

Merli Messenger

Volume 4 Issue 4
April 2017

401 Penn Avenue Scranton, PA (570)961-4300

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Light Our Way
Page 1

Welcome Home
Page 2

Happy Birthday
Page 2

Bring Your Child
To Work Page 3

Preparing for
Memorial Day
Page 3

Red Poppies
Page 4

Generous Giving
Page 5/6

Taps
Page 6

LIGHT OUR WAY

Luminaries will be used this year to help commemorate **MEMORIAL DAY** at the Gino J. Merli Veterans' Center.

Tradition has it that luminaries lit the way for Mary and Joseph in their search for lodging. Christmas Eve Luminaries are said to originate from Spanish merchants who were impressed with the paper lanterns from the Chinese culture.

Several variations of the luminary exist, but the most familiar is the luminary that contains a light source -usually a candle- inside a plain or decorated small paper bag.

Luminaries are also linked through history to ancient traditions of communicating, warning and celebrating. In recent years the use of luminaries has expanded so they are used throughout the year to enhance any occasion in which multiple lights will guide, celebrate or beautify.

Mulberry Court will be transformed into an **HONOR GARDEN** from May 29th to June 1st. The names and identified branch of service of loved ones will be placed in the Luminaries to impress indelibly their sacrifice to our beloved Country.

These priceless points of light (Luminaries) can be purchased from April 15th until May 29th by individuals, groups and /or organizations **while supplies last.** They can be purchased for only \$5.00 at the Canteen or in the Volunteer Resource Coordinator's Office. All proceeds will be deposited in the **RESIDENT WELFARE FUND.**



Newsletter info:

Feedback is important.
Please send articles or
information for inclusion in
the next newsletter to:

Sarah Butler, Admissions
(570) 961-4348
sabulter@pa.gov

Or

DeLores Davis, Volunteer
Resource Coordinator
(570) 961-4380
delodavis@pa.gov

Volunteer Staff:
Lorraine Lenge

THE MERLI MESSENGER

Residents will receive a hard
copy of the newsletter.

If anyone would like to
subscribe, contact one of the
above people.



WELCOME HOME!

Paul Boucher
3-01

Stevie Squirlock
3-08

Kenneth Wilmot
3-16

Robert Kilmer
3-20

Richard Sabol
3-21



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

04/04
David Brown
Donald Oswald

04/06
Wedo Cost

04/08
Eugene Murphy

04/09
Michael Smirne

04/15
George Moon

04/16
Clarence Prisco

04/18
Pauline Radvak

04/25
Wilbur Stiles

04/29
James Lucy

**AND MANY
MORE...**



BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK

April 27th is going to be a special day at the Gino J. Merli Veterans' Center. Staff is invited to bring their child with them to work so the children can enjoy a fun day at the Center:

9:00	Meet in the Lobby
9:05	Morning Meeting
9:25	Meet Volunteers & Activity Staff
9:30 to 11:00	Arts and Crafts with residents
11:00 to 12:00	Tours of Departments by Department Heads
12:00 to 12:45	Lunch in MPR
12:45 to 1:30	Tours of Departments by Department Heads
1:30 to 3:15	Rita's Ice Social with residents
3:15	Closure Meeting - Children to receive Certificates for participating

Take Your Daughter or Son to Work Day



**DELAYED
DUE TO
FLU**

PREPARING FOR MEMORIAL DAY

The observance of Memorial Day will be highlighting the service of the men who served during the Vietnam War.



A memorialization in the form of a pin and letter of tribute will be presented to each Vietnam Veteran, who reside in the Center, to emphasize their service to our beloved Country.

The ceremony will be on **May 29th at 10 AM in the MPR.**

FACTS ABOUT MILITARY FACTS

RED POPPIES

In response to the poem “In Flanders Field” in 1915 Monia Michael wrote:

*“We cherish too, the
Poppy red that grows on
fields where valor led. It
seems to signal to the
skies that blood of heroes
never dies”.*

She then conceived an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial Day to honor those who died serving the nation during war. Ms Michael was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends to raise money to benefit servicemen in need.

