

Volunteer News....

Recognizing the Efforts of VA Volunteers in Upstate New York



- **Sponsors Needed for National Veterans Golden Age Games**
- **Volunteers Young, Old and You**

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Web Site

www.visn2.va.gov/vet/volunteer.asp

The VAVS newsletter has been created for all volunteers and potential volunteers of VA Health Care Upstate New York. This publication is meant to showcase the wonderful work our volunteers contribute to VA. Produced by VISN 2 Public Affairs. Printed by Veterans in the Therapeutic Printing Program, Bath VAMC.

We Want to Hear from You!

If you have any comments, questions, story ideas, etc. contact:
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919 Westfall Road,
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Rochester, NY 14618
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National Veterans Golden Age Games Comes to Buffalo in 2013

“Warriors on the Waterfront” is the theme for the National Veterans Golden Age Games coming to Buffalo, May 30 to June 4, 2013. VA Western New York Healthcare System and **Dr. Patrick Welch**, director for Center for Veterans & Veteran Family Services at Daemen College who is the honorary chairman for the 2013 Games, have officially kicked off fund raising efforts.



Dr. Welch, a Vietnam Veteran, is seeking individuals, small businesses, mid size companies and corporations to help support the Games through sponsorships ranging from \$1,000 up to \$200,000. The sponsorships are a win/win for the 800 Veterans who will be participating in the Games and businesses which will be able to promote their company name and brand through signage, programs and memorabilia.

To help support Dr. Welch and the 2013 Games, this issue of Volunteer News will be going to businesses throughout upstate New York to help promote the need for sponsorships.

Call to Action: Please help support the 2013 National Veterans Golden Age Games either through donations, volunteering or promoting the event to encourage participants. See page 4 for more information.

Thank you for your support for our Nation's Veterans.

Sincerely,

David J. West, FACHE
Network Director



'Like' Us On Facebook

'Like' your VA Medical Center on Facebook go to your Medical Center home page:

www.albany.va.gov

www.bath.va.gov

www.canandaigua.va.gov

www.syracuse.va.gov

www.buffalo.va.gov

Campaign Kicks Off for National Veterans Golden Age Games

Would you or your company like to help support the 2013 National Veterans Golden Age Games?

The theme for the 2013 national Veterans Golden Age Games is "Warriors on the Waterfront," and will be hosted by VA Western New York Healthcare System. A Sponsor Benefits and Incentives Package has been developed to kick off the campaign to bring the world's largest sports and recreational competition for senior Veterans to the Western New York area May 30 through June 4, 2013.

"To bring games of this magnitude to Western New York, we will need the support of businesses and the community to highlight what Western New York has to offer to the estimated 800 Veterans who will be competing and those who accompany them," stated **Dr. Patrick Welch, local honorary chairman and director, Center for Veterans & Veteran Family Services at Daemen College.** Sponsorship levels range in various increments from under \$1,000 to corporate sponsorship levels up to \$200,000. Sponsorship packages provide name and brand awareness on memorabilia, signage and recognition at events.

The Games are open to all U.S. military Veterans age 55 or older who receive care at a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical facility and give participants the opportunity to compete in ambulatory, visually-impaired and wheelchair divisions, according to their ages. Events include swimming, cycling, golf, horseshoes, bowling, shot put, discus, croquet, dominoes, air rifle, nine-ball, and table tennis.



**To learn more about supporting this event,
contact Mark Francis**

VA Volunteer Program Office

716-862-8667

GOLDEN AGE GAMES Co-Sponsored by:



Department of
Veterans Affairs



Veterans
Canteen Service



Help Hospitalized
Veterans



NATIONAL VETERANS GOLDEN AGE GAMES



**VA Western NY Healthcare System
will host the 27th National Golden Age Games**

May 30-June 4, 2013

Buffalo, New York

Donations and Volunteers Needed!

For more information on how you or your organization can help support the 2013 National Veterans Golden Age Games or become a sponsor. Contact:

**Pam Kaznowski at (716) 862-6814
email: pamela.kaznowski@va.gov**

or

**Mark Francis (716) 862-8667
email: mark.francis@va.gov**



**Competitors, volunteers, and visitors will patronize
area hotels, restaurants and entertainment venues.**



The National Veterans Golden Age Games is the premier senior adaptive rehabilitation program in the United States. It is the only national multi-event sports and recreational seniors' competition program designed to improve the quality of life for all older Veterans, including those with a wide range of abilities and disabilities. It is one of the most progressive and adaptive rehabilitative senior sports programs in the world, offering 14 different sports and recreational activities.

