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## YOU ARE CORIDIALLY INVITED TO OUR POTLUCK HOLIDAY PARTY!



**WHEN:** FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2009  
**WHERE:** FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
 3940 27 1/2 ROAD  
 DOORS OPEN AT 12:30 P.M.  
 POTLUCK BEGINS AT 1:00 P.M.  
**BRING:** A COVERED DISH THAT  
 SERVES 6-8 PEOPLE

**SEATING IS LIMITED!**  
**TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE CALL 243-9839**  
**BY DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>**

**DOOR PRIZES**

**ENTERTAINMENT**



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:**

Clayton Dause

Rochelle Larson

Sandra Johnson

Andrea Clark French

Penny Mitchell

Daretha Piper

## Office Volunteers

Elva Rogers - One Time Projects

Judy Campbell - Clerical Support

Grace Croxton - HND Surveys

Mary Ann Grant - Clerical Support

Ed Woodward - Clerical Support

Jeanne Fox - SSP Ambassador

David Elliott - Clerical Support

Sheryl Fitzgerald - SSP Trainer

**Newsletter Setup:**

Jean Brewer & Aleta Ballard



# HATS OFF TO YOU ...

- ◆ **Justin Reed, LeAnn Zetmeir and Waddell & Reed** for donating a copy machine to us. We appreciate your support!
- ◆ **Museum of Western Colorado and Kay Fiegel** for the use of their meeting room on September 23, 2009 for the RSVP Strategic Planning Meeting.
- ◆ **Jeanne Fox** for being the new Senior Scholar Project Ambassador. Jeanne will be visiting schools, taking photos and helping write the new Senior Scholar Newsletter.
- ◆ **Sheryl Fitzgerald** for doing such a great job teaching another Senior Scholar Project Tutor Training class in September.
- ◆ Summertime Handyman Project volunteers: **Bill and Judy Thompson, Phil Jessen, Jerry Blangsted, Bill Stephens, Jim Malapanes, Tyne Bush, Frances Hutto, Jim Younger, Jim Davis, Rick Skelly, Gene Kalmon, Jon Wilson, Allyn Bennett, Michael O'Connell and Bob Phillips.**

## AARP Tax Aide Volunteers Needed

By John Nelson

Consider volunteering for the AARP sponsored Tax-Aide Program that provides free federal and state tax preparation for low-to-middle income taxpayers, especially seniors.

The returns are computer-generated, **using an easy-to-use tax program called "Tax Wise" with training on computers conducted for four days in early January 2010.** Actual tax preparations start February 1 at several sites in the Grand Junction area. One site is open Saturday.

Most volunteers work a 9-12 or 12-3 shift once or twice a week (i.e., Monday and Wednesday or Tuesday & Thursday). How often and how long a person works is entirely up to each individual.

**Volunteers do not necessarily need a particular background or have had tax experience, nor is membership in AARP required.** Counselors are not legally responsible for the returns and are not asked to do a return they are uncomfortable with. Taxpayers with complex returns are advised to seek professional assistance.

The means and ability to do email are important as this is the primary way coordinators and volunteers communicate.

**If you are interested in volunteering for AARP Tax Aide  
Contact John Nelson at 523-8083  
(Traveling Oct. 14 – Nov. 2)**

## Senior Scholar Project News

by Ruth McCrea



The School District #51 Outstanding RSVP Volunteer award is normally given to one RSVP volunteer in the district who impacts students through exceptional service.

This year's winners for a joint Outstanding RSVP volunteer award are:

- **Barb Lyons** – Shelledy Elementary School
- **Joan Richardson** – Scenic Elementary School

**Barb** volunteers on two days a week for two hours each day in Shelledy's third grade classrooms. She reads, plays games or helps the students with projects. The kids love working with Barb! And Barb herself states that it extremely rewarding to help the struggling students. Over 67% of SSP tutors who responded to a recent survey agree with Barb – they love those moments of new understanding – the “ah-ha moments” when “students realize they can do this stuff!”

