



THE WARRIOR

Winter 2016



Everything's Coming Up Rosie

Let me set the scene for you: It was "Family Day" at the Veteran's Home, and to launch the festivities was an event like no other—a parade . . . and what a day for a parade it was. The sun was shining, the veterans and their families were lined up anxiously awaiting what was about to unfold, and the Missouri Military Academy Band was revving up in the background. Graciously accepting the role of MC (Master of Ceremonies) for the parade, I had prepared a foot stomping/hand clapping music CD corresponding to every participant that would march through the event. The parade was a huge hit with Mr. Lynn Woods, residing at "the home" since 1985, serving as the Grand Marshall. Other participants from various departments included, but were not limited to, dietary, environmental services, volunteer services, social services, maintenance, activities, and even the facility Barber—Matthias McManus, who was all "dolloed up," and paraded down the runway to the hit song by George Thorogood entitled Get a Haircut and Get a Real Job. The crowd went wild to this skit as well as many others including Dietary employee—Michael Jennings who dressed up like a chef and strutted his "stuff" to Hank Williams hit tune Hey Good Lookin. . . Whatcha Got Cookin? Another skit that got rave reviews was Brooke Broughton who is employed in the facility's Purchasing & Receiving Department. Brooke wore a red bandanna in her hair and sported a blue work shirt flexing her right bicep and posing as the notorious Rosie the Riveter.

The Warrior is published quarterly by the Missouri Veterans Home - Mexico, MO. Anyone wishing a free subscription may contact the Home at #1 Veterans' Drive, Mexico, MO 65265 or by calling 573-581-1088 x 1286.

Larry D. Kay, Executive Director

Brenda Ezell, Administrator

Susan Paden, Editor/Typist

At the conclusion of the parade, I was approached by a lady who indicated that her mother would like to have a word with me. Upon kneeling down to this “mother in waiting,” I proceeded to inquire what it was that she wanted to see me about. What followed was something that caught me off guard, raised my eyebrows, and caused me to have that “deer in the headlights look” as she said something to the effect of: “Young man, I enjoyed the parade very much so, especially the young gal who played the part of Rosie the Riveter. I’ll have you know that I am her and she is me—for I am a Real Life Rosie the Riveter.” Her name was Sue Kite, 89 years old from Columbia, Missouri, and she worked in the North American Aviation Plant in Kansas City, Kansas in 1943-1944 producing munitions for World War II. The purpose of her visit to MVH—Mexico on “Family Day” was to spend time with her older brother Laymond Nichols who resides at the facility. Laymond, 98 years old, served in the U.S. Army during WWII from August 1942 to November 1945. He earned an American Theatre of Operations Service Ribbon, Good Conduct/AR 600-68 Victory Medal, and an Asiatic Pacific Service Ribbon. Another visitor on this special day was Laymond and Sue’s brother Harold, 94 years old, who also served in WWII. Harold served in the U.S. Army in the Aleutian Islands. Also attending our annual “Family Day” event was their sister in law—Ruth who happens to be the widow of yet another brother—Stanley. Stanley has since passed, but it is important to note that he too was a WWII veteran serving in the U.S. Army in the Battle of the Bulge. As the festivities of “Family Day” progressed, I put down the microphone and gave up my hat as the Master of Ceremonies, and “donned” my Photographer hat capturing that moment in time by taking a picture of our Rosie with the Real Life version of Rosie the Riveter. Furthermore, I took a group photograph of the Nichols Family. Those photos are worth a thousand words. Those photos ended up telling me a story as good as in any history book. Those photos have reminded me once again why it is so special to work at the Missouri Veterans Home.



Side notes taken from Wikipedia:

Rosie the Riveter is a cultural icon of the United States, representing the American women who worked in factories and shipyards during World War II, many of whom produced munitions and war supplies. These women sometimes took entirely new jobs replacing the male workers who were in the military. Rosie the Riveter is commonly used as a symbol of feminism and women's economic power. Use of similar images of women war workers appeared in other countries such as Britain and Australia. Images of women workers were widespread in the media as government posters and commercial advertising was heavily used by the government to encourage women to volunteer for wartime service in factories.

During World War II, small parts of the Aleutian islands were occupied by Japanese forces, when Attu and Kiska were invaded in order to divert American forces away from the main Japanese attack at Midway Atoll. The U.S. Navy, having broken the Japanese naval codes, knew that this was just a diversion, and it did not expend large amounts of effort in defending the islands. More than 90 Americans were taken to Japan as prisoners of war. Most of the civilian population (over 800) of the Aleutians and Pribilovians were interned by the United States in camps in the Alaska Panhandle. During the Aleutian Islands Campaign, American and Canadian forces invaded Japanese-held Attu and defeated the Japanese, and subsequently regained control of all the islands. June 3, 2002 was celebrated as Dutch Harbor Remembrance Day. The governor of Alaska ordered state flags lowered to half-staff to honor the 78 soldiers who died during the two-day Japanese air attack in 1942. The Aleutian World War II National Historic Area Visitors Center opened that month. The Battle of the Bulge (December 16, 1944 – January 25, 1945) was a major German offensive campaign launched through the densely forested Ardennes region of Wallonia in Belgium, France, and Luxembourg on the Western Front toward the end of World War II in Europe. The surprise attack caught the Allied forces completely off guard. United States forces bore the brunt of the attack and incurred their highest casualties for any operation during the war. The battle also severely depleted Germany's armored forces on the western front which Germany was largely unable to replace. German personnel, and later Luftwaffe aircraft (in the concluding stages of the engagement), also sustained heavy losses.





