



RSVP

# The Volunteer Voice

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November & December 2012

## Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Washington County, Ohio

### Make a Difference Day Project - Senior Wheels Pit Stop

What a difference a day can make!! October 27th has come and gone, but the impact on the community will be felt for months to come. RSVP volunteers joined forces with the Auto/Diesel Technology class at Washington State Community College and Marietta Ignition to Make a Difference. We received a mini-grant from ServeOhio to defray the cost of the venue and food. RSVP volunteers, college students and their instructors came together to make it happen. Seniors came from all over to take advantage of the winterization checks performed on their automobiles in preparation for the winter months ahead.



Senior Wheels Pit Stop was scheduled to open at 10 a.m., but by 9:30 a.m. seniors were already lined up all the way around the auto/diesel technology building to take advantage of this service. Instructor Bob Feathers gave a short briefing to the students and RSVP volunteers as the first five cars were entering the garage. Our volunteers immediately went to work, checking tire pressure and adding air as needed. Instructor Feathers said that almost every car serviced needed a little air in their tires. The students then started under the hood checking all the fluid levels, lights, belts and hoses.

Lisa brought donuts and coffee to share with all the volunteers and seniors attending the project early on

Saturday. Jo Ann Ingram made her signature sauce and we grilled hot dogs, served refreshments, fruit & cookies all day long. The response from the seniors was outstanding. We had many great comments and many hoping

that we would offer the same service again next year.

For the four hour period, 61 automobiles were serviced, 10 gallons of washer fluid used, 3 gallons of oil, 6 gallons of antifreeze, 2 quarts of brake fluid and 1 quart of power steering fluid. Students replaced 2 taillights and 5 sets of wiper blades that seniors brought to be installed. In case you didn't notice, our project was featured in the USA Weekend Magazine published in every weekend

newspaper in the US on October 20th. A photo of some of the student volunteers was featured in the article.

Lisa and I would like to express our gratitude to the RSVP volunteers, WSCC staff & students for donating their time and some of the fluids used. Marietta Ignition really came thru donating windshield washer fluid and antifreeze and even more on the day of the project. Discount coupons for seniors needing further service on their cars were offered by River City Tire, Schafer Auto Center, Berdine's Auto Service and Cole's Tire & Supply. This Make A Difference Day project was just a dream, but through your efforts, it became a reality and for that we Thank You!

*Susan*



# 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

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

Lauren Currie	Jo Ann Ingram
Mary Dellinger	Charles Kurner
Ruby Hall, Honorary	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 love everything about Thanksgiving. I love the smells that waft around my kitchen as the turkey cooks. I love stuffing cooked inside the bird... and mashed potatoes...and sweet potatoes and pumpkin pie. But most of all, I love having all my family together again under one roof.

I have so many blessings in my life and so many things to be thankful for. My husband Tom and I are in the process downsizing. In October, we started building our retirement home, and it has been so exciting to watch it go up. It is a single story with sunny yellow siding and a bright green roof. There are lots of windows and a huge country porch. Our new house should be ready to move in into by early March.

So many emotions are going through my head as the holiday season approaches. This will be the last Thanksgiving and Christmas in our old, two-story farmhouse. For the last thirty-odd years, this house has been home – where our children were raised – the place where all our family memories were made. I'm even a little nostalgic over the things that made living here a challenge. Like the drafts that swirl around on the floor when the wind blows, and how the kitchen and living room are on separate ends of the house; and how on really cold days, the only warm place is in front of the wood burning stove. I remember snuggling with my little ones bundled up in wooly pajamas reading books because we had no TV reception, and how five people used one bathroom and still got to school and work on time. So many firsts happened in this house... first words, first steps, first proms, first boyfriends, first heartbreaks. It brings to mind my favorite passage... "for every thing, there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven." My youngest daughter has a favorite saying that is also applicable... "Mom, that ship has sailed..."

It is in that spirit that Tom and I embark on our new life. He is tired of bringing in firewood, and unthawing frozen pipes in the winter. I'm looking forward to parking my car in a garage, and never having to scrape snow or ice off of my windshield. I'm also looking forward to closets... lots of closets. Then there is the greatest perk of all – a dishwasher. I'm so excited!

