



# THE NVH OBSERVER

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

September 2026  
Volume 22  
Issue # 9

## From The Desk of Josh Stafursky NVH Administrator

Greetings,

September is here, and that means (hopefully) the ushering out of humidity and the ushering in of exciting Husker sports and other traditional fall activities at the Norfolk Veterans' Home.

We're excited for several events this month, including our Car Show on Sept. 2 in the north parking here at the facility. It's always exciting to see what vehicles show up and, most importantly, to listen to the memories those vehicles bring back for our members and loved ones. Of course, we're crossing our fingers for good weather so our members and guests can enjoy the live music, classic cars, and refreshments, but in the event of inclement weather, Sept. 3 has been designated as the "rain date."

In addition to lunch and supper outings throughout the month, we'll also have music sponsored by groups such as the Merrymakers. On Saturday, Sept. 19, members will take part in the annual Norfolk Lions Club parade, with lunch following at the VFW club. It's always wonderful to see the gratitude and recognition paid to our members by people of all ages as they take part in the parade.

As I prepare this letter every month, I'm always interested in looking for significant historical military events that took place during the month. With this year being our nation's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary, it's appropriate to go all the way back to the Revolutionary War to find September events that were critical in ensuring our freedom from the British Empire.

On September 23, 1779, Commodore John Paul Jones led the USS *Bonhomme Richard* to a legendary victory against the HMS *Serapis* off the coast of England, famously shouting, "I have not yet begun to fight!" when asked to surrender. Two years later, on September 5, 1781, the French fleet achieved a vital strategic success against the Royal Navy at the Battle of the Chesapeake. This naval victory effectively cut off British Gen. Cornwallis from naval support and resupply, directly enabling the decisive Franco-American Siege of Yorktown later that month.

I hope everyone has a wonderful and safe September!

Regards,

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



Casino outing to Harrah's in Columbus



### Below: Offutt Air show

NVH and ENVH members came together for an exciting day at the Offutt Air Show!

Members enjoyed the incredible aerial performances, connected with one another, and made lasting memories along the way. We're grateful to those who helped make the day so memorable!



## HOME HAPPENINGS CONTINUED



### Quilt of Valor and Supper Outing to Columbus

NVH member Dennis received a wonderful surprise during our annual evening with the Columbus Elks at the Elks Country Club!

Each year, the Columbus Elks invite our members for supper and surprise one of our members with a **Quilt of Valor**. This year, Dennis was the honored recipient. To make the evening much more special his two daughters were there to help surprise him!

Although the golf tournament was canceled due to weather, the evening was still filled with special moments, including a visit from Governor Jim Pillen as well as a special flyover.

We are grateful to the Columbus Elks for making this special tradition possible and for honoring Dennis with a well-deserved Quilt of Valor!



Interested in Volunteer Opportunities at NVH?

Contact Brooke at (402)370-3102

E-mail: [brooke.hilpipre@nebraska.gov](mailto: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

**Craig Umland**  
U.S. Army Veteran

**Donald Bazyn**  
U.S. Navy Veteran



## NVH CAR & MOTOR SHOW

# Norfolk Veterans' Home CAR & MOTOR SHOW



Scan QR  
code  
below for  
the NDVA  
Facebook  
page



In the event of inclement weather, updates will  
be shared on the Nebraska Department of  
Veterans' Affairs Facebook page by 3:00 PM. If  
there is any reason to change this activity,  
it will be rescheduled to  
Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> 6PM-7:30PM.

**Come listen to some live music at the Flag Plaza.  
Water and Lemonade will be available.**

**SEPTEMBER 2ND  
WEDNESDAY**

**6:00PM - 7:30PM  
NORTH PARKING LOT**



# SALUTE OUR NEW MEMBERS

NORFOLK VETERANS HOME WELCOMES YOU



**Mickey C.**  
U.S. Army Veteran

**John C.**  
U.S. Navy Veteran



## NEW NVH EMPLOYEES



**Jessica Wessel**  
RN



**Natalie Kruger**  
Staff Care Technician II



**Megan Carney**  
RN



**Kim Ponce**  
Staff Care Technician II



**Angie Gotschall**  
Staff Care Technician II



**Nadine Maruska**  
Staff Care Technician II



**Shanie Zessin**  
Staff Care Technician II

Please welcome our 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



*Norfolk Veterans Home*

Bits & Pieces

Census

144

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**

