

## Annual RSVP Recognition Breakfast

On May 23, 2019, RSVP hosted its annual recognition breakfast, honoring the hundreds of local RSVP volunteers that dedicate their time to help our community. Thank you to our sponsors, Dutchess County Office for the Aging, Fidelis Care, MVP and Wingate Healthcare. A big thank you to the businesses that donated gift certificates to our “One Ringy Dingy Raffle!” Entertainment was provided by Suzanne Turissi performing a comedic skit, based on Lily Tomlin’s phone operator on Laugh-In. The melodious voice of Robin Blue-Brown, Dress for Success, captivated the crowd. Everyone enjoyed a breakfast buffet, visited the vendor tables and mingled. Thanks to the generosity of our volunteers, 10 bags of food were collected for Community Action Partnership’s food pantry.



*Suzanne Turissi*



*Robin Blue-Brown*

### News from our member Stations...

We want to welcome our new station, **Paws for a Cause Thrift Shoppe for People!** It’s exciting shopping there



because things are always changing, and you never know what you’re going to find. The shop is run by dedicated volunteers and all sales directly support DCSPA programs and the furry, hairy or feathered animals in their care.

**Friends of Seniors** is celebrating its 15th year assisting the Dutchess County older adult community with non-emergency medical transportation, grocery shopping and telephone reassurance. God bless our volunteers!

### AARP Tax-Aide Foundation -

**Dutchess,**

**Orange, and**

**Putnam**

**Counties** were

recently

presented with



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the **Vision and Value Award** on June 5, 2019 at the Annual Award Gala held at the New York State Community Action Association’s Professional Development Conference.

**East Fishkill Friendship Center** is now open Monday – Friday. This includes 5 days for meal delivery or for attending the center. For more information, call Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 486-2555.

**Dutchess Outreach Farm Stand** is offering FREE produce every third Friday of the month through September, 2:30 pm- 4:00 pm at the Crannell Street Parking Lot at the corner of N. Hamilton and the Westbound Arterial. Anyone can come to get free fruit and vegetables. PLEASE, bring your own bag! Volunteers are needed to distribute food. For more information, go to: <http://dutchessoutreach.org/event/free-farm-stand/>

## News from RSVP

*Thank you letter received from Carol:*  
 “RSVP has determined that I have contributed a \$75,000 value wage over the seven years I volunteered as their Volunteer Coordinator. But, you know what? I’m the Winner. RSVP gave me my life! The year 2012 was a very desperate time for me. I had just become a widow and I needed a

*purpose and a reason* to get up in the morning. My Hospice Bereavement Certified Social Worker referred me to the Office for the Aging’s website, and that’s where I found RSVP.

I was very lucky because at that time RSVP was in need of a volunteer ‘RSVP Volunteer Coordinator.’ I jumped at the opportunity, it gave my life purpose and I made many new and wonderful friends.

Thank you, RSVP so much. Life is good!”  
 Sincerely, Carol Secor



*Lydia Biskup, representing Senator Sue Serino, is presenting Carol Secor a volunteer recognition certificate at the 2019 RSVP Volunteer Breakfast.*

## Raffle Ticket

It’s not too late to get your RSVP yellow Raffle Ticket! It’s your chance to win **\$1,000** and much more! Look for us at the Dutchess County Office for the Aging Senior Picnics through August 28<sup>th</sup> or call (845) 452-5401 x101.

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Dutchess County  
**GRAND PRIZE \*\* \$1,000 CASH\*\* GRAND PRIZE**  
 And More Chances to Win!

- Foam & Wash Oil Change Plus Coupon Book - \$100 Value
- Friendly Honda Gift Certificate for One Car Detailing - \$150 Value
- Hudson Valley Concierge - \$150 value
- Adams Fairacre Farms - \$50 Gift Certificate
- Plated Italian American Bistro - \$80 Gift Certificate

**2 tickets for \$5.00 5 tickets for \$10.00 Drawing: September 12, 2019**

Call 845-452-5104 x101 or look for us at the RSVP table at the Senior Picnics to get your ticket!!



