

To honor all
who stand up
and speak out
for freedom &
liberty!



Liberty Express

February 2022

Central Nebraska Veterans' Home, 4510 E. 56th St., Kearney, NE 68847 (308) 865-6000

Find Fun in February!

-Nancy Klimek, Activity Manager

The month of February is jam packed with special holidays and events, which will be reflected in the facility activity calendar.

Finally, we have "President's Day" in February, so we are planning a "Cheers to our American Presidents" Happy Hour on Tuesday, February 22nd at 2:30 p.m. in Freedom Hall. Come and find out the favorite beverages of various Presidents, and enjoying one of your own!



The month kicks off with the "Chinese New Year" on February 1st. It is the "Year of the Tiger" and the American Legion Auxiliary will be sponsoring a bingo party with special prizes, as well as a viewing of the "Lion Dance" on the home theatre system in Freedom Hall at 2 p.m.

The *Winter Olympics* will be from February 4th—20th, so we can all cheer on our U.S.A. athletes competing in various sporting events. Join us for a special *Winter Olympics party on February 8th at 2 p.m.* in Freedom Hall. Members are also encouraged to tune in to watch the competitions on T.V. each day.

One of the most loved holidays in February is *Valentine's Day*, and Members will "feel the love" of everyone through the hundreds of valentines that school children, organizations, businesses, churches, and individuals send through the "Valentines for Veterans" campaign. In addition, there will be several special parties implemented:

• *Sunday, February 13th—2 p.m.*—V.F.W./Military Order of Cooties volunteers will be sponsoring a *Valentine Party and Gift Distribution* in each Neighborhood. (The Superbowl also kicks off this evening!)

• *Monday, February 14th—2:30 p.m.*—*Valentine's Day Bingo & Ice Cream Social*—Freedom Hall—sponsored by the District 10 American Legion & Auxiliary



We are in the process of compiling and analyzing all of the responses we received on our *Recreation Department's Member Survey*, and appreciate that Members took the time to fill them out and give input into the recreational programming and leisure interests that they'd find meaningful, interesting and fun. You will likely notice that the Activity Specialists are already *adding some fun things to your Neighborhood Activity calendars*, as well as following up with some individuals on gathering additional information. This is your Home, and our goal is to provide you with many opportunities to *live your life to the fullest degree possible* (in spite of this ongoing Pandemic) every single day!

In addition to participating in many of these activities, we hope that the month of February inspires each person to practice "loving kindness" to one another. This can be defined as being warmhearted, considerate, humane, tender, affectionate and empathetic as we interact with other Members, teammates, volunteers, families, and all with whom we have contact. Let's not limit this to just the Valentine's Day holiday, but strive to practice it throughout the year. As the saying goes, "In A World Where You Can Be Anything, Be Kind!"

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GOVERNOR
PETE RICKETTS

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS DIRECTOR
JOHN HILGERT

CENTRAL NE VETERANS' HOME INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR
MATT BAUMAN

Administration Notes

NEW OPPORTUNITIES: DONATIONS SHOWING THE LOVE



The American Legion Auxiliary Dept. of Nebraska continues to show their love for our members. They recently donated money towards additional craft projects for members at Central Nebraska Veterans' Home. Staff in the Crafts Department have selected new craft projects for members to choose from, such as the tie pillow kits (below) and the new rock polishing equipment (above) that members are placing their favorite rocks in to see how they will turn out. Many thanks for this donation and the many others that create new opportunities for our members!



**MUCH
APPRECIATED!**

Member of the Month: Murray “Dean” Meyer

Dean was selected “Member of the Month” by the C.N.V.H. Member Council. He was born in Campbell and was raised there with 13 siblings. Dean served as a Sergeant in the U.S. Army during the Korean War as a medic on the front line, including on Pork Chop Hill. He received the Combat Medical Badge, 2 Bronze Stars, the Korean Service Medal, and the United Nations Medal.



