

NEWSLETTER

2919 W. Glenpark Dr., Suite #500, Appleton, WI 54914

Village Voices: News & Successes from WisVVA

Friends of Veterans Village,

It has been awhile since WisVVA published a newsletter so I'm happy to share we will be publishing a newsletter again, this time quarterly. We appreciate the opportunity to share news about WisVVA and we hope you enjoy reading about our changes and successes.

Spring is definitely around the corner. Hopefully winter went out like a lion with that last snowstorm. Regardless, I hope everyone is enjoying the longer days and warmer weather.

Here's a brief snapshot of some things we've accomplished since our last newsletter and a few upcoming events:

- We had a lot of fun and excitement with a Bourbon Raffle last fall. Todd Bartels won 1st prize, Brian Duncan won 2nd prize, and John Prophet won 3rd prize. We truly appreciate the support of everyone who purchased one or more of the raffle tickets.
- We had extremely successful fund raiser last November. A group of volunteers from Outagamie County Extension Association for Home and Community Education Group set up a fund-raising event at Tanner's Grill & Bar for WisVVA. Food, beverages, and fun was had by everyone to celebrate and support our veterans. The number of raffle baskets and auction items at the event was incredible.



[HTTPS://WISVVA.ORG](https://wisvva.org)

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER

Information about events happening at, and for the village. WISVVA.ORG to donate or complete an application for residency.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Featured Fundraisers

Evening with Rocky Bleier

Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2026

Location: American Legion Post 38, Appleton, WI

Details: A special traditional event held the night before the golf outing featuring Vietnam Veteran and NFL legend Rocky Bleier.

5th Annual Rocky Bleier Golf Classic

Date: Thursday, June 11, 2026

Location: Royal St. Patrick's Golf Links, Wrightstown, WI

Details: Registration is open for foursomes and sponsorships. Overhead Solutions is the Premier Sponsor for this year's event.

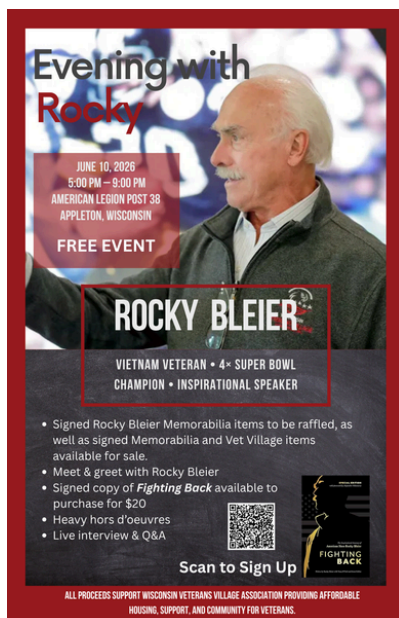
- We upgraded the fire alarm system at the village. The new system allows for better response time. It also alerts the Grand Chute Fire Department as to which building triggered the alarm.
- WisVVA will be replacing the outdoor lighting along the walking paths this summer. The new lighting will assist those walking to and from the village and Tripark Way.
- The 5th Annual Rocky Bleier Golf Classic will be held on Thursday, June 11th this year. We have sold many golf foursomes already, and Paul, owner of Overhead Solutions, has graciously agreed to be our Premier Sponsor. Please go to www.WisVVA.org or the following link <https://wisvva.org/golf-outing/> to sign up for a foursome and/or make a sponsorship!!
- We will also be hosting the traditional event the night before the outing, featuring Rocky Bleier, whom we call 'Evening with Rocky Bleier'. It will be held on Wednesday, June 10, at American Legion Post 38 in Appleton.

As always, thank you to everyone who has and continues to make a meaningful impact on the lives of veterans living at the village and here in Wisconsin. We are proud to have such a wonderful facility to provide a safe, supportive environment for those who have served our country.