GOLDEN AGE GAMES Co-Sponsored by:



Department of
Veterans Affairs



Veterans
Canteen Service



Help Hospitalized
Veterans

➤ Albany



James Keller has been selected as Albany's new Volunteer Manager. He previously was the utility operations supervisor at Albany VA.

National Salute to Veteran Patients Week

We look forward to our visitors this year. Last year students from St. Jude the Apostle School and the New York Naval Militia & USS Slater representatives visit hospitalized Veterans.



American Legion Holiday Gift Shop volunteers and American Legion Zaloga Post and Auxiliary volunteers provided cheer during the holiday season.



Volunteer Opportunities

- Clothing Room: answering phones and folding
- No One Dies Alone: Hospice Unit
- Volunteer Drivers - for morning and afternoon shifts

* Contact Voluntary Service at (518) 626-5507 for the most up-to-date volunteer opportunities

Wish List

- Cans of regular coffee
- Electric shavers (new only)
- Funds - GPF 1327 - Stratton Inn refurbishing
- Gift cards for Wal-Mart's or Price Chopper
- Large sweatpants and sweatshirts
- Portable CD player with radio and A/C cord (no detachable speakers) for music therapy (7 needed; approx. cost \$30)
- Shower shoes (flip flops)
- Triple blade disposable razors

* Contact Jim at (518) 626-5507 for more information.

Calendar

Sunday, February 13 - 17
National Salute to Veteran Patients Week

Tuesday, March 27
VAWS Committee Meeting
1:00 p.m. Auditorium

April 1 - 6
National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic
Snowmass Village, CO

Monday, April 9
POW/MIA Recognition Day
11:00 a.m.

April 15 - 21
National Volunteer Week

► Bath



On December 6th the Elks placed special wreaths on the grave sites of the War of 1812.

On December 10th over 100 volunteers placed wreaths on Bath's Woodlawn Cemetery during the holiday season. The Civil Air Patrol organizes the wreath-laying ceremonies with help from local citizens and Veterans Service Organizations. All 131 VA national cemeteries receive wreaths, one for each military service branch, one for the Merchant Marines and one for prisoners of war and those missing in action.

Volunteers **Dale Carlin** and **Jack Rickard** from the Cuba Amvets post #1 donated a convection oven to the Community Living Center for patients and staff to bake cookies and other food items. Left, **Mary Harkin**, volunteer services assistant and right **Lynn Dinehart**, Volunteer Service Manager.



The Steuben County Conference and Visitors Bureau visited the Bath VA on November 23 to present Veterans with signed American flag post cards collected during the 11.11.11 Flags of Thanks for Vets promotion. From November 1-13, businesses throughout Steuben County ran "eleven-themed" promotions and asked customers to write a note of thanks for Veterans. More than 620 Flags of Thanks were signed and collected for the Veterans at the Bath VA. Some businesses used the opportunity as a way to give back by donating money to Bath VA Voluntary Service. The Steuben County Conference & Visitors Bureau serves as the official tourism marketing agency for Steuben County.

Peggy Coleman, President of the Steuben County Conference and Visitors Bureau with Veteran Shirley Lyke.

continued on page 7 ►

2012 National Salute to Veteran Patients Week

Volunteer Opportunities

- Clerical
- Community Living Center – escorts, visitors and recreation activities
- Hospice/Peer support for Community Living Center patients
- DAV/Veterans Transportation Network (VTN) drivers



The USO shows have been coming for years to perform for the patients. The USO show draws a crowd of 200-250 people. After the performance the entertainers stay and have refreshments with the audience.

