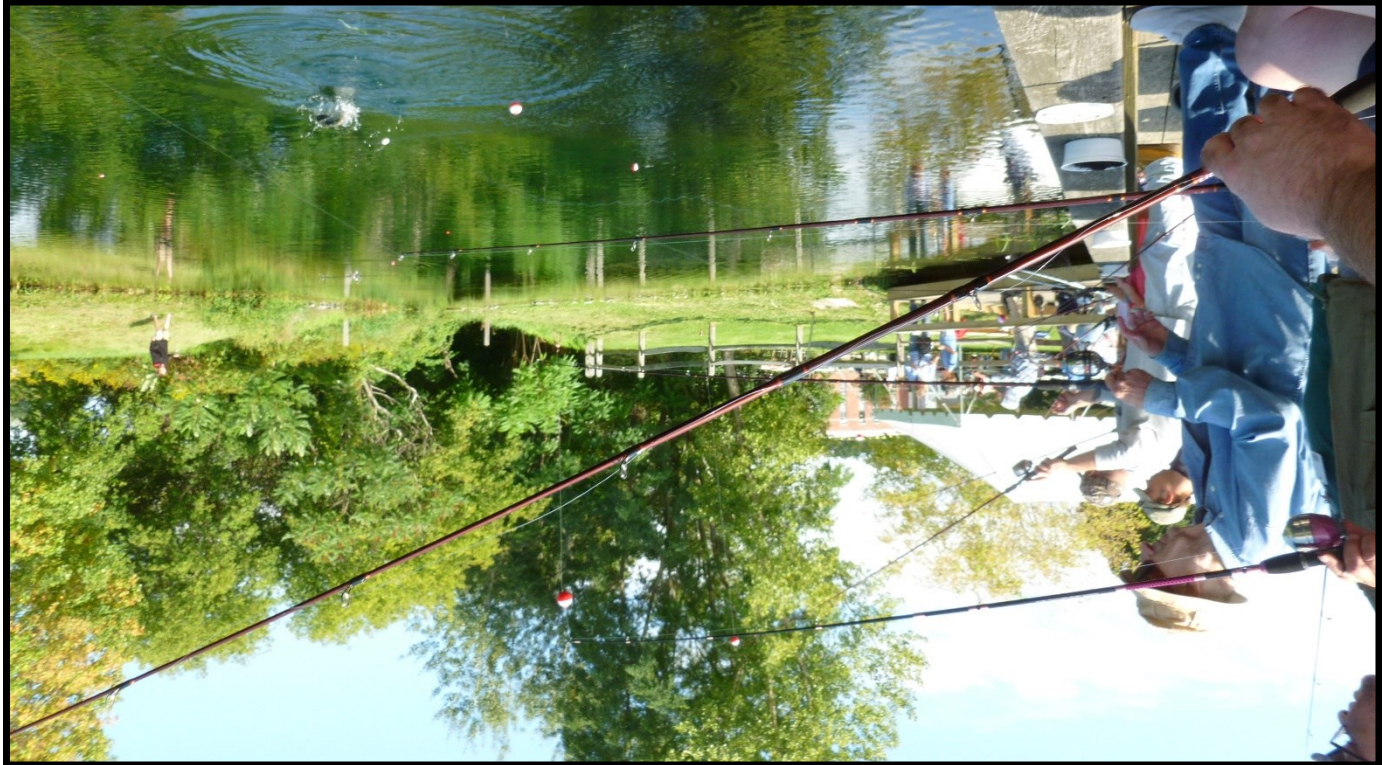




Vermont Veterans' Home  
325 North Street  
Bennington, VT 05201

***"FULFILLING THE PROMISE"***





VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2017

# The BUZZ WORD



**Mark your calendars:**

The annual VVH  
Car Show  
Saturday June 17, 2017  
10 am - 2 pm  
(rain date is June 18th)



[www.vvh.vermont.gov](http://www.vvh.vermont.gov)

**FULFILLING THE PROMISE**



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:*

**Mary Ryan, Executive Assistant  
mary.ryan@vermont.gov  
802-447-6523**



<http://vvh.vermont.gov>

## Administration and Department Directors

Melissa Jackson, CEO/Administrator  
447-6533  
[melissa.jackson@vermont.gov](mailto:melissa.jackson@vermont.gov)

