

The

BUZZ WORD

Volume

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Family is where Life begins and Love never ends

www.vvh.vermont.gov



VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

Fulfilling the Promise

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

Happy New Year!!

As we enter into 2020, I am sure many of us made New Year's resolutions. At VVH our resolution is always the same – to provide high quality care and services to those residing here. Once again, I would like to offer the family members of those residing here the opportunity to have a Family Council.

A Family Council is operated by and for the families of Veterans and Members. "Family Members" can include close friends or associates of our residents in addition to actual family members. This group advocates for the well-being of all Veterans and Members at VVH. An informational session will be held **Sunday, February 2nd at 2pm** in the Crispe Room.

Wishing you a healthy and joyous 2020,

Melissa Jackson

Melissa A. Jackson, MBA, LNHA, FACHCA
Chief Executive Officer
Vermont Veterans' Home
www.Vvh.vermont.gov



L-R: Betty Young, Don Keelan, Santa, Michele, Perry Young, Dave Zsido, Frank Thomson and Al.

Christmas Tree and Challenge Coin donation by The Green Mountain Bull Dawg Chapter of the Antique Truck Club of America were received by Col. Al Faxon, Michele Burgess and Santa.



Challenge Coins are given to Willy Rimany and Richard Fillault.

Donation weekend and holiday fun!



VFW Post 32 Auxiliary



Clip Shop



American Legion Auxiliary 67& 36



American Legion Rutland Unit 31



American Legion Auxiliary Unit 50

Al with Wendy Larson, Kiwanis Club



Amy Maroney and Melissa



Mrs. Strielkauskas & Melissa



Melissa with Art Charron and Charlie Boyle Benn. Elks 567



Arlington Middle School Art Class & Battenkill Valley Health Center



Saying Good-bye to Barbara Reilly

After 42 years at the Home, Barbara has retired. She had started in Dietary, moved to Housekeeping and because she had a gift to make special connections with the Veterans and Members, she joined Activities. She sang to them, gave safe rides through the halls and dressed up in costume for the holidays and gave them her personal attention because she embraced them as family. The halls are quieter without her. Barb will be missed.



The Board of Trustees Turkey Trot



Thank you for

another great year of service to our Veterans.



Just another friendly reminder from your Infection Control Team at VVH:
Antibiotics help Bacterial Infections ONLY– not Viral Infections!

If you have questions, please contact me. Have a safe New Year!

Patricia Babcock, RN IP
Office: 802/447-6467
Pager: 802/742-0870

Viruses or Bacteria What's got you sick?

Antibiotics are only needed for treating certain infections caused by bacteria. Viral illnesses cannot be treated with antibiotics. When an antibiotic is not prescribed, ask your healthcare professional for tips on how to relieve symptoms and feel better.

Common Condition	Common Cause			Are Antibiotics Needed?
	Bacteria	Bacteria or Virus	Virus	
Strep throat	✓			Yes
Whooping cough	✓			Yes
Urinary tract infection	✓			Yes
Sinus infection		✓		Maybe
Middle ear infection		✓		Maybe
Bronchitis/chest cold (in otherwise healthy children and adults)*		✓		No*
Common cold/runny nose			✓	No
Sore throat (except strep)			✓	No
Flu			✓	No

* Studies show that in otherwise healthy children and adults, antibiotics for bronchitis won't help you feel better.



To learn more about antibiotic prescribing and use, visit www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use.



CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Howdy Folks,

It seems like overnight we went from Thanksgiving to Advent to Christmas and now to another new year. 2019 was another interesting year— one of meeting new residents and spouses at the Veterans' Home. It is a real pleasure to hear about their experiences, life events, and places they have been. Indeed, some of the stories from spouses are interesting as well. These folks left behind have endured some real hardships, loneliness, and anxiousness while their loved ones were serving around the globe.

As we leave 2019 and enter 2020, we should be grateful for Jesus who took our sins upon himself, died on the cross, was resurrected, and offers us life everlasting. Let us be grateful for this place, the Vermont Veterans' Home, the next best place outside of true home, and for those who work to make our residents feel at home away from home.

