Never Forgotten: POW/MIAs Honored

Once again the Hollidaysburg Veterans Home (HVH) partnered with the James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center (VAMC) for the annual POW/MIA Recognition Ceremony, held under the Eisenhower Hall pavilion. Observed on the third Friday of September, National POW/MIA Recognition Day honors veterans who were formerly Prisoners of War and those who are still Missing in Action.

Guests participating in the ceremony included the Blair County Honor Guard, Ashley Albright (National Anthem), Chaplain Button, Altoona Mayor Matt Pacifico, Hollidaysburg Mayor Joe Dodson, and Senator Judy Ward. Most importantly were two former POWs from Blair County: David Cassidy (pictured far right), Army/Air Force/Marine veteran who served in Vietnam, and Roger Bowers (pictured seated, left), Army veteran who was a combat medic in World War II. In recognition of their sacrifice and service, both were presented with gifts from the Commandant of HVH and Associate Director of VAMC.

In his keynote address, Brigadier General Mark D. McCormack (pictured left) emphasized the significance of the POW/MIA plight not only to the affected service members but also the families and loved ones of those still missing. “These families continue to experience a roller coaster of daily emotions: ranging from grief at the loss and separation, to confusion over circumstances, to pride - knowing their loved one answered the nation's call to duty.” General McCormack further urged everyone to “continue to think of these families today and everyday, as they carry on the never-ending burden of not being able to answer where or how their loved ones went missing.”
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**TAPS**

We honor and remember HVH residents who departed our ranks August 14 through September 19 of this year.

John Cunkelman
Martha Smith
Vance Clark
Clyde Stair
Allen Gery
Joyce Hainley
Earl Bailey
Martha Stoy
Doris Benton
Shirley Caramadre
Dorothy Hoover

“Day is done, gone the sun,
From the lake, from the hills, from the sky;
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.”
Welcome Wagon

New Residents
The Hollidaysburg Veterans Home would like to extend a special Welcome to new residents who joined us from August 15 through September 20

- Voyne Calaway
- Paul Peterson
- George Padisak
- Ronald Weigner
- Harold Neely

- Anna Frauendorf
- Walter Frauendorf
- Ann Taylor
- James Klingensmith
- Ellen Kephart

- Elizabeth Presley
- Denny Cutshall
- Lawrence Fowler
- William Poorman

New Employees

Welcome to the HVH Team!

Nursing:
- Danielle Lee
  - Alesia Gearhart

Maintenance:
- Tyler Daugherty

Security:
- Andrew Sgro
POW/MIA Recognition Day

The Missing Man Table

The Round Table - The everlasting concern for our missing.

The White Tablecloth - Purity of their intentions in responding to the call of duty.

The Inverted Glass - They cannot toast with us today.

The Empty Chair - They are not here with us.

A Slice of Lemon - The bitter fate of those captured and missing.

A Pinch of Salt - The tears shed by those missing and their families.

A Single Red Rose - The life of each of the missing, and the loved ones who keep the faith, awaiting answers ...
POW/MIA Recognition Day

POW/MIA Flag

- The creation of the POW/MIA flag has roots in central Pennsylvania. It was designed in 1972 by Williamsport, PA native Newt Highsley, an Army Air Corps veteran who served in the Pacific theater of WWII.

- The flag was officially authorized by Congress on August 10, 1990, as a “symbol of our Nation’s concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing, or unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.”

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency estimates that since World War II, 82,516 U.S. service members who fought in our wars and conflicts went missing. Of these, they further estimate:

- 75% of are somewhere in the Asia pacific rim.
- More than 41,000 are presumed lost at sea.

The Agency maintains the mission of locating, recovering and identifying military personnel listed as Prisoners of War. It reports that 41 missing service members from the Korean War have been accounted for over the past year.

After the hat of each military branch is placed on the missing man table, a U.S. civilian (this year Senator Judy Ward) places the POW/MIA hat. This symbolizes the innocent civilians taken prisoner or unaccounted for during wars and conflicts.

