

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



# Liberty Express

May 2024

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

## May A Month Filled with Meaningful Moments at CNVH -Jessica Modlin, Activity Manager

As the month of April comes to a close and we move into the month of May there are many activities that will be taking place at the facility.

**Thursday, May 9th** at 2:30 p.m. is a **Menymaker's Concert** with Mike McCracken in Freedom Hall.

**Monday, May 13th** at 2:30 p.m. is a special Mother's Day Bingo sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary.



Do you have a Talent you want to share? On **Tuesday, May 21st** we will be having our **Annual Variety Show** at 2:30 in Freedom Hall. If you have a talent you would like to share with others, it doesn't matter if it's singing, playing an instrument, telling jokes, dancing, tricks, etc.

If you are interested in being in the Talent Show please see your activity specialist. If you don't want to be in it please come to Freedom Hall at 2:30 p.m. and enjoy the show!

In the month of May we will have a special emphasis on paying tribute to our fallen veterans at the end of the month.

\*On **Friday May 24th** at 10:30 a.m. at the Central Nebraska Veterans'

Memorial here on campus. If there is inclement weather, the ceremony will be moved inside the facility to Freedom Hall.

\*On **Monday, May 27th** at 10:30 a.m. we will have a Memorial Day Ceremony in the Chapel honoring our members that have passed this last year.



**Poppy Day is Friday, May 24th, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.- ALA - In the Juliet Building Hearth**

Room, members and teammates will have the opportunity to obtain a poppy (donations appreciated).

**Please refer to your neighborhood calendars for activities taking place in your neighborhoods.**

*Please note, that location of activities may change depending on if there is a Covid outbreak status in the building. Posters will indicate any changes.*

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GOVERNOR  
**JIM PILLEN**

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS DIRECTOR  
**JOHN HILGERT**

CENTRAL NEBRASKA VETERANS' HOME ADMINISTRATOR  
**DORIN C. VAIPAN**



## Message from the Administrator

Finally, spring is here and the needed rain to water the dried fields, including the dormant grass around Central Nebraska Veterans' Home (CNVH)! The maintenance crew got busy "transforming" the Toro snow blowers on tracks back to mowers on wheels. More than that, the lawn sprinkler system was fired up and running smoothly. Of course, the inspection and the adjustment of the lawn watering system is quite a time consuming task. Why? Because the Maintenance crew must inspect all 160 watering stations which include 5,000 sprinkler heads! At this volume of sprinkler heads, you can imagine the huge amount of water used but it is worth to mention that the entire lawn is watered from our pond and property well.

A partial solar eclipse was observed by our members and our teammates on April 8, 2024. Of course, we used special eclipse glasses to protect our eyes. The solar eclipse was not the only event in April 8<sup>th</sup>. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USVA) surveyors arrived at CNVH and inspected both the nursing home as well as the domiciliary side of our facility. They exited on Friday April 12<sup>th</sup>. Each year, typically during the month of March, CNVH is surveyed on an annual basis, making sure that our members receive a good quality care in a safe environment. Also, the surveyors are checking on our overall compliance with the USVA policies and procedures, Life Safety Code compliance as well as other regulations. After they left, the surveyors have 20 working days to finalize any citations and CNVH has another 20 working days to create corrective actions plans.

Going back to Spring, the rain is dearly needed especially during this time of vegetation renewal and growth. But we ask for rain only, no hail and no destructive weather like the one that affected several communities in Nebraska on April 26<sup>th</sup>! We understand though that Nebraska is part of the "tornado alley" so our teammates conducted tornado drills to be prepared.

If at any time you have any questions for me, feel free to contact me by email or by phone. Thank you!

Dorin C. Vaipan, CNVH Administrator



## Member Council Employee of the Month WALTER BIRDWELL in Supply

Walter has been with CNVH for two years now. A tremendous asset to our Supply team, he handles the stress of the daily demands that a well-stocked facility requires. He leads his team in maintaining good par levels of goods and distributing them across campus to support excellent member care.

## ***Member of the Month: Betty James***



Betty was selected as the “Member of the Month” by the CNVH Member Council. Betty has lived here at CNVH since 2023. She was married to her husband Bill for over 60 years before he passed away. Betty has three children, two daughters and one son. Betty was born in Maryville, Kansas and lived in Grand Island and Arizona. Over the years Betty worked at Holiday Inn, was a server and also worked at Walmart.

Betty enjoys spending her leisure time watching television, listening to country CDs in her room. Betty enjoys doing crafts and sewing, and participating in all the activities that are offered here at CNVH.

Red and blue are Betty’s favorite colors, while her favorite foods are fried chicken and homemade noodles.

When Betty was asked what do you like best about living at CNVH she stated, “I feel very comfortable, I like going to crafts and there is good staff here”.

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

## *In Memoriam*

*Marlin Heiden*

*Greg Nicholas*

*Donald Wedige*

*James Nejezchleb*



# *Seasonal Topics*

## *Sun Exposure*

**As we move into the month of May and the temperatures start getting warmer and members start spending more time outside this is a great opportunity to remind everyone to be sure to:**

- Apply sunscreen and insect repellent before going outside, wear long sleeve shirts when possible and wear a hat. Both are located at the Control Points and staff will be happy to assist with applying them as needed.
- Stay hydrated and drink plenty of water.
- Be sure to watch for the excessive heat signs on the neighborhood doors when the heat index is above 90. We encourage you to stay inside or limit your outside exposure during these times.

