



VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2019

# The BUZZ WORD



A Mother's heart  
is a special place  
where her children are always  
Home.



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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**802-447-6523**



<http://vvh.vermont.gov>

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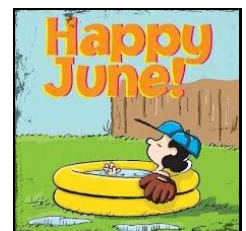
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## *From the Administrator... Melissa Jackson*



Happy Almost Summer!!

Recently I have received numerous emails and Facebook messages questioning why our flags are at half-staff. With Flag Day being June 14<sup>th</sup> I thought this was a good time to do an American Flag 101.

- Unless properly illuminated, flags should only be displayed outdoors from sunrise to sunset.
- Flags should be raised briskly and lowered ceremoniously.
- When displaying the American Flag with other flags, the American Flag should always be flown at the highest peak and should be raised first and lowered last.
- When the American Flag is displayed indoors:
  - ◊ On a speaker's platform displayed flat, it should be directly behind the speaker. When displayed on a pole, it should be in a place of prominence and to the speaker's right when he/she is facing the audience. All other flags go to the left of the speaker.
- Flags are flown at half-staff annually on the following dates:
  - ◊ May 15<sup>th</sup> Peace Officers Memorial Day
  - ◊ Memorial Day Half-staff until noon then raise to the top of the staff
  - ◊ July 27<sup>th</sup> Korean War Veterans Armistice Day
  - ◊ September 11<sup>th</sup> Patriots Day
  - ◊ December 7<sup>th</sup> Pearl Harbor Day
- By the order of the President flags are flown at half-staff.
- By the order of the Governor flags are flown at half-staff.
- Flags should always be in good repair and never touch the ground.
  - ◊ Local scout troops and various Veteran and community organizations have flag retirement ceremonies. Please contact them to properly retire your old flag, they should not be thrown out in the trash.



I hope this answers many of the questions we have received regarding our flags. We will do our best to post on Facebook why flags have been lowered to half-staff.

*Melissa*

*Melissa A. Jackson, BSW, LNHFA, FACHCA  
Chief Executive Officer  
[www.Vvh.vermont.gov](http://www.Vvh.vermont.gov)*



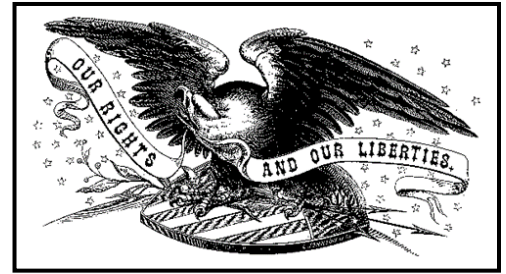
## **Donation**

Members of Mt. Anthony Union High School musical group, **THE THROWBACKS**, present a check to Melissa. The donation was from proceeds of a performance by the very talented students.

## Chaplain's Corner

Dear VVH Friends,

In the Book of Leviticus we read *"proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."* These immortal words are found engraved on the famed "Liberty Bell" in Philadelphia.



The Declaration of Independence declares, *"We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."* Note what this statement does not say. It does not state that these rights are "granted" or "given" or "bestowed" by any earthly prince, power or potentate. These rights are granted by our Creator. This Declaration, as well as the Constitution and Bill of Rights which grew out of it, simply acknowledge these inherent God-given rights. This concept of rights is unique in the history of human governance. It is a heritage that all Americans should cherish greatly. Imperfectly realized at our founding, it has taken over 200 years to fully realize, nevertheless we rejoice at the boldness of this statement. We continue to fully live out and more perfectly realize the profound nature of these words.

It has taken the sacrifice of millions to defend these very principles. And all you and I can do is to utter a grateful "thank you" to the men and women who have struggled to *"preserve, protect, and defend"* this Nation and its values. As Calvin Coolidge has said, *"The nation which forgets its defenders will be itself forgotten."* As we look forward to our Independence Day, may it never be said that we have forgotten our Nation's defenders! And now, as always, may God bless America! A happy and blessed 4<sup>th</sup> to you all!

Chaplain Richard McSherry

## PAVING SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF JUNE 10—14

**PARKING: ALL VISITORS AND STAFF USE LOTS TO THE EAST AND WEST OF AMERICAN WAY** until the project is complete. Cars parked in other areas will cause delays.

**Watch for signs directing entrance to the Home.**

### **SCHEDULE**

10th of June: milling and grinding

11-13 spreading and compacting base layers (for full-depth grinding) and finish layers.

14-Completion pavement striping and marking.

There will be several permanent speed bumps installed and some of the drainage around the facility will be improved.

**Just in time for the Car Show on the 15th!!**





## Mother's Day Tea



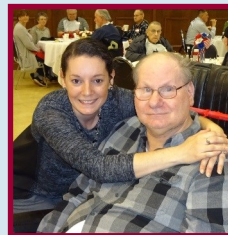
## STAFF APPRECIATION LUNCH — HOSTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



SERVED BY TRUSTEES and members of the ADMINISTRATION







Elks Dinner &  
Bingo



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

Brunswick Harley Davidson, Inc.  
Joel Whiting  
SAA  
Living Sober  
Dept. of VT Auxiliary VFW  
VFW– Art Charron  
B.P.O.E. 567  
Pownal American Legion Auxiliary  
VFW Post 1332  
DAV Auxiliary, Bennington Chapter #4  
VFW District #4  
Phyllis and Rhonda Roberts  
Chris Jenne  
Patricia Lyman  
Mary Tych  
Rebecca Stuter  
Nancy Breen  
Daughters of Isabella

