Make A Difference

RSVP of Etowah & Cherokee County October—December, 2026 Volume 26 Issue 4

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.

Directors' Corner

Exciting changes are happening in our little corner of the world! To better serve our communities and make our services stronger, the Council on Aging of Etowah County and RSVP are coming together as **one organization**.

Our new office will be located in **Room 221 of the Etowah County Courthouse**, while events and programs will continue at the **Senior Wellness Center** where the Council on Aging offices were.

By combining the strengths and programs of both agencies, we're building something better—**one stronger resource for adults 55+ across Etowah and Cherokee Counties.**

We're excited about what's ahead and committed to making this the **best resource for older adults in our communities!**

STATISTICS:

NEW VOLUNTEERS: 0

TOTAL VOLUNTEERS: 159

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS: 2426

VALUE OF HOURS SERVED: $64,744.76



Volunteer Recognition

Our volunteer spotlight this quarter is Judy Edwards. Ms. Edwards volunteers with the City of Gadsden and at the information desk in the Courthouse (when there's not construction going on!). According to Rose Gray: "Judy is a tremendous help in all my events. She sees things that need to be done and just takes care of it. She is honest, fair and trustworthy." Judy has volunteered through RSVP for almost 12 years, and has 352 hours on record. Thanks Judy!

And our on-time timesheet winner is Ray St. John! Ray volunteers at George Wallace Senior Center in Glencoe, delivering hot lunches to Glencoe residents who don't get out much. Mr. St. John has volunteered through RSVP for 16 years and has 2,684 hours on record—congratulations Ray!

Upcoming Events

- **October 7: Physicians Who Care 39th Annual Fall Health Fair, 9AM—11AM at the Downtown Civic Center.**
- **October 17: RSVP free Shred/Drug Take Back Day, 9AM—1PM in the parking lot of the Etowah County Courthouse.**
- **November 12: United Way's Victory Celebration. Call 256-547-2581 for more info.**
- **November 26: Thanksgiving**
- **December 25: Christmas**

Volunteer Opportunities

- **MANNA:** volunteers are ALWAYS needed to deliver hot, nutritious meals to homebound people (& this only takes about an hour!)
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters:** volunteer as a mentor for a child, it can be during the school day or weekends, the choice is yours! And men are especially needed for the boys.
- **Gentiva Hospice & Southern Care/New Beacon Hospice:** volunteers are needed as respite care for people in their own homes. Just a couple of hours so their caregiver can get a break.
- **RSVP:** volunteers are needed for some of our programs like Yellow Dot, Free Tax Assistance, Guardian/Conservator Training and Reading Buddies.
- **Call us for more information or other opportunities: 256-549-8147**

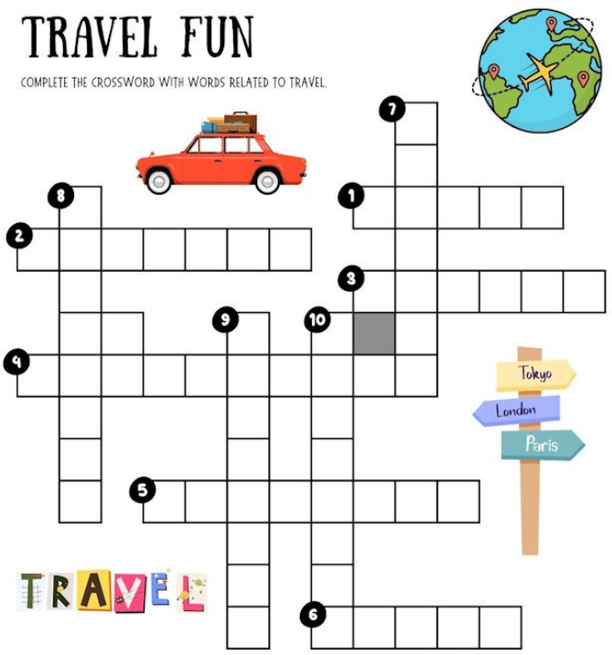
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. person who escorts tourists
2. Day set aside to relax or travel
3. Proves paid admission to enter
4. Where customers dine
5. Popular travel bag
6. To teach or coach

DOWN

7. Someone visiting for pleasure
8. Something purchase to remember A place.
9. Carries personal possessions
10. Certifies identity



VOLUNTEER BIRTHDAYS

Carolyn Jentzen	10/02
Liz Howell	10/08
Susan Wolford	10/10
Gracie Green	10/13
Cynthia Toles	10/13
Judy Scott	10/15
Bonnie Childs	10/22
Danny Phillips	10/26
Wayne Farley	10/29
Connie Edmondson	11/02
Ray St. John	11/04
Linda Vaughn	11/06
Jim Runner	11/15
Bobbie Dunn	11/18
Treasia Spelce	11/24
Millie Cartrett	11/26
Jennifer Timmons	11/26
Jimmie Leonard	11/29
Kay Kellen	12/01
Marc Pondick	12/01
Carla Hill	12/02
Shasta Edge	12/04
Kathy Blattel	12/05
Eloise Turk	12/07
Donna Lemons	12/16
Maureen Latronico	12/18
Evelyn Westcott	12/21
Kenneth Means	12/22
Steve Scharfenberg	12/26
Linda Ellison	12/28
Patricia Hill	12/28

"I always thought if you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours!"

Dolly Parton

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www.etowahcounty.org



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SMITH & BAILEY DENTAL
TEAM ONE OF GADSDEN
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VIVA HEALTH
WIDE OPEN SPACES