

News Notes


Winter 2023 Newsletter


*Retired and Senior Volunteer Program and Foster Grandparent Program
...where volunteers make a difference*




RSVP of Dane County Celebrates 50 Years!



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 rsvpdane.org

This past year was very special as we celebrated RSVP's 50th Anniversary, capped off with a wonderful volunteer appreciation event on October 6th! After three years of not being able to hold our annual volunteer appreciation event due to the pandemic, it felt so good to celebrate together. Thank you to our 240 volunteers and friends for joining us for our milestone anniversary! Thank you to Emmy Fink, our emcee, and our speakers: Stoughton Mayor Tim Swadley, Dane County Executive Joe Parisi, City of Madison Deputy Mayor Katie Crawley, and AmeriCorps Seniors Portfolio Manager Michael Buff (see Michael's address on page 8). *continued on page 6*

Welcome to RSVP of Dane County!

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50th Anniv. Proclamations

RSVP Board Notes

I want to begin by wishing our RSVP staff, volunteers, board members and friends a happy holiday and a joyous happy new year. I always digress at this time of year with my “reflections.” I like to look back on the events of the past year so that I can more fully appreciate what was very meaningful and memorable to me.

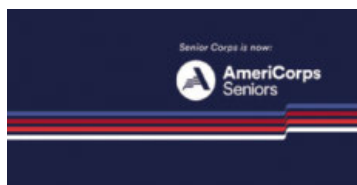


2022 – RSVP: Another challenging year with COVID disrupting what we do every day but proving once again how resilient and determined RSVP is in carrying out our mission: “To make a positive impact in the community by recruiting volunteers 55 and older to help deliver priority services to people of all ages, providing Dane County with a valuable resource.” Our vision aspires to build and expand a community-wide network of volunteers who enrich the lives of the volunteers while enhancing support for people in need. We work at this each and every day in serving others. There have been many other events with meaningful purposes and results, but the following stands far above and beyond all of them: RSVP celebrated its 50th anniversary of service to the public. Since 1972 RSVP volunteers have contributed over 8 million hours of service to our communities.

On October 6th, 2022, we celebrated this momentous event in Stoughton. This marked the first time we have been able to hold a volunteer appreciation event since 2019 due to COVID. What a glorious, fun-filled day. Many thanks to the staff, friends, and volunteers who helped make this a most memorable event.

Let us all begin 2023 with a positive outlook for the future and to continue to seek out others who can benefit from being associated with RSVP. We can never have enough volunteers. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to help lead and guide RSVP as the board president. I am forever grateful to be associated with some of the finest people I know.

Richard Hoffman



A Note From the Executive Director

From the desk of... **Margie Zutter, Executive Director**

In the U.S., 40% of people who have a disability and 43% of people aged 65 or older say they feel lonely some or all the time. Loneliness is associated with physical, emotional, and psychological health impacts such as greater risk for cardiovascular disease, depression, memory problems, and even abuse or neglect.

For 50 years, RSVP of Dane County has been working to reduce social isolation and loneliness among older adults and those they serve. RSVP volunteers testify to the benefits of their service including helping them to stay connected, reducing social isolation, and easing loneliness. I regularly receive

feedback like the following: "I am involved in a variety of volunteer experiences that enrich my days and keep me in touch with others," and, "Volunteers address real needs and volunteer service also leads to other RSVP friendships."

We believe in our mission and want to make sure all feel welcome to volunteer. As part of an effort to continuously improve the volunteer experience with RSVP, we are partnering with a third-party, Deborah Biddle of The People Company, a certified diversity professional and a consultant specializing in diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). She and her team

will work with us to deepen our DEI commitment to advance our vision, mission and values. In addition to interviews and focus group discussions, a survey was emailed to all volunteers in December. The People Company will be providing us with a report and recommendations. We want to

continued on page 4



Krishna Sijapati

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GIVINGTUESDAY was a RECORD BREAKER!

by Diana Jost

Giving
TUESDAY

We are very excited to announce that with your help we were able to meet our match challenge and more! We also broke our previous record by raising a total of \$17,821.00 to support all of the wonderful work our volunteers are doing in the community.

A special thank you to those who contributed the matching funds this year. Matching funds are the key to the success of the campaign. Donors are more likely to give when they know that their donation is being matched.

