

RISTWATCH

RCVFD Quarterly Newsletter P. O. Box 2, Bellvue, CO 80512 Issue No. 104 October 2022

Letter from the President

I am almost a full year into this job and learning a lot. Recently we held our annual Mountain Festival, and in this newsletter you will see much about the success we enjoyed. The weather was chilly and wet, but we still had a great turnout. Mountain folk do not shrink from a bit of inclement weather!

I have three groups to thank for our success. First, the many, many volunteers who contributed their time, talent and resources to organize this event. I witnessed dozens of volunteers expending thousands of hours to make our festival happen. I cannot begin to name all of the people who helped with this effort, but know that your work is acknowledged and appreciated.

The firefighters, EMTs and all of the support members of the Fire Department continue to perform their normal duties to keep all of us safe, but it all gets turned up a notch or two before, during and after the Festival. Your ongoing investment in our fire department is honored and appreciated.

Finally, none of this would be possible without the people who come out to support RCVFD. Whether you are buying books, bidding on items or even just enjoying the entertainment and buying lunch, everyone who comes out makes all of those volunteer hours pay off.

That means that everyone deserves a pat on the back and a hearty measure of gratitude!

Neil Faber President - 2022

RCVFD Annual Meeting and Potluck

Saturday, November 5th, 2022, 6 - 8 PM
Back at Stove Prairie School!

Join us at Stove Prairie School for a potluck and the Fire Dpt. Annual Meeting. We'll hear from the President, Chief, Treasurer and Vice President, and elect our new Board of Directors. Please bring a dish to share. Beverages and dinnerware will be provided.



All Area Residents are encouraged to attend!



Resilience Community Assessment



The Larimer County Office of Emergency Management is interested in helping build more resilient communities. Please fill out this annual survey to help guide countywide resilience efforts!





www.bit.ly/ResilienceCommunityAssessment



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Social Connectedness



Culture & Networks

Chief's Report

We have closed the books on another successful Rist Canyon Mountain Festival, and although the weather was a little less than ideal, all I saw when I looked around were smiles. Community members enjoyed coming together for a common purpose, seeing friends and neighbors that maybe they had started to lose touch with, and sampling the skills and products of their fellow neighbors both near and far in the craft booths. Visitors to our canyon had a chance to see its splendor even when the sun isn't shining, and duck out of the intermittent rain into the book tent or the silent auction tent, or snack on some amazing food under the dining tent, listening to another fantastic line-up of musical talent. We even ran the firefighter dunk tank this year, proving how tough our Rist Canyon firefighters are!

I would like to thank everyone involved in the festival this year for making it such a great experience. We had a solid crew of folks helping to set up and tear down, making the work easier and the days shorter. Our community members running the various tents and attractions are dedicated and wonderful people. Our firefighters always juggle a few tasks on Festival Day, making sure we have things staffed and prepped in case of an emergency, but also educating visitors in the Firefighter Tent, keeping an eye on the parking lot and, of course, taking time out now and then to have a little fun. Everyone does an amazing job, and if I started listing folks by name I would run out of room. Thank you all!

On the operational side of things, we continue to plan a fire station in the Buckhorn area to improve our coverage there in the event of a wildland fire. We were blessed with moderate temperatures and rain at the right times this season, but that won't work out every year, and we need to be prepared. We are exploring grants for an additional brush truck with a crew cab, which would help us more easily transport firefighters to wildland fires along with the apparatus they need to support them while they fight it. This also dovetails with the Buckhorn station, since a fourth station would require more trucks.

Our recruit and training pipeline is strong, with new folks coming to check out the fire department and see how they might get involved. We had two new firefighters and an EMT graduate from recruit status this quarter, and they are already starting to help out on calls. As we head into the colder months, we'll all start to fire up those chimneys—and that means chimney fires and other structure events. During the fall we focus our training on our structure (bunker) gear, SCBA (breathing apparatus) and structure safety and stabilization. We have done a full inventory of our SCBA equipment and verified what was in good shape for the season, repaired what could be repaired and replaced what needed replacing.

