

AFRH News Release 06/05

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AFRH resident receives prestigious award

Corrine Robinson, a seven-year resident at the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Gulfport, Miss., recently received a Mississippi Ageless Hero Award in ceremonies held at the Lake Terrace Convention Center in Hattiesburg, Miss.

Robinson, a former Navy WAVE (Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service) and wife of a career Navy man, was selected as a 2005 Statewide Honoree in the Good Neighbor category of the Ageless Heroes Program. The Mississippi Ageless Heroes program was created by Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi to honor Mississippi residents beyond the age of 65 whose lives are filled with activity, vitality and accomplishments and who serve as role models for us all.

Robinson's commitment to giving back to the community didn't start at retirement. In addition to serving in the military, Robinson in 1971 was recognized for her extensive community service. She was also selected as the Military Wife of the Year.

In 2000, Robinson formed WAVES National Unit #150, the first in Mississippi. This unit consists of women who have served or are serving in one of the Sea Services. Unit 150 is dedicated to providing assistance to female veterans who are in hospitals and in need. The unit's monthly charities include Women's Center for Non-Violence, Fisher House, Hope Have for abused and neglected children, Ronald McDonald House, a scholarship program for military children, and veterans of Biloxi and Gulfport VA Medical Centers. Robinson is also involved in Toys for Tots and Shoe Box Christmas ministry.

Robinson has long served as a Red Cross Disaster Relief responder and has been sent to disaster areas all over the country. She was deployed to the Pentagon disaster site about 9/11 where she was the only Mississippi volunteer to work in the center courtyard.

For the third year, Robinson is serving as the Community Service Chair of Gulf Coast Newcomers Club, collecting clothing and toiletries for Women's Center for Non-Violence and delivering baskets of food and gifts, all donated by members, to families at Christmas and Thanksgiving.

She is Parliamentarian of the Gulf Coast Civic Club and as such chairs a project she initiated to renovate the Salvation Army women's shelter. She collects money and supplies to create personal bags for homeless women in the shelter.

She says about her volunteering, "There are so many organizations that need help and expertise. It's something I don't even think about. Helping others is what I do. I wouldn't know how to be any other way."