



West Texas RSVP

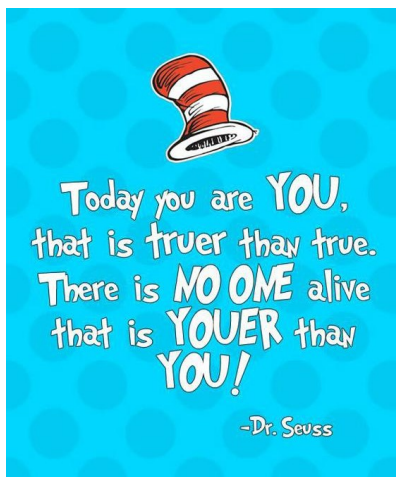
connecting - volunteering - impacting

April - May 2016

Sponsored by: West Texas Rehabilitation Center
A Corporation for National and Community Service Program
National Senior Corps Program

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Like 'West Texas RSVP' on Facebook, follow us on Twitter @westtexasrsvp and visit the website at www.westtexasrsvp.org!



The Great Dr. Seuss and RSVP Volunteers

March 2nd marked the birthday of one of the greatest philosophers that ever lived and that is Theodore Seuss Geisel...who is known best as Dr. Seuss. We all have a connection to his wonderful books...as a child, as a parent, or even as a grandparent or great-grandparent. One of my favorite quotes comes from the Seuss book *Oh, the Places You'll Go!*... "Today is your day. You're off to Great Places!" So let us explore some of the other treasured lessons which can be learned from Dr. Seuss and connect to your volunteer service.

In *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut*, Dr. Seuss encourages us to be curious and many RSVP volunteers use their curiosity to seek out new opportunities to serve every day. One quote from that book may ring true with you, "There are so many things you can learn about, but you'll miss the best things if you keep your eyes shut." RSVP volunteers do not shut their eyes to the needs within the community, but instead strive to deliver positive outcomes through service.

RSVP volunteers are some of the most gracious individuals we know. They share their knowledge, talents and skills through service. In the Seuss book, *Did I Tell You How Lucky You Are?*, the astute words of Dr. Seuss remind us of the blessings we have..."You oughta be thankful, a whole heaping lot, for the people and places, you're lucky you're not."

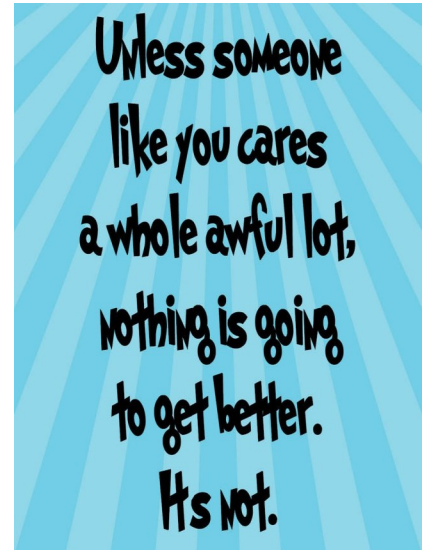
Then there are some traits we all have in some form or fashion...being unusual, unpredictable and at times strange. Dr. Seuss addresses this too, in his book, *Happy Birthday to You!* We all also have wonderful talents and things that we are good at — and not so good at. But that is what makes you you! Per Dr. Seuss, "Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive that is Youer than You."

RSVP Staff is glad each and every day that RSVP volunteers are "Youer than You"...each bringing unique experiences, skills and special talents shared through service.

— Dolores, Teresa, Max Ann & Carol

West Texas RSVP Volunteer “SPOT-LIGHT”

Meals on Wheels Plus



Do you wish to join the efforts of the generous RSVP volunteers featured in Volunteer Spot-Light. Call Teresa in San Angelo, 325-223-6387 or Max Ann in Abilene, 325-793-3520 for additional information. If you do not have the time to commit to a regular route, substitutes are always needed, especially during the summer months.



Ernest Caslani began volunteering with Meals on Wheels Plus in 1998. “Cas” as most people know him by, just wanted to give back and found this was a great way to do just that. He also volunteers at the Dyess AFB Pharmacy and with AARP Tax Assistance & the West Texas Fair & Rodeo. He says volunteering keeps him busy!



