



202 North Washington  
El Dorado, Arkansas 71730  
870-864-7080



RSVP



January– March 2026

[www.eldoradoconnections.com](http://www.eldoradoconnections.com)

Volume 35 No. 1



## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**January 19, 2026**

Each year, on the third Monday in January, the MLK Day of Service is observed as a **"day on, not a day off."** Our MLK Day service project this year will be to collect nonperishable food items for the Wildcat Food Pantry. This pantry provides struggling families within the school district with food when needed and also provides the weekend backpack food for middle school and junior high students. Items needed:

Breakfast cereal boxes (big or small)	Canned Fruit	Soup	White Dried Rice
Oatmeal Packets	Pudding Cups	Canned vegetables	Tortillas
Granola Bars	Cheese Crackers	Rice	Beans
Poptarts	Peanut Butter Crackers	Fruit Cups	Fideos (dried pasta)
Shelf-Stable Milk	Small Juice Bottle	Chips (small bags)	Dried beans
	Ramen Noodles	Masa Flour	Cooking Oil

If you would like to donate any of the above items, please bring them to our office at 202 North Washington by Wednesday, January 28. We will schedule a time with the Wildcat Food Pantry to deliver the food items that week. Thank you in advance for participating.

**There's no better way to start off the new year than helping others.**



The fall Medicare Open Enrollment is over for another year. We want to thank all of our volunteers who helped: Larry Cave, Jane Doyle, Laura Doyle, Ladonna Hodge, Linda Kalcich, Bonnie Miears, Lynn Muckelrath, Shirley Randle, Fayrene Rash, Cheryl Splawn, and Gretchen West.

We counseled and assisted **390** beneficiaries.

We sincerely appreciate your help during Medicare Open Enrollment! You made the impossible possible.

**Thank you!**

**In a Medicare Advantage Plan?**

**You can still make a change!**

**Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period**

**From January 1–March 31 each year**, if you're enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, you can switch to a different Medicare Advantage Plan or switch back to Original Medicare (and join a separate Medicare drug plan) once during this period.

If you go back to Original Medicare now, you **may not** be able to buy a Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap or Secondary) policy.

If you want to inquire about changing your Medicare Advantage Plan, call 870-864-7080.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY RSVP Volunteers!!!



1-Joe Woods  
2-Spencer Purinton  
5-Charlotte Denton  
Lou Ingram  
LaQuita Rainey  
6- Betty Shutes-Christopher  
7-Jeanette Simmons  
8-Joseph Hershberger  
10-Joan Hershberger  
Julia Ober  
11-Betty Finks  
14-Julia Couch  
Sharon Thompson  
15-Nita McDonald  
Terry Reynolds  
16-Pat Peel  
19-Connie Short  
26-David Murphy  
27-Edna McCullars

3-Steve Splawn  
7-Pauline Easter  
9-Betty Chatham  
10-Betty Dowty  
13-Dorothy Kidd  
17-Virginia Mulligan  
Mary Post  
Syletta Snowden  
20-Gloria Brantley  
Robin Fox  
26-Maureen DeBruin  
28-Katie Butler

1-Laura Doyle  
Carolyn Hasling  
2-Mary Alexis  
4-Teresa Collings  
5-Dixie Harrison  
Melinda Sivils  
8-Mary Talley  
10-Scott Enzor  
Carolyn Wilson  
15-Kay Wilson  
17-Pat Crumpler  
18-Tracy Lewis  
19-Vicki de Yampert  
20-Willie Williams  
26-Maria Morin  
27-Charles Shutes  
28-Janet Finch



**Tax time is here! We need your help!**

- **Volunteer as a Preparer**
- **Volunteer as a Greeter**
- **Training is available**

Call Dara 870.864.7080 to get started.



**"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; *they have the heart.*"**

- Elizabeth Andrew



## JUST HANG UP!



It might be tempting to talk to a scammer or to ask politely "please stop calling me!"

