

# Action Tops 100,000 Mark In Volunteer Enrollment Says Director Balzano

WASHINGTON, D.C.—ACTION, the federal parent agency of the Peace Corps, VISTA, RSVP and other volunteer programs, has soared past the 100,000 mark in volunteer enrollment, ACTION Director Mike Balzano has announced.

The nation is honoring ACTION volunteers, and the thousands more serving in other local and national, public and private volunteer efforts, during National Volunteer Week April 21-27.

The fast-growing agency began in 1971 with 22,830

volunteers in six programs brought together from other federal agencies. In less than three years, ACTION has increased both the size of its ranks and the number of its programs.

Since its start, ACTION has added three new domestic programs: University Year for ACTION (UYA), ACTION Cooperative Volunteers (ACV) and the Senior Companion Program.

ACTION volunteers are now serving throughout the United States, four territories and 69 developing nations. They are members of the Peace Corps, Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA), Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Foster Grandparent Program, Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), Active Corps of Executives (ACE), UYA and ACV.

By far the fastest growing of the programs, RSVP has increased its numbers from zero in 1971 to nearly 65,000 today. RSVP enables retired men and women over age 60 to give significant service in a variety of local volunteer programs.

In Fort Worth, Tex., RSVP volunteer I.C. "Mr. Mac" McAllister typifies the older

volunteer who, even when handicapped, can give help to others.

Blind and missing several fingers of one hand, "Mr. Mac" "mashes mud" everyday at Fellow ship Corner, a center for older men and women. "Mashing mud," he explains, is the process of starting or finishing a ceramic mold. McAllister teaches ceramics at the center. One of his students, a woman with arthritis in her hands, has found that "mashing" helps keep her fingers mobile.

The Foster Grandparent Program, which has grown from 4,200 volunteers in 1971 to 11,000 today, also provides part-time volunteer opportunities for older people. The program allows low-income men and women over 60 to care for mentally, physically and emotionally handicapped children.

Mrs. Eva Cox, 75, a Foster Grandparent in Arlington, Tex., helped to work a "miracle" for a 13 year-old retarded child with cerebral palsy. "Grandchild" Obie, doctors said, would always be hopelessly crippled. But, after 14 months, Mrs. Cox had him taking one faltering step after another. "I could hardly believe my eyes," Mrs. Cox said. "I'm sure the whole hospital heard me because I was laughing and crying at the same time."



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Ray Guthrie is qualified for the office of District Court Judge. During his 25 years at the Courthouse, he has been sworn to the following positions:

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- Deputy Clerk of Records Court
- Justice of the Peace
- Deputy Clerk of Superior Court (Courtroom Clerk—Civil and Criminal)
- Clerk of Records Court
- Assistant Clerk Superior Court assigned to the District Court (Traffic and Criminal)

Ray Guthrie respectfully asks for your vote Tuesday, May 7, 1974.

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## Keep Gasoline In A Safe Place For Protection

Gasoline is Made to Explode as the title of a new U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission pamphlet points out, and that should be reason enough for any motorist not to store it in the home or in a car trunk.

Recent fuel shortages have promoted many drivers to try to store extra gasoline, but there is no safe way to do so in a car or home, the fact sheet warns. Copies of Gasoline in Made to Explode are available free from Consumer Information, Pueblo, Colorado, 81009.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends the following: Don't store gasoline in the trunk of your car or in your home, even if the fuel is in a safety can. Keep gasoline away from your living quarter, including the basement.

If you must store gasoline, never put it in glass bottles. Store it in a well-ventilated area in safety cans that have been approved by a recognized testing laboratory.

Do not siphon gasoline by mouth. Should it get in your lungs, it can kill you. If gasoline is accidentally swallowed, do not induce vomiting, but call a physician immediately.

Keep gasoline locked up and out of the reach of children.

Gasoline is Made to Explode (free) is just one of the Federal publications made available by the Consumer Product Information Center of the General Services Administration. More than 200 others are listed in the Spring edition of the Consumer Information Index. Published quarterly, the Index is available free from Consumer Information, Pueblo, Colorado 81009 and at Federal Information Centers located throughout the country.

## Vets Questions And Answers

Q-As an eligible veteran, would I have to make a down payment on a Veterans Administration GI home loan?

A-The Veterans Administration does not require a down payment, but the lender may require one.

Q-I'm a disabled veteran who received a \$2,800 auto grant from the Veterans Administration. Will VA help out on engine repair?

A-VA pays for repair, maintenance, or replacement of special adaptive equipment necessary to operate the car. The agency is not authorized to bear these expenses on the vehicle, itself.

Q-I was honorably discharged last week after two years in the military service. If I go to school, will the Veterans Administration pay for my books and tuition?

A-Books and tuition are provided under VA's vocational rehabilitation program for veterans with 30 percent service connected

disability; or less, if the disability who enroll in school under the GI Bill receive monthly education assistance allowances to offset school expenses.

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SAT., MAY 4, 1974 THE CAROLINA TIMES-68

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