**In Memory of Edward Bird**

Alphouse & Michele Poremski  
The Bus, Marble Valley Reg. Transit District

**In Memory of Bill Kipp**

Carolyn Bobowiec  
D. Ferris & G. Ethier  
Caroline Cipperly  
Mr. and Mrs. James Bushika  
Ed & Laura Cloke  
Susan Cipperly  
Michael & Jean Kurpiel  
Kathy Bailey

**In Memory of Norma Shays**

Kenneth & Elaine Coonradt  
Dean & Annette Dixon  
Robert Welch III  
Bernard & Joan McDonald  
Bruce, Caroline & Family  
American Legion Women's Aux Unit #90

**In Memory of David Schultheis**

Patricia Dupree



**13 June—Pin-Ups on Tour**  
**15 June - Father's Day Car Show**  
**23 June - Fishing Derby**  
**29 June VVA Picnic**  
**10 July—Band Concert**

**Show your Support at the  
VVH Apparel Store!**

T-Shirts-\$15	Sweatshirts-\$25
Sweatpants-\$20	Zip Hoodie-\$35
Polo Shirts-\$25	Baseball Cap-\$20
Winter Hat-\$12	Scarf-\$12
Ornaments- \$8	VVH Pens-\$3
Small Totes- \$15	Large Totes-\$20
Wind Breakers: Unlined-\$23-\$27	Lined—\$27-\$31

*From Deputy Administrator—Colonel Al Faxon*



Memorial Day is clearly a day set aside to remember our fallen brothers and sisters and to give pause and thanks for their many sacrifices. I usually think of it as "*What if Day*".

What if we did not have the caliber of citizens that 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 given the ultimate sacrifice, I humbly give thanks to you in Heaven for the many freedoms we enjoy in this Country, and for those who remain free throughout the world because of you.

To our Veterans here at the Vermont Veterans' Home... I know Memorial Day is for those who died in battle... 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!

*What if?*

S/F  
AF



L-R: Steve McClafferty, Steve England, Commander (Detachment of Vermont Sons of the American Legion), Melissa Jackson CEO, Bill Brothers, Dave Woodcock and Al Faxon COO.

# Thank You

**Sons of the American Legion,**  
as part of their  
**Project Presentation,**  
make a donation to  
the Activities Fund  
and the Veterans' Assistance Fund.



### 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  
Robyn Boland  
(802) 447-6510  
Email: [robyn.boland@vermont.gov](mailto:robyn.boland@vermont.gov)

### VVH WISH LIST

Mittens  
Pinball Machine/Game  
Neck Pillows      Body Pillows  
I-Pods & I-Tune Cards   or   CD Players  
Newspaper Subscriptions  
Costume Jewelry   or   Stamps  
(New) Men's Belts and Suspenders  
Earphones for TV and Music  
Outdoor Benches

**Your donations are gratefully accepted.**

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

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

**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 veteran's and members on our special care unit. Please contact Michele Burgess at [michele.burgess@vermont.gov](mailto: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, magazines, VCR tapes or  
clothing at this time. THANK YOU  
to all who have donated to our  
Veterans at VVH.**

## TWIG REMEMBERS...Norm Brown

Norm and I were classmates from the Fair Haven HS Class of 1961. Norm and his best friend for life, Brad Goodrich, knew that they wanted to be game wardens. They went to Nichols Junior College and took their forestry classes. They went and took the game warden test and it was easy. Together forever in the woods for every hunting season, they knew all the rules.

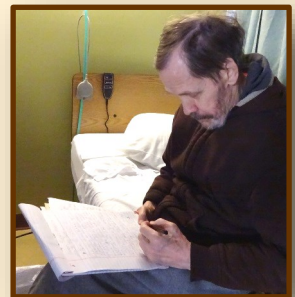
Twenty-five years later, I am working at Williams Hardware and he's a regular nuts and bolts customer. He'd come down Main Street, put his blinker on and come in the back door. I met him, we greeted, and I asked him if he wanted to catch a poacher. I said hurry or we'll miss him. Brownie's a big guy and here we are pounding down through and getting strange looks from wondering customers. We get to the front door and I point out his truck, an old black and red Chevy painted with a 4 inch paint brush. We found nobody in the truck but a dog barking madly. He said "I wonder where he is?" I said "I know where he is. He's in the diner. He'll be behind the counter wearing a white apron." He asked "What's he doing behind the counter?" I said "Cooking eggs... he's a poacher!"

I should have known better. Norm was a lot of things, National Guardsman, U.S. Marshall, and in his spare minutes, he took down trees and he had a dandy of a sale of firewood business.

God bless you, Brownie. It's time for you to take a break. God only knows you've earned it.

God bless,

Twig



Robert "Twig" Canfield



MEMORIAL  
DAY at the  
HOME





# Germ Team Strikes Again



## Germ Team:

Back: Patricia Babcock-Infection Control, Willy Rimany, Audrey Jones, Richard Vachon and Dr. Peter King.

Front: Henry Duval, Barbara Vince and Steve Noel

**(R)** Barbara registers Cora and Steve to participate. Did they pass the test? You get a score from 1-10 and if you pass, you get candy.

**(Below)** Henry guards the candy to make sure “Sticky-fingers” Steve does not take the candy and run.



Richard is at his post at Patriot Hall doorway to remind our diners that hand hygiene is important before eating.



*Thank you*

COO Al Faxon and Activities Director Michele Burgess accept a donation from Pat and Edward Garret (center) of DAV Chapter 4 Bennington.