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involved!**

Coulee Region RSVVP Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2011

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From the Director

"Imagine what a harmonious world it could be if every single person, both young and old, shared a little of what they are good at doing."

Quincy Jones, musician. 1933 -

Welcome 2012 and hello Spring!

It's hard to believe it is the first of February. Given the mild winter weather we are experiencing, one would think spring has already sprung. But alas, we know we live in Wisconsin, and winter will grace us with its presence; after all, we have to get through March and the high school basketball playoffs before we can actually say winter is behind us.

In reviewing the previous six months, again I must admit how awesome it is to see just how engaged RSVVP volunteers have been, serving over 106,000 volunteer service hours throughout our community. Reading through the newsletter you will see just how busy RSVVP volunteers have been generously sharing time and talent making an impact when called upon to assist with the many volunteer requests we receive. All that you do makes a difference in our community.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped us make a difference in our community providing treats to area firefighters in remembrance of 9/11, and to everyone who donated food for WAFER in recognition of Martin Luther King Day. We "tip our hat" to RSVVP volunteer, Vince Hatt on receiving the Iverson-Freking Ecumenical Award, a well deserved honor, congratulations Vince.

As spring is the time of new beginnings, it is quite appropriate that we welcome new board member, Chris Brown of Mayo Health System-La Crosse to the RSVVP family and re-welcome Sarah Havens as president ...her first term was so nice, she decided to do it twice. Thank you to past president John Hamilton for his dedication and leadership, your guidance helped RSVVP continue to grow.

Looking forward to spring, the season of planting and new beginnings, I say thanks to all of you for continuing to plant the RSVVP seeds of volunteerism. Because of you, our community is that much better.

In Service to our Community!

~ Lynnetta

New Volunteers

Names from July 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011

Sr. Mary Arnoldussen
Sr Mary Bates
Beverly Bice
Carol Breidel
Phyllis M. Buchner
Mary Calkins
Rosie Cosgrove
Randy Dewhirst
Mary Einer
Roy Einer
Ronald D. Erickson
Marji Halberg
Mary Holiday
Charlotte Jerome

Macy Johnson
Pat Jordan
Barbara Katrana
Deborah Kelly
Ruby Klein
Marge Knudtson
Regina Kulbicki
Oleh Maly
Mary O'Mara
Sr Shirley Morrissey
Roy Munderloh
Gerald Olson
Miriam Olson
Larry Pohja
Karen Ratzburg

Donna Riley
Emmie Rosson
Karen Sandvold
Jim Schwanbeck
Harlene Shaw
Clyde Snider
Maureen Tabbert
Leslie Viner
Mavis Wallace
Ruth Wettstein
Maggie White
Mary Ann Wiesman
Jeanne Wiltinger
Jan Zenker

Do you know someone who would enjoy making a difference in our community? RSVP volunteers are our best recruiters, spreading the word about why they like to volunteer and the need for more volunteers. For a sampling of current requests, check out our Volunteer Opportunities section. We currently have needs at over 100 different locations throughout La Crosse and Monroe counties. Please pass this newsletter on to a friend or neighbor and tell them about RSVP and our many programs! Who knows – you might even find another opportunity that interests you!

Remember to report your hours... All volunteers who serve 25 or more hours during the last year will receive an invitation to our Volunteer Recognition Banquet in September. So please keep sending in your hours to the RSVP Office, we are looking forward to seeing all of our volunteers there!

Meet your Board Member!

Name: Sr. Fran Browning

Hometown: Lebanon, Kentucky (I grew up on a tobacco and dairy farm.)

Job: Retired; volunteering for RSVP as a driver and giving tours of our chapel at St. Rose Convent!

Civic Involvement: Member of the volunteer staff at St. Clare Health Mission

Family: I am a member of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration. I grew up with four brothers and four sisters. And, I have twenty-two nieces and nephews, and thirty-six great and three great-great nieces and nephews. (Am I getting old-er?)

Favorite part of the Coulee Region: That's easy. It's the people, young, old -- and older.

Why are you involved with RSVP?

