After a two-year hiatus the PA Soldiers’ & Sailors’ Home (PSSH) was once again able to observe Memorial Day with the Erie community. The ceremony commenced at 1:00pm with welcoming remarks from Commandant, Cheri Spacht, followed by the posting of colors from the McDowell High School Air Force Jr. ROTC. The Bay Front Brass Quintet, which provided music throughout the ceremony, played the National Anthem. VFW District 28 Chaplain, Chris Crawford, offered the invocation and a roll call of all VFW and American Legion posts in attendance was announced.

The keynote speaker was Erie County Director of Veterans Affairs, Joe Benacci, who offered up solemn words that poignantly portrayed the sacrifice of lives lost in service to our country.

The service songs of the armed forces were then played with veterans and active service members standing to be recognized. Following a reading of names of PSSH residents that had passed away in the previous year a wreath was placed at the flagpole by the Guardians USA Vets Blue Chapter in their honor. This was accompanied by the playing of a Remembrance Hymn from the Pipes and Drums of the Erepa Grotto.

The McDowell High School Air Force Jr. ROTC performed the POW/MIA Remembrance and Fallen Warrior ceremonies which was supported by the playing of Amazing Grace. The ceremony concluded with a three-volley salute from the American Legion Post 571 Honor Guard and the playing of taps.
As spring is blooming, I am personally looking forward to the upcoming days full of sunshine and warmer temperatures.

I hope all the ladies had a wonderful Mother’s Day! A Mother’s Day Social was held on Friday, May 6th to honor all of our beautiful moms. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Wednesday, May 25th for the completion of the Bridge Project. Memorial Day was officially observed on May 30th. Our annual Memorial Day service here at PSSH was held on Sunday, May 29th. Thank you to everyone that volunteered for our service to help honor the veterans and their families.

Quarterly Advisory Board Meeting will be held on June 14, 2022, at 0900 in the PCU Chapel followed by our Hall of Fame Dedication Ceremony at 1000 in the Gazebo. Let us welcome all of the family and friends of the inductees that will be visiting our facility for the ceremony, as well as, the Advisory Council members.

Salute to Veterans’ Home Week that runs Sunday, June 12th through Saturday, June 18th. Our activities department has many fun-filled events planned throughout the week. Thank you to everyone that are giving their time and effort to help make this week a success!

On Sunday, June 19th we celebrate Father’s Day. We will be holding a “Bros and Tatoos Social” to celebrate our Dads! Happy Father’s Day to all the Dads!

Safety reminder… Please utilize sunscreen on our residents before they go outside as they are super sensitive and will burn easily. Encourage them to drink plenty of fluids and to not stay in the direct sun for long periods of time. Prevention is key!

Our “Caught You Caring” employee of the month of the April is Rob Miazga! You can find Rob working day shift helping with resident transportation needs. Rob is a great asset to our PSSH team. Thank you for everything you do for our resident’s! Congratulations Rob!!

One last thought...

“Try to be a rainbow in someone’s cloud”.
June’s Birthdays

John Wonner  June 1  Lois Struchen  June 20
Thomas Holmes  June 2  John LaPlaca  June 21
Alice Bailey  June 3  Walter Evans  June 23
William Rose  June 6  Louis Zullo Jr.  June 23
Michael Yanick  June 7  William Kruszewski  June 24
Gordon Hayes  June 11  Gale Winne  June 25
David Burns  June 13  Philip Moskalczyk  June 29
Dennis Pollard  June 14  
Donnilene Grant  June 16  
Robert Delp  June 17  

Jim Grucza: NCU Resident of the Month

Jim Grucza was born in Erie, PA and served in the US Army as a Tank Commander in the 112th Infantry. Mr. Grucza studied for three years at Penn State University. He is married with five children and enjoys hunting and fishing. Mr. Grucza is an avid golfer and made a hole in one at Amherst Audubon! He listens to music from the ’50’s, ’60’s, and ’70’s, as well as Polka Music. The next time you see Jim Grucza be sure to congratulate him on being nominated NCU Resident of the Month!

Richard Cuthbert: PCU Resident of the Month

Richard Cuthbert is a US Army veteran from Erie, PA. He is married with one child and enjoys watching baseball and football. Mr. Cuthbert can often be found listening to music. The next time you see Richard Cuthbert be sure to congratulate him on his nomination!
Preview of June’s Activities:

NCU Activities:
Wednesday, 6/8, 2:00pm, Happy Hour w/Music by Mike & Marie
Thursday, 6/9, 1:45pm, BINGO
Wednesday, 6/15, 2:00pm, Gazebo Concert: Loose Change Band
Monday, 6/20, 1:45pm, BINGO
Wednesday, 6/22, 2:00pm, Music by Rick Bruening
Thursday, 6/23, 1:45pm, BINGO
Sunday, 6/26, 2:00pm, Freestyle Activities
Tuesday, 6/28, 1:00pm, Erie Movie House Trip

PCU Activities:

Wednesday, 6/8, 7:00pm, BINGO (PCU Dining Room)
Thursday, 6/9, 7:00pm, BINGO (PCU Dining Room)
Monday, 6/20, 7:00pm, BINGO (PCU Dining Room)
Tuesday, 6/28, 7:00pm, BINGO (PCU Dining Room)
Wednesday, 6/29, 6:30pm, Campfire
Thursday, 6/30, 4:45pm, Seawolves Game

TAPS
Norman Felton
Lois Evans

Newsletter Info
If you have an idea or would like to contribute to the next newsletter, please contact:

Ken Vybiral
Volunteer Coordinator
(814) 878-4961
kvybiral@pa.gov
New Residents

The PA Soldiers’ & Sailors’ Home would like to welcome our new residents:

Gary Barron

Want to keep updated on DMVA? Follow us on these social media platforms!

Search “Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs” on any of those sites to connect with us and see the latest news, pictures and videos from DMVA.