



# Volunteer Voice

**Brown & Pike County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program**  
 Heath Richmond, Manager / Kathy Ebbing, Brown County/Heather Manwell, Pike County/  
 Susan Abbott, Editor



RSVP is a program of John Wood Community College

***Inside this Issue***

<b><i>Sleep in Heavenly Peace</i></b>	2
Volunteer Opportunities	3
Save the Date	4
The Winner Is	4

*“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.”*



**JWCC and RSVP will be closed on Monday, January 16, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.**

*Message from Heath Richmond*

As the year 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*

## Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service to Help

### “Sleep in Heavenly Peace”



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

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.



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 for the whole month of January, beginning on January 4.**

Please bring contributions to the Brown County RSVP Office located at 108 N. Capitol, Mt. Sterling, IL 62353, or to the Pike County RSVP Office located at 39637 260th Ave, Pittsfield, IL 62363. 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!



**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.**  
SOCIAL ACTIVIST | 1929–1968

**“Use me, God. Show me how to take who I am, who I want to be, and what I can do, and use it for a purpose greater than myself.”**

## Volunteer Opportunities—Pike County

**Illini Community Hospital** - To become a volunteer at Illini Community Hospital, you will first need to contact Shelly Martin at **217-285-2113 ext. 3800**. Here is how you can help:

### Volunteer Roles and Assignments Options

- Runner-Escort patients to departments
- Outdoor Landscaping/Beautification/Clean-up
- Water/Care for indoor plants
- Cleaning (high touch surfaces in the hospital and fitness)
- Event Assistance (Golf Outing, Fitness, Food Drives)
- Food Pantries (Organize food/deliver food to pantries)
- Hostess in waiting room on MRI and Ortho Days
- Small Projects (various needs as they arise)
- Make blankets for Oncology patients

**Barry Food Pantry** - Volunteers and food donations needed. You may show up on Tuesdays from 4:30—7:00p.m. or on Fridays from 8:30 to Noon and you will be given a task. Please contact Kathy Young at **217-257-0004** with any questions.

**Barry Community Care Center** - Looking for music entertainment on the weekends, BINGO prizes of all kinds (no breakables, please), or any other kind of entertainment. This could be anything from dancers to singers to magicians. The residents at Barry Community Care Center are wanting some weekend fun! Please give Hailey, the activity director, a call at **217-335-2326**.

**Eastside Health & Rehab** - Volunteers wanted to assist with weekly BINGO on Mondays and Thursdays at 2pm. They also would like help with the monthly birthday parties held for the residents. Contact the Activity Director at **217-285-4491** to volunteer or for more information.

**Griggsville Estates** - Seeking volunteers to visit with residents, play games, and/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). Suggestions are costume jewelry, body spray for women and men, shampoos, conditioners, lotion, Word Search, books for all ages, notebooks, craft supplies. Please call Melissa Sevier at **217-285-5200**.

**Pike County Military Heritage Museum “Where history comes alive.”** - Looking for anyone interested in participating in living history events, working on military vehicles, or presenting first or second-hand military stories to schools or civic organizations. Please contact Denny Dodd **217-242-1706**, Jeff Snyder **573-406-2510**, or Richard Stickman **217-248-1856**.

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

**All Wars Museum** - Volunteers wanted to clean, help set up displays, and sort items that are loaned or donated. They have work nights three or four times a month. They are also seeking someone to take video interviews of veterans. Contact Lloyd Lawber **217-242-4253** or Bob Norris **217-491-5146** for information.

## Volunteer Opportunities—Brown County

**Heritage Health Nursing Home in Mt. Sterling** - Need donations of ink pens, stationery, LARGE print Word Search Books (found at Dollar General), and body wash for sensitive skin. Items can be taken to the nursing home or left at the RSVP office in Mt. Sterling.

**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 set up and distribution are January 19 and 20 and February 16 and 17. Contact Doris Todd at **217-773-3773** or the RSVP office.

**The Crossing Thrift Store** - Volunteers are needed to hang clothing. You choose the amount of time and day that works best for you. Contact Wanda at **217-773-3888**.

## Save the Date - Pike County

Pike County Senior Center - They will not hold their monthly fundraiser fish fry in January or February.

All Wars Museum - The Pike County All Wars Museum is closed for winter, however, they will be open to private tours upon request. "Morning at the Mess Hall" meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month from 9-11am and all are welcome to join them for coffee and donuts. The museum also supports the Quilts of Valor presentations each month. Check local newspaper for dates and times of their monthly Speaker series.

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. The Museum is now closed for the winter but you may contact Jeff Snyder at **573-406-2510**, Denny Dodd at **217-242-1706**, or Richard Stickman at **217-248-1856** if you would like a private tour.

Pike County Senior Services - VITA tax preparations will be held at Findlay Place on March 2nd, 10th, and 17th. Call Connie at **217-285-6150** for an appointment.

## Save the Date - Brown County

January 20 and February 17 - Brown County Food Basket

January 28 - The Fireman's Ball will be at the Knights of Columbus Hall

February 14 - St. Mary's School Fish Fry at the Knights of Columbus Hall

Saturday, February 18 - Timewell Lions Pancake & Sausage Breakfast at the Timewell Gym from 6:00a.m. to 1:00p.m.

Saturday, February 18 - Casino Nite at the Knights of Columbus Hall

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. Registration for spring classes will open January 4, 2023. Classes starting in January include *Basic Cake Decorating*, *Knife Skills*, *Gardening with a Twist—All Year Long*, and *Creative Ideas for Eating More Plant-Based Foods*. 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 Winner Is . . . Winners for September are Agnes Mowen (Brown Co) and Zach Hooker (Pike Co) and for October are Doris Duvendac (Brown Co) and Jerry Houglund (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 \$20.00 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  
Lead With Experience...

Brown County RSVP  
108 N. Capitol  
Mt Sterling IL 62353

Phone: 217-641-4146  
E-mail: [kebbing@jwcc.edu](mailto:kebbing@jwcc.edu)

# RSVP



RSVP is a United Way Funded Agency



**AmeriCorps  
Seniors**

Pike County RSVP  
39637 260th Ave.  
Pittsfield IL 62363

Phone: 217-641-4273  
E-mail: [hmanwell@jwcc.edu](mailto:hmanwell@jwcc.edu)