



NORFOLK COUNTY RSVP VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Your Invitation to Respond to Your Community

614 High Street

P.O. Box 310

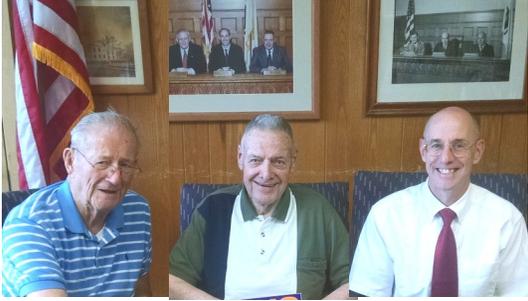
Dedham, MA 02027



Jan 2014



Randolph Health Care Center and Weymouth Health Care Center are 2014-15 Leadership Sponsors of RSVP



Happy New Year!

from the Norfolk County Commissioners and RSVP



Commissioners John M. Gillis, Francis W. O'Brien (chairman), and Peter H. Collins

Sally, Robert, and Lilly Norfolk County RSVP

NEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Veterans Book Club Facilitators, Norfolk County
Veteran volunteers wanted to facilitate monthly two hour book discussion groups. Initial group will be held in Dedham, then additional towns/cities in Norfolk County. Strong interest in personal military biography and military history is required. Ability to facilitate and manage group discussion and process is required.

Hope Health Hospice "We Honor Veterans"
With our newest partner, volunteers visit veterans in hospice care at home. Volunteers who are themselves veterans or who have close family in the military are especially needed to connect with veterans over common experiences. With Old Colony Hospice, RSVP partner hospices now cover all of the county.

American Red Cross Office Support, Dedham
Help with filing, putting together training packages, and answering phones in several Red Cross departments. Computer skills helpful. Flexible time commitment, 9am-3pm weekdays.

American Red Cross Blood Transport
Transport blood and supplies between collection sites, laboratory, and regional hospitals in a Red Cross vehicle and your own. One shift per month. Must be able to lift 45 lbs, complete Red Cross defensive driving course within first 6 months of service.



Martin Luther King Day of Service is January 19, 2015

"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."
- Martin Luther King, Jr.

Quincy Medical Center Volunteers

As Quincy Medical Center closes December 31, the RSVP program sends its heartfelt thanks to the volunteers who have supported this hospital for decades. Norfolk County RSVP has partnered with Quincy Medical Center for at least 24 years (as far back as our electronic records go). Since 2010, RSVP volunteers have served over 9000 hours there! The hospital has impacted the lives of thousands of Quincy area residents, and volunteers have played no small part in making positive experiences for patients and visitors. Thank you for your service!



Do you want to receive this newsletter by email?

RSVP has begun using email addresses provided with volunteer registration forms to send newsletters electronically.

If you do not receive our emails and would like to be added to our list, please contact us to update your email address.

781-329-5728
rsvp@norfolkcounty.org

RSVP is funded in part by a national Senior Corps grant and sponsored by the Norfolk County Commissioners:

- Peter H. Collins of Milton, Commissioner
- John M. Gillis of Quincy, Commissioner
- Francis W. O'Brien of Dedham, Chairman

Jake Comer: Rides for Veterans, Among Many Efforts

Once you come to know Jake Comer of Quincy, even for a few minutes, it is easy to understand his total commitment to support Veterans in any way that he can. At 82, Jake says he is not slowing down. He thrives on activity geared to the well being of his fellow Vets. "I would easily be driving vets to appointments twice a week." Jake says, if he were not so busy supporting 'Soldier's Wish', an American Legion program that help's support vets and their families; wrapping Christmas presents for vets at the Bedford VA and helping out at the Salvation Army. Not to mention his working vacation coming up in Florida, where he has speaking engagements and 'assignments'.



John P. "Jake" Comer is Past National Commander for the American Legion, Fogg Roberts Post #78. He retired from the Air Force as Sergeant in 1955, after being stationed in Germany. He knew right away that his life was to focus on helping others who had come back from military service. During his two years as National Commander for the Legion, Jake traveled widely, and met with President Reagan in the Oval Office four times. He led by taking the American Legion's mission to heart: "to be committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities, to advocate patriotism and honor, to promote strong national security, and to continued devotion to our fellow service members and veterans."

As Jake shares his experience of driving vets to appointments, it is clear that the American Legion credo is strong within him: 'I have taken this one vet from Canton along with his wife to the West Roxbury VA, two times now. We really hit it off, reminiscing about Dorchester's days gone by, as we both lived there. We had some good laughs.' When asked what he has to say about volunteering, Jake is thoughtful and then shares: "Volunteerism is the heart and soul of all we do as Veterans to remember our commitment to others." We thank Jake and those like him who set a clear example of the power of giving of our ourselves with those in need. What a vital reminder for us always, and especially during this time of the year.



Bob Moody and Donna Summer of Walpole



Claire Pauley and Robert entertain Brockton Vets



Virginia O'Neil and Robin at Quincy Court

Annual Safety Check

Do you know these facts about your site:

- What is the snow cancellation policy where you serve?
- Sign-in sheets may help identify who is in the building in case of emergency
- Are there special emergency procedures for staff and volunteers in case of fire? In case a child is lost at the site?
- Where is the first aid kit?
- Where are there fire extinguishers?
- Is there an Automatic External Defibrillator?

Timesheet Reminder

Turn in your Oct-December timesheets by January 7 for mileage reimbursement in January.



NORFOLK COUNTY RSVP IS NOW ON FACEBOOK!!

Facebook allows us to spread the word of your good work with photos and comments. It also helps us to become more visible for recruiting new volunteers for our programs.



If you have computer access please go to www.facebook.com/norfolkcountyRSVP and 'LIKE' us. Let's make our goal of obtaining **100 likes** by end of January 2015 !!!

Feel free to add comments to our Facebook page. We would love to receive any volunteering photos you have or may take electronically in the future. Please email them to rsvp@norfolkcounty.org.