

## Start by donating blood

**G**ood morning, Prince William and happy New Year. I hope part of your new year's resolution is to look for a meaningful volunteer opportunity that will make you feel good, broaden your circle and help another in need. Volunteer jobs come in all sizes, shapes and expertise just like all of us.

### Red Cross blood drive

First off the bat is for today — I know this is very short notice but please join the American Red Cross at their new Prince William Chapter office for a blood drive. The new office is at 9934 Liberia Ave. in the Davis Ford Crossing Shopping Center form 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome given the very short notice so please have a quick cup of coffee and give the gift of life. Call 703-368-4511 for additional information.

### SERVE orientation

The good folks at Securing Emergency Resources Through Volunteer Efforts Inc. are holding a volunteer orientation for new volunteers on Jan. 9 at 10 a.m. and again on Jan. 12 at 5:30 p.m. Come see all the ways you can help and see the amazing history of this organization. Orientation takes about two hours including a tour of the facility. Please call Jan at 703-367-6742 to sign up for one of these events.

### Literacy Volunteers

Literacy Volunteers of America are gearing up for their next volunteer training on Jan. 16 and Jan. 30. Come be part of a monumental asset in an

call to action

**mary  
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adult's life. Every tutor I meet say it is the most rewarding job they've ever had. You will be given all the skills needed in the training sessions and ongoing support from these super folks. Please call 703-670-5702 or visit the Web site at [www.lvapw.org](http://www.lvapw.org) to learn more and register for the upcoming training.

### National Day of Service

Martin Luther King National Day of Service is on Jan. 18. We will have lots of volunteers wanting to give back to their community on this day off from work. This is the perfect time for organizations to accomplish a task that's been put on the back burner. Please put on your thinking caps and call Shelley at 703-369-5292, Ext. 201, with ways volunteers can help your organization, homeowners association, church, or club that weekend.

### Joe 15 blood drive

The super teens with the Joe 15 Team are holding a Blood Drive on Jan. 23 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Manassas Church of the Brethren. Please call Debbie at 703-895-1606 to schedule an appointment. This service activity by this super group of teens is to recognize what would have been Joe's 22nd birthday. Please visit the Web site at [www.the-joe15team.org](http://www.the-joe15team.org) to see all the fabulous projects these kids have done re-

cently. The Joe 15 Team epitomizes what is so special about our kids today!

### Other opportunities

If you are looking for other opportunities, please don't forget to call my wonderful team at Volunteer Prince William. Diane can help senior volunteers with Retired and Senior Volunteer (RSVP) opportunities at 703-369-5292, Ext. 207. Shelley can help with any individual or group project and send you weekly updates if you'd like. Contact her at 703-369-5292, Ext. 201. Bonnie can help you with all the other many opportunities available in Disaster Preparedness at (703) 369-5292, Ext. 202. Please don't forget our Web site at [www.volunteer-princewilliam.org](http://www.volunteer-princewilliam.org). Thanks so much for all you do in our community. Until next week, please stay safe.

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*Mary Foley is the executive director of the Voluntary Action Center in Manassas.*