We are so grateful to all of our friends, volunteers, and community collaborators for each and every effort made that makes a difference in someone's life.

Next year #GivingTuesday will be on Tuesday November 28th, 2023, and it is never too early to start planning. If you would like to be a part of next year's planning committee, please contact Diana Jost at Djost@rsvpdane.org or call (608) 441-1393. We are already looking for people who can contribute matching funds for next year's campaign. If you would like to help, please let us know.

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention"... Oscar Wilde



Want to get in touch with us?

Simply dial 608.238.7787 (RSVP) or email us at info@rsvpdane.org.

Or, you can reach individual staff members directly at the phone numbers/email addresses listed below. In the event we're not available at the time you call, our 24-hour voice mail will ensure you receive a prompt response.

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New Grants and Additional Funding

In September, RSVP was awarded a \$1,500 grant from the Stoughton Area Community Foundation for Vets Helping Vets-Stoughton. We appreciate the continuing support from the Stoughton Area Community Foundation to help provide rides for veterans of all ages.

In December, RSVP received \$2,000 from the Middleton William "Sonny" Simon VFW Post 8216. This funding is used to help RSVP's Vets Helping Vets program with transportation for younger veterans. Post 8216 was instrumental in starting our Vets Helping Vets program and we appreciate their on-going support.



Bob Topel, a member of Post 8216, former RSVP staff member and current RSVP volunteer, presents the check for RSVP to Margie Zutter.

RSVP of Dane County Celebrates 50 Years!

continued from cover page

We enjoyed listening to Universal Sound and seeing the 50th Anniversary slide show by Karen Cunningham. (Karen spent over 100 hours scanning new and old photos and creating a PowerPoint slide show.)

In addition to RSVP volunteer awards (19 President's Volunteer Service Awards and 62 RSVP Length of Service Awards), fifteen Focal Points and Senior Centers received awards for all they do to support older adults, volunteers, and our program. In order to start an RSVP program, there needs to be a sponsoring agency. Unfortunately, our first sponsor folded after one year. We were very lucky that The Colonial Club offered to be our second sponsor. (Four years later, we made the decision to become a self-sponsored nonprofit organization, but we are grateful to The Colonial Club for helping us in such a big way.) Each Dane County Senior Center/Focal Point plays a critical role as an RSVP partner. We rely on them to help us recruit and coordinate volunteer drivers and volunteer ride schedulers for Driver Escort, Home Delivered Meals, and food delivery. Many senior centers/focal points are a meeting place for RSVP Group Projects/Homeworkers. RSVP volunteers also serve as receptionists, at the nutrition sites, and in intergenerational assignments such as Computer Buddies.

This event would not have been possible without our funders: AmeriCorps, State of Wisconsin, Dane County, City of Madison, and City of Monona. We also are thankful for our Corporate and individual event sponsors:

Diamond Sponsors: Madison Gas & Electric, UW Health, Unity Point Health – Meriter & Quartz

Gold Sponsor: WPS Health Solutions

Silver Sponsors: Custer Financial Services, Mike and Barbara Foley, Hooper Foundation, SSM Health at Home, Stoughton Area Community Foundation, TDS Telecom, US Bank

Bronze Sponsors: Corporate Business Systems, Group Health Cooperative, Herb Kohl Philanthropies, Sub-Zero and Wolf Foundation, Wegner CPAs

Special thanks to our 50th Anniversary Recognition Committee members for planning this event, Mike Plautz for securing door prizes, Mary Odell for creating the RSVP Length of Service certificates, LuAnn Paepke for knitting the pumpkin table decorations, Karen Cunningham for creating the PowerPoint presentation, Inkworks, Inc. for designing the 50th Anniversary invitation, Jack Guzman for designing the program booklet, and Sadie Lawson, photographer.



**Margie Zutter, RSVP
Executive Director**



Focal Point Partners

CALENDAR

February 20th, RSVP Board Meeting, 1:30-3:30 PM

April 24th, RSVP Board Meeting, 1:30-3:30 PM

RSVP Monthly Zoom Events dates and times will be announced via Constant Contact emails. If you are not receiving email messages, please contact Jack Guzman, at 608 238-7933, to provide your email address.

