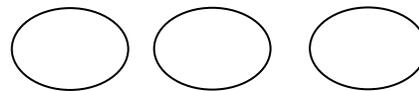


# Make A Difference



RSVP of Etowah & Cherokee County

July-September, 2022 Volume 20, Issue 3



**AmeriCorps**  
**Seniors**

### ***In the News:***

Tax Program Results  
Reading Buddies

### **Contents:**

Volunteer Opportunities	2
Volunteer Recognition	2
Upcoming Events	3
Puzzle	3
Volunteer Stations	4
Birthdays	5
Advisory Council	6
Staff	6
Merchants	6

**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

Slowly but surely things seem to be returning to normal.

RSVP is scheduling more things, and this year we have scheduled our BIG recognition event for late summer. It's been 3 years since we were able to coordinate this- we hope you enjoy what we've got planned! And this year, because everyone is getting back into the groove, all of our registered volunteers will be invited. (Normally we invite volunteers who have served 20 or more hours in the previous year).

We are also planning some volunteer recruitment and training events for this year- we like to get to know all of our current volunteers better and meet new volunteers, and this seems like a good opportunity to do that and do a little bit of work at the same time.

Please remember to contact us if you have any questions or ideas for things we could do! Our Phone number is 256-549-8147 and my email address is [tpondick@etowahcounty.org](mailto:tpondick@etowahcounty.org) and our office is in room 219 of the Etowah County Courthouse.

### **Statistics:**

New Volunteers: 2  
Total Volunteers: 11  
Total volunteers enrolled: 228  
Volunteer producing hours: 138  
Number of hours produced: 4,444  
Value of Hours: \$100,907.00  
(According to federal guidelines, the value of a volunteer's time \$21.92)

## In the News

You know I have to brag on our tax prep program. This year volunteers prepared and filed 2,216 federal returns, which directly affected 3,087 people (including children and dependents). These families received a total of \$3,062,377 in refunds—that goes a long way in today's economy! But the thing I am most proud of is the group that we had this year. 38 people volunteered with this program and they all worked together to make sure that all of our tax locations were adequately covered; we had greeters at most of our locations which really helped reduce the stress levels of waiting clients on busy days, and it frees up preparers to concentrate on the people they are helping; plus everyone worked together to make this program a success!

Our Reading Buddies program will begin again this fall for next school year. If you are interested in helping elementary school children learn to read and comprehend better stay tuned for some of those recruitment and training events!

## Volunteer Opportunities

**\*Etowah Baptist Mission Center**

Volunteer to help in front office, sort clothing and food.

**\*Manna**

Volunteer to help deliver meals to homebound seniors

**\*Habit for Humanity**

Volunteers are always needed for various parts of construction.

**\* Mountain Cove Assisted Living**

Volunteers needed to help with different activities within the Center

**\* Humane Society of Gadsden**

Volunteers are needed to help walk dogs, cleaning cages and office help.

*If you are interested in volunteering at any of these locations or other opportunities, please call our office at 256.549.8147*

## Volunteer Recognition

Special recognition this quarter goes to one of our Tax Counseling volunteers – Bonnie Childs! Bonnie celebrated 10 years of volunteering with our tax program this year. She is the definition of conscientiousness and quickness. There aren't many people who can be as quick AND as thorough as Bonnie and make you feel like a long lost friend, all at the same time! Thank you Bonnie!

The winner of our on-time time sheet drawing is Francis Lipscomb. Frances has been volunteering with RSVP since 2016 at the Etowah Pregnancy Testing Center. Ms. Lipscomb has 1,035 hours of service on record. Congratulations Ms. Lipscomb and thank you for everything you do!



# Upcoming Events

July 4th - Independence Day  
(RSVP office will be closed)

July 21st- Smarter Senior Workshop  
10 am in room 205 of the Etowah  
County Courthouse. Dr. McClellan  
from McLellan Family Chiropractic  
will be our guest speaker.