Quote from the memoirs of one of America’s most recognized former POWs, Senator John McCain:

“In Prison, I fell in love with my country. I had loved her before then, but like most young people, my affection was little more than a simple appreciation for the comforts and privileges most Americans enjoyed and took for granted. It was not until I had lost America for a time that I realized how much I loved her.”
Sharing & Caring River Cruise

On September 3, about 25 HVH residents woke bright and early to travel with our Activities Department to Pittsburgh for the annual Sharing & Caring River Cruise on the Three Rivers. Our residents spent the day aboard the Gateway Clipper, enjoying a catered lunch, live entertainment, dancing, prizes and camaraderie with volunteers and fellow veterans of the State Veterans Homes.

Sharing & Caring, Inc.—comprised of 16 veterans organizations including the American Legion, VFW, Disabled American Veterans, Marine Corps League, Vietnam Veterans and others—is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of hospitalized veterans.

HVH residents pictured clockwise, from top left: Dave Roush, Gary Greene, Tom Rogers, Larry Stoltenberg, and Irene Fulton.
Keep Calm and Fish On!

Boat cruises, fishing, and the great outdoors... sounds like summer time at HVH.

Residents of all three buildings enjoyed fishing trips to Canoe Creek State Park, and Brush Mountain Sportsmen’s Club throughout the summer. Pictured here are highlights of one such trip to Canoe Creek on August 30.

Ed Cable demonstrates his casting and baiting techniques

Monte Walter had a “reely” great time fishing this summer!
Drama Club - “Summer Splash!”

At HVH we have residents with many talents and a great sense of humor. Members of Eisenhower Hall's Drama Club love to sing, act, and just plain have fun together performing for their families, staff, and fellow residents.

The Drama Club’s “Summer Splash” talent showcase on September 11 featured theatrical skits and classic American songs performed by our illustrious cast of residents. Pictures are some highlights from the show.

In Order of Appearance

Steve Decker    Dave Roush  
Monte Walter    Carol Smith  
Tom Rogers      Oliver Dillard  
Harry Raybould  Mary Estes  
John Servinsky  Shelley Bounds  
Rose Servinsky

Stop Draggin’ My Heart Around, duet performed by Steve Decker and Activity staff Heather Petit.

Splish Splash, I Was Takin’ a Bath ...

Not literally, of course. But Harry, Tom, Monte, Steve, and John sure had the crowd laughing during this silly skit performed to the tune of this popular 1958 Bobby Darin song. The bathtub banner, bubbles, scrub brushes, and purple sparkly shower caps really pulled this act together. Well done guys!
Drama Club, continued ...

The Drama Club of Eisenhower Hall is recruiting new members for the Christmas show. See Activities staff for details!

Mary Estes congratulates her fellow performers on a job well done, before taking the stage herself to sing the beloved classic, Coal Miners Daughter.

John Denver’s For Baby (For Bobby) and Rhymes & Reasons, performed by Dave Roush.

Smile, performed by Oliver Dillard. To conclude the show, Mr. Dillard also serenaded the crowd with a surprise, a Capella performance of Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire... a little preview of the Christmas show coming in December!

16 Tons, performed karaoke-style by Harry Raybould.

Jackson, performed by Activities staff Sherry Morningstar and Bob Onkst, to please all the Johnny Cash fans in the house.
Happy Birthday to the U.S. Air Force

The U.S. Air Force celebrates its 72st birthday on September 18!

The origins of the Air Force lie in a decision made just four years after the Wright Brothers conducted the world’s first airplane flight at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. In 1907, the U.S. Army Signal Corps created an Aeronautical Division and put it in “charge of all matters pertaining to military ballooning, air machines and all kindred subjects.” As aviation technology improved, the army’s air force grew bigger. An independent military arm became virtually inevitable after the Army Air Forces became an autonomous U.S. Army Command in 1942 and then grew substantially throughout the remainder of World War II. On July 26, 1947, President Harry Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947 on board the presidential aircraft, the Sacred Cow, and set the creation of the USAF in motion.

The Hollidaysburg Veterans’ Home is currently home to 46 proud Air Force Veterans.

Resident Birthdays

The Hollidaysburg Veterans’ Home would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to all of our residents with birthdays in September & October.

