



RSVP+NEWS



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Dear Volunteers:

November, 2015

Before I get too caught up in the coming holiday season, I have to look over my shoulder and talk a little about what's been going on. In September we celebrated our volunteers at our annual recognition event. Our Fall Festival was a hit, held the 15th of September at **Canyon Lake Senior Center**, a good time was had by all! **Catered Two Productions** provided a fabulous meal that absolutely melted in your mouth and **KFC** contributed to the meal with their yummy coleslaw and drinks. On top of the wonderful food, the evening was further enhanced by **Mark Kline** and **Troy Kilpatrick** who did a fabulous job as Masters of Ceremonies. And the Coull Band!!! Oh my GOSH!! They were fantastic!! Awards were presented to **Ron Lawson, Lourine & Orlin Winkowitsch, Bonnie VanAtta, and Mildred Kirschenmann** who were selected throughout the year as **Outstanding Volunteers of the Quarter**. Then the big moment came when we revealed **Avis Lassegard** as our **Volunteer of the Year!** Avis has been a volunteer with RSVP+ for more than 30 years and has more than 20,000 volunteer hours invested in our community! WAY TO SHINE, AVIS! We also recognized the time and efforts of all the volunteers that make up RSVP+ and their selfless acts of kindness that make our communities such a wonderful place to live.



*Avis Lassegard,
Volunteer of the Year*

We marked Make a Difference Day in October by collecting Sweats and Socks for Veterans. All 125 items were distributed among and benefited the veterans at the Cornerstone Rescue Mission. In addition to Sweats and Socks, we also collected Scarves for distribution downtown. Now that it has been confirmed that items can be attached to statues downtown, we will again be accepting scarves to distribute to those in need.

Thank you to all that participated in our annual Turkey Raffle by buying and selling tickets. The drawing has not yet been held as we write the newsletter, however, by the time you receive this, a complete list of winners will be available at the office.

As most of you know, it is time for our annual Gift Wrapping Fundraiser. This year we will again be wrapping at K-mart throughout the Christmas Season. In addition to wrapping gifts, we will also be selling Banana Bread and are in need of volunteers willing to donate loaves (preferably full size loaves). Our Holiday Bread sale has become as successful as our gift wrapping! We always sell every loaf that is donated and make almost as much on banana bread sales as we do wrapping. This is a very important fundraiser for us as 100% of the money raised helps RSVP+ sustain our mission throughout the year. Please, if you are willing to help us wrap gifts or bake banana bread, give us a call at 394-2507.

With Thanksgiving and the holidays just around the corner, I know how busy these next few weeks are going to become! In spite of the demands the holiday's bring, you volunteers continue to make a difference in the lives of those you serve. The compassion you show to the people you assist in our community is an inspiration for all of us. At this time of Thanksgiving, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the example of kindness and commitment to service that is quietly displayed throughout the year. I am so proud to be associated with this program and consider it a privilege to work with all of you.

May your holidays be blessed with good health and happiness.

Kindest Regards,

- *Angie Weeks, RSVP+ Director*



The Christmas Truce

Christmas Eve, 1914 during WWI the allied troops on the front line were trying desperately not to think about Christmas, family and traditions that were far from the reality of this particular

Christmas. However, just after midnight on Christmas morning, the German troops along the

Eastern and Western fronts stopped firing their guns and started singing Christmas Carols. At first

light on Christmas day, the German soldiers emerged from their trenches and crossed the line of fire, calling out Merry Christmas in English and French. Rightfully so, the Allied soldiers suspected it was a trick to lure them out of their trenches. When the Germans called out, "You don't shoot, We don't Shoot" they emerged cautiously from their fox holes....few at first and then more and more and soon they were shaking hands with the German soldiers, sharing cigarettes and plum pudding. That Christmas the men spoke of loved ones, showed pictures of their families and even played soccer.

British Captain, Bruce Bairnsfather wrote: "I wouldn't have missed that unique and weird Christmas Day for anything...I spotted a German officer and being a bit of a collector, I intimated to him that I had taken a fancy to some of his buttons. I brought out my wire clippers and with a few snips, removed a couple of his buttons and put them in my pocket. I then gave him two of mine in exchange. The last I saw was one of my machine gunners, who was a bit of an amateur hairdresser in civilian life, cutting the unnaturally long hair of a German Soldier, who was patiently kneeling on the ground..."

