



THE NVH OBSERVER

N O R F O L K V E T E R A N S H O M E

BUSINESS NAME

From The Desk of Josh Stafursky NVH Administrator

**GOVERNOR:
JIM PILLEN**

**NEBRASKA
DEPT. OF VETERANS'
AFFAIRS DIRECTOR:
JOHN HILGERT**

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STATE OF NEBRASKA VISION:
GROW NEBRASKA

STATE OF NEBRASKA — MISSION:
CREATE OPPORTUNITY THROUGH MORE
EFFECTIVE, MORE
EFFICIENT,
AND CUSTOMER FOCUSED
STATE GOVERNMENT

Greetings,

The New Year is upon us already. It seems like 2024 was a whirlwind here at NVH, and I expect 2025 will bring more of the same. I hope everyone was able to spend meaningful time with family and loved ones during the recent holidays, and are rested, refreshed, and prepared for a busy year.

So far Mother Nature has eased us into winter, and let's hope that trend continues. The winter weather in 2024 (and the stormy spring and summer weather) put a damper on some of the great activities we had planned. Here's to hoping 2025 is a little calmer on that front.

As with each new year, our team is already focusing on and preparing for our annual USVA survey, which typically occurs in March. Mock survey last month identified several areas where we can improve. It served as a great opportunity to see where we need to focus to ensure a successful annual USVA survey.

While we have been fortunate to see a significant decline in the number of COVID cases and the severity of the symptoms, we've recently been reminded that other, more "traditional" illness can still rear its head and cause disruption to our daily lives here at NVH. I want stress the importance – to both teammates and members – of always practicing good hand hygiene and following the recommendations of our infection control team. Doing so helps us keep our facility "open" for the types of fulfilling activities we want to promote, such as group activities, outings and communal dining. Social engagement is such an important part of life at NVH, and everything we can do to keep everyone healthy, safe, and active will allow us to continue supporting a fulfilling experience for everyone.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me or any other member of the NVH team at any time if you have questions, concerns, or ideas you would like to share with us. By working together toward a common goal, we can make 2025 a great year at NVH!

Sincerely,

Josh Stafursky, Administrator

HOME HAPPENINGS



The Norfolk American Legion Riders strolled throughout the facility handing out cards and goodies to the members.

Pictured below are members receiving their gifts.



HOME HAPPENINGS



Yanks Who Gave program sponsored by the Nebraska Department American Legion Family was held on Friday, Dec. 13th. Santa and Mrs. Claus made an appearance along with one of their helper elves. Members enjoyed music and refreshments following the program.



Interested in Volunteer Opportunities at NVH?

Contact Mary at (402) 370-3102

Email: mary.swensen@nebraska.gov

HOME HAPPENINGS

Thank You: So many people and organizations generously provided gifts, cards, gift baskets, flowers, blankets, snacks, decorations, and monetary donations to show their support of our members over the holiday season. We appreciate that these caring individuals and groups communicated their love and support of those who reside at Norfolk Veterans' Home during the holiday season. We are blessed beyond measure!

National Activity Professionals

Week: Is January 21st - 27th, 2025. This week is created to give honor and recognition to those dedicated individuals who contribute so significantly to the quality of life to those they serve. Their creativity and energy make life much more enjoyable to those to reside here at the Veterans' Home. We want to extend our appreciation and gratitude to the staff of the Activities Department here at the Veterans' Home. When you see these ladies during this special week, say "Thanks" to (pictured left to right) Jasmine Machacek, Mary Swensen, Stephanie Eckert, DeAnn Stodola, Michelle Schommer, and MaKayla Ottis.



Below: NVH teammates got in the holiday spirit by wearing ugly sweaters. Members voted the top three favorite sweaters.

First place (left to right) went to Karla Zechmann second to Stephanie Eckert and third to Elaine Wessendorf. Congratulations ladies, and thank you to everyone who participated. We are looking forward to doing this again next year.



HOME HAPPENINGS CONTINUED

Public Servants were encouraged to decorate windows and then members got to vote for their top two favorite. The top two winners were windows decorated by Makayla Ottis in the Activity Dept. and the other window decorated by Lizzy Ruitenbergh and John Ludemann in the RT Department. Congratulations to the winners and everyone who participated. It was fun to see all the different ideas and everyone's creativity.



< Top two favorites >



In Remembrance of Those Members Who Have Passed.

No person was ever honored for what they received. Honor has been the reward for what they gave. ~Calvin Coolidge

George Harrison
U.S. Navy Veteran

Guy Lewis
U.S. Navy Veteran

Alma "Marlene" Walker
Spouse of a U.S. Army Veteran

Phyllis Papstein
Spouse of a U.S. Navy Veteran



RED HAT CHRISTMAS SOCIAL



This event was sponsored by the Department American Legion Auxiliary. Everyone had a great time!



SALUTE OUR NEW MEMBERS

NORFOLK VETERANS HOME WELCOMES YOU

Walter M.

U..S. Navy Veteran

Frances F.

Spouse of a U..S. Army Veteran

Robert “Bob” M.

U.S. Navy Veteran

Jerome N.

U.S. Navy Veteran

Norfolk Veterans Home Gift Cards

**Available in any amount from
\$1 to \$25**

May be used to purchase any item sold in the Canteen including meal tickets

**Available for staff & members
convenience**

Meal tickets can be purchased in the canteen or NVH Accounting Window and are now \$5.00 per ticket. *note these meal tickets expire 30 days after date of purchase.

NEW NVH EMPLOYEES



Crystal Schaben
Staff Care Tech II



Amber Espejo
Staff Care Tech II



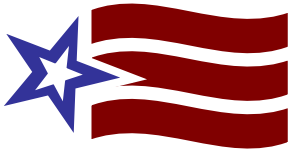
Conrad Nelson
IT Business System Analyst

Please welcome the following new staff to the Norfolk Veterans' Home.

WELCOME



NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS
EOE/AA/ADA
Norfolk Veterans Home
600 E. Benjamin Ave.
Norfolk, NE 68701
Phone: (402) 370-3330



Norfolk Veterans Home

Bits & Pieces

CENSUS
140

Special Occasion
Reservations:
Call Activities @ (402) 370-
3110

HAPPY NEW YEAR
2025!

Norfolk Veterans' Home Observer is published monthly
for the members, families, staff and other interested parties.

**THE NORFOLK VETERANS HOME IS A STATE-OPERATED
FACILITY PROVIDING LONG TERM CARE FOR ELIGIBLE
NEBRASKA VETERANS, THEIR SPOUSES AND GOLD STAR
PARENTS.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING
ADMISSION, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR
LOCAL COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER OR
DODIE FINKHAUS @ (402)370-3109**