Wish List

- Baby shampoo
- Body wash
- Bread machine mixes
- Coffee
- Combs/Brushes
- Denture adhesive
- Denture cleanser
- Deodorant
- Disposable razors
- DVD's
- Envelopes
- Fast food gift certificates (\$5 or \$10)
- Lotion
- Paper
- Pen/Pencils
- Phone cards
- Pots & pans (in good condition)
- Powder
- New sneakers
- New t-shirts (M,L,XL,2XL,3X)
- Shaving cream
- Socks
- Stamps
- Sugar packets
- Tooth Brushes/Tooth Paste

Volunteer of the Month



Volunteer of the Month for February, **Eileen Culver** and Veteran **Harold Koehler** in our Community Living Center (CLC) at the family resident dinner. Eileen volunteers in our CLC doing activities with patients, helping nursing staff, cleaning and organizing and pitching in.

Calendar

Sunday, February 5
B.P.O.E. Super Bowl Party

February 13 - 17
National Salute to Veteran Patients Week

Thursday, February 16
Variety Show - 2:00 p.m.

Friday, February 17
Freedom Village Concert - 2:00 p.m.
Open to public

Thursday, February 23
Corning Concert - 7:00 p.m.
Open to public

Saturday, April 14
Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

April 15 - 21
Volunteer Recognition Week

Thursday, April 19
VAVS meeting - 1:00 p.m.

► Canandaigua



Local students assembled at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center to distribute Valentines to Veterans during the 2011 National Salute to Veteran Patients Week. This year's salute will be held February 12-18.



This past fall the Victor Girls Volleyball Team spent the afternoon at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center hosting a Halloween party for hospitalized Veterans.



Volunteer Jim McDermott was the recipient of this year's "Outstanding Volunteer in Veterans Services" award, presented by Lifespan CEO Ann Marie Cook. Lifespan is celebrating 40 years of accomplishments by RSVP Volunteers.



On September 29, Ed and Marian Moeller received the WROC Ch. 8 Care Givers Award. Ed and Marian provide Companion Therapy to Veterans at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center.



On November 20 - 21, the American Legion Auxiliary sponsored a holiday gift shop at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center. All hospitalized Veterans, as well as Veterans participating in structured outpatient programs were allowed to select gifts that were wrapped and mailed to family members or significant others at no charge.



Members of the American Legion Post 1013 from Irondequoit salute John Napoleon after presenting a plaque for his 65 years as a member of the legion.

Wish List

- Bowling/movie tickets
- Baking items; vanilla, sugar, flour
- Cookie and bread mixes
- Creamer, sugar, sugar substitute
- Deodorant, shampoo, shaving cream; body lotion
- English muffins
- Forever postage stamps
- Gift cards from Wal-Mart/Wegmans/Tops/I-tunes Gift Cards
- Nail Clippers
- New socks and underwear, sweatshirts and sweatpants
- Paper products; plates, napkins
- Peanut butter
- Pre-paid gas cards
- Prepaid phone cards
- Tickets to sporting events, zoo and outings

Monetary Donations are always welcome. If you or your organization wishes to make a donation to the account of your choice, please specify that you are in agreement that food and beverages may be purchased for our Veterans. This is in compliance with the new rules and regulations associated with the purchase of food.

*Reminder – all volunteers and organizations that serve food to Veterans need to have a copy of their food safety certificate and/or NYS license to serve food on file in Voluntary Service.

Please mail yours to our office if you have not done so already.

Contact Voluntary Service for more information

Reminders

- Please let Voluntary Service know if you have changed your address or phone number.
- Contact Voluntary Service if you have an e-mail that you would like to share. Voluntary Service does send out messages occasionally about upcoming programs and events where escorts may be needed.
- If you have not done so already, please remember to contact Voluntary Service for a new identification badge and/or fingerprints.

► Canandaigua

Volunteer Opportunities

All volunteers must complete orientation prior to serving. Orientations are in building 7 basement of the Canandaigua VA Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. You will need your driver's license and SS card for ID. Please call Louise to schedule an appointment at 585-393-7729. Thank you for considering volunteering with the Canandaigua VA Medical Center!

