

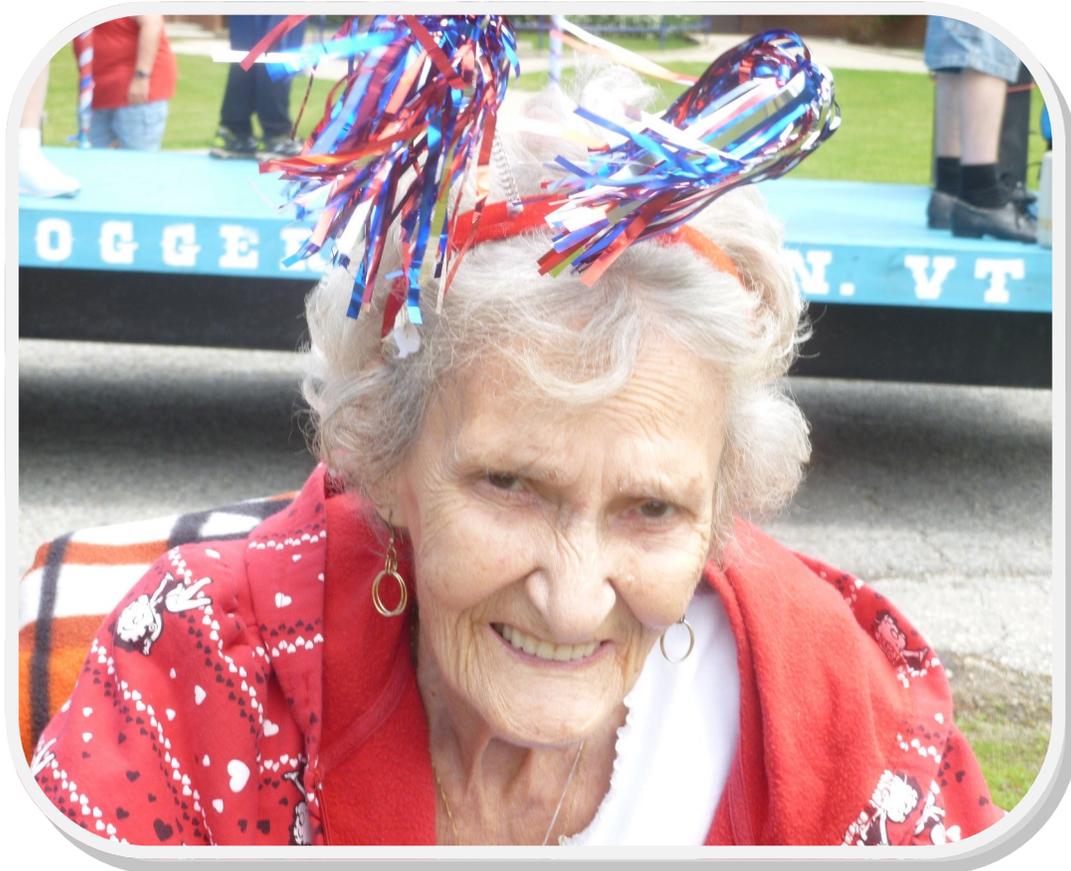


VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2016

# The BUZZ WORD



## THE BUZZ WORD

Three ways for you to receive the Vermont Veterans' Home monthly newsletter:

- ◆ Vermont Veterans' Home website:  
[www.vvh.vermont.gov](http://www.vvh.vermont.gov)  
Click on About Our Home  
Click on Newsletters
- ◆ Email
- ◆ Mailing List

Please contact:

The Buzz Word Editor  
Vermont Veterans' Home  
325 North Street  
Bennington, VT 05201

(802) 447-6510

Email: [Barbara.Fitzgerald@vermont.gov](mailto:Barbara.Fitzgerald@vermont.gov)

*Honoring  
Those Who Have  
Served*

## DONATION INFORMATION

Your donations are gratefully accepted. Please make check out to Vermont Veterans' Home:

**Vermont Veterans' Home  
Business Office  
325 North Street  
Bennington, VT 05201**

Please indicate to which fund(s) you are donating:

### Members Assistance:

Directly to Veterans/Members  
Furniture  
Haircuts  
Clothing  
Other personal needs

