



ShoreCAN

Volunteer Center

ShoreCAN Volunteer Center News

April 2010

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"We have within our reach the promise of renewed America. We can find meaning and reward by serving some purpose higher than ourselves—a shining purpose, the illumination of a thousand points of light." - George H.W. Bush

Upcoming Events

April 1st — April 30th National Volunteer Month

National Volunteer Month is about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage in their community. It's about demonstrating to the nation that by working together, in unison, we have the fortitude to meet our challenges and accomplish our goals. National Volunteer Month presents an opportunity for individuals, families, nonprofit organizations and government entities alike to celebrate the ordinary people who accomplish extraordinary things through service. Events, opportunities and happenings will take place throughout the month to highlight volunteerism. Visit www.shorecan.org to find your opportunity.

April 7th (9am—12pm) Effective Human Resources Practices for Nonprofit Organizations

Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore
Tonya Plyar, Director of Business Solutions, ISG International

In addition to facing the day to day challenges of meeting their mission and securing funds, nonprofit executives and boards must deal with human resources issues just like any other businesses. Tonya Plyar, Director of Business for ISG International, will highlight key HR issues for nonprofit organizations and help you identify resources to make sure your organization is operating under current best practices. \$10 registration fee, light refreshments provided.

April 18th—April 24th National Volunteer Week

During National Volunteer Week we will be emphasizing Community and Neighborhood Improvement Projects. We are encouraging our nonprofit partners to launch substantial volunteer efforts around this theme and to share your opportunities for the community to get involved and make a difference. Through the ShoreCAN database, we will promote all local opportunities and events. A special emphasis will be placed on projects that provide inter-generational opportunities as the Center will be encouraging volunteers of all ages to work together on projects that improve and enhance our communities. We hope that you will be inspired to work with us to bring out hundreds of volunteers across the Shore during National Volunteer Week.

ShoreCAN Stats

The ShoreCAN Volunteer Center is excited by the progress we are making and the impact we are having in the community!

We currently have:

- 77 Partner Organizations
- 114 Active Volunteer Opportunities
- 120 Volunteers
- 186 Volunteer Connections with Local Organizations

We look forward to the addition of organizations, opportunities, and volunteers in the coming months.

The Daily Times lists ShoreCAN Volunteer Opportunities!

Check out The Daily Times every other Sunday for volunteer opportunities listed in the ShoreCAN database. A big thank you to Cindy Robinson at the Daily Times for working with us and giving us this wonderful opportunity to connect volunteers with needs in the community. The Daily Times and The ShoreCAN Volunteer Center, continuing to help you help others.

National Volunteer Week 2010

For 36 years National Volunteer Week has been a time to thank current volunteers for their hard work throughout the year, and draw attention to those who help make the world a better place. In 1974, President Nixon signed an executive order establishing National Volunteer week and urged Americans to seek an area in their community in which they could give to a needy individual or worthy cause by devoting a few hours, or more, to volunteer service.



Since then, all U.S. presidents that followed have renewed the pledge, adding their own remarks about the virtues of volunteering. It was during George H.W. Bush's 1991 State of the Union address that he stated the way to renew America is to "find meaning and reward by serving some higher purpose than ourselves, a shining purpose, the illumination of a thousand points of light." The Points of Light Institute, which the ShoreCAN Volunteer Center is proud to be associated with, derives its name from this famous speech.

According to a report released in January 2010 by the United States Bureau of Labor and Statistics about 63.4 million people, or 26.8 percent of the population, volunteered through or for an organization at least once between September 2008 and September 2009, up slightly over the previous year. They volunteer their time at schools, hospitals, homeless shelters and museums. They mentor young children, care for the sick and provide basic needs to the poor. They are the backbone of our communities and the unsung heroes who touch the lives of many with a giving heart and a loving smile.

During National Volunteer Week, let's honor our volunteers with awards and recognitions, but let us remember to recognize them throughout the year. Let's honor them by volunteering in the community, dedicating our time and energy to something greater than ourselves just as they do all year long. Let us all take time to show our appreciation in ways both great and small. At the ShoreCAN Volunteer Center we want to say thank you for all you do, your impact on our community and its citizens is limitless.

Update your ShoreCAN opportunity listings!

Make sure to update your old listings and post some new, exciting opportunities. Fun, eye-catching and descriptive opportunity headlines often receive the most attention. Here are some great examples from the BVU Volunteer Central's most popular and creative opportunities.

- Have a WILD time as a Zoo Event Volunteer!
- Do you love trash like we do?
- Plant a tree for Baltimore!
- Spread the News - Volunteer with the Newseum!
- The Great Seedling Shuffle.

Please make sure you update your opportunities that are expiring and take the time to make them more attractive! If you need any tips on how to do so please contact the ShoreCAN Volunteer Center.

Volunteer Highlight

Bill Shehan is a remarkable example of devotion and commitment in the Salisbury community and exemplifies the word volunteer. Now in his 80's, Bill is in his 5th decade volunteering, many times working with multiple organizations at once. "When you're trying to decide where to volunteer, you just need to pick something out and go for it," Shehan commented.



Bill started volunteering with the Hereford Volunteer Fire Company when he was 32 years old and has not looked back since. When his children were in school, Bill volunteered for the P.T.A. and continued to do so for 23 years. In 1977 he moved to Salisbury and found that neither Worcester nor Somerset counties had P.T.A.'s, so he helped establish the P.T.A.'s in these counties. He was also the founding President of the Delmarva Model Railroad Club, where he currently serves as Secretary, because of his love for model trains.