In the middle 1990s, I was asked to serve on the RSVP board. I appreciate the many activities afforded the senior citizens of our area. Since I am a "people person", I enjoy being a volunteer driver and meeting new people. I am the third FSPA to serve on the board, dating back to the late

1980s. This has been continuous service from my community.

What do you hope to see happen for RSVP in 2012?

RSVP has grown during the past few years. I want to be a part of that growth and experience the many new opportunities that surface to help senior citizens (including me) remain active in our community.

What would be your ideal retirement? Just continuing my current volunteer involvement - at least for now!

What is your favorite color? Blue; it is the color of the sky on a sunny day!

What is the most interesting thing about you? I enjoy listening to people, especially the elderly, share their life stories!

What is your greatest achievement thus far: Becoming a perpetually professed member of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration!



Volunteer Recognition Event

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2011 Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet in September at the Radisson Hotel in La Crosse. Once, again over 250 RSVP volunteers attended and were recognized for their service to our community. RSVP was pleased to recognize two very important partner organizations, Dairyland Power Cooperative and Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, each were given a plaque recognizing their long time support of our mission and our organization. Special Recognition was also given to Phyllis Branson, Joyce Flanders, Donald Frank, Ardys Lathrop, Bonnie Lee, Patricia Morrison, and Marilyn Pertzsch for receiving the Lifetime Achievement Presidential Service Award by serving more than 4,000 hours with Coulee Region RSVP. Theresa Gotz and Orval Severson were awarded the RSVP Special Award for serving over 10,000 volunteer hours with RSVP. Thank you to these individuals for their dedication and commitment to service and to all of our volunteers for being leaders in our community. We would also like to thank Jerry Anderson for providing entertainment as well as Tami Woods and the Radisson staff for a wonderful meal and excellent service. Thank you also to Senator Jennifer Shilling, Mayor Harter, Council Member John Medinger, and Karrie Jackelen from Ron Kind's office for attending and showing their support of RSVP. We look forward to celebrating volunteer service in our community with all of you again this year!



Marilyn, Phyllis, Ardys, and Don



Lynnetta pictured with Orval and Theresa

Heritage Night

RSVP participated again in Heritage Night 2011 at the La Crosse Center. Thank you to La Crosse Beverage LLC, Reinhart Foods LLC, and Quillin's Foods, Inc for their in-kind donations. Our thanks to the board members and volunteers who assisted in selling brats, hot dogs and Blarney Bars. Thank you to Bob Brudos for helping with set up and take down of our stand; we can always count on you! A fun and enjoyable evening was had by all. We have enjoyed the many years at Heritage Night, look for us at other festivals in the area perfecting our fundraising skills!



Who will be Smarter than a 5th Grader?



Join RSVP and area fifth graders from Aquinas, Holmen, La Crosse, and Onalaska schools on Saturday, May 19, 2012 at Valley View Mall from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. to find out "Who will be Smarter than a 5th Grader?" You can help the school of your choice win a grand prize of \$1000.00 by casting your vote for one of the contestants below. Send your donation to Coulee Region RSVP, 2920 East Avenue South, Suite 104, La Crosse, WI 54601 or donate online at www.rsvplax.org. Contact RSVP, at 608.785.0500 if you have questions on how to help your contestant or school of choice make it to the head of the class!

Thank you to our Sponsors!
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| <input type="checkbox"/> 1st Grade - \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Head of the Class - \$51 - \$124 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Grade - \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Question Sponsor - \$125-\$249 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Grade - \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Sponsor - \$250-\$499 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4th Grade - \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Gold Sponsor - \$500-\$999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5th Grade - \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Platinum Sponsor \$1,000+ |

Select your contestant and send your donation by May 18, 2012 to:

Coulee Region RSVP
2920 East Avenue South, Suite 104
La Crosse, WI 54601

- David Amborn, Senior Director - Gundersen Lutheran Medical Foundation
- Dr. Jane Bentz - Orthodontic Specialists of the Coulee Region
- Jan Brock - Community Volunteer
- Heidi Griminger Blanke, Executive Director - WAFER
- Mary Ann Gschwind, FSPA - Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration
- Alex Kirchner, Daybreak Meteorologist - WXOW News 19
- Joe Laux - River States Truck and Trailer
- Forrest Moe, President - Schomburg Refrigeration Co., Inc.
- Cindy Prindle, Training & Development - Hawkins, Ash, Baptie & Company, LLP
- Edward Przytarski, Festmaster 2010 - Xcel Energy
- Kristina Smaby Schoh, Community Relations Manager Courtesy Corporation McDonald's
- Bill Sherry, CPA - Engleson and Associates, Ltd.
- Nancy J. Sikorsky, Retired - School District of La Crosse
- Brian Simpson, Host - The Morning Sickness, 95.7 The Rock
- Karla Stanek, Director of Career Services & Academic Advising Center UW-La Crosse
- Dawson Strutt, Director of Bands - Onalaska High School

 Please cut and mail

RSVP Special Days of Service

September 11, 2011 Cookie Delivery

2011 marked the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. To honor our local fire fighters, RSVP volunteers made sweet treats, which were delivered on 9/11 to area fire stations. Thank you to the volunteers made or donated cookies to show their appreciation for our local heroes!



Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, we hosted a food drive at the RSVP office. RSVP volunteers donated non-perishable food items during the week on January 9-12. By the end of the week, RSVP was able to deliver over 150 pounds of food to the WAFER Food Pantry. Our thanks to all the volunteers who made our first MLK Day of Service food drive a success.



New For You At RSVP

Blue Wrap

Everyday, a material known as blue wrap is used at Gundersen Lutheran to wrap up surgical instrument trays for the operating rooms. Historically, over twenty-two thousand pounds of that material has been thrown away annually after the instruments were unwrapped. Now, thanks to a collaboration between RSVP and Gundersen, RSVP Handcraft volunteers have found a way to recycle/reuse the blue wrap by turning the discarded blue wrap into tote bags for new employees, aprons for adult and pediatric cancer patients to use as they do crafts during chemo treatments, craft bags to hold supplies, personal item caddies, as well as, wheelchair and walker bags

used in therapy departments. With the program kicking off this summer, RSVP has had great response from our volunteers. Twenty volunteers have assisted in the reuse of over 300 pounds of blue wrap by creating 200 finished items that have been donated back to Gundersen. This program provides much needed items to Gundersen while making a serious impact on the sustainability initiatives of our community and local environment, consider getting involved today in a program that addresses two of our community's largest areas of need; environmental sustainability and health services. RSVP is recruiting more volunteers to sew for this project and volunteers of all ages are welcome! For more information, contact Amanda at 608.785.0500 or via email at aburos@rsvglax.org.



Wellness Expo 2012

Friday, April 27, 2012, 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Onalaska OmniCenter
255 Riders Club Road, Onalaska, WI 54650

Coulee Region RSVP presents Wellness Expo 2012, featuring Dave Carlson, Host/Producer of Northland Adventures, speaking on *Wellness is, What Wellness Does*. Other presentations include *De-stress Your Stress* by Christie Harris, Gundersen Lutheran Wellness Education Specialist, *End of Life Decisions* by Art Peek, MSW, Mayo Clinic Health Systems La Crosse – Franciscan Healthcare, and *Cooking on a Budget – Friendly Recipes for Two*, by Marisa Pruitt, Gundersen Lutheran Registered Dietician. There will be health checks, functional fitness testing, and a variety of

exhibitors and vendors. The La Crosse County Prevention Network will be holding a free medication drop off from 8:30 a.m. until noon. Participants may bring over the counter or prescription medication in pill form (tablets, capsules, packs). No sharps, lotions, etc. will be accepted. In addition, Mayo Clinic Health System – Franciscan Healthcare’s digital mobile mammography van will be on site. To schedule an appointment, call 608.392.6237. Yearly mammogram screenings are covered by most insurance plans; if you do not have insurance, please call to find out how you can qualify for the screening. Wellness Expo 2012 is free and open to the public. Lunch is provided, and there will be a raffle for great prizes. Call Coulee Region RSVP for more information at 608.785.0500 or visit our website at www.rsvpplax.org. We hope to see you there!