## *Gardening*

**It is almost planting season for our patios. Here are just a few reminders about the gardening tubs on the patios.**

- Every home has garden tubs that CNVH has purchased for members to enjoy for the summer. These are for all members that wish to garden.
- The Activities department will purchase community plants and flowers for the garden tubs.
- If you are interested in gardening please see your Activity Specialist.
- Depending on how many members wish to garden in your home, you may need to share the garden tubs in the home.
- Please be respectful to others that you may share a tub with. The garden tubs are meant to be a community garden tub and an enjoyable activity.
- Please do not plant anything directly in the ground as everything needs to be in the tubs.
- We also ask that you don't use pesticides on anything that is planted as it is harmful to someone if they would pick something and eat it without washing it first.

**If you have any questions please see your activity specialist.**

**Let's get planting!**

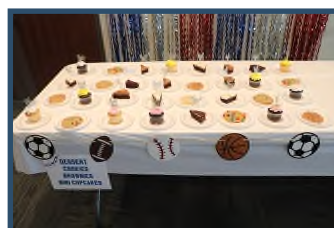
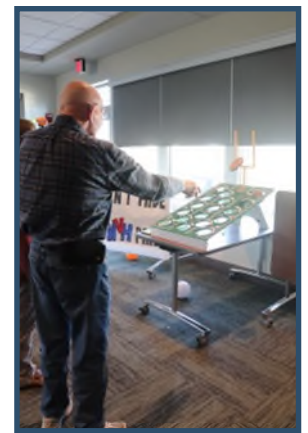
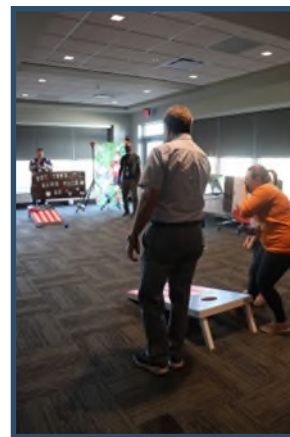
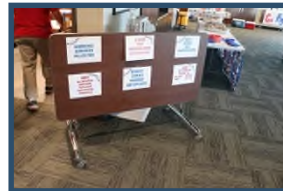




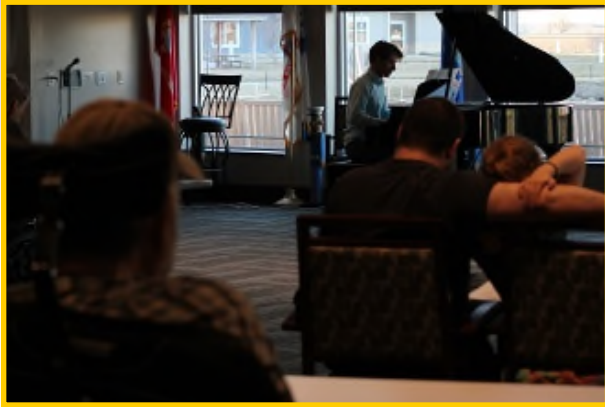
# Volunteer Recognition Supper

*In recognition of National Volunteer Week, CNVH showed appreciation by hosting a sports themed thank you dinner for our volunteers.*

*Our volunteers greatly enhance our members' experience at the activities we provide. They have helped set the tone of our programs through their enthusiasm, dedication, humor, and reliability. Be sure to thank our volunteers when you see them in the building.*



## Music To Our Ears



### Piano Recital

Members enjoyed an evening of piano music with Holy Cross students during a piano recital. This sparked some reminiscing moments for the members.



## Merrymakers Concert



For the month of April our Merrymakers Performer was Mary Link. The members enjoyed an afternoon of music with Mary Link. This activity to sponsored by the ALA.



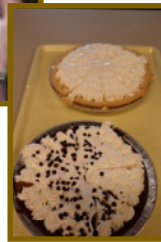


# Happenings Across Campus

## *Spring Pie and Ice Cream Social*



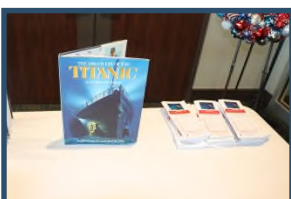
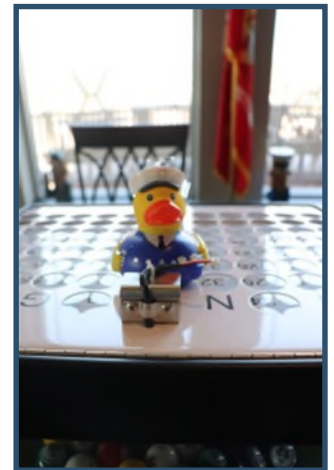
The members enjoyed a Spring Pie and Ice Cream Social with the Custer County Auxiliary. The members had different kinds of pies to pick from: apple, cherry, apple caramel, banana cream and chocolate silk. Yum!



## *Titanic Bingo*

Members spent the afternoon on the ship playing Titanic Bingo. Monday April 15th was the anniversary of the Titanic sinking. We had the list of the passengers that were on the ship and we learned which passengers survived the sinking and which did not.

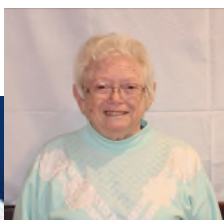
This activity was sponsored by the ALA.



**CNVH Member Council Honors:**

**Betty James**

**Member of the Month**



**CNVH Member Council Honors:**

**Walter Birdwell**

**Employee of the Month**



Mail To:

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