

# Volunteer Voice

**Brown & Pike County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program**

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**Did You Know?** 2022 pocket calendars are available from your county RSVP Office. Call Kathy in Brown Co. or Heather in Pike Co. - they can mail you one. Phone numbers are on the back page of the newsletter.



**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
**January 17, 2022**

### Message from Barb Casady

#### Brown and Pike Counties RSVP Volunteer Impact in 2021

For many years, Brown and Pike Counties RSVP has been matching volunteers age 55 years and older with meaningful community service opportunities that meet critical community needs. In 2021, more than 206 active Brown and Pike RSVP volunteers contributed more than 31,137 hours across the two counties.

***That means in 2021— YOU, the Brown and Pike Counties RSVP Volunteers:***

- ***contributed at least 85 hours of volunteer service every single day of the year to help make your communities good places to live, work, raise a family, and retire;***
- ***accounted for \$835,406 in economic impact in the two counties by contributing those volunteer hours; and***
- ***averaged 123 hours during 2021 which equates to more than ten hours of volunteer service every month per RSVP volunteer.***

Everyone chooses to volunteer for different reasons. Some volunteer because:

- They want to repay the people who have helped them along the way;
- They want to make a difference by supporting and strengthening the community where they live;
- They want to meet new people, learn new experiences, get involved, and get to know their community better;
- They want to share their lifetime of experiences with others;
- They want to be active, get out of the house, spend time out-and-about and not just within the four walls of their home; and
- They want to make a better world for their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and more generations to come.

*Whatever your reason for volunteering –*

**Thank you!!! A million times, Thank You!!!**

You are needed, you are appreciated, and you certainly made 2021 a great year to live in Brown and Pike Counties, Illinois – and I am confident you will continue to do the same in 2022.

## **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—January 17, 2022**

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a federal holiday marking the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and is observed on the third Monday of January each year. It is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. It calls for Americans from all walks of life to work together to provide solutions to our most pressing national problems.



**NO KID SLEEPS  
ON THE FLOOR  
IN OUR TOWN!**

*Sleep in Heavenly Peace* is a nationwide, non-profit organization answering the call to one of those pressing national problems. This is a group of volunteers dedicated to finding those young children living without the luxury of sleeping on a bed or even laying their heads on a pillow. SHP's mission is to partner with organizations, businesses, and individuals to build beds, provide bedding, and deliver to kids in need. As the **ONLY** charity that builds hand-made bunk beds, SHP also gives children dignity, comfort, and peace of mind.

From 2012 to 2020, SHP has built and delivered 60,448 beds with the help of 94,620 volunteers from 242 chapters across the country. **Sleep in Heavenly Peace is where it is today because countless individuals asked the question, "What can I do?" Brown and Pike County RSVP did just that and discovered that one of SHP's greatest needs is for the bedding that accompanies each bed.**

**If you would like to be a part of the Brown and Pike County RSVP's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of National Service project, please bring your contributions to either of the RSVP offices (office hours, locations, and contact information are posted on the back page of this newsletter). You may bring in any of the following items and our staff will see that they are delivered to Sleep in Heavenly Peace:**

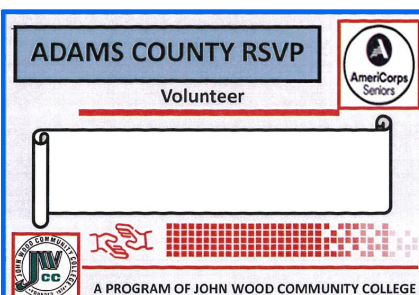
- ♦ **Greatest need—new twin-sized comforters and mattress protectors; also need new quilts and blankets;**
- ♦ **Second greatest need—new standard-size bed pillows; and/or**
- ♦ **Home-made afghans, quilts, and blankets.**

***"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, "What are you doing for others?"***

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to an audience in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1957.

### **Would you like to receive the Brown & Pike County RSVP Newsletter electronically?**

If you would like to receive the **Volunteer Voice** through email instead of through regular mail, please contact either of the Brown or Pike County RSVP Offices. Their contact information is on the back page of this newsletter. Please include your current email address in your message. Thank you!!



### **New Volunteer Name Tags**

Is your RSVP volunteer name tag old and raggedly? Maybe it's lost? If so, we have new ones hot off the presses! All you have to do is contact the Brown or Pike County RSVP Offices and Kathy or Heather will gladly make and mail you a new one.

## **Volunteer Opportunities—Pike County**

**All Wars Museum** - Volunteers wanted to clean, help set up displays, sort items that are loaned or donated. They have work nights three or four nights a month. They are also seeking someone to take video interviews of veterans. Please contact Lloyd Lawber at **217-242-4253** for more information.

**Griggsville Estates** - Seeking volunteers to visit with residents, play games, or provide music. Contact Lori Bradshaw with any questions at **217-833-2369**.

**Liberty Village** - Looking for volunteers for all types of activities as well as Bingo prizes of all kinds (no glass items, please). Please call Christy Davenport at **217-285-5200** for more information.



**Pike County Senior Services** - Volunteers are needed to deliver Meals on Wheels. ***They also need someone to deliver homebound frozen meals, weekly.*** Please contact Connie Lerch at **217-285-6150** for more information.

