

## RSVP OF LEE COUNTY

United Way Resource Center  
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CINDY STEFLIK,  
PROGRAM DIRECTOR

FACEBOOK:  
<https://www.facebook.com/rsvpoffortmadisonia>

PINTEREST:  
<https://www.pinterest.com/rsvpfm/>

### Thank You

**Bob Crawmer**

for referring  
Lonnie Rea!

Your name will be  
entered into the  
quarterly drawing in

April for a  
HyVee gift card.

*In 2016 when you refer a  
volunteer your name will be  
included in a quarterly  
drawing for a \$25 HyVee  
gift card. So keep those  
referrals coming!*



**Help us promote RSVP  
by "liking" and "sharing"  
us on facebook and by  
"following" us on  
Pinterest.**

### Normal office hours:

Tuesday through Friday  
8-4:00

*Since Cindy is out and  
about frequently, you  
might want to call first  
to be sure she is in.*

# Silver Threads

**Success in life has nothing to do with what you gain in life or accomplish for yourself.....It's what you do for others. — unknown**

Volume II Issue 2

February 2016

## STATION SPOTLIGHT



The Fort Madison Area Arts Association (FMAAA) gallery has been the non-profit cultural arts provider in the area for 35 years. FMAAA acts as a distribution outlet for artist's work covering a two hour radius. Art education outlets are essential to their mission with adult and children's art programs available throughout the year which includes the drop-in Glaze Studio for instant hands-on creation.

FMAAA specializes in annual events such as Art-in-Central Park, Expressions AA Auction, and the Annual Garden Tour.

The FMAAA serves all populations. Their Lunch-ala-Art program meets 10 months per year on the last Friday of the month. It is perfect for semi-retired or retired folk where \$7 buys your meal from a local food vendor, you get to enjoy a presentation by a featured exhibition artist, as well as enjoy the conversation and companionship of the group.

The January Budding Artist exhibit showcases the works of



K-8th grade students at Central Lee, Fort Madison and Holy Trinity Schools.

The FMAAA utilizes 3-6 volunteers throughout the year. Volunteers greet customers, make sales, and orient customers to the Place of Fire Glaze studio. Long term volunteers eventually specialize in specific needs of FMAAA.

RSVP volunteers play a key role in allowing the center to be open to the public 35 hours a week on a regular, consistent basis. Once a volunteer is trained on gallery procedures they typically open the gallery on the day they are volunteering. FMAAA is a fascinating place to volunteer as you meet a variety of folks, artists and tourists while enjoying the everchanging art exhibits.



## Garden Project is Gearing up for Spring Planting

Did you know that 1 in 8 Iowans are food insecure and that 1 in 5 Iowa children do not have enough to eat? Lee County Iowa is ranked 99 of 99 counties in Food Insecurity. What this means is that Lee County has the worst food security in all of Iowa - there are many people going hungry every single day. To help combat this, RSVP, Fort Madison Area United Way and Community Services Inc Food Pantry have partnered with our local HyVee Food Store to provide fresh produce to food pantry recipients. HyVee is generously donating land and support for a garden spot dedicated to this project. Scott's Miracle Gro, Lee County Health Department, Live Healthy Lee County and ISU Extension are also key partners in this project. FMHS Building Trades students are building an 8x11 storage shed and picnic tables for the outdoor classroom. Along with the gardens, there will be an outdoor classroom for budding young (and old) gardeners. The goal of this project is to be able to offer more fresh, healthy choices to food pantry recipients and to educate on gardening and the use of the produce offered.

RSVP has two main roles in the gardens: 1) to provide volunteers to plant, maintain and harvest the produce for the food pantry. The garden will consist of all raised beds, so weeding will be greatly reduced. Soaker hoses will provide for easy watering. 2) to provide education at the Market Stand or the Gardens on how to use/cook/store the produce.

If you have a naturally green thumb or just like to play in the dirt, please call Cindy at RSVP today to volunteer to help with this project. Our goal is a minimum of 10 volunteers. Jobs will include planting, maintaining and harvesting the produce along with transporting it to the food pantry each day it is open. Market Education Assistants will also be needed. A desire to help others is all that is required, educational materials will be provided. As a volunteer, you may sign up to help with any or all of these areas of need.