VOLUNTEERS IN THE NEWS

Shirley Steinbeck, Sun Prairie Star, October 2022

RSVP Volunteers, WSJ letter to the Editor, November 20, 2022

Neil McCallum, recipient of AARP's Andrus Award for Community Service, November 2022



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50th Anniversary Address by Michael Buff, AmeriCorps Grants Officer

For those who are new to volunteer work with RSVP and FGP, I would like to welcome you and thank you for your service. There are quite a few in attendance who have volunteered for multiple years as well as others who have served for multiple decades. Thank you for your continued dedication and leadership. To all of you, thank you for choosing to share your skills and passion with us.

One thing I love about AmeriCorps Seniors is that it connects people who are committed to serving others. Not only are you a part of a community here at RSVP of Dane County, but you're also a member of a larger national service family, which is made up of volunteers across the country.

Collectively, you have impacted hundreds of thousands of individuals.

- Last year, more than 170,000 seniors volunteered through the AmeriCorps Seniors program, including over 19,000 in FGP and 146,000 in RSVP.
- Together you served 47 million hours
- ... and provided more than \$1 billion worth of services

As our nation continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, your service is more important than ever. As FGP and RSVP volunteers, you are in a unique position to utilize your skills and talents to address challenges that intensified over the past few years, including:

- learning loss experienced by vulnerable students
- food insecurity
- lack of access to medical services
- as well as barriers to aging in place

... But while your work aids in meeting critical community needs, AmeriCorps Seniors was also created to benefit (you) its volunteers. As many of you are aware, volunteering has been linked to a host of benefits including improving physical and mental health, particularly for older adults. It's our hope that through these programs, you feel a sense of fulfillment through community and personal growth.

I'd like to thank the staff at RSVP of Dane County for your hard work. There's no better time to reflect on tradition and on legacy than during a 50-year anniversary. This organization is the oldest RSVP program in Wisconsin and one of the oldest in the country. Its longevity reflects your ability to identify and adapt to evolving community needs as well as a willingness to engage in meaningful partnerships. I'd like to highlight the leadership provided by Margie and Diana. Not only are you incredible stewards of national service, but you're also tireless advocates for program participants and your community. I feel extremely fortunate to work with you and to learn from you.

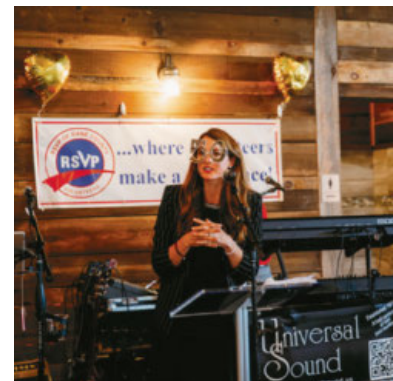
Again, to everyone here today, volunteers, RSVP of Dane County staff, and community partners, thank you for all that you do and your continued support of national service.



Michael Buff



**President's Service
Award Recipients**



Emmy Fink, Emcee

Meet Shirley Steinbeck, 2022 President's Volunteer Service Award Winner by Kate Seal, RSVP Group Projects Coordinator

On October 6th, at RSVP of Dane County's 50th Anniversary Volunteer Appreciation Event, RSVP volunteer Shirley Steinbeck of Sun Prairie was honored with the President's Volunteer Service Award for serving 4,000 hours of volunteer service to her community.

Born in 1935 into a Missouri farming and country lifestyle, Shirley remembers her mother sewing their childhood clothes on an old Singer treadle sewing machine, which her father later added a motor to. Reflecting a bit further back on the family tree, she recalls stories of her grandmother using feed sacks to make clothes for Shirley's mom and siblings. Three feed sacks made a dress. Two feed sacks made an apron. Moreover, her family made 'utility quilts', tied with scraps of yarn that her aunt brought home from the hat factory she worked at. From birth, Shirley was immersed in a life of labor, resourcefulness, and creativity.