Front Row: Laymond Nichols (MVH resident); Back Row (from left to right): Jane Stuart (Laymond's niece), Sue Kite (Jane's mother/Laymond's sister), Harold Nichols (Laymond's brother), Ruth Nichols (Laymond's sister in law/wife of the late Stanley Nichols which was Laymond's brother), and Carol Nichols (Harold Nichols daughter in law)



From left to right: Brooke Broughton (MHV employee working in the purchasing & receiving department), Sue Kite, 89 years old, from Columbia, Missouri (A Real Life Rosie the Riveter)

Employee Corner

Pam Toupous, C.N.A. was selected as the September 2015 Employee of the Month. She was nominated by one of her co-workers as being dependable, a hard worker and going the extra mile. Pam takes care of all 50 residents on the floor making sure all their needs are met and they are satisfied and happy. She frequently skips a break because her motto is "These guys come first." She is what every C.N.A. should be-a true team player. Congratulations, Pam!!

Don Adams, Plant Maintenance Engineer, was selected as the October 2015 Employee of the Month. He was nominated by one of the residents as going the extra mile to see that things are done in the building and for the Veterans. He states, "You deserve a round of applause from all employees and Veterans because of your excellent service to the Home." Congratulations, Don!!

Ginger Payne, Receptionist was selected as the November 2015 Employee of the Month. She was nominated by a resident for being a "good girl" and always being at work to help with the residents. In the Veteran's eyes she is a real team player with her willingness to assist where she is needed and her dedication to her job by being at work when scheduled. Congratulations!!

All these employees were recognized at a reception at which time they received a certificate of appreciation, a \$25 check and a certificate for a day off with pay.



New Employees

Tyler Bradley, NA	08/17
Jessica Robinson, NA	08/17
Sierra Prusak, NA	09/01
Robin Zumwalt, NA	09/01
Mikayla O'Connor, NA	09/06
Elizabeth Chrisman, NA	09/08
Ashley Wormington, HPA	09/19
Minnie Dalton, TA	09/21
Celia Betz, NA	10/01
Ricki Painter, NA	10/01
Annabelle Strunk, NA	10/06
Michelle Tomlin, NA	10/13
Emeri Kerr, NA	10/14
Sophie Atkinson, NA	10/19
Latoya Belcher, NA	10/19
Vanessa Galloway, NA	10/19
Kayla Sanders, NA	10/19
Samuel Taber, NA	10/19
Penny Niekamp, RN	10/19
Takedra Washington, NA	11/03
Amanda Francis, HPA	11/03
Kara Winterbower, NA	11/03

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Amanada Kelley, Elizabeth Chrisman, Sierra Prusak, Jessica Robinson, Robin Zumwalt, Sophie Atkinson, Celia Betz & Vanessa Galloway are now officially CNA's. They have completed their orientation on their assigned floor and shifts so if you see them be sure to take a moment and congratulate them.

WELCOME TO ALL OF YOU!

Happy Birthday to you.....

December

Raymond Cullifer	12/01
Leonard Murta	12/04
Henrietta Cruse	12/04
Albert Davis	12/09
Peter Greenwell	12/15
Donald Varney	12/16
William Ehrlich	12/17
Richard Wilson	12/20
Donald Gardner	12/21
Marvin Smith	12/23
Irvin Kittrell	12/26
Thomas Conboy	12/29
Raymond Smith	12/30
Dwight Hudspeth	12/31

January

Isaac Thomas	01/03
Bud Myers	01/04
Wayne May	01/19
Harold Ess	01/19

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Alzheimer Support Group - January
20, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. Everyone is
welcome.

Veterans Council - Tuesday, January
19, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. in the dining
room.

Family Council - Saturday, January
16, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. at the facility.



Justus Griffin	01/20
Bill McIntosh	01/23
Lou Tritschler	01/24
John Sparks	01/28
Ed Wallace	01/30
Raymond Keller	01/31

February

Charles Boswell	02/10
James Middletown	02/17
Paul Schlotzhauer	02/18
Larry Nobbman	02/20
Zane Miller	02/23
Lloyd Rowland	02/24
Jerry Green	02/28



CENSUS

WWII	62
KOREA	49
VIETNAM	36
PEACETIME	13
DESERT STORM	01
ARMY	84
NAVY	36
AIR FORCE	22
MARINES	11
COAST GUARD	00
NATIONAL GUARD	00

WELCOME

Mr. Leonard Richardt was admitted to the facility on August 24, 2015 from Des Peres, MO as the 1514th resident. Mr. Richardt served in the United States Air Force from 1948 - 1952.

Mr. Riley "Wendell" Todd was admitted on August 27, 2015 from St. James, MO as the 1515th resident. Mr. Todd served in the United States Army from 1951 - 1953.

Mr. Thomas Smith was admitted to the facility on August 31, 2015 from Wellsville, MO as the 1516th resident. Mr. Smith served in the United States Army from 1951 - 1971.

Mr. Greer Baker was admitted on September 3, 2015 from St. James, MO as the 1517th resident. Mr. Baker served in the United States Navy from 1969 - 1970 and the United States Army from 1971 - 1991.

Mr. Zane Miller was admitted on September 16, 2015 from Paris, MO as the 1518th resident. Mr. Miller served in the United States Navy from 1945 - 1946.

Mr. William Smola was admitted on September 23, 2015 from Cape Girardeau, MO as the 1519th resident. Mr. Smola served in the United States Army from 1962 - 1964.

Mr. Victor "Vic" Davis was admitted on October 1, 2015 from Vandalia, MO as the 1520th resident. Mr. Davis served in the United States Air Force from 1951 - 1953.

Mr. Joseph Dodge was admitted on October 5, 2015 from Paris, MO as the 1521st resident. Mr. Dodge served in the United States Army from 1943 - 1945.

