



A Helping Hand

Winter
2008

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National Volunteer Week, April 27– May 3: spring brings more than flowers to county

For Marion County, spring means an annual volunteer report for the previous year, volunteer awards and recognition.

During National Volunteer Week, the commissioners present awards to county volunteer who have been nominated by their department or peers. This is done at the commissioners' board session on Wednesday of that week, April 30 this year. Since this is a public meeting, everyone is welcome to attend and learn more about what volunteers do for the county. The session is also televised on CCTV for those who may want to watch from home.

Prior to the presentation of the awards, Marion County Volunteer Coordinator Glenis Chapin presents highlights from the annual volunteer report for the previous year. The commissioners are treated to a slide presentation of

the accomplishments of county volunteers. This short presentation covers the number of volunteers who served in the previous year, the number of hours contributed by the volunteers, and significant

accomplishments of the volunteers.

Also, during National Volunteer Week, Marion County volunteers who served in 2007 will receive a thank you note from the Board of Commissioners and a small recognition item in the mail. This is the county's way of say "thank you" to volunteers for all that they do. Many county departments could not offer the current level of service to the community without the volunteer workforce (approx. 1,000) which is nearly as large as the paid workforce (approx. 1,500)

National Volunteer Week is the official day to say thank you, but the county's thankfulness extends all year for the volunteers who help in the sixteen county departments. From filing medical records to dog walking, volunteers fill many gaps. They bring

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AmeriCorps volunteer Rachel Reynolds with recycling bin at the Marion County Fair.

Nomination packets are available from Glenis Chapin, 503-588-7990 or volunteer@co.marion.or.us

New Volunteer Coordinator at the Sheriff's Office

The Marion County Sheriff's office (MCSO) has a new volunteer coordinator. Doc Nelson can be reached at the MCSO at 503-589-3250 or on-line at dnelson@co.marion.or.us.

Doc came to the Sheriff's office from KBZY radio where he was the morning disc jockey and in charge of public relations. Although most of Doc's working life was devoted to broadcasting, he was appointed to the 911 Advisory Board more than 15 years ago by the City of Salem chief of police as the Citizen Representative and still remains on the board. He also became a volunteer with the Salem Police

Department, but left after taking the position with the MCSO. His involvement



with the community includes: Salem Convention and Visitors Association, American Heart Association, Salem Junior Miss Program, Oregon State Fair and other community organizations.

Volunteer programs at the MCSO include:

- Clerical, Reception
- Data and Computers
- Community Relations and Events
- Crime Prevention
- Traffic Control Radar Reader Board
- Taking Crime Reports
- Phone Reports, and
- Survey Analysis.

Additional MCSO volunteer opportunities can be found on the Web: <http://www.co.marion.or.us/SO/Resources/jointheteam/Volunteer+Opportunities.htm>. For more information about any of these positions or if you are interested in being a volunteer or know someone who is interested, please contact Doc.

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- ★ **A** - attitude ★
 - ★ **P** - positive ★
 - ★ **P** - prepared ★
 - ★ **R** - responsiveness ★
 - ★ **E** - energetic ★
 - ★ **C** - commitment ★
 - ★ **I** - imagination ★
 - ★ **A** - achievement ★
 - ★ **T** - teamwork ★
 - ★ **I** - initiative ★
 - ★ **O** - organized ★
 - ★ **N** - navigation ★
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Juvenile Fresh Start Market 3020 Center Street NE, Salem

Look for bedding plants and vegetable plants coming soon. The market will also have decorative flower containers to provide immediate beauty to your yard.



While you are there be sure to check out the metal and wood yard art that is available to take home and fill in that special area of your landscaping.

In addition to bedding plants, the market has espresso and coffee drinks, pastries and sandwiches. So meet a friend for lunch and shop together.

Recognition continued from page 1.

physical energy and extensive knowledge. The county and the community are the benefactors of the contribution given by county volunteers.

Some departments involve many volunteers and others have just a few, but either way the effort is worthwhile. Some volunteers serve on a regular basis and some are on an as needed basis. Again, the amount of time isn't as important as the value of having the extra help when it is needed.

Thanks for all you do!

National Volunteer Week was created in 1974 when President Richard Nixon signed an executive order to establish the week as an annual celebration of volunteering. And every year since that time, each U.S. President, along with many governors, mayors and other elected officials, has signed a proclamation promoting National Volunteer Week.



Memos and Announcements

Dog Shelter Orientation and Dog Walking Training

Saturday, March 15 and again on Saturday, April 26.

Volunteers who are interested in helping with dog walking or community outreach can attend this training. Outreach volunteers staff a shelter sponsored table at community events and may also bring a shelter dog along. **Contact Debbie West at 503-391-5362**

Donations Needed for Shelter

Used towels in good condition are always welcome at the dog shelter. Towels are used to disinfect shelter areas. Donated towels may be dropped off at the shelter any time during Monday through Saturday between 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. **“Human” food donations for the Marion Polk Food Drive** are also being accepted at the Shelter through April. Look for a bin in the lobby area when you drop off towels to donate some “human” food, too.



Remember the holiday gift you can't use or don't want,

you can donate that unwanted treasure to the Dog Fest raffle. The proceeds from the raffle will benefit homeless stray dogs in Marion County. Any item is welcome, including baskets. **Contact Debbie West at 503-391-5362 for more information or to arrange for the pickup/drop off of items.**

Victim Advocate Training:

Basic Advocacy training for victim advocates will begin March 24th. The training is Mon, Wed, Fri for 2 weeks during the day. The requirements are: 1) 18 years or older, 2) no criminal history, 3) reliable transportation (bus is not acceptable), 4) working telephone, 5) interest in the criminal justice system, non-judgmental attitude, and a desire to help others. For sexual assault response advocates commit to one 24-hour shift per month, for day case advocates some flexible weekday availability to attend court with victims is necessary. **An application is available at <http://www.co.marion.or.us/DA/victimassistance> or call 503-588-3571.**

Marion County's

Business Services
Courthouse Square
555 Court Street NE, Rm 4250
PO Box 14500
Salem, OR 97309-5036

Phone: 503-588-7990

Fax: 503-566-3997

Email:

volunteer@co.marion.or.us



Marion County volunteers—
connecting the county to
the community.

Volunteer Opportunities

Contact Glenis Chapin, 503-588-7990 or
volunteer@co.marion.or.us

Child & Adolescent Mentor

Meet with a child or teen weekly sharing activities such as going to the Boys & Girls Club, playing board games, outdoor sports, doing arts and crafts activities, etc. Communicate weekly, consistently and ongoing with parents/custodian and New Solutions Care Coordinator. Meet once a month with the Child and Family Team facilitated by the New Solutions Care Coordinator. Transport mentored youth to activities.

Weekday Dog Walkers

Needed to walk or socialize dogs at the shelter. Volunteers can set their own hours and days. Training provided. Call Debbie 503-391-5362.



volunteers will assist voters at a pre-arranged, publicized location for three scheduled days prior to an election.

Voter Assistance Team Member

Voter Assistance Team (VAT) members are paired with another volunteer, of different party affiliation, to assist Marion County voters who have difficulty casting a ballot in the traditional manner. VAT members may also help voters register. Each Voter Assistance Team of two

Advisory Board Openings:

- Weed Advisory Committee
- Food Service Advisory Committee
- Planning Commission
- Local Alcohol & Drug Planning Committee
- Health Advisory Board