Georganne Cole has been delivering meals for about 6 ½ years. Her daughter Robin has helped her deliver off and on for about 6 of those years. Georganne absolutely loves her route and has become very attached to the individuals she takes meals to! She says volunteering through Meals on Wheels Plus is a way for her to give back.



Phyllis Martinez joined RSVP in April 2013 and began volunteering at Meals on Wheels Plus shortly thereafter...has been there ever since. Phyllis loves being around all the different people as they pack up the meals to be delivered. She helps file, pulls folders, helps stuff envelopes with menus, copies and much more. Phyllis loves being busy and this is definitely a place for her!

Through annual surveys sent to all Meals on Wheels Plus and Meals For the Elderly clients in the Abilene/San Angelo area, it is consistently documented that home-delivered meals provide health and psychological benefits to seniors beyond basic nutrition...it's that face-to-face contact which helps minimize loneliness, enhances social connections and offers a sense of safety knowing someone is checking on their well-being. In 2015, West Texas RSVP Volunteers provided 8,383 hours of volunteer service delivering meals to homebound clients.

West Texas RSVP Volunteer “SPOT-LIGHT”

Meals For the Elderly



Arlen & Mary Beth Lohse have volunteered with Meals For the Elderly since 2004. They both agree on the joy they receive by interacting with all the clients they deliver meals to. Leann Criswell is the Volunteer Director at Meals For the Elderly and Mary Beth carries Leann’s business cards with her everywhere she goes, just for those times when someone asks her what she does with her time. As a couple volunteering for Meals For the Elderly, Arlen and Mary Beth feel so blessed to be able to deliver meals to the homebound. Mary Beth is known as the “Napkin Girl” to the clients they deliver meals to...she always has a special napkin to hand out, and she “makes sure everyday they smile at least once.”

Interesting connection...Arlen and Mary Beth have known Jenny for more than 50 years. When Mary Beth first met Arlen, he was starting an internship with The Standard Times. Interesting enough, this is where Jenny worked and where a life-long friendship was established. And would you believe, Mary Beth was a teacher for more than 30 years, and actually taught Jenny’s niece.

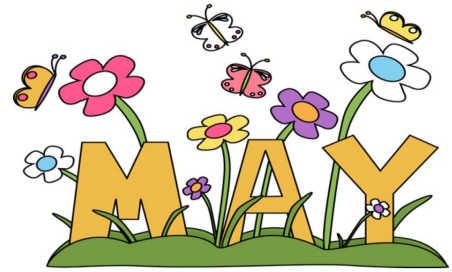
Jenny Sakellariou has also volunteered with Meals for the Elderly since 2004. She delivered meals for many years, but is currently “comfortable helping in the office”, assisting volunteer drivers with their routes as they come in to pick up the meals. Jenny enjoys listening to the volunteer drivers as they happily and eagerly receive their route listing from her. She’s all smiles as she answers the phone, directing referrals to Leann, and always demonstrating her support to each volunteer, appreciative of their services... “Makes me feel helpful to the drivers”...



Any minute you might get the chance to make someone else happy...Any minute you might get your chance to be a giver...So be watchful at all times, and don't let any opportunity to do good pass you by.



Happy
Birthday



- 01 Delia Diaz
Nancy Haddox
Juan Hernandez
Leola Prince
- 02 Carolyn Utt
- 03 Susie English
Joe Lopez
L. Jane Melton
Katherine Osborne
Grace Smith
Loretta Sughrue
- 04 Peggy Hembree
John Tyler
- 05 Tommie Lindsey
Rosalinda Sims
- 06 Wendy Green
- 07 Becky Knox
- 08 Jetty Davis
Frances Evans
Leland Hamner
- 09 J. B. Bitner
Maria Perez
- 10 Wanda Cook
Karen Horner
Ermanell Penney
Sheila Rose
- 11 Sherry Goeble
LuAnn Lupton
- 12 Darline Bride
- 14 Paula Dunn
JoAnne Fuson
Woody Hiebert
- 15 Jessie Magness
Donnia Seely
Janelle Waddell
- 16 Loretta Medley
Joseph Sotir
- 17 Betty Burton
Norvell Holveck
Gary Whitaker
- 18 Jim Bartee
Olivia Haliburton
Linda Rutledge
Jane Stracener
- 19 Nancy White

