



# News

January 2009

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## **Mesa County RSVP, Inc. 36th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Event**

**Diamond Sponsor:**

*Callahan Edfest*

Mortuary & Crematory  
 "Locally owned & operated since 1910"



**Friday, March 27, 2009  
 Two Rivers Convention Center  
 159 Main Street  
 Grand Junction, CO 81501**

**Volunteer Fair  
 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
 Free and Open to the Public**

**Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon  
 1-3:30 p.m.  
 Emcee: Rick Thurtle  
 Keynote Speaker  
 Entertainment**

All registered RSVP volunteers, and selected honored individuals are invited to be our guests at the luncheon for no charge.

In order to attend the luncheon at no charge, new volunteers must be registered with RSVP by March 15, 2009. Call in Your **Mandatory** Reservation by March 13, 2009, 4 p.m. Seating is Limited.

If a registered RSVP volunteer wishes to bring a guest who is not registered, or if someone new would like to attend the luncheon, the cost is **\$15 payable in advance.**

**Visit our  
 Website at  
[rsvpgrandjunction.org](http://rsvpgrandjunction.org)**

**Please Remember  
 Mesa County RSVP, Inc.,  
 in your will, trust,  
 life insurance policy,  
 or retirement plan.**

# RSVP

The Mesa County RSVP, Inc.  
is part of the Senior Corps  
through the  
**Corporation for National and  
Community Service**

**Office Location:**

Lower Level of the US Bank at  
4th and White

**Mailing Address:**

PO Box 1077  
Grand Junction, CO 81502

**Phone:** (970) 243-9839

**FAX:** (970) 245-4808

**Web Site:**

[www.rsvpgrandjunction.org](http://www.rsvpgrandjunction.org)

**E-Mail:**

[rsvp@rsvpgrandjunction.org](mailto:rsvp@rsvpgrandjunction.org)

## Staff

**Executive Director:**

Jean Brewer

**Office Manager:**

Aleta Ballard

**Volunteer Manager:**

Ruth McCrea

**Handyman Project**

**Coordinator:**

Sherry Taylor Warner

## Board of Directors

**Executive Committee:**

**President:** Terri Potente

**Vice President :** Kay Fiegel

**Secretary:** LeAnn Zetmeir

**Treasurer:** Verna Seal

**Board Members:**

Beth Somerville

Clayton Dause

Rochelle Larson

Sandra Austin

Joseph Moreng

Andrea Clark French

## Office Volunteers

Elva Rogers - One Time Projects

Jean Witwer - Clerical Support

Linda Moreng - Clerical Support

Linda Digby - Clerical Support

Judy Campbell—Clerical Support

Grace Croxton - HND Surveys

Muriel Ellis - In Kind Donations

Wini Caros - Historian

**Newsletter Setup:**

Jean Brewer & Aleta Ballard



# HATS OFF TO YOU ...

- ◆ **First Presbyterian Church** for letting us use their Fellowship Hall for our Holiday Party again!
- ◆ **Judy Thompson** for stepping as the temporary Handyman Coordinator while we searched for a permanent replacement.
- ◆ **Muriel Ellis** for working hard to get door prizes for our Holiday Party and other events.
- ◆ **Callahan Edfast Mortuary and Mike and Nikki Blackburn** for agreeing to be our Diamond Presenting Sponsor for our Volunteer Appreciation Event in March of 2009.
- ◆ **To the Eight Active SHIP Counselors** who helped more than 150 seniors and people with disabilities with issues and questions about Medicare Part D Prescription Drug plan, and other issues.
- ◆ **Door Prize Donors:**
  - ◆ Albertsons Grocery Store on 12th Street
  - ◆ Bed Bath & Beyond
  - ◆ Blockbuster Video Store
  - ◆ Botanical Gardens
  - ◆ Burger King on Horizon Drive
  - ◆ Carino's Italian Grill
  - ◆ Chick Fil-A Restaurant
  - ◆ Grand International Buffet
  - ◆ Hastings Videos and Books
  - ◆ IHOP Restaurant
  - ◆ Olive Garden Restaurant
  - ◆ Outback Steakhouse Restaurant
  - ◆ Papa Murphey's Pizza
  - ◆ Pretzelmaker in the Mall
  - ◆ Red Lobster Restaurant
  - ◆ Red Robin Restaurant
  - ◆ Starbucks
  - ◆ The Ale House Restaurant
  - ◆ The Chocolate Factory
  - ◆ The Vitamin Cottage
  - ◆ True Value Hardware Stores
  - ◆ Village Inn on Horizon Drive
  - ◆ Wendy's on Horizon Drive
  - ◆ WW Pepper Restaurant

