



New Hampshire Veterans Home

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Upcoming Resident Events

New Hampshire Veterans Home
Annual Classic Cruise Night
Thursday, Aug. 4, 2016, 6-8 p.m. / Rain Date Aug. 11


ENJOY CLASSICS
FROM THE
GOLDEN AGE
OF HORSEPOWER

Free Admission, no Entry Fee
Registration 5-6 p.m.
at the Pavilion

• Doo-wop by the Bel Airs
• Light refreshments
• 50/50 raffle

For more information: Patricia Copeland, 527-4816
Maureen Campbell, 527-4889
www.nh.gov/veterans // www.facebook.com/nhveteranshome

The New Hampshire Veterans Home and grounds are smoke-free



The Veterans Voice



Newsletter of the New Hampshire Veterans Home

Spring-Summer, 2016

Commandant's Report

Margaret "Peggy" LaBrecque



We've had an exceptional year at the New Hampshire Veterans Home so far in 2016, and things are shaping up for a great second half.

It started well as the Home made it through flu season with no major outbreaks and minimal impacts on residents and staff. After a brutal flu season in early 2015 that forced us to impose a five-week quarantine that closed the doors to visits by family and friends and severely limited outside activities, it was a welcome relief.

Infection control efforts were outstanding throughout, with a proactive get-your-free-flu-shot campaign, and a constant emphasis on hygiene and handwashing for both residents and staff to prevent disease spread.

There also was good news from our annual site survey by the Department of Veterans Affairs in April. The team of evaluators, who do a top-to-bottom evaluation of all aspects of our operations, both clinical and non-clinical, didn't find a single item to cite in their report.

This was our first zero-deficiency survey in a number of years, and it's a great tribute to the hard work that our dedicated staff in all departments do every day, not just when an inspection is coming. A huge thank-you goes to all the staff members who made this possible.

We've got a busy summer ahead, with lots of trips and activities scheduled for residents, and our ever-popular annual Cruise Night set for 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 4. The event always draws lots of rides from Detroit's Golden Age and stirs many good memories for our veterans.

If you're celebrating events this summer with some legal fireworks, please remember to be considerate of our veteran population when you do so. The unexpected cracks and booms of pyrotechnics

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Implementing a prescription for progress

The New Hampshire Veterans Home is edging closer to the starting gate for the next phase of our implementation of a fully electronic medical records system.

Three wireless medication carts, a key element in the electronic medication record module, have arrived on site as we await installation of wireless access points throughout the resident areas of the building that will let the carts connect to a central medication database even as nursing staff moves from room to room.

Actual rollout of this piece isn't expected until fall. Besides the wireless access, vendors will still need to integrate the software with our existing computer systems, and more than 100 additional staff members will need to be trained on the system.

Commandant Margaret "Peggy" LaBrecque said the initial three carts will be fully tested to make sure they meet our needs before a larger order is placed.

Once fully implemented, the EMAR module will integrate entry of physicians' orders with the pharmacy system to streamline order transcription and medication administration, reducing the possibility of errors.

Eventually, when the entire EMR system is fully implemented, it's expected to supplant paper-based record keeping for most other important as-



pects of resident care, including tracking participation in activities, staff contact hours, and more. This will bring the New Hampshire Veterans Home into line with the current best practices in the health and long-term care industries.

Two get Fogarty scholarship awards

The Daniel C. Fogarty Memorial Scholarship Program has awarded scholarships for the upcoming academic year to two individuals with close ties to the New Hampshire Veterans Home, bringing the program's three-year total awards to nearly \$6,000.

• **Scott M. Magoon Jr.** is the son of NHVH nurse Susan Magoon. He's in his

second year at Lakes Region Community College in firefighter studies and works at the Alton Fire Station as a resident in training and in emergencies.

• **Dansir Minster** of Sanbornton works part-time at NHVH as a pharmacy technician while studying at Lakes Region Community College.

The scholarship is spon-

sored by the Fogarty family of Laconia in memory of Daniel "Chuck" Fogarty, who passed away here in 2013. Mr. Fogarty, known to many by the nickname "Coach," during his two years at the Home, was a widely known insurance agent and financial consultant, a college athlete and an

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CHANGING OF THE GUARD — Members of the New Hampshire Veterans Home Board of Managers gather for a photo after their June 20 meeting. From left are Elaine Baker, female resident member; incoming member Thomas Wiley, state American Legion Commander; Ben Saxon, Disabled American Veterans; outgoing member Madeline Dreusicke, VFW Auxiliary; incoming member Jerilyn Maynard, DAV Auxiliary; Robert Blais, American Legion; Susan Cuddy, VFW; Raymond Goulet, Vietnam Veterans of America; Richard Murphy, Marine Corps League; outgoing member John Graham, immediate past American Legion Department Commander; outgoing member Lewis Chipola, immediate past VFW Department Commander; NHVH Commandant Peggy LaBrecque; Paul Lloyd, VFW, Board of Managers chairman, and NHVH Resident Council President William Bertholdt, male resident member. Not present were outgoing member Davide Wiggin, immediate past DAV Department Commander, and incoming member Shannan Brown, VFW Department Commander.