Later Madam Guerin from France

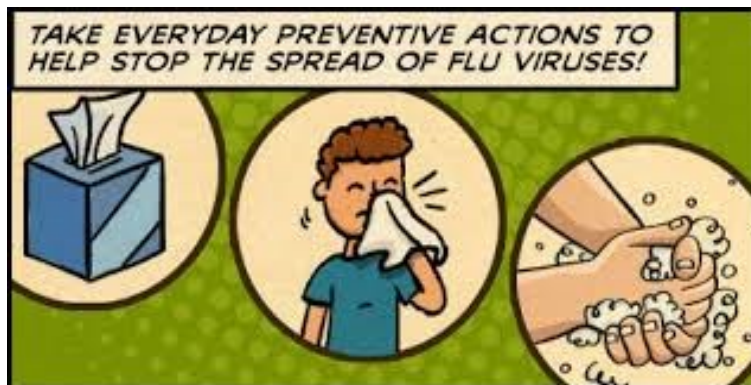
learned of this new custom and when she returned to her country made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphans.

Shortly before Memorial Day 1922 the VFW became the first veterans organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their “Buddy” Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans.

In 1948 the US Post Office honored Ms Michael by issuing a Red 3 Cent Postage Stamp with her likeness on it.



PREVENT THE FLU FROM SPREADING



Stay home when you are sick.

Cover your cough.

Wash your hands.

Get your flu shot.

GENEROUS GIVINGS:

MONETARY

Red Cross donated \$50.00 for bingo. Wyoming Valley Drug and Alcohol Services Inc donated \$200.00.

Janet Fallon donated \$284.83 for bingo and coffee and donuts. Friends of the Forgotten donated \$80.84 for coffee and donuts and \$50.00.

VFW Auxiliary Post 509 donated \$25.00. Keystone Chapter of UNICO donated \$100.00 for bingo.

Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks donated \$300.00 for dine ins. St Matthew's United Evangelical Lutheran Church donated \$100.00.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GIVE:

Contact:

DeLores Davis,
Volunteer Resource
Coordinator
(570) 961-4380
delodavis@pa.gov

A resident wish list is available for personal comfort items.

IN KIND

PennFed formally Valor Credit Union donated promotional items, which were used for volunteer appreciation brunch and donor appreciation dessert reception as thank yous. Wyoming County VA Affairs donated blankets and cards. systems for the new smart tvs, clothing, and personal care items.

St Johns Luther Church donated blankets and personal items. Marine Corps League Auxiliary donated personal care items. Home Depot RDC 5089 donated patio chairs.

Cecilia Setzer donated 14 wheelchair bags. Girl Scouts Troop 32115 donated girl scout cookies. Kevin Haggerty, PA Representative donated his time and driving skills to provide rides to employees during the blizzard of 2017.

American Legion Auxiliary Post 579 donated tv sound

GENEROUS GIVINGS CONTINUE:

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Fredrick and Sandra Karl donated \$25.00 in memory of John Andrew Feher.

VFW Post 3474 donated \$100.00 in memory of Joseph Ehnot.

Jerry Lavelle donated monies in memory of Joseph Lavelle.

John and Marlene Shields donated \$25.00 in memory of John Prislupski.

Joseph and MaryAnn Arnold donated \$25.00 in memory of John Prislupski.

Thank you for your generosity and support. You are deeply appreciated by the veterans, families, and staff at the Center. These gifts will enhance the quality of life of our residents.

Thank You

TAPS

Gino J. Merli Veterans' Center extends its deepest sympathy to the loved ones of the following veterans who have recently passed away.

Their presence will be greatly missed.

Edward Grauf

John Prislupski

Alexander Stanchacz

March 10

March 12

March 27