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## **AARP Tax Aide Program Sites**

Computer generated  
Federal and State returns with E-filing  
**FREE** For taxpayers of ANY age

Sites available February 2 – April 15, 2009

- **US Bank (basement)** - 4th and Grand - (MTW 9 – 3) Starts Feb. 2. Please do NOT park in the bank parking lot! Use the elevator by the south door.
- **Senior Center** - 550 Ouray St. - (Fri. 12:30 - 3: 30 and Sat. 9 – 12) Starts Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>.
- **Veterans Medical Center - CLOSED - Replaced by: Wells Fargo Bank** (basement); North Ave. and 28<sup>th</sup> - (Tues. & Thurs. 9 - 12)
- **Clifton Community Center** - 126 2nd St. Clifton (Tues. & Thurs. 9 - 12) Starts Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Each taxpayer should bring the following:**

- Social security cards or an accurate record of the taxpayer identification numbers for all individuals involved.
- Driver's license or state ID card
- All income documents – W2s, 1099s etc.
- For direct deposit of refunds, a voided check with account and routing numbers.
- A copy of last year's return could be helpful.

**Keep in Mind:**  
Counselors are unable to do complex returns.  
During the first 2 weeks of Feb., there is usually a long wait!



It is TAX time  
Again!  
It is TAX time  
Again!

# Calendar of Events

## January

Turn in your December timesheets

- 1 New Year's Day - RSVP closed
- 21 RSVP Board Meeting at Noon
- 19 Martin Luther King Day - Closed



## February

Turn in your January timesheets

- 14 Valentine's Day
- 16 President's Day - Closed
- 18 RSVP Board Meeting at Noon



## March

Turn in your February timesheets

- 8 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 18 RSVP Board Meeting at Noon
- 27 RSVP Recognition Event



## Welcome New RSVP Volunteers

Through December 18, 2008

Marcia Bilbao, MD	Michael O'Connor
Beth Campbell	Sherry Opp
Linda Digby	Dianne Renear
Nancie Flenard	William Roasberry
Maureen Grim	Kenneth Ruth
Dave Hartung	Kathy Scheid
Ethel Kalmon	Thomas Schroer
Cathi Lehman	Darlene Smith
Amalia	Margery Stone
Barbara Lyons	Laurie Tashiro
Phillip Mangan	Sandra VanSlayke
Patricia Martin	Kong Heang Vong
Bill Mitchell	Gail White
Ginger Mitchell	



### Agency Spotlight

#### COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

The Community Food Bank, an all-volunteer organization serving the elderly, homeless, children, and the working poor of Mesa County, has been in operation over 30 years, according to Jane Craig, Program Coordinator. They are located at 486 Morning Glory Lane in Grand Junction and are open every day between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. except for weekends and holidays. Individuals and families can receive food up to a maximum of nine times per year.

During October 2008, Food Bank volunteers served 1,734 people, and the number increased to 1,847 in November. Client numbers are generally lower at other times of the year. However, Jane is noticing a steady increase in clients, possibly due to a variety of causes such as job loss, more people moving into the area without a job, or the worsening state of the economy.

"The people of Mesa County have been extremely generous," said Jane. "Especially the guys at radio station *95Rock*, who put on a food drive every year by sleeping in dumpsters during the drive."

