



THE NVH OBSERVER

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

August 2026
Volume 22
Issue # 8

From The Desk of Josh Stafursky NVH Administrator

Greetings,

July was an exciting month at the Norfolk Veterans' Home, highlighted by a visit from Gov. Jim Pillen to personally honor NVH's 13 Korean War era members.

The presentation was part of the state's ongoing Korean War Veteran Recognition program. With approximately 2,400 Korean War era veterans currently living across Nebraska, the primary goal of this statewide initiative is to locate and personally recognize as many of these heroes as possible through special in-person presentations throughout 2026. To fully appreciate their sacrifices, it is helpful to reflect briefly on the conflict itself. The Korean War began on June 25, 1950, when North Korean forces invaded South Korea, prompting a swift response from the United States and the United Nations to defend freedom and halt the spread of communism. U.S. troops fought valiantly through brutal conditions on the Korean Peninsula for three years until an armistice was signed on July 27, 1953.

The presentation was an emotional one for the members involved, but also for generations of family members who were able to attend to see their loved ones recognized. The governor spent time speaking and taking photos with everyone in attendance, making the event even more memorable.

In addition to Gov. Pillen's visit, July was a busy month at NVH. Members enjoyed a calendar filled with local summer traditions, including the county fair, rodeo, stock car races, and a wide variety of engaging activities designed to keep our veterans active and connected to the community.

There's no slowing down in August. For example, on Friday, August 7, members will take a special trip to Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha to watch practices and preparations for the main air show event scheduled for August 8-9. This invitation-only opportunity allows our veterans to experience all the excitement of the preparations while avoiding the heavy traffic, massive crowds, and intense summer heat that typically accompany the actual weekend performances.

I hope everyone has a wonderful August!

Sincerely,

Josh Stafursky, 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

HOME HAPPENINGS



HOME HAPPENINGS

Drive around parade



Red, White, and Wheels Parade

On July 3, community individuals and organizations drove around the outside of the building and did a mini parade. After the parade, members had pie and ice cream in celebration of the 250th Celebration at the Norfolk Veterans' Home!



Madison County Fair Results

Carl B. submitted four entries to the Madison County Fair this year and received all superior. Here he is pictured with his entries.



HOME HAPPENINGS CONTINUED

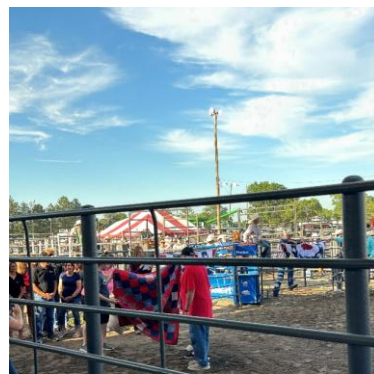


Music Programs at NVH

Top Left: Happy Accordions

Top Right: Battle Creek Brass

Bottom Left: Rich Franchini



Madison County Fair and Rodeo

Members enjoyed a nice day by going around the county fair in the morning, as well as enjoying the rodeo in the evening. Food provided was sponsored by NE Dept. ALA

Interested in Volunteer Opportunities at NVH?

Contact Brooke at (402)370-3102

E-mail: brooke.hilpipre@nebraska.gov

In Remembrance of Those Members Who Have Passed.

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

Howard Pelc

U.S. Army Veteran

Jacob “Jack” Weber

U.S. Army Veteran

Timothy “Tim” Rollman

U.S. Army Veteran



EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER



DJ Pinney, State Veterans Service Officer, was selected as Employee of the Quarter. DJ has demonstrated the tremendous impact of integrating Veterans' Services within the Norfolk Veterans' Home. Since stepping into his role, he has become a dedicated advocate for our members and their families, helping ensure veterans receive the benefits they have earned, often speaking on their behalf when they could not do so themselves.

During the third quarter of FY26, DJ's efforts resulted in 24 benefit decisions, generating \$16,609 in cumulative monthly payments and \$83,808 in retroactive payments, contributing to a total of \$210,511 in retroactive benefits secured for our veterans.

Congratulations, DJ, and thank you for your outstanding commitment to serving Nebraska's veterans and their families!

SALUTE OUR NEW MEMBERS

NORFOLK VETERANS HOME WELCOMES YOU

Rowan B.
U.S. Army Veteran

Richard W.
U.S. Army 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



Darci Blohm
Staff Care Tech II



Torie Premer
LPN



Claire Lampert
Staff Care Tech II



Camryn Sohler
Food Service Assistant



Mary Pickinpaugh
Staff Care Tech II



Paloma Ramirez
Staff Care Tech II



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

145

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**

