

The Veterans Voice



Newsletter of the New Hampshire Veterans Home, Summer 2014

Commandant's Report

Margaret "Peggy" LaBrecque



Changing of the guard

Some recent retirements and departures have put familiar faces into new roles here at the New Hampshire Veterans Home and left us busily searching for top-notch replacements.

Michelle Pelletier has been named our new Director of Resident Care Services, ably filling the void left by the retirement in April of longtime Nursing Director Anne Howe. Michelle, who has been at NHVH since 2005, has more than 15 years of diversified nursing experience in positions of increasing responsibility. She's pursued advanced education and certifications, and recently completed a master's degree in nursing program through Walden University of Minnesota.

Most recently, she was assistant director of nursing and program manager for the Life Enhancement Dementia units, and served as the clinical point person during the Veterans Administration's annual survey of our facility. Michelle is married with two young sons and lives in Laconia.

Michelle impressed the interview committee with her clear views about what needs to be accomplished to move the Veterans Home forward into a new, increasingly complex era of resident care, and how to engage nursing staff and others in that process.

Her role is one of the most vital: the direct-care staff is the very heart and soul of serving our veteran population.

I'm looking forward to working with her in her new role – and helping find a great assistant director.

And we're also searching for a key administrator to fill the shoes of Melissa Milione, who left in mid-June to move to Florida with her newly retired husband.

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Six with NHVH ties awarded Fogarty Memorial Scholarships

Six individuals with various ties to the New Hampshire Veterans Home received a total of \$2,000 in scholarships from a new program endowed by the family of the late Daniel "Chuck" Fogarty of Laconia, who passed away at the Home in July, 2013.

The family directed all of the memorial gifts received in honor of Mr. Fogarty, a widely known insurance agent and financial consultant in the Laconia area, into a permanent fund to support a scholarship program for the children and grandchildren of active employees of the New Hampshire Veterans Home.

Mr. Fogarty, a major college athlete and



D.C. Fogarty

Army captain who served five years in Vietnam, also was involved with local high school sports and was known to many as "Coach" during his two years here. He had a life-long commitment to education. The winners for the initial year of the program are:

- Taylor M. Clark of Gilmanton, a 2011 graduate of Sant Bani School in Sanbornton, who did an internship at NHVH, to study occupational therapy at River Valley Community College.
- Elizabeth M. Gagnon of Belmont, a 2012 graduate of Belmont High School,

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MASTER NURSES — Karen Norris, left, assistant nurse manager on LEDU-1, and Michelle Pelletier, right, newly named as director of resident care services, donned their academic robes for a portrait with Anne Howe, center, recently retired director of resident care services, who served as preceptor for both in their recently completed master's degree programs from Walden University in Minnesota.

New members for NHVH Board

There will be a number of new faces on the New Hampshire Veterans Home Board of Managers for 2014-2015 as the new department commanders of several major veterans organizations come on board.

Joining the Board as of July 1 were Robert Dionne,

American Legion; Gerard R. "Gerry" Bosse, Disabled American Veterans and Mark T. McCabe, Veterans of Foreign Wars. Madeline R.

Dreusicke, representing the VFW auxiliary, joined the Board at the March meeting.

Continuing their service to the Home are Board

Chairman Robert J. Wyman, American Legion; Junious B. Owens, Board secretary, Disabled American Veterans; Paul J. Lloyd, Veterans of Foreign Wars; Richard L. Murphy, Marine Corps League; and Raymond J. Goulet Jr., Vietnam Veterans of America.



NEW RESIDENT COUNCIL OFFICERS — The Resident Council, which gives NHVH residents a voice in suggesting improvements and helps the administration provide better programs, surroundings, and services, elected new officers for 2014-2015 in June. They are, from left, Barbara Fay, sergeant-at-arms; Ron Barcomb, president; Bill Bertholdt, first vice president; Pat Ramey, second vice president; and David Clark, chaplain.

Scholarships

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whose mother, April Gagnon, is an LNA. She is studying elementary education at Plymouth State University.

- Stacey E. Gray of Belmont, a 2005 graduate of Belmont High School who has worked summers at NHVH, studying nursing at Rivier College.
- Shayanne L. Labrecque of Laconia, a 2014 graduate of Laconia High School, whose mother Dorothy Labrecque is a nurse at NHVH. She will study journalism at the New Hampshire Technical Institute.
- Julia N. Lanni of New Hampton, a 2014 graduate of New Hampton School, whose mother Kim Lanni is an NHVH nurse. She'll study psychology at Wake Forest University.
- Scott M. Magoon Jr., a 2014 graduate of Winnisquam Regional High School, whose mother Susan Magoon is an LNA at NHVH. He'll study automotive technology at Lakes Region Community College.

All but one of the winners also qualified for awards from other programs administered by the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation.

The Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation, PO Box 7312, Gilford NH 03247, is administering the program.