Col. Al Faxon, COO/Deputy Administrator  
447-6544  
[allan.faxon@vermont.gov](mailto:allan.faxon@vermont.gov)

Steven McClafferty, Business Manager  
447-2732  
[Steven.mcclafferty@vermont.gov](mailto:Steven.mcclafferty@vermont.gov)

Patricia Crossman, Director of Nursing Services  
447-6565  
[Patricia.crossman@vermont.gov](mailto:Patricia.crossman@vermont.gov)

Cindy Rankin, Food Service Director  
447-2815  
[cindy.rankin@vermont.gov](mailto:cindy.rankin@vermont.gov)

Michele Burgess, Activities Director  
447-6520  
[michele.burgess@vermont.gov](mailto:michele.burgess@vermont.gov)

Christina Cosgrove, Social Services Director  
447-2792  
[christina.cosgrove@vermont.gov](mailto:christina.cosgrove@vermont.gov)

Jon Endres, Environmental Services Director  
447-6528  
[jon.endres@vermont.gov](mailto:jon.endres@vermont.gov)

Patti Parker, Housekeeping and Laundry Supervisor  
447-2731  
[patricia.parker@vermont.gov](mailto:patricia.parker@vermont.gov)

Jen Morrison, Program Manager of Rehab  
447-6548

Karen Divis, Quality Assurance Nurse  
447-2888  
[karen.divis@vermont.gov](mailto:karen.divis@vermont.gov)

Mary Hamilton, MDS  
379-5279  
[mary.hamilton@vermont.gov](mailto:mary.hamilton@vermont.gov)

Gary Yelle, Admissions Coordinator and  
Marketing Director  
447-6539  
[gary.yelle@vermont.gov](mailto:gary.yelle@vermont.gov)

## Chaplain's Corner...

Howdy folks,  
Here is something I found in a book written by evangelist Rick Deighton.  
It's a great description of the Bible.



### **The Bible**

#### **This book contains:**

“The mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, doom of sinners, and happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword and the Christian's charter. Here Paradise is restored, Heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its Grand Subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be open at the Judgement and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, rewards the greatest labor, and condemns all who trifle with its holy contents”

Even though Memorial Day has passed, don't forget to remember those who served and died to give us our freedoms and pray for those now serving around the globe.

God Bless,  
Chaplain Ken



## VVH POOL TOURNAMENT



And the winners  
were:  
Scott Betit and  
Rich Vachon  
Congrats guys!!



Shark on deck?

## 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: [mary.ryan@vermont.gov](mailto:mary.ryan@vermont.gov)

## VVH WISH LIST

CD Players  
CDs of any type of music  
Newspaper Subscriptions  
Costume Jewelry  
Envelopes, Stamps, Pens, Writing Paper  
Men's Caps  
Men's belts and suspenders  
300 piece easy grip puzzles  
500 piece easy grip puzzles  
Universal TV Remotes  
Earphones for TV and Music  
DVD Players  
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**

*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

**\*\* We will not be accepting books or magazines at this time. THANK YOU to all who have donated to our Veterans at VVH.**



## From the Administrator... Melissa Jackson



I am very happy to announce that VVH has once again received a deficiency free VA Inspection. This is **THREE YEARS IN A ROW!!!!** This achievement is unprecedented and a direct reflection of the hard work and best in class care our staff provides each and every day. Please join me in congratulating them on this great accomplishment.



The work on the kitchen and pavilion continues and both are making great progress. Watch our Facebook and Twitter pages for updated photos for each project.

On May 8, I had the honor of accompanying Barb Reilly to Montpelier so she could receive the Public Service Award for VVH. This event included various other agencies from the State of Vermont and each recipient was presented their award by Governor Scott.

Memorial Day is fast approaching and I wanted to take a few moments to provide you with the history about this day. Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day. It is a day to remember those who died in service to our country. May 30, 1868 was the first Decoration Day in which the graves of those who died serving our country were decorated with flowers or other decorations. Memorial Day did not become a federal holiday until 1971.