Mr. Dean Peery was admitted on October 14, 2015 from Center, MO as the 1522nd resident. Mr. Peery served in the United States Marine Corps from 1943 - 1946.

Mr. Gerald Lowrance was admitted on October 19, 2015 from Vandalia, MO as the 1523rd resident. Mr. Lowrance served in the United States Army from 1942 - 1945.

Mr. Elmer "Ross" Fogle was admitted on October 22, 2015 from Fulton, MO as the 1524th resident. Mr. Fogle served in the United States Air Force from 1950 - 1970.

Mr. Arlon Fowler was admitted on October 26, 2015 from Elsberry, MO as the 1525th resident. Mr. Fowler served in the United States Army from 1964 - 1984.

Mr. Donald Gardner was admitted on October 28, 2015 from New Florence, MO as the 1526th resident. Mr. Gardner served in the United States Army from 1951 - 1953.

Mr. Patrick "Pat" McGrath was admitted on October 29, 2015 from Auxvasse, MO as the 1527th resident. Mr. McGrath served in the United States Navy, Army Reserves and Army National Guard between 1958-1987.

Mr. Sylvester Brunnert was admitted on November 2, 2015 from Warrenton, MO as the 1528th resident. Mr. Brunnert served in the United States Navy from 1943 - 1946 and then joined the United States Marine Corps in 1950 - 1951.

Mr. Robert "Bob" Pabst was admitted on November 3, 2015 from Vandalia, MO as the 1529th resident. Mr. Pabst served in the United States Army from 1945 - 1947.

Mr. Marvin Hickam was admitted on November 12, 2015 from Warrenton, MO as the 1530th resident. Mr. Hickam served in the United States Marine Corps from 1954 - 1965.

Mr. Melvin Vanderhoff was admitted on November 16, 2015 from Moberly, MO as the 1531st resident. Mr. Vanderhoff served in the United States Air Force from 1950 - 1953.

Mr. Richard "Dick" Butler was admitted on November 18, 2015 from Vandalia, MO as the 1532nd resident. Mr. Butler served in the United States Army from 1953 - 1955.

Mr. Phillip Starks was admitted on December 1, 2015 from St. Charles, MO as the 1533rd resident. Mr. Starks served in the United States Army from 1951 - 1952.

Mr. Thomas Markland was admitted on December 2, 2015 from Fayette, MO as the 1534th resident. Mr. Markland served in the United States Army from 1944 - 1945.

Dr. Robert "Bob" Searfoss was admitted on December 3, 2015 from Mexico, MO as the 1535th resident. Dr. Searfoss served in the United States Army Air Corps from 1944 - 1945.

Mr. Robert Young was admitted on December 10, 2015 from Green City, MO as the 1536th resident. Mr. Young served in the United States Army Air Corps from 1959 - 1973.

Mr. Ronald Molles was admitted on December 14, 2015 from Hannibal, MO as the 1537th resident. Mr. Molles served in the United States Navy from 1948 - 1951.

Mr. John Rodgers was admitted on December 16, 2015 from Mexico, MO as the 1538th resident. Mr. Rodgers served in the United States Army in 1957.

NEW LABORATORY CONTRACT FOR MVH

The Veterans Commission has a new lab provider for all 7 Veterans Homes. Boyce and Bynum is our new provider. They will provide a phlebotomist daily to the Mexico Home. The services and costs are similar to our past provider, SSM Audrain Hospital, but the bills you receive will look different.



DO UNTO ONE ANOTHER

Paul Salois, Previous MVH-Mexico Resident

When I was young and just half smart,
I knew and was certain in my heart,
No one could tell me what to do.
I did what I pleased and liked it, too.
Then came a time when what I craved
Could only be mine if I misbehaved.

About that time I heard the WORD,
That until then had seemed absurd.
“Do Unto Others as You Want THEM to do.”
It made sense at last and seemed easy, too.
I tried it once, and twice and then again,
It seemed to please both women and men.

If we ALL observed this rule of Gold,
Parents and teachers need never scold,
Our rules and laws would always be heeded.
Prisons and jails would never be needed.
We’d all be liked by all about us,
And no one we spoke to would ever doubt us.

There are bound to be some who just can’t do it
And more than a few who will just pooh-pooh it.
But if most of us try and seldom forget,
We’ll make this world a better place yet.
Won’t you join me in this promise today,
Do Unto Me as I’d Do Unto You,...Okay??

MVH Staff Phone Directory

Missouri Veterans’ Home Phone # 573-581-1088
Missouri Veterans’ Home Fax # 573-581-5356

PLEASE NOTE EXTENSION NUMBERS

Adams, Don - Engineer	1241
Allison-Mitchell, Yvonne - VSO	1258
Ames, Teresa - Environmental Serv.	1287
Baker, Angie - Asst. Administrator	1283
Baldwin, Linda - Personnel	1254
Benne, Marlene - 2nd Floor Unit Mgr.	1289
Blackburn, Janna - 1st Floor Unit Mgr.	1291
Broughton, Brooke - Storekeeper I	1280
Bybee, Carolyn - MDS Coordinator	1302
Davidson, Rita - LPN, Social Services	1273
Edwards, Aliesha - 3rd Floor Unit Mgr	1267
Ezell, Brenda - Administrator	1251
Farnen, Jeanie - C.I.T.	1255
Flowers, Marisa - Supv. Health Info.	1264
Leible, Ron - Supply Manager	1279
Maggard, Nicole - Activity Aide	1295
Mahon, Patrick - Accountant	1256
McManus, Matthias - Barber	1276
Paden, Susan - Volunteer Services	1286
Payne, Ginger - Receptionist	1250
Polacek, Joyce - Physical Therapy	1259
Reimann, Darrin - Recreation Therapy	1271
Riddle, Lori - Staff Devel. Coord.	1262
Rodenbaugh, Lisa - Nursing Scheduler	1252
Secrease, Connie - Medical Records	1260
Smithee, Stacie -Dir. Social Services	1265
Stevenson, Patrick - D.N.S.	1263
Stewart, Bonnie - Account Clerk	1257
Stone, Nicole - Social Services	1272
Wages, Jessica - Admission Coordinator	1253
Whelan, Heather - Timekeeper	1301
Winkelman, Kathy - Activity Therapist	1270
Young, Sandy - Food Service Manager	1278
1st Floor Nurses Station	1221
2nd Floor Nurses Station	1222
3rd Floor Nurses Station	1223



