



E-Xtra

What's New & Noteworthy from RSVP

November 2015

The mission of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Dane County is 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.

Happenings

Recognition Wrap Up

Driver Services Expansion Grant

New Foster Grandparent Program Supervisor

Recognition Wrap Up!



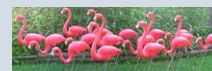
RSVP celebrated its 43rd year with a 1950s themed event with special guest speaker, Michelle Li from WISC, held at The Heights in Verona October 22. Five RSVP volunteers received Length of Service Awards, and ten volunteers received the President's Lifetime Achievement Award. Many thanks to

everyone who attended or contributed to the success of the event! Enjoy the 2015 RSVP Volunteer Recognition in photos!



Trivia

As reported in the Wisconsin State Journal, September 1, 2009. The Official bird of the City of Madison is the Plastic Pink Flamingo.



Things To Know

The RSVP office will be closed the following:

- **Thursday, November 26 - Thanksgiving.**
- **Friday, November 27 - day after Thanksgiving.**
- **Thursday, December 24 - Holiday Gift Wrapping.**
- **Friday, December 25 - Christmas.**
- **Thursday, December 31 - closing at Noon.**
- **Friday, January 1, 2016. Happy New Year!**

Veterans Day Celebration

To honor our veterans, RSVP is hosting a luncheon and pinning ceremony for RSVP volunteers who have served in the military. The event will be held in the RSVP Conference Room Tuesday, November 10, at 11:00 AM. Contact Tom Poppe, (608) 238-7901, tpoppe@rsvpdane.org with any questions, or to let us know you are planning to attend.

Driver Services Celebrations

November 12 -
Driver Services Recognition Event
Fitchburg Senior Center



Driver Services Expansion Grant Announced



The 40th Anniversary of RSVP's Driver Services Program was highlighted at the 2015 Volunteer Recognition Event. Dane County Executive, Joe Parisi, presented a County Proclamation, and Tom Linfield from the Madison Community Foundation announced that the Driver Services Program has been awarded the William E. and Edna B. Walker Fund for the Elderly grant of \$35,000 for expansion and recruitment of volunteer drivers in 2016! In his remarks, Tom shared: "When we

volunteer, we are not only providing a service for others, we are serving ourselves. Volunteerism fills the soul. Whether you're giving blood, stocking food pantry shelves, roofing a Habitat for Humanity house, or driving RSVP clients to important appointments, the secret really is that you are doing something for yourself as well as the recipient of your service. In particular, RSVP volunteers are providing far more than mere transportation - they are providing kindness and connection - the human connection that helps clients know that people are looking out for them." We appreciate Tom's recognition of the impact that volunteer drivers are making in Dane County, and we appreciate the Madison Community Foundation's commitment and contribution to expand the number of drivers in Dane County.

New Foster Grandparent Program Supervisor!

Please join us in welcoming Denise James as the new Foster Grandparent Program supervisor. She comes to RSVP FGP with over 20 years of experience in

10:30 AM - Noon

November 12-
Driver Services Recognition Event
McFarland Senior Center
2 PM - 4 PM

Sewing Machines in Working Order Needed!

Are you in the process of downsizing or cleaning out your closets and have a sewing machine in good working order that you no longer use?

An RSVP volunteer and Catholic Multicultural Center are teaming up to offer sewing classes to people at the center located in south Madison in 2016, but they need 4-5 machines to get the program started. If you would like to donate your machine, please contact Mary Schmelzer, Group Projects and Homeworkers Coordinator, at (608) 310-7280, or by email at mschmelzer@rsvpdane.org to make arrangements.

Upcoming Triad Events: Southwest Madison Triad

November 14th - 11:30

Opening of the new Meadowood Nutrition Site-Meadowood Community Center - Call for reservations: 238-0196

November 18th 10:30

Depression-Grieving Cheri Milton/Agrace Attic Angel
8501 Old Sauk Road
Call 441-7897 for directions

December

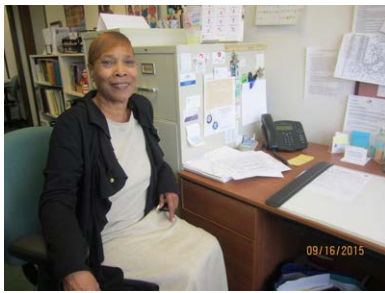
Presentation and activities at the Meadowood Nutrition Site
Meadowood Community Center
Call for more information - 441-7897