Canandaigua VA

- Activities - recreation, socialization, wheelchair escort - evenings and weekends
- Audiology Greeter - Monday - Friday 7:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Clerical - Tuesday or Thursday, 3 hours
- Compassionate Companion for hospice care
- Driver - CDL- B, pass endorsement - flexible hours - drive Veterans to Recreation Therapy outings - must have CDLB, pass endorsement, no N1 or K
- Donated cans - every other week pick up donated cans
- Escorting Veterans - Mondays 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- Grounds Crew
- Laundry - weekdays
- Library - Saturdays and as needed weekly
- Loving Spoonful Volunteer - evening & weekend meal times, training provided
- Pharmacy - Monday, Wednesday, Friday mornings
- Seamstress - flexible days and hours
- Stockroom Assistant - one day per week
- Van Drivers for DAV Transportation Network weekdays
- Volunteer Transportation Network Driver - weekdays/flexible, Waterloo area
- Wheelchair Escorts, needed for a variety of activities

Mount Hope Road Clinic

- Clerical - Weekdays 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Rochester Outpatient Clinic Westfall Road

- MyHealthVet - flexible hours
- Prosthetic assistant - Monday-Wednesday 2-3 hour shifts
- Van drivers for DAV Transportation Network weekdays 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



Re-Creation's "EVERYDAY PEOPLE!" show appeared at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center on October 11, bringing a new stage presentation to hospitalized Veterans and their guests.

Calendar

All events are held in the Auditorium building 5 unless otherwise noted.

2nd Monday of each Month

Bee Keepers Association Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

3rd Monday of each month

Canandaigua Lake Trout Unlimited - 7:30 p.m.

4th Tuesday of each month

Project Healing Waters - 7:00 p.m.

4th Wednesday of each month

Canandaigua Skychiefs R/C Flying Club 6:00 p.m.

*February 7

Bingo - 7:00 p.m.

February 12 - 18

National Salute to Veteran Patients Week

March 7

Creative Arts Show

*March 11

Bingo - 12 Noon

March 14

Blood Drive-10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

March 14 - 16

VAVS National Meeting - Charleston, SC

*March 15

Bingo - 7:00 p.m.

*April 1

Bingo - 12 Noon

*April 3

Bingo - 7:00 p.m.

April 15 - 21

National Volunteer Week

Refreshments served

April 18

Annual Volunteer Awards Banquet 11:30 a.m.

Burgundy Basin Inn

Catholic Mass Saturdays at 3:00 p.m. and Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

Protestant Services are held Sundays starting @ 8:30 a.m. Please contact Voluntary Service @ (585) 393-7729 for more information.

*Escorts are needed 45 minutes prior to the event to take Veterans to the auditorium and/or pavilion. Without your assistance, many of the Veterans may not be able to participate

Volunteers ... Young, Old and You

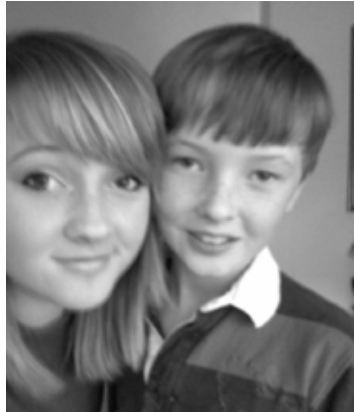
Albany



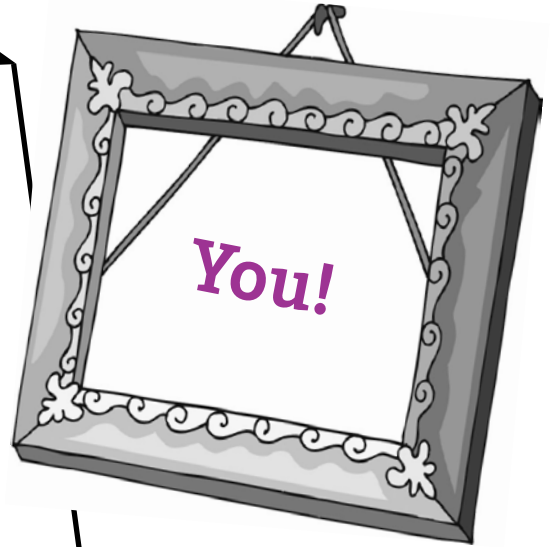
Stella Gasorowski is turning 92 in January and has over 2,653 volunteer hours.



Betty Emory is 88 years old and has volunteered for 55 years accruing 4,048 hours.



Left to right: Albany's youngest volunteers are brother and sister: **Fiona Christine** (15) has volunteered 57 hours and **Aidan** (12) has volunteered 65 hours.