**Barry Community Care Center** - Volunteers wanted to deliver library books from Barry Public Library and return read books for the residents a couple of times a month. They are also looking for volunteers to provide a church service and/or music on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month. Please contact Hailey Hinch at **217-335-2326** for further details.

**Pike County Health Dept** - Seeking volunteers to help at Thursday vaccination clinics which run from 1:30 to 4:30 each week and also at the drive-thru Covid testing program at the Pike Co. Health Dept. which runs Monday—Thursday, 8:30-12:30. Call Sharon Bargmann at **217-285-4407 ext. 125** for further information.

## **Volunteer Opportunities—Brown County**

**Heritage Health Nursing Home in Mt. Sterling** - The nursing home is needing donations of ink pens, stationery, LARGE-print Word Search books (they can be found at Dollar General), and body wash for sensitive skin. Items can be taken to the nursing home or to the RSVP Office in the JWCC building.

**Mt. Sterling Senior Center** - Drivers are needed for the Meals on Wheels program. Contact Barb at the Center at **217-773-3241**.

**Brown County Food Basket** - Volunteers are needed to set up on Thursday and distribute on Friday. It is held the third Friday of each month at the Old Versailles Gym. Dates for January fall on Thursday, January 21 and Friday, January 22 from 1:30—4:30. Contact Laura Simmons at **217-773-3668**.

**Quilts of Valor** - If you like to sew or would like to help in any way, a workshop will be held on Thursday, January 13, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at the Mt. Sterling American Legion Hall.

## **Volunteer Opportunities—Brown and Pike Counties**

**Be an Important Part of a Research Project** - West Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging is researching how ***loneliness and social isolation affect the older population. They are looking for volunteers willing to make short phone calls to five or six people a month for the next few months. It will take a couple of hours each month and can be done from your own home. The research will help to improve resources that can benefit people who want to continue to live independently in their own home. Interested? Contact Barb Casady, Adams, Brown and Pike Counties RSVP Director. She can answer questions and give more information. 217-641-4960***

**American Red Cross** - Help strike back after disaster strikes. Join us for a virtual volunteer information session to learn more about deployment volunteer opportunities. For times and dates and also to register for a session, visit <https://rcvolunteer.tiny.us/Fall21>. To apply immediately to become a Red Cross Disaster Volunteer, visit <https://rcvolunteer.tiny.us/RightNow>. For any questions or additional information, contact [volunteerillinois@redcross.org](mailto:volunteerillinois@redcross.org).

### Save the Date - Pike County

All Wars Museum - The Pike County All Wars Museum has closed for the winter season. They will reopen on May 1, 2022. If you would like to tour the museum this winter, please contact Lloyd Lawber at **217-242-4253** or Bob Norris at **217-491-5146**.

Morning at the Mess Hall meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month from 9-11am through the winter months. All are welcome to join them for coffee and donuts. The museum also supports the Quilts of Valor presentations each month.

Pike County Military Heritage Museum - This group of volunteers does living history presentations to schools and civic organizations. They utilize clothing and equipment from the time of the Revolutionary War to present day. Contact Jeff Snyder to arrange a presentation at **573-406-2510**.

January 13th and February 10th - Pike County Senior Center holds their monthly fundraiser fish fry from 4:30-6:30pm. \$10 per person.

March 3rd, 11th, and 18th - VITA tax assistance will be held on March 3rd, 11<sup>th</sup>, & 18<sup>th</sup> at Findley Place. The client will have a morning appointment to do the intake information and then come back in the afternoon to go over their taxes. Enrollment for LIHEAP energy assistance is currently available. Call Connie at **217-285-6150** for an appointment for either of these programs.

### Save the Date - Brown County

January 21 & February 18 - Brown County Food Basket - Old Versailles School Gym from 1:30 to 4:30.

Saturday, February 19 - Timewell Lions - Pancake & Sausage Breakfast at the Timewell Gym from 6:00am-1:00pm. At present, it will be a sit down meal. If COVID restrictions arise, it will be posted.

The Winner Is . . . Winners for September are Cheryl Dillard (Brown Co) and Cathy Hart (Pike Co) and for October Charlotte Hannig (Brown Co) and Maggie Levy (Pike Co). RSVP staff draw a name from all the pink timesheets submitted by the 15th of each month. **Remember—if you turn your pink sheets in by the 15th of the month, you may be a winner!**

**Winners, please stop by the Brown or Pike RSVP office to pick up your \$15.00 gift card during the hours listed below.**

- ♦ Brown County RSVP is open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday-Wednesday.
- ♦ Pike County RSVP is open 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Monday through Friday.
- ♦ We encourage RSVP volunteers to call the RSVP Office in your county when you plan to drop by. We love to see you and spend time visiting, however, there are times when staff are out of the office and we don't want you to be disappointed. Phone numbers are listed below.

Brown & Pike Counties

# RSVP

Lead With Experience...

Brown County RSVP

108 N. Capitol

Mt Sterling IL 62353

Phone: 217-641-4146

E-mail: [jpool@jwcc.edu](mailto:jpool@jwcc.edu)

[kebbing@jwcc.edu](mailto:kebbing@jwcc.edu)

Pike County RSVP

39637 260th Ave.

Pittsfield IL 62363

Phone: 217-641-4273

E-mail: [hmanwell@jwcc.edu](mailto:hmanwell@jwcc.edu)



**AmeriCorps**  
Seniors



RSVP is a United Way Funded Agency