

VOLUNTEER VOICE

THIRD
EDITION
2022

This is our 50th year as an RSVP program in Dutchess County and we are so proud of this milestone! RSVP was created by Congress in 1969 under the National Older Americans Volunteer Program. In 1972, RSVP of Dutchess county was established. RSVP acts as a catalyst by providing volunteers to organizations that deliver much-needed services throughout the county.

RSVP ...We make connections happen for our volunteers!

Happy 50th Birthday to us!

Friday, September 23, 2022 is our Volunteer Appreciation Carnival. See inside for more details. We have a fun afternoon planned. There will be games of chance, a scavenger hunt, Ryan Dutcher will perform some illusions and Bee Bee the Clown will entertain all with her repertoire of magic and teaching us how to make balloon animals. Of course what is a party without food! There will be a food truck on site and a birthday cake for everyone to enjoy! I am looking forward to celebrating with everyone in September. In the meantime, enjoy your summer and stay safe.



Volunteers Coming Together to Help Communities in Need

AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Volunteers work together, helping to expand the scope of services that we are able to provide to the community. RSVP will work with you to find a service opportunity that you are passionate about and as a member of RSVP you can use the skills and talents you've learned over the years, or develop new ones while serving in a variety of volunteer activities in your community.

As a volunteer you choose how you would like to give back to your community. You can:

Help a struggling child learn to read
Deliver groceries to an elderly neighbor
Support a family impacted by natural disaster
Deliver a nutritious meal to the homebound

And there are many more satisfying and needed service opportunities available.

As we celebrate our **50th** year of service, we couldn't be more proud of the community services that we provide!



A PROGRAM OF COMMUNITY
ACTION PARTNERSHIP FOR
DUTCHESS COUNTY



MAPLEWOOD SENIOR CITIZEN APARTMENTS

Now Accepting

Applications for studio and one bedroom apartments. Apartments designed for elderly and handicapped/disabled persons. Rent is based on income and utilities included.

Call for more information. Currently at this time there is a waiting list.

457 Maple Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Phone: (845) 473-4477 TTY: 771

A Boston Land Company Community

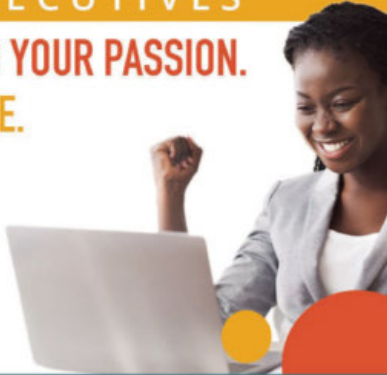


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RSVP of Dutchess County, Poughkeepsie, NY 06-5357

KNITTING WARMS THE NEEDY AND THE HEART

'Ahhh... retired at last, now I can spend my time doing what I want to do,' we've all heard before. But when she retired Beth wondered to herself, 'what *do* I want to do?'

Beth had always liked to do handwork, but she also wanted to give back to the community. She recalled how the local yarn store had a box for donations of handmade hats and mittens a few months prior to Christmas. So, she thought, 'why can't I start a group which would meet all year long to make items for those in need?'



Beth T and Theresa C

Beth posted a notice in the church bulletin recruiting people to knit and crochet and within a few weeks the group began to take shape. One of the first things discussed was what to make and where to donate their items. They found that hospitals wanted hats for newborns; the Veteran's hospital asked for long lap robes that could be tied or hung around the neck so they wouldn't slide off paraplegics; and afghans were the top priority of the homeless shelter to keep overnight guests warm.

And that was only the beginning! Now in its 24th year, *Loving Hands of St. Denis* has not only produced 1000's of homemade items for the needy, but it has brought volunteers together who, in so many ways, have touched the heart of the community! We give a very special thank you to Beth for creating such a caring group, for her dedication, and her volunteering!

And we also thank *you* for your decision to give back to your community when you retired!

RSVP OF DUTCHESS COUNTY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

RSVP strengthens **public** and **nonprofit agencies** by matching volunteers with vital programs. We have a need for volunteers in many of our Stations. Contact JoAnn Hickman at (845) 452-5104 x101 or rsvp@dutchesscap.org to inquire about these or other opportunities.

A few of our needs:

Volunteers are needed to provide social interaction for homebound seniors and at various congregate sites throughout Dutchess County. Help is needed to deliver meals to the homebound and drive individuals to medical appointments.

Dutchess County SPCA Thrift Store, Dover Thrift Store & ReStore need volunteers.

DUTCHESS OUREACH FARM STAND

Pick up a bag of produce for **FREE!** EVERY 3rd Friday starting at 9:00 a.m. at Murphy Park, located at 8 N. Cherry St. Poughkeepsie, NY.