### September
- Robert Marko
- Paul Renyck
- Peter Steiner
- Robert Schaub
- Lynn Rider
- Frank Vargo
- John Servinsky
- Dorothy Bakaysa
- Robert Posenal
- Judd Stehley
- Nick Finnif
- Frank Pollicino
- Cathy Knapp
- Ronald Dintino
- Annabelle McAfee
- Robert Schweigart
- Delford Turner
- Doris McClellan
- John Schmidt
- Daniel Marcinkowski
- Daniel Brenneman
- Patrick Emeigh
- Robert Fink
- Thomas Tully
- James Shannon
- Dave Smith
- Myrtle Becker
- Richard Ramey
- Barb Battestilli
- George Bopp
- Michael Mateljan

### October
- John Bobinets
- Jerry Leamer
- Mike Pleva
- Gerald Ansman
- Patrick Manning
- Dorothy Price
- George Root
- Rudy Sanchez
- Bruce Stanley
- Daniel Cobley
- James Boyd
- Charles Chestney
- Gerald Cline
- John Dale
- Richard Fanti
- Fred Slater
- John Dougherty
- Herman Ianniello
- George Theodorakis
- Donald Van Heemst
- Leslie Hagen
- Edwin Weisbrodt
- Camilla Burns
- Michael Sweitzer
- Robert Hartz
- Mary Jane Rinn
Pitt & Penn State Play 100th Game

Despite extended hiatuses between the two teams from conference changes and scheduling challenges, the spirit of the Penn State and Pitt college football rivalry is still alive in the Keystone State. The first recorded game between the two universities was on November 6, 1893, with Penn State winning 32-0. This would be the start of a heated rivalry that would last well over a century, with the two teams now having played their historic 100th game on September 14, 2019. Statistically, Penn State has dominated the 126-year-long rivalry, winning 53 of the 100 games, and 4 games ending in a tie. To their credit, Pitt dominated the rivalry from 1913 to 1940, going 21-2-2, with all but the first two wins under Pitt coach Jock Sutherland.

While Penn State came out ahead in the most recent game on September 14, it was much more of a nail-biter than many of the two teams’ past matchups. Down a touchdown with the ball at the Penn State 1 yard-line and less than 5 minutes on the clock, Pitt coach Pat Narduzzi opted for a field goal attempt on fourth down instead of going for the TD. Alex Kessman’s 19-yard kick clanged off the left upright, giving the Nittany Lions the breathing room they needed to escape with a 17-10 victory.

The close, low-scoring game and controversial late-game call by Pitt coach Narduzzi gives both teams “something to chew on” until their next matchup, some even calling Penn State’s narrow win “lackluster” or “sloppy.” But its hard to say when that will be. The famous rivalry between Pitt and Penn State once again goes on indefinite hiatus for the second time in a generation.

Until they meet again ...

Speaking of Local Rivalries ...

Senior Trent Paddock, tailback for Hollidaysburg High School, was a key player in the team’s season-opening win over Altoona High School on August 23. Paddock scored 3 touchdowns, rushed for 103 yards on 12 carries and caught 2 passes for 49 yards, all in his first game as a varsity player.

Altoona’s first-half fumbles and penalties hurt the team’s chances, but they made it an exciting game in the 2nd half before falling to Hollidaysburg 35-21. Congratulations to both teams on a great game!
This Month in History

**September 3, 1783** - The Treaty of Paris was signed by John Adams, Ben Franklin and John Jay, formally ending the American Revolutionary War between Britain and the United States. Here they are depicted by Benjamin West in his 1783 American Commissioners of the Preliminary Peace Agreement with Great Britain. The British delegation refused to pose, and the painting was never completed.