Great News!

Your RCVFD is now offering your

Address Sign FREE!

Order your address sign NOW so your fire fighters can find you FASTER when you call.

To order, call Louise at 970/217-6843.

The signs are free, but donations are always appreciated.

Word on the street is that this winter might be a snowy one for our area, so stock up on that hot chocolate, get the firewood ready and don't forget to apply for your slash burn permit from the county.

Sincerely, Jeff Elsner, Chief Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Pepartment P.O. Box 2, Bellvue, CO 80512 chief@rcvfd.org



Terje S Whitmore LUTCF, MDRT

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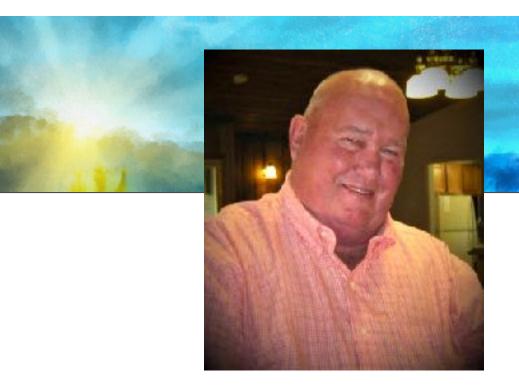
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terje.Whitmore@countryfinancial.com









Ed Brown

April 9, 1950 - June 17, 2022

Ed Brown, a Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department Fire Fighter and Board Member for many years, died on June 17th. We appreciated his support and hard work. In spring 2011, Ed helped many of his neighbors get up and out of their homes late one night when the Crystal Park Fire started.

Ed grew up in Nebraska in farm country. He has three adult sons who have all married and provided him with six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He loved his family and all of his friends. He was a kind and gentle bear of a man. We all miss him greatly.

RCVFD Monthly Meeting Schedule

Operations —1st Wednesdays (6-7 PM)

Fire Training—2nd Wednesdays (7-9:30 PM)

Board Meeting—3rd Wednesdays (6-8 PM)

Medical Training—4th Wednesdays (6-9:30 PM)

Ops, Fire and Medical Trainings are at Firehouse #1 at 11835 Rist Canyon Road. Board meetings are held at Firehouse #1, or on Zoom if necessary. All Rist Canyon area residents are welcome to attend. Around the first of each month, RCVFD sends out a Community Alert with the deadline to request a copy of the agenda. If you would like to receive the agenda, please email your name, email address and phone number to the RCVFD Board Secretary at secretary@rcvfd.org. Please note that the agenda will arrive one to two days before the scheduled meeting. To sign up for Community Alerts, visit RCVFD.org.



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Letter From the Vice President

2022 RCVFD Mountain Festival a Big Success!

The annual RCVFD Mountain Festival was held on Saturday, September 10, 2022, to raise funds for the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department. Even though we had drizzle most of the day, there were about 1,500 happy attendees, and a nice profit was made for the fire department. Over 150 neighbor volunteers worked together to make the Festival happen. This event brought neighbors together to build new friendships and informed people about the activities of RCVFD.

This year's celebration featured a huge used book sale with thousands of books; an excellent silent auction with hundreds of items; a delicious bake sale with an amazing number of pies, cakes and more; a large plant sale with a variety of types and sizes of plants; a great RCVFD Festival T-shirt sale, with a new logo for this year plus vintage shirts from past years; 24 craft sellers and other vendors; 15 non-profit educational booths; outstanding live musical entertainment by five local bands; an old-fashioned dunk tank; firefighter demonstrations of equipment; a display of our fire trucks; free ice cream in a variety of flavors; food trucks; and a kids' area with lots of different activities, games and farm animals. A presentation at the RCVFD Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 5, 2022, will give more information and show photographs of the event.