"I volunteer because I like helping the men and women of every branch. They always cheer me up and every time I'm with them, I learn new things."

Annamarie Olson

"I volunteer because I like to help the people that served our country and they deserve our best."

Marisa Leben

"I volunteer because there is nothing better than putting a smile on a Veteran's face who is the reason America is the land of the free. It is my way of saying thank you for everything. The Veterans are so special and unique because no two are the same and they all have their own personality as well as spunk. It makes being around them so joyful. They are truly my heroes."
Rachel Olson

Bath



(Left to right) **Pat Monahan** and **John "Jack" Williams**. Pat (who passed away this January) had volunteered for 63 years at the Bath VA. Jack is 92 years old and is still volunteering.



Marisa Leben is Bath VA's youngest volunteer. She has been volunteering for 3 years and has accumulated 442 hours to date. She visits patients on the Community Living Center, helps out during recreation activities and escorting patients.

Canandaigua



Left to right: Two of Canandaigua's youngest volunteers are **Ann Marie** (12) and **Rachel Olson** (16). Both girls assist with a variety of recreational activities, and have literally "grown up" visiting with Veterans on the Community Living Center and have accumulated 150 volunteer hours. Both their Mom, Lucy and Dad, Ray work at the Canandaigua VA.



Left to right: **Craig Howard** Director, Canandaigua VA Medical Center and **Grace Ziembra** with 56 years of service and 24,391 volunteer hours.

"I chose to volunteer at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center to honor those who served our country. I was grateful that my husband returned from his duty unharmed. Never forget the Veterans!"
Grace Ziembra

Syracuse



Charlie Reiner is 92 years old this year and has worked/volunteered here continuously since 1953 at the Syracuse VA.

VA Western New York



Marjorie Burlingame 95, has given 4,679 hours during her 44 years of volunteering.



Zane Caskey 81, 33 years and 4,733 hours of volunteer service.



Left to right: **Maryanna Sitzlow** and **Royce Calhoun** Assistant Director VA Western New York Healthcare System. Maryanna has volunteered for 28 years and donated 52,610 volunteer hours.



Emily Tworek-Helenbrook, Alexander High School, lyric coloratura soprano/soloist performed this past year at both our National Former POW Ceremony and Veterans Day Ceremony.



Batavia Middle School students visit Veterans.

► Syracuse

The holiday season brings much cheer and activity to the Syracuse VA Medical Center.

Service organizations and school groups were at the Medical Center providing holiday parties, concerts and gift distributions to the Veterans! Everyone enjoyed the performances and welcomed the gifts.

Thank you to the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, AMVETS, Knights of Columbus, Benevolent Protective Order of the Elks, Durhamville Veterans, Korean War Veterans, Salvation Army, United Auto Workers, Veterans Voices, Military Order of the Cootie, and their Auxiliaries.



American Legion Auxiliary gift shop.

The Mexico Middle School Choir performed songs of the season for the Veterans. Other performances were provided by individuals and groups were also welcomed! Jerry Cali, Mexico Middle School choir, Quint Essence, Syracuse University, Cato Meridian School, West Genesee High School Choir, Magic Shows, George Mann, Disabled American Veterans, Chittenango High School, Martin Luther King School, "Blair", Julie, Rick Atkinson, holiday caroler groups, Valerie Wooten and coming up on New Year's Eve – Bob Lyna! Santa Claus also participated in the holiday festivities!



The VFW Ladies Auxiliary provided a welcome holiday visit to our facility and a lovely donation. Thank you VFW Ladies Auxiliary!

Representatives from the Syracuse City Courts arrived in December with a wonderful donation of gift bags of personal care items for the Veterans.

A visit to Lights on the Lake on Onondaga Parkway was a treat for the Veterans. Veterans were taken for a ride along the Parkway to enjoy the lights and then a dinner at the Liverpool Elks Lodge.

► Syracuse

Operation Good Things

Operation Good Things accepts donations throughout the holiday season. The donations are distributed to centers throughout the Central New York area. The Syracuse VA Medical Center is always a beneficiary of their distribution. Santa Claus and his elves show up each year to meet Veterans receiving care at the Syracuse VA. The Veterans receive a gift and an opportunity to meet Santa Claus and **Mike Price**, who formerly portrayed Baron Daemon on WNYS-TV, from the Saturday afternoon Monster Movie Matinee.