### Namaste Program Fund:

Oils for relaxation  
Supplies  
Equipment

### Unrestricted Fund:

Facility equipment  
Large purchase

### Activities Fund:

Entertainment

### Music & Memory Fund:

iPods  
Headphones  
iTunes cards

## *Mount Anthony High School Choir*

*Directed By: Mrs. Sweet*



*Music is an  
outburst  
of the soul*



06/01/2016 03:13

## Chaplain's Corner...



Howdy Folks,

What a treat it was to have the Catholic Bishop of Burlington visit the Vermont Veterans' Home on April 30, 2016. Bishop Christopher Coyne spent nearly 2 hours shaking hands, listening to war stories and blessing many. Melissa Jackson, CEO and Michele Burgess, Activities Director welcomed the Bishop and shared a bit about the Veterans' Home. Bishop Coyne was impressed with the Chapel and the fact that we celebrate Mass every Wednesday and have an All Faiths Service every Thursday. He was also impressed with the overall spaciousness of the facility.

The Bishop greeted a large assembled group of our residents in the Patriots Hall (chow hall). He thank them for their service and for preserving our freedoms. Special thanks to Father Holden and Michele for escorting the Bishop around the Home and introducing folks to him.

We are looking forward to the upcoming Memorial Day festivities. Surely we will remember and celebrate the lives of those who gave so much for God and Country.

Praise God for Springtime and all the green around the grounds. We've heard the John Deere mowers doing their thing already. And we're feeling the allergies too!!!!

Please pray for our troops.

God Bless,  
Ken Coonradt, Chaplain



### *Cake Time*



This is a cake creation made by Edna Quinn, one of the Home's dietary geniuses.

### *Flower Donation*



The American Legion Auxiliary - VT donated 20 Blue planters with red patriot geraniums and white vinca flowers for Memorial Day.



VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

*Fulfilling the Promise*

**325 North Street  
Bennington, VT 05201**

**The Vermont Veterans' Home was established in Bennington in 1884. It is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor. The VVH offers a complete range of specialized care services for its residents. VVH goals focus on insuring the dignity, independence, and the highest possible care and quality of life for each resident.**

**VVH is licensed to meet all levels of care for its residents and the VVH's departments and staff work together to provide those levels of care.**

*For any Further Questions Please Contact:*

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<http://vvh.vermont.gov>

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*From the Administrator...  
Melissa Jackson*

June is the beginning of the summer busy season for the Vermont Veterans' Home. We have several events planned throughout the summer for our Veterans, Members and families to enjoy. Our Father's Day Car Show will take place on **Saturday, June 18th** with the rain date being Sunday the 19th. Fishing Derbies, concerts, and the return of the POW WOW will also take place this summer. Please see the calendar of events listing in the Buzz Word, on your website and Facebook page.

[The Family Council Meeting scheduled for June 20th, has been cancelled and moved to June 28th at 6:00 pm in the Crispe Room.](#) I will be in Washington, DC for the National Emerging Leaders in Health Care Summit at George Washington University.

The Board of Trustees is seeking to fill 3 open Board Member positions. Vermont Veterans and non-veterans are eligible to apply. Board Members are appointed by the Governor and serve three year terms. Applications for appointment can be found at the following link:

<http://governor.vermont.gov/sites/governor/files/Application%20for%20Gubernatorial%20Appointment.pdf>

Or by contacting Jessica Gingras at 802-828-3333.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our many events this summer.

Melissa



*Nursing Home Week Festivities*



# Donations

On behalf of the Veterans/Members, we sincerely thank the following for their generous donations.

Carolyn Mitton  
David Mahoski  
Joe McCusker  
Gary Bronson  
Dean Dixon  
Praetorius Family  
American Legion Auxiliary—VT  
Imagine Nation Books, LTD  
Department of VT Auxiliary VFW  
VFW Bennington County Post 1332  
Green Mountain Post VFW 9449  
North Street Coin OP  
VFW Robert E Glidden Post 758  
VFW Bennington County Post 1332  
Jack Moxley  
David Mahoski and Friends

**In Loving Memory of Edward Prescott**  
Shirley and Thomas Maclay  
Hazel Quelch

**In Loving Memory of Frank and Bea Perry**  
Margaret and Dirk Jager

**In Loving Memory of Shirley Decker**  
Kenneth and Elaine Coonradt

**In Loving Memory of Scott S Shays**  
Anthi and Robert Welch  
Mai Ly and Cory Shays  
Aunt Pat and Uncle Lew  
Robert and Mary Gratz