Reverend Richard and I wish you all the very best for 2020. May you experience real comfort and God's peace.

Please pray for our troops serving around the world.

Chaplain Ken

TWIG REMEMBERS... Jean Bushey

I had a job at the Fair Haven High School as a part-time custodian. I was doing a lot of writing at the time and this was a way of making some money. My regular custodial partner came up amongst the missing, so they hired a lady in her late 50's/early 60's to work with me. Her name was Jean Bushey.

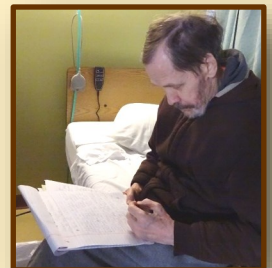
I could tell she didn't like her job (by her motions) and I heard her say "There must be some easier way to do this." So, I asked her about that. She said, "This is so boring." I said "There is an easier way. Do you like to dance?" She said "Yes." I said, "Do you like to waltz?" She replied "Yes." I said, "We can do a waltz to make it easier." So, I got her in position (to waltz) to make her job easier mopping the floor. My little hand wasn't big enough to cover her 2 hands and hold them and I almost lost her. Luckily, I got balance with my other hand and saved the day. The waltz wasn't going to work, so we tried many other things to make it fun for her and we had a great time.

Ten years later, I'm working at the Hardware Store in Poultney and she comes in. We start visiting and it was just like old times again- goofing and joking with her just like the old days.

All of a sudden one day this guy, Tom Bushey, comes into the store from Whitehall, New York, and starts coming after me with old Navy talk and we're getting after each other in good shape. Somewhere along the line, he mentioned Jean as his wife. We got to know each other for a long time, and it all started in a weird way from the Navy talk.

So now, I had both of them coming in raising heck with me! Everything went along great for both of them. I am not sure if Jean is still with us or not, but I still think of that time we shared.

You get what I mean... "Twig Remembers"



Robert "Twig" Canfield

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

Pownal American Legion Auxiliary Unit #90
VFW Post 1332
DAV Auxiliary, Bennington Chapter #4
VFW District #4
Phyllis & Rhonda Roberts
American Legion Auxiliary Readsboro
Southern VT Womans' Christian Temperance Union
Diana Heckert
Judy O'Rourke
Crippen Fellows Post No. 50, Inc.
Karen Burnell
Norshaft Lions Club
Manchester Country Club Inc- Wounded Warriors
Joel Whiting
American Legion Aux. Dept. of Vermont, Inc.
Red Mountain Chapter #41
Joseph Fitzgerald
Roger & Penelope Preuss
Marilyn & Robert Verhaeghe
Sacred Heart School
VFW's of Vermont
VFW Post #771
Carol Salazar
Chris & Holly from Bennington Blotter
American Legion Aux. Unit #49
Sharron Kaiser & Molly Stark Childcare Program
American Legion Riders Post #39
American Legion Vermont Riders Post #1
Green Mtn. Riders Post #1
Rolling Thunder Vermont #1
Khloey Lesperance
Carol Perkins
VFW Chapter #843
Arlington Middle School Art Class
Battenkill Valley Health Center
Fair Haven Welcome Center
VFW Auxiliary Post #32
Sacred Heart Saint Francis Church
First United Methodist Church
MAU Middle School Mosaic Program
Ken & Cindy Kaptein
Youth Center, Inc.
Mrs. Paul Strielkauskas
Southern Vermont Arts Center w/ Northshire Day
School
Jo Berry
Bennington Rotary
Richford American Legion Post #12
Denise & Bob Taff
Roz Wolff for essay- "The Warrior"

Events Calendar

February 8th:

Ladies Tea sponsored by the
American Legion Auxiliary at
1:30pm in the Activities Room



February 14th:

