



AMERICORPS RSVP SENIORS



Volunteer Center of Racine County

THE NEW YEAR IS HERE

I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for all the incredible work you have done throughout this past year. I cannot wait to see what successes we accomplish together in the future!

I truly hope 2024 brings us all an abundance of happiness and good health.

AMAZING WORK!

Volunteers average 50 hours per week !!!

5 Busiest Volunteer Groups:

- #1 - MyRide
- #2 - St Vincent dePaul Food Pantry
- #3 - Caledonia Historical Society
- #4 - AARP Tax Aide
- #5 - Ascension, All Saints

Most hours served by a single volunteer: ~1040

Some highlights of this past year:

Newest Volunteer Group

Sew n' Save:
Joined in August & served over 1500 hrs

14,500+ hours logged



~280 active volunteers



CHECK YOUR EMAIL

The Volunteer Center is very lucky to work with so many remarkable people. Every year, we get a chance to celebrate these special individuals at our Volunteer Recognition Luncheon.

We are sending out links for the volunteer award nomination form. Please take a few minutes and help us by nominating an outstanding VOLUNTEER. Someone who has gone above and beyond to make RACINE COUNTY a better place in this past year! So please check your email and fill out a nomination or two!

REMEMBER:

- We have 9 different award categories, so make sure to match your nominee to the best category.
- Make your nominee stand out by including as many specifics as you can!

DO YOU ENJOY BAKING?

The Volunteer Center sometimes calls upon its volunteers to help by donating home baked goods at our events and bake sales. If you are interested and able please make sure you are on our **Baking Squad** email list!

Not aren't sure if you are on our list? It doesn't hurt to double check- Give me a call or email: 262.886.9612 or mherrin@volunteerracine.org





**MOST HOURS SERVED
(REPORTED OCT-DEC 2023)**

30+ Monica Grise
Todd Krewal
Kristine Veenstra
Ulla Krause
Cary Anastasio
Sharon Pittsley
Gary Randall
Marcia McCallum

50+ Dee Gehrand
Jean Satorius
Sally Falaschi
Judy Heimes
David Pfeuffer
Kristine Veenstra
David Biehl

40+ Leslie Fellion
Terry Herlihy
James Graeper
Terri Oksiuta

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



JANUARY

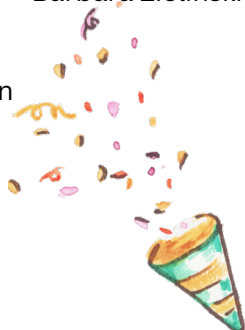
Nick Yackley
David Pfeuffer
Sally Kruschke
Kathleen Peterson
Kim Porter
David Curran
Ron Cooke
Marcia McCallum
Carol Miller Voss
Lawrence Terry
Mae Hilgers
Teresa Wiegand
Willaim Wendorf
Gregory Padgett
Sue Scherbert
Dyan Parkhill
Nancy Willing
Barbara Jarapko
JoAnne Bohm
Pam Henderson
Mary Howells
Gary Stelter
Colleen OBrien
Maureen DeBlaey
Charles Haakma
Noreen Wiley
Robert Francour
Leann O'Connor
Virgina Uhlir

FEBURARY

Joseph Fojtik
Terence Haas
Clem Bauer
Maggie White
Janet Brown-Exner
Dan Janowski
Ellen Harrison
Kathy Andersen
Cliff Vacek
Vera Olson
Diane Schlicht
Lynda Lechner
Beleinda Copus
Ron Thieme
Kathy Ginther
Janet Gontschaow
Gary Craanen
Elaine Fogarty
Marilyn Thygeson
Darryl Heyden
Marcele
Cristofferson
Cary Anastasio
Susan Craanen

MARCH

Jean Thieme
Jackie Romeril
Cathy Haywood
Bruce Pittsley
Dorothy Bittner
Dick Parkhill
Susan Gehrig
Pat Kramer
Patti Walker
Sally Neitzel
Kathy Gueldenzopf
Connie Smetana
Jerrie Howard
Richard Carravetta
Suzanne Hanrahan
Becky Andersen
Jan Brandies
Sally Falaschi
Jeff Hess
Brenda Schuls
Barbara Zielinski



