



Helping Hands for Seniors

# SENIOR SCROLL

## March 2018

### Phones

970-352-9348 Client  
970-573-5818 Vol.

### Email

Staff@SRSweld.com

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Board of Directors

Donna Dosch  
Ashley Fusco  
Ben Gonzales  
Michael Muskin  
Kent Naughton  
Joyce Scott  
Diana Vasquez

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### Updates from Janet Bedingfield

The tune to Bob Dylan's *The Times They Are a-Changin'* is playing in my mind. It's an exciting time because it feels to me as though the wheel of senior needs has broken free of the ice it's been frozen in and is beginning to turn. I realize this won't make much sense to you at this point, but please stay with me.

With the impact of the aging of the Baby Boomers beginning to hit, senior needs will soon be screaming in our collective ear. Except that, sadly, seniors rarely scream for anything. Instead they suffer silently in the belief that others' needs are greater than their own. They will make do. They don't want to impose. And while there are lots of wonderful people and organizations working on behalf of Weld seniors in both the nonprofit and for profit arenas, Weld County hasn't had successful long-term collaborations for the purpose of raising awareness of, and advocating for, senior needs.

That didn't make sense to me, so I started the Weld Senior Services Task Force (WSSTF) and six individuals began meeting monthly in mid-2017. Taking our first Task Force action, we sent a collective email to United Way of Weld County (UWWC) in November requesting that they make Senior Needs one of the focus areas in their new Collective Impact funding model. As a result, in February we were pleasantly surprised to learn that the UWWC Board had voted to approve Senior Needs as one of just four focus areas, with Early Childhood, Youth, and Homelessness/Financial Stability being the other three. *This is HUGE for Weld seniors!!* The primary benefit of this designation by UWWC will be heightened public awareness, but that will in turn lead to more volunteers and financial support, which means an increased ability to serve seniors. And this is only the beginning of what a collaborative effort by key decision makers



### Senior Resource Services Staff

Janet Bedingfield - Executive Director  
Jordelle Antonio - Admin Assistant

Shelby Florio - Volunteer Coordinator  
Elnauz Reaves - Office Assistant

**Senior Resource Services will be closed  
& transportation services will not be available  
in observance of**

**Memorial Day  
Monday, May 28th**

**&**

**Independence Day  
Wednesday, July 4th**



Helping Hands for Seniors

(continued) will bring about, which is why creating Weld Senior Services Coalition (bigger group, same purpose) is also on WSSTF's short list of things to accomplish, along with contributing to Weld Area Agency on Aging's next Four Year Plan.

SRS Staff & Board have also been making changes to ensure that we meet the increasing transportation needs of Weld seniors, including the following.

- All client waiting lists will have been eliminated by the end of April, allowing clients to become active within three weeks of calling the SRS office
- In addition to weekdays, SRS is now able to offer transportation on evenings and weekends, and we are working to recruit more volunteers to pick up those rides
- We have a small Urgent Needs Team of volunteers whose members are willing to consider last minute health-related appointments which couldn't have been scheduled within our required timeframe, and we are working to expand this team
- A volunteer mileage reimbursement pilot program will be rolled out soon in the hope that this will make volunteering more attractive to some and more affordable for others
- Look for the unveiling of a new name and logo under which our transportation program will be marketed, followed by a marketing push
- We have budgeted and made grant applications for marketing to potential volunteer drivers, and are planning to roll out our marketing plan starting in June
- We have been awarded the Community Foundation Serving Greeley and Weld's Endowment Challenge Grant, an important step toward developing a strong major donor program
- Our 2018 goals include recruiting enough active volunteers to increase our ride numbers from 8577 to 13,000 while reducing our advanced scheduling notice from two weeks to one

Hopefully it makes sense now? Oh, The Times They Are a-Changin'! Thank you for the part you've played through your support of SRS.

Smiles and blessings,  
JB

**Greeley-Evans Area Clients—Please keep in mind that you are able to request non-medical transportation on the SRS minivan up until 3:30 PM of the business day before your requested service, space allowing! This service is on a first come, first served basis.**

**NEWS! NEWS! NEWS! NEWS! NEWS! NEWS! NEWS! NEWS! NEWS! NEWS!**

## **VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT—THANK YOU, MARY ACHZIGER!**

Mary is one of our volunteers who is always willing to help SRS with any task we put before her. She



is a volunteer driver but has also helped with giving interviews and at events. Mary was born and raised in Greeley. She attended both Aims and UNC and earned degrees in English, Journalism and Communications. She also attended CSU and earned her Master's in English and Semantics. She has had various jobs throughout the years, including teaching, and was also a volunteer firefighter and EMT in Eaton. That is where she met her husband Lyle. They were both firefighters, her in Eaton and him in Ault. At first, they didn't like each other but through the years of teaching EMT classes together, their fondness for each other grew. They have been married 22 years. In 1996, Mary started her career as a 911 dispatcher, which was her most "awesome and rewarding career." Mary is the President of the Board of Directors of the Evans Fire Protection District as well as a member of the Evans Citizens Police Advisory Committee. She is also a new Board Member of Area Agency on Aging. Her favorite thing about volunteering with SRS is meeting the people. "This service is badly needed, and this is one thing I can do with assisting their (seniors) independence for as long as possible."

Be sure to "Like" the Ride&Revel! Facebook page @rideandrevell

A promotional banner for the "Ride & Revel!" event. The background is a stylized landscape with blue and yellow jagged peaks. A white silhouette of a bicycle is positioned in the center, with a yellow sun behind it. The text "ride & revel!" is written in large, bold, white letters on the left. On the right, there is text about the event: "Register for a 20, 40, or 55 mile ride or VOLUNTEER TO HELP! Saturday, July 21st, 2018 This fun event benefits SRS". At the bottom right, the website "RideandRevel.com" is listed.

**ride  
&  
revel!**

Register for a 20, 40, or 55 mile ride or  
**VOLUNTEER TO HELP!**  
Saturday, July 21st, 2018  
This fun event benefits SRS

**RideandRevel.com**

Do you know that SRS has an endowment through Community Foundation Serving Greeley & Weld County? Ask us how to make SRS part of your legacy!



Helping Hands for Seniors

800 8th Avenue, Suite 229  
Greeley, CO 80631

Main Line 970-352-9348  
Volunteer Line 970-573-5818  
Fax 970-352-5437

We're on the web:  
[www.SRSweld.com](http://www.SRSweld.com)

Senior Resource Services thanks the generous sponsors & donors  
who supported the 2018 non-event  
**Heart to Heart - *The need to know we're loved is ageless***

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- ◆ Knoph Family Foundation
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- ◆ UC Health

**RED \$500+**

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- ◆ Bank of Colorado
- ◆ Betty Whitson
- ◆ Dede Bischoff
- ◆ BMA America on behalf of their employees
- ◆ Gateway Self Storage
- ◆ Atmos Energy
- ◆ The Greeley Tribune

**PINK \$250+**

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- ◆ Joyce Scott

**SRS serves over 900 Weld County seniors!**

- ⇒ As our client numbers continue to steadily increase, we are always in need of additional volunteers. We will have eliminated our waiting lists by May and don't plan to reinstate it, but volunteer drivers will be the key, as always!
- ⇒ A heartfelt thanks to the many generous businesses in the community who have made donations which allow us to recognize and show appreciation for our compassionate volunteers.

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