Rejoice in the seasons in your life! I wish you all a joyous Thanksgiving and very Merry Christmas.

## PROGRAM UPDATE

The federal grant has been submitted to the Corporation for National and Community Service. For the last three years, the Commissioners, the Advisory Council and the staff have been working on a plan to bring RSVP into complete compliance with the CNCS Strategic Plan. This grant represents the culmination of that effort.

Each program was required to declare a primary focus area from the following list: Education, Healthy Futures, Veterans & Military Families, Environmental Stewardship, Economic Opportunity and Disaster Services.

This RSVP chose Healthy Futures as the Primary Focus Area which supports the ability of homebound, older adults and individuals with disabilities to live independently, and assists individuals with access to food resources. This includes volunteer stations like our food pantries, commodity box program, Senior Wheels, Franciscan Meals and Harvest of Hope. We are required to have at least 25% of our volunteers serving in this focus area. There are specific performance measures which must be met in order to meet the conditions of the CNCS grant.

The grant allows 45% of volunteers to serve in any of the other focus areas. Those stations include local schools, disaster services, blood banks, recycling centers, AARP Tax Aide, and Habitat for Humanity.

Only 30% of our volunteers may engage in Community Priorities – activities that fall outside the CNCS Strategic Plan. This includes all stations not mentioned above.

While this may sound cut and dried, the formula for deciding the percentages is very complicated because it deals with unduplicated volunteers. For example, say someone serves at the food pantry, which is in the Primary Focus Area, and also at a museum. We would count them as unduplicated for the food pantry and therefore would not be counted among the 30% in the Community Priorities.

There will be changes in the number of volunteer stations that fall within the Community Priorities area. Volunteers and stations that are affected will be contacted over the next few months, and a final list of stations will be published in December.

## Retiring from RSVP Advisory Council ~ Ruby Hall ~



After almost 32 years and over 17,200 hours of volunteering with RSVP, Ruby will be slowing down a little and cutting back on large projects. She has served on the Advisory Council, made gallons of noodles, hundreds of cookies, many handmade quilts and so much more, now it is time to stay home and take care of Ruby.

At the October meeting, by unanimous vote, the Council has proclaimed her an Honorary Lifetime Advisory Council Member. Come to the council meetings anytime you can Ruby.

 **We Love You!** 

## Thank You to the TIC Volunteers



To celebrate another successful tourist season, the Marietta/Washington County Convention & Visitors Bureau treated the volunteers to a ride on the Valley Gem. It was a beautiful crisp fall morning and the trees were decked out in their finest vibrant colors for a leisurely ride down the Ohio River.

## ATTENTION VETERANS

If you served in the Armed Forces, please call us so  
that we can update your records. 373-3107

**The Volunteer Voice**  
**RSVP of Washington County**  
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## Volunteer Opportunities

### **Franciscan Community Meals**

A Scheduler is needed to help coordinate delivery routes and volunteer shifts. Flexible, you can work at home, or in the office. Also needing 1 driver for approximately 1-1/2 hours on Tuesdays.

### **O'Neill Adult Day Care**

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

### **Ombudsman - Area Agency on Aging**

Here is your opportunity to make a difference dedicating just 4 hours a month for residents of rehabilitation and nursing homes here in Washington County.

**For more information call 373-3107**



**HAPPY  
THANKSGIVING!**



## **Tai Chi schedule**

<b>Marietta YMCA:</b>	Tues. & Thurs.	12:30 p.m.
<b>Belpre Center:</b>	Mondays	11:00 a.m.
<b>Barlow Library:</b>		
<i>(Beginners)</i>	Wednesday	9:30 a.m.
	Wednesday	10:00 a.m.
<b>Cutler Community:</b>	Thursdays	7:00 p.m.

**Visit our Website: [rsvpwc.org](http://rsvpwc.org)**

*Look for the Calendar of events!*



*RSVP of Washington County*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