Shirley Steinbeck

Even now, working with her hands fills Shirley's days. She volunteers her time with the RSVP Group Projects Program, sewing quilts, face masks, tote bags, walker bags, wheelchair bags (you name it, she'll sew it) for community donations. "Sewing is therapy! It gives me something productive to do!", Shirley always says. "Honestly, I'm doing this just as much for me as I am for the people who receive my projects." Shirley is not a shy woman. She speaks her mind and wants everyone to know that she is not your typical philanthropist-type volunteer. She just really loves to keep busy and claims that her family is up to their eyeballs in quilts as it is. Volunteering with RSVP is simply the perfect fit so she can keep doing what she loves, in turn having a place to distribute the gifts she makes.

Shirley's been a widow for 25 years and recently lost her best friend to COVID. "Sitting around, doing nothing but feeling sorry for myself, is my idea of torture." Rather, she delights in visiting fabric stores, meets with fellow Sun Prairie RSVP Group Projects volunteers at the Colonial Club and quilts/sews at home in the company of her beloved cat. She loves the feel of fabric and mixing & matching colors. And she's got a system down... one day she irons, another day she cuts, then yet another day she sews. Before she knows it, she has 50 tote bags done, ready to be donated to RSVP, who will then distribute them to local nonprofits.

RSVP Group Projects Program mission is to keep our community warm, safe, supported, and comforted by donating volunteer-crafted creations to Dane County nonprofit or public organizations. In 2021, this program donated over 15,000 volunteer-crafted creations to over 65 community recipients! If you're like Shirley, and you have some time and passion in either sewing, knitting or crocheting, please join our efforts! And if you are a member of a nonprofit or public agency and serve people who could benefit from our donations, please contact Kate Seal, RSVP Group Projects Coordinator at kseal@rsvpdane.org or 608-310-7280. "Wear it out, don't let it rust!" as Shirley says.

AARP Wisconsin Selects Triad of Wisconsin Volunteer to Receive Its Andrus Award for Community Service

by Mike Thomsen, RSVP Triad Program Coordinator

Neil McCallum of Madison has been volunteering with RSVP's Triad program for four years doing everything from writing articles for the Triad Newsletter to updating the Triad of Wisconsin website to helping organize the annual Triad Conference as well as sitting on the Triad of Wisconsin Board. His talents and wise counsel have been invaluable to Triad's success. Triad, though, has not been the only beneficiary of Neil's extensive volunteer service to the community. Neil has led the AARP Driver Safety program for many years, worked with the "Wheels for Winners", and numerous other community organizations.

Recognizing Neil's many contributions, AARP Wisconsin recently named him the 2022 recipient of the AARP Andrus Award for Community Service. Congratulations, Neil, and thank you for your service to the community. You can download the full announcement from AARP here <https://bit.ly/wiandrus22>.



Neil McCallum

Intergenerational Program Volunteers Continue to Make a Difference in Dane County Schools

by Jen Roth

While COVID-19 (and other viruses) are still wreaking havoc in our communities, including schools, a number of RSVP volunteers have found their way back into the classroom as tutors or aides, story readers, or library assistants. One of our volunteers, Jerry Frisch, thoroughly enjoys his work as a volunteer math tutor, and takes pride in knowing how valued his work is. One of his students, named Sarah, wrote a note that Jerry especially prizes:

"I wanted to thank you for all of the help you gave me during this school year in Algebra 2. You helped me learn to solve problems in much easier ways and I know for a fact that I wouldn't have succeeded in the class if it weren't for you. You also showed me that my grade in the class didn't define my success beyond high school. I appreciate all of the time you put aside in your personal life to help me better succeed in math. I hope you continue to help others in the way that you helped me because it has a positive impact on others' lives. I always enjoyed math, but you helped me gain a larger appreciation for it because it challenged me and forced me to go beyond my comfort zone. I will never forget how much you've helped me this year, and I'll miss doing math with you every week. I hope you'll continue to enjoy golf and make large impacts on other people's lives like you did for me."

RSVP thanks all of our Intergenerational Program Volunteers. If you are interested in participating in the program, please call Diana Jost, Assistant Director of RSVP, at 608-441-1393.

WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS

We enrolled 100 new volunteers from August, 2022, through November, 2022, serving in a wide variety of assignments throughout Dane County. Do you know someone who might like to volunteer? RSVP volunteers are our best recruiters as they spread the word about why they like volunteering and the need for more volunteers. Please pass this newsletter on to a friend or neighbor and tell them what RSVP means to you!

