Volume 21 Issue 9 September 2025



### THE NVH OBSERVER

NORFOLK VETERANS HOME

#### **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,

Fall is a favorite time of the year for many, and as we inch towards the change in seasons those of you who are Nebraska Cornhusker fans already have something to cheer about. Many members at the Norfolk Veterans' Home follow the Nebraska football and volleyball teams and we couldn't ask for a better start to the seasons, with both teams undefeated!

As many of you have probably noticed, college volleyball is exploding in popularity and that's translated into good news for the many members who follow the sport. It seems you can't turn on the television without coming across two or three great matches almost every day. I have certainly seen many TVs in the facility tuned into volleyball already this year.

In addition to great sporting events, members enjoyed a variety of activities in August, including the annual Corn Auction, supper outings to communities across the northeast Nebraska area, and an array of music performances.

Many members enjoy spending time outdoors during the warm summer months, and I'm pleased to announce that they will soon have a dedicated seating area near the front entrance of the facility (to the left as you're facing the main entrance). Thanks to the generosity of the Norfolk Veterans' Home Foundation and its donors, construction is expected to start soon on this pergola-covered patio area where members and family can sit on benches or at tables and enjoy time together while watching the comings and goings along Benjamin Avenue.

Finally, I'd like to recognize and congratulate NVH Pharmacist Ellen Keck, who will be recognized in October by Gov. Jim Pillen for Excellence in Leadership at a ceremony at the Governor's Residence in Lincoln, along with other employees from across the state. Ellen's dedication to members here at NVH is unmatched and I can't think of a better representative of the wonderful work we do here.

I hope everyone enjoyed a great Labor Day holiday.

Sincerely,

Josh Stafursky, Administrator

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#### HOME HAPPENINGS

#### HEART" THE LUAU STYLE

Members and their spouses were invited to the Hawaiian Luau lunch and social on Wednesday, July 30th.

The "From the Heart" party is an every-otheryear event paid for by fundraisers that staff organize over the year. Thanks to the creativity of our staff and a few volunteers, the Activities room and pod dining rooms were transformed into a tropical beach theme.

Members enjoyed a surf and turf meal in their pod dining rooms, afterwards they were entertained in the Activities room by Bob Hupp.

Tropical refreshments were provided during the social time and served by staff and volunteers.

Members and their spouses took advantage of the photo booth, providing a lasting memento of a special day.

It is truly a pleasure to see the smiles on the faces of our Members and help make memories for them and their families. The title of the event says it all..."From the Heart".





Above: NVH Activity Department



#### HOME HAPPENINGS CONTINUED



As soon as you entered the lobby area you could feel the tropical vibes.



Dietary Supervisor, Jesse, grills up lunch.



Activity Supervisor, Stephanie, and Volunteer Coordinator. Mary, take a moment to pose for a picture.



Pod F dining room.



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### HOME HAPPENINGS



**Move & Smooth** is a new monthly activity that started in August through the collaboration of the activities and restorative therapy departments. It aims to get members moving while doing fun activities.

<u>Left:</u> Louise H. slides the solo cup across the table attempting to get it in the square on the table.

<u>Below:</u> Charles C. and Karen O. have a "speed race" with paper to see who can roll up the newspaper the fastest.



Pod B/C members had a **paint-ing party**!

Right: Mark S. and Lynn P. are working hard on their art work.



#### HOME HAPPENINGS CONTINUED





Above: Members shucked corn and then got to eat it later that day at the hamburger and sweet corn feed. Thank you to our Business Manager Angie Janssen for donating the corn and Department American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) for the rest of the meal.





Our annual **Corn Auction** was held on August 21st. Thank you to Blank Agency, Inc for coming to auction off the items.



Above: Brian Sparks helps Judy T. display the quilt she bid on and won. Members attending each got "points" to be able to bid on a variety of items. Thanks to all who joined in on the fun!

# 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

Willard Vyhlidal U.S. Army Veteran

**Donald "Don" Galusha**U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Linda Dahlkoetter Spouse of a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Richard Allen Louis
U.S. Air Force Veteran

Max Young U.S. Army Veteran

Wayne Seibert U.S. Army Veteran



## HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES WEEK

Healthcare Environmental Services Week is observed from September 14–20. The Norfolk Veterans Home proudly takes this opportunity to recognize the hardworking and dedicated Environmental Services (Housekeeping) staff who play a vital role in maintaining a clean, safe, and healing environment for our veterans'.

Often working behind the scenes, these professionals are the backbone of our facility's health and safety. From disinfecting rooms and common areas to ensuring infection prevention protocols are followed, the EVS team is essential to the well-being of our members, staff, and visitors.



Their commitment to excellence, especially in the face of ongoing health challenges, deserves our deepest gratitude and recognition. Every polished floor and sanitized surface is a testament to their pride in serving our veterans with the dignity and respect they deserve.

Thank you, NVH Housekeeping Team – your care makes all the difference.

# SALUTE OUR NEW MEMBERS

Ricky G.

U.S. Navy Veteran

Arnold "Gene" H.

U.S. Army Veteran

James R.

U.S. Navy Veteran

Leland W.

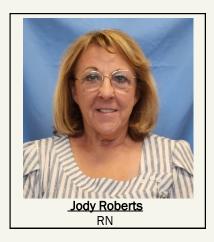
U.S. Air Force Veteran

### NEW NVH EMPLOYEES



Staff Care Tech II







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





#### NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

EOE/AA/ADA Norfolk Veterans Home 600 E. Benjamin Ave. Norfolk, NE 68701 Phone: (402) 370-3330

X

Norfolk Veterans Home

#### **Bits & Pieces**

CENSUS 135

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