- 20 Joyce Berryman
Raymond McCarthy
- 21 Viola Jenkins
- 22 Henry Roberts
Guy Saunders
Ginny Walls
- 23 Gene Cook
Thomas Howell
Arnold Michalewicz
- 24 Donna Alexander
Theda Thurman
- 25 Harry Dhans
David Gonzales
- 26 Judy Hight
- 27 Bonnie Hooker
Paz Mapoy
- 28 Mary A Dougherty
Elaine Kiser
Marshall Stewart
- 29 Wanda Brothers
Al McLoughlin
Darlyne Vietor
- 30 Al Bunt
- 30 Debbie Hobbs
Kathy McBurnie



- 01 Linda Ashton
Nonie Sparks
- 02 Jo Cook
- 03 Ruth Jordan
Esther Wyman
- 05 Jenny Eubank
Beverly Schuder
Donna King
- 06 Frieda Ingram
Tommie Self
- 07 Terence Brown
Tommy Alldredge
Clent Kniffen
- 10 Shirley Fletcher
Hector Flores
Marion Smith
- 11 Betty Harbin
- 12 Rosetta Lozano
- 14 Ernest Lambert
Melanie McMinn
Robert Worley
- 15 Molly Guevara
- 16 Pat Slavens
Maudie Reeves
- 17 Carol Rigby-Hiebert
Emma Watkins
- 18 Chene Dominguez
- 19 Cindy Beck
Sam Fuentes
- 20 Robert Doolin
- 21 Bernice Backer
- 22 Arlen Lohse
Florence Boyd
- 23 Mildred King
Neeca Flippo

- 25 Ed Huston
Diane Lambert
Gena Parks
Don Wilson
- 26 Ronnie Merriman
Juanita Pruneda
Gloria Risher
Jay Simons
Doyle Lemond
Phyllis Martinez
Diana Robertson
- 27 Mary Lou Moreno
- 28 Janice Agee
Denise Barnett
- 29 Barbara Block
Jean Bundrant
Andrew Lester
- 30 Carolyn Glass
- 31 Mike Blaylock
Skip Doepp
John Muhleman
Sharyl Sotir



New Volunteers

*Bobbie Gallagher
Lynn Granzin
Anita McDonald*

In Sympathy...

*Evelyn Diebitsch
Cecelia Frye
Leonard James
Mary Kennemer
Paul LaPlante*

*Lora Leigh Stipes
David Lewis
Juanita Osborn
Rowdy Shackelford
Lois Wallace*





What is SanAngeloGives?

San Angelo Gives is a powerful 24-hour online fundraising event hosted by the San Angelo Area Foundation that will unite our community around causes that matter. San Angelo Gives is a great way



SAN ANGELO AREA FOUNDATION

to give community members the chance to find and support nonprofit organizations whose mission aligns with their passions. All donations made on May 3rd through www.sanangelogives.org are eligible for amplification funds increasing each donation and can also help your nonprofit win "Prize Money" that will be awarded throughout the day.

At midnight on May 3rd, this website will begin accepting donations to raise unrestricted dollars for area nonprofits in our community. It is a day of giving to celebrate the nonprofits in our community, a chance to raise thousands of dollars, and recognize the impact we can make in our community when we join together for San Angelo Gives!

On May 3rd, your donation of \$10, \$25, \$100 or more will support West Texas RSVP volunteer services in the community. Every gift of \$10 or more will be amplified by bonus dollars and can even help RSVP's chances of winning cash prizes throughout the day.

If you wish to support West Texas RSVP the direct link is:

<https://sanangelogives.org//npo/west-texas-rsvp>

Learn More Now!

Prior to San Angelo Gives on May 3rd, you may want to go to <https://sanangelogives.org/> and then "Discover Nonprofits" at the top of the website to read about all the nonprofits that have already registered to be part of this day of giving.



*Sometimes you will never know
the value of a moment until
it becomes a memory*



**save
the
date®**

Wesley Court in Abilene will again be hosting an Ice Cream Social for RSVP volunteers living in the Big Country. It will be held on May 18...invitations will be mailed in early May so make plans now to attend....fun and ice cream!

