



# Volunteer Voice

## Adams County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

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Susan Abbott, Editor

RSVP is a  
program of  
John Wood  
Community  
College



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### Things to Remember

- “News & Views”—  
Volunteers need to  
prepare newsletters on  
Tuesday, December 27,  
and on Tuesday, January  
31, 2023.
- All JWCC campuses (and  
RSVP offices) will be closed  
on Thursday, December 22  
through Tuesday, January  
3 for the Holidays.

### Message from Heath Richmond

As 2022 closes and 2023 begins, I think we can agree that life as we know it will never be like it was before March of 2020 and the Covid-19 pandemic. I don’t know anyone whose life is the same as it was before, and, for better or worse, I don’t think it ever will be the same again. Despite that or, in many cases, because of that, what you do as RSVP Volunteers is even more important now than it was then. We still have people experiencing food insecurity and homelessness. We still have young people struggling in school needing a mentor, a tutor, or even just another friend. We still have seniors who need a friendly caller to check on them or someone to deliver their groceries. Area non-profits still need extra hands to prepare mailings, answer phones, or provide program support.

It is understandable that many of us had to reduce how much and where we volunteered our time during the pandemic. However, now is the time for us to look at how we can get back to our pre-pandemic levels of service. The needs of our communities are greater than ever, and the RSVP program has many opportunities for you to help meet those needs. I hope you will all consider looking at returning to some of the things you stopped doing because of covid. Try to volunteer some place new and/or encourage your friends and families who aren’t volunteering to come talk to us about how they can give back and help out as well.

Again, I want to thank all of you for the wonderful service you have continued to provide our communities—you all have made a difference in how we have weathered this pandemic and you continue to make a difference every day. May 2023 bring new and innovative solutions to the challenges that we will face and may we all remember that where’s there’s a will, there is most definitely a way—and we are all proof of that.

*Heath*





For the first time since 2019, RSVP of Adams County held an in-person recognition awards luncheon. On Wednesday, October 26, 2022, RSVP staff and volunteers came together to celebrate each other and the camaraderie that we all share.



## **Volunteer Opportunities—please share with friends and family!**

This is just a sample of opportunities. Call the RSVP office to find the right fit for you!

**Quincy Park District** - If you would like to be part of our environmental and safety team, contact our nature trail coordinator, Alex Adams. You may text or call Alex at **217-316-2732** or email [alexadams24@hotmail.com](mailto:alexadams24@hotmail.com). Activities include the following:

- Rake/Blow leaves on the trails
- Remove sticks and tree limbs
- Pick up trash
- Spray paint small tree stumps
- Put safety neon ribbons on trees
- Carpentry
- Construction
- Design and engineering
- Landscape
- Arbor
- Gardening
- Wildlife
- Logistics
- Planning
- Inventory

We have different jobs and flexible hours—whatever works for you!



**The Quincy Museum** - Currently looking for volunteers for greeters and tour guides—there will be training provided. Shifts would be during operating hours only (Tues.—Sun. 1:00PM-5:00PM) and they will work around any scheduling conflicts you may have, meaning you can pick your own day(s)! There are event volunteer opportunities as well. They can find the right task for you! If interested, please call the Museum at **217-224-7669**; email [Nancy@thequincymuseum.org](mailto:Nancy@thequincymuseum.org); or visit them at 1601 Maine. They can't wait to hear from you!

**Chaddock School** - Chaddock's annual Santa Express Program is in full-swing! Chaddock provides Christmas for the over 400 children and families they serve daily. Volunteer opportunities include cataloging, sorting, and organizing gifts as they arrive. They will need volunteers for the following dates and times:

- Friday, Dec. 2nd from 9:00-12:00, 1:00-3:00
- Saturday, Dec. 3rd from 9:00-12:00
- Saturday, Dec. 10th from 9:00-12:00

Please contact Shawna Bunnell at **217-592-0330** or [sbunnell@chaddock.org](mailto:sbunnell@chaddock.org) with questions or to sign up to volunteer for Santa Express.