**September 11, 2001** - The worst terrorist attack in U.S. history occurred as four large passenger jets were hijacked then crashed, killing nearly 3,000 persons. Four teams of Mideast terrorists, operating from inside the U.S., boarded the morning flights posing as passengers, then forcibly commandeered the aircraft. American Airlines Flight 11 carrying 92 people and United Airlines Flight 175 carrying 65 people, had departed Boston for Los Angeles. Both jets were diverted by the hijackers to New York City and piloted into the twin towers of the World Trade Center. The impact and subsequent fire caused both 110-story towers to collapse, killing 2,752 persons. In addition, United Airlines Flight 93, which had departed Newark for San Francisco, and American Airlines Flight 77, which had departed Dulles for Los Angeles, were hijacked. Flight 77 with 64 people on board was diverted to Washington, D.C., then piloted into the Pentagon building, killing everyone on board and 125 Pentagon personnel. Flight 93 with 44 people on board was also diverted toward Washington but crashed into a field in Pennsylvania after passengers attempted to overpower the terrorists on board.

**September 13, 1814** - The Battle of Fort Henry in Baltimore Harbor occurred, observed by Francis Scott Key aboard a ship. He watched the British attack overnight and at dawn saw the American flag still flying over the fort, inspiring him to write the verses which were later coupled with the tune of a popular drinking song and became the U.S. National Anthem in 1931.

**September 16, 1620** - The Mayflower ship departed from England, bound for America with 102 passengers and a small crew. The ship weathered dangerous Atlantic storms and reached Provincetown, Massachusetts on November 21st. The Pilgrims disembarked at Plymouth on December 26th.

**September 25, 1789** - The first U.S. Congress proposed 12 Amendments to the Constitution, ten of which, comprising the Bill of Rights, were ratified.
Answering the Call ... 9/11, Eighteen Years Later

For most Americans, the defining moments of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 are deeply engrained in our collective memories. We can still vividly recall what we were doing at the exact moment we learned that a passenger jet had crashed into the World Trade Center. It is hard to believe 18 years have passed since that fateful day. While time has begun to blur our memories of the terror and destruction of 9/11, the messages remain clear... to never forget the victims, to honor the selfless sacrifices of the first responders* who died that day ... and to celebrate how as a nation we joined together.

This academic year, 2019-2020, marks the first class of graduating high school seniors for which the 9/11 attacks occurred before their birth. For these and other young people, it has become more difficult with each passing year for historians and teachers to convey the magnitude and relevance of the events to this post-9/11 generation who has no direct memory of that day.

Yet, for the children of first responders who died after the attacks on the Twin Towers, some are answering the call to duty because they understand better than most of us the sacrifices made that day. These soon-to-be “legacy” first responders are compelled to follow in the footsteps of their parent or family member who gave the ultimate sacrifice on 9/11.

"Eighteen years after this horrific attack on our country took the lives of so many innocent Americans, an incredible group of individuals are about to become the next generation of New York’s Bravest," according to an article on Law Enforcement Today, published September 8, 2019. The next class set to graduate the FDNY Academy includes 13 soon-to-be city firefighters - 12 men and 1 woman - who lost a parent.

Most of the new recruits who lost their fathers on 9/11 were quite young at the time, some between 7 and 10 years-old. A few lost their parent long after the attacks due to complications of 9/11-related illnesses.

"Bravery runs in these extraordinary families who have sacrificed so much for our city," said FDNY Fire Commissioner Daniel Nigro.
Discover Your Inner Artist

Residents of Eisenhower and Arnold Halls continue to enjoy a variety of art classes under the guidance of teaching artist Deb Bunnell of the Museum/Healthcare Partnership program through the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art. Over the past two months, our resident art enthusiasts have done acrylic paints, oil inks on tile, watercolors, paper mosaics, and more. Please enjoy a few examples of the art work they have created!

Steve Decker (pictured left) and Kathryn Shaw (right) have a real knack for watercolors and were pleased to present their finished rose paintings.

Stay tuned for more artwork! Samples of each resident’s projects will be on display during the Thanksgiving family meal on November 20.
Artist-In-Residence Program

Shelva Wolfe (pictured left), and Joe Pierce (right) show off their colorful paper mosaic flower and butterfly projects.

Paper mosaics pictured above (from left to right) were created by Arnold Hall residents Glenn Abbey, Larry Stoltenberg, and Doreen Conahye.