Celebrate Service

National Volunteer Week
April 10-16, 2016

POINTS OF LIGHT

National Volunteer Week is about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage in their communities. It's about demonstrating to the nation that by working together, we have the fortitude to meet our challenges and accomplish our goals.

To all of our Volunteers,



from all the RSVP Staff



Volunteer Opportunities

ABILENE - For more information on these and other volunteer opportunities contact Max Ann at 325-793-3520 or mabowlin@wtrc.com

Volunteer Shelver Needed at Mockingbird Branch Library (1326 N. Mockingbird Abilene, TX) :

Would you like to give back to the community in an important way? Would you be able to walk and push a book cart around the library? Do you have two or three hours of time to donate on a Thursday or Friday morning? The Abilene Public Library is in need of your help!

Volunteer Storytime Helper Needed at Mockingbird Branch Library (1326 N. Mockingbird Abilene, TX) :

Summer is one of the busiest times at the library! Children and parents of all ages visit the library to engage in story time activities and arts & crafts programs during June, July & August. Each program is only 45 min long and volunteering commitments are flexible.

National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature

The NCCIL will be the centerpiece for the upcoming Children's Art and Literacy Festival (CALF) June 10-11. They could use volunteers to greet patrons and pass out buttons to the people who come to the book readings. They are putting volunteers into 2 hour slots starting at 9:00 am and going until 5:00 pm. They would love to have you come and help!

Abilene Regional Medical Center

Abilene Regional Medical Center needs helping hands throughout the hospital to greet visitors, provide directions, perform interdepartmental errands, and to staff the Gift Shop. Volunteers play a critical role in hospitals, adding a special dimension of personal service and care. They hope you choose to become an important part of their team.

The Grace Museum

Help is needed: in the gallery, doing art projects, helping with an i-pad or computer. The Grace Museum hosts hundreds of people during CALF (June 9-11) not only in the galleries but in the children's museum and for special readings, classes, and crafts. It is rewarding, fun, and a bit crazy.

The West Central Texas Area Agency on Aging

The West Central Texas Area Agency on Aging is looking for individuals to become volunteer ombudsmen. Volunteer ombudsmen visit nursing and assisted living facility residents and advocate for resident rights. Free training is provided to those wishing to participate.

Meals on Wheels Plus

As the number of clients Meals on Wheels serve goes up, so does the need for additional help in the kitchen. The kitchen staff is busy from 6:00 am to 2:30 pm preparing over 1100 meals for delivery. They do an outstanding job, but it can become overwhelming at times. Volunteers can provide the additional help needed.

For more information on all of the opportunities above call Max Ann at 325-793-3520.

Need help navigating rides through City Link Abilene?

City Link of Abilene is providing training for individuals who are currently riding or may need the service in the future. The training will consist of step by step instructions on how to get to your destination. If you are interested in this service please call the RSVP office at 793-3520.

Volunteer Opportunities

San Angelo - For more information on these and other volunteer opportunities contact Teresa at 325-223-6387 or tcovey@wtrc.com

MEALS FOR THE ELDERLY

How does a drive through historic San Angelo sound? Rt. 3 near Ft. Concho is waiting. Are there any Fan-nin Elementary Chargers out there? If so, Rt. 7 needs your support. Do you love reminiscing in Santa Rita? We have routes available there also. Need a route easily accessible to GAFB? Rt. 14 is perfect for a lunch hour driver. Out visiting friends at Baptist Memorial? Rt. 11 makes stopping in for a visit so much fun. Calling all Chiefs! Rt. 15 is in the heart of Lakeview. Want to drive to Houston, Dallas, Abilene, or Waco...street that is? Rt. 16 covers the state in an hour – now that's a GREAT commute! Habla es-panol? Rt. 21 is perfect for you. Is southwest San Angelo your thing? Volunteers wanted!

Kids Eat FREE - Are you available to help feed the kids?

When school is out, children can receive free lunch as part of the Tom Green County Kids Eat FREE program connected with Texas Hunger Initiative. The Kids Eat FREE summer meal sites are operated by local churches and non-profit organizations, and are open to the public. This means no eligibility requirements and no paperwork! Any person 18 and younger can visit one of the locations and receive lunch at no cost! This is where volunteers are needed! Volunteer daily, weekly or whenever you can! Program serves lunch Monday-Friday, 11:30 am– 12:30 pm or 12 pm-1 pm, July 5th – August 19th.