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Carol Birch
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Jeanna Haak
Dixie Haefner
Sandra Lee M. Hanisko
Deborah Hanson
Scott Haumersen
Mary Helmke
Ronda Hensler

Patricia Herrling
Kay Holstein
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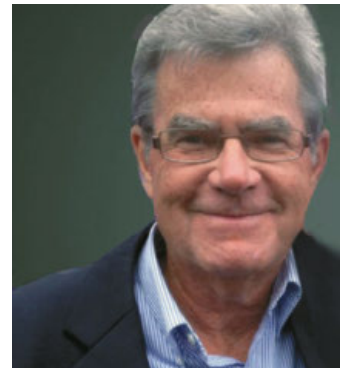
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Education and Therapy through Music – Veterans Day Celebration 2022

by Lorrie Hylkema, RSVP Vets Helping Vets Coordinator

RSVP staff and volunteers were blessed with two veterans from two different eras this past Veterans Day week for RSVP's monthly Zoom event.

Doug Bradley, UW professor emeritus, Vietnam veteran and educator, spoke about the effect of music on active military and veterans during the Vietnam War era, the commonalities among the military and veterans who relate to the music of their time, and the significance of the words written in the songs popular during these wars: Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan.



Doug Bradley, Vietnam Veteran, Speaker, and Educator

Jason Moon, award winning singer-songwriter, veteran of the Iraq War, and founder and CEO of Warrior Songs, performed to start off the event. The song he chose to sing, "For What It's Worth by Buffalo Springfield," is one of the most popular songs of any war period from Vietnam onward according to Doug Bradley. It speaks to the morality of warfare and how deeply war affects us all.



Jason Moon, Singer-Songwriter, Iraq Veteran, and Founder/CEO of Warrior Songs

Bradley spoke of Elton John, famous during the Vietnam era for the song Daniel, My Brother. This song is about a Vietnam veteran (no relation to Elton John) who just wanted to get back to his farm in Texas but couldn't find peace when he did make it home. He ended up leaving America. Another artist Bradley focused on was Bruce Springsteen who was deeply affected by dodging the draft after being turned down to serve due to a motorcycle accident and related concussion.

Meeting the founder and members of Vietnam Veterans of America at a concert in LA in 1981, a majority of whom were mostly paralyzed from war injuries, Springsteen was driven to speak out about the effects of war and the war machine in the song "Born in the USA." This song particularly focused on veterans being ignored after the Vietnam War. We all know the lyrics, but in a different light, as Bradley showed, they take on a different and purposeful meaning.

Moon spoke about his favorite song, "Disquieted Mind," which is found on his CD titled *The Last Thing We Ever Do*. The meaning of Disquieted Mind is personal and heart wrenching. A soldier "Just doesn't know how to make it right" with his disquieted mind.

Bradley and Moon agree that music is one way that soldiers and veterans can share their struggles from the war -- from songwriting to singing or other forms of art. Jason Moon's organization Warrior Songs focuses on healing veterans through music. A program called *Story to Song* has produced three compilation albums featuring the talents and testimonies of over 150 veterans (according to Moon in his bio).

RSVP Vets Helping Vets thanks all staff and volunteers who took part in our monthly Zoom events. Participants in November's event received either a boxed set of CDs from Jason Moon and Warrior Songs or an autographed book co-written by Doug Bradley and Craig Werner titled We Gotta Get Out of This Place: The Soundtrack of the Vietnam War.



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Stay Safe This Winter With These Tips

From Madison Gas and Electric Company (MGE)

Safety has been and continues to be our top priority at MGE. We are committed to meeting our fundamental responsibility of providing safe, reliable energy to those we serve. Follow these tips to stay safe this winter.

Natural Gas Safety

We add a distinctive, harmless chemical odor to the natural gas we deliver to you. This smelly (rotten egg or rotten cabbage), sulfur-based odor will help you detect gas leaks that might occur in your home, business or neighborhood. If you smell natural gas, evacuate the area immediately and call MGE's Emergency Response Line at (608) 252-1111.

Other important gas safety tips:

- Do not touch anything that might create a spark (light switch, telephone, cell phone, garage opener, etc.)
- If your pilot light is out, read the manufacturer's instructions so you know what type of ignition is on the furnace or appliance. Be sure to check the instructions and follow them exactly as described. If you aren't sure what to do, call a qualified service technician.