Memorial Day is different from Veterans Day as it is set aside to honor those who died in service to our country. Veterans Day is to honor all those who served our Country. Memorial Day is now known as the official start of Summer. At VVH we participate in the local Memorial Day parade and provide our Veterans and Members with an opportunity to watch the parade. We do not hold parties or picnics as it is a day of remembrance.

So I ask that while you are enjoying time with family and friends over the long weekend please take a few moments to remember those who died serving our country and those that they left behind.



Thank You Bennington Elks for  
a tremendous Steak Dinner!



You always Honor our Veterans!



# *Donations*

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

# Thank You!

Brenda Redford  
Allan Meers  
Vivian Moore  
Linda Moxley  
Greg Smith  
DAR Brattleboro Chapter  
DeeDee Eichwald  
VFW Benn County Post 1332  
Living Sober Group  
Janet Nido  
Phyllis Roberts  
Pownal American Legion AUX  
DAV Auxiliary  
VFW District 4  
Bennington Elks Lodge 567

## In Memory of:

David Girard

Anne Patton  
Eleanor Duddy

John Knight

Orvis

William May

Peter & Jane North  
Carman Simonelli  
Marie & David Tata

Walter Hodge

Lois Hodge

Anthony Garzione

Toni Ann Kubica





*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 counties 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 Veteran's 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'!

S/F  
AF

Good Chow...Board of Trustees:

Thank you for the luncheon you provided to Veterans' Home Staff in recognition of National Nursing Home Week.





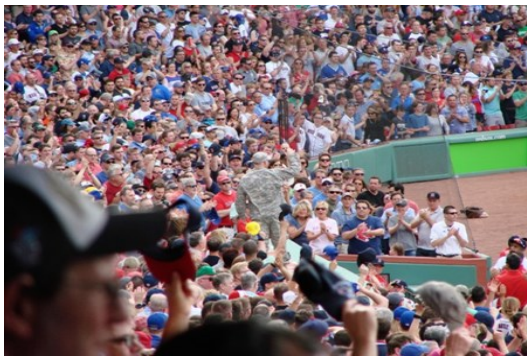
Dear Veterans and Members,

It has been a while since I last wrote a travel segment, so here goes. Thanks to each of you, I had the great opportunity to visit Boston on April 29, 2017 to see the Red Sox play against the World Series Champions, the Chicago Cubs. To the point, the



Red Sox lost 7 to 4. It was a great day though, with the food, the fans and the atmosphere. There were many Cubs fans there who flew in from Chicago just to see the game and more voices shouting, "Let's go Cubbies" than "Let's go Red Sox". A good rivalry through and through. Of course, there was the 7th inning stretch with everyone signing "Take Me Out To The Ballgame" and the modern day Fenway classic "Sweet Caroline" (so good- so good- so good).

As with anyplace that I visit now, I am more aware of what respect is given to veterans. Even at Fenway Park there are "Thank You's" to you veterans. I took a few pictures of them. The best one, is the Hats off To Heroes. During the 4th inning, they brought out an active duty Army Sergeant for him to stand on the Red Sox dugout to be given a standing ovation by everyone. I wish I could bring all of you to Fenway to stand on the dugout for this honor. If that were to happen, I don't think the game could continue because the applause, cheering and photo taking that would go on for hours.



In all, it was a great day. On the way home Saturday night, we stopped at a Five Guys burger restaurant for a bite to eat. Boy, were those burgers very good and the french fries were delicious, too. I hope to return to Fenway to see another game later this year. Maybe the Red Sox will win that game!

As always, God Bless each of you and God Bless America.

Steve





Steve, Mary, Melissa, Pat and Cindy were the servers at the ice cream social for Nursing Home Week. Lots of ice cream flavors and toppings to choose from.



Lots of progress has been made since the last pictures: some painting and some tile work has been done in the smaller areas. The paint colors look great.



There is still work to be done such as: tile work, ceilings, lighting and sprinklers.



### Pavilion update:

The beams are up and the floor will be poured in the next week.



### June Activities

June 6th—VVH  
Talent show

June 17th - Car show

June 24th - VVA  
picnic

June 25th - fishing  
derby