Acts of Kindness is a vital **Dutchess Outreach** program that supplies household items to individuals and families in need. Their inventory is very low right now and they would very much appreciate donations. Most needed items are: small appliances, cookware, utensils, bedding, towels and cleaning supplies. They are located at 106A Little Market St. Poughkeepsie. Open on Tuesdays from 10am-2pm for agency pickups and donation drop-offs. The parking lot is in the back, off Pine St. Enter through the last door by following the sidewalk from the Pine St side. Masks appreciated. If you have any questions, email aokdor@gmail.com or call (845) 454-3792 ext. 3244.

Welcome to our new AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Volunteers!



Volunteer

Place of Volunteerism

Ms. Mabel Perez

Loving Hands of St. Denis

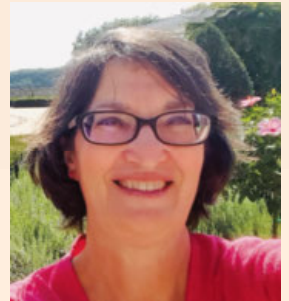
Mr. Edward Sermier

Literacy Connections of DC

Thank you for joining AmeriCorps Seniors. For all volunteer opportunities call JoAnn Hickman, (845) 452-5104 x101 or rsvp@dutchesscap.org.

MEET KAREN WOOD, AMERICAN RED CROSS VOLUNTEER

Karen Wood felt helpless and worried as she watched news of a hurricane 1,300 miles away in Florida. Reports predicted a storm surge would come within 8 miles of the house where her sister took shelter in a closet while they talked over the phone. In the days that followed, Wood heard about heartbreaking damage of neighbors and the lack of supplies to begin rebuilding. She also heard about the Red Cross volunteers who showed up to offer support. Wood was inspired to join the local Red Cross and deployed for hurricane relief. She joined RSVP in February 2021 and has logged over 445 volunteer hours.



“When you make somebody else feel good, it comes back to you. When I worked Hurricane Michael, the shelter was full of very nice people. It was rewarding to help them,” she said.

Wood uses her experience as an IBM project manager to support the Red Cross as a lead volunteer in logistics. It’s a vital position, ensuring supplies are organized and ready when disaster teams quickly respond to fires, ice storms, and other relief operations.

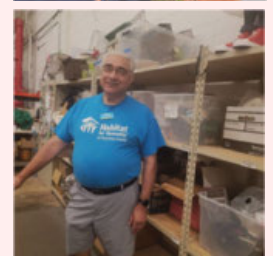
“I love to organize stuff. I had to get the supplies stocked up and ready,” Wood says. “It makes you feel good to know that people’s homes were made safer. I’ve met such a nice group of people, which enhances your life. It’s been a real pleasure.”

SPOTLIGHT ON RESTORE VOLUNTEERS

Nancy is a long time Habitat volunteer and at one time had served on the Board of Directors for another Habitat affiliate. After retiring and moving to Dutchess County, Nancy immediately joined the volunteer team at Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess. “I love meeting the different people at the ReStore. Come join us - there’s always plenty to do!” Look for Nancy’s smiling face at the front-end counter where shoppers check out and pay for their purchases.



Jack joined upon retirement to keep busy but most importantly, to give back to a worthy cause he believed in. With quite a bit of experience shopping flea markets, garage sales and thrift shops, Jack joined the ReStore merchandise pricing team. Jack’s message to RSVP volunteers is “if you even have a few hours to spare, get involved in volunteering. You will enjoy it!” While we were there, ReStore Manager Brian expressed his gratitude to RSVP for their efforts and success in both providing volunteer opportunities and for placing volunteers with Habitat.



AmeriCorps Seniors
Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Dutchess County
Golden Jubilee
Celebrating 50 Years of Service
Appreciation Carnival for RSVP Volunteers

Friday ~ September 23, 2022

Rain date ~ Friday, September 30, 2022

St. John's Lutheran Church Parking Lot
55 Wilbur Blvd., Poughkeepsie, NY

Activities run from 12:30pm to 3:30pm
Make your reservation to sit under the Big Tent, take
a stroll and enjoy the events we have planned!



Reservations are required by September 16, 2022

By email: rsvp@dutchesscap.org

By phone: (845) 452-5104 x 101 or x 114

RSVP Volunteers are free ~ Guests are welcome for a \$20 fee



RSVP
of Dutchess County

A Program of Community Action
Partnership for Dutchess County



5 OUR COMMUNITY

SUMMER IS HERE AND WE ARE ON THE MOVE

Look for the RSVP staff and volunteers at the Dutchess County Office for the Aging Senior Picnics! We have information to share about RSVP and Community Action Partnership. Our fundraiser this year includes a beautiful picnic basket complete with plates, glasses, wine and **\$100 worth of scratch offs**. Stop by our table to say hi and while you're at it, purchase some raffle tickets. They are 3 for \$5.



Summer Fun Facts...