Throughout the years Bill has supported various organizations such as the Optimist Club, Wicomico County Commission on Aging, Meals on Wheels and AARP. During his time with these various organizations he has served in various positions such as board member, secretary, treasurer, and president. For the last 16 years, Bill has been an active volunteer with RSVP, where he is the Advisory Council Vice Chairman and the driving force behind the Telephone Reassurance Program run in conjunction with the Wicomico County Sheriffs Office.

Bill received the Wicomico County Most Beautiful Award in 1999 and was recognized with the President's Lifetime Service Award among other numerous accolades. "I appreciate the recognition", Bill states, "but it's more about the satisfaction you get out of it, the things you accomplish and the lives you touch." Bill has made a tremendous impact on the Lower Eastern Shore community through his hard work and dedication to give all he can to improve the lives of others. It was a privilege to sit down and talk to Bill, and we are proud to share his story.

Local Nonprofit Twitter Accounts:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the
Lower Eastern Shore
(@BBBS_LES)

Chesapeake Bay Foundation
(@chesapeakebay)

Community Foundation of the
Eastern Shore, Inc.
(@cfesnonprofit)

Easter Seals Delaware & Mary-
land's Eastern Shore
(@EasterSealsMdDe)

Habitat for Humanity of
Wicomico County
(@wicomicohabitat)

Habitat for Humanity of
Wicomico County ReStore
(@wicomicorestore)

Kids of Honor
(@KOH_YEAH)

SHORE UP! Inc.
(@shoreup)

ShoreCAN Volunteer Center
(@shorecan)

Other Nonprofit Twitter Accounts:

Maryland Nonprofits
(@mdnonprofits)

Nonprofit Daily
(@NonProfitDaily)

Nonprofit Excellence
(@CFNPE)

The Nonprofit Federation
(@DMANF)

Nonprofit Orgs
(@nonprofitorgs)

Nonprofit Times
(@NonProfitTimes)

If you have a twitter account
connect with us, and if you don't,
well what are you waiting

Nonprofit Highlight

Volunteering is a 60 year tradition at the McCready Foundation, which has operated the community hospital in Crisfield since the early 1920s. Registered Nurse Kathleen Maddox started McCready's "Candy Striper" program in 1946.

McCready's current volunteers follow in those footsteps and draw inspiration from a venerable mission statement: "We are a volunteer community in transition, recognizing the tradition of the past and the opportunities of the future. We are an organization committed to promoting, protecting and perpetuating the health and well being of patients, residents and associates in the spirit of good will and friendship."



I had the privilege of spending an afternoon recently with Susan Evans, McCready's Human Resources Specialist and Volunteer Coordinator as we sat taking in a breathtaking view of the Chesapeake Bay.

"We are a relatively small organization," Evans said. "But we are dedicated to utilizing volunteers as much as we can." Today, volunteer groups at the hospital have grown and embrace a variety of activities, including staffing the reception desk, visiting with nursing home residents, or providing support for a specific department, such as Imaging, the Medical/Surgical Unit and Emergency. One special group of volunteers operates the hospital's "Care-A-Van," a courtesy vehicle that helps patients without reliable transportation get to and from appointments at McCready.

Evans' drive to keep the McCready Volunteer Program running at such a high level of efficiency is apparent. "Following a successful interview, our volunteers must have a background screening, pass a volunteer physical and attend corporate training" she said. "As the new Alice B. Tawes Nursing & Rehabilitation Center opens, we certainly will need more volunteers."

McCready's 50 active volunteers are delighted to serve at one of the Eastern Shore's time-honored health organizations. "The volunteers have the opportunity to join one of our Auxiliaries as well." Evans said. The Senior Auxiliary is a group of volunteers that assists with clerical duties in various departments across the organization. The Junior Auxiliary donates money to purchase equipment for the hospital through income generated from patient TV rentals as well as fund-raising events.

The Tawes Auxiliary donates equipment and supports the needs of residents at the Alice B. Tawes Nursing & Rehabilitation Center from money it generates through raffles and other fundraisers. McCready also holds an annual Volunteer Luncheon and Recognition during National Volunteer Week to honor its volunteers and to express organization's appreciation for their dedication.

So why not join a winning team? Volunteers at McCready touch lives, lift spirits and make a difference ... "one person at a time," as its slogan states. Join the fun, join the mission, and join the McCready Foundation today! Want to learn more about McCready or interested in volunteering at the McCready Foundation? Please contact the ShoreCAN Volunteer Center today, or contact Susan Evans at 410 968-1200, ext. 3346.

Salisbury University's 2010 President's Distinguished Community Leadership Awards

Know a person or organization that is making a difference in the community? Salisbury University wants to hear about them! SU's Town-Gown Council is accepting nominations for its 2010 President's Distinguished Community Leadership Awards. Awards are presented in two categories: organization and individual. Winners will be recognized during SU's Spring Commencement.

Past winners have included the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore; former Maryland Secretary of Agriculture Lewis Riley; Women Supporting Women and its founder, Sue Revelle; MAC, Inc; and community leader Henry Hanna, III.

Individuals and organizations in Wicomico, Worcester, Somerset and Dorchester counties in Maryland, Accomack and Northampton counties in Virginia, and Sussex County in Delaware are eligible. Nomination forms are available online at www.salisbury.edu/communityleadership. Nomination forms and two letters of recommendation should be sent to Amy Hasson, Chief of Staff, President's Office, Salisbury University, 1101 Camden Ave., Salisbury, MD 21801, or e-mailed to ashas-son@salisbury.edu

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