If you would like to make a donation, fresh fruit, vegetables, canned goods, and even a few non-food items (such as hygiene products) are gratefully accepted weekdays between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

So the next time you shop, pick up a little something extra and take it to the Community Food Bank. You may contact Jane on her cell phone at 640-0336 during their normal hours of operation.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Listed below are just a few of the ongoing volunteer requests available:

- **THE RETREAT COMMUNITIES** is looking for people to help with resident activities (call bingo, play cards, play piano, etc).
- **ATRIUM SENIOR RESIDENCE** needs two volunteers to teach basic email computer skills.
- **EAGLE RIDGE OF THE GRAND VALLEY** needs people to play soft guitar music during dinner as well as people to play cards with the residents.
- **MESA COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES** is looking for someone who loves dogs to do follow-up phone calls to new dog adopters.
- **WESTERN COLORADO AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER** is looking for an Administrative Assistant with computer skills (Access, Excel, Word, etc.)
- **GIRL SCOUTS OF COLORADO** is seeking an Outdoor Program Center Volunteer for pond/yard maintenance at their main site in Grand Junction.
- **THE MESA COUNTY DA'S OFFICE** is seeking legal clerks to help with attorney paperwork.
- **ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION** needs a Helpline Follow-up Volunteer to talk to caregivers who have called the Helpline

**Call 243-9839 for information or check our website for a full listing of opportunities at:**

**[rsvp@rsvpgrandjunction.org](mailto:rsvp@rsvpgrandjunction.org)**

### Welcome New Member Agency!

**Artspace & Open Studios** - This agency joined in December and offers promotion and marketing for artists and their work helping them increase revenues through art sales. They also offer art seminars. **Volunteers Needed** to help with mailings, events and checking in artists and art for display.

## SENIOR SCHOLAR NEWS

by Ruth McCrea

### Give Tutoring A Try!

Have you considered participating in RSVP's Senior Scholar Project?

We sent a survey recently to our current Senior Scholars. One of the sections asked for background experience, education, talent, or interests a person felt enhanced their qualifications as a Senior Scholar.

**Here is the response from Margy Heitt (Senior Scholar in Brandi MacDonald's class at Clifton Elementary):**

"I have absolutely no experience in childhood education, which is exactly what motivated me to volunteer for the Senior Scholar Project, and what keeps me coming back week after week for the 4 years I've been involved. After a long and exhausting career in a very high stress profession, it is so refreshing to go to Clifton Elementary School on Tuesday mornings and know that I have a chance to make some small difference in the life and/or education of a 1st grader! It is my privilege to work with an exceptional teaching team in Mrs. MacDonald and Mrs. Jennifer, and to learn a little from them each week. I would recommend the Senior Scholar Project to any retiree experiencing burnout and looking for something to fill the hours in a meaningful way."

If you are one of our Senior Scholars, I encourage you to answer the survey. Take the time to share success stories about your experience as a Senior Scholar. Let us know what motivates you to keep coming back. Share the challenges and rewards.

**Contact Ruth McCrea at 243-9839 if you are interested in making a difference in both your life and that of a child!**

## HANDYMAN PROJECT NEWS

### Sherry Taylor Warner is the New Handyman Project Coordinator



Sherry Taylor Warner joined the Staff of Mesa County RSVP, November 3, 2008, taking on the job of Handyman Project Coordinator. In her part-time capacity she will receive service requests from clients and agency

contacts, evaluate the requests for appropriateness, and pass them along to one of the 25 active Handyman volunteers.

Additionally, Sherry works part-time as a Histologist in the Department of Pathology at St. Mary's Hospital.

Prior to returning to the Grand Junction in October of 2000, Sherry was employed as the Volunteer Project Manager for Volunteers of America in Denver. As Project Manager for VOA, she oversaw the recruitment, screening, training, placement, and documentation of more than 7,000 Seasonal and Non-Seasonal volunteers.

Sherry comes from a background in Business Administration, and has served as a Docent volunteer for the Denver Zoo and a Loaned Executive for the United Way. Locally, Sherry's volunteer affiliations have been with St. Mary's Hospital and the Mesa State College Athletic Department.

She earned a BA in Social and Behavioral science from Mesa State College and is a Grand Junction native. In her free time, Sherry enjoys spending time with friends, knitting, yoga, tennis, and travel.