### 52 Faces of Volunteerism

#### Artist's Reception

**Fort Madison Area Art Association**

**825 Ave G**

**Saturday**

**February 13th**

**2-4 pm**



The FMAAA is proud to present the **52 Face of Volunteerism Exhibit**. Artist Carlene Dingman Atwater has painted a portrait a week for the past year - all of volunteers in the area. This exhibition honors those "behind the scenes" folks that participate in regular and loyal fashion for their nonprofit, the volunteer who shows up and does whatever needs to be done on any given day. Carlene has done a remarkable job capturing their everyday strength. We are proud to announce that nine RSVP volunteers are among these 52 Faces. We encourage everyone to stop in to FMAAA gallery and view this wonderful exhibit. The Artist's Reception will be Saturday February 13th and the Exhibit will be on display throughout the month of February.



1. Help an elderly or disabled neighbor: offer a ride, grocery shop, or shovel/salt their walk.
2. Skip eating out and donate what you would spend to your favorite food pantry.
3. Smile at and greet warmly everyone you meet today.
4. Visit a shut-in - even a 15 minute visit can mean so much!
5. Visit your local animal shelter and share some love with these lonely pets.

## Happy Birthday from Casey's and RSVP!

Gary Steflik	2/2
George Gaudette	2/7
Jenny Flach	2/8
Whilla Shinn	2/11
Robert Crawmer	2/11
Richard Keeler	2/14
Gerry Wiegand	2/22
Galia Saar	2/25
Floretta Salladay	2/26
Karen Kokjohn	2/27

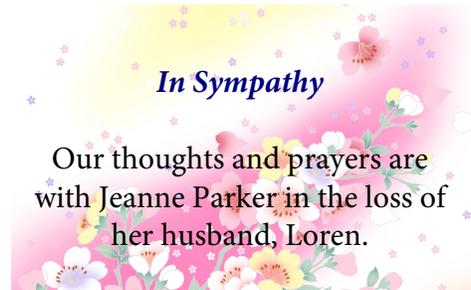


**The east-end Casey's at 1208 Avenue H** is once again very generously donating a free coffee and doughnut to RSVP volunteers on your birthday. If you have at least 10 documented volunteer hours in the past 12 months, you'll find a coupon enclosed. Email recipients will receive a separate email with their coupon attached.

*Be sure to say "Thank You" to the Casey's manager.*

### Please Welcome New Volunteers:

- Karen Kokjohn - Reading Buddies*
- James McInteer - Reading Buddies*
- Nancy Ireland - Reading Buddies*
- Janet DenAdel - Reading Buddies*
- Kate Lamb - Reading Buddies*
- Vonnie Rea - Reading Buddies and Food Pantry*



*The following volunteers have t-shirts and volunteer handbooks to pick up. All photo IDs are ready as well. Please stop in the RSVP office as soon as possible.*

- |                 |                    |                     |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Mary Peacock    | Betty Farrington   | Anna Auge-Grinstead |
| Ray McKee       | Sharon Dorrell     | Robert Dietrich     |
| Dennis Dorrell  | Judy Gerdes        | Phyllis Pomberg     |
| Ora Halferty    | Wayne DeMint       | Dianne Hope         |
| Terry Schrepfer | Paulette Schrepfer |                     |

If you've received this newsletter you've either requested to be on our mailing list or we've included you in our newsletter mailing because we feel you are an important contact for RSVP. If you wish to unsubscribe from this newsletter simply reply by email and state UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line or call us at 372-8043 and request to be removed from our mailing list. Thank you.

**RSVP**  
**Lead with Experience**  
Lee County, Iowa

3421 Avenue L  
Fort Madison, IA 52627

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



**RSVP of Lee County is sponsored by the Fort Madison Area United Way**

**RSVP'S FUNDING PARTNERS**



***Senior Corps Pledge***

*I will get things done for America - to make our people safer, smarter, and healthier.*

*When faced with a pressing challenge, I will bring Americans of all generations together to strengthen our communities.*

*When faced with children at risk, I will help them stay in school and on track for a brighter future.*

*When faced with children at risk, I will help them stay in school and on track for a brighter future.*

*When faced with older adults in need, I will provide support and compassion so they may age with grace and dignity.*

*Working for the greatest good, I will use my lifetime of experiences to improve my country, my community, and myself through service.*

*I am a Senior Corps RSVP volunteer and I will get things done.*