



# VOLUNTEER MONTGOMERY

## January 2025 Updates:

Dear Volunteer,

Happy New Year! Current reports show that through November of 2024 our **296 active volunteers provided 25,486 hours of their time and expertise to over 60 nonprofit organizations** and health care facilities that we serve in Montgomery County. According to the Independent Sector, the current national hourly value of volunteer service is \$33.49. Therefore, **\$853,526 worth of volunteer service** was provided to our service area. Needless to say, our volunteers continue to strengthen our community and serve others in need!

## Supplies for Seniors

Volunteers are needed for our **17th Annual Supplies for Homebound Seniors** project in conjunction with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service initiative. Since 1994, thousands of Americans will remember Dr. King by providing service to their communities. This project will provide approximately 260 homebound seniors and veterans living in Montgomery County and the City of Radford with personal care items and basic household supplies. If you would like to help bag the items, we will meet at the **Christiansburg Recreation Center on Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10 am to 2 pm to prepare the bags**. If the program is cancelled due to inclement weather, the event will be held on January 29<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 2 pm. **Please call 382-5775 or email [volunteermontgomery@montgomerycountyva.gov](mailto:volunteermontgomery@montgomerycountyva.gov) to sign up for this activity.**



Thank you to our community sponsors!

Gold



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
555 WEST ROCK ROAD  
RADFORD, VA

Pizza Inn

MOOSE Virginia  
Moose Association  
1470 - Montgomery County

Silver



Cartridge World  
The Printer People™



Bronze



NEW RIVER VALLEY  
BUILDING SUPPLY





## Holiday Tote Bags

We would like to recognize the following groups and volunteers for making our Holiday Tote Bag project for the residents of Kroontje Health Care Center a huge success: Montgomery County employees, Calvary United Methodist Church, Chi Delta Alpha (XDA) at Virginia Tech, Retired Educators Association of Montgomery County, and members of Volunteer Montgomery.

Members of Volunteer Montgomery include Marilyn Rio,

Sharon Jerlinski, Shirley Mullins, Rosemary Jones, Jolene Rawlings, Rich Rawlings, Roberta Hall, Denise Hall, Sarah Carter, Brenda Arnold, Jill Songer, Mary Lou Kellough, Brian Compton, Polly Myers, Karen Anders, Sharon Brown, Erma Jones, Diana Reed, Carol Trutt, Mary Zabonik, Jeanne Sottosanti, Steve Sottosanti, Jan Marks, Sherri Blevins, Annette Calhoun, Linda Parah, Bev Bridges, Dawn Ramsey, Robbie Hall, and Glenda Caldwell.



Santa and Mrs. Claus delivered Holiday Tote bags to approximately 120 residents of the Kroontje Health Care Center on Friday, Dec. 13, 2024 with the help of Volunteer Montgomery! The reception was incredible as these generously-filled totes were handed out by Santa and his Elves. Santa and Mrs. Claus received lots of hugs and grateful smiles as they visited with everyone.

A special thank you to Dennis Minnick (Santa), Cindy Minnick (Mrs. Claus), Assistant Montgomery County Administrator Scott Woodrum, and Montgomery County Human Services Director Alex Strickler for their help

with the delivery! We would also like to thank Santa's Elves. They include Carol Trutt, Rosemary Jones, Shirley Mullins, Brenda Arnold, Jack Davis, Bill Baker, and Shirley Mullins.



## Toys for Tots



Thank you to everyone that helped us collect **75 toys** for our 2024 Toys for Tots collection!

**All donations made were delivered to children in Montgomery County!**



## Advisory Council Meeting

The Advisory Council will hold its first meeting of the year on **Thursday, January 16 at 11:30 am**. A brief **orientation** will be held for new members directly before the meeting at **10:30 am**. All Advisory Council meetings are held in the Volunteer Montgomery Activity Room unless otherwise posted. Meeting announcements will be emailed to members.

