POW/MIA Recognition Day is commemorated on the third Friday of every September, a date that's not associated with any particular war. In 1979, Congress and the president passed resolutions making it official after the families of the more than 2,500 Vietnam War POW/MIAs pushed for full accountability.

During the first POW/MIA Recognition Day commemoration, a ceremony was held at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., while the 1st Tactical Squadron from Langley Air Force Base in Virginia flew the missing man formation. Most ceremonies since then have been held at the Pentagon, and many smaller observances have cropped up across the nation and around the world on military installations.

Locally, the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 435, is hosting a vigil at 6pm on Friday, September 20th at the South Pier, Port Access Rd. LT/C Ronald Swift will provide the keynote address. A fire will be lit at dusk and a cannon will be fired on the hour throughout the night until dawn. In Meadville the Veterans of the Vietnam War, Post 52, will hold a 24-hour vigil starting at 8pm on Friday, September 20. The Candle Lighting Ceremony begins at 8pm at the Crawford County Veterans’ Memorial-Diamond Park, in Meadville, PA.

Presently, more than 82,000 Americans remain missing from WWII, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, and the Gulf Wars/other conflicts. Out of the 82,000 missing, 75% of the losses are located in the Indo-Pacific, and over 41,000 of the missing are presumed lost at sea.
The seasons are slowly changing, and the cooler temps are upon us. Let us enjoy the splendid colors and crisp air of autumn while it is here. The official first day of Autumn is Monday, September 23rd.

We continued to enjoy many activities throughout the month of August and look forward to September. September 2nd, we celebrated Labor Day, the last holiday of the summer. The annual Sharing & Caring cruise in Pittsburgh is September 3rd and the NFL’s official season opener is slated for Thursday, September 5th. On September 8th, we will celebrate “Grandparent’s Day”, in honor of all the special people in our lives that are grandparent’s. As always, music, bingo, luncheons and dinners will continue. We also look forward to Monday Night Football, which will be held on September 30th, where the Pittsburgh Steelers take on the Cincinnati Bengals.

Chapel renovations continue, and I must say the changes being made are coming along beautifully. I believe that it will be worth the wait when it is completed.

Safety reminder…School has officially started. Please be on the lookout for the little ones as we arrive and leave the facility. Slow down and be more aware of our surroundings. They often do not watch for cars, so we need to watch for them. We want to avoid any accidents that are preventable.

Our “Caught You Caring” employee of the month for July is Erin Cutuli. Erin was caught caring when she volunteered to assist with escorting residents to another unit. Thanks for being an integral part of the PSSH family. Your compassion, empathy, and positive attitude is why PSSH is a great place to be!

One last thought…Family is not an important thing, it is EVERYTHING!
September Birthdays

Jeffrey Bradley  September 4
Charles Mangel  September 5
Michael Batuski  September 5
David Hills  September 5
Gerald Davis  September 15
Ed Watson  September 17
Linda Gilson  September 17
Eleanor Johnson  September 19
Samuel Huntley  September 24
Murray Protaz  September 28

Louis Eller: Personal Care Unit (PCU) Resident of the Month

Louis Eller is originally from Greene Township (Erie County), Pennsylvania. Mr. Eller is a US Army veteran and enjoys walking, putting together puzzles, crossword puzzles, and BINGO. Some of Mr. Eller’s other hobbies include golfing, playing racquetball, dancing, playing the harmonica, and listening to Country Western music. Mr. Eller has six children, 14 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren. He says he has enjoyed a great life and is very proud of his family.

The next time you see Louis Eller congratulate him on being PCU Resident of the Month!

Paul Brown: Nursing Care Unit (NCU) Resident of the Month

Paul Brown is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran originally from Luzerne (Luzerne County), Pennsylvania. Mr. Brown is a workaholic who appreciates the value of earning a living. After his service in the USMC Mr. Brown worked outside replacing roofing, siding, windows, and doors. He enjoys listening to Elvis and country music as well as watching football and basketball. Mr. Brown can be found attending any one of the Home’s outings and plays BINGO regularly.

When you pass by Paul Brown be sure to congratulate him on being selected as the Nursing Care Unit Resident of the Month!
Preview of Septembers’s Activities

Thursday, 9/5, 9 am, Wal Mart Trip
Friday, 9/6, 7 pm, BINGO (NHDR)
Saturday, 9/7, 9:30 am, Jamestown, PA Parade & Luncheon VFW 5424
Monday, 9/9, 2 pm, The Jam Stars
Tuesday, 9/10, 2 pm, Grumpy 1 & Grumpy 2 Show
Wednesday, 9/11, 10:30am, 9/11 Ceremony and Lunch Girard AL 494
Thursday, 9/12, 10 am, Senior Picnic Waterworks Presque Isle
Friday, 9/13, 2 pm, Happy Hour with Music by Mike and Marie (NHDR)
Saturday, 9/14, 1:30 pm, BINGO Scared Heart Knights of Columbus (NHDR)
Monday, 9/16, 2 pm, Music by Angelo (NHDR)
Tuesday, 9/17, 6:30 pm, Gazebo Concert: Gem City Concert Band
Wednesday, 9/18, 9 am, Front Porch Chillin’
Thursday, 9/19, 7 am, Pittsburgh Pirates Game
Friday, 9/20, 2 pm, Music by The Duotones
Sunday, 9/22, 2:30 pm, Ice Cream Novelties Social
Monday, 9/23, 9:30 am, Cardo
Tuesday, 9/24, 3:15pm, Boot Camp
Wednesday, 9/25, 6:30pm, Campfire
Thursday, 9/26, 2pm, BINGO VFWA Dept. of PA
Monday, 9/30, 7pm, Poker

TAPS
Simon Alexander 8/15
Pearl Lydon 8/15
Nick Muntean 8/18
Fred Horstman 8/20
Earl Lang 8/27
Ruth Loesch 8/29

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:

Frank Johnston 8/6/19    Paul Brown 8/26/19
Cecile Hortsman 8/6/19    Roy Colvin 8/29/19
Ryan Edward 8/7/19
Thomas Boyle 8/16/19
Amelia Gibson 8/21/19
Andrew Seawright 8/22/19
Daniel Storer 8/23/19

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.