Several other accounts of the Christmas Truce made it home to families through letters. Personal accounts of the truly remarkable events that took place that Christmas Day over 100 years ago were an inspiration to family and friends. Naturally, the cease fire only lasted a few short days, but on that special Christmas, all those soldiers who were called to duty during war time, witnessed a very special Peace in that war-torn part of the world.

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day, Their old familiar carols play, And wild and sweet the words repeat Of peace on earth, good will to men. Till, ringing, singing on its way, The world revolved from night to day, A voice, a chime, A chant sublime, Of peace on earth, good-will to men!..." - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER!

***Marilyn "Sue" Ferguson has been chosen as our
OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER!***



Sue first joined RSVP in September 1998 and for more than 17 years has remained an active and faithful volunteer in our community. Over the years she has volunteered at Canyon Lake Senior Center, West Hills Village, General Beadle and Knollwood elementary schools, and Cornerstone Rescue Mission. Sue is still actively volunteering at the Pennington County Treasures Office, SD Child Identification Program, United Blood Service and provides transportation to seniors to the grocery store and medical appointments, and bakes and assists them maintain their independence by preparing meals and other valuable services.

During her tenure with RSVP+ Sue has contributed more than 5,270 lifetime hours of volunteer service to our community.

Marilyn "Sue" Ferguson has always stood out as wonderful volunteer and we are proud to recognize her as our VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER! Thank you Sue, for all you do!

MEMORIALS/DONATIONS

My gift of \$_____ to the Black Hills Retired Senior Volunteer Program is enclosed. I would like my gift to be:

In Honor of _____ or In Memory of _____

PLEASE SEND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FOR MEMORIAL GIFTS TO:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____



Happy Birthday to October, November & December folks!

OCTOBER: Larry Abel, Susan Abel, Mary Afemui, Kay Anderson, Linda Bak, Bonnie Beer, Lorann Berg, Edna Bingham, Nancy Bolyard, Carolee Buchanan, Ken Burnham, Maria Carroll, Doris Castle, Jessie Clark, Paula Coupe, Jon Dahlke, Dee Erickson, Sue Ferguson, Lola Francis, Jim Galbraith, Michael Goggin, Wilma Goldammer, Robert Hayes, Kip Hoback, Danny Horn, Laura Huber, Candace Hughes, Betty Jansen, Mary Beth Johnson, Vern Johnson, Mary Keck, Mildred Kirschenmann, Dennis Luce, George MacDonald, Mary Lou Maguire, Karen McCleery, Beatrice McCoy, Casey McNulty, Bernice Miller, Karen Morgan, James Morris, Morgan Mueller, Tommy Nickel, Clarice Oswald, Harold Parquet, Anthony Patterson, Lache Price, Beverly Prue, Millie Roland, Margaret Rossknecht, Zach Routt, Justin Rule, Alexandra Sabol, Mildred Sanders, Ruth Scanlon, Barbara Sealy, Marjoline Self, Bonnie Strobel, Marcella Sunding, Carol Swenson, Natalie Termes, Connor Vodicka, LaVonne Waldner,

NOVEMBER: Dolores Ackerman, Anna Ahlstrom, Rachel Barari, Shelly Birrenkott, Judy Charbonneau, Linda Cobb, Lamar Dodson, Robert Fodness, Golda Galyen, Vivian Gilles, Roberta Hageman, Jean Hall, Lois Halley, Wayne Herreman, Darlene Hill, Danielle Hintz, Evalyn Houk, Brenda Hulstom, Jean Ireland, Keith Johnson, Tom Johnson, Stella Kabris, Addie Kalmbach, Phyllis Kertzman, Mark Kline, Zee Kruger, Norene Lantz, Jill Leberknight, Roger Lewis, Debbie Maher, Mac McCracken, Patricia McGarrigle, Judith Mehlhaff, Polly Meister, Helen Miller, Linda Miller, Larry Neilson, Bev Paschke, Mary Pettingell, Ron Roland, Karen Root, Craig Schaffer, Carol Seitz, Lila Sharp, Frank Shaw, Dorothy Thompson, Reta Thovson, William Trumble, Doris Ann Werlinger, Cheryl Williams, Joyce Williamson, Edward Ziegler, Sena Zoller