Advisory Council members who served during the 2023-2024 term and rotating off the council were recognized during the Holiday Party on December 6, 2024. We would like to thank the following individuals for their dedication and support of our programs: Lynn Brammer, Deena Flinchum, Andi Golusky, Kathy Mills, Sally Anna Stapleton, and Reanna Willey.

## Welcome New Volunteers!

We would like to welcome **133** new volunteers that enrolled with Volunteer Montgomery in 2024:

Cassady, Jayden  
Temoka, Asi  
Beckett, Adeline  
Beckett, Thomas  
Donathan, Jazmine  
Sappington, Annie  
Sappington, Taylor  
Syx, Aleigha  
Syx, Aubree  
Strickler, Alexandria  
Campbell, Debbie

Cox, Hannah  
Wimmer, Sandra  
Judkins, Jessica  
Simmons, Vivian  
Karlin, Suzan  
Morgan, Destiny  
Compton, Brian  
Brookshier, Raleigh  
Radford, Patricia  
Thornton, Juanita  
Swineford, Kerith

Radford, Kimberly  
Avila, Amber  
Avila, Ian  
Avila, Isabella  
AvilaFlores, Hector  
Curtis, Mark 'Hiram'  
Long, Patricia  
Johnson, Kimberly  
Beckett, Whitney  
Nichols, Ella  
Nichols, Tammy

Stroupe, Kelsey  
Bean, Tami  
Epperly, Charlotte  
Zabonik, Mary  
Scott, Judy  
Walters, Carol  
Davis, Paula  
Bourne, Kendall  
Rice, Dakota  
Rowe, Michelle  
Diersing, Lois  
Chambers, Benjamin  
Finfgeld, Charles  
Good, Vera  
Jaldi, Hamza  
Lumley, Lindsey  
Linkous, Nicole  
Luther, Talon  
Smith, Kristiane  
Stroupe, Rowan  
Stroupe, Kristin  
Gunter, Jakob  
Minnick, Cindy  
Dupont, Alexander  
Felegi, Brianna  
Kirwan, Rhianna  
Webb, Deacon 'Jess'  
Montgomery, Lisa  
Mills, Elliott  
Culbertson, Grant  
Culbertson, Jeffrey  
Avinash, Rithik  
Eanes, Laura  
Rice, Kevin

Strickler, Jameson  
Syx, Brittany  
Melton, Virginia  
Reed, Sarah  
Alls, Carolyn  
Healey, Karen  
Mevers, Emily  
Vellines, Mike  
Cox, Michelle  
Harris, Bonnie  
Stevens, Ashley  
Williams, Andrew  
Cox, Curtis  
Harris, Jennifer  
Carr, Erica  
Webb, Amy  
Thompson, Diane  
Doust-Clark, Willow  
Staley, Jayne  
Agi, Eliza  
Benton-Willis, Toni  
Howard, Scott  
Kiyani, Malaika  
McCrady, Jennifer  
Stewart, Noah  
Gray, Marina  
Vest, Melissa  
Curulla, Jack  
Reynolds, Abigail  
Capozzi, Shawn  
Teele, Constance  
Aday, Caity  
Howell, Grace  
Kim, Brian

Mancusi, Gianna  
O'Bryan, Timothy  
Shah, Jaya  
Sheppard, Lindy  
Torio, Logan  
Tegarden, Linda  
Jerlinski, Sharon  
Ramsey, Dawn  
Tolbert, Matt  
Steele, Janice  
Burnside, Camilla  
Diaz, Daniel  
Collins, Chloe  
Costello, Julia  
Fugate, Dominick  
Hammond, Julie  
Morgan, Leo  
Sawyers, Hannah  
Stewart, Ashley  
Vellines, Ava  
Ramsey, McKenna  
Reed, Diana  
Vellines, Gavin  
Vellines, Kara  
DEM - Sturniolo,  
Rebecca  
Swearingin, Julia  
Blevins, Sherri  
Schulte, Robert (Bruce)  
Marston, James  
Strickler, Daniel  
Schulte, Hannah  
Beckner, Braiden



