

RSVP Newsletter Volume 9, Issue 4 July - August 2023

RSVP Retired & Senior Volunteer Program Blair and Huntingdon Counties sponsored by 1-800-323-9997



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AmeriCorps Seniors Recognized

AmeriCorps Seniors serving in RSVP of Blair and Huntingdon Counties continue to positively impact the lives of our neighbors, relatives and friends. They give of their time and energy year-round, serving at local organizations to ensure community needs are addressed.

RSVP understands that volunteers serve because they believe in helping others and wish to use their time and skills in productive ways. They often say that a simple "thank-you" or smile makes their efforts worthwhile. In addition to verbal thanks for everything AmeriCorps Seniors do, RSVP is pleased to sponsor annual recognition events to show appreciation for the service the volunteers provide.



This year, the volunteer recognition celebrations were held in Blair County on June 20 at the Blair County Convention Center and Huntingdon County on June 22 at the Smithfield Fire Hall. Both organizations prepared delicious hot chicken meals that were distributed to AmeriCorps Seniors along with a Sheetz gift card, an AmeriCorps Seniors t-shirt and other token gifts of appreciation. Feedback from volunteers was very positive.

Hosting these events would not be possible without many helping hands. RSVP Advisory Council members and Center for Community Action staff assist to ensure the events run smoothly. RSVP thanks them for their continued support!

Blair County Event Helpers All are RSVP Advisory Council members except Danielle Ochs, RSVP Project Coordinator, and Lily Kay, student helper. Huntingdon County Event Helpers All are RSVP Advisory Council members except Danielle Ochs, RSVP Project Coordinator, and Alisha Grove, Outreach Specialist.



Front row (I to r): Danielle Ochs, Duane Ehredt Sr., Judy Kimberlin, Patti Isenberg, Lily Kay. Back row (I to r): Erin Kay, Jessica Lippert, Marc Massuci, Renee Wheeler, Chris Cohn.



Front row (I to r): Carol Yoder, Jinny Cooper, Kelsey Dunn. Back row (I to r): Dave Fryer, Danielle Ochs, Susan Rollings-Savory, Alisha Grove.

Following are a few photos of AmeriCorps Seniors who attended the RSVP volunteer recognition events. To see additional photos, visit the RSVP Facebook: RSVP of Blair and Huntingdon Counties.

AmeriCorps Seniors at the Blair event:

AmeriCorps Seniors at the Huntingdon event:





Danielle Ochs RSVP Project Coordinator

814-506-5267 800-323-9997 dochs@ccaofpa.org

The Future of RSVP of Blair and Huntingdon Counties

AmeriCorps Seniors programs (Foster Grandparents, Senior Companions and RSVP) are funded by tax dollars designated through the federal government specifically for national volunteer service. The money for each program is granted to a sponsoring organization that manages the funds to address and support local community needs. Center for Community Action became the sponsor for RSVP of Blair and Huntingdon Counties in 2014 and received grant renewals in 2017, 2020 and 2023. The current grant renewal enables Center for Community Action to continue RSVP support to our communities.

RSVP is pleased to share that Danielle Ochs has become the RSVP Project Coordinator for our 2023 grant. Dorcey Cuzzolina, who has managed the program since 2015, will be the RSVP Advisor during a transition period after which she will be retiring. Dorcey said, "It has been a pleasure working with the AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers, RSVP station supervisors and RSVP Advisory Council members over the years. They have and will continue to provide immeasurable support for our local communities through RSVP. I thank them for their commitment to services that address the needs of our families, friends and neighbors!" Danielle said, "I am excited to start the RSVP Project Coordinator position and meet all the amazing AmeriCorps Seniors and RSVP partner organizations where they serve. I think the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program is a wonderful opportunity for volunteers to create close relationships with one another and help those in need in the community. I cannot wait to begin this journey with everyone and learn from their experiences."

RSVP Benefits

RSVP connects adults age 55 and over with local community volunteer opportunities. Once enrolled in RSVP, the volunteers are recognized as "AmeriCorps Seniors." RSVP provides support for AmeriCorps Seniors in addition to what is provided at the organizations where they serve. These benefits are especially helpful to grass roots organizations that partner with RSVP because they often do not have extra funding to invest in volunteer support.



