



# HEROES AT HOME

A special newsletter during COVID-19 to recognize the **heartwarming stories** & the **hard-working** staff in our healthcare division



## SILVER BAY HAPPY HOUR

Social distancing wasn't about to stop happy hour at Silver Bay! Last week Josh Aldinger and Tim Piepho brought the happy hour cart room-side for Residents to enjoy. (Photo submitted by Joyce Scott)

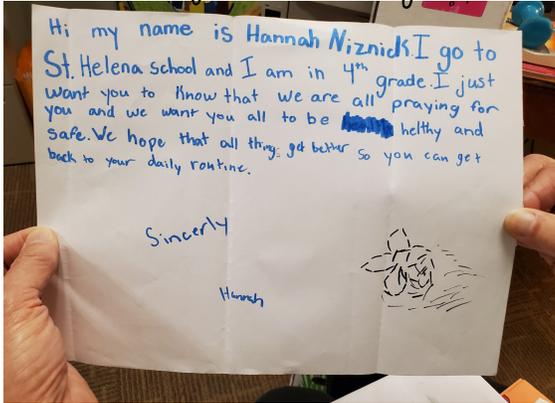
## A Message from Deputy Commissioner Hughes

The chalk drawings above were created by grandchildren of a Resident at the Minneapolis Home. Thanks to Gov. Tim Walz for recognizing these acts of kindness in his State of the State speech Sunday. I couldn't agree more with the sentiments depicted by these kids; in the middle of these unprecedented times, the one constant is our incredible staff at all five Minnesota Veterans Homes. We want to recognize not only what you are all doing, but also what the community is doing to show their support of you.

For this reason, we are kicking off a campaign to honor your sacrifices and hard work. Thanks to everyone who has submitted stories, photos and examples for our "Heroes at Home" launch. Our goal is to share this, or similar messages of encouragement, weekly over the next couple of months in a number of different formats. Keep up the good work. We are all in this together!

- Douglas Hughes, Deputy Commissioner, Veterans Healthcare

## MINNEAPOLIS VETERANS HOME

*Words of Encouragement*

This thoughtful note for staff and Residents is just one example of care from the youngest members of the community. (Photo submitted by Erin Betlock)



*Luverne Veterans  
Home*

WINDOW  
DISPLAYS

Residents at the Luverne Veterans Home have been hard at work - and raising everyone's spirits - by creating cheerful window displays. (Submitted by Luke Schryvers)

# Auxiliary Cart TAKES TO THE HALLS!

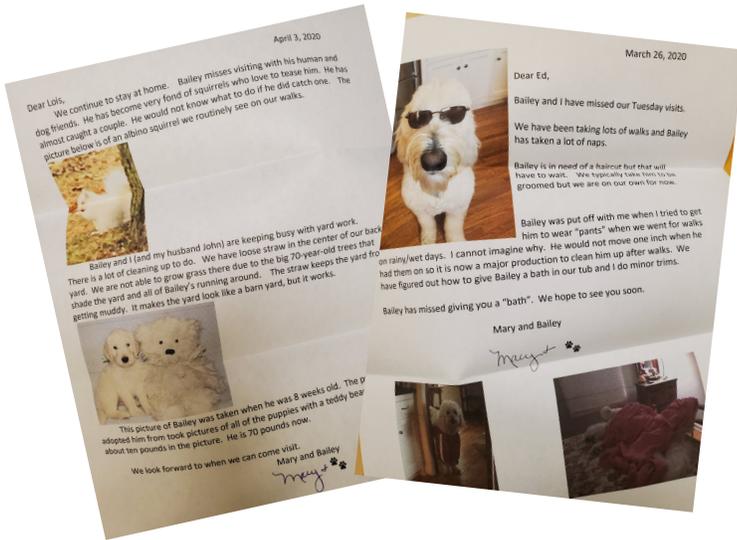


For the past month, the American Legion and VFW Auxiliary Distribution Rooms have been closed to Residents. So Erin Betlock, Volunteer Service Coordinator and Jodi Kritzeck, Recreational Therapist, decided to load up the cart and bring the Distribution Room to Residents. Residents enjoyed selecting needed items such as personal hygiene, T-shirts, sweatpants and other sundries for free, courtesy of the The American Legion Auxiliary and VFW Auxiliary. VFW Auxiliary Representative, Doris Anderson was both thrilled and relieved to hear Erin and Jodi were helping in their absence. (Submitted by Sandy Larson)

# Some Doggone Fun

## COMING YOUR WAY!

We're not sure who misses who more, but since they can't be on site in person and "in dog," Mary has been supplying personalized letters to about six Residents. Mary and Bailey are a dog/volunteer team. Staff have delivered the letters, read them and posted in Resident rooms. *(Submitted by Sandy Larson)*



# HAPPY 101ST (!!!) BIRTHDAY

Fun fact: Chuck was a legend on the tennis court! He attended a number of Senior Olympic Games around the country, earning silver and gold medals.

Happy 101st Birthday to World War II Veteran Charles "Chuck" Supplee. Chuck is a Resident at the Minneapolis Veterans Home. Chuck was born on April 8, 1919. In 1942 he joined the Army and served until 1945. Chuck and his wife, Shirley, were married on July 6, 1946. They have 3 adult children: Eileen, Joe and Paul. They have five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. The family is very close. We want to thank Chuck for his service, and also thank our incredible staff for their hard work over the last several weeks. *(Submitted by Sandy Larson)*



Don't miss out! We will also be sharing positive "Heroes at Home" stories on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. Follow the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs and stay engaged.