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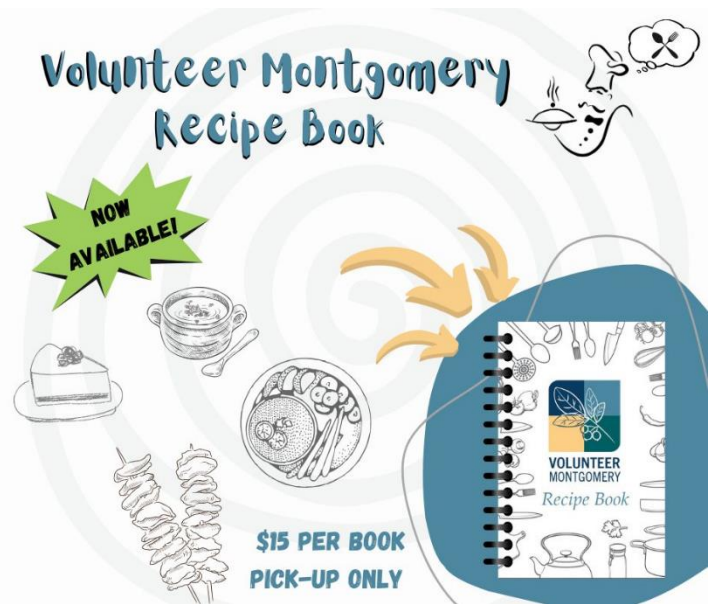
## Overseas Coupon Program

A special thank you to our group of Overseas Coupon Program volunteers. We mailed **\$64,924** worth of manufacturers coupons to our adopted base overseas in 2024!

### Volunteer Montgomery Recipe Books are in stock at our office!

Our recipe books include 170 delicious recipes from our volunteers and other members of the community! From Glazed Rock Cornish Hens with Pecan Stuffing to New York Cheesecake Cookies 🍰 All proceeds support our in-house community programs!

Get your books for \$15 each, in person or at this link:



<https://volunteermontgomery.betterworld.org/volunteer-montgomery-recipe-book>

Pick-up at our office is required, we are unable to deliver.

## Program Updates:

### Animal Policy at Volunteer Montgomery

Volunteers are not permitted to bring any type of pet or animal to group projects. Service animals welcome. This will be enforced at all locations, inside or outside, during any project hosted by Volunteer Montgomery.

### Mileage Rate Increase

During their November business meeting, the Volunteer Montgomery Advisory Council voted to adopt a new mileage reimbursement policy. **Beginning in December 2024, volunteers may now be reimbursed up to 200 miles per month.** In addition, the Montgomery County mileage reimbursement rate for 2025 has increased to 70 cents per mile. For more information, contact [volunteermontgomery@montgomerycountyva.gov](mailto:volunteermontgomery@montgomerycountyva.gov).

### Inclement Weather Policy

If Montgomery County Schools are closed, all scheduled activities will be cancelled. If schools are on a delayed schedule, regularly scheduled morning activities will be cancelled. For afternoon activities, a decision will be made by 12:00 noon, so volunteers should call the office to check on those activities. If you are signed up to help with a seasonal activity and schools are on a delayed schedule, please call 382-5775.

### Montgomery County Government Closing Information

If Montgomery County Government offices close due to inclement weather, the Human Services Division/Volunteer Montgomery office is closed. Please call 540-394-2120 or visit [www.montgomerycountyva.gov](http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov) for updates.

## HSMC Cat Supply Drive



January's collection supports the mission of the **Humane Society of Montgomery County (HSMC)**. Founded in 1971 the HSMC is, and always has been, a no kill shelter.

They operate solely from donations. They do not receive any local, state, or federal funding.

Donations are always needed and appreciated!

**We are collecting the items listed in the flyer throughout the month of January.**

### Volunteer Opportunities:

#### **Advisory Council Committees**

Did you know that you don't have to be on the Advisory Council to join our Fundraising, Recognition, Marketing, Scholarship Review, and Nominating committees? Job descriptions for each committee are available in the Volunteer Montgomery office. Please call the office if you would like more information.