Carbon Monoxide Safety

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a clear, odorless gas produced by burning fuels like natural gas, propane, oil, wood, kerosene or charcoal. At high levels, CO can kill a person in minutes. Fetuses, infants, older adults and people with anemia or a history of heart or respiratory disease can be especially susceptible.

Symptoms of CO poisoning:

- Low levels of CO poisoning may cause shortness of breath, nausea or headaches.
- Moderate levels can cause severe headaches, dizziness, confusion, nausea or fainting.
- Moderate levels of exposure over a long period of time can cause death.

Many of these symptoms are similar to those caused by the flu, food poisoning or other illnesses. If you think you have symptoms caused by CO poisoning, leave the house to get fresh air immediately and be sure to call 911 and seek medical attention.

Keep Your Vents and Meters Clear of Ice and Snow

We want you to be safe when the snow piles up. That's why we recommend you keep the area around gas meter equipment clear of snow and ice. Be sure to carefully remove heavy snow and ice by hand to avoid damaging the meter. Blocked vents also can cause furnaces and water heaters to shut down, potentially leading to a buildup of carbon monoxide or a costly service call. Use a long screwdriver to clear snow and ice carefully from the end of the pipes.

Visit mge.com for more information on gas and electric safety.

Memorials and Tributes

Memorial and tribute gifts to RSVP are a meaningful way to honor someone special and to extend the services provided by volunteers. Every dollar contributed allows us to enrich the lives of many children, families, and older persons.

CONTRIBUTIONS WERE MADE TO RSVP IN MEMORY OF...

Elizabeth "Betty" Amacker by Judith Amacker
Delbert Anderson by Dean and Kristi Anderson
James Ballweg by Lucille J. Ballweg
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20 Years of Service to RSVP by Kathleen Saunders
All Children Everywhere by Karen and Jerry Cook
Pam Bradford by Anne Tigan
Dana Feters by Hy E. and James Miller
Margaret Jensen by Richard and Marcia Taugher
Sheri Mauerman by Mary Irene Connor
RSVP's 50th Anniversary by Peg Davey, Amy and Art Keleny, Margaret Urban, and Keith and Margie Zutter
Kate and Robb Seal by Thomas and Susan Seal
Volunteer Ride Providers by Sue Schroeder
Margie Zutter by Jim and Barbara Brigham

In-kind Donations

In-kind donations were received from Tom Behm, Lois Kallunka, Sally Lee, Jenny Opprieht, Pat Osborn, Crystal Stephen, Michele Skartvedt, and Doreen Tinsley.

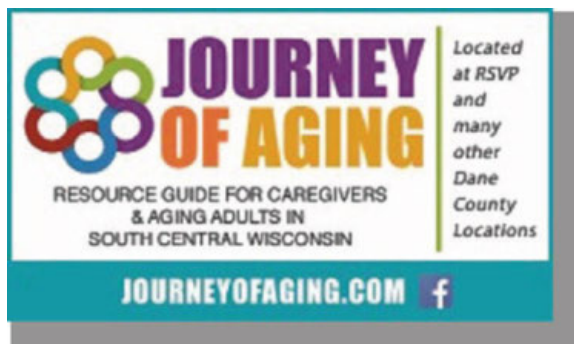
WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS

continued from page 11

Karen Lucas	Ava Patrow
Donald Lund	Charles E. Paul
Pete Manderfield	Beverly Pfister
Kathy Martinson	Lynne Pongetti
Sue A. Mielke	Val Quinn
Melody Moore	Marlene Richard
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Lynn Schwoerer
Marilyn E. Sharrow
Rebecca Sheahan
Joan Sholdt
Michael Smith
Cynthia M. Staley
Carol Ann Stevenson

Kathryn Stoffregen
Megan M. Stone
Michelle Swader-Harnisch
Clifton J. Teeter
Elizabeth M. Van Kampen
Monica VanZuiden
Wendy M. Vysoky
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Valerie Waszak
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RSVP Volunteer Opportunities



"Life is never so busy that there is no time to serve." - author unknown

... where volunteers make a difference

WINTER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

ST. VINCENTS FOOD PANTRY is open for in-person shopping again after several years of being only drive-thru. They need many new volunteers to help pack food boxes, stock shelves, sort donations, and load cars outside. Hours and days vary.