**Joan** has just begun her 11<sup>th</sup> year volunteering at Scenic. She loves helping first graders and emerging readers. Students at Scenic refer to her as Grandma Joan and they light up when she comes in the door. She notes that being a tutor is a “very enjoyable job” and “a great way to spend retirement.”

**Thank you, Barb and Joan, for your gift of time and dedication to our students and congratulations on your awards!**

Senior Scholars know they make a difference in the lives of students. It takes a special kind of person with compassion to make a commitment to help children. One-on-one time is invaluable, and such caring involvement helps students recognize that our SSP volunteers genuinely want to help them.

**If you are interested in becoming a tutor/mentor:  
Call Ruth McCrea with Mesa County RSVP  
at 243-9839**

# Calendar of Events

## October

Turn in your September timesheets

21 RSVP Board Meeting at Noon

31 Halloween



## November

Turn in your October timesheets

1 Daylight Savings Ends



18 RSVP Board Meeting at Noon

26 Thanksgiving Day - Closed

27 RSVP Office Closed Friday Too

## December

Turn in your November timesheets

4 RSVP Volunteer Holiday Party  
First Presbyterian Church

15 RSVP Board Meeting at Noon

24 Christmas Eve - RSVP Closed

25 Christmas Day



***No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.***

*Aesop*

***If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else.***

*Booker T. Washington*

## Welcome New RSVP Volunteers

Through September 14, 2009

Joe Aieta	Andi McCurry
Bill Allred	Anita Pisciotte
Beverly Benker	Judy Tailleir
Sammy Emrich	Mary Taylor
Sharon Gillespie	Lyn Thomason
Denny Hartshorn	Janis Thompson
Sally Lowe	Edsel Ward
Rebecca Lutz	

## Volunteer Opportunities

**For one-stop volunteer shopping, Mesa County RSVP, Inc. connects individuals 55+ to volunteer positions in any of our 100+ member agencies.**

**Listed below are just a FEW volunteer opportunities:**

- LIS/MSP Outreach Volunteer for a special outreach project made up of a collaborative team of various area agencies
- Greeters for **Western Colorado Math & Science Center (This is an URGENT request)**
- Drivers and Meal-site Volunteers for **Gray Gourmet**
- Museum Docent for **Museum of Western Colorado**
- Clerical Assistance needed at local middle school
- Volunteer to hand-write thank you notes for **United Way**
- Staff volunteer to help with guests at **Homeward Bound**
- Helpline Follow-up Volunteers for **The Alzheimer's Association**

**Call 243-9839 for information or check our website for a full listing of opportunities at:**  
**[rsvp@rsvpgrandjunction.org](mailto:rsvp@rsvpgrandjunction.org)**

## SHIP News

(Senior Health Insurance Assistance Program)  
By Ruth McCrea

We are once again approaching the time of year to switch, drop or add health insurance coverage. Insurance companies can begin marketing their new plans after October 1<sup>st</sup>, so you will begin to receive massive quantities of advertising. Be sure to evaluate your plan changes carefully, especially Part D coverage. Feel free to consult one of our Senior Health Insurance Project (SHIP) counselors if you want to discuss your health/drug coverage options.

Seniors are often targets for health care fraud and abuse. Criminals try to trick seniors into divulging their Medicare/Medicaid information to make charges for medical services and equipment the senior never received. Protect yourself by becoming educated about health care fraud.

**The Colorado SMP Medicare Fraud Program** was formed to detect and report Medicare and Medicaid fraud, thereby helping consumers and the federal government avoid paying for unnecessary or fraudulent services or equipment. Our SHIP counselors are trained to recognize Medicare fraud.

