



New Hampshire Veterans Home

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Upcoming Events



April 8 — Easter Egg Hunt – 1 p.m.



April 26 — Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Town Hall



May 31 — NHVH Memorial Day Ceremony — 11 a.m., Town Hall



June 17 — Gate City Corvette Club Ice Cream Social, 2 p.m., Pavilion



June 18 — Father's Day Dance, 2:30 p.m., Town Hall

The Veterans Voice



Newsletter of the New Hampshire Veterans Home

Spring, 2017

Commandant's Report

Margaret "Peggy" LaBrecque



Success Stories

One of the greatest rewards of working at the New Hampshire Veterans Home is getting to witness the success stories that take place here.

Watching the process as new residents discover the community within the Home is heartwarming. The feelings of loneliness, boredom and depression that some enter with – sometimes due to illness, sometimes because of difficult living/caregiving arrangements – quickly fade as new friends are made and new recreation/entertainment options are presented.

Many new residents end up as regular participants in our daily smorgasbord of recreational offerings, which includes much, much more than just the usual nursing-home bingo.

On any given day this might include brain-stimulating trivia and table games, poker, balloon "volleyball" on tabletops, floor bowling and lots more. We provide a significant number of outside trips every week for those who are able – to Walmart for shopping, to the local movie theater, or further afield to concerts or sports events. We even do an annual trip to Fenway Park for a Red Sox game.

The generosity of many veterans organizations, clubs and individuals is what makes this great quality of life possible for our residents.

The State of New Hampshire provides the operating budget, but the special extras that enhance residents' quality of life are the fruits of the donations of money, goods, and volunteer time.

All donations to our Resident Benefit Fund are used exclusively for items and activities directly benefitting the residents.

A new era is slowly beginning at NHVH as the leading edge of the Baby Boom generation – the troops who fought in the jungles of Southeast Asia half a century ago – reaches the age where nursing home care becomes needed. Vietnam-era

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Architect's rendering of proposed LEDU third-floor addition.

Preliminary work is on schedule to add third floor to LEDU wing

Preliminary work on the third-floor addition to the New Hampshire Veterans Home's Life Enhancement Dementia Unit wing, shown in the architect's rendering above, is moving along on schedule to submit a completed design to the Department of Veterans Affairs by this June.

Filing of the design by Colby Engineering, which has handled initial work on the project, will place NHVH in the queue for capital funding by the Department of Veterans Affairs State Home Construction Grant Program.

The VA funding will cover roughly \$8.8 million of the \$13.5 million project total. The Executive Council has already approved \$4.7 million for the state's share of the work.

Hopes are to begin construction in 2019. The new space will add 30 to 40 beds, depending on final internal configuration.

With the need for dementia and Alzheimer's disease-related care constantly growing, Commandant Margaret "Peggy" LaBrecque said the increase will be welcome. The LEDU units currently have veterans approved but waiting for beds, she said, and even with the expansion, the demand will continue to outpace availability.

The Home is also planning on how to handle the huge wave of Vietnam veterans that's coming in the next decade or so, as the older Baby Boomers who fought in the jungles of Southeast Asia reach the age where they need nursing home care.

Pharmacy integration latest phase in EMR installation

Work is continuing on the long process of getting the New Hampshire Veterans Home's electronic medical records system fully up and running.

The latest piece in the installation, which has been going in phases since 2015, is getting the Point Click Care system integrated with the pharmacy's computer system to make the medication process seamless all the way from the point of physician order entry right through dispensing it to

residents from one of our new wireless-computer-equipped medication carts.

Once that's completed, Resident Services Director Michelle Pelletier said the next modules will be for functions like entering progress notes and assessment documentation. The staff development group is developing training for the 300+ clinical employees who'll use the system.

When completed, EMR will supplant almost all paper-based recordkeeping.