Thank You Volunteers!

RSVP receives many thank you’s from individuals and organizations receiving volunteer help or services from our programs. Here are a few we would like to share with you. And as always thank you so much to our volunteers for their great work and selfless service to our community.

I would like to thank RSVP for coming to our aid once again. I really appreciate all the help that you have given Irishfest in the last few years!

~Pam

The RSVP volunteers were fantastic. On behalf of the Great River Jazz Fest, I cannot overstate how appreciative we are of the many wonderful volunteers, the RSVP program and the staff’s efforts to organize this. Thank you so much.

~Dean

Your volunteers at Sand on the Riverfront were terrific! I enjoyed them so very much and their time was very important to the success of our event. Thank you for sharing your wonderful volunteers.

~Karen

Thank you for the driving service that enabled my mom to be with me as I recovered from surgery. The love and support I received contributed to my healing in a significant way. Thanks to Sr. Fran for “going the extra mile.” I am truly grateful.

~B.B.

RSVP provides transportation for me to see my husband in the nursing home. I would not be able to do this without the time your volunteers provide. The drivers are always on time and they are caring and courteous. THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS.

~H.B.

The RSVP Volunteer Driver Program is not only convenient but provides drivers who are kind, considerate, and truly fine people. I count my blessings and know other do also. Mighty thanks to the RSVP program and the people who operate it.

~D.G.

Our family would like to say than you very much for the hats and mitten donation. My daughter loves them very much and wears them all the time. I think it is so great there are people out there helping the less fortunate.

~A.B.

I was so happy to have received one of your larger lap blankets. I also want to thank you for the cap, scarf and mittens. It was such a pleasant surprise when my social worker brought these new items to me. Keep on knitting. You are doing a fantastic job.

~ M.S.

Thank you for having the Study Buddy Program. The volunteers’ efforts do not go unnoticed. Schools are in need of qualified adults who are willing to give of their time and mind to assist our students. Please keep this program going!

~ Eagle Bluff Elementary School Teachers

Volunteer Opportunities

The Coulee Region RSVP is full of volunteer opportunities! Please contact our office, 608.785.0500 or go to our website at www.rsvplax.org to find out more about how you can get involved! Monthly updates and listings of new volunteer opportunities are also published in the Senior Edition.

American Red Cross

The American Red Cross Scenic Bluff's Chapter needs volunteers to assist with office support including answering the phone, interacting with clients, and data input as well as volunteers to participate on their Disaster Awareness and Disaster Preparedness teams. Training is provided.

Bethany St. Joseph Care Center

Is seeking volunteers to fill various needs:

- Assist with recreation programs such as cribbage, cards, bingo, etc.
- Woodworker who would be willing to cut out wooden craft items (shapes)
- Volunteers to help with gardens during the summer
- Volunteer to read poetry or devotions
- Piano player- just play music or lead a sing-a-long, or share other talents

Crocheting/Knitting

Are you an experienced hand crafter? Would you like to share your hobby with others? The Hmong Mutual Center is looking for volunteers to help teach and assist local Hmong elders with learning to knit or crochet. Please call RSVP for more information.

Habitat Restore

Construction volunteers are needed to assist with building homes. The current build site is located at 1733 Kane St. Building takes places on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

Hillview Urban Agricultural Center

Is currently in need of volunteers to help with grant writing and

fundraising as well as seasonal summer work such as sowing seeds, pulling weeds, transplanting and harvesting.

La Crosse Concert Band

Beginning in June, the La Crosse Concert Band will need volunteers to assist at their Concert's in the Park held in Riverside Park. Volunteers are needed to hand out programs at 6:45 p.m. for 7:30 p.m. performances. Concerts are scheduled for June 6, June 13, June 20, June 27, July 11, July 18 and July 25.

La Crosse County Child Support

Is in need of an office volunteer to assist with filing needs. Days and times are flexible. Call today to find out how you can help!

