

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT VFW AUXILIARY

HOSPITAL BULLETIN

September 2023

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Hospital Michigan

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

National Theme: Banding Together for Our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans the Angels Among Us

Thank you to all the VAVS Representatives, Deputies and hospital volunteers. All of you take time out of your busy schedules to volunteer at a hospital, VA home or nursing home. You are all amazing. Keep me up the great work. Let me know of events. I would love to come if my schedule allows.

REPORTING REMINDERS

The reports I have received are amazing. Remember to include miles driven to a meeting or the facility. If you are mailing suggested donations, count the miles from your residence to the post office. Members should only be counted **ONCE** a year. Keep track of the volunteers you report so you don't duplicate members. For example: if a volunteer does 3 different projects, you only count the member for the 1st project and zero for the other 2 projects. Don't forget to report the suggested donations and recruiting new volunteers.

NON-TRADITIONAL HOLIDAYS

We are shaking things up this year. Instead of celebrating the traditional holidays, celebrate the non-traditional holidays. Each bulletin will list a few holidays to celebrate with the Veterans.

- September 5 is National Cheese Pizza Day
- September 9 is National Teddy Bear Day
- September 16 is International Eat an Apple Day
- September 25 is National Lobster Day

The Star Raffle is back by popular demand. Please donate gift cards with a value of \$5 to \$25. Come by and visit the Hospital booth at Fall Conference. Drop off gift card donations and buy a few stars. Remember you can only buy 2 stars at a time. You can visit the booth more than once but at each visit you can only purchase 2 stars. I want to give everyone the opportunity to win a gift card. The booth will be open Friday and Saturday or until the gift cards run out. I hope to see you there.

Fall Conference will have a program training session along with curbstones with the chairmen. Curbstones are breakout sessions with the chairman. I will have hand outs and you can ask any questions you may have. Stop by and see me.

Hospital October 2023

Thank you to all who donated gift cards and bought stars at Fall Conference. It was great seeing everyone. I hope you learned something.

Non-Traditional Holidays

- October 4 National Taco Day
- October 16 is World Food Day
- October 20 is National Sloth Day
- October 31 is Halloween and National Carmel Apple Day

The purpose of these holidays is to plan an event for our Veterans'. Give them something different. Have some fun with the Veterans'. Being in a hospital is not fun. Make them smile.

HONORS ESCORT

What is Honors Escort? A Final Salute ceremony (also called Honors Escort or Honor Walk) takes place when a veteran who dies in the hospital or nursing home is transported on the gurney from the location of their passing to the funeral home vehicle or the morgue. Staff, family members, visitors, and other veterans silently line the hallways from the veteran's room to the health care facility exit and pay their respects to the deceased veteran. A Final Salute is a quiet, yet profound and powerful way for care teams to ensure that the deceased veteran does not leave alone. Usually, a flag is draped over the gurney and patriotic music may be played during the walk. Everyone salutes as the gurney passes them. From my research, each facility may do things a little differently. The reason is still the same to honor the deceased Veteran. The Final Salute shows the Veteran is "gone but not forgotten".

Don't forget reporting for the 2nd quarter ends October 31.

Together in Service,

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