National Barbeque Day

B	L	H	A	W	A	I	I	A	N	M	B	C	P	T
B	E	E	R	O	T	N	C	K	H	I	H	I	S	B
Q	B	E	R	O	C	Z	U	A	E	A	T	E	R	B
E	A	B	E	A	N	S	K	O	R	H	T	I	I	A
U	C	S	A	U	S	A	G	E	R	N	S	T	B	B
Q	K	E	I	T	N	J	U	E	O	K	U	F	S	E
E	Y	A	M	S	S	L	G	C	E	O	H	C	B	K
B	A	N	A	A	J	R	D	T	K	G	O	Y	U	V
R	R	S	U	E	U	L	P	O	S	C	G	W	R	E
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S	A	A	R	T	M	E	M	P	H	I	S	E	K	X
P	H	B	P	O	R	K	H	I	C	K	O	R	Y	H
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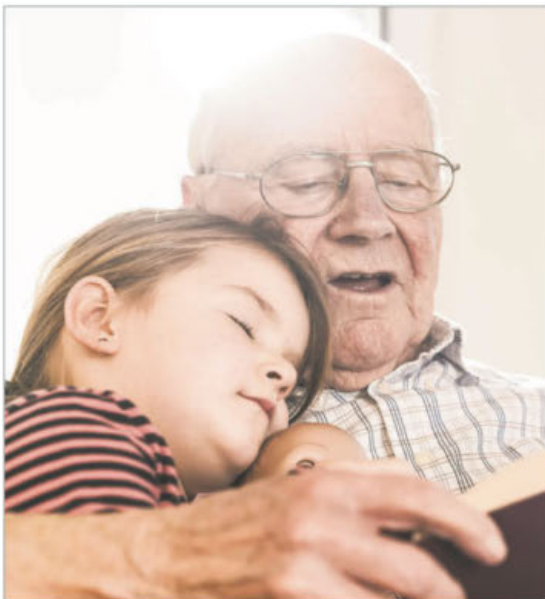
Word List:

BBQ	BARBEQUE	BRISKET	PORK
HAMBURGER	BRAT	KEBAB	STEAK
RUB	SAUCE	GRILL	SMOKER
COOKOUT	SAUSAGE	RIBS	HOG
BEER	HICKORY	OAK	CHAR
BACKYARD	SPIT	BEANS	PIT
TEXAS	KANSAS	MEMPHIS	CONTEST
CAROLINA	HAWAIIAN	JERK	

1. The first modern Olympic Games were held in the summer in 1896 in Athens, Greece.
2. The first day of summer is between June 20th and June 22nd every year. The first day of summer is called the summer solstice, and the day varies due to the Earth's rotation not exactly reflecting our calendar year.
3. The last day of summer is September 20th.
4. Watermelon is one of summer's best summer treats. Did you know that watermelons are not a fruit, but a vegetable instead? They belong to the cucumber family of vegetables.
5. The Eiffel Tower actually grows in the heat of the summer. Due to the iron expanding, the tower grows about 6 inches every summer.
6. If you love ice cream, the summer season should be your favorite. July is national ice cream month.
7. The first women's bathing suit was created in the 1800's. It came with a pair of bloomers.
8. The "dog days of summer" refer to the dates from July 3rd to August 11th. They are named so after the Sirius the Dog Star. This star is located in the constellation of Canis Major.
9. August was named after Julius Caesar's nephew. He had received the title of "Augustus" which means "reverend".
10. The first National Spelling Bee was held on June 17th, 1825.

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DUTCHESS COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY
77 CANNON STREET
POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12601

New this year! We are raffling this picnic basket complete with picnic items, a bottle of wine, wine glasses AND \$100 worth of scratch off tickets and more! All for the amazing price of 3 tickets for \$5



Many of you might be familiar with our long-standing fundraiser. We sold tickets where the top prize was \$1,000. This year we decided to make a change. Our picnic basket raffle includes \$100 worth of scratch offs. Who doesn't like to "be in it to win it!"

We are selling the raffle tickets through the summer and early fall. Get your tickets now. For the amazing low price of 3 tickets for \$5. Wow! The sky is the limit and you're supporting a great cause.

As a winner, envision yourself enjoying a leisurely picnic, sipping a glass of wine while scratching off \$100 worth of lottery tickets. All on RSVP!

We are selling tickets at the Dutchess County Office for the Aging Picnics, at our Volunteer Recognition Carnival or call my office at (845) 452-5104 x 101 or x 114. You can also email rsvp@dutchesscap.org. Either way, we will get your tickets to you. The drawing will be held on October 3, 2022.

As always, we encourage you to volunteer as a member of RSVP where your hours are counted towards the greater good of our community. We work with you to find the perfect volunteer opportunity. Please share our newsletter with others whom you think might be interested in volunteering. We make connections happen for our volunteers!