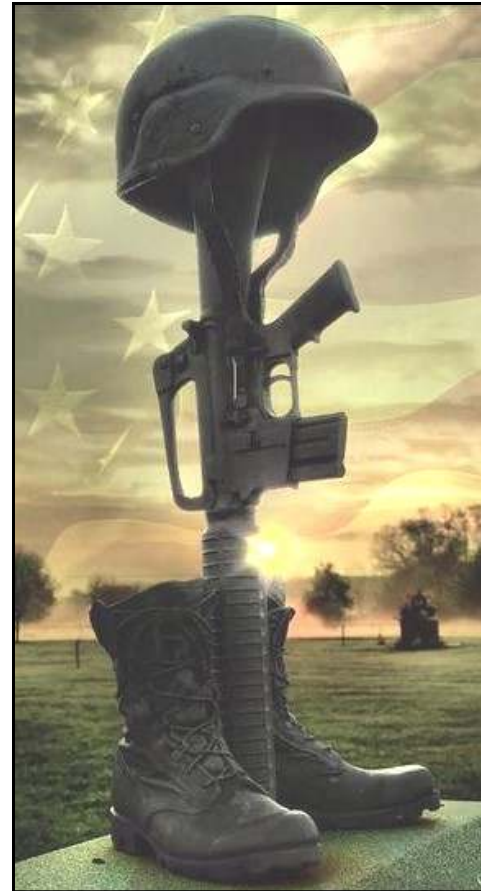
Roll Call

Admissions

July 2016	
Gerard Smith	7/5
Roland Duhaime	7/19
George Vaughn	7/20
Floyd Jenkins	7/27
August 2016	
Arthur Grueter	8/2
Roger Davies	8/16
Fred Benson	8/23
Harvey Ellick	8/24
Warren Adams	8/31
September 2016	
Gerald Metzger	9/8
William Thomas	9/13
Stella Nall	9/20
George Cote	9/21
Anthony Galluzzo	9/27
October 2016	
Walter Pierce	10/4
Normand Caron	10/5
Paul Barker	10/11
Lucien LaVallee	10/12
Alexander Peters	10/18
John Curtin	10/19
Philip Shepard	10/26
November 2016	
Louise Dean	11/1
Edward Devine	11/8
Edward Adams	11/9
John Shea	11/15
Benjamin Linsley	11/29
December 2016	
Dennis Livingston	12/6
Edward Alberchinski	12/7
Margaretta Endsley	12/14
James Torres	12/28

Final Salutes

July 2016	
William Severn	7/5
Ruth Connor	7/15
Shirley Shreck	7/19
Leon Fernald	7/22
Harold Petch	7/23
Milton Hanks	7/26
Horace Kingsbury	7/28
Albert Armstrong	7/30
August 2016	
Donald Wilkens	8/1
Sonja Poukstas	8/2
Lucien Gilbert	8/4
Ronald Bolduc	8/4
Peter Duffy	8/5
Norman Joyce	8/17
Wilson Mims	8/17
Arnold Boynton	8/26
John Black	8/31
Ludolph Webber	8/31
September 2016	
Andrew West	9/10
Dale Lindelius	9/21
William Burt	9/22
Albert Clement	9/24
October 2016	
Armand Benoit	10/10
Billy Joe Byers	10/27
Frederick Britton	10/28
November 2016	
Donald Durkee	11/12
Roger Lawrence	11/16
Norman Adams	11/23
Floyd Jenkins	11/30



December 2016	
William Desjardin	12/4
Fred Osgood	12/7
Richard Kiernan	12/7
Arthur Zeller	12/11
Robert Pierce	12/12
Alexander Peters	12/12
Joseph Soychak	12/17



DECK THE WALLS!

Bold splashes of color will brighten some drab walls at the New Hampshire Veterans Home this spring thanks to the generosity of a New Hampshire company and the Foundation for Hospital Art, a nonprofit organization that's been bringing art into healthcare facilities around the world for 30 years.

The Foundation provides big, bright and colorful murals and pieces of art to institutions, which are mostly done during its Paintfest events, where they provide materials for a kind of giant paint-by-numbers party that companies sponsor as team-building events.

When Praxair Surface Technologies of Concord, a high-tech manufacturer of specialized coating products, said it wanted to do something for veterans, the foundation sought out the Veterans Home. The result is the "America the Beautiful" mural at the top of



the page, which is to be hung in the Tarr South lobby opposite the main elevator. Some companies do not designate a recipient for their projects, which has let the foundation give several other murals to the Home with more in the offing. They'll go in several Life

Enhancement Dementia Unit neighborhoods. The Veterans Home is very grateful for the great work and generosity of Praxair and the Hospital Art Foundation, enhances veterans' quality of life.



Commandant

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veterans currently make up about 20 percent of our population, a number that will continue to grow with the passing of members of the greatest generation that fought in World War II.

We're working to be ready for them. A capital project to add a third floor to expand the capacity of our Life Enhancement Dementia Unit has been in the works for a couple of years, and we hope, once capital funds from the Department of Veterans Affairs are approved, to be able to start work in 2019.

Meanwhile, we're always looking at more efficient ways to use our existing space.

Given the unique challenges of caring for the Vietnam veterans – PTSD, traumat-

ic brain injuries and Agent Orange exposure, among others – we're constantly discussing new treatments and techniques.

Regardless of difficulty though, the New Hampshire Veterans Home will be here and ready to provide the same great quality care and quality of life to those who served their country as we have for the past 126 years.

Peggy LaBreeque

Volunteer luncheon April 26

The annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon on Wednesday, April 26, will highlight National Volunteer Week 2017 at the New Hampshire Veterans Home.

The annual event, this year set for 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, is an expression of the Home's deep gratitude to the many devoted volunteers who give so much of themselves to make the quality of life better for our veteran residents.

Their service is invaluable. In 2015, volunteers logged nearly 4,300 hours, doing everything from feeding and transporting to accompanying residents on outside trips and organizing daily activities.

That represents a \$114,000 contribution to the Home. But the real value isn't the dollars and cents – it's in the enhancement of the quality of life for the veterans who live here.

So here's an early thanks to the volunteers for their gifts of themselves, and a reminder to come for lunch in April.