Please mark your calendars for next year's Festival—Saturday, September 9, 2023. To join the Festival team, please contact H.J. Siegel, Festival Coordinator [HJ@computer.org]. There are lots of ways to help in the months before the Festival, days before the Festival, during the Festival and after the Festival. We happily welcome new members for the fun and friendly "Friends of the Festival" leadership team!



Folks starting to arrive on a chilly morning.

H. J. Siegel Mountain Festival Coordinator and RCVFD Board Vice President



Lots of great fire department demos!

Plenty of bidding going on in the Silent Auction tent.

What's Happening in Your Neighborhood?



- ~42.34 Acres
- 3 Bed / 3 Bath Custom Home
- 3 Car Garage with Shop Area
- Metal Building for Toys
- Greenhouse



- ~75 Acres
- 2688 SqFt Shop w/Full Kitchen
- 2 Lots Selling Together
- Two Barns



- ~ 9.97 Acres
- Horse Property in Glacier View
- Electric Box Installed at Driveway Pole
- Community Water Tap



- ~35+ Acre Lots
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Notes from Your Area Representatives

Bears, bears and more bears or is it only one? It is not for me to know. There has been much bear activity as of late along the Stove Prairie corridor. With the trash issues I have been hearing about I suspect it is only one or two where I live. The experts could be called in to figure it out. I do not want this. I want to see bears and not have to deal with nuisance bears.

Please guard trash and other yummy things bears love. After all, fall is the season of hyperphagia. Let's all be responsible and enjoy seeing the beautiful animals for what they are. We do live with them!

> Take it Easy! Tim Stratman Stove Prairie Area Rep

For great information on protecting your bear neighbors, visit the RCVFD website's Ristwatch page, scroll down to the April 2019 Ristwatch, and read page 6. The information comes from Linda Masterson's go-to handbook, Living with Bears.

- You can order her book at
- livingwithbears.com. Linda, a former
- resident of Crystal Mountain, is now
- living on the Gulf Coast, but reports
- that she still misses the mountains!
- We miss her too! Watch for excerpts of her books in upcoming issues. *Ed.*

Happy Fall and Welcome to all the new folks in our neighborhood. As the weather cools and the sun sets earlier, many are cutting firewood in anticipation of those cozy nights by the fire. But what to do with the slash piles?

Many of us burn them while others chip and spread them. If you choose to burn be sure to get your Free Burn Permit. It's quick and easy. Go to the www.RCVFD.com website. Click on Community Information, then Get A Burn Permit. This takes you directly to the Larimer County website for the Permit. You will complete information such as your name and the address where you will be burning. You can choose a date starting in October and ending in April. Be sure to read all the instructions, which will be part of the Permit. It includes the size of slash pile as well as no burning unless there is a minimum of three inches of snow on the ground.

On the day you plan to burn you should plan to spend the day watching over each slash pile. You will also need to contact the Larimer County Sheriff's office non-emergency number, 970/416-1985, to let them know you plan to burn that day.

A few things to remember. Windy days are not a good day to burn. If the forecast plans for ten mph winds or more,

• choose another day. Be sure to have access to water, a

out. The Permit site includes all the instructions.

- shovel and rake to prevent spreading and put the fire out
- when done. Then check over the next few days that it is
- Once you finish your application you will have a permit
- number. You cannot burn until you receive a confirmation
- email from Larimer County.

Be safe, and enjoy the beautiful fall colors that Colorado is known for. If you need RCVFD anytime, for fire or medical emergencies, always call 911.

> Louise Creager Stratton Park Area Rep



Despite the cold, Asha, Jack and Abbas had plenty of ice cream customers.



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Notes from Your Area Representatives, cont'd.

Pretty quiet on the mountain now that the rains have stopped. Road seems to be holding up well and reconstruction of Deer Path and Wildsong is underway. Enjoy the cooler fall temperatures before winter arrives.

Erica Michel Upper Buckhorn Area Rep



All photos in this issue courtesy of Erica Michel.

As we move into fall, we need to be extra careful when cutting our firewood. Sparks are not our friends.