**In Loving Memory of Ralph Prouty**  
Edna Prouty  
Marilyn and Charles Boyle  
Leah and Scott Gerrish Jr.  
James and Meridyth Prouty  
Arthur and Kathy Whitman  
Earlon and Blanche Rackliffe Trust  
UCS Employee Fellowship Fund  
Dorothy Behan

**In Loving Memory of Dr. Richard Fabricius**  
Nancy Humphreys

**In Loving Memory of Florence Santo**  
Michelle and Robert Peabody III  
Marion and David Riddle  
Josephine Shepard  
Gary and Cathy Burgess

## Mother's Day Tea





*From Deputy Administrator...  
Colonel Al Faxon*



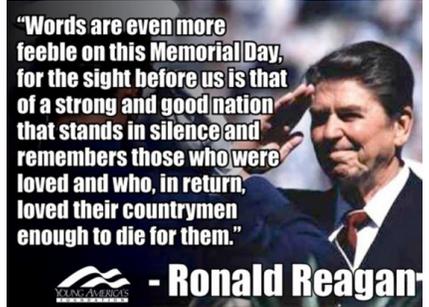
Memorial Day is a time set aside to remember our fallen brothers and sisters, and to reflect on their many sacrifices. I think of Memorial Day as “**What if Day**”. What if we did not have the caliber of citizens who unselfishly think beyond themselves, and have the willingness to lay their lives on the line for others?



No doubt the borders of our Great Nation would be different...what if the South had won the Civil War and we remained divided...Europe’s borders might possibly be nonexistent except for a big swastika in the center. The Far East, who knows...but I can tell you many countries in that part of the world would be flying flags different from the ones they currently have.

To those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice, I humbly thank them for the many freedoms we enjoy in this country, and I speak for those who remain free throughout the world because of their sacrifice.

To our Veterans here at the Vermont Veterans’ Home...I know Memorial Day is to remember those who have passed...however, I would also like to thank you for all of your sacrifices and your devotion to duty...without you, the above would not be true...To us, you are all heroes!



S/F

AF



*The Ice Cream Ladies Strike Again...*



F.Y.I.

## Mark Your Calendars

### State Line Car Show

\*\*Please see information  
In the box to the right

### Fishing Derby

Sunday, June 26, 2016  
at 10:00 AM

### The Eagles Concert Band

Wednesday, July 6, 2016  
at 6:30 PM

### VFW PICNIC

Sunday, July 10, 2016  
at 12:00 PM

### 11th Annual

### Rock, Rattle and Drum Pow Wow

Saturday, August 13th and  
Sunday, August 14th  
more information to come

The Vermont Veterans' Home  
And  
State Line Car Club  
Invite you to their

## Father's Day Car Show

\* June 18, 2016  
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Rain Date  
June 19, 2016

\*Please take note of the date. This year it is going to be held the Saturday before Father's Day—Unless it has to be postponed.



## Volunteers Needed

Shopping Trip Companion  
(with our transportation)

Bingo Helper

Off Campus Event Companion

In House Event Helper

Helping with outside events

And More!

If you have a skill you would like to share with our Veterans, please let us know.

For more information about our Volunteer Program, please call :

Michele Burgess at 447- 6520

Dedicate some time to a Veteran. It's a rewarding experience.

## Just For Laughs.....

### Same To You

A General and a Colonel were walking down the street. They met many Privates, and each time the Colonel would salute and he would mutter, "The same to you."

The General's curiosity soon got the better of hi, and he asked: "Why do you always say that?"

The Colonel answered: "I was once a private and I know what they are thinking."





## Travels With Steve

### Greece Part I

**Ἑλλάς** - That is the Greek word for Greece – Hellas. The home of the gods, myths and everything else in the world. Like in the movie “My Big Fat Greek Wedding”, I grew up in a Greek community. Mr. Marcopoulos told me that all words in the English language come from the Greek language, similar to the movie. I finally had the opportunity to visit Greece after my Ya-Ya (Greek for grandmother) passed away. Neither my father nor my uncle wanted to go, so I went by myself. I cannot wait to return to visit the history again. So let’s begin our short tour of Greece.