Adult Literacy

...can always use help with fundraisers - April 16 (Vino Dipinte) - fundraiser for Adult Literacy
May 21 - Mah Jong Tournament at Rio Concho West - honoring Margaret Mallard.
Volunteers also serve to meet educational needs.

Rust Street Ministries

Volunteers are needed at the clothes check-out station; 1-2 per station, each day. This person would assist people shopping for clothes and helping them check out. Most people who come in for help are going through some extremely difficult times in their lives, so a compassionate person assisting them through the process often helps them through these times, with dignity and hope. (Stools available to sit on, but standing is easier at this station.)

Volunteers are needed in the pantry to help make grocery bags and assist individuals with these items. (Requires moving around the room.)

Recycle-a-Bike – If you are mechanically minded, your skill is needed. Open Tuesday and Thursday from 11am-1 pm, (2) volunteers needed; bicycle mechanic can assist with more advanced bicycle work. These bikes are given to neighbors who need transportation to get to work or to families with young children who want to get outside and enjoy the outdoors.

Volunteers needed in the clothes sorting and size tagging area (can be done sitting).

Training sessions are conducted every Wednesday afternoon at 2:15 pm.

To the world you may be one
person, but to one person
you may be the world.

—Dr. Seuss



**Call the numbers below to receive more information on the following
tours benefitting the West Texas RSVP program through
Bilbrey Tours.**

Departing from Abilene & San Angelo:
Painted Churches of Schulenburg—May 3-5, 2016
Spring Mystery Tour—May 16-21, 2016
Michigan & the Great Lakes—Jun 17-27, 2016

Departing Abilene:
Texas Rangers Baseball—May 5, 2016
New York City—Jun 15-20, 2016
San Diego—Jun 1-8, 2016

Visit Bilbrey Tours on their website for more details:
<http://www.bilbreytours.com/2016/16tripsINDEX.html>

In San Angelo, call RSVP at (325) 223-6387 or email tcovey@wtrc.com.
In Abilene, call RSVP at (325) 793-3520 or email mabowlin@wtrc.com.

SILVER BLUEBONNET DAY

Hosted by

SAN ANGELO STATE PARK
May 4, 2016 9:00 AM -1:00 PM
Chaparral Pavilion – South Entrance



FREE for ALL SENIORS

ENJOY A MORNING IN THE PARK WITH
PARK TOURS + BIRDS AND FLOWERS VIEWING + INFORMATIVE DISPLAYS + MUSIC +
FREE PICNIC LUNCH

RSVP no later than May 2 for reservations

Call Linda 656-4322/linda.ashton@gmail.com or Deola 651-8976

Volunteer opportunity at the park. The volunteer would fill bird feeders at the Viewing Blind on a scheduled basis: weekly or monthly. The bird house is near the south gate of the park on FM2288. Volunteers must have their own transportation. The distance from Sam's to the feeder is about 3 miles. No lifting, limited walking is required. Morning hours are preferred. Gate fees to the park would be waived. Call Ruth Jordan 651-7346

West Texas Rehab/RSVP
618 South Chadbourne
San Angelo, Texas 76903

Return Service Requested

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
SAN ANGELO, TX
76903
PERMIT NO. 97



You have **BRAINS** in your **HEAD**.
You have **FEET** in your **SHOES**.
You can **STEER** yourself any
DIRECTION you **CHOOSE**.
~ Dr. Seuss

*Today I shall
behave, as if this is the day
I will be remembered.*

— Dr. Seuss

West Texas RSVP

618 South Chadbourne
San Angelo, Texas 76903
Fax: 325-655-6294

4601 Hartford
Abilene, Texas 79605
Fax: 325-793-5445

www.westtexasrsvp.org

Director Dolores Schwertner
San Angelo - 325-223-6388
Abilene - 325-793-3522
dschwertner@wtrc.com

Volunteer Max Ann Bowlin
Coordinator 325-793-3520
Abilene mabowlin@wtrc.com

Program Assistant Teresa Covey
San Angelo 325-223-6387
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