Ninety-three Fort Drum soldiers came in to the Medical Center to volunteer in the past month. The soldiers volunteered throughout the Medical Center assisting staff and Veterans. Thank you to the **Fort Drum Polar Bear Battalion, Captain Derrick Boden** and **Lieutenant Colonel Robert Ryan** for the wonderful opportunity to interact with your soldiers and your interaction with our Veterans. The patients loved having members of your battalion visit!

Team Red, White & Blue



Team Red, White & Blue (RWB) is one of the newest service organizations to participate with the Syracuse VA Medical Center. Team Red, White & Blue is a non-profit organization that brings athletes together. They are a "Veteran support organization whose mission is to enrich the lives of wounded veterans and their families". Team Red, White & Blue "provides a different kind of support, one that is rooted in a deep understanding and willingness to listen to Veterans and their families. They are a community of athletes, advocates and concerned citizens committed to serving those who have served... Their goal is to "develop meaningful, one-on-one relationships that transcend traditional short-term fundraising efforts.

Team RWB had over 50 athletes participate in the Wounded Warrior Race in November. They believe it is important for Veterans organizations to work together to help wounded Veterans. **Mark Irwin**, Community Outreach Director stated, "We were glad to partner with Fab Nine in support of this event for veterans and the Syracuse VA. We look forward to more community races like this."

Wish List

- Fish Tank (30 gallon) with fish, decorations and a contract for cleaning
- Long sleeve zipper front sweatshirts (Medium, Large, XL, 2X, 3X)
- Shaving Cream, Body Wash, Deodorant, Shampoo, Toothpaste (Travel Size)
- Sweatpants (Medium)

No moisturizer or socks please.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Ambassador Program
- Greeter Program - Monday and Friday morning and afternoon
- Office Clerk
- Lead Patient Escort Volunteer - Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- Patient Escort/Patient Lead Escort for evenings and weekend

► Western New York

American Legion 8th District Annual Wreath Hanging

VA WNY Healthcare System continues to be the recipient of the American Legion 8th District's wreath presentation at both our Batavia and Buffalo facilities early each December. At our Buffalo - Bailey Avenue main lobby, Erie County Commander **Bill Miskel** and 8th District membership take time for a holiday photo with Interim Medical Center Director **Craig Howard**.



Holiday Generosity

Moose Lodge #2163 and Women of the Moose Lodge #2384 members stopped by the VA WNY Healthcare System (Buffalo campus) and presented their holiday "cheer" in the form of a \$500.00 check for our Veterans.



Left to right: *Michael Nowacki, Governor; Kelly Clark-Roberts, Volunteer Program Specialist; George Thomas, Administrator; Gregory Newsome, Treasurer*

AMVETS Generosity for Veterans Day

"Serving Veterans" was the theme, as the AMVETS Post #45 members took time to donate \$500.00 of gift cards to the Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn Program Office:

UAW Rochester Local 1097 Gate Receipts

Batavia VAVS Committee United Auto Worker Representative, **Erich Ruppert** takes time at the December VAVS Committee meeting to present a \$1,000 check from their Veterans Day gate receipts to Volunteer Program Manager, **Mark Francis**. Each year the UAW presents their proceeds for Veteran ancillary needs at our Batavia location. The UAW has continued this very generous tradition which has exceeded more than \$15,000+ in financial support.

Tonawanda's Contribution



North Tonawanda's Aerie #1411 Chapter and Auxiliary took time just prior to Veterans Day to remember our WNY Veterans with a formal check presentation at their Chapter – pictured with members is Shawn Gall, Volunteer Program Specialist receiving check from Chapter Secretary Charlie Piskor.

Masonic Van Donation

November is always a good way to remember our Veterans and the New York State Masonic War Veterans did so by donating a bus for Veteran transportation purposes through the Motor Pool Section at our Buffalo location – pictured for this presentation amongst many are **Jason Petti**, Associate Medical Center Director and **Commander General William Eisermann**.



