



VOLUNTEER MONTGOMERY

February 2025 Updates:

Dear Supporter,

We invite you to join us for our first fundraiser of the year! If bingo isn't your cup of tea and you would like to support our efforts, **we are in need of \$10 gift cards to use as prizes for this event.** Tickets go quickly, we hope to see you there!



BINGO!

February 26, 6-9pm



Iron Tree Brewing Company
21+ only

5 Roanoke St., Christiansburg



Cabo Fish Taco Food Truck

in front of Iron Tree Brewing Company



\$10 gift card prize
for each game

\$50 gift card
grand prize



\$10 donation per admission ticket

Buy online using the code, or stop by the
Volunteer Montgomery office:
210 S. Pepper St., Suite D.
Limited ticket sales

Fundraiser with proceeds benefiting programs administered by



540-382-5775

volunteermontgomery@montgomerycountyva.gov

Supplies for Seniors



Volunteer Montgomery and community members joined together to bag the 17th Annual Supplies for Homebound Seniors project. This program provides another support system for seniors to maintain dignity and independence while remaining in their home environment. Many of these seniors do not always have transportation to the store and during the winter months, many are housebound for even longer periods of time. They live on fixed incomes, struggling to pay increased medical, heating and utility costs, especially during the winter.

The project took place with the support of 35 volunteers at the Christiansburg Recreation Center on January 22nd and the supplies will be delivered to everyone by the first week of February. As a result, 260 homebound seniors identified by the New River Valley Agency on Aging, Montgomery County Department of Social Services, and the Virginia Veteran and Family Support program will receive approximately \$50 worth of basic household supplies and personal care products.

We want to express our appreciation to all of the volunteers who worked tirelessly moving supplies, sorting, and bagging. Heartfelt thanks go out to Jolene Rawlings, Jill Songer, Marcia Murphy, Bev Bridges, Jack Davis, Regina Howard, Debbie Campbell, Sarah Carter, Brenda Arnold, Shirley Mullins, Shirley Thurston, Angie Smith, Julia Costello, Rozetta Reed-Steele, Rosemary Jones, Sherri Blevins, Lynn Brammer, Carol Trutt, Jennifer Clemons, Whitney Beckett, Marie Goodwin, and other community members. We would also like to thank Tammy Caldwell, Brandon Decker, Dylan Vest, Brayden Dunley, Tyler Blankenship, Dylan Webb, Jim Whetzel, Shawn Stump, Joe Okey and Nick Yopp of Christiansburg Parks and Recreation and employees of Montgomery County General Services for their partnership and support of this project.

Many thanks go out to Boy Scout Troop 145 and our sponsors for helping to make this possible!



Thank you to our community sponsors!



Program Updates:

2025 Advisory Council

We would like to welcome our newly appointed members to the Advisory Council. They consist of volunteers Bev Bridges, Sarah Carter, Cindy Minnick, Rozetta Reed-Steele, and community members Matthew Tolbert of Gardner's Grill and Remon Yassa of Rena Corporation. They join Sherri Blevins, Jack Davis, Nola Elliott, Rosemary Jones, Amanda Terry of Montgomery County Parks and Recreation, Carol Trutt, and Linn Willingham of Commonwealth Senior Living to form the 2025 Council. The officers elected to serve this year are: Chairperson – Rosemary Jones, Vice-Chairperson – Carol Trutt, and Secretary – Rozetta Reed-Steele. **The Volunteer Montgomery team and volunteers are grateful for this committed group. We look forward to all of the projects we will work on together through the Council.**

2024 Fundraising Committee

Volunteer Montgomery would like to acknowledge **Chairperson Sally Anna Stapleton, Deena Flinchum, Barbara Parrish, Susan Miller, Amanda Terry, Lynn Brammer, Carol Cornish, Diana Reed, and Cindy Minnick** of last year's Fundraising Committee. They set a goal to raise \$8,000 and raised **\$21,871** through numerous fundraisers throughout 2024. This total **exceeded their goal by \$13,871!** We can't say thank you enough to this hard-working committee! Our team looks forward to working with the 2025 Fundraising Committee.



Updated Inclement Weather Policy

If Montgomery County Schools are closed, all scheduled activities will be cancelled **and the Volunteer Montgomery office is closed to volunteers.** 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 for 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.

HSMC Cat Supply Drive – Continued in February!



Due to inclement weather, many of our volunteers were unable to contribute to January's collection. Therefore, February's collection will once again support 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 February.

Volunteer Opportunities:

American Red Cross

URGENT NEED POSITION

This opportunity requires participation with in-person activities and/or performing work in a Red Cross facility.

The purpose of the **Blood Donor Ambassador** is to provide excellent and enthusiastic customer service to enhance the blood donor experience. Engage with blood donors to promote blood donation and set the stage for a long-term commitment to regular blood donations. Assist donors with re-hydrating after donation and observe for post-donation reactions. Express gratitude and ensure each blood donor are sincerely thanked for their donation.

Blood Donor Ambassadors are required to work one shift a month at 200 S. Main Street, Suite 200, Blacksburg. Morning and afternoon shifts are available, seven days per week. The afternoon shift ends at 3:00pm.