#### **Valentines for Veterans**

We will once again participate in the nationwide Valentines for Vets program by making valentines for the patients at the Davis and McDaniel Veterans Care Center in Salem. **A craft day will be held at the office on Friday, February 7 from 10 am to 12 noon.**

A **banner** will be **available January 1-February 9** at our office for the residents of the VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement in Salem. **Please stop by and sign and/or leave an inspirational message for our nation's heroes!**

**In addition, an evening activity will be held on Thursday, February 6 to make a craft to deliver to veterans during the Valentine's Day holiday.** Materials will be provided. The deadline to turn in valentines is Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **Warm Hearth Village Treasure Trove Thrift Store**

Volunteers are needed at the thrift store, The Treasure Trove, in Christiansburg VA. Proceeds from the store go to support neighbors in need at Warm Hearth Village. It is a fun place that has recently expanded. They are seeking volunteers in 2-hour time slots between the hours of 10-4 Wednesdays through Saturdays. They need someone who can work on a weekly basis in the same time slot.

If you are interested, please call Tambra Dixon at 540-605-0570 or email her at [tstone@warmhearth.org](mailto:tstone@warmhearth.org).

## **A Request for Student Matinee Volunteers from our New Partner at the Moss Art Center at Virginia Tech**

### **Student Matinee Volunteer Description**

Join us as a volunteer at the Moss Arts Center for Student Matinees serving homeschool, private, and public school groups! Your involvement is key to creating a welcoming and organized environment for our attendees. As a Moss Arts volunteer, you will assist with various roles, including check-in processes, crowd management, and bus coordination. This is a fantastic opportunity to engage with the community and support arts education.

Key Responsibilities: • Welcome and assist attendees as they arrive. • Communicate with staff via walkie-talkie to ensure smooth operations. • Help manage bus arrivals and dismissals, ensuring that all groups are accounted for.

Event Schedule: • Arrival: 9:00am briefing and T-Shirt gifting • Pre-Matinee Duties: 9:15AM – 10:00 AM, assisting students and managing check-ins • During Matinee Duties: 10:00AM – 10:15AM Cross-checking numbers with Engagement Manager. • Post-Matinee Duties: 10:45 – 11:15AM Managing the dismissal of buses via walkie-talkie.

Requirements: • Friendly demeanor and excellent communication skills. • Ability to work as part of a team. • Reliability and punctuality. • Willingness to stand/remain present and focused for an extended period of time.

Perks: • Gain experience in event coordination and customer service. • Make new connections within the community. • Contribute to a vibrant arts experience for students.

Ready to make a difference? Sign up today and be a part of an exciting event at the Moss Arts Center!

**They are currently in need of in need of 1 - 2 volunteers for The Dante Quartet and 1 - 2 volunteers for Lakecia Benjamin for the rest of their season.** The link for signing up is [HERE \[forms.gle\]](#)

For more information on how to volunteer, the Matinee Flyer with Show Description, or other questions, contact our office.

## **Evening Activity at Volunteer Montgomery**





# Evening EVENT

Join us to make snowflake and  
snowmen crafts from Q-tips and  
cotton balls!

These cute crafts will go in our  
Supplies for Seniors totes!

**JANUARY 9TH**  
**6 P.M. TO 8 P.M.**



## MCEAP

Volunteer drivers/helpers are needed for the Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program. They have a 14' box truck with an automatic transmission. Drivers must be approved and complete a form for insurance purposes.

Driver and helper will be loading and delivering furniture as well as picking up and bringing back to the Home Store. If interested, **please call Margie Vitale at 540 449-2415.**

## Special Olympics

Special Olympics Virginia - Area 9 (New River Valley) is now seeking volunteers for their fall programs:

- \* Walking Club - 6:30-7:30 pm Mondays, Uptown Christiansburg (previously New River Valley Mall)
- \* Volleyball - 7-8:30 pm Tuesdays, Blacksburg Rec Center
- \* Swimming - 7-8 pm Wednesdays, Blacksburg Aquatic Center
- \* Bocce - 1:30 - 3:30 Sundays, St. Mary's Catholic Church Volunteers must be 13 and older. A background check and protective behaviors training (online) are required for ages 18 and older. Volunteers are paired with a Special Olympics athlete. No experience required.

