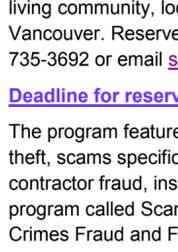


**LET'S CELEBRATE YOU! ANNUAL RECOGNITION EVENT
MAY 2 AT PEACE HEALTH**



National Volunteer Week is April 23-29 this year. It's a special time to celebrate all you do to make our communities great! Our Advisory Council members and Jo Jones, RSVP Program Aide, have been hard at work planning a fun special thank you event for all our wonderful volunteers who support our partner non-profits. Join us for light refreshments, a chance to mingle and meet new and old friends, and win some great prizes! It's an informal event, May 2 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at Peace Health's Education Center (east side of medical center on 92nd Ave). Call 360-735-3684 to make your reservation!

FREE FRAUD PREVENTION WORKSHOP MAY 20



Millions of people get scammed every year, with older adults at a higher risk than any other group. To help you or those you care for protect themselves from scams, Consumer Protection Washington is bringing a fraud prevention workshop to SW Washington for the first time on May 20. Consumer Protection Washington is a group of consumer protection outreach specialists from several agencies and organizations, including the Secretary of State's Charities Program. Volunteer Connections, a program of the Human Services Council, SW Washington Elder Abuse Prevention and The Quarry Senior Living Community are hosting the free reserved seat event.

The program begins at 10:00 a.m. and runs till 3:00 p.m. at The Quarry, a senior living community, located at 415 SE 177th Ave. near the Columbia Tech Center in Vancouver. Reserved seating is limited. To reserve a free seat, call Jade at 360-735-3692 or email sweap.jade@gmail.com.

Deadline for reserving a free seat is May 17.

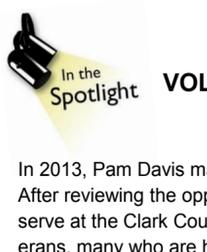
The program features information on charity fraud, identity theft, scams specific to senior citizens, investment fraud, contractor fraud, insurance consumer protection and a program called Scam Tracker. Detective Tom Mitchum Major Crimes Fraud and Forgery Unit of the Clark County Sheriff's Office, will speak at 2:30 p.m. detailing what local law enforcement has investigated and what to do to protect yourself. Detective Mitchum has investigated numerous fraud and identity theft cases as part of the Sheriff's Offices Major Crimes Unit. He shares his knowledge and expertise on current scams and crime trends to numerous corporate and community groups. He has also taught Financial Criminal Investigation classes for the Washington State Training Commission, Clark County Reserve, and Citizen's Academy. The agencies presenting information include the Secretary of State's Charities office, Federal Trade Commission, Attorney General's office, Department of Financial Institutions, Labor and Industries, Office of the Insurance Commissioner, and the Better Business Bureau.



A light lunch will be provided courtesy of SW Washington Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition. Sponsors of the event are The Human Services Council Volunteer Connections, SWEAP, and The Quarry.

Where's the Expo this year? As reported earlier, we are NOT producing our Connections Expo this spring. We will be producing a series of smaller more focused events, some with the vendors you enjoyed seeing at Expo and new ones. It will be coordinated similar to workshop above.

Stay tuned for further details as we roll out our events.



Thank you to all who have turned in your hours. It is our 'end of the year' reporting time for our many grants that support the programs of Volunteer Connections. If you have not done so, please email Jo (jo@hsc-wa.org) or give her a call with all the hours you have not reported for the reporting time we need April 1, 2016-March 31, 2017. Pen Pal Volunteers you DO NOT need to report your hours, we all ready log you your standard hours. These hours are critical to the continued funding we receive from the Corporation for National and Community Service including the RSVP grant and Volunteer Generation Fund grants.

In the Spotlight VOLUNTEER PAM DAVIS

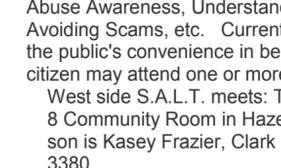
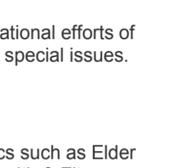
By Jo Jones, RSVP Program Aide

In 2013, Pam Davis made the decision to volunteer and help the community. After reviewing the opportunities through Volunteer Connections, she chose to serve at the Clark County Veteran's Assistance Center. This agency helps veterans, many who are homeless, to find resources and get help they need. Once there, it didn't take Pam long to realize the tremendous need for what the agency provided. She started with helping on the phone but has provided many different kinds of assistance since then, such as training people how to use navigate the VA system. Pam tells us that currently, there are more female veterans seek assistance than ever. There are many Veteran benefits and services also available to survivors; the agency's involvement is not over when the veteran is deceased. Pam works with those survivors, on insurance, funerals, benefits, whatever is needed to help them during a difficult time. She is passionate about her commitment; it's not unusual for her to contribute 65 – 95 hours monthly to the Veteran's Center. "It's a wonderful feeling to help them"! She feels she's lucky to be where she is but we think the community is very lucky to have her there, too! She does have a personal life with a husband, two grown children and two dogs! Many thanks, Pam.

