

August 2025



Tomah VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE)

500 East Veterans Street (135), Tomah, WI 54660

608-372-1727

VHATOMVoluntaryService@va.gov

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 0600-1430, Closed Holidays

Where has the summer gone!?

1. The end of the fiscal year, September 30th, will be here soon! Please continue to turn in your **volunteer hours** on a regular basis (i.e. monthly) via email to VHATOMVoluntaryService@va.gov, paper log sheet or enter them into portal.
2. **PIV Cards**—Please check your ID cards to get them renewed BEFORE they expire. Reminder that effective May 7th, Driver's Licenses need to be REAL-ID (look for the star!) complaint to be used for background checks. If you'd like to get the tier one background check, those IDs are good for 5 years.
3. **2026 Planning letters will be coming out in September.** Please start talking at your local, district and state levels about opportunities to sponsor Veteran programming in Building 455, Community Living Center (CLC) or even hosting a special event. We'd love the opportunity to share this opportunity and general volunteer assignments available at one of your upcoming meetings!! Please let us know when and where, and we'll do our best to attend!

Volunteers Needed for Upcoming Special Events

*please see page 3 for additional activities that could use assistance

**Please use Sign up Genius or let CDCE staff know if you're able to assist

Sunday, August 24, 2025—12:30pm-3:00pm—Platoon Run (outside building 406)

Link to SignUpGenius [https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?](https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=c.SignUpSearch&eid=08C0CBD8F8C4FB6609&cs=09CBBADF8FBF8B6D7B0764035BB49BC8FDCF&sortBy=title)

[go=c.SignUpSearch&eid=08C0CBD8F8C4FB6609&cs=09CBBADF8FBF8B6D7B0764035BB49BC8FDCF&sortBy=title](https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=c.SignUpSearch&eid=08C0CBD8F8C4FB6609&cs=09CBBADF8FBF8B6D7B0764035BB49BC8FDCF&sortBy=title)

Upcoming VAVS Meetings

Wednesday, August 13th @ 10:00am—VAVS Executive Meeting (407/1424 or Microsoft TEAMS)

Wednesday, August 20th @ 10:00am—VAVS Quarterly Meeting (407/1424 or Microsoft TEAMS)

1-872-701-0185 Phone Conference: 773 745 786

Thanks for all your continued support,

Jen, Cindy, Heath, Deb



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Tomah VA Medical Center

Current Volunteer Needs

- **BIGGEST NEEDS to help our Community Living Center (CLC) - inpatient Veterans**
 - **NEW!** Loving Spoonfuls—specifically in building 409 during breakfast (7:30am) and dinner (4:30pm).
 - Evening Recreation activities (1:1 or group) on 402b(Rehab)
 - 403 to assist Veterans to Canteen/library—Monday and Wednesdays 9am-11am
 - 455 Activities—Volunteers to assist inpatients to scheduled 455 activities (see page 4) ***if we don't have a enough volunteers, we may have to move activity to unit instead of hospital wide.**
 - Chapel Volunteers—escort inpatient Veterans to Chapel as scheduled:
 - Sundays at 1:00pm - Protestant
 - Wednesdays at 2:45pm - Catholic Mass
- **Weekend Library Coverage**—library is open Saturdays and Sundays 9:00am-12:00pm WHEN we have a volunteer available.
- **Golf Clinic Volunteer**— 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00pm-2:30pm
- **Appointment Reminder calls (prevent no-shows)**- Call Veterans 24-48 hours from appointment to remind them of upcoming appointment(s)
- **Compassionate Contact Corps (CCC)**— Requesting more male Veteran volunteers virtual volunteers to call Veterans who struggle with loneliness and social isolation (average 15 minute commitment / week)
- **Bowling Alley Volunteers:** open bowling alley, assist bowlers with getting shoes, ball, electronic scoring.
- **Recreation Volunteers (fishing, games, visiting, music, art)**— to assist with programming and 1:1 visits with inpatient Veterans
- **Coffee Cart Volunteers** - Outpatient Clinic locations (Wausau, Wisconsin Rapids, La Crosse)

Current Needs List

- Regular coffee—large tubs
- Sour hard candy
- 3.0 Reading Glasses
- Hot Chocolate—Sugar Free
- Coffee Filters—Regular and large Bunn
- Instant Coffee—regular and decaf
- Backpacks
- iTunes Gift cards—used by Music and Memory program
- Walmart Gift Cards—\$25—any use (inpatient or outpatient Veterans)



Upcoming Parades—VA Float Driver Needed

- 8/24/25 Tomah VA Platoon Run
- 8/31/25—Kendall Labor Day Parade
- 9/7/25—Cashton Fall Fest Parade
- 9/28/25—Warrens Cranfest Parade-Brendan
- 11/28/25—Tomah Holiday Parade

Please let CDCE staff know if interested in driving the VA Float in any of the upcoming parades. Volunteers need to have driver physical and driver trainings completed. Call us at 608-372-1727.



