

# Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

January through June 2019

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### **Upcoming Dates:**

May 18- Armed Forces Day Parade

\*Office Closed June 18-21\*

June 19- CNCS Seminar Denver, CO; Education and Intergenerational Programs

<u>July 4</u>- Independence Day

<u>August 14</u>- Advisory Council Annual Meeting; New Board Elections

<u>September 13</u>-Volunteer Recognition Banquet

October (Date TBD)-Trick-or-treating at City Hall

November(Date TBD)-Veterans Corps Pinning Ceremony

<u>December</u>- No Events Happy Holidays

# National Service Recognition Day at USO Oklahoma on Fort Sill



On April 17, 2019 the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program served lunch to over 150 Activity Duty service members, Retirees, and family members stationed aboard the installation. Volunteers Linda Hills, Judy Wells, and Mitzti Recklein lent a hand on the service line while patrons enjoyed a grilled chicken caesar salad wrap, chips, and lemonade.

National Service Recognition Day brings awareness to our community that more and more cities across the nation are utilizing volunteers to solve the toughest challenges.

Through our local partnerships with 44 organizations our volunteers are responding to natural disasters, tackling the opioid epidemic, supporting veterans and military families, and strengthening our community.

# Brookridge Retirement Community hosts a Community Luncheon for Volunteer Opportunities

Family members, community supporters, and volunteers were invited to Brookridge for an informal come and go luncheon to advertise upcoming

events and service opportunities. Karen (KW) Hillis, the Marketing Director for Brookridge organized this event to recruit volunteers activities held within the Retirement Community such as support groups, community fellowship connections, games, crafting activities, bible studies, and much more.

RSVP Volunteers are currently fulfilling the roles of Bingo announcer, musical entertainer, resident companion, and dining room assistant to name a few.



Do you speak a second language? Brookridge Residents are always looking for volunteers who speak foreign languages, to come and visit, and converse with them in their native tongue.

For more information contact Kristy Morgan at 580-536-9700.

# Celebrating 46 years of Service



Fifty-three volunteers and their guests gathered at the City Hall Banquet Hall on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to celebrate the City of Lawton Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs' 46<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of service to Comanche County.

Volunteers were greeted at the sign-in table by RSVP Administrator Jessica Musselman, and RSVP Board member Sam Samuels with a free giveaway bag of RSVP memorabilia and then

escorted through a line where they received their free RSVP volunteer t-shirt and entered a raffle drawing for various door prizes.

The evening was kicked off with a reminiscent speech from Mayor Stan Booker about how an African Native learned the significance of the act of volunteerism. Volunteers feasted on Bbq pork and cream chicken sliders, along with an array of delicious sides, followed by the traditional birthday cake. This year the cutting of the cake to on a U.S. Marine Corps tradition where the oldest in service shares his/her cake with the youngest in service. Pictured below are Ed Davis (45yrs of service) and Isabella Musselman.

The evening concluded with the drawings of door prize winners, and cheerful good-byes. Pictures of the door prizes and their recipients can be viewed on our "Lawton RSVP Council' Facebook page.

#### Door Prize

Fire Pit and Smores
Bbq Set
Baking Accessories
Coffee and Tea
Gardening Fun
Fishing Gear

#### Winners Name

Rosemarie Arnett Mary Swafford Yvonne Howard John Nillson Wynn Ann Wright Bonny Hartline







# Welcome New Volunteers

### Volunteer

Catherine & Kenneth Gray
Mary Parker & Susan Quensel
Zella Mae & Gail South
Linda Davenport
Elizabeth Coe & Shariol Warner
Michael Mullholland
Dorothy Tyson
Bonny Hartline
Pamela Burks
Karen Hillis
Mary Swafford, Prudy Gorrell,
and Karen Mahan

## Station

Wichita Wildlife Mountain Refuge Center
The Senior Center for Creative Living
Vietnam Veterans of America #751
Owens Multipurpose Center
Southwestern Medical Center
Hearts That Care
Patterson Center
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
BrookRidge an Things That We Read
BrookRidge Retirement Community



Volunteer of the First Quarter **Helma Blackburn** 



Helma has logged 267 volunteer hours in the first quarter serving the Fort Sill Thrift Shop and the Society of Military Widows. She has been an active member since 2013.

On behalf of RSVP, Thank you Mrs. Blackburn for your continued service.

Volunteer of the Second Quarter **Diane Fink** 



Diane has served her volunteer hours calling Bingo at Brookridge and visiting with residents for the past 3 years. She has recently notified us that she is moving out of state and will no longer be with Lawton RSVP but is looking to connect with volunteer opportunities at her new location.

We will miss you Diane!

# Volunteers Needed

Lawton-Fort Sill Chamber of Commerce

Receptionist position: filling welcome packets and answering telephones. Contact: Shannon Yarbrough 580-355-3541

Ten Oaks Retirement Community

Activities Assistant: join residents during activities and visit with them during social hours. Contact: Whitney Heinz 580-353-1190

Holy City of the Wichita's

Grounds keeper, Gift Shop volunteer and a variety of miscellaneous tasks. Contact Deena Dolch 580-429-3361

# Station Spotlight



# Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refugee

Since 2016, the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge has been an amazing addition to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. We currently have four volunteers who provide assistance at the welcome center and give guided tours of the refuge. Those four volunteers have collectively logged 250 volunteer hours even with overcoming the government shutdown that took place. For more information on becoming a volunteer call the RSVP office or contact Station Supervisor D'Anna Laminack at 580-429-2193.

Visitors to the refuge can enjoy wildlife watching, hunting, fishing, camping, picnics, special events and much more. Check out the website below for more information on the refuge.

https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Wichita Mountains/about.html

#### Links

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Lawto nRSVPCouncil

City of Lawton Webslice: https://www.lawtonok.gov /departments/retired-andsenior-volunteer-program

#### **Contact Us**

Address: 1405 S 11<sup>th</sup> St Owens Multipurpose Center

Phone: 580-581-3408

Email: rsvp@lawtonok.gov