

Jasper County
RSVP
Lead with Experience

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

RSVP

550 N 2ND
AVE W

NEWTON, IA
50208

641-792-6433

**DENICE
FISCHER**

Program
Coordinator

**TANYA
MICHENER**

Program
Assistant

OFFICE HOURS:

MON-THURS
7:30-4:30

FRIDAY
7:30-1:00



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach
Healthy People. Environments. Economies.



If it makes a difference to one...

Do you know the story of the boy and the stranded starfish? A boy was throwing the washed up starfish back into the sea but there were so many! A passerby says “Why even bother, what difference will throwing a few back even mean?” and the boy responds holding one up, “Well...it makes a difference to this one.”

I know quite a few of you and look forward to meeting the rest of you! My name is Tanya Michener and I am the new RSVP Program Assistant. In listening to Denice, there are so many things to be excited about moving forward with again. HEART leads the list so you can get back in to meet and read with the kids and give them that extra edge they need.

My husband, Matt, and I own SignPro in Newton, I teach computer software online for Indian Hills Community College and just finished a temporary job this last year with FEMA. It really drove the starfish story home to me when I did so much door knocking in Jasper and Marion County. I am looking forward to getting to work with all of you volunteers, because the one thing that became crystal clear to me in the FEMA job was; it IS up to us. As neighbors we do need to be the change we want to see in the world. Just as important don't be afraid to reach out and allow your neighbor to help you! That is actually the harder part of the equation!

There are so many opportunities I see and as the daughter of two newly retired people who still want to make a difference in where they live, that is exciting!

~Tanya



Monthly Socials

Socials are the second Thursday of each month at the ISU Extension office. Join us for a chance to meet with fellow volunteers have coffee, snacks, and great conversation!

- October 13th at 9 AM
- November 10th at 9 AM
- December 8th at 9 AM



With the changes in the program, this newsletter will only be produced every other month. We will do additional mailings as needed throughout the year if things come up. Therefore, we are enclosing 2 monthly volunteer timesheets to record hours.

All the volunteering you do is important to us, the community, and funders. Please be sure to complete the tracking sheets and get them turned into our office! Thanks for your time and hard work!

Jasper County RIDE Program:

This program provides transportation to these individuals who have no other means to get to vital services and appointments. The volunteers serve as drivers for people with disabilities, those with limited income, and/or senior citizens. Many of the clients who qualify for a ride do not have their own transportation and do not have family or friends in the area to help them get to vital appointments. These vital appointments include: medical, dental, eye exams, chemotherapy, radiation treatments, physical and occupational therapy, kidney dialysis, and grocery shopping.



We need more drivers! Based on demand, the RIDE program is unable to meet each and every ride request due to the lack of available drivers. These appointments can be in Newton, or out of town (volunteers can offer to transport where they feel comfortable driving). Mileage reimbursement is also available at the federal reimbursement rate through Skiff Medical Center. PLEASE consider being a volunteer driver!

HELP NEEDED SATURDAY OCTOBER 8th!

Can you work with Denice at OKTOBERFEST?

We have a small autumn craft project for kids from Noon to 3 pm.

Please call and let us know if you can help out!

Volunteer Opportunities

HEART (Help Engage A Reader Today):

A literacy program in which you meet weekly during the school year with students who need assistance in reading.

Big Brothers/Big Sister:

Mentor a local child, either at school or out in the community; it's good for you and them!

Community Betterment:

Assist local non-profits or individuals by answering phones, processing mail, making appointments, etc.

Income Tax Preparation:

Assist with income tax preparation for low-income and elderly populations

Jasper County Elderly Nutrition:

Assist in providing nutritious food to Jasper County's elderly (butter bread, dish out food, put away groceries, etc.)

Jasper County RIDES:

Provide transportation to and from vital appointments for community members who have no other means to get there. (mileage reimbursement is available)

Neal Smith Wildlife Refuge:

Volunteer at the preserve in Prairie City as a seed collector, work in the gift shop, or give tours, etc.

Prescription Assistance:

Help fellow Jasper County residents receive discounted prescription medicine.

SAIF (Seniors Against Investment Fraud):

Be trained by the Iowa Insurance Division to give presentations on how to detect investment fraud and what to do if you do fall victim to fraud.

Serve Our Youth (SOY):

SOY is a mentoring program to help children with incarcerated parents.

Siren Reporters:

Listen to the warning siren tests on the first Wednesday of each month and report the status of warning sirens.



Retired Senior Volunteer Program
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Newton, IA 50208

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Phone 641-792-6433
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Advisory Council:

- Violet Bakalar
- Rita Baker
- Diana Cumpton
- Terri Hayden
- Darlene Johnson
- Eldon Pals
- Terry Townsend
- Kelli Van Manen
- Bill Ward

We are looking for an additional advisory council member. We meet 6 times a year and discuss how things are going with the program. If you are interested, please let us know.



Happy Birthday!

Happy Birthday to you!
Happy Birthday to you!
Happy Birthday October/November's.....
Happy Birthday to you!

October/November Birthdays:

October 8	Paul Koeppen
October 11	Darlene Johnson
October 21	Charlotte Townsend
October 22	Vickie Evans Sullivan
October 24	Betty Breckenridge
October 27	Barb Ward
October 29	Wallace Schermerhorn
November 4	Patricia Farland
November 13	David Carpenter
November 21	Linda Medland
November 23	Mary Ann Iske
November 24	DJ Julius

Please let us know if we forgot to list your birthday.