A few tips from the American Academy of Ophthalmology on protecting your eyes from the sun:

- Sun damage to eyes can occur anytime during the year, not just in the summertime, so be sure to wear UVA- and UVB – blocking sunglasses and broad –brimmed hats whenever you’re outside.
- Don’t be fooled by clouds – sun rays can pass through haze and thin clouds
- Never look directly at the sun. Looking directly at the sun at any time, can lead to solar retinopathy, which is damage to the eye’s retina from solar radiation.

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## Why become a Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Dutchess County member?

**Your volunteer hours**, along with numerous others, are counted and the total impact of these hours are provided to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), a US governmental agency which reports volunteer activity for the entire country. When officials talk about levels of volunteerism, they are using **our numbers!** There is no extra work on your part! Start (or continue) your volunteer activity in one of our stations and RSVP does the rest! RSVP provides **free** supplemental fire, accident and liability insurance while on volunteer assignment. Assure your hours are counted!

**Welcome new RSVP volunteers!** The following individuals joined RSVP from September 2018 – May 2019, and are volunteering at the Stations listed below.



Judith	Barth	Paws for a Cause Thrift Shoppe
Lee	Corwin	Golden Age Singers
Carol	DeMeo	Beacon Friendship Center
Victoria	Dennin	Beacon Friendship Center
Sheryl	Dominglez	AARP Tax Aide (Cash Coalition)
Robert	Dubner	Golden Age Singers
Charles	Everett	AARP Tax Aide (Cash Coalition)
John	Halsey	Golden Age Singers
Karen	Harvatin	Friends of Seniors
Kevin	Hathorn	VA Hudson Valley Health Care System
Kurt	Hubner	Meals on Wheels of Wappingers Falls
Nancy	Mann	Meals on Wheels of Wappingers Falls
Patricia	Maupin	AARP Tax Aide (Cash Coalition)
Pat	McCullough	Golden Age Singers
James	Metrandio	VA Hudson Valley Health Care System
William	Muller	AARP Tax Aide (Cash Coalition)
Heather	Murray	Paws for a Cause Thrift Shoppe
Virginia	Panebianco	VA Hudson Valley Health Care System
Cathy	Relyea	Meals on Wheels of Wappingers Falls
Darleene	Terpstra	Second Hand Rose
Mary	Tompkins	Maplewood Apartments
Katherine	Weir	Beacon Friendship Center
James	Weissman	Golden Age Singers
Lynn	Winkelbauer	Friends of Seniors, DC OFA Tri-Town



Volunteering doesn't have to take over your life to be beneficial. In fact, research shows that just two to three hours per week, or about 100 hours a year, can reap the most benefits – to both you and your chosen cause.

Let RSVP of Dutchess County help you find your passion.

(845) 452-5104 ext. 101 or [rsvp@dutchesscap.org](mailto:rsvp@dutchesscap.org)



## What does RSVP of Dutchess County do?

**RSVP** strengthens **public** and **nonprofit agencies** by matching skilled volunteers with vital programs and services. We have a need for volunteers in many of our stations. Contact JoAnn Hickman at (845) 452-5104 x101 or [jhickman@dutchesscap.org](mailto:jhickman@dutchesscap.org) to sign up or inquire about these or other opportunities. To mention just a few of our volunteer needs:

- **Archcare at Ferncliff Nursing Home, Rhinebeck** - Eucharistic Ministers are needed who could distribute communion on a weekly basis. The day and time is very flexible and up to the volunteer.
- **ReStore, Poughkeepsie** - delivery associates and truck helpers are needed, as well as volunteers to help in the store for customer assistance, donation processing, stocking, or light dusting and cleaning.
- **St. Paul's Episcopal Church Thrift Shop, Pleasant Valley** needs salespeople and volunteers to sort, price and hang incoming merchandise.
- **VA Hudson Valley Healthcare System (Castle Point), Wappingers Falls** - Drivers are needed to pick up Veterans from their homes and bring them to Castle Point for their scheduled doctor appointments.

Thank you RSVP Volunteers!  
In 2018, over **330** RSVP Volunteers served **51,326** hours at **34** nonprofits in Dutchess County. At the current Independent Sector rated value of a volunteer's time, that equates to an investment of **\$1.2M** into our community by RSVP Volunteers. Congratulations to all!



*Have a wonderful summer!*