La Crosse County Historical Society

Do you enjoy learning about the history of La Crosse? If so, then the La Crosse County Historical Society has a great opportunity for you. Volunteers are needed to serve as receptionists on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at the Swarthout Museum and as cashiers at the Hixon House, Tuesdays through Fridays. Call today for more information!

La Crosse Public Library

Enjoy reading and being around books? Then consider volunteer at the Public Library. The library is in need of volunteers to help with shelving, verifying and sorting once a week for a few hours at time.

Mayo Clinic Health System – Franciscan Healthcare

Mayo Clinic Health System – Franciscan Healthcare's La Crosse Campus is searching for volunteers to assist with various patient transporting needs within the facility. Please call to sign up to start brightening the day for local hospital patients.

Myrick Hixon Eco Park

Is looking for volunteers to fill various needs:

- Naturalists for winter programs
 - Front desk and gift shop help
 - Proof reading
 - Gardening: watering and weeding during summer months
 - Aquarium help on Thursdays
- No experience necessary, just the desire to enjoy what nature has to offer. The staff at Myrick Hixon EcoPark will provide the training.

Salvation Army

Help make the life a person in need a little bit warmer and a little bit fuller. The Salvation Army food pantry needs four to six volunteers to assist with collecting, sorting and handing out food donations. Please call today to find out more about days and times in need of volunteer help.

The Pump House

Ticket-takers for concerts and performances are needed. Volunteers receive a complimentary ticket to the show at which they volunteer.

YWCA

The YWCA is looking for volunteers to support three of their major programs:

1. Support School Attendance –the Excessive Absences program works to help students and families make school a priority. Volunteers meet with a student at school during their free time or study hall.
 2. CASA for Kids- Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) volunteers work with children who are abused and neglected to make sure their best interests are always taken into consideration by judges, social workers and families.
 3. Activity Coordinators- the women in supportive housing can use mentors or companionship and would be interested in movie nights, crafts, yoga, cooking or additional activities that a female volunteer would like to facilitate.
- Necessary training will be provided for all programs.

Foster Grandparent Program



Deborah

Mary

Regina

Rosie

Jeanne

The Foster Grandparent Program has had a great year so far! In September 8 Foster Grandparents returned to school. We also have welcomed 5 new Foster Grandparents and expanded into the Onalaska School District and Gundersen Lutheran Child Care Center. Deborah is volunteering at Longfellow Middle School. Mary and Regina are both serving at Eagle Bluff Elementary. Rosie was serving at Hamilton School and Jeanne began serving at Hintgen.

Volunteer Driver Program

As we wrap up 2011, we want to thank all the RSVP drivers who gave unselfishly of their time to provide transportation. The 38 people listed below have volunteered over 8,800 hours helping over 300 people get to their personal and professional appointments.

John Alden
*Marilyn Blexrud
*Minnie Bolcerek
*Ken Botcher
Arlene Bothe
*Rick Brawner
*Sr. Fran Browning
Dave Bruha
Lois Ann Buss
Beth Curtis

Linda Dayton
Fran Drewes
Mary Beth Gianino
Viginia Hanifl
Diane Hoch
Jerry Hoch
Mary Holiday
*Norm Ira
Mary Ann
Johnson

*Fred Kautz
*Gordon Knudson
Lila Krueger
Loren Krueger
Jim McArthur
Therese Oldenburgh
*Judy Olson
Jerrine Page
Bruce Pulkmila
Barb Quillin

Dick Rady
Carole Running
*Barb Schelfhout
*Orval Severson
Doug Stevermer
Jeanne Stevermer
Harland Thorson
Jerry VerHagen
Michael Wiemerslage

* Indicates being recognized as a Driver of the Month in 2011

The RSVP Volunteer Driver program continues to add drivers to our list. Volunteer Drivers transport clients to their appointments using their own vehicle. Appointments range in nature from medical, dental or chiropractic, beauty shops, grocery shopping, etc.... Mileage reimbursement, supplemental insurance, and out of pocket expense

reimbursement is provided for long distance transportation. It is a great opportunity to meet people and feel good about helping others. The Volunteer Driver program operates Monday-Friday 7:30-5:00p.m. Volunteers pick the days and times they are available to transport clients. If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity, please contact Heather.