► Western New York

82nd Airborne's Annual Tribute

The 82nd Airborne hosted their annual Christmas Holiday Veteran gift Distribution at the Buffalo site to remember and to say "Thank You" to our Veterans at this time of the year – pictured – 82nd Airborne Veteran (Chairman of the this activity) **Bob Peyton** visiting with Veteran **Frank Pellegrino**.



Wish List

- Art Therapy Supplies
- Birthday Cards
- Bread Mixes
- Bus Tokens
- Comping Coupons
- DAV/Volunteer Transportation Program *Note: all donations must go directly to DAV Department of NY
- DVD's
- Funding for Patient Activities (to include movie tickets/sporting event game tickets for our Day Treatment Center), daily newspaper, magazine subscription
- Gift Cards: Babies R Us, Target, Tim Horton's, Tops, Wal-Mart, Wegmans
- Phone Cards
- Small Snack Packs
- Stamps/Stationary
- Travel Funds
- Treadmill(s)
- Welcome Kits

New Items – combs, diabetic socks, large nail clippers, sweatpants, sweat shirts, t-shirts, men's and women's undergarments (please check sizes needed prior to purchasing) and socks, as well as new clothing.

Homeless Veterans Program – **please contact for all donation information at (716) 881-5855**. Items considered can/should be dropped off at our Main Street Buffalo location: new socks and undergarments all sizes, for Veterans in need, personal care items, and small/basic apartment appliances.

Note: Before purchasing any item, please contact the Volunteer Program Office to determine that the item has not been already purchased.

Batavia – (585) 297-1196 / Buffalo – (716) 862-8672

We no longer accept:

Hard cover books, magazines dated 3 months ago, puzzles, used clothing, VHS tapes.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Adult Day Health Care Program – Assist Veterans and work with Program staff - Buffalo
- Clerical – Batavia and Buffalo
- Coffee Cart: Daily – Buffalo
- Coffee Cart - Batavia
- Computer Assistant – assist residents with computer skills – Batavia and Buffalo
- Drivers - DAV Volunteer Transportation Program – Batavia and Buffalo
- Emergency Room and Women's Wellness Clinic– transporting/delivery services as needed – Buffalo
- Friendly Visitor Volunteer – visit with Veterans – Batavia and Buffalo
- Greeters – Buffalo
- Guest Parking Lot Shuttle – Buffalo
- Mailroom – Buffalo
- My Healthe Vet Assistant - Batavia
- Patient Escort/Transport Service – Batavia and Buffalo
- Physical Therapy Service – Buffalo
- Reminder Phone Calls – Buffalo
- Recreational Aide – Batavia/Buffalo
- Volunteer Program Office – Batavia and Buffalo

Calendar

Tuesday, February 14

National Salute to Veterans Patient Observance

Community Living Centers - 1:30 p.m. - Batavia Campus

Freedom Hall - 1:00 p.m. - Buffalo Campus

Monday, February 20

President's Day - Holiday

Wednesday, February 29

VAVS Meeting

Freedom Hall - 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 21

VA Voluntary Service Quarterly Meeting(s)

Freedom Hall - 1:30 pm - Buffalo Campus

Building #4 Auditorium - 1:30 p.m. - Batavia Campus

April 15th thru 21st

National Volunteer Week

Monday, April 16

Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner

Bohn's Restaurant - 6:00 p.m.

Batavia Campus

Wednesday, April 18

Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

Hearthstone Manor - 12:30 p.m.

Buffalo Campus

VA Health Care Upstate New York
VISN 2 Public Affairs
VA at Clinton Crossings
919 Westfall Rd., Bldg. B, Suite 115
Rochester, NY 14618

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VA Medical Centers

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113 Holland Avenue
Albany, NY 12208
(518) 626-5000

Batavia
222 Richmond Avenue
Batavia, NY 14020
(585) 297-1000

Bath
76 Veterans Avenue
Bath, NY 14810
(607) 664-4000

Buffalo
3495 Bailey Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14215
(716) 834-9200

Canandaigua
400 Fort Hill Avenue
Canandaigua, NY 14424
(585) 394-2000
(800) 204-9917

Syracuse
800 Irving Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13210
(315) 425-4400