# Welcome!

# S.H.I.P. News

By: Ruth McCrea, RSVP Volunteer Manager and SHIP Coordinator

## One-to-One Counseling Available During Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan Open Enrollment/Disenrollment Period Jan-March 2009

Do you want to switch your Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan? Or do you think you enrolled in the wrong Medicare Part D plan during the Annual Election Period? Mesa County RSVP, Inc. has trained SHIP counselors to help Medicare recipients during the MA enrollment/disenrollment period from January 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>. The purpose of SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program) is to assist consumers in making informed Medicare choices. All counselors are volunteers, and the program is a free service.

Don't panic! Medicare help is here. SHIP counselors are available at the Mesa County RSVP office by appointment only. Call (970) 243-9839 for information.

## SHIP COUNSELOR TRAINING BEGINNING SOON

Our second year of training classes for SHIP counselors will be in February or March.

We are once again recruiting volunteers who would be willing to take a three-day training class at RSVP and become SHIP Counselors. The date is yet to be determined.

Call Ruth McCrea at RSVP at 243-9839 if you are interested in being a SHIP Counselor.

# City Market Cares

- ♥ Register all Active Value Cards in your Household
- ♥ Use your card every time you shop at City Market
- ♥ Sign up friends, family, neighbors and coworkers
- ♥ Please register **all new cards** with RSVP
- ♥ City Market or King Soopers- Sooper Cards can be registered for RSVP
- ♥ Fuel Center purchases DO count for our organization

City Market Cares through people like you, has donated a total of \$5,879.86 to our organization since April 2001!

**THANK YOU!!!**

**Make an Easy Painless Donation to RSVP. Fill this out, mail it to RSVP, and use your card when shopping at City Market.**

**If you have already filled one out, that is enough.**



Value Card Sign-Up Card



Organization Name: **Mesa County RSVP**

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Record these 10 digits in the Value Card box below.

Name: _____	Value Card Number _____
-------------	-------------------------

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone(\_\_\_\_)

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# Handyman Services

## What We Do. . .

- Minor Plumbing Repair
- Minor Electrical Repair
- Window Mounted Coolers
- Furnace Check up, Servicing
- Minor Furniture Repair
- Installing Grab Bars
- Wheelchair Ramp Building
- Minor Home Adaptations for Disabled
- Minor Carpentry

## What We Don't Do..

- Yard or Garden Work
- Roof Repair/Replacement
- Roof Top Coolers
- Furnace Repair
- Furniture Assembly
- Electrical Wiring
- Remodeling
- Carpet Cleaning
- Moving/Heavy Lifting
- House Cleaning
- Appliance Repair
- Rental Repairs

**To Help or if You Need Help, Call RSVP at 243-9839**

# Friends of RSVP

Our Office Space is Generously Donated by the 



## Patrons (\$500 +)

United Way of Mesa County  
Bacon Family Foundation  
Callahan-Edfast Mortuary  
Chick-Fil-A  
El Pomar Foundation  
Emil Woods  
Janus Foundation

Wells Fargo Bank  
Anschutz Family Foundation  
Kiwanis Foundation  
Daniels Fund  
AV Hunter Trust  
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Community Service

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City Market  
School District #51  
Grand Valley National Bank  
Fruita Thrift Shop  
Western Rockies FCU  
State of Colorado-SHIP

Herberger's Department Store  
Goodwin Foundation  
Junior Service League  
**2008 United Way Donor:**  
Bob and Sarah Walsh  
Rebecca Spiess  
Debi Overholt

## Sustaining Members (\$250 to \$499)

A.G. Edwards and Sons  
Commercial Federal  
1st Nat'l Bank of the Rockies  
Community Hospital  
Dorothy Jean Rome

Grand Junction FCU  
Home Loan  
Rio Grande Credit Union  
Palisade National Bank  
Western CO Community Foundation

Western Rockies FCU  
Wendy's Hamburgers  
LeAnn & Les Zetmeir

**2008 UNITED WAY DONORS**  
Jean A. Brewer

## Contributing Members (\$50 to \$249)

AARP Colorado  
Barbara Harmon  
Barnes & Noble Book Store  
Betty Thul  
Bud & Virginia Walcher  
Carol M. Sanchez  
Charles & Donna Roth  
Clayton & Mildred Dause  
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Melvin & Geraldine Thiebaud  
R. Ann Lamphere  
RMS Communications  
Richard & Linda Burkey  
Sandra Austin  
Steven Letterhos  
Thelma Cheatham  
Tillie & Pat Bishop

