

Pennsylvania
**Department of Military
and Veterans Affairs**
Pennsylvania Soldiers' and Sailors' Home

PSSH Leadership

Commandant
Cheri Spacht

Deputy Commandant
Beth Seibert

Director of Nursing
Deborah Harris

National Purple Heart Day



Thursday, August 7th was National Purple Heart Day, and the day was commemorated at the Pennsylvania Soldiers' and Sailors' Home (PSSH) in Erie.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart, Commodore Perry Chapter 197, gathered at the home's Purple Heart memorial.

The commemoration observed over 1.8 million estimated recipients of the Purple Heart.

The Purple Heart is the nation's oldest military award and is given to men and women killed or wounded during military service.

"To recognize that their sacrifices, their family's sacrifices and what they continue to deal with today because these injuries don't go away, if anything, over time they only get worse," said Brian Fuller, commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Commodore Perry Chapter 197.

There are 146 Purple Heart veterans currently living in northwest Pennsylvania. PSSH resident Richard Langer was injured in the Vietnam War and was present at the ceremony with his wife Pauline.

The Purple Heart Monument at PSSH is located in front of the gazebo and was donated by the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Commodore Perry Chapter 197.

Commandant's Corner

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and staying healthy and safe! The month of July has come and gone so fast that it's hard to believe the days of August are upon us.



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On July 3rd Erie celebrated Independence Day with its annual "Lights Over Lake Erie" fireworks display, which could be viewed from the hillside west of the PCU building. A Patriotic 4th of July bingo was held for the residents by the activities department. On July 22nd, residents were invited to a pontoon boat ride. We also continued to enjoy Gazebo concerts, campfires, bingo and poker days throughout the month.

Safety reminder.... The heat and humidity of a beautiful summer day can be dangerous, causing dehydration to our elderly population. Please ensure that they are drinking plenty of fluids, apply sunblock if they are going to be outdoors for any length of time and encourage them to stay out of direct sunlight.

Our "Caught You Caring" employee of the month of July is Rasheda Goodwine! You can find Rasheda working in our Administration Department on 1st shift. She is an amazing worker and a great asset to our PSSH team. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to our residents and staff. Congratulations Rasheda!

As July comes to an end, I have one question for you...Are you ready for some football?! The Hall of Fame Game will kick off on July 31st at 8pm between the Detroit Lions and the LA Chargers. Who are you cheering for?

One last thought...

"Be yourself; everyone else is already taken."



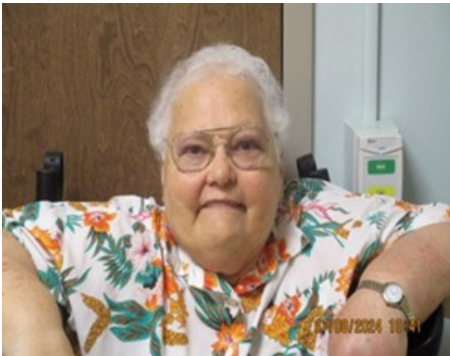
August Birthdays

Gary Ryan	August	1		David Shreve	August	17
Victor Desantis	August	2		Richard Cuthbert	August	18
David Rodabaugh	August	3		Dean Gosnell	August	18
S. Patterson-Wandersee	August	5		Michael Hamrick	August	20
James Wright	August	7		Carol Reichert	August	24
James Lindenmuth	August	12		Richard Levato	August	25
Linda Fucci	August	15		David Fritts	August	26
				Robert Sundy	August	31



Thora Kuntz: PCU Resident of the Month

Thora Kuntz is originally from Cranesville, PA. Her husband Don was drafted into the Army during the Vietnam War and they were together for 56 years. Ms. Kuntz has four sons, 14 grandchildren and 10 greatgrandchildren. She has always owned dogs, specifically labradors. Ms. Kuntz enjoys the TV series Unearthed and her favorite movie is Exodus with Paul Newman. She enjoys calming music and is fond of old fashioned Hymns and Orchestral music. Ms. Kuntz reads archeological and historical books and The Bible is always within reach. She enjoys sewing and playing BINGO at PSSH. Congratulations, Thora Kuntz, PCU Resident of the Month!



John Hanich: NCU Resident of the Month

John Hanich is a Navy veteran originally from Ambridge, PA. He is very close to his brothers and sisters. Mr. Hanich is an avid fan of every Pittsburgh sports team, especially the Steelers. He also enjoys following the Erie SeaWolves and Otters. Mr. Hanich loves to watch Friends and Two and a Half Men. When it comes to movies, horror films and thrillers are his favorites. Mr. Hanich is huge fan of Rock 'n Roll and classic rock. Pink Floyd is one of his all time favorite bands. At PSSH Mr. Hanich enjoys playing BINGO and outings, especially SeaWolves and Otters games. The next time you see John Hanich be sure to congratulate him on being NCU Resident of the Month!



Preview of August's Activities

Wednesday, 8/13, 1:30pm, Gazebo Concert: Angelo & Debbie
Thursday, 8/14, 6:30pm, Lawn Games (Gazebo)
Monday, 8/18, 2:00pm, Happy Hour w/ Kurt Nova "Elvis Lives" (NCU DR)
Wednesday, 8/20, 1:30pm, Gazebo Concert: Mike & Marie
Thursday, 8/21, 6:30pm, Campfire
Friday, 8/22, 2:00pm, BINGO (NCU Dining Room)
Wednesday, 8/27, 1:30pm, Gazebo Concert: Todd Morton
Thursday, 8/28, 1:30pm, Gazebo Concert: Johnny G & The Jam Stars
Friday, 8/29, 2:00pm, BINGO (NCU Dining Room)



TAPS

Victor Sauerwein

Joseph Davis

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:

Darlene Adams

William Brothers

Ken Norris

Michael Hamrick

Walter Long



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**Department of Military
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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.

DO YOU HAVE A CONCERN?

If you have a question or concern, Pennsylvania's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program can help. Your local ombudsman is trained to advocate for your rights and will work to resolve your problems.

- Listening to your concerns
- Respecting your choices
- Offering ideas and options to help meet your individual needs

Services are free and confidential.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL OMBUDSMAN

Our local ombudsman is Amanda Tren

You can reach her at **(814) 459-4581 ext. 483**

GECAC/Area Agency on Aging

18 West 9th Street

Erie, PA 16501