Upon returning from the war, he worked as a farmer and married Verna. They raised four children (they currently have 8 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren!). They moved to Hastings where he owned his own painting business called “Dean’s Painting Service”.

Dean was very active in the Presbyterian Church, serving in many different aspects there. His favorite hobbies included hunting, riding horses, gardening, camping, fishing, boating (he used to build his own boats), water skiing, listening to music, concerts, watching television, reading the paper, and telling jokes. He loved going dancing with his wife every Friday night. Dean is also a member of the American Legion and V.F.W.

When asked what his favorite food was, Dean replied, “My wife Verna’s fried chicken!”

Dean and his wife Verna came to live at C.N.V.H. in September 2020 and he enjoys the sense of community at the Veterans’ Home and visiting with the other Members who reside here.

Congratulations, Dean, on being selected “Member of the Month”!



In Memoriam

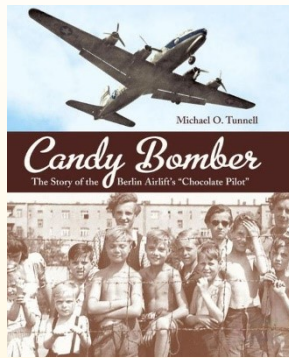
**Vivian Parr
Roger Kranich**



New Year's Eve Party Featured Exhibition Dancing, Pizza, and Bubbly Beverages!



Members Learn About the “Berlin Candy Bomber”



Members received a “parachute” (aka a white face mask) with a bag full of candy, as well as candy bars with each winning bingo (utilizing candy donated by many generous donors over the holidays). The ALA also provided monetary coupons for the winners!



Members were inspired by the real life story about how a U.S. Air Force pilot, Col. Gail S. Halvorsen, in 1948 was assigned to the Berlin Airlift to deliver much-needed food, fuel and supplies to the Berliners suffering after WWII.

After one of his flights, he saw children gathered by the barbed wire fence and he went to speak to them. They expressed their gratitude for the food that was being dropped, and he reached in his pocket and found just 2 sticks of gum, which he handed to them to share amongst themselves. They were so delighted that he promised he'd try to gather some candy bars from his fellow airmen's rations, and parachute them to the kids as well. Word quickly spread about the “Berlin Candy Bomber”, which eventually resulted in 23 tons of candy being donated for this purpose!!!



“The Chengs” Share Their Musical Talent!



Members enjoyed a live musical performance that included guessing the titles of songs from various TV eras.

Special thanks to the AL Auxiliary for sponsoring this concert!



Memorial Bingo In Honor Of Dedicated Volunteer



George Cyboron (right) was a dedicated volunteer at the Veterans' Home for many years through his involvement in the American Legion and D.A.V.

George became Commander of the American Legion Post 201 – Boelus, Nebraska, American Legion Department of Nebraska Commander (2011-2012), and was a lifetime member of D.A.V. Chapter 41 of Broken Bow.

When he passed away, his family designated memorial money to provide a Memorial Bingo at the Central Nebraska Veterans' Home in his honor. Members enjoyed participating in this activity, were thrilled with the generous prize coupons, and gave a big "thumbs up" before playing Black-out for the grand prize money. The Battlegrind volunteers assisted with the event.



Roaring Into 2022 With a Speakeasy Party!



Members enjoyed attending a “Roaring 20’s Speakeasy” Party where they won prizes while playing casino style games, drank delicious beverages served by staff and volunteers dressed in 20’s attire, almost got “busted” by a “cop” (who they successfully convinced to join in the revelries), and watched a great performance of several “torch songs” via a Zoom call on the home theatre system! Special thanks to the volunteers who assisted with this event, and the American Legion Auxiliary for providing the monetary prizes!



CNVH Member Council Honors:

Murray “Dean” Meyer

Member of the Month



CNVH Member Council Honors:

Karry Johns

Employee of the Month



Mail To:



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