Cottage Grove Triad

November 17th - 10 AM

Getting to Know ADRC: How they Can Help You
Taylor Ridge Senior Apartments

The Adult and Disabled Resource Center of Dane County is a one stop-one-call resource information and assistance service provided at no cost. They can connect you to whatever resource



Human Service and Early Childhood Education. As a former Foster Grandparent, as well as a mother of three and grandmother of ten, Denise believes in the power of intergenerational relationships.

She has first-hand experience of the two way exchange of knowledge and information that occurs when generations come together. Denise believes in the phrase, "It takes a village to raise a child." She believes that everyone should feel a duty to support children as they learn and grow. Denise looks forward to working in partnership with the Foster Grandparents and community organizations because the best investment a society can make is to invest in future generations.

Share The Holiday Spirit 2015!

Holiday Gift Wrapping at Hilldale Shopping Center is an RSVP fundraiser and fun-raiser! During the holiday season, RSVP volunteers will wrap gifts that shoppers purchase in the shopping center. RSVP will receive a contribution from the mall and keep any tips as well.

We need your help! Please consider working a two or three hour shift wrapping gifts on any day between November 27th and December 24th. Please see the "**Volunteer Now**" section below for a full listing of available shifts and contact information. Thank you!

you may need and are ready to answer your questions from 7:45 - 4:30.

**Verona Triad
November 19 -10:00 AM**
"Traffic Roundabouts"
Steve Mueller, Dane County Sheriff's Office.

Find out more at www.rsvpdane.org/triad.html and www.triadofwisconsin.org
For further information, contact Mary Stamstad, at 608-441-7897, or mstamstad@rsvpdane.org.

Our Sponsor: MG&E

[Community Energy Conversations](#) (Click to read.)

Join Our Mailing List!

Volunteer Now!

It is the greatest of all mistakes to do nothing because you can only do a little - do what you can!
Author: Sydney Smith

HILLDALE HOLIDAY GIFT WRAPPING 2015 - Call Jan (608) 441-7891

- (Two and three hour shifts available!)
- November 27, Friday (10:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- November 28, Saturday (10:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- November 29, Sunday (11:00 AM - 6:00 PM)
- November 30, Monday NO WRAPPING
- December 1, Tuesday (11:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 2, Wednesday (11:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 3, Thursday (11:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 4, Friday (11:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 5, Saturday (10:00 AM - 6:00 PM)
- December 6, Sunday (11:00 AM - 6:00 PM)
- December 7 Monday (11:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 8 Tuesday (11:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 9 Wednesday (11:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 10 Thursday (11:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 11 Friday (11:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 12 Saturday (10:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 13 Sunday (11:00 AM - 6:00 PM)
- December 14 Monday (11:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 15 Tuesday (11:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 16 Wednesday (11:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 17 Thursday (11:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 18 Friday (11:00 AM - 8:00 PM)
- December 19 Saturday (10:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 20 Sunday (10:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
- December 21 Monday (10:00 AM - 8:00 PM)
- December 22 Tuesday (10:00 AM - 8:00 PM)
- December 23 Wednesday (10:00 AM - 8:00 PM)
- December 24 Thursday (10:00 AM - 5:00 PM)

VOLUNTEER OMBUDSMAN NEEDED. The Wisconsin Board on Aging and Long Term Care is in need of volunteers to visit nursing homes 2 - 3 hours a week advocating for residents, making sure

their rights are being met while living in a nursing home. Training provided. No special background needed.

FRIENDS OF MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY has a used bookstore in the Central Library on Mifflin Street. Volunteers are needed to work in the bookstore helping customers, shelving books, and helping with book sales.

MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT CENTRAL DISTRICT would like volunteers for their Information Desk to serve as greeters and provide information for visitors to the Police Department. They are located in the rear of the City County Building at 211 S. Carroll Street. Shifts are Monday - Friday from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM and 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM. If you need more flexibility, anytime between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM during the week works perfectly! Training provided.