**Meals on Wheels** - Taking a route for Meals on Wheels not only is a great way to learn more about the community but it is also a tangible way to help those in need. It would only require an hour of your time once a month. You might want to encourage a friend to volunteer as well—one person drives and the other person delivers! 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.

### **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 Heath at **217-641-4960** for more information.

**Horizons** - Volunteers are needed to work in their food pantry at 224 S. 8th St. on Sundays, Mondays, and Thursdays. Please call **217-224-5530** or email Eric Thorsen at [eric@horizonsquincy.com](mailto:eric@horizonsquincy.com) with any questions.

**Blessing Hospice:** Volunteers become a part of the Hospice team and serve in several Illinois counties. Volunteers can provide emotional support and practical assistance which will enhance the comfort and quality of life for Hospice patients and families. Hospice volunteers receive specific training to prepare for this rewarding opportunity. Other requirements may apply. Call **217-223-8400 ext. 4706** if interested in becoming a Hospice volunteer.



**Bell Ringing for Salvation Army** - RSVP volunteers will be ringing bells at the Quincy Town Center (formerly the Quincy Mall) by the fountain on Thursday, December 22, from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. (This is inside the mall.) We will need two volunteers per shift which makes for a good opportunity for spouses or friends to participate together. Shifts are 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sanitizers are provided to clean the bell and bucket. Please call Nicole at **217-641-4961** to volunteer.

**The Salvation Army** - Building Christmas boxes for the Salvation Army will take place on November 28th and December 5th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon each day. Basket packing will be December 19th beginning at 10:00 a.m. Locations are still not set so please give Tina Lewis a call at **217-231-5626** for further information.

**JWCC Adult Literacy Tutor** - Tutors meet weekly with students who are improving skills in reading, math, or learning English. No prior teaching is necessary. We provide free training and materials. Must have high school diploma or GED credentials. Tutors meet with students at a public location convenient to both tutor and student, such as JWCC education centers (Quincy, Pittsfield, and Mt. Sterling) public libraries, online, etc. For more information, call Tina Jett at **(217)641-4153** or visit <https://www.jwcc.edu/programs/ged-literacy-esl/>

**Quincy Community Theater** - Looking for volunteers who are willing to be ushers for the Little House on the Prairie productions on December 9-18. There will be instructions for potential volunteers prior to the performance. You may sign up to volunteer at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D4CAEAE2CABFF2-little1>.

**Homeward Bound Waggin** - Looking for volunteers to help with their weekly Adoption Center that is every Saturday from 10 am to 3 pm. There is an application to be completed by all potential volunteers on our website at <https://www.homewardboundwaggininc.org/volunteer>.

### **RSVP Night at the Basketball Games**

All RSVP volunteers are invited to attend the JWCC Women's and Men's Basketball games on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The Blazers will be playing against St. Louis Community College. There is no admission charge and sandwiches, chips, popcorn, etc. will be served. You may sit in the Elbe Observation Area or down on the court. Please let us know if you want to attend by calling the RSVP Office at **217-641-4961**.





## **Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service to Help Sleep in Heavenly Peace**

Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service will be Monday, January 16, 2023. We are once again asking for donations for the ***Sleep in Heavenly Peace*** Chapter in Liberty, IL.



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



All children deserve a safe, comfortable place to lay their heads. Too many boys and girls go without a bed – or even a pillow – to sleep on. These children end up sleeping on couches, blankets, and even floors. This can affect their happiness and health. That's where ***Sleep in Heavenly Peace*** comes in. They are a group of volunteers dedicated to building, assembling, and delivering top-notch bunk beds to children and families in need. **No kid sleeps on the floor in our town!®**. According to numbers collected by SHP, roughly 2-3% of American children are without beds.



