



Volunteer Voice

Adams County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

Barb Casady, Manager / Nicole Havermale, Volunteer Specialist 217-641-4961
Susan Abbott, Editor



RSVP is a program
of John Wood
Community College



Inside this Issue

New Name—New Logo	2
Volunteer Opportunities	3
Volunteer Spotlight	4
Rapid Testing Needs Help	4
Valentines for Seniors	5
Elder Justice Corner	5
Did You Know?	6
The Winner Is	6

Things to Remember

- “News & Views” - Volunteers needed to prepare the newsletter mailing on Tuesdays, Feb. 23 and March 23.
- We have face masks and disposable gloves available at the RSVP office for volunteers.

Message from Barb Casady

“It just makes me feel good and it makes my heart beat super big.”

-Dempsey Wagnor, five year old from Lee County, Iowa

Dempsey Wagnor is a kindergartner from Lee County Iowa who decided that instead of receiving birthday gifts she wanted to do a fundraiser to purchase a rescue boat for the Lee County Sheriff's Department. (Daily Gate City, 1/21/2021). When asked why she replied, “It just makes me feel good and it makes my heart beat super big.”

When I read the newspaper article and her quote – it made me smile, it made me laugh, it made me cry a bit, and it sure made my heart beat super big, too! It was wonderful to read about this young lady and her family who are teaching all of us the importance of doing for others. I also realized that is exactly how I feel about you – the Adams County RSVP volunteer – my heart beats super big!

Every day I have the great opportunity to see and be involved in the work you do in the community—work that would simply not be done if it were not for your dedication, commitment, energy, and heart.

At the end of each calendar year, I share the number of Adams County RSVP volunteers who were active volunteers in the community (24 or more volunteer hours per year), how many volunteer hours contributed, and the economic impact of these volunteer hours. While Covid-19 most certainly required us to look at different ways to volunteer, it **did not** stop you from volunteering! Nothing can keep good volunteers from supporting their community :).

con't. on page 2

Message from Barb Casady—con't.

In 2020 – 312 Adams County RSVP volunteers contributed more than 24 hours of volunteer service to 58 non-profits, schools, government agencies, and faith based organizations.

Volunteers contributed a total of 38,330 hours of service.

Value = \$979,332

based upon the average value of volunteer time for IL, IA, and MO
set by the Independent Sector (\$25.55)

(Independent Sector brings together a diverse set of nonprofits, foundations, and corporations to advance the common good. Each year in April they provide an estimate of the value of volunteer time for the nation and individual states. This figure is used as a consistent dollar figure by grant-making organizations and those seeking funding.)

Thank you for contributing your time, your energy and your care to the community!



New Name—New Logo

With this newsletter you will notice some changes in logos and names for our programs. **No worries – we are still known as the Adams County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).** However, you will note that other names have changed.

Our major federal funder is now AmeriCorps – and the RSVP programs are a part of the AmeriCorps Seniors programs. (Our major funder was formerly known as the Corporation for National and Community Service and we were a part of the Senior Corps Program).

For more than 50 years, Senior Corps programs have served communities nationwide – for 48 years in Adams County. In so doing, we have made immeasurable impact in Adams County and across the country, connecting older Americans with the people and organizations that need them most.

Under the new name – AmeriCorps Seniors – more than 200,000 volunteers nationwide, age 55 and older, who have made service their “second act” will continue to carry the torch of volunteerism forward throughout the next 50 years. The Adams County RSVP program will continue to bring out the best for our community.

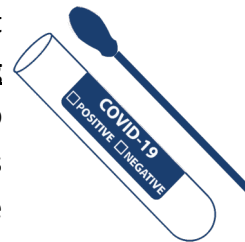


Volunteer Opportunities—please share with friends and family



Carry Out Caravan Grocery Shopping Program needs a couple of volunteers willing to fill and/or deliver groceries to the homes of people who are unable to grocery shop on their own. Deliveries are made on Tuesdays and can be made late in the morning or early in the afternoon. You may volunteer once a month or whatever fits into your schedule. This opportunity takes about three hours a week. Contact Nicole at **217-641-4961** for more information.

