

# Volunteer Spotlight

RSVP OF JASPER COUNTY

June/July 2024



Jasper County  
**RSVP**  
Lead with Experience



## Summer Volunteer Opportunities

Are you interested in volunteering at the Jasper County Historical Museum? The Museum is looking for some volunteers to give tours, answer calls & questions, and help in many other avenues!

If you are interested, please contact Jasmine at 641-792-6433 today!

Are you interested in being a driver but don't know a lot about the program? **Call to make an appointment with Jasmine to talk all things Jasper County Ride.** You set your schedule! Going on a trip? No worries! Are you wanting to just drive in town or around Jasper County? No worries! We have many clients that have appointments in Newton or Jasper County.

We are growing our client list every month so needs change throughout the year.

## Rekindling Your Spark: A Warm Invitation to Return and Shine with Us

We've noticed that we haven't had the pleasure of seeing a few volunteers in a while, and we've missed you! We hope you know how much we value the time and effort you've dedicated to our program in the past, and we'd love to have you back. Let's dust off those sun hats and join forces for a vibrant gathering that reflects our warm appreciation for each one of you. We can't wait to make this next year unforgettable together!

In this newsletter  
you can expect:

Celebrating the Heart of Our School:  
A Tribute to Our Volunteers

Socials

Community News

Calendar of Events  
for June and July

Volunteer  
Sheets

# Celebrating the Heart of Our School: A Tribute to Our Volunteers

In the bustling hallways and quiet corners of our schools, a remarkable story unfolds daily, woven by the dedication and passion of our volunteers. These selfless individuals have become an integral part of the educational tapestry, particularly through their involvement in our Reading Literacy Program and Pen Pal Program. It's clear that their impact extends far beyond the pages of a book or the lines of a letter.

## **\*\*The Reading Literacy Program: Igniting a Love for Reading\*\***

Our volunteers have been instrumental at the heart of our mission in fostering a love for reading and improving literacy skills among students. Their commitment has brought books to life, transforming reading from a solitary activity into a shared journey of discovery. Through one-on-one sessions, group readings, and engaging storytelling events, volunteers have not only improved reading comprehension but have also instilled confidence in our young readers. The smiles, the laughter, and the lightbulb moments when a child understands a concept are a testament to the program's success and the volunteers' dedication.

## **\*\*The Pen Pal Program: Bridging Generations and Cultures\*\***

In an era dominated by digital communication, our Pen Pal Program stands as a beacon of personal connection, thanks to the enthusiasm and creativity of our volunteers. Facilitating exchanges between students and pen pals from diverse backgrounds and age groups, volunteers have opened windows to new worlds for our students. These letter exchanges have nurtured empathy, cultural awareness, and writing skills, proving that the art of letter writing is alive and well. The excitement on students' faces as they receive letters is a sight to behold, a reminder of the simple joys that often get lost in the shuffle of modern life.

## **\*\*A Sincere Thank You\*\***

To all our volunteers, your generosity knows no bounds. You have given your time, shared your stories, and opened your hearts to our students, playing a pivotal role in their educational journeys. Your efforts shine bright in our community, reminding us all of the power of collective action and the difference one person can make.

As we look ahead, we are excited to continue these wonderful programs and more, with your invaluable support. Whether you've been with us for years or are considering joining our volunteer family, know that your contribution will leave a lasting legacy in the lives of our students.

So here's to our volunteers – the unsung heroes of our school. Let's dust off those sun hats and continue to make a difference, together. Your impact is immeasurable, and for that, we are forever grateful.

Thank you for being the heart of our schools.

