

The BUZZ WORD

Volume **15**
February 2024
Issue 2



“Sometimes you will
never know the
value of a moment

until it becomes a
memory.”
~Theodor Seuss Geisel





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 ensuring 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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robyn.boland@vermont.gov
802-447-6523



<http://vvh.vermont.gov>

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From the Administrator—Melissa Jackson



Greetings,

Our next Family Meeting is scheduled for March 13th at 6 pm via Zoom. The Zoom link can be found on the VVH website www.vvh.vermont.gov under the Facility Information and Updates tab.

We continue to work out the “bugs” with the security system, but we anticipate this project will be completed by mid-February. The new call bell system is just about complete as well. For an update on the A-wing project, please see the special section of the Buzz Word (below).

We love having your four-legged friends visit and we wanted to provide the following reminders:

- ♦ all pets visiting VVH must have their most up-to-date vaccination information on file with our receptionist
- ♦ they must remain on a leash or in a carrier
- ♦ and you must clean up after them.



Happy Valentine's Day

Take Care, Melissa

Melissa A. Jackson, MBA, FACHCA

Chief Executive Officer

www.vvh.vermont.gov

AMERICAN WAY CONSTRUCTION UPDATE — JANUARY



Our architects will be providing us with two renderings of the potential unit layout for the renovation project. We will determine which of the two best meets our needs.

The architects will also be building a full scale mockup of the proposed resident rooms for staff, Veterans/members and family members to walk through. This will allow us to address issues/concerns with the design prior to any start of construction. We will let you know when the model is available for visits.



PRIDE in FOODSERVICE WEEK

is celebrated February 5 - 9 and is a great way for dietary managers and foodservice teams to connect and strengthen their love for the work they do.

The VVH is proud to recognize our hardworking and amazing Nutritional Services Department that makes a difference in the dining experience of our Veterans and Members.

THANK YOU



Kelly, of the Activities Department, referees a friendly rivalry of hoops competition on American Way.



Psyching out the competition:
He won't make this.
He can shoot but he won't make it.
You think he could get at least one.
How many times does he get to shoot?
Air ball.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

JESUS LOVED LOUDER

Listening to the world around us, we could not help but come to the conclusion that the volume is rising day by day. If you listen to the news, you hear louder voices, stronger opinions and harsher disagreements. If you scroll through your social feeds, you see arguments in the comment section of the most benign posts. Everyone wants to be heard, and collectively, we seem to be going to greater and greater lengths to be the one voice loud enough to be made out above all the noise.

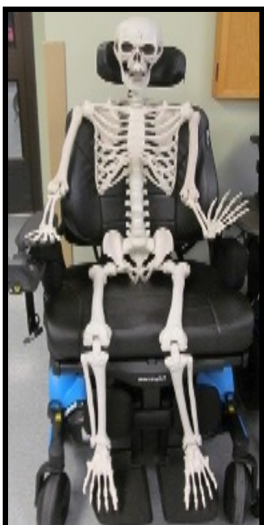
But as we listened, we noticed that most of what gets amplified — most of the stuff loud enough to be heard — is rife with hate, anger and discontentment. And when hate gets amplified too often, we try to drown it out with even louder hate from a different perspective. It is a vicious cycle and it is one Jesus dealt with 2,000 years ago.

Everywhere He went, He was met with dissenting opinions, trap questions and directed hatred. People were constantly trying to silence Him, discredit Him or hijack His platform to amplify their own voices. It must have been infuriating but He did not give in and add to the noise. Jesus used His voice but He did not shout. He not only stayed on the path of preaching patience, selflessness and love but more importantly, He also demonstrated them. He responded to the ever-increasing volume of hate with quiet and deliberate acts of love and the result is evident in the fact that we are still talking about it 2,000 years later: His love was louder and it still is.

LOST—You haven't lost nothing unless you lost God.
GOD is the best ... and the solution to finding real love.



C.A. Crawford



Meet **Bonejamin** from
the Rehab Department

Why don't skeletons eat spicy food? They don't have the stomach for it

What does a skeleton order at a restaurant? Spare ribs

What do you call a skeleton that goes to school but
does not do any work? Lazy bones

Who won the skeleton beauty contest? No body

Why did the skeleton go to jail?
Because he was bad to the bone



THERAPY PIGS

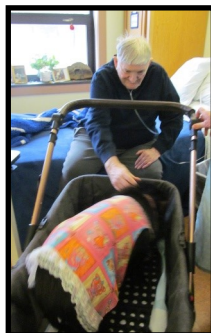
Marilyn Swine-roe and Albert Swinestein were special guests at the VVH. Albert was "hogging" all the attention while Marilyn showed off her pierced ears, pearls and polished toe nails.