However, answering the phone and responding to scammers can actually place you on call logs and target databases that will make you vulnerable to further attacks.



## New Medicare Card??

If you haven't ordered one, you are NOT getting a new Medicare card!



Have you gotten a call asking you to confirm your Medicare number or asking if you got a new Medicare card that's:

- plastic,
- microchipped,
- or for any other reason?

If so, it's a scammer trying to get your actual Medicare number to scam Medicare and steal your medical identity.

If you have received any of these calls or have given out your Medicare number, please contact your local Arkansas Senior Medicare Patrol at 866-726-2916.

## Volunteers:

Please turn in your volunteer hours monthly. Your **time is important and valuable** to us. A timesheet is enclosed with this newsletter. At the end of **January**, please record your volunteer hours and return the timesheet to our office. You might like to turn your hours in online at [www.eldoradoconnections.com](http://www.eldoradoconnections.com).

If you have a change of address, please let us know also. Thank you for being a part of the RSVP Program.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

SAVE THE DATE: The final opportunity to attend Volunteer Training for the 2025-26 school year is Friday, January 16th, at 1 pm at College Avenue Church of Christ!

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# VOLUNTEER TRAINING

★

COLLEGE AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST

1817 NORTH COLLEGE AVENUE

All volunteers **MUST** attend at least one training!

• Friday, January 16th at 1pm



**Happy New Year!** Say goodbye to 2025, a year of accomplishments and lots of memories. Say hello to 2026, a clean slate and a year of new opportunities. New Year's resolutions are made and broken each year, and according to the University of Scranton Journal of Clinical Psychology, here are the top ten:

1. Lose weight
2. Get organized
3. Spend less, save more
4. Enjoy life to the fullest
5. Stay fit and healthy
6. Learn something exciting
7. Quit smoking
8. Help others in their dreams
9. Fall in love
10. Spend more time with family



***"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."***

- C.S. Lewis

### Cheeseburger Soup

1 cup chopped onion  
1 lb. ground beef  
4 cups chicken broth  
1 tsp. dried parsley  
1/4 cup all purpose flour  
2 cups cheddar cheese (or Mexican or plain Velveeta)



1 cup chopped carrots  
4 cups cubed potatoes  
1 tsp. basil  
4 TB butter  
2 cups milk (2% fine)  
1/3 cup sour cream

Saute beef, carrots, and onion until beef is cooked. Drain off excess liquid. Stir in the basil, parsley, chicken broth and potatoes. Bring to a boil and simmer until potatoes are cooked (around 15-20 minutes). In a separate pan, melt the butter, stir in the flour until combined. Add the milk slowly and cook until smooth. Add the milk mixture to the soup. Bring to a boil and simmer gently or turn heat off. Add the cheese and let it melt in. Add the sour cream. Warm soup, but do not boil. Serve hot.



202 North Washington, Suite 107  
El Dorado, Arkansas 71730

RETURNED SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org  
U. S. Postage  
P.A.I.D.  
Permit No. 204  
El Dorado, AR 71730

Division of   
715 N. College, El Dorado, AR 71730



**RSVP**  
Lead With Experience

**RSVP STAFF**

Julia Amis, Director  
Dara Stanfill, Assistant Director

**Literacy Council Staff**

Linda Rathbun, Director  
Carolyn Wilson, Literacy Facilitator

**Advisory Council 2026**

Annette Pate-Chair  
Bonnie Miears-Vice Chair  
Larry Cave  
Bill Odom  
Shirley Randle  
Connie Short  
Joan Tribble  
Barbara Warrick

***EL DORADO  
EXPRESS***

Transportation for Senior Adults  
60 years of age and older

**870-864-7082**

Do you need a ride to the doctor? To the grocery store? Or to pay some bills? Give us a call we can make it happen.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*To provide a variety of opportunities for citizens to participate more fully in the life of their community through significant volunteer service and to advocate for the aging population in South Arkansas.*