Athena or as the rest of the world calls it Athens, is really two cities combined with a population of over 3 million people. The center of Athena is the Parthenon at the Acropolis. It is a building beyond imagination and is very awe inspiring. Re-built in 432BC, the first Parthenon was destroyed in 480 BC when the Persians sacked Athens. This was after the Persian Army lead by Xerxes, fought a fierce battle against the Spartans at Thermopylae (the movie 300). Near the battle site is a memorial to the Greeks who died with the phrase “**μολὼν λαβέ μολὼν λαβέ**” which is translated to “come and take [them]”. This phrase was used by King Leonidas I of Sparta to Xerxes when Xerxes asked Leonidas to surrender. A similar phrase was used by Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe’s response to the German Commander asking for the US to surrender at Bastogne on December 22, 1944. Brig. Gen. McAuliffe’s response was, “Nuts”.

Continuing to travel north past Thermopylae, I visited Delphi. Delphi in the ancient times would be considered the Woodstock of Greece. According to Greek mythology, ancient Greeks believed that Delphi was the center of Earth, which Zeus was trying to find. He let two eagles fly in opposite directions and their paths crossed in Delphi which was then considered the omphalos (navel) of the Earth. They still use the amphitheater for summer concerts and plays which holds about 7,000. It is one of two towns in Greece that I could easily live in. The other is Nafplio in the Peloponnese. I will come back to Delphi to talk more about its history. I will talk about Nafplio in Part II or Part III.

I have only briefly touched on three sites in Greece and there are others. Kalambaka, Olympia, Meteora, Itea and Nafplio. The armchair visit is just starting along with other Greek family stories. OPA!!

God Bless each of you and God Bless America.

Parthenon I



Parthenon II



Delphi I



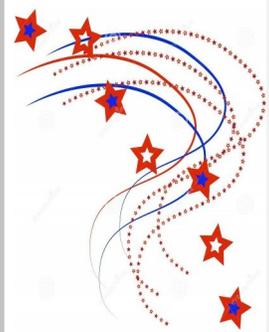
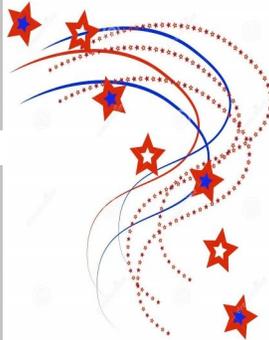
Delphi II



Thermaplae



# MEMORIAL DAY





# C.A.R.E.

*Creating A Resident-centered Experience*

Volume 1, Issue 4

April 15, 2016

[www.HealthCareForNewEngland.org/providers/nursing-home](http://www.HealthCareForNewEngland.org/providers/nursing-home)

## Sharing and Learning ...

The residents of the Vermont Veterans' Home in Bennington enjoyed participating in a Quality Improvement hand washing project that helped keep their home free from the flu and norovirus this winter.



## What Matters to You?

For the residents it meant not being kept to their neighborhoods last winter because of infections. This made a big difference to them.

## Taking Control

When the Infection Control Nurse asked the Veterans for volunteers at the Resident Council Meeting to help reduce flu and norovirus outbreaks, they were all for it.

They got involved by:

- Participating in a few quality meetings and helping with the plan.
- Setting up and manning tables outside of the main dining room with hand hygiene products.
- Keeping track of the number of Veterans/members who participated as they entered.
- Getting more people to participate over time.

## What Happened?

There were no outbreaks! No limits put in place because of wintertime infections! A healthier winter! Happier residents!

## Word of The Day

Do you have a word or condition that you'd like us to explain in our next newsletter? Ask your *Resident Council Staff support* person to send us an e-mail. [Tricia.DiLella@area-N.hcqis.org](mailto:Tricia.DiLella@area-N.hcqis.org) with your **Word Of The Day**.

### Word Of The Day:

**NOROVIRUS is a common virus that causes vomiting and diarrhea.**

### TIPS

You can make a difference!

Get involved!

For more information on the Vermont Veteran's hand washing project, contact Patricia Babcock @ 802-447-6467



*This material was prepared by the New England Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO), the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for New England, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy. 1150WQIN-C2\_032016\_0486.*