For more information, email [nrvspecialolympics@gmail.com](mailto:nrvspecialolympics@gmail.com) or check out Facebook Page Special Olympics Virginia - Area 9.

Winter programs will include basketball, swimming, walking club, and alpine skiing.

## Saint Francis Service Dogs

**Their most immediate need is Blacksburg/New River Valley Puppy Raisers**, though they are always looking for Raisers in both NRV and Roanoke since they have weekly Puppy Classes in Roanoke and Blacksburg available. They also need Blacksburg/NRV Puppy Sitters. Contact the Volunteer Montgomery office or email [volunteer@saintfrancisdogs.org](mailto:volunteer@saintfrancisdogs.org) for more information.



For more information, contact us at [volunteer@saintfrancisdogs.org](mailto:volunteer@saintfrancisdogs.org) or (540) 342-DOGS

There are  
two types of .....  
**PUPPY VOLUNTEERS**

*Opportunities available in Blacksburg and Roanoke!*

- We could not fulfill our mission of helping people with disabilities achieve their goals and have greater independence through partnership with exceptional service and facility dogs without our Puppy Volunteers. By opening their hearts and homes to our puppies in training, Puppy Volunteers have fun making a big difference in the lives of the people we serve!

**Puppy Raisers**

As a Puppy Raiser, you help Saint Francis by taking a puppy into your home. You introduce the puppy to the big world and teach basic manners and commands. Puppy Raisers receive a great deal of support, including one-on-one instruction, weekly classes, training, reference manuals, and 24/7 support.

**Puppy Sitters**

As a Puppy Sitter, you offer your home to puppies that need a weekend getaway or a vacation for a week or two. Like Puppy Raisers, Puppy Sitters receive strong support from Saint Francis, including an orientation, training class, a sitter manual, and 24/7 support.

**For both types of Puppy Volunteering, all food, supplies, and equipment are provided.**

 PO Box 19538 | 8232 Enon Drive  
Roanoke, VA 24019  
(540) 342-3647  
[volunteer@saintfrancisdogs.org](mailto:volunteer@saintfrancisdogs.org)  
[www.saintfrancisdogs.org/volunteer](http://www.saintfrancisdogs.org/volunteer)

## Volunteer Montgomery - Cards, Coupons, & Butterflies

This event will be held from 9 am to 12 pm at the Volunteer Montgomery office on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in January.

## Belview's Helping Hands Pantry

We are excited to be partnering with Belview's Helping Hands Pantry, Clothing, Personal Care, Cleaning, and Food! Volunteer opportunities are updated weekly. You can find more information by visiting their Facebook page at [\(1\) Facebook](#) or contact the Volunteer Montgomery office for an update on their volunteer needs. Evening Opportunities Available!

## We accept the following donations:

- **Puzzle Books for Veterans.** The books will serve as bingo prizes during our bi-monthly visit to the VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement.
- **Stamps for the Wounded** – please leave at least a quarter-inch margin of paper around used postage stamps you tear off envelopes or packages.
- Gently-Used Paperback Books, Current Magazines, and DVDs for **Operation Paperback**. We have a container for these items inside the volunteer office.
- Manufacturer's Coupons for the **Overseas Coupon Program** (can be used for 6 months after expiration date)
- Eyeglasses for the **Lions Club**
- Aluminum tabs for the **Ronald McDonald House**
- Bud vases for our annual **Flowers for Veterans** program
- **Birthday in a Box** – **we are currently in good shape with cake mix and cake icing.** Needed items include birthday candles (singles or numbers), toys and books for children of all ages (\$10 and under), birthday bags, and tissue paper. **We are in immediate need of items for children/teens (male and female) ages 10-16. Suggestions for this age group include makeup kits, nail polish kits/remover, stylish water bottles, journals, soccer balls, footballs, books, hats.**

The following activities are scheduled in **January** and we will provide transportation for volunteers to Salem. Contact the office for more details.