Rapid Testing Covid-19 Site Needs Volunteers - The Adams County Health Department and Adams County Emergency Management will continue to operate the **Rapid Testing COVID-19 Testing Site** at their location at the **Oakley Lindsey Center**. The volunteers who have been assisting since November need some help! Shifts are in four hour increments and there are many volunteer opportunities available. Volunteers are given appropriate Personal Protective Equipment and Covid-19 safety precautions are observed. Contact Nicole Havermale at **(217)641-4961** for more information.



Friendly Caller Program



Friendly Caller is a volunteer opportunity that can be done from your home. Volunteers will make phone calls to individuals who have requested either a supportive/listening/social call or a safety and well-being call. Depending on your



availability and interest, you may call once or twice a week – or you might call five days a week. Volunteers will receive training. This program is designed to help address social isolation and loneliness. Volunteers will be matched with an individual to call. Contact Barb Casady at **217-641-4960** for more information.

News & Views - RSVP volunteers gather at the Quincy Senior and Family Resource Center on the last Tuesday of each month to prepare the West Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging “News & Views” for mailing. The newsletter is mailed to 5,000 households in the six county area that WCIAAA serves. Interested in helping? Give the RSVP Office a phone call at **217-641-4961**. Physical distancing is arranged – face masks should be worn.



Meals on Wheels – Would you be able to give about an hour of your time once a month delivering a Meals on Wheels route? Not only is it a great way to learn more about the community but it is also a tangible way to help those in need. You might want to encourage a friend to go along—one person drives and the other person delivers—teamwork! If you aren’t able to deliver, please mention this need at your church or other organization. Together we can fill the needed slots. The process for delivering MOW is designed so that volunteers stay safe. **Call 217-223-7904 for more information or to volunteer.**

Horizons - Horizons Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry needs volunteers to help with the daily preparation, serving, and delivery of meals. An hour of your time once or twice a month will make a great difference to the community in need. Call Horizons at **217-224-5530**.

Ladies of Charity - Volunteers needed to help with sorting donated items and unloading vehicles. If interested, please call Jane Haase at **217-257-0533** to schedule a time to meet with her.

Volunteer Spotlight



Linda Boston stocks food at the pantry at Horizons Soup Kitchen. Horizons along with 57 other local non-profits have received a total of \$259,000 in grants from Community Foundation. Linda has been a volunteer with RSVP since 2016.

From Quincy Herald-Whig /H-W Photo-Katelyn Metzger

Rapid Testing Covid-19 Site Needs Volunteers



Harold Mast and Bill Casady, Adams Co. RSVP Volunteers, keep the Adams Co. Rapid Testing site running smoothly by disinfecting clipboards and ink pens. Volunteers are needed to assist with this effort on Sundays 10:00 to 2:00 and Monday through Friday 10:00 to 4:00. You can volunteer for a couple of hours or for a full shift.

The Rapid Testing Covid-19 Site has been moved to the **Oakley Lindsay Center** and a call is going out for volunteers to help with sanitizing clipboards. Volunteers who have been fulfilling these needs since November are asking for help. Training is provided for this and for many other opportunities as well.

You are given appropriate Personal Protective Equipment and safety precautions are observed. Please contact Nicole Havermale in the Adams County RSVP office at **217-641-4961** if you have any questions and/or if you would like to volunteer. Thank you!



Valentines for Seniors



State Senator Jil Tracy is asking 47th District residents to join with her to help uplift the spirits of people living in long-term care facilities by sending them Valentine's Day cards. She is encouraging community members, churches, schools, and other groups to participate in the Valentines for Seniors Program by dropping off Valentine's Day cards or mailing them to her district offices at either 3701 East Lake Centre Drive, Suite 3, Quincy, IL 62305 or at 331 N. Lafayette Street, Macomb, IL 61455. The Valentines will then be delivered to various long-term care facilities across the 47th District. Valentine's Day cards will be accepted through Feb. 10. If you choose in-person delivery, please remember to maintain social distancing and to wear masks when entering the office. For more information, contact Helen Mayfield at hmayfield@adams.net.

"People living in long-term care facilities have been especially isolated out of concern for their health during the pandemic," said Tracy. "For their own safety, the residents of these facilities have not been allowed much physical contact with their families and friends, leaving them quite lonely. Our program will let them know that we care about them."

