

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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9/11 Nebraska Tribute to Service Grants Awarded

(Lincoln, Neb.) ServeNebraska announces Nebraska Tribute to Service mini grant award recipients funded in honor of the 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance. These grants ensure that 9/11 is observed with appropriate reflection, community service, giving and fellowship. Recipient organizations will conduct efforts that have a meaningful impact on the community, strengthen the spirit of service in Nebraska, foster collaboration, and engage diverse members of the community. Events will occur on or around September 11, 2011.

“September 11 is an extraordinarily powerful motivator for engagement,” said Barbara Wilson Thomas, ServeNebraska Executive Director. “While we honor those who have given so much, we are pleased that the legacy of service will continue and grow throughout the state.”

Individuals are encouraged to participate in the activities below and to make a personal service pledge at www.911day.org.

9/11 Day of Service & Remembrance Grant Award Recipient Projects:

ARW Civic Association 155th, Lincoln: The Guardians of Freedom Air Show, September 9-11 will be a free event to the public to commemorate the sacrifices the nation has made in response to the 9/11 attacks. The event will include time to stop and reflect on all that has happened; all who have served; military, civil authorities, police, fire, utilities, emergency management agencies and the community itself through volunteer organizations. For more information contact: Lt. Col James Stevenson, james.stevenson@ang.af.mil.

Boone County American Legion, Albion: On September 11 at 2:00 p.m. the Boone County American Legion in Albion will host a Freedom Walk, presentation and refreshments to honor the heroic efforts and sacrifices of servicemen and women and civilians in the aftermath of 9/11. For additional information, contact: Ken McIntyre, 308-396-1527.

Brain Injury Association of Nebraska, Lincoln: The Brain Injury Association of Nebraska is launching a project call “Cranestorm – Wishes in Flight.” From 9/11 through 11/11 (Veterans Day) they are asking hundreds of volunteers statewide to make thousands of cranes of red, white and blue paper to honor service members and as a remembrance of the service members impacted by brain injury. To learn more or volunteer, contact: Kate Kulesher Jarecke, kate@biane.org.

University of Nebraska Lincoln Center for Civic Engagement: UNL Nebraska Tribute to Service will be held from September 6-12 on the campuses of the University of Nebraska Lincoln. This service will provide students, faculty, staff and community members an opportunity to reflect and serve in a variety of educational and celebratory events including Memorial and Remembrance Walls, a Day of Service, and a candlelight vigil. For more information, contact: Linda Moody, lmoody2@unl.edu.

City of South Sioux City Nebraska: The City of South Sioux City will host a September day of service in Freedom Park to honor a local fallen soldier; John Douangdara, a U.S. Navy Petty Officer First Class and lead dog trainer for the U.S. Navy Seals. Volunteers will plant trees honoring 9/11 victims and the Dog Park, with memorial, will be dedicated in the soldier's honor. To learn more, contact: Gene Maffitt, gmaffit@southsiouxcity.org.

Elwood Fire & Rescue, Elwood: The Elwood Fire & Rescue Department will pay tribute to their fallen brothers with the 10th annual 9/11 benefit dinner and presentation on September 11 at the Elwood Fire Hall for the entire community. For more information, contact: Tom Martin, martin2079@live.com.

Guidance to Success Youth Club, Lincoln: The Youth Club will hold a community beautification event on September 11 at Peter Pan Park from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This event will honor the people who sacrifice their life everyday for our freedoms by engaging culturally diverse youth and community volunteers. To learn more and volunteer, contact: Angelo Stabler, gtsyouthclub@hotmail.com.

Lutheran Family Service (LFS), Omaha: The LFS *At Ease* program will engage its veteran clients in a volunteer project on September 10 honoring Omaha-area homeless veterans living at the Siena Francis House. The multi-faceted service project will emphasize camaraderie, service and solidarity by assembling and stocking toiletry kits, serving dinner and engaging with homeless veterans. To learn more, contact: Justine O'Neill-Hedlund, joneillhedlund@lfsneb.org.

Ogallala High School Interact Club, Ogallala: The Ogallala Interact Club is sponsoring a "9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance" on September 9 at 12:00 p.m. at the Ogallala High School Lecture Hall. The community is invited to attend the program, which will include a video presentation, service tribute, student performances, and flag ceremony. For more information, contact: Cindi Allen, allenfarms7@gmail.com.

Saunders County Emergency Management: Local first responders and Saunders County Citizen Corps will present a program for K-12 students on September 9 in Wahoo encouraging students to volunteer, remembering those that responded to 9/11, and preparing for any emergency by distributing first aid kits to youth. For more information, contact: Terry Miller, tm68041@yahoo.com.

Senior Action, Inc., Hastings: Individuals, students, businesses and organizations came together on August 27 to reflect on the events of 9/11 and those who gave their lives in the line of duty by participating in a Community-wide Day of Service. Books were distributed for children of currently deployed military families. To learn more, contact: Julie Nash, Julie@hastingsrsvp.org.

ServeNebraska mobilizes Nebraskans to strengthen their communities through volunteering, collaboration and national service programs. To find out more about volunteering and service go to, www.serve.nebraska.gov.

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