NEWBRIDGE needs Volunteer Guardians and Representative Payees! A **Guardian** is someone appointed by the State of Wisconsin to make medical, housing, and other decisions for an older adult who can no longer manage their finances. A **Representative Payee** is someone who works through the Social Security Administration to help manage the Social Security funds of an older adult who can no longer manage their funds. All volunteers will go through training and supervision. Time is flexible and will require 2-6 hours a month.

Braille Library and Transcription Services trains volunteers to prepare and provide books in braille of all kinds; children's stories, schoolbooks for all ages (pre-school to grad-school), books for leisure reading, cookbooks, knitting patterns, work-related material and much, much more.

As an RSVP Volunteer, YOU can help make this happen, too! A new class will be starting this January 2023. All of our transcribers take a one-year free braille transcription course that consists of weekly classes and culminates in certification by the Library of Congress.

CATHOLIC MULTICULTURAL CENTER needs more meal servers and cooks throughout the month. Free community meal serving is 3:30-5:30 weeknights and 9:30-12:30 weekends. Cooking is anytime but the meal must be done by 3:30 p.m.

HABITAT RESTORE needs volunteers to help sort and shelve used and new building materials and supplies, assist shoppers, and work at the cash register with purchases. Morning and afternoon shifts are available Tuesday – Saturday. Most current need is at the Eastside store on Monona Drive.

SSM ST MARY'S HOSPITAL needs help with their **At Your Service** program (escorting patients and families, delivering belongings, etc.), **Patient Registration** (welcoming patients and escorting them to their destination), **Surgical Waiting Area** supporting families while their loved one is in surgery, offering caring presence and support through touch and conversation.

AMERICAN RED CROSS welcome donors, help them register, provide friendly support, and assist them with refreshments as a **Blood Donor Ambassador**. As a Red Cross **Blood Transport** driver, you can make sure blood is available for patients in need in Wisconsin.

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WINTER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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AGRACE HOSPICE CARE has **Kitchen Volunteer** opportunities including Small Batch Baker, Café Cashier, Nutrition Center Stocking, Soup Brigade, and Kitchen Prep to assist the Kitchen Team with small prep and recipe work. It's a great place to use your kitchen and cooking skills!

Please contact Jan Karst, RSVP Volunteer Programs Community Connections Coordinator, for more information about these Volunteer Opportunities at jkarst@rsvpdane.org or (608) 441-7891.

RSVP's Marketing Committee Needs New Members

by Mary Dwyer

Are you enthusiastic about RSVP and our mission? Do you enjoy brainstorming in a group setting? Are you a problem-solver? RSVP could use a few new volunteer members on our Marketing Committee to spend an hour or two each month helping us generate creative ideas to promote and market RSVP.

Marketing is, quite simply, making people aware of an organization's services and needs through advertising, social media, community events, and so on. We need more people on the committee – including a chairperson to steer the committee as well as supporting members – to help us introduce RSVP to as much of our community as possible. There is a great need for volunteers in our various programs, and we need new and creative ways to inform the residents of Dane County about these volunteer opportunities. If you have prior experience in advertising or marketing, fantastic! But that is not at all necessary. What is most important is that you would like to be part of an enthusiastic group that generates ideas to help us promote RSVP and our mission.

If the above describes you, we would love to talk to you. Come and attend a marketing committee meeting and tour our office. See if joining the committee would be a good fit for you. To get started, please call RSVP at 608-238-7787 and ask for Diana. She will answer your questions and hopefully to set up a time to come visit us. Thank you for considering this opportunity.

RSVP Donor Honor Roll

continued from page 18

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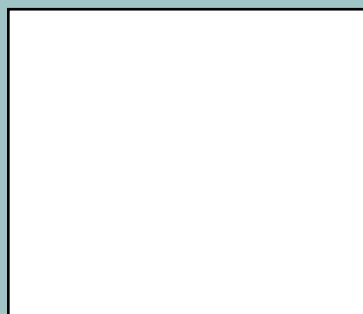
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