Pictured right is a lunar eclipse mosaic created by Wayne Morris.
Fundraisers at HVH

Attention HVH Employees!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Hoagie/Apple Dumpling Sale in September. We raised almost $200 for the State Employees Combined Appeal (SECA). Let’s keep it going! The Pizza Luncheon is coming up on Friday, October 4. Don’t forget to sign up with your building’s SECA team member no later than Tuesday, October 1 (hint … that’s next week!)

On Friday, October 18 from 10:00 AM – 3:30 PM, HVH will hold two more exciting fundraisers for staff:

Bake Sale/Hot Foods Sale
- Similar to last year, a variety of yummy baked goods and hot foods, donated by HVH employees, will be available to purchase at Eisenhower and Arnold Halls.
- Proceeds of the Bake Sale will benefit charities of the State Employees Combined Appeal (SECA).

Basket/Gift Auction
- During each Bake Sale, employees can bid on various gift baskets and gift cards donated by HVH employees, local businesses, and community groups. Winners will be drawn at the end of the day. Tickets for the Basket Auction will go on sale in October (more details to come.)
- New this year! Proceeds of the Basket Auction will go to our Resident Welfare Fund, to benefit the 340+ Veterans and spouses who reside here at HVH. The Welfare Fund pays for activities, entertainment, trips, and recreational items that enhance quality of life for our residents.

** How You Can Help **
- Sign up to donate Baked Goods or Hot Foods.
- Donate a themed gift basket, gift card, or other items for the Basket Auction. Items can be from individual employees, a group, or your whole department.
- Volunteer to help out prior to and during the fundraisers.
- Attend the events! Purchase tickets for the Basket Auction, and come enjoy homemade goodies during your lunch break.

If you would like donate or help out with these fundraisers, or have any questions, please contact Emily at 814-696-5371.
The Hollidaysburg Veterans’ Home would like to thank all of the individuals and organizations who donated money or items to the home throughout the month of August. Your generosity makes it possible for our residents to enjoy life-enriching activities and the comforts of home here at HVH.

Donations

Sons of American Legion Beaverdale 460
American Legion Post 508
VFW Post #7043
Catholic Daughter of America #1755
Sons of American Legion #36
DAV Chapter #20 Indiana
BPO Elks #1057 Jersey Shore
Sheetz Distribution Services
Terri & Daniel Riccio
Lucille Aiken
David & Kathy Benzel
Jody & Amy McKee
Alexis Allison

Wade Kagarise
Hazel Bilka
Libby & Betsy Goulionis
Eileen Rabish
Jeff Rabish
Mary & Jim Little
Mary & James Lynch
Lisa Shaner
Hugh & Beth Chamberlin
Daniel & Patricia Kelly
Francis & Jean Kent
Ted Yahner
Margerite Hayen

Volunteer & Donation Opportunities

The Hollidaysburg Veterans’ Home welcomes volunteers to support the home’s daily activities and upcoming events.

We are especially in need of Religious Service Escorts on Sunday mornings, Activities volunteers, and Canteen substitutes.

We also are in need of new/gently used clothing donations, sizes Small to 5XL.

For more information contact:

Emily McDowell
Volunteer Resources Coordinator
814-696-5371
emmcdowell@pa.gov
Hollidaysburg Veterans’ Home

"We care for our veterans" is not only the philosophy of the Hollidaysburg Veterans' Home, it is our commitment to serving the current health care requirements of those veterans and their spouses. Furthermore, we remain diligent in planning for anticipated needs of an aging veteran population that will require improved and innovative services.

Our dedicated staff provides services that range from medical care and rehabilitative programs to housekeeping and 24-hour security. Therefore, Hollidaysburg is a true “Veterans’ community” designed specifically with the commonwealth’s veterans of the armed services and their spouses as its focus. This perspective of community and the home’s history of professional care prompt us to remain confident about the future quality of life for our veterans.

Our staff is ever mindful of our mission and we consider it a privilege to serve those who served their country in time of need. We extend an invitation to all interested persons to visit Hollidaysburg Veterans’ Home and witness the first-class care available to our deserving veteran residents.

http://www.dmva.pa.gov/stateveteranshomes/hollidaysburg-veterans-home/Pages/default.aspx