We say farewell to:

Mr. Harry Durbin on August 24, 2015. He was admitted on June 13, 2006 as the 978th resident. Mr. Durbin served in the United States Army from 1970 - 1972.

Mr. George Settle on August 30, 2015. He was admitted on January 2, 2014 as the 1410th resident. Mr. Settle served in the United States Army from 1943 - 1945.

Mr. Roy Wheat on September 13, 2015. He was admitted on April 25, 2013 as the 1357th resident. Mr. Wheat served in the United States Army from 1943 - 1946.

Mr. Larry Friedersdorf on September 19, 2015. He was admitted on August 18, 2014 as the 1446th resident. Mr. Friedersdorf served in the United States Marine Corps from 1968 - 1992.

Mr. Jesse Todd on September 26, 2015. He was admitted on October 2, 2012 as the 1320th resident. Mr. Todd served in the United States Army from 1944 - 1945.

Mr. Edward Gibbs on September 28, 2015. He was admitted on September 18, 2014 as the 1454th resident. Mr. Gibbs served in the United States Army from 1944 - 1945.

Mr. Bruce Wilson on October 10, 2015. He was admitted on April 14, 1999 as the 672nd resident. Mr. Wilson served in the United States Air Force from 1972 - 1975.

Mr. Elmer Lawrence on October 11, 2015. He was admitted on September 23, 2010 as the 1214th resident. Mr. Lawrence served in the United States Army from 1953 - 1955.

Mr. Ernie Bretthorst on October 20, 2015. He was admitted on June 10, 2015 as the 1506th resident. Mr. Bretthorst served in the United States Army from 1954 - 1956.

Mr. Charlie Goodnight on October 20, 2015. He was admitted on February 18, 1998 as the 621st resident. Mr. Goodnight served in the United States Army from 1957 - 1958.

Mr. Gene Perkins on October 20, 2015. He was admitted on July 16, 2013 as the 1382nd resident. Mr. Perkins served in the United States Army from 1942 - 1945.

Mr. Larry Ray on October 21, 2015. He was admitted on April 27, 2011 as the 1255th resident. Mr. Ray served in the United States Marine Corps from 1968 - 1970.

Mr. Dean Peery on October 26, 2015. He was admitted on October 14, 2015 as the 1522nd resident. Mr. Peery served in the United States Marine Corps from 1943 - 1946.

Mr. James Bates on October 29, 2015. He was admitted on June 9, 2014 as the 1433rd resident. Mr. Bates served in the United States Navy from 1943 - 1946.

Mr. Louis Anesi on November 8, 2015. He was admitted on July 23, 2014 as the 1444th resident. Mr. Anesi served in the United States Army from 1952 - 1954.

Mr. Willard "Bill" Pumphrey on November 10, 2015. He was admitted on July 22, 2015 as the 1512th resident. Mr. Pumphrey served in the United States Marine Corps from 1942 - 1945.

Mr. Doyle Gregg on November 11, 2015. He was admitted on January 9, 2012 as the 1303rd resident. Mr. Gregg served in the United States Army from 1956 - 1958.

Mr. Robert Dietiker on November 25, 2015. He was admitted on July 16, 2014 as the 1443rd resident. Mr. Dietiker served in the United States Army Air from 1942 - 1946.

Mr. Russell "Leonard" Armontrout on November 27, 2015. He was admitted on May 17, 2010 as the 1203rd resident. Mr. Armontrout served in the United States Navy from 1945 - 1946.

Mr. Theodore Splitt on November 28, 2015. He was admitted on July 8, 2010 as the 1209th resident. Mr. Splitt served in the United States Army from 1956 - 1958 and the Reserves until 1965.

Mr. John Robert "Bob" Morris on December 5, 2015. He was admitted on December 30, 2014 as the 1466th resident. Mr. Morris served in the United States Air Force from 1955 - 1959.

Mr. Elmer Fogle on December 9, 2015. He was admitted on October 22, 2015 as the 1524th resident. Mr. Fogle served in the United States Air Force from 1950 - 1970.

Mr. Harold Golden on December 7, 2015. He was admitted on May 26, 2015 as the 1500th resident. Mr. Golden served in the United States Marine Corps from 1950 - 1951.

Mr. Donald Hansbrough on December 10, 2015. He was admitted on November 29, 2011 as the 1291st resident. Mr. Hansbrough served in the United States Navy from 1948 - 1952.