**New Year's
Word Search**

J A N U A R Y F R I E N A C E
F R I E N D S Y A S R I L A H
N E Y S E R T I E M O W B L C
B S I L Y F A E N E I Y A E O
N O C R N V N V E Y D L B N U
A L D C L O C K L T I E Y D N
R U V E W M I D N I G H T A T
V T O A S T W S N O L Y I R D
G I A N I N G S E V E U A R O
C O N F E T T I T M I N G S W
R N O L C E L E B R A T I O N
A J A N U E L V E I M K E R A
Y P A R T Y H A A P Y S E V W
N E W Y E A R C L O K S O R Y
S H A P P Y E B A L L R E S O

BABY
BALL
CALENDAR
CELEBRATION
CLOCK
CONFETTI
COUNTDOWN
EVE

FAMILY
FRIENDS
HAPPY
JANUARY
MIDNIGHT
NEW YEAR
NOISEMAKER
PARTY

RESOLUTION
TOAST



NEW MEMBERS

Kathy Andersen
Winifred Anderson
Marcele Cristofferson
Kirby Feldmann
Leslie Fellion
Ann Gedemer
Janet Gontschaow
Christina Groseh
Carol Grothus
Paula Haag
Ellen Harrison
Dan Janowski

Alice Kovarik
Pat Kramer
Todd Krewal
Sally Kruschke
Marion Lueders
Cyndie Marano
Claudia McDermott
Lynn McMann
Deborah Rengers
Susan Rodriguez
Sue Scherbert
Ann Worden



LOOK OUT FOR SCAMS

Every year, especially around the holidays, scam artists are on the hunt. Financial scams are among the most common crimes affecting U.S. adults and families. It is estimated that in 2023, 15% of all households had at least one member fall prey to some form of fraud or scam.

Last year, Americans lost about \$8 billion with the average scammed person losing \$650.

There is some good news! That number is going down year by year. People are catching on to scams faster and sharing scam information than ever before.

Many people think scams mostly affect older adults. But recent reports tell a different story: anyone can and is being targeted.

Many younger adults are falling prey to scams like thru fake online businesses. These scams target people thru social media and luring them into false online purchases.

Older Americans fell for scams less, but unfortunately those who did lost the most money. Older adults are mostly were victim's of "imposter" scams: false tech support, fake business, hoax lottery and copied friend/family accounts.

The lesson is clear: no matter your age, learning about scams is important for everyone. By sharing what you know, you can help protect others in your community from scams.

The best advice for avoiding fraud to be skeptical:

- o Double check and verify sales, deals and websites.
- o Consult with others to confirm brands and deals online.
- o Stick to trusted and verifiable websites.
- o Confirm account details independently.
- o Never share personal information without confirmation.
- o Always keep an eye on your accounts for suspicious activity.
- o When you suspect a scam report it!

RECENT SCAMS - AMAZON HAOX

VISHING/SMISHING -

Scammer will call or text, claiming to be from Amazon Customer Service. They tell you there is an issue with your order, account or possibly even that you that you are in need of a refund. To process or correct they need you to confirm personal information or verify payment methods.

FAKE INVOICE -

Scammer will text or email a fake order confirmation message informing you of a recent Amazon purchase. This fake confirmation may even include product specifics like UPC information, price, company logos. It will direct you to a link you can follow to undo the purchase. If you end up clicking the link, you may accidentally infect your device with malware or end up on a spoofed site.

REMEMBER

- Amazon rarely makes direct calls to customers.
- Amazon will **never** ask you to disclose or verify sensitive personal information.
- No matter how convincing the person may be, avoid responding or engaging with the message at all.
- When in doubt: review your account on Amazon.com to see if any issues need to be addressed.

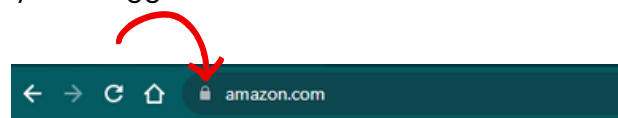
If you received suspicious communication pretending to be from Amazon report it at stop-spoofing@amazon.com and reportfraud.ftc.gov

RECENT SCAMS - SOCIAL MEDIA PURCHASING

With this new scam, an advertisement will pop up on social media websites. Usually small, unknown online business. The website offers amazing, unbelievable sales and deals. The purchase transaction will go thru. You get a receipt and possibly even a fake tracking number but the product never arrives.

REMEMBER

- Look for external reviews to see if a website has scammed anyone in the past.
- Pay special attention to addresses that end in .net or .org, as these types of domain names are far less common for online shopping sites.
- When you purchase online, look for the the padlock symbol that signifies you're logged into a secure connection.