August 12th– Council on Aging Annual  
Fundraiser. 6 pm– 10 pm  
Call COA at 256. 543.3616 for  
more information

August 20th– Habitat for Humanity 9th Annual  
Dragon Boat Festival at Riverwalk  
Park behind Chili’s. Opening  
ceremony @ 8 am.

August 31st– Volunteer Recognition luncheon

September 5th - Labor Day  
(RSVP Office will be closed)

September 11th– Patriots Day



## Summer Holidays




Q E V J R H Y T L Z P F B I K I N G X S  
W D C S E M A G N S U O S H S K O O B C  
F A O I C E C R E A M T O V E P I J Z I  
X N T B K G W L P H R Q E L R U T D R N  
P O T E L O C S M A N B Y L I M A F E C  
U M A V R I Z D W J G S R O F Q C X L I  
C E G N S M O B R I Y N G T N H A S K P  
H L E P F U E Q D L M C I Z O J V G N W  
N I O T M R E L A X O M Y L B S N E I D  
G P K Z R A J K O B H V I W E I Q F R A  
S T M I X E C Y A N L D H N D V C O P U  
D K E Q N O F R Z Q A J W A G B A H S G  
N S L A M G B V E Y C A E X I D M R Z U  
E J E M H E T C S M F R Q K T A P W T S  
I D A L C S E I R O M E M R A Y I B N T  
R H J U Z W T M A K B U I C V L N Q E X  
F B E G A Z N S T R O P S D U R G L Y M  
V A K R B X U W Q H S G N I E O N A C L  
M G Y L U J D P S E N Z B E A C H I F R

August	canoeing	holidays	pool	sprinkler
barbecue	cottage	ice cream	popsicles	strawberries
beach	family	July	puzzles	summer camp
biking	friends	lake	reading	swimming
bonfires	games	lemonade	relax	traveling
books	hammock	memories	road trips	vacation
camping	hiking	picnics	sports	watermelon

Tree Valley Academy

## RSVP

AARP – COOSA VALLEY  
CHAPTER #3337

BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF  
GADSDEN/ETOWAH COUNTY

CATHOLIC CENTER OF  
CONCERN

CENTRAL-CARVER  
FOUNDATION, INC.

CHEROKEE COUNTY  
HEALTH & REHAB.