Donations

General:

VFW Post #6276	\$ 105.00
Judi & Bob Sterns - honor Ann Rose Hermann & Dr. Ralph Pollack	50.00
Sonya Willoughby - honor Louie Lewis	100.00
TV Special Project:	
Bay American Legion Auxiliary #541	\$ 100.00
Kara Winterbower	30.00
Taz Hall	95.00
Rhonda Deichman	200.00
Mary Ellen Sweitzer	100.00
Martinsburg Community Church	210.00
Saverton Illasco United Methodist Women	200.00
Audrey Stevens	15.00
Hubbell Paris American Legion Post #510	1000.00
Steve & Pam Gordon	100.00
American Legion Post #388	1000.00
Thomas & Louise Sitton	10.00
Lois Stark	10.00
Victoria Ornelas	200.00
VVA #833	200.00
VFW Post #3056	2000.00
American Legion Post #552	125.00
Mid MO Chapter DAR	50.00
Ladies VFW Auxiliary #2657	100.00
John & Emma Lee McMurtry	100.00
Ladies Auxiliary VFW - Dept. of MO	300.00
Adopt-A-Vet:	
Ladies VFW Auxiliary #2657	\$ 120.00
DAV #17	750.00
Vandalia VFW Auxiliary #2173	96.00
Hermann VFW Auxiliary #4182	50.00
Ladies Auxiliary VFW #9064	260.00
Golf Tournament:	
VFW Auxiliary #2654	\$ 310.00
Tommy Oliver	260.00
Bill McIntosh	260.00
Graf & Sons Inc.	250.00
Larry Bedford - Shelter Insurance	50.00
Mexico Plastics Company	100.00
Brent Thomas	65.00
Dale & Patti Cone	100.00
HW Holland Trucking & Excavating	260.00
James Bledsoe American Legion Post #26	650.00
American Legion Auxiliary #174	50.00
P.A. Hull	260.00
Paden/Neuendorf Team	260.00
MOC Running Bare PT #5	100.00
Custom Auto Glass	360.00
Vaughn Hudnall VFW Auxiliary	50.00
Mexico Elks Lodge #919	520.00
Tom Maupin	260.00
Lewis Melahn	75.00
John Ogden	60.00
David Miller	100.00
Tom Baldwin	65.00
Webber Pharmacy	260.00
Oliver Funeral Home	320.00
Bryan Hunt	85.00
Dwight Campbell	65.00
John Dial	75.00
Rusty Moore	75.00
Chad Rosenstengel	260.00
Baldwin's Team Winnings	200.00
Paden/Neuendorf Team Winnings	250.00
Brad Haggard	65.00
Special Care Unit:	
James Schade	\$ 20.00
Activities:	
Dept. of MO VFW	\$1170.00
Tieman-Blackburn #478	100.00
Larry Kay	40.00
Grand Lodge of the Elks	500.00
VFW Post #3772	150.00
Mexico Elks Lodge #919	280.00
Barbara Fisher	100.00
VFW Post 2657	500.00
Michael Mackey	40.00
Anna Marie Alderson	50.00
Ron & Martha Reinerd	90.00
Brenda Ezell	100.00
Linda Morgan	400.00
Renee Nadeau	110.00

Nancy & Robert Mette	120.00
William Ehrlich	155.00
Teresa Barnett	45.00
Dwight Hudspeth	40.00
Ray Keller	50.00
Ioulia Marty	100.00
American Legion Auxiliary - Department of MO	100.00
DAV #17	1500.00
Lori & Dennis Hodges	250.00
Indigent:	
Adair VFW Post #2508	\$ 120.00
Hermann VFW Auxiliary #4182	25.00
Ernest K. Gerhardt VFW Auxiliary #5923	100.00
Bingo:	
American Legion Post #552	\$ 350.00
Vandalia VFW Post #2173	20.00
Benny Remley	50.00
Vandalia VFW Auxiliary #2173	20.00
Chuck & Betty Ball	90.00
Rheva Tratchel	5 0 00
Mizzou Marines/Rylan Mann	200.00
Dwight Hudspeth	60.00
Anonymous	277.72
George Ebbers	5.00
Leon Skaggs	20.00
American Gold Star Mothers Inc.	25.00
Clothing Protectors:	
Ladies Auxiliary VFW - Dept. of MO	\$ 100.00
Hermann VFW Auxiliary #4182	25.00
Susan Andres	200.00
American Legion Post #312	150.00
IPods:	
DAV #17	\$2500.00
Audrain County VFW Post #3772	1200.00
Cathy Gronauer	400.00
Christmas:	
DAVA #17	\$1200.00
Grand of MO Running Bare MOCA #5	75.00
William Montgomery	50.00
Donald Bryan	300.00
DAVA #43	60.00
American Legion Auxiliary #347	100.00
Staff Activities:	
Dr. Peggy Barjenbruch	\$ 100.00
Aliesha Edwards	25.00
Harvey & Anneliese Giddens	200.00
Willard Pumphrey	100.00
Harold & Bonnie Golden	25.00
Lynne Hillis	100.00
Justus & Helen Griffin	100.00
Lois Hodges	200.00
Ed & Virginia Handley	500.00
Kent & Paula Kurtz	100.00
Willie & Darlene Hiatte	300.00
Bill Simmons/Kathy Murphy	50.00
Sam & Joe Ann Rees	25.00
Barbara Fisher	100.00
Curtis & Lucille Lawrence	50.00
Lawrence Thomas	100.00
Dean & Laverne Shelley	100.00
Dale & Carol Keller	25.00
James Schauwecker	100.00
Leonard Richardt/Gail Evans	100.00
Wendell Mustain/Susan Wilson	200.00
Dianne Collins	25.00
Shirley Eckert	100.00
Frank & Jessie Witzczak	100.00
Renate Brady	25.00
Duane Sublett	100.00
Bob & Nora Lea Poage	50.00
PACE:	
American Legion Auxiliary #370	\$ 50.00
American Legion Auxiliary Gift Shop:	
American Legion Auxiliary #370	\$ 100.00
American Legion Auxiliary #226	300.00
Poker Run:	
Richard Wylde	\$ 20.00
Dan Carson	200.00
John Opie - 50/50 winner	66.00
Potato Bar:	
Barrett Hutchinson	\$ 55.00
Robinett Construction	25.00
Heather Haefling	85.00
Bev Brothers	20.00

NOTES FROM HOME

Your care for our father these past years has been appreciated more than you may know. Dad deserved the best and he got it!