HELP WANTED

VOLUNTEER NEEDED
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR @ MYRIDE

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Answer phones in afternoon
- Assist with scheduling
- Take messages
- Help with email communication
- 8 hours per week

LEARN MORE >>>
+262-417-7544
volunteerracine.galaxydigital.com
jchap@volunteerracine.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

MyRIDE
Car Rides for Seniors

MyRIDE is looking for volunteer drivers. This program is busier than ever and they need your help! If you are interested, or know someone who is...

call Jenni at 262.417.7544

YOUTH VOLUNTEER CORPS

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR NEEDED

JOIN THE BEST TEAM

- ✓ Supervise events
- ✓ Make a difference
- ✓ Assist with Communications
- ✓ Volunteer position - funding available late 2024

Send Your Resume To Us
✉ swebb@volunteerracine.org

MORE INFORMATION
www.volunteerracine.org/youth

OUR STATIONS:

- AARP Foundation Tax-Aide** - Volunteers assist seniors filing taxes. Program runs January – April 15th.
- Amateur Radio Service (ARES®)** - Volunteers help coordinate emergency communication exercises as licensed “ham” radio operators withing Racine & Kenosha.
- Ascension All Saints Healthcare** - Volunteers serve as Comfort Care Visitors and Gift Shop Assistants. If you have a registered support animal they may also serve with the Pet Therapy team.
- Aurora Medical Center** - Volunteers help either in clerical/admin as Main Entrance or Inpatient Floor Assistant OR in companion care visiting and comforting patients.
- beLEAF, SURVIVORS, Inc.** - Volunteers here serve as a trained Advocates, answering calls on a crisis line. Training is provided quarterly. Help is urgently needed.
- Caledonia Historical Society** - Volunteers lend their talents to preserving and teaching local history .
- EZ-ID** - Technical Assistant volunteers help to assemble Senior and Children missing-person recovery kits.
- Habitat for Humanity** - Volunteers with this group assist their local community in one of three main roles: Construction Worker, Habitat ReStore sales or General Admin/Clerk.
- Meals on Wheels (ADRC)** - Volunteers deliver meals to homebound seniors or help at local dining areas.
- MyRIDE Senior Transportation** - Volunteers provide free transportation within Racine County to seniors for medical appts, grocery stores, pharmacies, hair salons, etc.
- Racine Heritage Museum** - Volunteers help at the reception and sales shop, as a Heritage Walking Tour guide or within the archiving and researching department.
- Riverbend Nature Center** - Volunteers put their love of the outdoors into action as a Habitat Healer and Volunteer Naturalist
- Senior Companion Program** - Volunteers provide companionship to local homebound seniors thru regular social visits, phone calls, letters and/or emails. Volunteers are carefully paired to ensure matching interests and compatibility. This program is rapidly growing and in need of volunteers.
- Sew n’ Save** - Volunteers here put their crafting skills to use sewing for great causes.
- Siena Retreat Center** - Volunteers here serve as Outreach Assistants - helping with the admin desk and library, as well as assisting during special events. This program is in urgent need of a volunteer to assist on Wednesdays.
- St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry** - Volunteers with this group help keep the pantry running by stocking shelves, packaging groceries and assisting pantry clients.



