



# 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**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

HOME HAPPENINGS	2-5
IN REMEMBRANCE	6
HOLIDAY REMINDER	6
SALUTE TO OUR NEW MEMBERS	7
NEW STAFF	7
BITS AND PIECES	8

STATE OF NEBRASKA VISION:  
GROW NEBRASKA

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

Greetings,

I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends. Mother Nature certainly made her presence known across much of the state during the holiday!

As we head into December, we have many more opportunities at NVH to celebrate the holiday season. In addition to the annual "Yanks Who Gave" event on December 12, there are a variety of other holiday themed activities throughout the month, including Christmas light viewing, gift giving, music, and, of course, food.

As we think about all the wonderful events scheduled for December, it's also important to reflect on some significant military events that have helped shape our country as we know it today. The stark contrast between the warmth of holiday traditions and the cold reality of conflict offers a profound perspective on the privileges we enjoy today.

From the pivotal late December crossing of the icy Delaware River in 1776 to the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, the final month of the year has frequently tested the resolve of soldiers who were far from home fighting in conditions that made the distance from their loved ones even more challenging. For those defending our nation, the "holiday season" has not always been defined by festive meals or warm fires, but by survival and the camaraderie of their fellow soldiers. Their endurance and commitment during these pivotal times highlight the immense physical and emotional toll paid to secure the liberties of future generations.

Reflecting on these historic events creates a deeper sense of gratitude for the time we spend with our families during the holidays. The empty chairs at dinner tables in the past paved the way for the full tables we enjoy today. When we gather with loved ones, we are exercising the very freedom that millions of service members (including many who call NVH home today) fought to preserve during their own lonely Decembers. Understanding this transforms our holiday celebrations from simple routines into acts of remembrance, urging us to cherish every moment of peace and togetherness as a hard-won gift.

Best Wishes,

Josh Stafursky, Administrator

## HOME HAPPENINGS



**Veterans' Dollar Days** took place on Thursday, November 6, 2025.

The American Legion Family passed out cards, and refreshments were provided by ALA Members from District 2,3, and 7.

We extend our sincere thanks to the Department American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) for generously sponsoring this event.





## HOME HAPPENINGS CONTINUED



**Veterans Day Program**  
was held on Tuesday, Nov.  
11th.



Thank you to the Norfolk American Legion and American Legion Family with the help of the Norfolk Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) and Norfolk Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary (VFWA.) for making the program possible.





## HOME HAPPENINGS



The Norfolk Middle School Choir performed for the members on Veterans Day. They also took time to play bingo with the members.



Merrymakers present music with DeAndre Jones.



Interested in Volunteer Opportunities at NVH?  
Contact Mary at (402) 370-3102  
Email: [mary.swensen@nebraska.gov](mailto:mary.swensen@nebraska.gov)



## HOME HAPPENINGS CONTINUED



Pet Visits with the Northeast Community College (NECC) Vet Tech Club.



## 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

**Jane "Betty" Cunningham**  
Spouse of a U.S. Navy Veteran

**Albin Bernt**  
U.S. Army Veteran

**Leland Wilson**  
U.S. Air Force Veteran



### HOLIDAY REMINDER

With the **Christmas gift giving** season upon us we want to remind and encourage everyone that all member items must be identified and inventoried by Member Services staff before being given to the member.

New items brought to the facility after admission are to be labeled and reported to Member Services for inclusion on the member inventory sheet.

New clothing items should be labeled with a laundry pen prior to sending to laundry for permanent labeling.

Family members are encouraged to place their member's items in a bag labeled with the member's name. This may be left at the front desk and they will ensure they get taken to laundry.

Family members who know prior to Christmas that new clothing items are the appropriate size, color, etc., may bring the items in early to be marked.

Any gifts that include electrical cords, must be assessed by maintenance prior to being plugged in and also make sure member services are notified so they can be inventoried and labeled.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Wishing you all a very *Merry Christmas!*

# SALUTE OUR NEW MEMBERS

NORFOLK VETERANS HOME WELCOMES YOU

**Gary W.**

U.S. Air Force Veteran

**Larry B.**

U.S. Army Veteran

**Rodney M.**

U.S. Army Veteran

## NEW NVH EMPLOYEES



**Karen G. Martinez Vite**  
Food Service Assistant



**Laura Nockels**  
Food Service Cook



**Tyler Uhing**  
Food Service Assistant



**Ciera Stuart**  
Staff Care Tech II

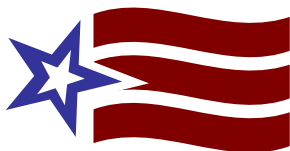
**WELCOME**





**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  
138

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



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**