Elder Justice Corner— SCAMS—We Don't Want to Put a Cloud Over Your Good Will— We Just Want You To Be Aware!

Scammers target seniors because they know the older population is more charitable and more vulnerable. While it's encouraged to help those less fortunate and/or to make a contribution to legitimate charitable causes, we also want seniors to be cautious, especially when it comes to some of the more frequent scams out there.

- Fraudulent gift cards – Many seniors find that gift cards are a great gift for adult grandchildren or those on their own. Be careful where you purchase your cards because fraudsters are known to tamper with gift cards displayed in grocery stores. A better bet is to purchase your gift card directly from the retailer at their register or on their website.
- Charity Cheaters—You receive a call from someone who poses as a representative from a charity that may be a made-up cause. Before gifting, check to ensure that the charity is, indeed, legitimate. You can find a list of reputable charities at www.charitywatch.org or by visiting the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance at give.org.
- Gift card scams - Victims are contacted by the scammer and then prompted to purchase gift cards and send the numbers to the scammer. The scammer promises to pay them back, but never does.
- Online shopping scams – We all love a good bargain but scammers use fantastic discount deals to lure you into downloading a fake app that may look like a familiar retailer. Before downloading, check to see if the retailer's name is spelled correctly and/or if there are any reviews posted about the retailer. If there are typos and no reviews, it's probably a fraud.
- Online Secret Shopper – You're invited by email to shop online and may even be offered payment. However, to get started you must provide your financial information. Avoid these offers as online secret shoppers are rarely recruited through email or social media.
- Problem with your purchase — You receive an email that you believe has come from a business you've shopped at that indicates there is an issue with your order. They ask you to click a link to provide your information again. A legitimate email about your order would provide you with an order reference number and you would be asked to login to your account – not click a link.

Remember – Stay Vigilant, Stay Aware, and, If It Sounds too Good to Be True, It Probably is!

Did You Know?

- ◆ Adams Co. RSVP partners with Chaddock, Transitions, HyVee, and County Market to support the Carry Out Caravan Grocery Shopping Program. If you know anyone who needs assistance with shopping for groceries, call the RSVP Office at **217-641-4961** for information. Brown Co. RSVP also has a Carry Out Caravan Program.
- ◆ The 2021 **Souper Bowl of Caring** supports the following four local food pantries: Quanaa, Horizons, Lutheran Church of St. John, and Quincy Catholic Charities. Your contributions of non-perishable food items or cash will help to support the pantries as they work to help individuals and families in our community who do not have enough to eat. Your donations help those in need —especially during the pandemic. Contributions may be dropped off at the RSVP Office and will be distributed the week of February 8.
- ◆ JWCC offers many community based outreach courses designed to enrich your personal and/or professional development. These non-credit courses may run for one or more weeks and offer a bit of everything, including Photography, Computers & Technology, Beginning Salsa and Merengue for Couples, Solar Energy, Tai Chi, Culinary Arts and Cake Decorating, Estate Planning, and more. Online catalogues can be found at jwcc.edu/cbo or you can call the RSVP office and we will be happy to mail a catalogue to you.
- ◆ Check out the Adams, Brown and Pike Counties RSVP Facebook page. There is information about community events and opportunities. If you have something you would like to post, please send it to Susan Abbott at susan-abbott@jwcc.edu.
- ◆ John Wood Community College and Adams County RSVP hours are Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Fridays. We suggest calling before you stop by to make sure staff is available.

The Winner Is . . .

Winner for November is **Judy Lair** and the winner for December is **Jackie Stammeyer**. RSVP staff draw a name from all the pink timesheets submitted by the 7th of each month. **Remember—if you turn your pink sheets in by the 7th of the month, you may be a winner!**

Winners, please stop by the RSVP office on the JWCC Main Campus to pick up your \$15.00 Hy-Vee gift card
We suggest calling before you come—217-641-4961.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Adams County

RSVP

Lead With Experience...

1301 S. 48th Street
Quincy IL 62305

Phone: 217-641-4961
E-mail: rsvp@jwcc.edu
bcasady@jwcc.edu
nzulauf@jwcc.edu
susan-abbott@jwcc.edu



AmeriCorps
Seniors



United Way
of Adams County, Inc.

RSVP is a United Way Funded Agency