*With respect and thankfulness,
Meridith Fiore (Edward Gibbs daughter - Annie)*

To Those Who cared for Charles Goodnight - I so appreciate your patience and perserverance in caring for Charlie all this time, through some times and occasions that were not easy to deal with. Thank you for all your calls keeping me up to date on Charlie's care and condition. Sorry I have not been with you to thank you more personally but know I will not forget your constant efforts on Charlie's behalf.

Tom Leising

*To ALL the STAFF at MVH -
Thank you!
Family of George C. Settle*

Thank you to everyone, especially for all your caring and kindness during this very difficult time. You kept him comfortable during his final days.

The Family of Dean E. Peery

The Theodore Splitt family would like to thank you for sharing precious moments in the life of our Teddy Splitt. He passed into the hands of God on November 28, 2015. He knew that he was surrounded by ones who loved and care for him and did not end/began his journey to his Heavenly home. Life will certainly be less colorful without him.

We would like to thank you for the thoughts, prayers, and unlimited compassion shown to our Ted and our family. We will always be grateful for the many caring acts of kindness that every member of the VA facility blessed us with. Those connections were so important to Ted's well being and our peace of mind. May God bless each and every one who knew Ted. Know that we appreciate all that you have done for our dear Ted.

Thank you.

With Love,

*Lorna, Ken, Anne Splitt and
Dot & Ray Welge & Family*

To The Mexico Veterans Home

The Jesse Todd family would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the Mexico Veterans for giving such loving care to our Dad over the past three years. We would especially like to thank the third floor staff, with a very special thank you to Lisa, for your kindness, love, and care. Dad lived to the wonderful age of 94, spending 91 of those years in Columbia, MO before moving to the VA. It broke all of our hearts when we knew we could no longer care for Dad and needed to ask for help. But after three years at the VA, Dad came to call it "home". Thank you for treating him like he was your own Dad or Grandpa.

Dad's father passed away when he was 14, he helped his mother care for three younger siblings still at home. Then WWII happened, Dad joined the Army from 1942 to 1946. For two years he was in the military police, he wanted to be on a tank but his eyesight was not good enough, so he trained to be a surgical technician and was stationed in the Philippines. His most memorable story has always been the horrible boat ride, being sea sick and home sick. The same year he returned home from the service, his mother died. Dad's career was spent working for the Post Office delivering mail for 33 years, and over 30 years as a part time hairstylist, owning his own beauty shop. He was married for 53 years and had two daughters. the simple things in life made Dad happy, a good Western, good food, a Cardinal win, but the all-time most important thing to Dad was family. Dad's greatest joys were spending time with family and knowing we would be there to support each other, in good times and bad. We tried to visit Dad weekly at the VA, every time we left, he would say, "thank you for coming to see me and spending time with me". He just wanted to be loved, appreciated and to know that he had made a difference in our lives.

I'm sure a common theme of families coming to the VA say, "I wish you could have know my loved one when..." We wish you could have know Dad when he could better care for himself, especially before his speech started declining. He had a wonderful sense of humor and was very opinionated in his quiet way. He loved giving strong bear hugs, handshakes, and waves to everyone he would see. Thank you for being the family Dad needed when we could not be there with him. It is our honor to call Jesse Todd our Dad, he was the perfect example of a loving father. We treasure all of our memories and cherish the time we had with him. Here's one last wave goodbye and hug from Jesse!

The Jesse Todd Family



MISSOURI VETERANS COMMISSION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY & STATE OF MISSOURI EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Jeff Smithee, Maintenance Worker II Missouri Veterans Commission - Mexico Veterans' Home, was selected as the October 2015 Employee of the Month for the Department of Public Safety. Jeff was chosen as the Employee of the Month because of his quick assessment of and response to a situation involving a Veteran requiring immediate medical assistance. Without any hesitation, Jeff immediately responded, and as a result, redirected the outcome of what had quickly progressed into a dire moment. It was Jeff's attention to his surroundings and to the Veterans themselves, while performing his routine maintenance responsibilities, which attributed to a life being saved that day. Then during the month of November, Jeff was selected as the November 2015 State of Missouri Employee of the Month. Congratulations and way to go, Jeff!!

Michelle Kennon, VSO in the Veterans Service Program's Southeast Region, was selected as the October 2015 Missouri Veterans Commission Employee of the Month. She was nominated by her peers and selected because in the short time she has been with the Missouri Veterans Commission, she has shown to be a very reliable Veterans Service Officer and very knowledgeable of all VA benefits. Her calming demeanor makes her incredibly effective when dealing with clients. When asked to support two additional client offices following the resignation of a Veterans Service Officer, Michelle remained flexible and demonstrated a unique ability to effectively balance client's needs at three different locations. Her day after day exemplifies true dedication to the Commission's Mission Statement of honoring and serving our Veterans. Michelle is a true role model for all Commission staff. Congratulations, Michelle!!

Robert Williams, VSO in the Veterans Service Program's Northwest Region, was selected as the November 2015 Missouri Veterans Commission Employee of the Month. He was nominated by his peers and selected because of his willingness to help at other offices due to vacancies while still keeping his own office running smoothly and taking care of the Veterans in his own location. Recently an Annual Office Audit was done at his Lee's Summit location and he received a 100% rating. Robert is extremely dependable and an inspiration to all Veterans Service Officers. He routinely demonstrates his readiness to accept additional responsibility when asked and has demonstrated over and over again during his tenure of continually going above and beyond the requirements of a VSO to assist his clients. Congratulations, Robert!