Check out our website for more information www.rsvplax.org

Handcrafters

Open House

On Thursday, November 17, RSVP hosted our annual Handcraft Open House, resulting in once again, another successful give away. 30 social service agencies attended and collected over 1,610 handcraft items to distribute to those in need in our community. In addition to the items given away at the Open House, 435 Headstart students received a cap and mittens to keep them warm during the winter. In 2011, RSVP Handcrafters made it possible to donate 6,161 total handcraft items back into the community. This amazing accomplishment could not have been achieved without the hard work and dedication of our many handcraft volunteers as well as generous donations of yarn and material from the community. Thank you to all who participated in this program, whether through knitting, sewing, crocheting, or donating, you have helped to bring comfort and joy to many individuals and families throughout the Coulee Region this past year.

Look for us on Facebook!

We are listed as Coulee Region RSVP. It is a great way to keep up on all the latest happenings in our office as well watch for new volunteer opportunities and event information!



Handcraft Donations Welcome!

- Batting
- Fleece
- White Thread
- Yarn
- Material – Kid Friendly Patterns

Current Handcraft Needs:

- Adult Mittens
- Blue Wrap Projects
- Kid's Surgical Caps
- Quilts
- Walker Bags
- Wheelchair Bags

2011 RSVP Quilt Raffle

Thank you to everyone who purchased raffle tickets for our annual quilt raffle, we appreciate your support.

Congratulations to the 2011 Winners:

1. Michele Cook – Large Quilt
2. Laura Arndt – Large Quilt
3. Pat Blanchard – Baby Quilt

We will begin selling 2012 tickets at our Recognition Banquet in September. Hope to see you there! Many thanks to all of our quilt makers, and special thanks to this year's raffle donors, Dee Zemke, Dorothy Ricke, and Linda Hamilton.

Donations & Contributions

Thank you to all who have supported the Coulee Region Retired & Senior Volunteer Program in 2011. The following list includes donations received from July 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. Without your gifts, RSVP would not be able to offer the many wonderful volunteer services as it does. THANK YOU! Please know that we make every attempt to include all donors on this list. If we inadvertently missed your name for any reason, please contact us and we will include your name in our next newsletter. Thank you for being a friend of RSVP.

A&W Restaurant
Maxine Althoff
Jayne Baldwin
Gerald & Ruth Berns
La Verne D. Bjerke
Brookdale Senior Living
Robert & Yvonne
Caplan
Marilyn Carson
Ruth Clarkin
Courtesy Corporation
Culver's Family
Restaurant

Dairy Queen-La Crosse
Dairyland Power
Cooperative
Neva Dayl Winfrey
Trudy Duffrin
Christopher J. Eickman
Paul Elmhorst
Anita J. Froegel
Barbara Gilles
D'Mitria Gray
Carol Hesselberg
Raymond Hough
Judith A. Hutchens
Barb Katrana

Kenneth Kopp
Steven & Lynnetta Kopp
La Crosse Beverage, LLC
Lewis Valley Lutheran
Church
Lewis Valley WELCA
Kathy Lurene
Todd & Debra Mahr
Mayo Health System
La Crosse
McDonald's Restaurants/
Courtesy Cooperation
Alice A. McHugh
Phyllis Miller

David A. Momont
Ruth Morgan
David R. Morrison
Sharon Nanscawen
Greg Nekoli
Lyle & Myrna Peacock
Quillin's Foods, Inc
Rose Ramnarace
Chris Ranvik
Reinhart Foods, LLC
Robert & Eleanor Franke
Charitable Foundation
Rudy's Drive In

Jane Schur
Mary Servias
Janice Sobkowiak
Rodelino & Janet
Virata
Alice Wall
Bob & Maureen
Wehrenberg
Vera Wensole
Woodman's Foods
Frances I. Young
Susan Young

