

## Inside this Issue

- Spirit of NH Award
- C&S and First Book
- TD Bank Affinity Program
- Mayor's Day
- Suzette's Dessert
- RSVP Survey Results

## Welcome to our new RSVP Volunteers!

James Callihan  
Margit Colburn  
Linda Cook  
Terri Guyette  
Edna Harrington  
Selena Katz  
Helen Limina  
Sue Linnus  
Mary Loftis  
Annette Marcella  
Peggy Marcellino  
Carolyn Miller  
Bonnie Morang  
Amy Morss  
Carol Nanni  
Barbara Paquin  
Walter Pearson  
Patricia Picard  
Sharon Rose  
Peggy Ueda  
Therese Wood

Welcome to the  
RSVP Volunteer  
Program!

May 2014

## From the Director's Desk– Kathy Baird

Greetings Friends,

Here at RSVP, the arrival of spring has brought new and exciting changes.

After 15 years, Suzette Borden retired on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Suzette has been with RSVP since July 1998 as the Program Coordinator for the Keene office and the America Reads program that she began her first year. It is now our most successful program, currently serving ten schools and with 70 volunteers. What a legacy to leave! It has truly been a privilege and joy to work with her all these years, and I will miss her humor (and candidness) with our daily conversations and her approach to our rewarding work.

So, the baton is passed....Mary Delisle has now started as the new RSVP Program Coordinator. Many of you know Mary from her most recent work in Development at MFS or previously at Monadnock United Way where she worked for over two decades. Cathy Garland has also joined us as the Program Coordinator for Peterborough and Neighbors-In-Deed. Having been in the fitness industry over 30 years, a business owner and active volunteer, she brings a strong customer service-oriented background and enthusiasm to help people to identify their strengths and accomplish their goals. I am thrilled to have them join the RSVP team.

We started 2014 by getting two new grant awards. In February, we received a \$1,500 Newspapers of New England grant for America Reads. But the jackpot was that we received the 2014 RSVP Competition Grant which is funded for three years at \$79,413/year. It began April 1st so we are off and running.

Finally, we are getting a sign on Main Street which is a dream come true. But, RSVP volunteers are the best ambassadors for our program and I encourage you to share your stories of your volunteer activities with others in your social networks, forward them our newsletter, and suggest they drop in to see what we have for offerings. We love to have more NEW Volunteers!

Warm Regards,

Kathy

**Suzette really knows how to go out on top! Thank you Suzette for your service to RSVP and for making a difference for generations to come.**

***2013 Spirit of New Hampshire Outstanding Volunteer Champion Award presented to America Reads Program***

Monadnock RSVP received Volunteer NH's 2013 Spirit of New Hampshire Outstanding Program Champion Award - Nonprofit for its signature program, America Reads, a national literacy program that helps children in kindergarten through third grade become proficient readers.

The *Spirit of New Hampshire Award* is an annual recognition administered by Volunteer NH in collaboration with the Office of the Governor. The award was presented on November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord, New Hampshire.

Before Suzette retired, she applied for an opportunity for America Reads to obtain books through C&S Wholesale Grocers and First Book. And as only Suzette could do – she got us **800 books!!!** Our deepest thanks go to Suzette for tackling this as she was preparing for her retirement and to C&S for their continued generosity to our wonderful program!

If you were not able to attend our book fair on May 8th or 9th, please do stop in as there are still some remaining books.

Thank you America Reads volunteers for opening an adventure and helping children in our community learn to read. You are giving them the best chance for success in school, work and life.

**Thank you C&S and First Book!**



*Suzette joins Mary Delisle, the new Program Coordinator, to do some heavy lifting at the C&S Book Distribution. Retired and volunteering!*



## TD Bank Affinity Membership Program

Based on the Affinity Codes assigned to accounts, TD Bank will make a financial contribution to Monadnock RSVP every year based on the average balance in all members' accounts. No contribution is made from your bank accounts. You are simply showing your "affinity" to Monadnock RSVP. **There are two ways to get involved:**

Participating in the TD Bank Affinity Membership Program is an easy and simple way to support Monadnock RSVP Volunteer Center at no cost

you! By participating, your bank account(s) will be allocated Monadnock RSVP's Affinity code "**AG065**", linking your account to RSVP.

### CURRENT TD BANK CUSTOMERS

Call TD Bank at (603)352-2040 or visit any branch and ask to have your account(s) linked to Monadnock RSVP.