Shelley Lovell, Senior Office Support Assistant within Missouri Veterans' Commission - Jacksonville Cemetery, was selected as the November 2015 Employee of the Month for the Department of Public Safety. During the interim period of the Cemetery Director position being vacant, Shelley was completely on her own at times to handle the duties of a seasoned Cemetery Director. Shelley's willingness to rise to the challenge gained her the respect of everyone she encountered because of her impressive initiative, organizational ability, knowledge, problem solving skills and willingness to help any and all in need of assistance. Congratulations, Shelley!!

Jason Crowder, Maintenance Worker I at the Missouri Veterans Home - Warrensburg was selected as the December 2015 Missouri Veterans Commission Employee of the Month. He was nominated by his peers and selected because of the dedication he showed by taking time out of his busy schedule to respond to a request made by a Veteran resident's family member. While conversing with Jason on a Sunday, the Veteran's family member mentioned that they had purchased a dry erase board for the Veteran's room and hadn't had a chance to speak with Maintenance to hang the board. Upon learning that the board needed to be hung, he eagerly and attentively took down information on where it was located in the room and where to hang the board. By the time the Veteran and his family member finished church service and returned to the room, it was hanging on the wall. The extra time and consideration the Jason took to tend to the family of the Veterans' needs was outstanding since the Maintenance Department weekend staff is comprised of only one Maintenance Worker, as opposed to the normal staffing of seven during the week. Congratulations, Jason you are a true role model of all Commission staff.

Bryan Courtney, Interoperability Communications Director within the Office of the Director, was selected as the December 2015 Employee of the Month for the Department of Public Safety. Bryan was chosen as the Employee of the Month because of his ongoing dedication to and work on the Missouri statewide Interoperable Network (MOSWIN). The nature of public safety communications required a reliable, always ready system that first responders are able to depend upon. Bryan takes this charge very seriously and uses the resources at his disposal to assure both technical and operational support is provided to the extent those resources allow. He is completely committed to delivering a first class radio experience to users and provides exceptional customer service to public safety agencies across the state and many users. Congratulations, Bryan!!

MEXICO VETERANS' HOME SALUTES...

Bruce Wilson

Bruce was born on October 10, 1950 in Moberly, Missouri as one of four children. He has a brother, one sister and a half-sister. His family moved to Fayette, Missouri in 1958. As a child, Bruce loved playing football and baseball. He played linebacker and guard for the Fayette High School football team and played first baseman and outfielder for their baseball team. He also loved riding his Harley Davidson motorcycles! After graduating high school, Bruce studied physical education at Central Methodist College in Fayette.

Bruce joined the U.S. Air Force in 1972 and served until 1975 with a final rank of Sergeant. He completed his basic training in Texas, his bomber training in North Dakota and served in Vietnam as a bomber.

After service, he worked as a bartender and bouncer at a bar. Later he worked as a truck driver, driving all over the country. He enjoyed these jobs very much. He continued to love riding his Harley Davidson motorcycles and rode whenever he had a chance. His favorite place to ride was in California.

Bruce came to the Missouri Veterans' Home in April 1999. The past 3 years Bruce had been adopted by two classes at McMillan Elementary School in Mexico where he would go once a month and read to each class and tell about his service time. Bruce loved children of all ages and they loved him. Bruce passed away on October 10, 2015. We were so proud to know and serve him. He was recognized as the Veteran of the Month in September 2015.

MEXICO VETERANS' HOME SALUTES...

Ed Wallace

Ed was born on January 30, 1926 as one of two children. He had one brother and they were raised in Laddonia, Missouri. His father was a store keeper and his mother was the Audrain County treasurer. As a child, Ed loved hunting, fishing, playing basketball, and racing cars. He was an avid race car driver and also worked on pit crews for big time racers, such as Carl Edwards.

After graduating high school, Ed served in the Army from 1944-1945 as a chauffeur and mechanic. His most significant memory was being wounded in combat and being one of only two men left alive on the battlefield. Ed carried the other man off the field because he too was wounded. Ed's mother was informed Ed was killed in battle and was shocked and very happy when he returned home. After his service with the Army, Ed joined the Army Air Corp, serving from 1945-1946.

After service, Ed married Flo and they had two children: Kenny and Becky. After that marriage ended, he married Nellie on January 19, 1957 and they had four children: Tony, Mary, Jimmy, and Margaret. The family enjoyed camping and fishing together. In 2009 Ed invited the whole family on a camping trip. He was joined by 22 family members and he still camped the real way: in a tent. Ed's most significant life experience was going on the Honor Flight in September 2010.

Ed spent his career working for A.P. Green for 47 years in maintenance. He retired in January 1988.

Ed came to the Missouri Veterans' Home in December 2011. We are so proud to know and serve him. Please join us in congratulating Ed and his family as we salute him as the October Resident of the Month!

MEXICO VETERANS' ***HOME SALUTES...***

Harvey Giddens

Harvey was born on April 17, 1929 near Joplin, Missouri on a small farm. He had a younger brother, Owen. His father worked in maintenance at the mines and then as a carpenter. His mother worked in a bakery making bread and cookies. Harvey remembers his mother was fast at everything. She could do anything faster than anyone he knew. His father taught him to be a good hunter and fisherman. Harvey stayed busy on the farm while growing up. He loved hunting and fishing. He graduated from Seneca High School.