**Examples of health care fraud include:**

- Billing for unneeded medical supplies or unnecessary rehabilitation service
- Billing for services or prescriptions not provided
- Upgrading diagnosis codes to increase Medicare reimbursement
- Offering or receiving a kickback, bribe, or rebate (e.g. paying for referral of patients)
- Asking for your Medicare number in exchange for cash, gifts, or "free service"

**In August, a medical supply company came to Grand Junction with a presentation to seniors about discounted diabetic supplies, including shoes. Does this sound familiar to you? Those seniors who gave the company their Medicare information that day should watch their Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) for any unnecessary charges. YOU CAN HELP PREVENT MEDICARE FRAUD!**

**Tip #1:** Treat your Medicare and Social Security numbers like credit cards. Don't offer them to anyone in exchange for free goods or service.

**Tip #2:** Follow your instincts -- if it seems too good to be true, it usually is!

If you suspect Medicare fraud, call the local SHIP/SMP office at 243-9839.



## Agency Spotlight

### Grand Junction Visitor and Convention Bureau

By: Melanie Wiseman, VCB Volunteer Coordinator

Tourism is Grand Junction's number one business. Our local economy is greatly impacted by the number of visitors we encourage to stay and enjoy themselves in our area. We want them to have an enjoyable experience so they will return to the Grand Valley again and again. We hope they tell their family and friends about the wonders in this area to ensure positive experiences.

The staff of ten at the Visitor and Convention Bureau (VCB) market and sell Grand Junction with the goal of providing outstanding hospitality and valuable information to all visitors who walk into or call the Center. VCB staff and volunteers help new and return visitors, conference attendees and reunion participants learn about regional attractions.

**Local residents are welcome to stop by the Center to obtain information about events and attractions to occupy and entertain visiting friends and family - especially grandchildren!**

The Visitor Center is open seven days a week, 362 days a year and assists 25,000 people each year. It is currently staffed by 90 friendly volunteers who volunteer in 3-4 hours shifts. Volunteers are considered "Grand Junction Ambassadors."

Visitor Center volunteers have fun! They meet people from all over the United States and the world and are offered monthly training seminars or field trips to keep informed about all the sites and events occurring in the Grand Valley. The Grand Junction Visitor Center is volunteering at its best – offering a fun and flexible atmosphere and the opportunity to make a positive impact on visitors' experiences and the Grand Junction economy!

**For more information about how to volunteer at the VCB, contact**

**RSVP at 243-9839**

## Handyman Project News

by Sherry Taylor Warner



Fall is almost officially here, but it has been apparent in the decrease of light of day and the cooling of the air for a few weeks now. Autumn conjures many reflections, the delights and abundance of summer are coming to an end, leading to the collection and

storage of the harvest. It is also typically the time to start battening down the hatches, and returning to duty for the students, teachers and the handyman volunteers too.

The cooler temperatures inspire us to have our window-mounted, first floor coolers and air conditioners drained and winterized, as well as address areas like doors and windows that lack weather stripping. Fall is also a prime time to have the batteries changed in the smoke detectors, the filters changed in the furnace and consider the installation of an appropriately placed carbon monoxide detector. These precautionary measures will not only maintain the condition and safety of ones home, but equate to a cost savings in utility bills.

If you are in need of assistance with any of these weatherization/winterizations measures, and meet the qualifying criteria to receive service, the Handyman Project at RSVP is just a phone call away. Please consider the number of measures that are needed, and realize that they may need to be accomplished over more than one visit, as we try to limit job length to 1-2 hours in duration.

We had a **new handyman** join the ranks in August. Please welcome **Lyn Thomason**. Mr. Thomason brings a special set of skills to our handyman group and looks forward to participating with the ramp building teams.

## Mesa County RSVP's New Project - MIPPA

(Medicare Improvements for  
Patients and Providers Act)

By Marianne North

Mesa County RSVP recently received a grant from the Colorado Insurance Division to reduce medical costs for low-income seniors and individuals with disabilities who are on Social Security.