All volunteer candidates will be screened prior to being referred to Biomedical Services for eligibility. Contact Volunteer Montgomery to sign up!

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 until February 7** 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!** The **deadline** to turn in valentines is **Friday, February 7th.**

Evening Activity at Volunteer Montgomery

An evening activity will be held on Thursday, February 6 to make heart-shaped cookie foam magnets to deliver to veterans during the Valentine's Day holiday. Materials will be provided.



Join us for
**Valentine's for
Veterans
CRAFT NIGHT!**





Mail a Card Monday

“Mail a Card Monday”! Volunteer Montgomery has been inspired by Blacksburg Books to begin a new initiative in 2025! We encourage all of our volunteers to pick one Monday each month and mail a card to someone in need of a smile, whether it be someone you know, someone in a local nursing home, a veteran, a teacher, a first responder, a healthcare worker, etc.

Let’s keep this going. Don’t forget to share a picture on social media and tag Volunteer Montgomery. Imagine the difference we can make in one year!

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.

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 \[forms.gle\]](https://forms.gle)

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

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.**

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 for more information.



For more information, contact us at 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!

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

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.

Volunteer Montgomery - Cards, Coupons, & Butterflies

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

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, cake icing, and toys and books for children at this time.

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

• VA Center for Civic Engagement	February 11	1:30 pm
• English Meadows – Tea Party	February 17	10 am
• Davis & McDaniel Veterans Care Center – Birthday Party	February 18	2:30 pm
• Kroontje – Birthday Party	February 19	3 pm
• Spring Oak Senior Living - Birthday Party	February 21	3 pm
• Commonwealth Senior Living – Party	February 27	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!

February 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
"The magic of February is found in every shared smile." 						1
2	3 Fundraising Committee 10am	4	5	6  Valentine's for Vets Evening Event @ VM 6-8pm	7 Valentine's for Vets Craft Day @ VM 10am-12pm 	8
9	10 Cards & Coupons 9am-12pm Marketing Committee 2:30pm	11 VA Center for Development & Civic Engagement 1:30pm, leave VM @ 12:30pm	12	13	14 	15
16	17 Office Closed President's Day  English Meadows 10am	18 Davis & McDaniel Veterans Care Center 2:30pm, leave VM @ 1:30pm	19 Kroontje Health Care Center 3pm	20	21 REVIVE Informational Session VM Activity Room @ 2pm Spring Oak Senior Living 3pm	22
23	24 Cards & Coupons 9am-12pm	25	26 BINGO! Fundraiser @ Iron Tree Brewing 6-9pm 	27 Commonwealth Senior Living 3pm	28  HSMC Supply Drive Items Due	



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#)

February Birthdays:

Volunteer	Birthday				
		Kelsey Stroupe	2/6	Caity Aday	2/13
Taska Bailey	2/1	Scott Howard	2/7	Tami Bean	2/17
Marilyn Zeckoski	2/3	Isabella Avila	2/10	Brian Compton	2/17
Rosemary Jones	2/5	Joyce Epperly	2/12	Robert L. Hall Jr.	2/19
Linda Powers	2/5	June Sowder	2/13	Deena Flinchum	2/20

Betty Garard 2/20

Karen Healey 2/25

Elliott Mills 2/28

Ava Vellines 2/25

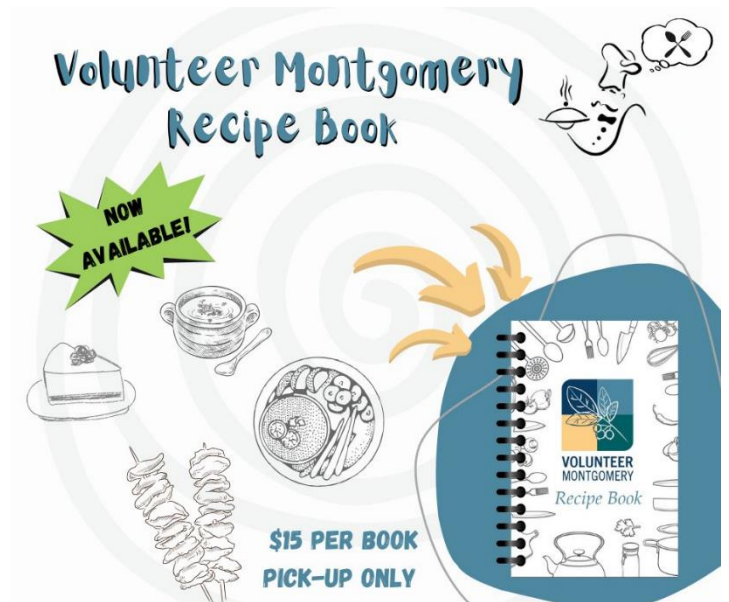
Sandra
Johnston 2/27

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.



The Volunteer Montgomery office will be closed on Monday, February 17th in observance of President's Day.

Thank you for all you do to make volunteer service **the heart** of our community! ❤️

In service,

Mandy Hayes

Senior Volunteer Coordinator

Montgomery County Human Services

