



# 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 Eisenhauer NVH Administrator

**GOVERNOR:  
PETE RICKETTS**

**NEBRASKA  
DEPARTMENT 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

Happy New Year,

I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful holiday season and the New Year brings you peace and prosperity. 2017 was an exciting and challenging year at Norfolk Veterans Home. We continued implementation of a new automated pharmacy dispensing machine that should be rolled out during January or February of 2018. Due to the outstanding effort of our staff, Norfolk Veterans Home received a deficiency free survey from the USVA during our annual survey in March. THANK YOU to all staff!

The Norfolk Veterans Home Foundation unveiled the Vietnam War Memorial, as well as the WWII and Korean War Memorial additions to our Memorial Flag Plaza! Norfolk Veterans Home Foundation members and two family contributions were instrumental in getting these projects from the drawing board to dedication ceremonies.

NVH was able to continue offering the Nurse Aide Course at no cost to qualified applicants, and the course has become a wonderful tool to both help deserving individuals better themselves, while at the same time filling openings on our schedule with caring individuals. We will continue to offer the course during 2018, with the next class scheduled for January.

Effective July 1, 2017, Norfolk Veterans Home along with the other three State Veterans' Homes in Bellevue, Scottsbluff and Grand Island, became part of the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs. This will be a wonderful opportunity to flatten the organizational chart and will allow us to focus our full attention on the reason we exist, caring for America's Heroes!

Of course the caring and dedication of our staff members continued during 2017. There is nothing I can say to express my appreciation and respect for their efforts except, THANK YOU AND THANK GOD that we still have individuals who sacrifice their time, and time spent with their families, to ensure that our members get the care they need.

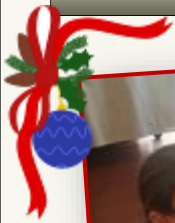
We truly have a wonderful home for our members to enjoy the highest quality of life they could get, short of their own homes. I credit this not only to our staff, but an entire network of volunteer organizations, family support and community pride.

We look forward to continuing to provide quality care for our current and future members and facing new challenges together.

Sincerely,

Jerry Eisenhauer  
Administrator

# HOME HAPPENINGS



December was busy with many volunteer groups and individuals spreading holiday cheer. They passed out gifts, caroled and made meals for the veterans. We appreciate each and every one of you, not only around the holidays but all year long!

Interested in Volunteer Opportunities at NVH?  
Contact Sheila at (402) 370-3102  
Email: [Sheila.brown@nebraska.gov](mailto:Sheila.brown@nebraska.gov)

# SALUTE OUR NEW MEMBERS

NORFOLK VETERANS HOME WELCOMES YOU

## Klane Leonard

Branch of Service: U.S. Army  
Hometown: Bassett, NE



## Henry Schmit

Branch of Service: U.S. Army  
Hometown: Osmond, NE

## James Hazen

Branch of Service: U.S. Army  
Hometown: Stuart, NE

## Stephen Ray

Branch of Service: U.S. Army  
Hometown: Madison, NE

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  
GENNY BLACKBURN @ (402) 370-3109  
OR  
COLLEEN BENSON @ (402) 370-3469

## *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



*Douglas "Doug" Reikofski*


*Neil Hilfiker*

*John Krause*


*Ruth Meyers*

*Zane Rowse*

# NEW EMPLOYEES




**Alex Edwards**  
Position: Food Service Asst.



**Madison Walker**  
Position: Staff Care Tech II



**Karla Nelson**  
Position: Custodian/Housekeeper



**Abby Tucker**  
Position: Staff Care Tech II



**Lexi Caruso**  
Position: RN



**Brandi Cox**  
Position: Staff Care Tech II

# EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



**Congratulations  
Employee of the Year 2017  
Mary Swensen**

Mary is one of Norfolk Veterans Home's Activity staff. She does an excellent job with keeping the members busy with activities on her units. She is attentive and informs the members of any changes to the activity schedule so they don't miss a thing.