Some seniors and individuals with disabilities are struggling to pay their Medicare premiums, prescription drug premiums, deductibles and co-pays. RSVP recently re-hired Marianne North, to coordinate the MIPPA Program that helps Social Security recipients enroll in the Low-income Subsidy and Medicare Savings Programs.

RSVP and its Senior Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) are cosponsoring the program with the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and the Adult Resource for Caring and Help (ARCH) of the Mesa County Department of Human Services.

Determination of eligibility is by monthly income below \$1,354 single or \$1,821 couple and by assets limited to below \$12,000 single or \$24,000 couple, excluding house and car.

Seniors can call RSVP at 243-9839 for enrollment assistance in these programs. Ask for Marianne North.

Volunteers are needed 3 to 4 hours per week to help enroll seniors at the RSVP office and at enrollment events that will be scheduled from October through February.

**The first  
volunteer training  
is scheduled for  
Thursday,  
October 15, 10-  
Noon in the  
RSVP  
Multi-purpose  
Room.**

**Call Marianne North  
at 243-9389 for help or to volunteer**

## 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 \$6,027.86 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 +)

American National Bank United Way of Mesa County JVA Consulting Bacon Family Foundation Callahan-Edfast Mortuary Chick-Fil-A El Pomar Foundation Emil Woods F. Bing Johnson	Janus Foundation Wells Fargo Bank Anschutz Family Foundation Kiwanis Foundation Daniels Fund AV Hunter Trust Corporation for National & Community Service Xcel Energy Foundation	City Market School District #51 Grand Valley National Bank Fruita Thrift Shop Western Rockies FCU Sam's Club Foundation State of Colorado-SHIP Sandra Johnson Herberger's Department Store	Goodwin Foundation Western Colorado Community Foundation  <b>2008 United Way Donors:</b> Bob and Sarah Walsh Rebecca Spiess Debi Overholt
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## Sustaining Members (\$250 to \$499)

A.G. Edwards and Sons Commercial Federal	1st National Bank of the Rockies Community Hospital	Dorothy Jean Rome Grand Junction FCU	Palisade National Bank Rio Grande Credit Union	Terri Potente Western Rockies FCU	Wendy's Hamburgers  <b>2008 United Way Donor:</b> Jean A. Brewer
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## Contributing Members (\$50 to \$249)

AARP Colorado Alpine Bank of Glenwood Springs Anne E. Williams B & A Block Barnes & Noble Book Store Clayton & Mildred Dause Charlene M. Thorpe Darla Butler Elmer & Gladys Becker Gordon & Joanne Goebel	Harold & Helen Darrah Helen Hayes Jack & Beverly Kingsley James & Debbie Stover Jim & Kate Malapanes Jean Enderur Joan Jack Joseph & Linda Moreng Katheryne Raber Living Trust Kermit & Rose Dahling Lawrence Mack	Lavonne L. Heidel Linda & R.L. Berkey Louis A. Dillard Melvin & Geraldine Thiebaud Michael & Gloria Hollermeier Mildred Spomer Norman Kelsey RMS Communications Sam & Patsy Hobbs Village Inn on Horizon Drive Burger King on Horizon Drive	<b>IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES:</b> Myrtle Smith for Wallace McBride & Maxine Falsone  Bessie Massey for Jim Massey Beth Somerville for William Somerville  <b>2008 UNITED WAY DONORS:</b> Jeannette Kuchyt Trulie Oliver
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## Participating Members (\$1 to \$49)