Valentine's Day Dance
at 1:30 pm in Patriot Hall



American Legion Unit 49 Auxiliary

In Loving Memory of Francis Volpi

Michael & Margaret Fabiano
Bethanne Fitzsimmons

In Loving Memory of Robert Kiernan

Jean Letendre

In Loving Memory of William Praetorius

Kathleen Praetorius

In Loving Memory of Guy Nido

Janet Nido

In Loving Memory of Joseph Dragotta

Anne Perry
William & Jacqueline Cote
Robert Maroni
Roberta & John Skovera
Jane Jones
Cheri Dragotta
Cynthia & Arleen Marsden
Edmund Dupuis
Joyce Orell
Robert Cardimio
Debbie Cooper & family
Staff at North Adams Public Library

In Loving Memory of Edward Molitor

Margaret & Meg Williams

In Loving Memory of George Davis

Diana Davis

From Deputy Administrator—Colonel Al Faxon

Winter is back! When you venture outside, **remember to keep warm and maintain your body heat. Wear the proper clothing,** even if you are getting in a vehicle. They do break down sometimes!

Several of our Veterans here at VVH are fellow cold weather warriors. We all know those that fought in the Korean War know the effects of extremely cold weather very well, on both people and equipment in combat, as do many of our WWII European Theater Warriors.



Korean War Chosin Reservoir

Our equipment has improved drastically the last twenty or so years. The invention of Gore-Tex was probably the single, most important development to improve cold weather sustainability and comfort. Being waterproof as compared to the wool and cotton, I began my Marine Corps career with has totally enhanced comfort and survivability in extreme conditions. Improvements with the layering system of clothing and boots are almost as impressive.



Please remember to dress for the weather when you go out!
(Niles already wore long trousers once this winter.... a paltry zero degrees that day!)

Semper Fi

AF



Community Tree Lighting



THE BUZZ WORD

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

- ♦ Vermont Veterans' Home website:
www.vvh.vermont.gov
Click on About Our Home
Click on Newsletters
- ♦ Email
- ♦ Mailing List

To be added to our lists please contact:

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

Kiauna Wait
(802) 447-6510
Email: Kiauna.wait@vermont.gov

VVH WISH LIST

I-Pod Shuffles
(4th Generation)



Neck Pillows Body Pillows
CD Players I-Tune Cards
Costume Jewelry Stamps
Newspaper Subscriptions Outdoor Benches
Earphones for TV and Music
Two pocket front wheelchair/walker bags

**Please make check for monetary donations
out to Vermont Veterans' Home:**

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

Your donations are gratefully accepted.

THANK YOU

We are looking for people with music talent and or special talents of any kind who would like to give time to our Veterans and Members on our special care unit. Please contact Michele Burgess at michele.burgess@vermont.gov or call 802-447-6520.

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

NEW: Veteran's Mobility Trail

Monetary donations toward
a paved walkway around
the perimeter of the VVH

PLEASE NOTE:

**** We will NOT BE ACCEPTING
books, puzzles, magazines, VCR
tapes, CDs or DVDs or clothing
at this time. THANK YOU to all
who have donated to our
Veterans at VVH.**

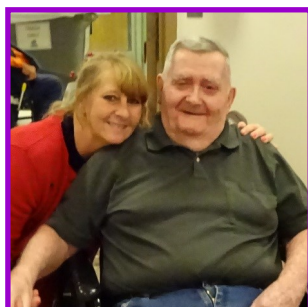
Let the Festivities begin with: Indoor snowball fight



Bring
it
on,!



Legion Lunch



Visits with Santa



Wreaths Across America



December 14, 2019

An invitation to: Family Council at the Vermont Veterans' Home

A Family Council is operated by and for the families of Veterans and Members. "Family Members" can include close friends or associates of our residents in addition to actual family members. This group advocates for the well-being of all Veterans and Members at VVH.

**An informational session will be held:
Sunday, February 2nd at 2pm in the Crispe Room.**

I look forward to seeing you.

Melissa Jackson, CEO