- |  |            |         |
|--|------------|---------|
| • Kroontje – Birthday Party                              | January 15 | 2:30 pm |
| • Spring Oak Senior Living - Birthday Party              | January 17 | 3 pm    |
| • English Meadows – Tea Party                            | January 20 | 10 am   |
| • Davis & McDaniel Veterans Care Center – Birthday Party | January 21 | 2:30 pm |
| • Commonwealth Senior Living – Party                     | January 23 | 3 pm    |

## Volunteer Information:

### Volunteer Hour Sheets

You can submit volunteer hours by mail, email or by visiting <https://forms.montva.com/Forms/RSVP-hours>. If you use this link, your volunteer time will be emailed to staff.

Please let us know if you would like a paper copy or a fillable form to save to your tablet or PC.




### Importance of Reporting Volunteer Hours

It has been brought to our attention lately that many of you don't report all of your volunteer hours because you don't want to boast or brag about the service you provide. **Here at Volunteer Montgomery, our program thrives and EXISTS because of your service hours to our community!** Please remember that we are generously funded by the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors because of all of the reports we send about projects and hours that our volunteers provide

each year. If you have any questions about how to report your hours each month, please contact a member of our team at [volunteermontgomery@montgomerycountyva.gov](mailto:volunteermontgomery@montgomerycountyva.gov)!

# January 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>"The new year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written" -Melody Beattie</p> 			<p>1 <b>Office Closed</b></p> <p><i>Happy New Year</i></p>	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Supplies for Seniors Gift Making Evening Event @ VM 6-8pm	10	11
12	13 Cards & Coupons 9am-12pm	14	15 Kroontje Health Care Center 3pm	16 Advisory Council 11:30am, New Member Orientation 10:30am	17 Spring Oak Senior Living 3pm	18
19	20 <b>Office Closed</b> English Meadows 10am 	21 Davis & McDaniel Veterans Care Center 2:30pm, leave VM @ 1:30pm	22 Supplies for Seniors Bagging @ Rec Center 10am	23 Commonwealth Senior Living 3pm	24	25
26	27 Cards & Coupons 9am-12pm	28	29 Supplies for Seniors Bagging *weather date* @ Rec Center 10am	30	31  HSMC Supply Drive Items Due	

210 S. Pepper St Suite D,  
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Office: (540) 382-5775  
Cell: (540) 239-1088  
Email: [volunteermontgomery@montgomerycountyva.gov](mailto:volunteermontgomery@montgomerycountyva.gov)

 VolunteerMontgomeryVA  
 volunteermontgomeryva



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## December Birthdays:

Volunteer	Birthday		
Diane Rencsok	1/1	Rozetta Reed-Steele	1/1
		Julie Hammond	1/1



Lindy Sheppard	1/1
Dawn Ramsey	1/3
Linda Mollette	1/4
Glenda Caldwell	1/8
Nick Raymond	1/10
Brianna Felegi	1/12
Benjamin Chambers	1/12

Julia Swearingin	1/13
Mary Lou Kellough	1/15
Dakota Rice	1/15
Terri Lynn Howard	1/16
Angela Little	1/23
Diane Thompson	1/27
Jack Davis	1/29
Ron Brown	1/31

### Volunteer Holiday Party



We would like to express our appreciation to Volunteers **Brian Compton** and **Dawn Ramsey** for serving as our Santa and Mrs. Claus during our Holiday Party! We were so excited to welcome Mrs. Claus in 2024!

The Volunteer Montgomery office **will be closed on Monday, January 1** in observance of New Year's Day and **Monday, January 15** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Have a blessed and safe month. Stay warm!

In service,

*Mandy Hayes*

Senior Volunteer Coordinator  
Montgomery County Human Services