A.B. & Andrea Strahl A.L. & Della Dotson Albert A. Husch Alberta M. Smith 12th Street Albertsons Afton H. Gardner Angie Hernandez Anonymous Donor Arlene Vogel Avis Richter Barbara H. A. Robson Bed Bath & Beyond Beryl & Bessie Jo Rienks Bette L. Burford Betty J. Anderson Betty Klaiber Betty J. Rodgers Beverly Ann Taylor Blockbuster Videos Bonnie N. Handy Botanical Gardens Carey & Karen Horton Carino's Italian Grill Carl & Joan Richardson Carolyn Gerhard Carolyn Santy Charles Alexander Cheryl Jacobs Cottonwood Liquors Cleo Korb Cynda Byers Cynthia & Lloyd Reed Culinary Corner Daniel & Sharon Hanley Dewayne J. Aden Donna Bryant Donna L. Poling Dorothy Dixon Dorothy Sullivan-Johnston Edward & Nancy Groenert	E. C. & Constance Clark Ed & Josephine Delucas Edge Salon Eldon & Leona Hetzel Eldon & Mary Coffey Eleanor Reeves Eleanor Saddoris Eleanor Wyatt Elizabeth Terrell Ella Stevens Ellen V. Roberts Elva Rogers Eyla Welborn Fisher Liquor Barn Florence Moore Floyd & Peggy Conner Forrest & Mildred Gilley Frances Simpson Grand International Buffet Grace Croxton Gwen & Francis Huber Hal Jacobson Hastings Videos and Books Home Depot IHOP Restaurant James & Mary Russell Jeanette Scuzzaro Jeanice Swank Jerry Beckley Jo Sodergard Jonathan & Mary Ann Wilson John & Donna Simmons John Nelson & Patricia Amadeo Joanne Kukuk Joanne M. Cording Josephine Dickey Joyce Hofman Kenneth & Lois Lampert Kenneth & Nancy Neal Lawrence & Beverly Allec	Lawrence & Callie Miller LeAnn & Les Zetmeir Leslie & Ruby Stone Lillian Whalen Linda Carpenito Lois Stouffer Lucille Cantrell Mary Bissonnette Marcus Douglas Margaret S. Heitt Marilyn M. Beckage Marilyn McCormack Mary Pearson Mary Roberts Mary Z. Stewart Maxie D. Carroll Michael & Leilani Kohl Norman & Jackie Way Olive Garden Outback Steakhouse Papa Murphy's Pizza Patrene Rice Patricia A. Kansgen Phyllis Guffy Piera Kllanxhja Pretzelmaker R. E. & Joan Phillips Rae M. Puderbaugh Red Lobster Restaurant Red Robin Restaurant Robert & Jeanne Young Robert & Marian Farrell Robert Schumacher Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory Rojean Wells Ron & Opal Gifford Ruth Hjelmsstad Russell Parry Scott & Betty Walck Sherman & Marie Marrs	Shirley Schultz Silas Grantham Sondra Goffinet Starbucks Coffee Steven Letterhos Teresa Taylor Teresa Torrens Tillie & Pat Bishop The Ale House True Value Hardware T.V. & S.M. Biel T.L. & Nancy Morgan V. & Barbara Charles Vallie M. French Velma Andrews Verna Seal Viola Ward Violet Roeland Vitamin Cottage WW Peppers Restaurant Wayne & Martha Klute William & Ina May Kistler William & Wanda Wooters Willis & Pauline Hammons Paul Van Kirk Jr. Revocable Trust  <b>IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES:</b> Anton Steinle for Eleanor Steinle Florence V. Balbier for John Watt, Betty Zeni, Eleanor Steinle and Ted Balbier Gerald & Phyllis Bridenbaugh for Eleanor Steinle Margaret Jaeckel for Terry Jaeckel Romona V. Clinton for Fred & Mary Michel Scott & Anna Pinnick for Jim Massey Sally Gaurmer for Gene Gaurmer White River National Forest for Larry Allec  <b>2008 UNITED WAY DONOR:</b> Robin K Nelson
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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.

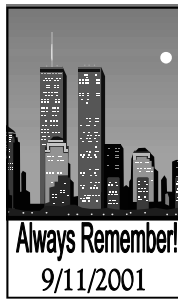


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Friends of



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."*

- 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 . .

- 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

Any combination of the above!!!

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

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

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