MAKE



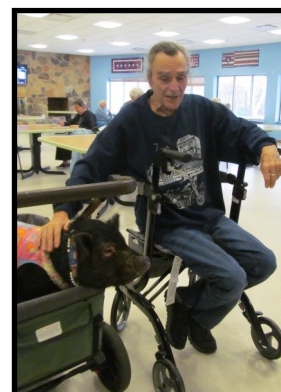
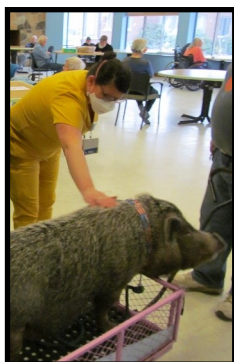
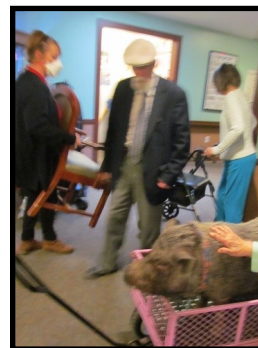
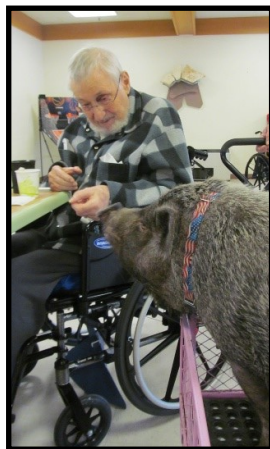
US



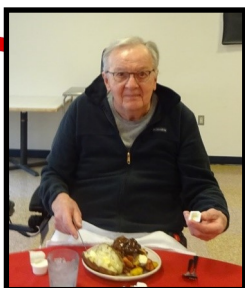
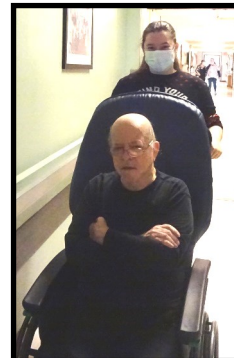
SMILE



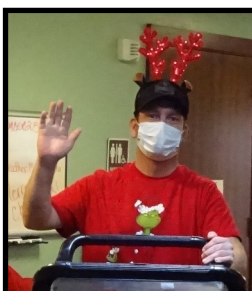
THANK YOU,
TERRY & ED



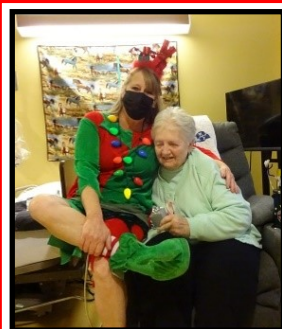
CHRISTMAS DINNER



Brought
to you by:



The Nutritional
Services Department,
with assistance from
Nursing and Activities,
served our guests.



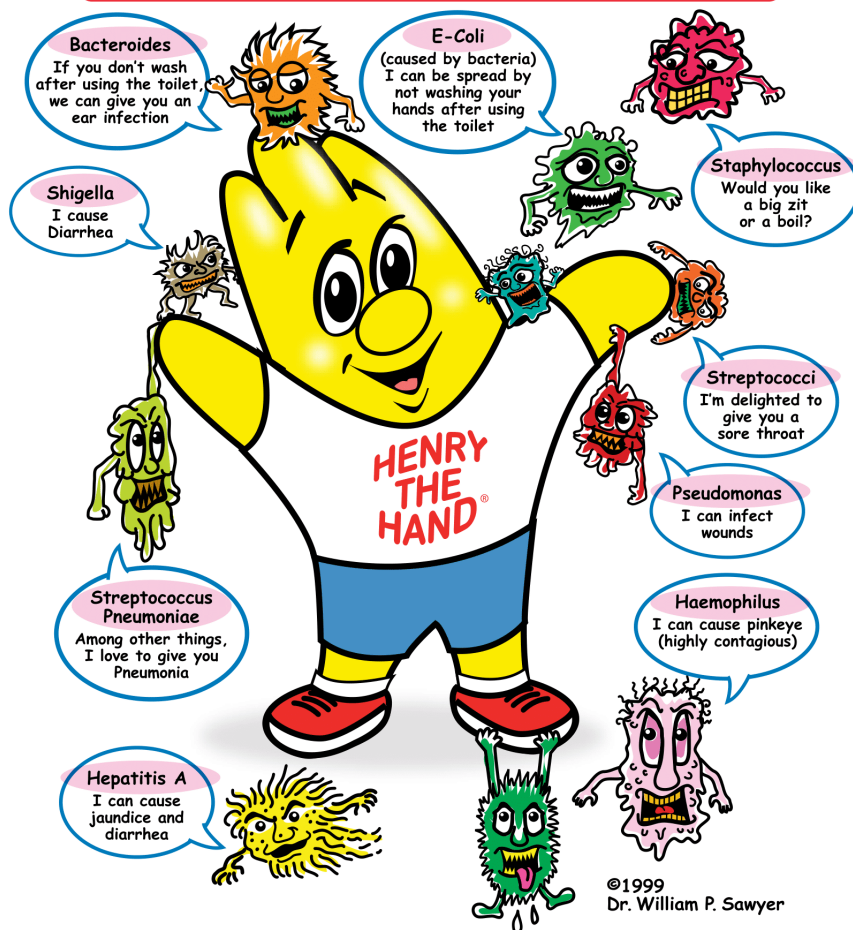
One of Santa's
elves made a
surprise visit
to the Home.
Did Santa
know the elf
was AWOL?