Commandant

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can be tough on combat veterans, so please practice good fireworks etiquette: keep them to holidays or weekends, not some random night; alert your neighbors to what you're doing, and end the activity by two hours past dusk. Respect and common courtesy for our neighbors is just good form.

Further out this year, we'll be doing a 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony on Sunday morning, Sept. 11, that will be open to the public, then switching gears from that somber event to a festive ice-cream social for national Grandparents Day that afternoon. The ice-cream party will be from 1 to 4 p.m. in the Town Hall for residents and their families to enjoy.

We'll look forward to seeing everyone throughout the year. **Remember the greatest gift you can give to our veterans is your time and a visit from you.**

Peggy LaBrecque

LEDU expansion progressing

Construction of a long-awaited third-floor addition that will add more beds to the New Hampshire Veterans Home's Life Enhancement Dementia Units is now projected to start in April, 2018.

In the latest developments in April, the New Hampshire Executive Council approved a \$1.15 million contract with Colby Engineering for the initial phases of the project.

The company will be examining drawings and checking actual site conditions to make sure the structure can meet current building and life-safety code requirements.

The LEDU units, 100 beds of state-of-the-art dementia care, were opened in 2004. The building was designed with the third-floor upward expansion in mind. However, building and seismic codes have changed over the past dozen years, so the entire job is getting a careful second look.

The Executive Council had

previously approved \$4.7 million as the state's share of the construction funding. Capital funds from the Department of Veterans Affairs, State Home Construction Grant Program will be requested to provide the other \$8.8 million of the \$13.5 million total cost of the project.

The current plan, pending Colby Engineering's studies, is to submit a completed design to the VA in June of 2017, and begin work the following spring.

The expansion will help to fill the constantly growing need for dementia and Alzheimers disease-related care the Home has seen in recent years, Commandant Margaret "Peggy" LaBrecque said, an increase probably attributable to improved diagnosis.

The LEDU units currently have veterans approved but waiting, and even with the expansion, the demand for these beds will continue to outpace availability, she said.

Roll Call

ADMISSIONS		Final Salutes	
Armard Dupere	12/02/15	Alfred Weissensee	04/12
Norman Dion	12/09/15	Allen Seney	04/19
Cheever Newhall	12/15/15	John Bowman	04/20
Armard Dupere	12/16/15	Paul Kimball	04/26
William Desjardins	12/22/15	Louis Solomon	04/27
Donald Willikens	12/29/15	Elizabeth Tierney	05/03
Roger Cabana	01/05	Kenneth Crumrine	05/04
Roger Champagne	01/12	John Donohue	05/10
Sherburne Dame	01/13	Richard Willis	05/11
Anthony Foye	01/19	Henry Mathis	05/17
John Quigley	01/20	Conrad Levesque	05/24
Roland Huse	01/26	Emile Pepin	06/07
Albert Clement	02/02	Allan Fligg	06/08
Robert Shaine	02/09	Lucien Gilbert	06/14
Bradford York	02/23	Richard Tinsley	06/21
Edward Greenlaw	02/24	Roy Baldwin	06/22
Charles Ryan	03/02	Roger Lawrence	06/28
Albert Warburton	03/08	Raul Pena	06/29
Ross Seymour	03/09		
John Westover	03/15		
Joseph Bennett	03/22	Guy Brisson	12/19/15
Joseph Perzechino	03/23	Elbert Cranson	12/26/15
William Severn	03/29	Robert Wesson	01/02
Albert Knowlton	03/30	Norman Greenwood	01/09
Bertrand Poirier	04/06	Donald Burrill	01/10
		Bernard Perry	01/13
		Clarence Croft	01/14
		Marilyn Dunnet	01/16
		George Ayers	01/19
		John Nazer	01/20
		Donald Goss	01/21
		William Enders	01/28
		Joseph Courchene	01/28
		Richard Smith	02/03
		Lionel Corno	02/03
		Raymond Guilbeault	02/12
		Lionel Houle	02/16
		Gerard Poitras	02/24
		Robert Sargent	03/03
		Roland Lesmerises	03/06
		Richard Horymski	03/15
		Mahlon Davis	03/20
		Edward Driscoll	04/14
		Eugene Clark	04/26
		Charles Ryan	05/02
		Joseph Osman	05/06
		Anthony Foye	05/08
		Albert Knowlton	05/14
		Clifford Griffin	05/23
		Craig Devine	06/06
		John Westover	06/13
		Joseph Luicha	06/15
		Shirley Greenwood	06/30

Scholarships

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Army captain who served five years in Vietnam. He had a life-long commitment to education and was involved with local high school sports much of his life.

Natalie Fogarty, Mr. Fogarty's widow, said "Our family is so pleased to be able to "give back" in some measure to the staff of the Veterans Home. We know they all give far more than their job requires on a daily basis."

In three years since the program's inception, 10 individuals with various ties to the Home have received a total of \$5,900 in educational aid.

The program is administered by the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation. The LRSF web site is www.lrscholarship.org, and it can be contacted by email at scholarship@metrocast.net or at 603-527-3533.