

Volunteer Voice

Brown & Pike County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

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RSVP is a program
of John Wood
Community College



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Did You Know?

We have a limited number of COVID Vaccination Card Holders. Keeping your card safe and in a convenient location is important. Contact the Brown or Pike County RSVP office if you would like one.



Brown County Fair
August 3—8, 2021

Message from Barb Casady

Thank you for choosing to be a volunteer with the Adams, Brown and Pike Counties Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). Because of your involvement and commitment, RSVP is able to meet our mission.

RSVP Mission

To engage persons 55 years of age and older in volunteer service to meet critical community needs while providing meaningful opportunities to the volunteer.

It is our goal to support you – the volunteer – in your search and effort to find volunteer opportunities that are the right fit for you. While we know you can and do find volunteer opportunities without contacting RSVP, we hope we are able to help you make that search a little easier – and that you find RSVP to be informative and helpful in your volunteer experiences.

We also work to assist non-profits, schools, government agencies, and faith-based organizations in the three counties to find the volunteers they need to meet their missions. Every day we receive phone calls and emails from organizations seeking volunteers. Sometimes, their contact with RSVP is for short one-time/episodic volunteer experiences but, many times, it is for a longer-term need. Whichever it is, we seek ways to help them achieve success in their volunteer management.

Some of the Benefits of Being an RSVP Member

- ♦ RSVP provides recognition events to thank volunteers for their service. In the past we have been pleased to hold a Brown/Pike Volunteer Recognition Luncheon during National Volunteer Week in April. Each year, we also do other smaller recognition events like hosting RSVP volunteers at a JWCC Women's and Men's Basketball Game. *We are certainly ready to begin to offer these recognition events again!!!*

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Message from Barb Casady—con't.

- ◆ Additional accidental liability insurance is provided to each RSVP volunteer – it covers you when you are traveling to and from a volunteer job and while you are volunteering.
- ◆ RSVP offers some mileage and meal reimbursement for volunteer travel to make volunteering an affordable option to those 55 and older.

Did You Know?

- ◆ There are 17 RSVP sites around the state of Illinois. Adams, Brown and Pike Counties RSVP is one of those sites. The next closest Illinois sites are in Springfield, Bloomington, and East St. Louis.
- ◆ There is an RSVP site in NE Missouri (Hannibal) and a site in SE Iowa (Lee County).
- ◆ Funding comes from AmeriCorps – the federal agency responsible for national service, the Illinois Department on Aging, Adams County, United Way of Adams County, and United Way of Brown County.
- ◆ John Wood Community College is our sponsor and has been for 47 years.

Save the Date

- **All Wars Museum:** Open Saturdays & Sundays from 12:00 to 4:00 both days. Morning at the Mess Hall meets the 1st Friday of each month from 9:00 to 11:00—coffee and donuts served. All Are Welcome!
- **Pike County Military Heritage Museum:** Open Saturdays and Sundays from 12:00 to 4:00 both days.
- **July 1:** Pike County Senior Services Congregate Meal Site Re-opening—call for reservation by 8:40 a.m. the day of luncheon or the previous day—217-285-6150
- **July 5 & August 2:** Pleasant Hill Senior Center Birthday Lunches (they have resumed meeting 3 times per week, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 11:30 a.m. for lunch). Hawaiian luau lunch August 18.
- **July 8th & August 12:** Pike County Senior Center monthly fundraiser Fish Fry from 4:30-6:30—\$10.00 per person
- **Aug. 3—8:** Brown County Fair
- **Sept. 11 & 12:** Versailles Fall Festival

Volunteer Spotlight

New Philadelphia Adds Butterfly Garden, Pollinator Plot



David and Kaye Iftner plant side-oats grama prairie grass in a new butterfly garden at the New Philadelphia site. The garden and a one-acre pollinator plot, slated to be done this fall, are designed to appeal to butterflies and to visitors. (The Iftners are also Pike County RSVP volunteers.)