If you would like to donate to this very worthwhile organization, they are in need of new twin-sized sheet sets and comforters, pillows, mattress protectors, and any other bedding items such as new quilts and blankets. Donations will be accepted December through the end of January. (The JWCC campus will be closed for the Holidays December 22 through January 3.)

Please bring contributions to the RSVP office located in the Paul Heath Building on the JWCC main campus. Contact information and office hours are on the back of this newsletter. We will gladly get them delivered to the Liberty Chapter. RSVP had a very successful drive last year—let's see if we can do the same in 2023!

**QUANADA**  
2707 Maine  
Quincy, IL  
217-222-0069

**Volunteer in our Clothing Room!**

Sort, organize and hang locally donated goods. All donations stay in the community and are free for those who need them. Hours are flexible and any time you can give is appreciated. All volunteers must sign confidentiality waiver.

Contact: Libby Holt  
lholt@quanada.org  
Ginny Mueller  
gmuller@quanada.org

**Shop Late 'til 8 in The District!**  
December 1, 8 & 15, 2022  
Stop by local businesses with expanded hours each Thankful Thursday evening!

**Participating Businesses:**

- Domestics, Etc. - 119 N 6th St.
- Dame Hurdle & Co - 535 Maine St.
- 644 Maine - 644 Maine St.
- Yellow Kiss Boutique - 127 N 6th St.
- Shaker Hill - 638 Maine St.
- District Designs II - Fresh Plx - 117 N 4th St.
- Love it or Leave It - 115 N 4th St.
- Loyds Gifts & Collectibles - 504 Hampshire St.
- JCo Apparel - 630 Maine St.
- History Museum Gift Shop - 332 Maine St.

**Activities in Washington Park include:**

- Jens Dance Academy will be selling Hot Chocolate and Cookies for Thursday nights in Washington Park, 5:30 pm-7:30 pm.
- 12:15: Stroll the District and shop at participating businesses to enter to win a holiday prize package.
- 12:18: QND Choir performs festive tunes in the gazebo with special appearances by the Square Peg Group Troupe Characters!
- 12:15: Take a ride on the Range Line Express in Washington Park.

**Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus!**  
5:30-7:30 every Thursday in Washington Park

Cast your vote for best holiday decoration at Facebook.com/TheDistrictQuincy

### Save the Date

**Tuesday, December 6**—Open House for the Teresa Adams House (new Blessing Hospitality House) with ribbon-cutting at 11:00 a.m. and the Open House to follow. All are welcome!

**Wednesday, January 11, 2023**—RSVP Night at the Blazers Basketball Game at 5:30 p.m. for the Women and at 7:30 p.m. for the Men. Further information is on page 5.

### Did You Know?

For course descriptions and registration: [www.jwcc.edu/cbo](http://www.jwcc.edu/cbo)

- Community-Based Outreach at John Wood Community College offers noncredit personal enrichment and professional development classes. Our goal is to provide a wide range of programs to meet community needs and interests. We are finalizing our schedule for next year and registration for spring classes will open January 4, 2023. Some of our courses for the spring will include *TIG Welding*, *Basic Cake Decorating*, *Benefits of Backyard Beekeeping*, and *Beginning Crochet*. Please visit our website anytime January 4<sup>th</sup> or later to find a complete list of course descriptions and registration: [www.jwcc.edu/cbo](http://www.jwcc.edu/cbo).
- **The income tax assistance through the United Way (VITA) will, unfortunately, not be available this year. You may contact the Quincy Senior Center at 217-224-5031 or at [myfreetaxes.com](http://myfreetaxes.com).**

### The Winner Is . . .

Winner for September is **Gary Winking** and the winner for October is **David Stammeyer**. The winner for New Volunteer Recruitment is **Denise Pearcy**. 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 \$20.00**



**RSVP**

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Adams County  
Lead With Experience...

**LIVE UNITED**  
**United Way**  
United Way  
of Adams County, Inc.

RSVP is a United Way  
Funded Agency

Senior Corps is now:  
**AmeriCorps**  
Seniors