Village Inn on Horizon Drive  
Burger King on Horizon Drive  
**IN HONOR OF:**  
Norman & Nora Smith-Maxine Smith  
Robert & Claudia Smith-Maxine Smith  
Virginia and Jean Herbison-Richard  
Meysenburg  
**2008 UNITED WAY DONORS**  
Jeannette Kuchyt  
Trulie Oliver

## Participating Members (\$1 to \$49)

12th Street Albertsons  
Afton H. Gardner  
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Alfred & Katherine De Long  
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Beatrice Scruggs  
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Betty A. Buck  
Betty Johnson  
Beryl Oliver  
Beverly G. Pace  
Billie J. Sullivan  
Blockbuster Videos  
Bonnie Castor J. Hoover  
Botanical Gardens  
Carino's Italian Grill  
Carolyn Andrews  
Clara Williamson  
Clifford & Myrtle Lamb  
Cottonwood Liquors  
Culinary Corner  
David & Jacquelyn Pipe  
Dean Storm  
Dennis Niblack  
Diana Ross  
Dianna S. Wright  
Diane Saulnier

Edith Callison  
Edith & Orville Updike  
Edward & Cleo Blazek  
Edward Gilbert  
Eldon & Leona Hetzel  
Eldon & Mary Coffey  
Eileen A. Bowen  
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Emily Lenard  
Eyla Welborn  
F. W. Bissinger  
Felix & Dorothy Klobberdanz  
Fisher Liquor Barn  
Floyd Kelly  
Frances Y. Tatom  
Grand International Buffet  
Harmon C. Leonard  
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Helen McMenamin  
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IHOP Restaurant  
Jack & Beverly Kingsley  
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Orman & Dorothy Hawkins  
Outback Steakhouse  
Papa Murphy's Pizza  
Phyllis Guffy  
Pretzelmaker  
Red Lobster Restaurant  
Red Robin Restaurant  
Robert & Margaret Kratzer  
Rochelle Larson  
Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory

Ron & Opal Gifford  
Ruth White  
Sally Wood  
Starbucks Coffee  
Swede Winter  
The Ale House  
True Value Hardware  
T.L. & Nancy Morgan  
Verna Seal  
Vitamin Cottage  
Vernon & Marjorie Gatlery  
WW Peppers Restaurant  
William & Beatrice Williams  
William & Sylvia Venhuisen  
William & Wanda Wooters  
**IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES:**  
H. G. Wehmeyer for Ruth Ann Wehmeyer  
Margaret Jaeckel for Terry Jaeckel  
Myrtle Smith for Wallace McBride & Maxine  
Falsone  
Patty Lopez for Joe Lopez  
Sally Gaurmer for Gene Gaurmer

**2008 UNITED WAY DONOR**  
Robin K Nelson

**Thank You!**

Donors are listed here for 1 year from the time of donation. If for some reason we have omitted or misspelled a donor's name, please accept our apology. We would appreciate the chance to correct our records. Please call the RSVP office at 243-9839.

# Friends of



- Contribute financially to RSVP, and ...
- Believe people 55 and over are a valuable asset to the community, or...
- Utilize RSVP volunteers through his/her place of work, or...
- Support what the organization stands for, or . .

**Any combination of the above!!!**

## Put Your Friendship Where it Will Help Most...

I want to be a friend of RSVP, whose mission is:  
*“Serving the community by utilizing the talents and skills of senior volunteers and placing them in rewarding opportunities at local agencies.”*

- Patron Member (\$500 or over)
- Sustaining Member (\$250 to \$499)
- Contributing Member (\$50–\$249)
- Participating Member (\$1 to \$49)

Enclosed is my/our check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Donation in Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_
- Donation in Memory of \_\_\_\_\_
- I want more information about RSVP
- I want more information on becoming an RSVP volunteer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

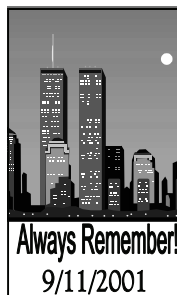


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