In the Spotlight FEATURED AGENCY: COLUMBIA SPRINGS

By Jo Jones, RSVP Program Aide

Hidden away along the old Evergreen Highway, is a very special park. Columbia Springs, a public park and non-profit located within Vancouver city limits, offers educational opportunities to encourage the community to be aware of the natural world and to value the environment. The education center offers events, programs, and workshops to teach all ages amazing things about nature and the many ways we can protect the treasure we call the Pacific Northwest. Community events for families are hosted throughout the year, as are **volunteer work parties**, like the one pictured left, to help with outdoor site maintenance. Go online to check out the many workshops, activities, and volunteer opportunities:

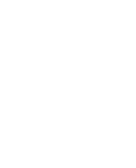


<http://www.columbiasprings.org/>. As a protected natural area, Columbia Springs is part of Vancouver's famous tree canopy, helping to filter storm water before it reaches the Columbia River, and providing habitat for a wide variety of wildlife.

Columbia Springs is also a historic site located where the first lumber mill in the Pacific Northwest once stood. The site's original buildings were constructed in 1938 as a fish hatchery by the Works Progress Administration. The hatchery is still in operation today and raises trout, steelhead, and salmon.

Columbia Springs is open to the public for free daily, from dawn to dusk. Where else can you go, in the city limits, and visit a trout farm, hike, and spot wildlife all in one?

VISTA NEWS



VISTA Member, Ryan Gilson at Second Step Housing says registration is open for the sixth annual Run Like a Girl! The "Run Like A Girl" run, supports Second Step Housing and raises money for a good cause! Go to www.runlikeagirl4ssh.com for more information. The walk/run is on June 11 – we hope to see you there!"

VISTA Member, Jade Dudley at SW Washington Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition (SWEAP) announces that SWEAP is sponsoring a FREE pancake breakfast at The Quarry Senior Living Community, 415 SE 177th AVE in Vancouver on Wednesday May 3 from 8:00-9:30 a.m. She invites everyone to come meet the Board of Directors and learn about the new programs SWEAP is rolling out to help make Southwest Washington a safer place to age. Breakfast is sponsored by the Quarry. Drop-ins welcome, but reservations preferred to Jade at sweap.jade@gmail.com or phone: 360-735-3692.

VISTA member Piper Krabbenhoft has been settling in to her position working with the Farming and Gleaning programs for the Clark County Food Bank. She has recruited some new volunteers and received a seed donation that will be planted to grow fresh produce for the Food Bank.

A new VISTA member will soon be taking over the final year of the Vancouver Public Schools Chronic Absence Solutions program. Charles Marentes will be moving here in May from LA to serve the year with VISTA.

We are currently recruiting for two open VISTA positions. VISTA member Aubre Gilbert will be leaving Lifeline Connections in late May to go to medical school. A new member will be recruited to continue building the program Aubre began to connect low-income citizens to behavioral health services. Aubre drafted the outline for the continuation of the work she has accomplished during her year with Lifeline and will help with recruitment of the new VISTA. And we are recruiting for the Juvenile Rehabilitation Authority Mentor Outreach Coordinator. To learn more about VISTA and these positions visit our [website](#).

What is S.A.L.T.?



S.A.L.T. stands for Seniors And Law Enforcement Together. It is a cooperative effort of the Clark County Sheriff's Office, Camas Police Department, Vancouver Police Department, and the Senior Citizens of East Clark County.

What is S.A.L.T.'s purpose?

- To decrease crime and the "fear" of crime in order to raise livability for our seniors.
- To increase and improve senior crime prevention and education.
- To improve local law enforcement's knowledge of the crime prevention needs of seniors.
- To identify the concerns of local senior citizens.
- To improve senior victim assistance.

To involve senior citizens in crime prevention and the educational efforts of S.A.L.T. and to raise awareness of the community of these special issues.

What does S.A.L.T. do?

- **Monthly meetings** featuring speakers on relevant topics such as Elder Abuse Awareness, Understanding Dementia, Senior Health & Fitness, Avoiding Scams, etc. Currently there is an East Side and a West Side for the public's convenience in being able to reach the locations. **However**, any citizen may attend one or more meetings per month.

West side S.A.L.T. meets: Third Monday of each month at 11 am at 40 & 8 Community Room in Hazel Dell at 7607 NE 26th Avenue. Contact person is Kasey Frazier, Clark County Sheriff's Office, (360) 397-2211, ext. 3380

East Side S.A.L.T meets fourth Monday of each month at 11 am at Camas Police Department, 2100 NE Third, Camas, WA. Contact person is Tami Strunk, Camas Police, (360) 834-4151.

The Volunteer Voice Newsletter is a publication of the Human Services Council Volunteer Connections Program.

Volunteer Connections mission is to connect the wisdom, experience, and talents of volunteers with opportunities to enrich the quality of life for themselves and their communities

Human Services Council, a 501 c 3 organization

Our mission is to improve people's lives by connecting them to opportunities, information, and services that respond to their individual and family needs.

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