DECEMBER: Diane Ange, Mabel Bailie, Milton Berg, Leslie Bierley, Helynn Bode, Iris Brownrigg, Geniva Burns, Bernard Christner, Rachel Coats, Mary Dafoe, Dorothy Denke, Vivian Dittmer, Edna Durkin, Jess Edwards, Caroline Feuillerat, Bonnie Fingerhut, Leon Frantzick, Mona Gardner, Kayla Giggee, Jan Goheen, Sally Griggs, Lawrence Hansen, John Heaton, Mary Hutmacher, Jane Jaderston, Wanda Kelly, Victor Kienitz, Marlene Knopf, Leon Lunders, Carole Lundstrom, Gladys Lupkes, Grace Mack, Jill McCartney, Wanda McCormick, Dorothy McMillin, Kenneth Michaelson, Marlene Montague, Jimmy Dean Nilson, Donna Parks, Hazel Parquet, Jeanne Parsons, Doris Pederson, Virginia Pennel, Lyle Peters, Joyce Rainer, Marion Roe, Nancy Scott, Stephanie Stanger, Lorraine Stonecypher, Del Swenumson, Donna Uhre, Gordon Veil, Gertrude Verosky, Grace Weeks, Kathy Welsh, Pat Wheaton

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

***“When those you love become memories, then those
memories become treasures.”***

In Loving memory of:

Gregory Bishop, Doris Eizember, Mary Fitzpatrick, Lois Hanna,
Sylvia Heldman, Evelyn Johnson, Wilma Keene, Evelyn Mitchell,
Beverly Rhoades, Mary Roth, Norman Simpson Sr., Norma
Steinwandt, Larry Thovson, Helen Wrede



What's Cookin'?

Yummy Pumpkin Muffins

**1 Spice Cake Mix *1 - 15oz or 16 oz. can of pumpkin*

Mix the two ingredients completely (don't add anything else!) Put batter into 12 medium muffin tin, Bake 15 minutes at 350F or until done testing with a tooth pick.

Food for thought...

"As we express our gratitude this Thanksgiving, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them" —John F. Kennedy

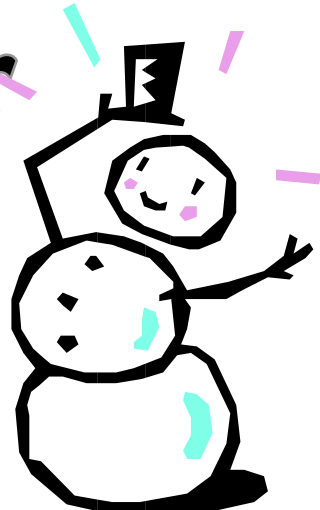


It was with great sadness that we learned that the Knights of Columbus would be suspending the home-delivery of meals this Thanksgiving holiday. As most of you may know, RSVP+ had been called on for many years to assist the Knights further their mission by expanding the reach of their generosity by providing a community meal to homebound individuals. It was a very good thing that the Knights did for many years and we were proud to be asked to be a part of it. Please know that while the Knights have suspended the home delivery, they will still provide the community meal, free of charge, at St. Thomas More Gymnasium.