After high school, Harvey joined the Army at the age of 19 and served for 30 years. He completed basic training in Fort Knox, Kentucky. Then he went to Fort Leonard Wood, serving as First Sergeant and Operations Sergeant. Afterwards, he completed a three year tour in Germany as a non-commissioned officer for the artillery unit of the 73rd AAA Battalion. After returning to Fort Leonard Wood, Harvey worked for the 18th Engineer Brigade. He had met the love of his life, Ann, in Germany and she joined him in Missouri in August. They married in Neosho, Missouri on August 23, 1956. Later that month, Harvey was offered a military mission and was sent to Iran for three years. Ann and their son, Peter, joined Harvey in Iran in January. Harvey remembers Iran was beautiful.

After his tour in Iran, the family returned to Fort Leonard Wood where Harvey worked as an Operations Sergeant. He was then assigned to G1 at Fort Leavenworth. The Army requested he return to Iran for another tour, so he and Ann went, while Peter stayed behind to attend the University of Missouri. In Iran, Harvey was the advisor to the Imperial Iranian Gendarmerie. After Iran, Harvey returned to Fort Leavenworth and was assigned to the Combat Arms group on a special assignment. He then served in Vietnam for 13 months where he enlisted troops and issued clothing. Finally, he went to Germany for five years on a NATO assignment, serving as Sergeant Major of the AG Division of the Central Army Group. This was his most enjoyable period of service, as he was on pass most of the time. He and Ann traveled often during the weekends. Their favorite places were Heidelberg and Manheim. Harvey loved the food, beer, and beautiful country of Germany. He enjoyed spending time with Ann's family. After returning to Fort Leonard Wood, Harvey retired from the Army in August 1978 as Sergeant Major. He enjoyed his 30 years of service.

Harvey and Ann then returned home to his small family farm in Joplin, Missouri where they built a house and adopted a dog, Putsi (pronounced Put-see). Eventually they moved to Columbia to live closer to their son, Peter and his wife Annie. Harvey is a proud grandfather of two girls and a boy. He loves spending time with his family.

Harvey came to the Missouri Veteran's Home in February 2015. We are so proud to know and serve him. Please join us in congratulating Harvey and his family as we salute him as the November resident of the month!

MEMORIALS

In loving memory of Daniel Hinton: Glenn & Jackie Oney, Dr. & Mrs. D.E. Rhoads

In loving memory of Marvin Jones: Gary & Phyllis Jones, Hal Sappington, Lorene Jeffrey, Bobbie & Cynthia Glascock, Bob Akin & Jan Bradley, James & Alva Cunningham

In loving memory of Mary McPike: Dudley McPike

In loving memory of James Bates: Joseph Peck, Mr. & Mrs. Harry Rodecape, Daniel & Sara Hake, Alice Baker, Kenneth Patton

In loving memory of John Blass: Arlie & Pattie Reinwald

In loving memory of Harry Durbin: Kenny & Elgie Diemeke, Paris United Methodist Church, Walter & Patti Frey, Sue Lamb, Linda Martin, Lyle Lamb, Dorothy Carter, Keith & Brenda Dowell, Eddie & Brenda Vaughn, Rebecca Childress, Margaret Babb, Steve & Shirley Smith

In loving memory of Gene Fowler: John & Carol Elder, Marcia J. Opp & Family, Mary & Lawrence Goddard, Central Bank, Dorothy & John Hart,

In loving memory of George Settle: Mark & Eva Bernhardt, William & Patricia Stotts, Daniel & Marie Hotle, Theodore & Ruth Tyler

In loving memory of Roy Wheat: Alfred & Helen Hosenfelt, Robert & Betty Maddox, Mr. & Mrs. Harry Rodecape, Edward Books, Mrs. Faye Gowin,

In loving memory of Wesley Biggs: Marceline Veterinary Clinic PC, Montgomery Ved Clinic, Tri-Oak Foods Inc., James D. Peterson, Alan & Connie Michlenbruck, Mitchel Brun, Penny Burns, Jerome & Penny Ward, Kenneth & Teresa Doss, Norma Hayes, RA & Peggy Sue Slater, David & Peggy Hane, MT & Cynthia Severa, Loretta Brookshier, Earl & Anita Burns, Larry & Nancy Duncan, Martin & Mary Cupp, Timothy & Debra Pursifull, William E. Jones, Gary & Judy Redmon, Shirley Biggs, Stephen & Nancy Laursen, John Harold Plaster

In loving memory of Jesse Todd: Jerry & Kathy Miller, Leslie McGuire, Susan & Bruce Woodbury, Vera Herter, Shelter Insurance Accounting Department, National Assoc. of Letter Carriers - Branch 763, Roger & Alice Huhman

In loving memory of Wanda Harleen Cline: Mr. & Mrs. Gary Cline, Mr. & Mrs. Mike Cline, James & Betsy Cline

In loving memory of Louis Anesi: Mr. & Mrs. Harry Rodecape

In loving memory of Leonard Armontrout: Louise Turner, Phil & Brenda Turner, Minta Wilson, Michael Mackey, Wayne & Linda Benoit, Sheila & Patrick Christy, Raymond Smith

In loving memory of Don Hansbrough: Craig & Debra Buback

In loving memory of Charlie Goodnight: Michael Mackey

In loving memory of Bob Morris: Mr. & Mrs. Harry Rodecape, Lou & Betty Lewis

Missouri Veterans' Home
1 Veterans Drive
Mexico, MO 65265

Presorted Std.
U.S. Postage Paid
Mexico, MO
Permit No. 244

Update Mailing List

We are constantly updating our mailing list. Please let me know if you move or change addresses, if you are receiving more than one copy of the newsletter, if you no longer want a copy or if you know of someone who would like to be added to the mailing list just call 573-581-1088 ext. 1286 or e-mail susan.paden@mvc.dps.mo.gov