**Congratulations Mary on this well deserved honor.**

**MEMBER OF THE MONTH**  
**ROGER CUTSHALL**  
 BY: LIZ DAVIS



Roger (Doc) Cutshall, was born August 28, 1923, in Lavan, Kansas. He and his younger brother grew up in Superior, Nebraska. Doc graduated high school in Superior in 1941. Roger was on the honor roll, the student manager of the football team and played on the team during his senior year, earning him his "Letter". He was also in Boy Scouts and reached the rank of Eagle Scout.

After graduation, he enrolled in the University of Nebraska's Pre-Veterinarian and Ag courses. He was also a member of ROTC Field Artillery Unit and later in the ERC (Enlisted Reserve Corps). He later changed his course training to Pre-Med. During this time, America became involved in WWII. Roger was sent first to Fort Dodge, Kansas, and then to Camp Roberts in California, to the

instrument survey unit.

The Army recognized that they would need more doctors. As part of the ASTP (Army Specialized Training Program), Roger was sent to the University of Chicago. He attended medical school completing his pre-med courses in January. Since med school would not be starting until September, he was sent to Fitzsimons Army Hospital in Aurora, CO, assigned as a night watchman in the psych unit. With his days free, he found a day job with Southern Pacific Railroad.

September 1944 saw Roger back in medical school at the UNO. After the end of WWII he attended school on the G.I. Bill and as a civilian. During his junior year, he worked at Hastings hospital and during his senior year, he worked as an extern at Immanuel Hospital

in Omaha. It was during a particular stressful procedure that a calm, experienced nurse in training who was assisting impressed Roger. So much so, he later asked her out for a date. This of course turned out to be Isolde. Both she and Roger graduated college in May 1948, and to celebrate, they married on June 3, 1948. They were blessed with four children (three boys, one girl).

Doc joined a medical practice in Oxford, Nebraska, where he stayed until 1953. At this time, the Army was again in need of doctors for the Korean conflict. His fourth child was born in July and in August he enlisted and was sent to San Antonio, TX. When told that the Army had enough doctors, he decided to join the Air Force. He was given a list of places he could choose to go and he chose the Air Force base in Mountain Home, ID, where he was stationed from 1953 to 1955.

Upon completion of his time there, Roger returned to Oxford, but the town now had adequate medical coverage. He then moved to Grantsburg, WI, where he stayed for ten years. He and his family loved this area. They enjoyed boating, water-skiing, canoeing, camping, and going Walleye fishing at the Borders Lakes. After the new hospital in Grantsburg was built, more doctors were becoming "specialized". Doc decided to enroll in the University of Minnesota in the psychiatry residency program.

After completing his residency, he moved to Sheridan, WY. He practiced there from 1966 to 1968. He then came to Norfolk and was a psychiatrist on staff at the Norfolk Regional Center until his retirement at the age of 65.

At the age of 60, Doc took up running and completed many marathons, with his best time coming in just over three hours.

Doc and Isolde moved to NVH just a few weeks ago. They are happy they did. They enjoy the people, food, and the many activities offered.

**Bits & Pieces**

**CENSUS  
135**

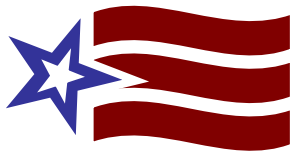
**Special  
Occasion  
Room**

**Reservations:  
Call Activities @  
(402) 370-3330**

**Join A Member  
For a Meal  
Only \$2.50  
24 Hour Notice  
Please**



NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
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Norfolk Veterans Home

Norfolk Veterans' Home Observer is published monthly  
for the members, families, staff and other interested parties.

## 2018 NATIONAL ACTIVITY PROFESSIONALS WEEK



The week of January 21—27 is **National Activity Professionals Week**. This week was created to give honor and recognition to those dedicated individuals who contribute so significantly to the quality of life to those they serve. Their creativity and energy make life much more enjoyable to those who reside here at the Veterans Home.

We want to extend our appreciation and gratitude to the staff of the Recreational Department here at the Veterans Home. So when you see them during this week say **"Thanks"** to **DeAnn Stodola, Sheila Brown, Michelle Schommer, Mary Swensen, Deb Becker, and Cindy Throener.**