EASY BAKED FRUIT COBBLER

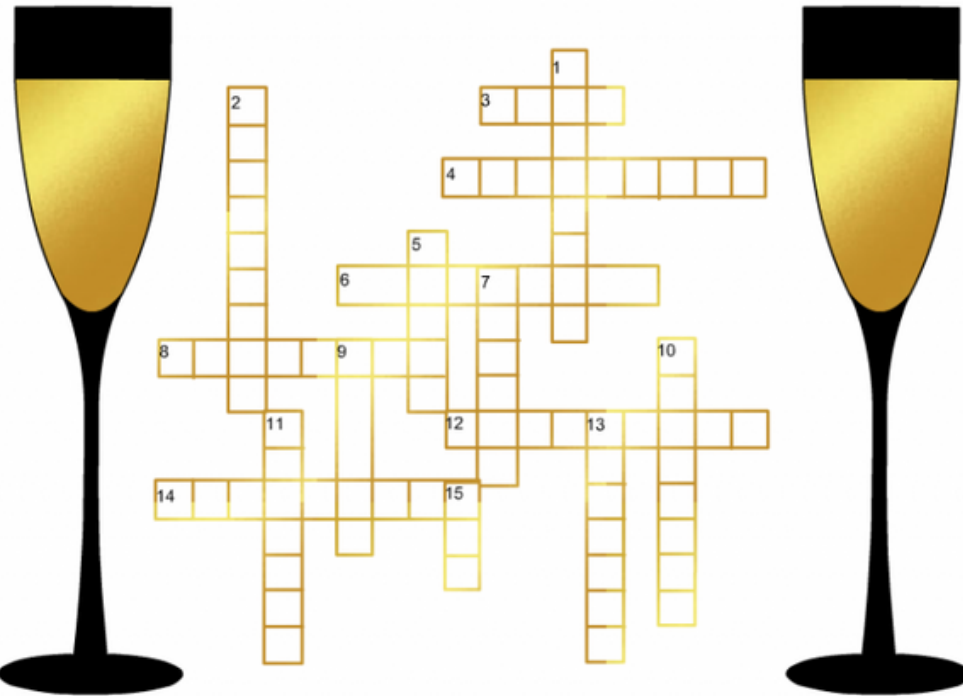
Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Adjust the oven rack to the upper-middle position.
2. Put butter in an 8-inch square or 9-inch round pan; place in the oven until butter is melted. Remove the pan from the oven and set aside.
3. Whisk flour, 3/4 cup sugar, baking powder, and salt in a medium bowl. Whisk in milk until a smooth batter forms.
4. Pour batter into the prepared pan with melted butter.
5. Scatter fruit over batter. Sprinkle with 1 tablespoon sugar.
6. Bake in the preheated oven until the top is lightly browned and fruit bubbles, 50 to 60 minutes.
7. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Ingredients

- 4 tablespoons butter
- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 2 cups of sliced fresh fruit OR 12-ounce package of frozen fruit

New Year Crossword Puzzle



Down:

1. a chart with days weeks and months
2. a white sparkling wine
5. beautiful vocal instrumental or combined sound
7. a drinking glass with a foot and a stem
9. a man's dinner jacket.
10. a handheld firework that emits sparks.
11. the first month of the year
13. round rubber bag that is inflated with the air
12. observe and used as decoration or a toy.
14. an act of counting numerals in reverse order
15. opposite of old to zero

Across:

3. the period of 365 days
4. a device containing gunpowder and other combustible chemicals which causes spectacular effects and explosions when ignited
6. a timing device with two connected glass bulbs containing sand
8. small bits of paper usually colored
14. an act of counting numerals in reverse order

AMERICORPS T-SHIRTS

If you were at the fall RSVP Appreciation Luncheon you should have gotten your AmeriCorps RSVP T-Shirt. We still have extras. So if we missed you or you need a new one please swing by the office.

When you are out volunteering it is important that you wear your AmeriCorps gear proudly.

Word of mouth is the #1 way to recruit new volunteers and there is no better way to start that conversation then with your AmeriCorp gear!

We would love to see you in action! Send photos of you, in your AmeriCorps T-Shirt, to mherrin@volunteerracine.org

CUSTOMER SURVEYS

It is once again that time of year!

The Volunteer Center and AmeriCorps regularly collects data to measure the impact of our efforts on the community we serve. You may be asked to deliver and collect surveys from the individuals you assist while volunteering.



**Volunteer Center
of Racine County**

6216 Washington Ave. Suite G,
Racine, WI. (262) 417-7544

AMERICORPS RSVP SENIORS NEWSLETTER

.. ——— ♡ ——— ..
QUARTER 1 – 2024

In this edition:

- Nominations Needed
- Are you part of our Baking Squad?
- Volunteer Call-Outs
- Look out for these sneaky SCAMS
- Help Needed
- Station Summaries
- Customer Surveys



The Volunteer Center relies on the generous support from our community.

Give a little - it helps a lot!

SCAN AND DONATE



WE ALSO ACCEPT DONATIONS BY
CASH OR CHECK:
6216 WASHINGTON ROAD, RACINE WI 53406

AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP volunteer benefits:

- Volunteer Orientation and Support
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Multiple Volunteer Appreciation Events
- Volunteer Insurance - Excess Coverage
- Mileage reimbursement (with specific volunteer groups)
- Most importantly, you get the opportunity to work with an amazing group of volunteers to better the lives of the people in your community!



We need your help with recruiting new volunteers.
Do you know someone who might like to volunteer?

AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers are our best recruiters as they spread the word about why they want to volunteer and the need for more volunteers.

Please pass this newsletter on to a friend or neighbor and tell them what volunteering means to you!!!

Maggie Herrin, Program Director AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP
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