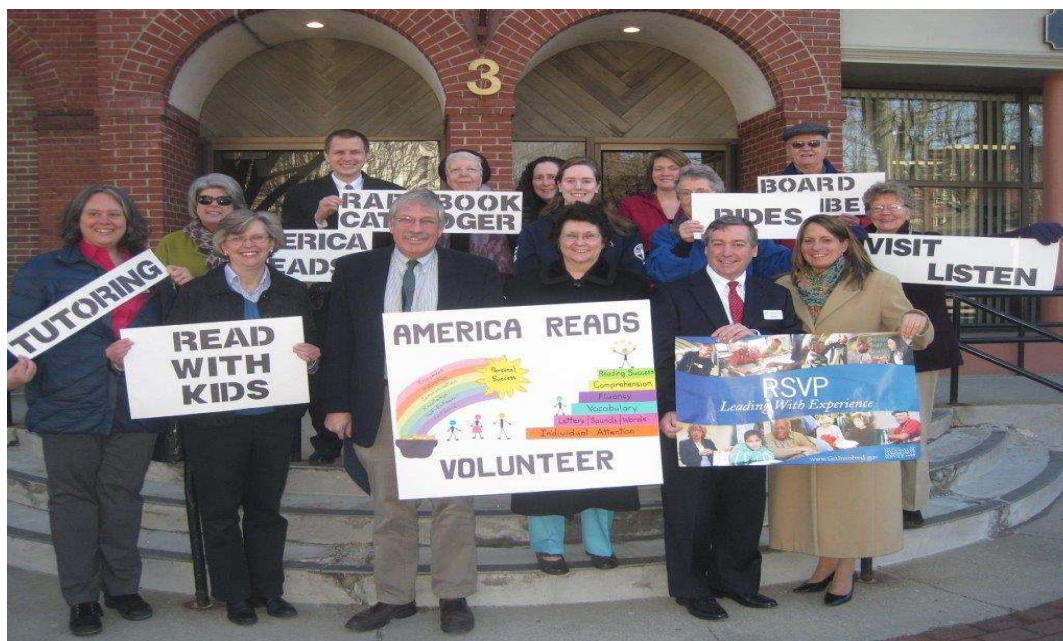
to

### OPEN A BANK ACCOUNT AT TD BANK

If you are not a TD Bank customer, but would like to support RSVP, you can receive a reward for opening a new TD Bank checking account. You will receive \$25 when you open a new, non-interest bearing checking account with TD Bank.

## Mayor's Day of Recognition for National Service on April 1, 2014.

Mayor Kendall Lane thanked national service volunteers and read a proclamation to RSVP volunteers from RSVP Monadnock Volunteer Center, AmeriCorps members from the Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Victim Assistance Program, Monadnock Center for Violence Prevention, Keene State College, along with agency and CNCS staff.



# RSVP

## Lead With Experience

Staff

### Kathy Baird

Program Director  
kbaird@mfs.org

### Mary Delisle

Program Coordinator-Keene  
mdelisle@mfs.org

### Cathy Garland

Program Coordinator -  
Peterborough  
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### Laura Redmond

Per diem

### RSVP Offices

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COMMUNITY  
SERVICE** 



## RSVP-Leading with Experience-Including experience in the Kitchen!

Suzette's Best And Quickest Dessert (also good for breakfast)  
*Looking for a easy delicious quick sweet to make? This is for you!*

### Ingredients

1 Stick of butter (room temperature)  
1 Cup of sugar  
1 Cup of flour  
2 eggs  
1 tsp of vanilla extract  
Berries or Fruit in season



Cream butter and sugar until fluffy. Add eggs and blend. Stir in flour and vanilla.  
Put in well greased (!! ) 8-9 inch pan. Top with any combination of berries or fruit. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes to 1 hour.

### *Your feedback from the RSVP Volunteer Survey!*

Thank you to all the volunteers who responded to the RSVP Annual Volunteer Survey in January. We sent 270 surveys and had a 29 percent return rate. We always find your answers very interesting and it shows that we have a changing volunteer corps who have different interests, expectations of volunteer roles and perceptions of how service impacts YOU and the community.

#### **Here is what you said:**

Thirty-one percent of respondents are veterans or immediate military family members.

Volunteers like to be the one to be doing the service activity - 86% do not recruit for organizations where they work.

We asked what benefits are important to volunteers:

#1 "Nothing, I am happy" - 62%. Many volunteers commented on why they volunteer: intellectual stimulation, opportunity to learn new things, joy of giving to others, personal satisfaction and purpose, social interaction and connection to the community.

#2 Informal volunteer get-togethers - Volunteers want to meet and chat with other volunteers. But they don't want formal recognition events which ranked last at six percent.

#3 Program in-services and free educational opportunities were neck and neck. Volunteers love to learn new things!

No surprise to RSVP staff, the top focus area that volunteers want to serve in is Education, including America Reads and Head Start.

On average, 89% said RSVP is doing a great job with matching interests to opportunities in a timely way, and they are very satisfied with their work.