RSVP needs **BUS BUDDY COORDINATORS!** Many seniors do not use the Madison Metro buses because they haven't had the opportunity to learn the bus system. If you are a seasoned bus rider, volunteer to teach someone else how to achieve more independence and mobility by using the bus system to get to senior and community centers, shopping, and entertainment!

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM is looking for a volunteer to greet visitors at the Information Desk a couple hours a week.

SENIOR COALITIONS on all sides of Madison, need **Home Chore** volunteers to visit elderly folks and help with light chores such as taking out the garbage, washing a few dishes, etc. Many older adults can live independently in their own homes longer with just a little help from a friend!

Older adults in the **SOUTH MADISON** community sometimes are no longer able to manage paying their bills such as rent, heat/electric and phone. You can help by volunteering to be a **Representative Payee** and ensure their monthly bills get paid. No money and no experience necessary, just compassion, understanding and a desire to help. Training and support provided and only 2-4 hours a month as your schedule permits.

CITIZENSHIP TUTORS are needed at **LITERACY NETWORK** to help prepare immigrants to take the US Citizenship exam. Volunteers must be fluent in English and knowledgeable in US history. Training is provided.

If you are interested in these opportunities, call Jan, at (608) 441-7891, or email to: jkarst@rsvpdane.org.

Intergenerational Programs:

Lowell Elementary School needs volunteers to help with reading, math, or general classroom help.

Nuestro Mundo needs volunteers to help with reading. Also needed are volunteers that are Spanish speakers! Volunteers are needed in the mornings between 8:30 AM -11:30 AM and from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM.

Sun Prairie Northside Elementary needs volunteers to help with reading, writing or math. Volunteers are needed in the mornings any day of the week.

Mt. Zion Academic Learning Center is looking for tutors/mentors for after school programs. Volunteers are needed Mondays from 1:30 PM -5:00 PM, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:45 PM - 5:00 PM. Volunteers will help improve academic performance, promote positive behavior and help promote a strong desire for learning. Volunteers will work 1:1 with students and help with reading or math, help with homework, computer lab, and have fun playing board games.

Waunakee Middle School is looking for volunteers to help students with reading and math during the school day or in the after school homework club.

Toki and Sherman Middle Schools need volunteers to help with reading and or math.

Do you like **Social Media**? **Leopold Elementary School** is looking for a volunteer to help keep the school's website and/or Facebook page up to date.

Volunteers needed for Computer Buddy Programs!

Would you enjoy reading and writing e-mail to an elementary student during the school year? RSVP volunteers are matched with a student and correspond in a pen pal fashion weekly via electronic transmission. The program does not involve a big time commitment, usually about 30 minutes a week. This year, the Computer Buddy Program will include students in classrooms in DeForest, Oregon, Madison and Marshall elementary schools as well as the Madison Neighborhood House.

If you are interested in any of these great volunteer opportunities, please contact Diana Jost at djost@rsvpdane.org, or call (608) 441-1393.

Foster Grandparent Program Volunteers Needed!

RSVP's Foster Grandparent Program is seeking volunteers to support children in Madison Head Start Centers and elementary schools. This program requires Foster Grandparents to offer 1:1 tutoring

and attention to students who need extra support in literacy and social/emotional development a minimum of 15 hours per week. Eligible volunteers receive a stipend and transportation reimbursement. Contact Denise, at (608) 441-7894 or djames@rsvpdane.org, to learn more about this unique opportunity.

RSVP VOLUNTEER DRIVERS are needed to drive eligible seniors, veterans, and veterans' family members in communities across Dane County and deliver meals in rural Dane County. These services allow seniors to maintain their independence. The demand for rides is growing along with Dane County's growing 65+ population, so RSVP needs more drivers to keep up with the demand. Come volunteer -- your neighbors need you! Contact Mary Schmelzer, Drivers Services Volunteer Coordinator, at 608 310-7280, or mschmelzer@rsvpdane.org.

Group liaison volunteers needed for Project Groups!

- Visit a sewing/knitting group(s) once monthly.
- Deliver fabric/yarn; pick-up finished handmade items.
- Enjoy a few hours a month volunteering.

For more information, please contact **Mary Schmelzer, Group Projects/Homeworkers Coordinator: (608) 310-7280** or mschmelzer@rsvpdane.org.

RSVP VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS - WHERE VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!