H-W Photo/Deborah Gertz Husar

Thanks to David and Kaye Iftner, butterflies could be coming to the New Philadelphia historic site founded in 1836 by Free Frank McWorter, the first African American to legally plat a town. The site, near Barry, IL, is under consideration to become a national park. A one-acre pollinator plot is slated to be done this fall.

“A lot of the decision about the national park will be based on the educational value to the community. This is just one more piece,” Kaye said.

David sees educational benefits

reaching beyond just visitors to the site.

“Once we get the prairie pollinator part done, I’m going to keep an eye on it for what species of butterflies we’re seeing,” he said. “As a whole, the butterfly numbers in Pike County have probably gone down 60, 70%. That’s not just the monarch. That’s everything including the bees and flies and beetles that occur on these plants. They’re all declining.”

Excerpt from Quincy Herald-Whig by Deborah Gertz Husar, Staff Writer

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.

Barry Community Care Center - Seeking volunteers to help with Bingo or individual activities in residents' rooms. Please call Leslie Himmel at **217-335-2326** for 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 - Seeking crafting supplies, craft paint, Bingo prizes (no glass), and word search books for resident activities. Call Christy Davenport at **217-285-5200** with any questions.

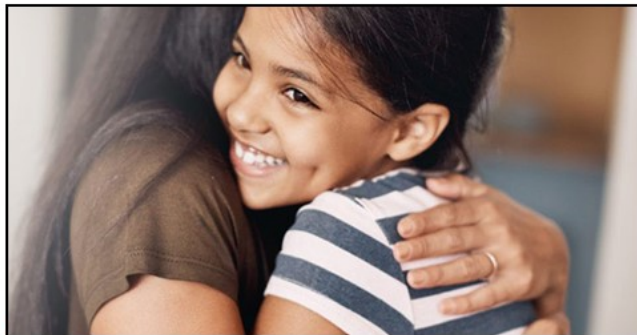


Pike County Senior Services - Volunteers are needed to deliver Meals on Wheels. ***They also need someone to deliver homebound frozen meals, weekly.*** Please contact Connie Lerch at **217-285-6150** for more information.

We are also looking for entertainment for the noon hour or afternoons.

Volunteer Opportunities—Brown County

Jensen Woods Camp at Timewell, IL - Volunteers needed to mow, trim, pick up sticks, clean landscape, put labels on jars, etc. They have a work day the second Saturday of the month in August, September, and October. If that time does not work, just call **217-773-2491**.



Casa volunteers are desperately needed in our seven county region. This region includes Adams, Brown, Cass, Hancock, Morgan, Pike, and Schuyler counties. Upcoming informational meetings are scheduled for June 17th, July 15th, and August 19th. The meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. A multi-county CASA training will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays in September via Zoom from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. If you are interested in becoming a CASA volunteer and being the voice for a child in the court system due to no fault of their own, please call **Danielle Buss at 217-223-2272**. You can also visit the agency's Facebook page or website for more information.



Volunteer Spotlight—Lions Clubs of Brown County

In Brown County, we are very fortunate to have two Lions Clubs, the Timewell Lions Club and the Versailles Lions Club. Both work diligently to support their local communities. Their motto is “We Serve” and they do. Pancake and sausage breakfasts, toy shows with vendors, tractor displays, and pork chop dinners, fall festivals, fish fries, chicken fries—these are just a few of the events they sponsor each year.

With the proceeds from these events, both clubs give back to their communities with project donations, gifts, etc. In so doing, they provide ways for those who live here to come together to have fun, visit, and enjoy life in a small town. We thank you!

The Winner Is . . .

Winners for March are **Jane Veith (Brown Co)** and **Pat Brown (Pike Co)** and for April **Don Newenham (Brown Co)** and **Shirley Kingery (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 observing summer hours through Friday, August 6—open 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Wednesday. Regular hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) resume Monday, August 9.
- ♦ 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...

**AmeriCorps
Seniors**

Brown County RSVP
 108 N. Capitol
 Mt Sterling IL 62353
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kebbing@jwcc.edu

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 Pittsfield IL 62363
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★ RSVP is a United Way Funded Agency