remnant
- 25) Pete Seeger and Joan Baez, e.g.
- 26) Harness-race pace
- 28) It's a piece of cake
- 29) Dermatologist's concern
- 31) Tian ___ Mountains
- 33) City north of Bismarck
- 34) Jury participants
- 36) Flavor savorer
- 37) Fix, in a way
- 41) Pancake accessory
- 43) Lacking value
- 44) One gender
- 45) Models of perfection
- 46) Angler's net
- 47) Hank in the Baseball Hall of Fame
- 48) Full of fine sediment
- 50) Falling flakes
- 51) Jewish month
- 54) Blood classification syst.
- 55) "Dig in!"
- 56) Biochemistry abbr.
- 57) Drunkard



RSVP VOLUNTEER STATIONS

AARP – COOSA VALLEY
#3337

BIG BROTHERS/BIG
SISTERS of NEAL

CENTRAL-CARVER
FOUNDATION, INC.

CHEROKEE COUNTY
HEALTH & REHAB.

CHEROKEE VILLAGE
ASSISTED LIVING

CITY OF GADSDEN

COMPASSUS HOSPICE

COUNCIL ON AGING

ETOWAH BAPTIST
MISSION CENTER

ETOWAH COUNTY
COURTHOUSE INFO.
DESK

ETOWAH COUNTY
EXTENSION OFFICE

ETOWAH COUNTY
FREE COMMUNITY
CLINIC

ETOWAH COUNTY
PREGNANCY TESTING
CENTER

EXTENDED FAMILY

FREEDOM CENTER OF
GADSDEN

GADSDEN PUBLIC
LIBRARY

GADSDEN QUILTERS
GUILD

GADSDEN REGIONAL
MEDICAL CENTER

GREATER GADSDEN
AREA TOURISM

HABITAT FOR
HUMANITY

HEADSTART

MANNA

READING BUDDIES

RIVERVIEW REGIONAL
MEDICAL CENTER

RSVP ADVISORY BOARD

RSVP COMMUNITY
SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

SALVATION ARMY

SENIOR NUTRITION
CENTERS

TAX COUNSELING
PROGRAM

UNITED WAY OF ETOWAH
COUNTY

YMCA OF THR COOSA
VALLEY



VOLUNTEER

BIRTHDAY'S

CAROLYN JENTZEN	10/02	JENNIFER TIMMONS-DUKE	11/26
LIZ HOWELL	10/08	JIMMIE LEONARD	11/29
SUSAN WOLFORD	10/10	REBECCA HILLEKE	11/30
GRACIE GREEN	10/13	KAY KELLEN	12/01
CYNTHIA TOLES	10/13	CARLA HILL	12/02
JUDY SCOTT	10/15	KATHY BLATTEL	12/05
BONNIE CHILDS	10/22	BONNIE BAILEY	12/06
DANNY PHILLIPS	10/26	ELOISE TURK	12/07
LORRAINE BAUER	10/28	DONNA LEMONS	12/16
WAYNE FARLEY	10/29	NINA TENERANI	12/17
CONNIE EDMONDSON	11/02	MAUREEN LATRONICO	12/18
RAY ST. JOHN	11/04	JERRIE SMITH	12/20
SHERRE MCGINNIS	11/11	EVELYN WESTCOTT	12/21
CATHY RUTLEDGE	11/13	KENNETH MEANS	12/22
JIM RUNNER	11/15	STEPHEN SCHARFENBERG	12/26
BOBBIE DUNN	11/18	LINDA ELLISON	12/28
TREASIA SPELCE	11/24	PATRICIA HILL	12/28
MILLIE CARTRETT	11/26	LISA JACKSON	12/31

Happy Birthday

RSVP:

800 Forrest Avenue
Room 221
Gadsden AL 35901

PHONE NUMBER:

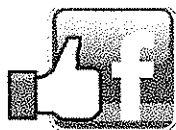
256.549.8147

Email:

tpondick@etowahcounty.org

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!!!
SEE US**

FRIEND US ON FACEBOOK



www.etowahcounty.org/rsvp



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!

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



ADD US ON INSTAGRAM!

[http://www.instagram.com/
volunteers_of_etowah/](http://www.instagram.com/volunteers_of_etowah/)

RSVP Staff

Director – Traci Pondick

Administrative Secretary/Volunteer Coord.– Rachel Wood

RSVP ADVISORY COUNCIL

President:

Pat Hill

Millie Cartrett

Theresa Frye

Jenifer Grace

Ellie Higgins

Jeff Little

Craig Scott

Delma Smith

Bill Steinka

Cynthia Toles

Treasurer:

Jill Vincent

**Please Shop at these Local Businesses and Say
“Thank you” for Supporting RSVP!!!**

ABSOLUTE FITNESS

KIM'S HEAVENLY CAFE

ALACO PHARMACY

KING'S OLIVE OIL

AUTO ZONE

LIFE INSURANCE CO. OF AL

BARONE'S PIZZA BUFFET

LILYPAD FLORIST

BRIDAL GARDEN

LOCAL JOE'S TRADING POST

BUTLER ELECTRICAL

LOWE'S OF GADSDEN

CITY OF GADSDEN

PHY. HOME HEALTH SUPERSTORE

EXCHANGE BANK

PUBLIX

FAMILY SAVINGS CREDIT UNION

RIVER BANK AND TRUST

F.C WEISS PUB & COFFEE SHOP

RIVERBEND FAMILY DENTISTRY

HOKES BLUFF DRUG SHOPPE

SMITH AND BAILEY DENTAL

HOT YOGA ETOWAH

TEAM ONE OF GADSDEN

JACK'S HAMBURGERS

TOP O THE RIVER

JOY'S FLORIST

VIVA HEALTH

KEITH'S AUTO TRIM

WIDE OPEN SPACES