Please sign up for our Community alerts at RCVFD.org. This keeps you informed of lost pets and events in the area.

Contact <u>Leta911.org</u> and sign up for reverse 911 calls for alerts when you need to evacuate if a fire or flood is near you. It is a good idea to do this every year or so to make sure you are still on the list.

The address signs are free and help the firefighters and EMTs find our homes faster. Give them the extra edge to find you in an emergency.

Finally, a ride in the Flight for Life is \$20,000 a trip. Consider signing up for this as it covers everyone in your household.

If you have any questions or need information on any of the items above, please contact me.

Carolyn Stanley Pavis Ranch Area Rep. 970/221-2024

It's That Time Again!

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 6th. Set your clocks one hour forward before you go to bed Saturday night (after the Annual Meeting and Potluck).

It's a good time to also change the batteries in your smoke and CO2 detectors. And, if your smoke detector is over ten years old, it's time to replace it with a new one.





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Thank You to the Community Volunteers Who Made the 2022 RCVFD Mountain Festival a Success!

Most of the 2022 RCVFD Mountain Festival activities and the names of most of the volunteers who participated in those activities are listed below. A big thanks to the over 120 community volunteers who worked together so about 1,500 people could come together for a fun day, learn about RCVFD and raise money for RCVFD supplies and equipment.

For information about how you can join our great team of volunteers, please contact me, H.J. Siegel, Mountain Festival Coordinator, at HJ@computer.org.

- Announcer: Neil Faber
- Bake Sale: Patti Clutter, Chair; Bethany Schwartz, Bonnie Shetler, Diane Schwartz, Hayden, Hayley, James Clutter, Jameson Schwartz, Jeremy Schwartz, Karen Salaz, Lisa Diederich, Melanie Bevers and all the local residents who donated baked goods for the sale.
- Book Sale: Carolyn Stanley, Chair; Kathy Cox, Co-Chair; Andrea Toryer, Angela McQuillan, Barb Monesson, Becky Lunt, Beth Corbitt, Betsy Bartel, Bonnie Shetler, Brett Carr, Bridget Tisthammer, Brittany Johnston, Corey Stewart, Dana Stewart, Debbie Faber, Diane McCarthy, Erica Michel, Gabrielle Borin, Gretchen Long, Harry Bates, H.J. Siegel, Hunter Squibb, Irene Holtzer, James Clutter, Janet Siegel, Jeff Brack, Jess Stark, Jesse Ceplecha, Jim Gray, Joan Miller, Josie Goodyear, Juana Jackson, Karen Salaz, Louise Creager, Marcy Gray, Mark McCracken, Mark Neuroth, Mike Salaz, Mike Wilkins, Molly McLean, Neil Faber, Nicole Pam Thomas, Pat Baker, Pat Carey, Patti Clutter, Sarah Neill, Scott Kissell, Shannon Phelps, Shawn Ziegler, Susan Weaver, Tanya Shenk, Tim Jackson, Tom Holtzer, Trisha Johnston and Wes Rutt
- Corporate and Donor Sponsors: Taylor Hubbard, Chair; Jocelyn Wolf
- Craft/Vendor Booths: Jill Smith and Debbie Benson, Co-Chairs; Julie Lautermilch, Rylie Smith and Molly Cottingham
- Dunk Tank: Trisha Johnston, Chair; Amelia Lauenroth, Brett Johnston, Juana Jackson, Molly McLean and Shannon Phelps
- Entertainment: Sandy Reilly, Chair; the bands who volunteered services: AKA (Tom Southard, Taylor Lukasiewicz, Dave Bauer, Pete Ramirez, Gerald Craig, Walt Niccoli); Geezer Big Band (Don Diemer, Dan Fuller, Burke Sweiger); Liz Barnez (with Eric Moon and Marty Rein), Choice City Trio (Alan Anderson, Edwin Chong, Larry Page); Cowtown (Ron Lynam, Julie Lynam, Bob Montgomery, Russ Larson); Shaped Music (technical support): Dom Gambone, Fish Carpenter and Mike Kwiatek
- Facilities (e.g., tents, tables, chairs, potties): Richard Lund
- Farm Animals: Shiloh Dairy
- Field Layout: Shannon Phelps, Chair; H.J. Siegel, James Clutter, Juana Jackson
- Field Provider: Gail and Gene Michaud
- Fire Trucks: Juana Jackson
- Firefighter Display Booth: Juana Jackson, Chair; Amelia Lauenroth
- **Firefighter Demonstrations**: Juana Jackson, Chair; Carol Dollard, Erica Sloat, Jeff Elsner, Jesse Ceplecha, Jocelyn Wolf, Mark McCracken, Mark Neuroth and Mia Lauenroth
- Food Trucks: Bridget Tisthammer
- Helicopter for Airlifts: Mark Neuroth

