

Adaton and Maben fire departments responded to a Sunday evening fire that mobile home northwest of Starkville. Oktibbeha County Fire Services Coordinator departments responded to the call at 2636 Polly Bell Road at about 7:30 p.m. S involved structure fire upon arrival. Firefighters extinguished the flames, though t injuries were reported. (Photo courtesy of Oktibbeha County Fire Services)

Two Starkville citizens named statewide volunteers of year

For Starkville Daily News

Two Starkville civic leaders will be honored next week during National Volunteer Week for their continued service above and beyond the call of duty.

Lynn Phillips-Gaines and Joan Wilson are two names that appear often in the "Starkville Daily News" for their untiring efforts to serve the community. Next week they will receive statewide recognition during the Governor's Initiative for Volunteer Excellence program scheduled for April 13 in Jackson.

Phillip-Gains will receive the Outstanding Achievement in Building Sustainable Community Solutions for among other things her project "Starkville Bridges Out of Poverty." The program has been a catalyst to eliminate poverty in Oktibbeha County. Starkville Bridges Out of Poverty, a local non-profit organization, is a grass roots initiative with the bold mandate to eliminate poverty.

Wilson's award is for Outstanding Service in the Arts & Humanities. Originally born and raised in New Jersey, Joan Wilson and her husband Bob have made Starkville their home since 1969. She has been making an impact in our community ever since she arrived. Among the many organizations to benefit from her volunteer work include Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Oktibbeha County Hospital, The

Oktibbeha County Public Library, the Starkville Area Arts Council and the Oktibbeha County Heritage Museum.

National Volunteer Week, a program of Points of Light, was established in 1974 and has grown each year, with thousands of volunteer projects and special events scheduled throughout the week across the nation. This year, National Volunteer Week is April 12-18, 2015, marking the 41st anniversary!

National Volunteer Week is about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage in their communities. It's also about demonstrating to the nation that by working together, we have the fortitude to meet our challenges and accomplish our goals. Lastly, National Volunteer Week is about taking action and encouraging individuals and their respective communities to be at the center of social change.



Gaines



Wilson



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