



RSVP

The Volunteer Voice

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RSVP of Washington Co.

Volume IX, Issue 3
May & June 2012

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Washington County, Ohio

Senior Corps Week Celebration!

You are invited to a grand celebration in honor of RSVP volunteers. Join us for cake, punch, fellowship and fun. Come and see how what you do makes an impact on our community. Station Representatives will be in attendance to let everyone know just how important your volunteer time is.

Be there for the launching of the brand new "Senior Wheels" Transportation program. Also for the first time see the logo created for "Senior Wheels" by a Washington County Career Center student in the Graphic Arts program. See pictures

**Join us for
food, fun and
door prizes!**
Monday, May 7, 2012
4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
at the O'Neill Center

from the first Commodity Box distribution program held by RSVP volunteers in April. During the first Commodity box distribution days, 82.5 hours of volunteer time was invested.

All across the United States, Senior Corps Volunteers will be honored during this week for the gift of caring, the investment of their time and graciously using their talents to support their local community. As RSVP Senior volunteers, you are one of Washington County's finest "natural resources" and we want to give you the "Thanks" you deserve.

Thank you Volunteers!

NextGen Council Member earns Prestigious Internship

In January 2012, the RSVP Board of Directors welcomed Marietta College Junior Lauren Currie to the Council. As part of a program called NextGen, Lauren will sit on the board for a year and a half learning all of the procedures, sharing her ideas and opinions and acting as a voting member. Thus far Lauren has been able to contribute to meetings and greatly enjoys being a part of the board. While on the board, she will serve on the Glenwood 5K Race committee.

Although her experience at this point has been short, Lauren has been able to utilize her time and knowledge from the RSVP Board in an interview last month at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. She interviewed for a position in Human Resources with their Senior Communities Department. "Immediately I knew it would be a great fit," Lauren says, "I was able to talk

about my experience on the RSVP Board and I truly believe that it is the reason I was extended the internship offer." Lauren will begin working at UPMC in their Senior Communities Department at the end of May. One



of her projects is to help build a Senior Work Corps program for Seniors that still want to work and be involved after retirement. She was able to link this task to her work with RSVP and is thrilled to have made a connection. Lauren is excited to continue on the RSVP Board and apply the skills and information that she has learned to her internship this summer in Pittsburgh.

RSVP

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program of Washington County

Sponsored by:

The Corporation for National & Community Service
Ohio Department on Aging
Washington County Commissioners
The Senior Levy
The Friends of RSVP

RSVP Staff

Director - Lisa Valentine
Volunteer Coordinator - Susan Hill
RSVP Office Volunteer - Pam Hess
RSVP Office Volunteer - Carolyn Miller

RSVP Advisory Council

President - Dennis Urban
Vice President - Gary Worstell
Corresponding Secretary - Shirley Duckworth
Treasurer - Evelyn Worstell

Lauren Currie	Jo Ann Ingram
Mary Dellinger	Charles Kurner
Ruby Hall	Katie McGlynn
Betty Hurte	Court Witschey
Tom Hurte	Paul Young

The Volunteer Voice is printed bimonthly. Articles must be submitted by the 22nd of the month to be considered for publication in next issue.

Send submissions to the attention of Susan:

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hello again...

by Lisa Valentine, Director

I can't believe it's May, or how busy things are in the RSVP office. Our new Volunteer Coordinator Susan Hill is settling in and doing a great job." The snow birds have returned and are ready to get back into service. Let the Volunteer Season begin!

Senior Corps Week is May 7 – 13 and we are gearing up for a fantastic celebration. On Monday, May 7 at 4:00 p.m., I hope that everyone will be at the O'Neill for the party. Representatives from three volunteer stations will talk about the role of RSVP volunteers in their organizations, and we will roll out the new transportation program, "Senior Wheels." But the most exciting part of the event relates back to our 2011 Martin Luther King Day project, Care Packages for Soldiers. TSGT Mitch Bauerbach was stationed in Afghanistan, and RSVP mailed 30 boxes of food, games and toiletries to his unit. He has returned stateside and wants to personally thank the volunteers. I'm so excited about this, because Care Packages for Soldiers was my favorite project EVER.

The Annual Recognition Dinner is right around the corner. Due to scheduling conflicts, it will be held earlier in the month, on June 7 at the Lafayette Hotel. I hope to see all of you there.

RSVP will be participating at a Health Fair at the YMCA on May 9. It will be a great event and give everyone a chance to see what the Y has to offer. Arthritis Foundation Tai Chi volunteer instructor Carolyn Miller will be on hand to talk about the benefits of tai chi, and Susan and I will have information on the health benefits of volunteering. Drag your non-volunteer friends by our table and we will show them the amazing volunteer opportunities available through RSVP!