August 2025

Tomah VA Free Choice Activities—All Veterans Welcome

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>*All Adaptive Sports Clinics are located in Building 15 unless noted differently (Golf and Cycling).</p> <p><u>Need medical clearance & appointment for adaptive sports events</u></p>			<p>VA Library Hours Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm Building 401, room 1100</p> 	<p>Bowling Alley is located in Building 406, room 1615</p> 	1	2
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<p>9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p>		<p>1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>*1:00-2:30pm Adaptive Golf Clinic; Tomah VA golf Course</p>	<p>2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p>	<p>1:00-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>1:00-2:30pm Project Healing Waters; La Crosse Vet Center</p>		<p>9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>1:30 Bingo (ALA State) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p>	<p>*9:30-11:30am Adaptive Cycling Clinic; center courtyard</p>	<p>8:00am-1:00pm Versiti Blood Drive; Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p> <p>*12:30-2:30 Air Rifle Clinic Bldg. 15</p>	<p>1:30 Bingo (ALA Elroy) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p> <p>2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p>	<p>1:30 pm Day at the Races (AMVETS); Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p>		<p>9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p>9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p>		<p>1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>*1:00-2:30pm Adaptive Golf Clinic; Tomah VA golf Course</p> <p>1:00-2:30pm Project Healing Waters; 455; Veterans Hall</p>	<p>1:30 Bingo (VFWA State) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p> <p>2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p>	<p>1:00-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>1:30pm-3:00pm Tomah Days (VFWA)</p>		<p>9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p>
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<p>9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p> <p>1:00pm-3:00pm Platoon Run Car & Motorcycle Show</p>	<p>*9:30-11:30am Adaptive Cycling Clinic; center courtyard</p>	<p>6:00pm Bingo (DAV—Ch. 27) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p>	<p>2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p>	<p>1:00-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>5:30pm-7:00pm Project Healing Waters; American Legion Post 336, Onalaska, WI</p>		<p>9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p>
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<p>9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p>						

We are overjoyed by the success of our annual **Independence Day Celebration!** This event wouldn't have been possible without our wonderful (almost 40 volunteers and community partners). Special thanks to the 14 fantastic organizations that sponsored our games and food booths, making the day filled with fun and excitement. From ring toss and plastic axe throwing to table roulette, skee ball, and plinko; our Veterans embraced the challenge and won great prizes despite the warm temperatures! The much-loved Brat Burgers, Culvers Custard, and timeless music performed by the Veterans jam band group "Behind the Curtain" were enjoyed by all. The photo booth was also a major hit again this year. We couldn't have done it without our dedicated community partners who bring smiles and joy to our Veterans. Thank you for your continued support!



Tomah VA Medical Center and
Wizard of Rods invite you to the
Platoon Run
Car and Motorcycle Show

at Tomah VA on Sunday, August 24, 2025



Join Tomah VA and Wizard of Rods for this free event.

- 12:30 p.m. Meet at Recreation Park (Monroe County Fairgrounds)
No pre-registration needed
- 12:45 p.m. Cruise to Tomah VA
- 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Car and Motorcycle Show (in parking lot by Bldg. 406 and 455)
Live Music
Ice Cream Floats (for purchase) - Tomah VA Employee Association
- 2:30 p.m. Awards Program

For more information, please call:

Tomah VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement
608-372-1727 or 800-872-8662, ext. 61727

or Wizard of Rods (Pat)
608-343-1728

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
Tomah VA Medical Center

VHE 5016 5-2024



PROJECT HEALING WATERS

EST. 2005

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
Tomah VA Medical Center

Are you interested in learning
a new skill?

Have you tried Fly Fishing?

Project Healing Waters and Tomah VAMC welcome you to join us to learn more about fly fishing.

Project Healing Waters is a national non-profit program. The group helps teach fly fishing basics, fly casting, fly tying, and rod building.

First Thursday of each month

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

La Crosse Vet Center
910 2nd Avenue North
Onalaska, WI 54650

Third Tuesday of each month

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Tomah VAMC
500 E. Veterans Street, Building 455
Tomah, WI 54660

Fourth Thursday of each month

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

American Legion Post 336
731 Sand Lake Road
Onalaska, WI 54650

For more information call
608-372-3971 or 1-800-872-8662

Heath Riniker, Ext. 66931 or
David Meyer, Ext. 67709

Veterans and volunteers must register
online before taking part in the group.

Veteran registration:
www.phwffparticipant.org



Volunteer registration:
www.phwffvolunteer.org