Thank You, Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department!



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RCVFD Festival Thanks, cont'd.

- Ice Cream: Bridget Tisthammer, Chair; Abbas, Asha, Jack and Louise Creager
- Kids' Activities: Trisha Johnston, Chair; Angela McQuillan, Brett Johnston, Jack and Jon McQuillan
- Non-Profit and Educational Booths: Trisha Johnston, Chair; Angela McQuillan, Molly Cottingham and Rylie
- Plant Sale: Kimberley Carr, Chair; Addison Minnick, Brett Carr and Maram Yousif
- **Publicity**: Karen Salaz, press releases, online calendars; Taylor Hubbard, event design, Facebook, posters, social media; and Brett Carr, volunteers request graphic
- RCVFD Firefighters for Set Up, Festival Day and/or Close Up: Adam Richards, Alan Villavicencio, Carol Dollard, Debbie Benson, Erica Sloat, H.J. Siegel, Hunter Squibb, Jeff Brack, Jeff Elsner, Jeff Stark, Jesse Ceplecha, Jocelyn Wolf, John Benshoof, Kim Workman, Larry Monesson, Lyle Benson, Mark McCracken, Mark Neuroth, Mia Lauenroth, Mike Wilkins, Shawn Zeigler and Terry Shetler
- Road Signs: Randy Hediger
- Shuttle Tractor Driver: Brett Johnston
- Shuttle Trailer: Steve Denlinger
- Silent Auction: Janet Siegel, Chair; Pam Thomas, Co-Chair; Carolyn Stanley, Barb Monesson, Betsy Bartels, "Book Bees," Brett Carr, Carol Nichols, Debbie Benson, Diane McCarthy, Erica Michel, Gretchen Long, H.J. Siegel, Karen Salaz, James Clutter, Jeff Elsner, Jen Dartez, Jim Gray, Jocelyn Wolf, Jon McQuillan, Juana Jackson, Kathy Cox, Larry Monesson, Louise Creager, Lyle Benson, Marcy Gray, Mark McCracken, Mike Salaz, Molly McShane, Patti Clutter, Richard Lund, Shannon Phelps, Sky Siegel, Taylor Hubbard, Trisha Johnston and Woody Saunders
- T-Shirts: Molly McLean, Shannon Phelps, Co-Chairs
- Treasurer/Mentor: Richard Lund; and Assistant Treasurer: Steve Denlinger
- Wi-Fi: Phil Jensen, Chair; and Jocelyn Wolf



Kimberley and Brett Carr ran the Plant Sale tent, which was a jungle this year. Note the artichokes and figs from the Squibb family!



Two little cuties making friends in the kids' area.



President Neil Faber was our Announcer this year.



Our Members Are:

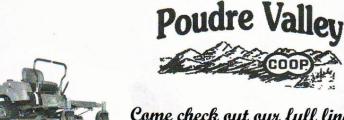
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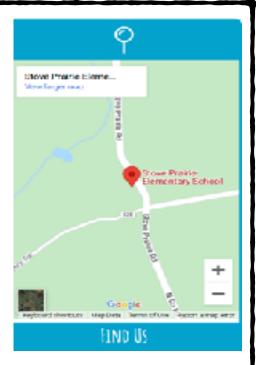
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Notes from Stove Prairie Elementary School



Back To School!