June 8, 9 and 10, The Friends of RSVP will host their annual Safety Rest Stop at exit 6 on Interstate 77. The Advisory Council usually does the bulk of service on this project, but Susan still has a few spaces to fill. We also need people to drop off cookies and brownies, so if you like to bake, this is the perfect volunteer job! The weather is usually warming up by June, so please don't put icing on the baked goods. They can really get messy.



Annual RSVP Recognition Dinner

RSVP-the Heart of America is the theme for the upcoming Annual Recognition Dinner. Mark your calendars for Thursday, June 7 and get set to celebrate the spirit of volunteerism at the Lafayette Hotel. Invitations have been mailed. Presidential Lifetime Service awards will be presented by our sponsor, the Washington County Commissioners.

Volunteers who served 48 hours or more between January 1 and December 31, 2011 will be treated to a complimentary dinner. New volunteers and those who served less than 48 hours will receive their dinner at

half price, for \$6.50. Guests and Station Representatives are welcome to attend for the full price of \$13.00.

Your total volunteer hours from 2011 are included on your invitation again this year. When you open the invitation just look for the line: 2011 hours. Reservations need to be made by May 21 and may be called in, but we ask that if you owe a balance on your dinner, that you stop by the office or mail your payment in advance of the dinner. This will expedite registration and lessen the bottleneck that occurs at the door.

We hope to see you all at the dinner!

Volunteer Time Really is Valuable

Have you ever wondered as a volunteer just what your time is worth? Independent Sector has released the value of a volunteer's time for the year 2011 as \$21.79 per hour. That is a 33 percent increase over 10 years. In 2001 the value was reported as \$16.27 per hour. Independent Sector uses the average wage of non-management, non-agricultural workers to arrive at a figure each year*. This method is only a tool, not an exact value for the services you provide on a daily basis.

Many volunteers draw on the years of experience and training they have received to benefit the organizations they volunteer for, and that also cannot accurately be measured. Then when you take into consideration the impact your time has on others in the community who may not be able to leave their homes on a daily basis the value increases even more. When people benefit from your time and service, in their eyes your time becomes invaluable. Sometimes in our endeavor we lose sight of just how important what we can offer is to someone else.

In 2012 we are moving in a new direction to gear our services toward making an impact in our community. The first of those volunteer opportunities this year came the first week in April as we became the distributor for the Hocking, Athens, Perry Community Action Program's commodity boxes for eligible Senior Citizens in the

Marietta area. We set up at the fairgrounds in cooperation with the Wash. Co. Fair Board utilizing the side of the Sr. Fair Building for 3 days each month. Our volunteers come, some gather signatures and distribute box tags while others load the boxes into the vehicles. The next distribution time is May 7, 8 & 9. If this project is of interest to you, please give us a call to sign up for the June distribution.

Our second big project so far this year is a collaboration with the O'Neill Center and is called "Senior Wheels". Our first dispatchers and drivers have been trained and the drivers will soon be on the road. This service will help out senior citizens who do not have access to transportation to run errands or do things they need to do each month. By providing this service, RSVP is filling a need in our community that has long been overlooked. All volunteer hours associated with the Senior Wheels program count as we are making an impact on the community, helping one senior citizen at a time. If you are interested in being a driver with Senior Wheels, just give us a call. Your personal vehicle would be used and generous mileage reimbursements do apply for volunteers who fill the need in this program.

*Source: independentsector.org



In observance of **Memorial Day**

Our office will be Closed
Monday, May 28, 2012

TIC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

A few volunteers are still needed to fill time slots at the TIC. Call Susan at 373-3107 if you are interested.

Volunteer Opportunities

Franciscan Community Meals

A Scheduler is needed to help coordinate delivery routes and volunteer shifts. Also need 1 office worker for the 2nd Monday of each month from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.

O'Neill Adult Day Care

Is in need of an individual to work Thursdays 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., helping with clients as they arrive, serving snacks and lunch.

The Castle

Docents are needed to give guided tours at The Castle

For more information call 373-3107

“Special Thanks” to RSVP volunteers Jo Ann Ingram & Herma Eddy. As Lay Leaders they just completed a successful 6 week Healthy U class

American Red Cross Greater Alleghenies Blood Services Region

Nikki Billiter, says *“thank you”* to the volunteers who help with the Marietta blood drives!



Tai Chi schedule

O'Neill Center:

Learning Forms	Mondays	10:00 a.m.
Practicing Forms	Tuesdays	10:30 a.m.
6 Adv. Movements	Thursdays	5:15 p.m.

All forms taught at these locations:

Marietta YMCA:	Tues. & Thurs.	12:30 p.m.
Belpre Center:	Mondays	11:00 a.m.
	Wednesdays	12:00 p.m.
Lighthouse Baptist:	Wednesdays	9:15 a.m.
		(beginners)
		10:00 a.m.
		(practicing forms)
Lower Salem:	Fridays	6:00 p.m.
Cutler Community:	Thursdays	7:00 p.m.

Visit our Website: rsvpwc.org

Look for the Calendar of events!

Check us out on facebook!
RSVP of Washington County