Welcome to NHVH

Name	Residence	Admit Date	Name	Residence	Admit Date
Ronald Fennell	Salem	01/02/2014	Fernand Gamelin	Manchester	04/02/2014
Rufus McFarland	Laconia	01/07/2014	Francis Madden	Litchfield	04/03/2014
William Kuhlman	Concord	01/14/2014	Gerard Poitras	Nashua	04/10/2014
Richard Renoe	Alexandria	01/16/2014	Robert Hinckley	Keene	04/17/2014
Gerard Belanger	Hudson	01/22/2014	Clarence Croft	Epsom	04/24/2014
Richard Springer	Claremont	01/23/2014	Joseph Barlow	Derry	05/01/2014
Norman Dahl	Manchester	01/30/2014	Arthur Olson	Bow	05/14/2014
Tharsile Lessard	Nashua	02/06/2014	Adrien Mailhot	Andover	05/15/2014
Robert Beaudoin	Nashua	02/12/2014	Arne Peterson	Manchester	05/21/2014
Philip McCarthy	Franklin	02/18/2014	Roger Nelson	Newport	05/22/2014
Harold King	Hollis	02/20/2014	Louis Peters	Center Barnstead	05/29/2014
John Hubbard	Durham	02/27/2014	Marshall Nichols	Littleton	06/03/2014
William Dubois	Manchester	03/05/2014	Ellsworth Vadney	Manchester	06/05/2014
Gary Simard	Milford	03/13/2014	Gerald Soucy	Manchester	06/12/2014
Clifford LeBlanc	Hollis	03/19/2014	Winfred Sargent	Farmington	06/19/2014
William Bertholdt	Gilford	03/20/2014	Charles Leavitt	Glen	06/25/2014
Joseph Osman	Deerfield	03/26/2014	Benjamin Jacobs	Meredith	06/26/2014
Allan MacDougall	Penacook	03/27/2014			

Final Salutes

Name	Residence	Death Date
Dolores Cunningham	Belmont	01/01/2014
Elizabeth Bissonnette	Concord	01/16/2014
Richard Lemay	Laconia	02/16/2014
Donald Howarth	Derry	02/20/2014
Maryjane Rosenqvist	North Hampton	02/23/2014
Thomas Shiveley	Concord	02/25/2014
Adrian Culveyhouse	Bedford	03/03/2014
Richard Renoe	Alexandria	03/15/2014
Norman Wardman	Milford	03/26/2014
Bernard Little	Laconia	04/03/2014
Donald Evans	Laconia	04/18/2014
John Olyarchik	Warner	04/23/2014
Alphonse Beale	Belmont	04/26/2014
Harleen Samaha	Meredith	05/10/2014
John Bixby	Rumney	05/11/2014
Albert Riel	Loudon	05/22/2014
Robert Higgins	Merrimack	06/03/2014

A Peek INTO The Past



Historic item emerges from Veterans Home closet

A small piece of history turned up in a closet at NHVH this spring, with the discovery of an antique stereoscope and collection of about 300 cards documenting life on the battlefields of World War I.

The items dated back to the early 1920s, a time when commercial radio broadcasting was just getting started, and before movies had sound, so an evening with the stereoscope – sort of an early adult version of the little Viewmaster stereo viewer most people are familiar with – was still a popular form of parlor entertainment for entire families.

There were nearly 300 stereo cards in the “World War through the Stereoscope, Vols. 1-6” from the Keystone View Co., one of the top publishers of stereoscope materials of the day. Some, like the one accompanying this article, showed living conditions in the military camps of the



The Underwood & Underwood stereoscope found with the trove of cards deep in a closet in the Tarr South administrative offices gave its user a 3-D view of the battlefields and military camps of World War I.

era. Others showed the grim aftermath of battles.

Where the items came from and how long they’ve been at the Home is anybody’s guess.

They were found buried deep in a closet in the Tarr South administration wing. But even though the home celebrates its 125th year in 2015, Tarr wasn’t built until the 1990s.

The Keystone Company has been out of business for many years, but the curator of a California photography museum that holds the company’s stereo archives said the 300-card set found at NHVH was relatively rare.

Most often, the cards were purchased in sets of 100.

Given the material’s historical value, Commandant Peggy LaBrecque wanted it in a place where it would best serve the people of New Hampshire, so it was gifted to the historical collections of the New Hampshire State Library.

Commandant

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Melissa had been at NHVH since 2006, and her most recent position was Director of Administrative Services, a big role encompassing supervision of most of the support and non-clinical functions around the facility. Before that she was Director of Human Resources.

However much things may change, though, our mission here endures: to provide high quality, professional care to the elderly and disabled veterans who have given so much of themselves for our Country.

Peggy LaBrecque



TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME — Nearly two dozen residents of the New Hampshire Veterans Home got to go see the Boston Red Sox beat the Chicago White Sox in a ninth-inning walkoff thriller at Fenway Park July 10. Special thanks go to the major sponsors of the trip: Disabled American Veterans, Squamscott Chapter 13; American Legion Guyer-Carignan Post 22 of Lebanon, and Military Order of the Purple Heart – Byron B. Buckingham Chapter 804.



New Hampshire Veterans Home

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Return Service Requested

New Hampshire Veterans Home Annual Classic Cruise night

Thursday, August 7, 2014

Rain date: Thursday, August 14

Live Entertainment by the Bel Airs
Light Refreshments available
50/50 raffle for NHVH
Resident Benefit Fund

Enjoy classics from the
Golden Age of Horsepower

6-8 p.m. at the Home,
139 Winter Street, Tilton, NH
Free Admission, No Entry Fee;
Registration 5-6 p.m.
at the Pavillion

For more information, call Maureen Campbell,
527-4889; Jon Bossey, 527-4452,
or Christine Garner, 527-4815

Directions: www.nh.gov/veterans



The New Hampshire Veterans Home and grounds are smoke-free