Dear Neighbors,

The 2022-2023 school year is in full swing now and we are excited for another fun school year adventure!

By the time this edition comes out, we will have held our Annual Fall Festival on October 1. We hope that you were able to attend and enjoyed a fun-filled day!

Enjoy your autumn!

Jacki Lawson Stove Prairie Elementary PTO



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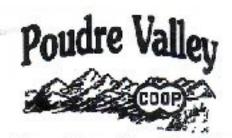
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More Scenes from the Mountain Festival



Just some of our many fearless fire fighters!



Molly and Shannon reported that people bought lots of teesmaybe they wanted the extra layers?



Patti Clutter did a great job running the Bake Sale tent with lots of help, including her mentor, Lisa Diederich, and husband James.



Geezer Big Band

Cowtown and Choice City Trio also joined us for a great day of music!



Carolyn Stanley and Diane McCarthy taking a little break in the Book Tent.



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Three Easy Ways to Help the RCVFD



Spread the Word!

One of our biggest fundraisers is the King Soopers Rewards Card. If everyone in the Rist Canyon area used this program, it could make a HUGE difference in our fundraising. This generous program gives the RCVFD 5% of all of your purchases at King Soopers. This includes groceries, toiletries, supplies, clothing, gas and even prescriptions.

The process only takes a few minutes. If you don't already have a free King Soopers Rewards Card, request one from your cashier or the service desk. Once that's done, jump on your computer and go to www.kingsoopers.com/communityrewards. Click on the link to enroll. Set up an account, or sign in if you already have one. Then click on Community Rewards from the list on the left. Use the "Find an Organization" box to enter our NPO number, YP687 and click Search. It will verify that you have selected the RCVFD. Click "Enroll" and you're done!

Always scan your Rewards Card when shopping. As a Rewards member, you'll save money and earn points towards gas discounts; and the RCVFD will receive 5% of your purchases. If you have any questions about the King Soopers Rewards Program, contact them at 800/576-4377. And thank you for telling your neighbors to sign up, too!

You can donate through Colorado Gives any time of the year! Please Spread the WORD to family and friends!



It's easy—just post this link:

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2022 Annual Drive Budget \$102,666 - Donations YTD \$51,460

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Paris, Leslie

PayPal Giving Fund Perry, Marty & Terry

Perry, Phyllis Peterson, Joel

Peterson, Leslie & Gelene Pfitzer, Neal & Marlys

Pheldor, Paul

Phelps, Shannon & M. McClean

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Ramos, Rafael

Rehme, Norman & Carol Reichert, Robert & Peggy Rommel, Kurt & Marga Rose, Matthew & Paige Rosenberg, Walt & Paula

Ruppert, Roslyn & Gordon Claus

Rutt, Wes & Nicki Ryan Marie-Laure Sajbel, Jennifer

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Shenk, Tanya Shenk-Brien, Tracy

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Sky Corral Sloan, Cathy

Smethurst, John & Ruby

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Smith, Tracy & Terry Hribal Spencer, Keith & Stacey

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Swenson, Dennis Swindler, Lee & Sheri

Taylor, Leisa Thielen, Robert

Tisserat, Ned & Jan Leach Tisthammer, Thomas & Bridget

Tracy, Robert

Vannorsdel, Dick & Carol

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Weiler, Richard & Patricia

Weixelman, Gary Welch, Jarrett Wensman, Patrick

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Thanks to everyone! Your support is so important to the health of our RCVFD! THANK YOU!!

Great Resource!

Disabled Resource Services offers walkers, crutches and other mobility devices for as little as \$10 to \$25 per year. They also take donations of these devices if you have one you'd like to pass on. They are located just west of the Poudre Valley Hospital parking lot. Call first if you plan to visit—their hours are limited.



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