**Community-Based
Outpatient Clinics**

Auburn
Auburn Memorial Hospital
17 Lansing St.
Auburn, NY 13021
(315) 255-7002

Bainbridge
109 North Main Street
Bainbridge, NY 13733
(607) 967-8590

Binghamton
425 Robinson Street
Binghamton, NY 13901
(607) 772-9100

Catskill
Greene Medical Bldg.
159 Jefferson Heights
Catskill, NY 12414
(518) 943-7515

Clifton Park
1673 Route 9
Clifton Park, NY 12065
(518) 626-5205

**Coudersport Satellite
Clinic of Wellsville**
24 Maple View Lane, Suite 2
Coudersport, PA 16915
(814) 260-9342

Dunkirk
Valor Health Center
166 East 4th Street
Dunkirk, NY 14048
(800) 310-5001

Elizabethtown/Westport
7426 NYS Rte. 9N
Westport, NY 12993
(518) 626-5236

Elmira
Health Services Building
200 Madison Avenue
Suite 2E
Elmira, NY 14901
(877) 845-3247 ext. 44640

Fonda
Camp Mohawk Plaza
2623 State Highway 30A
Fonda, NY 12068
(518) 853-1247

Glens Falls
84 Broad Street
Glens Falls, NY 12801
(518) 798-6066

Jamestown
608 West 3rd Street
Jamestown, NY 14701
(716) 338-1511

Kingston
63 Hurley Avenue
Kingston, NY 12401
(845) 331-8322

Lackawanna
Our Lady of Victory
Family Care Center
227 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, NY 14218
(716) 822-5944

**Springville Satellite
Clinic of Lackawanna**
27 Franklin Street
Springville, NY 14141
(716) 592-7400

Lockport
5883 Snyder Drive
Lockport, NY 14094
(716) 438-3890

Malone
3372 St. Rt. 11, Main Street
Malone, NY 12953
(518) 483-1529

**Mansfield Satellite
Clinic of Elmira**
63 Third Street
Suite 104
Mansfield, PA 16901
(570) 662-0507

Massena
1 Hospital Drive
Massena, NY 13662
(315) 769-4253

Niagara Falls
2201 Pine Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14301
(716) 862-8580

Olean
465 North Union Street
Olean, NY 14760
(716) 373-7709

Oswego
437 State Route 104E
Oswego, NY 13126
(315) 207-0120

Plattsburgh
80 Sharron Avenue
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
(518) 561-6247

Rochester
465 Westfall Road
Rochester, NY 14620
(585) 463-2600

Rome
Griffiss Park
125 Brookley Road,
Building 510
Rome, NY 13441
(315) 334-7100

Saranac Lake
33 Depot St.
Saranac Lake, NY 12983
(518) 626-5237

Schenectady
1322 Gerling St.
Sheridan Plaza
Schenectady, NY 12308
(518) 346-3334

Tompkins/Cortland County
1451 Dryden Road
Freeville, NY 13068
(607) 347-4101

Troy
295 River Street
Troy, NY 12180
(518) 274-7707

Warsaw
Wyoming County
Community Hospital
400 N. Main Street
Warsaw, NY 14569
(585) 786-2233

Watertown
19472 U.S. Route 11
Watertown, NY 13601
(315) 221-7026

Wellsville
3458 Riverside Drive, Route 19
Wellsville, NY 14895
(877) 845-3247 (Bath)

Vet Centers

Albany Vet Center
17 Computer Drive West
Albany, NY 12205
(518) 626-5130

Binghamton Vet Center
53 Chenango Street
Binghamton, NY 13901
(607) 722-2393

Buffalo Vet Center
2372 Sweet Home Road,
Suite 1
Buffalo, NY 14228
(716) 862-7350

Rochester Vet Center
2000 South Winton Road
Building 5, Suite 201
Rochester, NY 14618
(585) 232-5040

Syracuse Vet Center
716 East Washington Street,
Suite 101
Syracuse, NY 13210
(315) 478-7127

Watertown Vet Center
210 Court Street, Suite 20
Watertown, NY 13601
(315) 782-5479



VA Health Care
Upstate New York

- For enrollment information, call **1-888-823-9656**
- For information on eligibility, VA health care, benefits, enrollment or questions on your billing statement
- For medical care and clinic appointments, call your local primary care doctor or your local VA Medical Center.
- For Reliable Health Information on the Web, visit www.myhealth.va.gov