RSVP Handyman Service

The RSVP Handyman Program is off to a great start, volunteers have provided more than 140 hours assisting individuals with disabilities, those who are low-income and seniors who need minor home repair assistance and may not otherwise be able to afford it. No job is too small – all that is required is for the individuals requesting the help to provide the materials. Our volunteers donate their time and skills at no charge. RSVP handymen have assisted many individuals in our community by installing railings and deadbolts, repairing leaky faucets, as well as providing fix-it solutions for many other home repair needs in order to help individuals keep their homes in safe, working condition and answering requests from long term care facilities, making it possible for loved ones to return home. Quoting one of the volunteers, “The program is going very well; it has been a lot of fun. I often leave feeling very good but wishing I was a richer man so that I could provide the materials for those who cannot afford it. Overall the Handyman program is very useful for those in the community and a good fit with RSVP’s objectives.”

If you have minor home repair needs or work for an organization that has clients or patients that do, please contact RSVP today at 608.785.0500 to see how RSVP Handymen can provide a fix-it solution for you.



Telephone Reassurance Program

Formally known as the Friendly Caller Program-The name may have changed but our great service remains; helping people to stay in their homes longer and offering a social outlet to those who would not otherwise have it. Adults in La Crosse or Monroe County who would like to receive a reassuring call are encouraged to sign up; there is no charge. Participants receive a daily phone call, Monday-Friday between 8:30a.m.-10:00a.m. to check on their well being. If contact is not made after several attempts a call is made to the authorized emergency contacts. If you would like more information about the Telephone Reassurance Program for yourself, a friend or family member or if you would like to be a caller, contact RSVP at 785.0500.



2012 Calendar of Events

Friday, April 27 – 2012 Wellness Expo at the Onalaska OmniCenter from 8:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 19 – 4th Annual “Who will be Smarter than a 5th Grader” Fundraiser at Valley View Mall, Center Court from 10: a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 20 – La Crosse Convention and Visitor’s Bureau Family Fun Fair

June – Please remember to send in all January through June 2012 volunteer hours. All volunteers who have served 25 or more hours from August 2011 through June 2012 will receive an invitation to our Volunteer Recognition Banquet in September.

Tuesday, July 3 – Saturday, July 7 – Riverfest

Thursday, July 5 – Walk a Mile in her Shoes at Riverside Park

Friday, August 10 – Sunday, August 12 – Irishfest at Southside Oktoberfest Grounds

Friday, August 17 – Sunday, August 19 – Sand on the Riverfront at Riverside Park

Tuesday, September 11 – Operation Homefront Freedom Walk at Riverside Park Bandshell

Thursday, September 13 – Annual RSVP Volunteer Recognition Banquet at the Radisson Hotel Downtown La Crosse at 3:00 p.m.

Friday, September 28 – Saturday, October 6 – Oktoberfest

Saturday, October 6 – Historic Downtown Day
Thursday, November 15 – Handcraft Open House at RSVP Office from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the RSVP office.

Thursday, November 24 – Monday, December 31 – Rotary Lights

December – Please remember to send in all 2012 volunteer hours so we can successfully complete our end of the year reports.

Your Support Welcome

Please consider helping RSVP with a tax-deductible donation.

RSVP is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization



Name: _____

Address: _____

Yes, I would like to make a donation to RSVP in the amount of:

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$75 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

This gift is IN MEMORY OF _____

This gift is IN HONOR OF _____

*Please make checks payable to: Friends of Coulee Region RSVP
2920 East Avenue South, Suite 104 La Crosse, WI 54601*



Please cut and mail

Please keep us Informed!

- I have a change of address or new phone number
- I know of a fellow volunteer who has moved, is sick, or has passed away
- I would like to start volunteering at a new station
- I know a non profit group that would like to become an RSVP station

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Information _____



Please cut and mail

Nametags

Thanks to the in-kind donation of Dairlyand Power, RSVP volunteers are now being provided photo id nametags. If you have not stopped by the office to have your picture taken for a new nametag, please do so.

Military Veterans

If you served in the military please let the RSVP office know so that we can recognize you for your contributions to our country and our community. Your service is appreciated.

Coulee Region RSVP, Inc.

2920 East Avenue South, Suite 104
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Volunteers making a difference!

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