*- Jasmine and Sarah*

## **School Program Volunteers**

- Terri Ayres
- Kerry Balbiani
- Pat Beckham
- Shirley Birkenholz
- Anna Boecker
- Dee Butler
- Barb Carroll
- Wauneta Davis
- David Drew
- Pat Drew
- Rose Evans
- Linda Gehling
- Ina Heidemann
- Julia Higgins
- Jane Jenkins
- Barb Kaldenberg
- Willy Klein
- Verneil Knott
- Bob Lane
- Marci Longren
- Connie Lucas
- Leslie Maach
- Renee Manley
- Marcia McFall
- Erma Mckinney
- Peg Morton
- Christine Paley
- Brenda Penning
- Mildred Rawlins
- Kathy Stevens
- Kaye Swarts
- Loretta Tool
- Trudy Verwers
- Susan Vriezelaar
- Marlene Waddle
- Noralee Warrick
- Jackie Woods-Goodwin

## June Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

We will not have a June Social because.....  
We have the biggest Social of the year this month!  
RSVPs for the Luncheon were mailed out May 1st  
so please make sure you get yours mailed back to  
us so we have a head coun for food and we can  
get thank you gifts prepared.

Make sure to mark your calendars!

**June 13th, 2024 11am-1pm**

We can't wait to see everyone!



Come hear Jamie Murphy,  
from Newton Park and  
Rec, talk about the  
Christmas lights at  
Maytag Park!

## July Social

This July, we're turning up the heat with a sizzling  
summer social exclusively for our incredible  
volunteers! Your efforts shine bright, and we can't  
wait to celebrate you under the summer sun!

Embrace the essence of summer! Think sun hats,  
sunglasses, and your favorite bright colored shirt.  
Let's make this a vibrant gathering that mirrors  
our warm appreciation for you.

ISU Extension and Outreach Parking lot, a perfect  
outdoor setting to soak up the summer vibes.  
With plenty of space to mingle, relax, and enjoy,  
it's the ideal backdrop for our celebration. In case  
of bad weather, we will be inside. **Please bring a  
lawn chair for sitting outside.**

**July 11th, 2024 9am-10am**

## Community News

NewtonFest is an amazing event to get out and  
learn more about Newton!

We are hosting an informational session for  
RSVP on **June 7th, 2024 from 12pm-2pm**. We  
will be talking all things RSVP and making Care  
Packages from 1pm-2pm for Open Arms  
Foundation.

Please share about RSVP and invite some  
potential volunteers to participate in this event.

# NEWTONFEST

Follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on  
events, news, and other RSVP related content!

[facebook.com/JasperCountyRSVP](https://facebook.com/JasperCountyRSVP)



## Get Walking!

The City of Newton and Kinetic Edge Physical  
Therapy invite seniors 55 and older to come out to  
our Senior Walks for the month of September! We  
encourage you to get outside, walk, and enjoy the  
scenery of our parks.

The Senior Walks and other activities will be held  
on Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
and include a walk/scavenger hunt, bocce,  
cornhole and refreshments.

If you would like to view our newsletter at any  
time, you can view it on our [jaspercountyrsvp.org](https://jaspercountyrsvp.org)  
website. We post events, program information  
and all things RSVP.

If you would like to opt out of the newsletter and  
get an email copy every other month, please let  
Jasmine know to take you off her mailing list.



# AmeriCorps Seniors

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program  
550 N 2nd Ave W  
Newton, IA 50208

## JASPER COUNTY RSVP

550 N 2nd Ave W  
Newton, IA 50208  
Phone : 641-792-6433

Office Hours:  
Monday - Thursday 8am-4:30pm  
Friday 8am- Noon

**Jasmine Bailey - RSVP Program Coordinator**

**Sarah Patterson - RSVP Grant Manager**

# RSVP ADVISORY COUNCIL

Jackie Woods-Goodwin	Diana Cumpston	Pepper Self
Violet Bakalar	Linda Schafer	Terry Townsend
Chantelle Lundberg	Arlene VanVoorhis	Bill Ward

Next Meeting:  
June 12th, 2024  
2pm-3pm

### REMINDER

Federal grant requirements state that all volunteers must record their hours on a time sheet with hours approved by the station supervisor and submitted to the RSVP office. Please be sure to record your volunteer hours on your timesheet for EACH time you volunteer. Thank you for your attention to this very important detail. Please turn in all volunteer time sheets on a MONTHLY basis. If you need additional sheets, please call Jasmine at 641.792.6433.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach



**AmeriCorps Seniors**



United Way  
Of Jasper County