

Dear VFW Oregon Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters,

September 2023

So good to see you all at Three Rivers and Winston for Training Academies! What great turnouts! Congrats to Miss Jean Bartholomew for Hospital Volunteer of the Year 2022-2023! Thank you to: Jan Stoddard 965, Vicki Sharbowski 3232, Sandy Miller 12140, Irene Breshears 6057, and Sandra Christopher 2666 for your Hospital Reports. Excellent work! Also, great job to Sue Miller 3232 and Irene Breshears for bringing their Hospital Program/VAVS Guides from last year to the Training Academies as requested! Two dollars will be donated each to the Dept Hospital Fund under their Auxiliary.

Canby-Aurora 6057 set the pace for Non-Traditional Holiday Hospital Projects in August at three local Assisted Living Facilities. Their Auxiliary Birthday, August 16, landed on "National Tell-a-Joke Day." Joke bags were made with sweets and joke lines for the Nurses Stations in thanks to their care for our Veterans. The Auxiliary also made gift bags with cards and treats for Veterans at the Portland VA, delivering them the same day.

Below is a list of needs at the Portland VA per Jessie Stober, VAVS/CDCE Representative. First: Volunteers. The application process includes a background check and 21-hour training prior to Volunteering at a VA Facility. This is usually a 3-month process. Remember sponsored non-Auxiliary volunteers will count toward recruitment. Work together with your Post Members and don't forget about the Hospital Volunteer Recruiter Award, Sponsored Volunteer Pins and Charms.

Secondly the following items: Twin-sized Bereavement quilts that are masculine (no flowers, unicorns, etc.). These quilts do not need to be red, white, and blue. Twin-sized Afghans and Blankets; patients are mostly laying down and need full coverage to be warm (lap blankets are too small). Christmas Stockings (150) need: crocheted or knitted hats, scarves, and gloves. 2024 pocket calendars have been on backorder for 3 months; please save and or purchase those also. For Baby Bags: feeding bottles, small baby wash/shampoo, and diapers sizes 1 and 2.

The VA Medical and Rehabilitation Facility in White City needs Craft Kits. Ideally model aircraft, cars, etc. Also remember that this facility will accept gently used clothes and shoes, and unused hotel soap products. Most of the residents in rehab are male. School supplies are also utilized (spiral notebooks, folders, pens, pencils, highlighters, etc. Please contact me or Miss Jessie if you have any further questions.

For Non-Traditional Holidays in September, also known as National Sewing Mo., Nat. Dog Svc Mo., Nat. Suicide Awareness Mo: Week 1: Nat. Waffle Wk. Week 2: Nat. Assisted Living Wk. Week 3: Nat. Rehab Awareness Wk. Sept 1-Fri: World Letter Writing Day. Sept 3-Sun: World Pet Rock Day. Sept 5- Tue: Nat. Shrink Day. Sept 7-Thu: Grateful Patient Day. Sept 8-Fri: Nat Oncology Nurses Day & World Physical Therapy Day. Sept 9: Emergency Services Day. Sept 25-Mon: World Pharmacist Day.

Yours in God and Country,  
Megan E Malpass,  
VFW Auxiliary Dept of Oregon, Hospital Chairman