As noted earlier in this newsletter, RSVP hosts annual recognition events during which AmeriCorps Seniors receive meals and gifts of appreciation. Additionally, the volunteers receive the following benefits year-round while actively enrolled in RSVP:

- Mileage reimbursement to/from their home to service location and for travel associated with their volunteer activity (i.e. deliveries for Meals on Wheels)
- Supplemental accident medical insurance
- Supplemental personal liability insurance
- Supplemental excess automobile liability insurance

To become an AmeriCorps Seniors volunteer or learn more about RSVP, contact Danielle Ochs, RSVP Project Coordinator, at 814-506-5267 or <u>dochs@ccaofpa.org</u>.





August 01 - M. J. Smith

- 03 Barbara Woods 06 - Sue Davis 08 - Sue Crovle 09 - Pat Chaundy 10 - Shirley Mosbey 11 - Sue Reck 12 - Terry Rupert 14 - Pam Prosser 16 - Deb Goss 16 - Patti Isenberg 17 - Richard McDermitt 17 - Jean Pile 24 - Polly Bowers 24 - Carol Graham 24 - Mark Shope 26 - Tom Kough 27 - Jay Buchanan 28 - Dorothy Anderson 28 - Paula Čraw 28 - Judy Kimberlin
- 31 Kathy Fink
- 31 Bill Frazier
- 31 John Futrick

What do you know about RSVP?

Can you answer the following questions about RSVP? Many of the answers can be found in this newsletter.

- 1. What does RSVP stand for?
- 2. Who is the sponsoring agency for RSVP of Blair & Huntingdon Counties?
- 3. How old must a person be to enroll in RSVP?
- 4. What does it cost to enroll in RSVP?
- 5. Does a person have to be retired to enroll in RSVP?
- 6. What are volunteers who serve in RSVP called?
- 7. What 3 insurance benefits does RSVP provide to volunteers for free?
- 8. Name one other benefit RSVP provides to volunteers.
- 9. What skills does a person need to serve in RSVP?
- 10. How can a person enroll in RSVP?

Answers to this quiz will be posted on the RSVP Facebook page and in the next newsletter.

Answers to Famous Foursomes Quiz

Following are answers to the May/June newsletter quiz:

1. From a 1939 film, these 4 characters followed the vellow brick road. The Wizard of Oz movie: Dorothy.

Scarecrow, Tin Man and Cowardly Lion.

2. This American male vocal group had a string of hits in the late 1950's including "Yaketv Yak." They were the first group inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. The Coasters: Carl Gardner, Bobby Nunn, Billy Guy and Leon Hughes (original members.)





3. A coming-of-age novel written by Louisa May Alcott and published in 1868 featured these 4 sisters. The March sisters in Little Women: Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy.

4. This foursome gained superhero powers from exposure to cosmic rays in a mission to outer space. They first appeared in an American comic book published by Marvel Comics in 1961. The Fantastic Four: Mister Fantastic, Invisible Woman, Human Torch and Thing.

5. This world-famous male rock band formed in Liverpool, England, in 1960. The Beatles: John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr.

6. Both books and movies have been based on these 4 high-ranking, rapier and musket wielding French soldiers of Louis XIII elite regiment of the 1860's. The Four Musketeers: D'Artagnan, Porthos, Aramis and Athos.

7. Featured in a 1984 American supernatural comedy film, this foursome established a paranormal investigation and elimination service operating out of a disused firehouse in New York City. Ghostbusters: Peter Venkman, Ray Stantz, Egon Spengler and Winston Zeddemore.

8. This American sitcom first aired in 1985 and featured 4 older, single women who shared a home in Miami. The Golden Girls: Blanche Devereaux, Dorothy Zbornak, Rose Nylund and Sophia Petrillo.

9. Stories published starting in 1904 followed the life and adventures of this one family's 2 sets of fraternal twins. The Bobbsey Twins: Nan and Bert aged 12 and Flossie and Freddie aged 6.

10. A granite sculpture carved on a mountain in South Dakota was completed in 1941 and features these 4 presidents' faces. Mount Rushmore: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln chosen to represent the nation's birth, growth, development and preservation respectively.

11. This American quartet consisted of 4 sisters who appeared regularly on The Lawrence Welk Show from 1955 to 1968. The Lennon Sisters: Dianne, Peggy, Kathy and Janet.

12. Originally introduced as comic book characters in 1984, these four anthropomorphic turtle brothers are trained in ninjutsu and fight evil in New York City. Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Leonardo, Michelangelo, Donatello and Raphael.