Welcome New Volunteers

Gary Crown, Janice Dixon, Bel Felix, Kalya Giggee+, Joy Harris+,
Danielle Hintz+, Garlet Hocke+, Laura Huber+, Heather Kickery+,
Patricia Kickery, Barb Layton, Leon Lunders, Ruth Martin,
Michaela McCaskell+, Ritchie Nordstrom, Anthony Patterson,
Ralph Pettersen, Sharon Pettersen, Dorothy Ribble, Diane Rohde,
Karen Root+, Jaclyn Seymour+, Joe Sieberg+, Pat Soden, Stephanie Stagner+,
Ordean Stevenson, Chris Stone+, Rosella Waltman, Carol Weiss
(+ indicates Community + Volunteers)



"OH! The places you'll go! You'll be on your way up! You'll be seeing great Sights! You'll join the high fliers who soar to high heights." ~Dr. Seuss



Volunteer Opportunities

With the absolutely beautiful fall weather we have had, it is hard to believe the holidays are just around the corner! Please take a look at some of the holiday and ongoing volunteer opportunities listed below, and let us know if you would like to help out! If you have any questions on volunteer opportunities please do not hesitate to give me a call at 394-2507, or email me at ann.hines@rcgov.org. Better yet stop by the office at 333 6th Street!

Retired Senior Volunteer Program+: It is that time of year for our annual gift wrapping fundraiser!!! This is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year and we need your help! I am looking for volunteers to help wrap gifts at Kmart starting the beginning of December going through Christmas Eve. If you aren't the best gift wrapper, you can still help out by selling banana bread and being the cashier. If you have a friend or family member you would like to bring with, let us know and we can get them signed up and on the schedule with you! Please call the office and schedule a shift to wrap gifts and sell banana bread. Our office number is 394-2507, and I look forward to hearing from you!

Bakers: We not only wrap gifts at Kmart, we also sell *banana bread*! We are looking for bakers to make a couple of loaves of banana bread to sell at the Gift Wrap at Kmart. With a lot of people being allergic to nuts, we ask that you *do not* put nuts in your banana bread. Save yourself the added expense and keep it simple. So warm up your oven and get the smell of banana bread in the air! If you are running out of freezer space at home, you can drop your banana bread off at the office and we can store it here.

Journey Museum: The Journey Museum is looking for volunteers to help give bus tours an orientation of the museum This could include short presentations about geology, paleontology, archaeology, prehistory, and history of South Dakota. South Dakota history can include the Lakota Indians, homesteaders, pioneers, and the history of Rapid City and the Black Hills. This may sound like a lot to learn, BUT they do have fantastic staff who are more than willing to train all volunteers! Plus they will always be around to help answer questions you may have, or guests of the museum may have. They need help 7 days a week, anytime from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Let us know if you are interested in volunteering at the museum!

Meals on Wheels: The Meals Program is expanding their routes and they need more drivers! Drivers are needed from 11:00am – 1:00pm, but once you know your route you are usually done before 1:00pm. The staff is great to work with, and they are willing to work around your schedule. They also reimburse you for your mileage! If you aren't interested in helping deliver meals, they do need some help in the office. This would include answering phones. Days vary but they need help from 8:00-10:00am. Let me know if you would like to help out a day or two a week or a couple of times a month!

Literacy Room Helper/Tutor: One of the elementary schools is looking for help in their Literacy Room. They need help sorting and putting away guided reading books into their correct bins. You will be working in a quiet environment and not with children. They are looking for help once a week for 1-2 hours, and the days and times are flexible. This is a great opportunity if you would like to volunteer in the schools, but not work directly with students. IF you want to work with students we are still in need of tutors! Mornings and afternoons are available.

Partnership With Native Americans: Do you have a lot of family and/or prior commitments through the holidays, but want to start out with a fun and exciting volunteer opportunity once the new year comes? If so, Partnership With Native Americans might be right up your alley! They will be working on a variety of projects this winter, one being assembly baby baskets. If you would like to get on their list for upcoming projects let us know and we will get you added!



Whether you are looking for an ongoing project or a special project that only requires a one-day commitment, we have many volunteer opportunities available. If you haven't found your niche, let us help you – just give us a call.

If you need help shoveling snow this winter, a team from Juvenile Services can help. You provide the equipment and they provide the labor. They are available on a first call, first serve basis; just call RSVP at 394-2507.

And, PLEASE turn your time sheet in by the 10th of the month. You can mail them, call in your hours, or email your time to me at ann.hines@rcgov.org. We really appreciate your effort to get the hours to us. Thank you!!

Retired Senior Volunteer Program+
333 Sixth Street
Rapid City, SD 57701

www.rcgov.org

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-Robert Ingersoll

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