



THE NVH OBSERVER

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

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

From The Desk of Jerry Eisenhower, NVH Administrator

Greetings,

Last month I wrote regarding the dedication of "Our Canteen Lady" and the efforts of several North Platte volunteers who greeted soldiers on their way to deployment during WWII. A lesser known fact that was discovered as a result of research on the North Platte canteen was that from June 9, 1944 to March 1, 1946, the women of the Chicago and Northwestern Women's Club served 70,200 men and women of our fighting forces at the Norfolk Canteen. The women met every train that came through the Chicago and Northwestern Depot from 2:30 a.m. to mid-afternoon, serving delicious hot, homemade meals to about 3,400 soldiers each month. The Canteen also served 52,500 civilians to raise funds for the Canteen. This all-volunteer effort was supported by local civic and church groups, lodges, and individual donors.

The faithful dedication and generosity of the women of both the Norfolk and North Platte Canteens brought joy and hope during the dark years of war. The story of this community outpouring of kindness to our nation's soldiers stands out as one of the greatest all-volunteer achievements in our nation's modern history.

Artist Sondra Jonson modeled the sculpture from photographs of the actual women who served at the canteen. The bronze Canteen Lady is seen on her way to meet a troop train, with a warm smile, a basket full of treats and a heart full of patriotic pride.

On August 17, Sondra Jonson was joined by Governor Pete Ricketts, Senator Mike Flood, NDVA Director John Hilgert, Norfolk Mayor Josh Moening and Angie Stenger, Sculpture Walk Committee Chair to formally dedicate "Our Canteen Lady" and she has now become a permanent fixture in Heroes Park for all to see. We are grateful to Larry & Sherry Dinkel for spearheading the Canteen Lady Campaign.

The dedication also included special recognition for the Avenue of Flags that Thomas Landkamer and a group of volunteers spearheaded. This tribute expresses Thomas's love of country and a huge thank you goes out to the donors who gave to this project so it can become a permanent scene for all patriotic occasions.

Both of these projects once again show the generosity, respect and reverence individuals in Northeast Nebraska have for our veterans.

Sincerely,

Jerry Eisenhower
Administrator

GOVERNOR:
PETE RICKETTS

**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

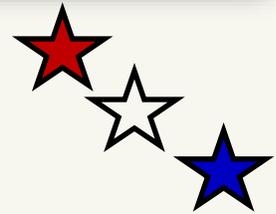
HOME HAPPENINGS



Above: Governor Pete Ricketts and Sondra Jonson pose with the Canteen Lady during the Dedication Ceremony on Tuesday, August 17, 2021.



Patriot Flag Exchange



IN REMEMBRANCE

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

Howard Timmerman
U.S. Army Veteran

Ronald Veskrna
U.S. Army Veteran



NEW TEAMMATES



Mariah Kramer
RN



Keshia Shaw
Staff Care Tech II



Brennah Farley
Staff Care Tech II



Emily Bolz
Staff Care Tech II



Bailee Gillespie
Staff Care Tech II



Ashley Sterns
Staff Care Tech II



Guadalupe Curiel
Staff Care Tech II



Scott Behnk
Staff Care Tech II



RoJean Ahlers
LPN



Ingrid Sanchez
Food Service Assistant



Alan Hamm
Maintenance Specialist



Macy Rowley
Food Service Assistant



Isai Garcia
Food Service Assistant

MEMBERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS
Want to find out what's happening at the Norfolk Veterans' Home?

Go to the State Veterans' homes website at <https://veterans.nebraska.gov/homes>
 Here you will have access to the activity calendar and a multitude of other information regarding the State Veterans' Homes.



Bits & Pieces

CENSUS
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NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS
EOE/AA/ADA
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Norfolk Veterans Home

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.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING
ADMISSION, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR
LOCAL COUNTY SERVICE OFFICER OR
DODIE FINKHAUS @ (402)370-3109
COLLEEN BENSON @ (402) 370-3469**

