



Tomah VA Medical Center
500 East Veterans Street
Tomah, WI 54660
608-372-1727

February 2019

Volume 3, Issue 2

Dates to Remember

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| February 4 | Performing Arts Competition; 455 Veterans Hall, 9:00am |
| February 4-6 | Visual Arts Display, Building401/1120, 8:00am-4:30pm |
| February 5 | VAVS Executive Committee Meeting, 408/3815, 10:00am |
| February 10-16 | National Salute to Veteran Patients Week
<i>Full schedule included in newsletter</i>
*Escorts Needed for all events |
| February 12 | VAVS Committee Meeting, 407/1750, 10:00am |
| February 18 | Presidents' Day, Office Closed |



Add to your calendar: **National Volunteer Appreciation Week: April 7-13, 2019**

Tuesday, April 9—Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast, 455 Veterans Hall

Thursday, April 11—Awards Banquet, Best Western, Tomah

2019 National Veterans Creative Arts Competition

The Creative Arts competition and show provides Veterans an opportunity to be acknowledged for their artistic skills and talents; their creative accomplishments. Local first place entries in each visual art category will have the opportunity to compete in the 2019 National Art Competition.

Visual Arts Categories: Applied Art, Fine Art, Craft Kit

Performing Arts Categories : *Creative Writing, Dance, Drama, Music* (solo or group instrumental and vocal)



Artwork will be judged: Friday February 1, & displayed Monday, February 4 – Wednesday, February 6, 2019, 9:00am—4:00pm, in building 401, room 1120. Stop by and check out

**Performances will be judged February 4, 2019 starting promptly at 9:00am in 455: Veterans Hall.
All are welcome to watch and support our local Veterans.**



Find us on
Facebook

For more information, News and Photos, please check out the "Tomah VA Medical Center" Facebook page! You can share stories with your family, friends and organization!

Annual Reviews were sent out in the mail to all regular volunteers in early January. Please read information, sign and return by February 28th. Thank you in advance for Your compliance. We look forward to working with you in 2019!



VITA Program

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program will open February 9th, 2019 to begin its season of preparing income tax returns at no charge to its clients – VA patients, staff, volunteers and qualifying members of the community (single with income less than \$55,000 or if married with all income less than \$100,000). VITA volunteers are trained to complete tax returns for your “basic” tax returns – they are not able to assist individuals who are business owners, rental property owners, folks with multiple investments, etc.



To make an appointment, please call (608) 372-1242 on/after January 29th and a volunteer will return your call and schedule your appointment starting February 4th.

Have you seen our new driver's lounge area?

An area has been created within our Volunteer Lounge for our drivers to relax or even take a nap between trips. This area is complete with a large recliner, TV and 'google home' to listen to music.



Current Volunteer Needs

- Coffee Cart - 404 Outpatient Mental Health Clinic (Monday, Wednesday, Friday)
- My Life, My Story Volunteer
- Kiosk Volunteers—Wausau Outpatient Clinic (Monday-Friday)
- Kiosk Volunteers—Wisconsin Rapids Clinic (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)
- Coffee Cart (407 Pharmacy) - Thursdays (Temporary until April)
- Greeter for Transitional Care Management Office (OEF/OIF/OND) - **Mondays, Fridays**
- La Crosse Outpatient Clinic—assist with coffee, kiosk and greeter—**Thursday, Friday mornings**

Current Needs List

- New & Unused Reusable water bottles (to encourage drinking more water for residential Veterans)
- iTunes gift cards (Music and Memory Program, Music Therapy)
- Stamps
- Decaf Coffee
- Coffee Carafes (inpatient Day rooms- Requested 3)
- “Realistic” looking stuffed animals (dogs, cats)—requested by Hospice Recreation Therapist





2019 National Salute to



Veteran Patients Week

Sunday, February 10, 2019

1:30 pm – “**Sauk County Day**” **BINGO**, 455 Veterans Hall
Sponsored by Sauk County American Legion



Monday, February 11, 2019

10:00am - **Donuts and Coffee Social**, 455 Veterans Hall
Sponsored by Dunkin’ Donuts, Tomah

11:30 – 12:30 Entertainment in the Main Dining Room -**Roger Ellis**

12:00pm – 8:00pm – **Bowling Tournament**
Sponsored by Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 27

1:30pm— **The Rick-E B Elvis Expression**, 455 Veterans Hall
Local Elvis entertainer Ricky Brunner

6:30pm – **Casino Night**, 455 Veterans Hall
Sponsored by American Red Cross



Tuesday, February 12, 2019

12:00pm-8:00pm – **Bowling Tournament**
Sponsored by Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 27

1:30pm – **Kevin Horner Live “Man with a Thousand Voices”**
455 Veterans Hall

6:30pm—**Night at the Races**, 455 Veterans Hall
Sponsored by American Legion, #200 Black River Falls

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

12:00pm – 8:00pm – **Bowling Tournament**
Sponsored by Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 27

1:30pm - **Salute Week Social**, 455 Veterans Hall
Sponsored by American Legion #246 Genoa & VFW #3032 Viroqua
Music by **K. Sterling**, Local Veteran country singer/songwriter

6:30pm **Drum Circle**, 455 Veterans Hall
Sponsored by Whole Health and Mental Health Depts.



Thursday, February 14, 2019

11:30am **River Winds Entertains** in the Main Dining Room
Tomah Chamber Ambassadors and **Cranberry Royalty**
& **Valentine Cake** sponsored by VFWA, Dept. of Wisconsin

1:30pm – **BINGO**, 455 Veterans Hall
Sponsored by Health Administration Services (HAS) Department
Root beer Floats, Sponsored by A&W & DAV

6:00-7:30pm – **Valentines Dance**, music by **Kountry Knights**
455 Veterans Hall



Friday, February 15, 2019

9:30am – **Archery Tournament**, Building 15 (Gymnasium)
Sponsored by HHA;OATH, Inc; Monroe County 4-H Shooting Sports Program
****Medical Clearances required****

1:15pm **Bowling Awards Presentation**, 455 Veterans Hall
Sponsored by Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 27

1:30pm – **Day at the Races**, 455 Veterans Hall
Sponsored by AMVETS and AMVETS Auxiliary



Saturday, February 16, 2019

1:30pm - **Movie** "The Incredibles"