Olaf brings
warm hugs
but probably
forgets that
he might
melt if held
too long.



Do You Have Any Idea What Germs Could be on Your Hands?



The 4 Principles of Hand Awareness have been endorsed by the AMA & AAFP
www.henrythehand.com

9 Reasons why you should practice hand hygiene, and there are many more out there just waiting...



TO: VETERANS, MEMBERS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS

If you have scheduled a medical appointment for a resident, please let our friendly Scheduler know.

Contact:
TAMMY SHIELDS
 802.447.6542

Tammy.shields@vermont.gov

A Day of Remembrance

It is a tradition of the Vermont Veterans' Home to celebrate the Veterans, Members and Staff who have lived or worked at the Home and who are no longer with us.



They touched our lives, became our family and showed us the strength of spirit.

Please join us in the celebration and remembrance now available on the YouTube link below:

<https://youtu.be/7AZBylhYAWc>



On behalf of the
Veterans and Members,
we sincerely thank the
following for
their very generous
donations:

Rosalie Boland
James Clark
Patricia & Charles Edmondson
Christopher Vail
Ed Moutray
State of Vermont VFW
DAVA Unit #3 c/o Karen Redliker
Daughters of the American Revolution
Phyllis & Rhonda Roberts
Stephen Leach
James Clark
Cathy McWilliam
Sacred Heart St. Frances de Sales Church
Scott & Kelly Dickie
Terry Hutchison & Ed Klingbeil with Marilyn Swineroe
and Albert Swinestein (Therapy Pigs)

ON BEHALF OF GEORGE MAY

Laura & Theodore Scott

**VVH Staff Recognition
Years of Service**

ACTIVITIES

Sara Green — 10 years
Hayden Crandall — 1 year

DIETARY

Courtney Smith — 1 year

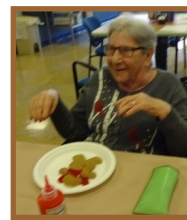
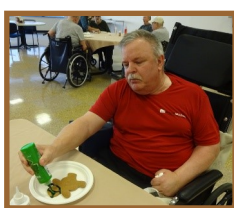
NURSING

Dianne Harrington — 28 years
Melinda Zaffino — 18 Years
Linda Sherman — 11 Years
Michelle Ouellette — 6 years
Heather Amidon — 5 years
Shelly Hewson — 5 years
Mar Jah Toomey — 4 years
Marianne Cumbo — 2 years



Gingerbread Cookies

Sometimes you decorate them...



Or sometimes you just eat them!

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 The Buzz Word

- ♦ Email
- ♦ Mailing List (postal)

To be added to our lists please contact:

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

Robyn Boland
(802) 447-6523

Email: robyn.boland@vermont.gov

VVH WISH LIST

"Music and Memory" Players

A monetary donation of \$30.00 provides a customized music player to a Veteran or Member



Due to your overwhelming generosity, we no longer need blankets, lap blankets or afghans.

We will accept only new or like-new Books and Puzzles

Appreciated by Veterans and Members:

Craft Items or Kits	Neck Pillows
Aromatherapy Lotions	Relaxation Oils

Your donations are gratefully accepted.
Please make the check for monetary donations to:

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

Please include the purpose in the "memo".

We are still not accepting: CDs or used clothing.

PLEASE NOTE: WE WILL NO LONGER ACCEPT DVDs due to modern technology of TV's and streaming availability.

We will keep you posted when changes are made.
Thank you for your patience and understanding.

MONETARY 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 in the memo area of the check to which fund(s) you are donating:

Members Assistance Fund:

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:

Music and Memory Players

Veteran's Mobility Trail Fund:

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

Wreaths for Veterans Fund:

Donations will go towards the purchase of wreaths for the wreath-laying ceremony

Freedom Park Fund:

Cardinal Point outdoor area
enhancement and improvement



A SINCERE APOLOGY

In the January issue, the name of Lynda Farmer was misspelled. She is the past President of the American Legion Auxiliary -- the organization that made a donation for the putting green planned for the VVH this spring.



Vermont Veterans' Home
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201



***“FULFILLING THE PROMISE: Caring for the
Veterans of Vermont and their families”***



Residents were treated to a performance of yuletide cheer and serenaded with some of their favorite carols.