CHEROKEE COUNTY  
HISTORICAL MUSEUM

CHEROKEE VILLIAGE  
ASSISTED LIVING

CIRCUIT CLERK'S OFFICE  
OF ETOWAH COUNTY

CITY OF GADSDEN

COMMUNITY ACTION  
AGENCY

COUNCIL ON AGING

ETOWAH BAPTIST  
MISSION CENTER

## VOLUNTEER

ETOWAH COUNTY DEPT. OF  
HUMAN RESOURCES

ETOWAH COUNTY  
PREGNANCY TESTING  
CENTER

ETOWAH FREE COMMUNITY  
CLINIC

ETOWAH HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

EXTENDED FAMILY

FAMILY SUCCESS CENTER

FIRST CALL FOR HELP

FLOYD CHEROKEE MEDICAL  
CENTER

FREEDOM CENTER OF  
GADSDEN

GADSDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY

GADSDEN QUILTERS GUILD

GADSDEN REGIONAL  
MEDICAL CENTER

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

HEAD START

## STATIONS

HUMANE SOCIETY OF  
GADSDEN

MANNA

PHYSICIANS WHO CARE

PILOT CLUB

READING BUDDIES

RIVERVIEW REGIONAL  
MEDICAL CENTER

RSVP ADVISORY BOARD

RSVP COMMUNITY SERVICE  
VOLUNTEERS

RX HELP

SALVATION ARMY

SENIOR NUTRITION CENTERS

TAX COUNSELING PROGRAM

TELE-CHEK

THE LOVE CENTER

UNITED WAY OF ETOWAH  
COUNTY



## VOLUNTEER

Janice Brown	7/01
Hope Craft	7/03
Larry Pat Griffith	7/03
Jean Pierini	7/04
Pearl Spanks	7/04
Coy Davis	7/05
Nettie Hooks	7/06
Kathy Snyder	7/08
Dot Bentley	7/09
Shirley Hufstetler	7/12
Charles Gilchrist	7/13
Dianne Knowles	7/14
Johnny Farmer	7/16
Theresa Frye	7/16
Vivian Johns	7/16
Deborah Lankford	7/18
Billy Vance	7/18
Joyce Rabinowitz	7/19
Emestine Coats	7/21
Carolyn Speigner	7/23
Jane Bishop	7/24
Sedalia Sealy	7/26
Maxine Mintz	7/27
Julie Foster	7/29
Brookie Shores	7/31
Peggy Kilgo	8/02
Iva Patty	8/02
Dianne Treadwell	8/03

## BIRTHDAYS

Peggy Kilgo	8/02	Larry Reeves	8/29
Iva Patty	8/02	Patricia Harper	9/01
Dianne Treadwell	8/03	Barbara Kines	9/01
Ray Woodard	8/03	Jill Vincent	9/02
Jill Moran	8/04	Carolyn Nichols	9/04
Vicky Griffin	8/06	Valerie Reynolds	9/04
Annie Dixon	8/09	Wayne Rhodes	9/06
Mary Jackson	8/09	Jeannette Allen	9/07
Sheila Billingsley	8/10	Taylor Knowles III	9/07
Shirley Dupont	8/10	Louise Blackwell	9/08
Frances Bearden	8/11	Ruth Mims	9/09
Rhonda Jones	8/12	Barbara Franks	9/10
Johnnie Harris	8/15	Thomas Page	9/10
Faye Shelton	8/15	Cathy Struntz	9/10
Towanna Wilson	8/16	Vivian Burnett	9/11
Gail Reeves	8/17	Mary Ann Bair	9/12
Joanna Ross	8/19	Patsy Lee	9/12
Jennifer Long	8/21	Jean Ann Moo	9/12
Sandy Grant	8/22	Betty S. Nelson	9/13
Spence Adcock	8/24	Durwood John	9/15
Angela W Hicks	8/24	Dale Penn	9/17
Roselene Jenkins	8/24	Lynne Hixon	9/19
Dot Phipps	8/25	Roger Compton	9/20
		Phillip Scott	9/20
		Faye Russell	9/21
		John Bentley	9/25
		Tony Brothers	9/26
		E. Adelle Morris	9/27

**RSVP**

800 Forrest Avenue  
Room 219  
Gadsden Al 35901

**PHONE NUMBER**

256.549.8147

**FAX NUMBER**

256.549.5351

**EMAIL**

[tponck@etowahcounty.org](mailto:tponck@etowahcounty.org)

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

**SEE US AT:**

[www.etowahcounty.org](http://www.etowahcounty.org)



**FRIEND US ON FACEBOOK**



**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 ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**President:**

*Kenneth Hudson*

**Vice President:**

Portia Foster

**Secretary/Treasurer:**

*Deborah Lankford*

Theresa Frye

Jenifer Grace

Pat Hill

Carol Hudson

Jeff Little

Judith Moon

Craig Scott

Delma Smith

Cynthia Toles

Sarah Trammell

Towanna Wilson

**RSVP Staff**

**Director**– Traci Pondick

**Secretary/Reading Buddies**

**Coordinator**-Rachel Wood

**“Act as if what  
you do makes a  
difference,  
Because it  
does”.**

**-William James**

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

Ace Hardware  
Advance Auto Parts  
Advance Cardiovascular Associates  
Alabama Teacher’s Credit Union  
Barone’s Pizza  
B & C Tires  
Baker Tires  
Discount Pest Control  
Dress Out Boutique  
Dusty Things Antique  
Exchange Bank  
Family Savings Credit Union  
Gadsden Foot Clinic  
Johnson’s Giant Foods  
McLellan Family Chiropractic  
Noccalula Falls Park

People’s Bank  
Professional Opticians  
Publix  
Red Lobster  
Regions Bank  
River Bank & Trust  
Snap Fitness  
Super Bee Pharmacy  
Sutton Bridge Full Service  
The Coffee Bar  
The Choice/278 Restaurant  
Tile Liquidators