Respectfully



Keith Scott,
President, WisVVA



Evening with Rocky

JUNE 10, 2026
5:00 PM – 9:00 PM
AMERICAN LEGION POST 38
APPLETON, WISCONSIN
FREE EVENT

ROCKY BLEIER
VIETNAM VETERAN • 4x SUPER BOWL
CHAMPION • INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER

- Signed Rocky Bleier Memorabilia items to be raffled, as well as signed Memorabilia and Vet Village items available for sale.
- Meet & greet with Rocky Bleier
- Signed copy of *Fighting Back* available to purchase for \$20
- Heavy hors d'oeuvres
- Live interview & Q&A

Scan to Sign Up

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT WISCONSIN VETERANS VILLAGE ASSOCIATION PROVIDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING, SUPPORT, AND COMMUNITY FOR VETERANS.



WISCONSIN VETERANS VILLAGE
5TH ANNUAL ROCKY BLEIER
GOLF
OUTING

Royal St. Pat's Golf Course
Wrightstown, Wisconsin.

REGISTER FOR A
FOURSOME, SPONSOR,
OR HOLE SIGN

Thursday, June 11, 2026

THIS ANNUAL EVENT IS MORE THAN JUST A GREAT DAY ON THE COURSE—IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY TO COME TOGETHER IN SUPPORT OF THE VETERANS WHO HAVE GIVEN SO MUCH. YOUR PARTICIPATION DIRECTLY HELPS VET VILLAGE CONTINUE PROVIDING HOUSING, RESOURCES, AND A STRONG COMMUNITY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED.

Recurring Village Events

Coffee and Treats

When: Every Tuesday and Friday

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Community Breakfast

When: Third Saturday of every month

Details: A great time for residents and supporters to connect over a meal.

A New Life Open AA Meeting

When: Every Monday

6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Details: An open meeting focused on recovery. You do not have to be a veteran to attend.

Appleton Vietnam Veterans Monthly Meeting

When: First Tuesday of every month

Time: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Details: Hosted by VVA Chapter 351 at the Village Community Center.

Vets on Frets: The Healing Power of Music

When: Every Wednesday

Time: 11:00 AM

Details: A group of veterans and guitar instructors playing folk, rock, and country hits from the 60s and 70s. Come sing along and enjoy the fellowship!
Location: Community Center

Take Me Out to the Ballgame! WisVVA Afternoon at the Timber Rattlers



W SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, July 12th | NEUROSCIENCE GROUP FIELD

Your Group Outing
is almost here!



FIRST PITCH
1:10 PM

Support Wisconsin Veterans Village as \$3 of every ticket purchased through the QR code goes back to the group

Get ready for an afternoon of home runs and community spirit! We are thrilled to partner with the **Wisconsin Timber Rattlers** for a special benefit game against the **Beloit Sky Carp**. It's the perfect summer afternoon to enjoy Wisconsin's favorite pastime while directly supporting the veterans who call our Village home. A portion of every ticket purchased through our official link goes back to WisVVA!

When: Sunday, July 12, 2026

Time: First Pitch at 1:10 PM

Where: Neuroscience Group Field at Fox Cities Stadium

Special Bonus: Stick around after the final out for a spectacular post-game fireworks display!

How to Join Us: Don't wait—secure your spot in the WisVVA section! Scan the QR code above or visit our Official Ticket Page to buy your tickets today.

Rep the Village: New WisVVA Merchandise! Show your support for our veterans in style.

We are excited to announce that official Wisconsin Veterans Village apparel is now available!

How to Shop: The best way to grab your gear is to stop by during our Coffee & Treats hours every Tuesday and Friday (10:00 AM - 12:00 PM). It's a great chance to explore the campus and catch up with the community.

Prefer a Private Appointment? Because our team is often out serving our residents, office hours can vary. To ensure someone is available to help you, please Call us: (920) 574-3350

Thank you for supporting WisVVA and helping us provide a "Community of Care" for our veterans!



Inside the Village

Welcome to the Village!

We are excited to welcome our newest resident, **Katheryn Bermann**, who will be joining our community this April. If you see her around campus or at Coffee & Treats, please give her a warm Wisconsin welcome!

Best Wishes

We also want to send our very best wishes to **Jim Upthegrove** as he moves on to his next adventure. Jim has been a valued member of our Village, and we wish him nothing but the best in his new chapter.

Spring Flowers

As the snow melts, we are getting ready to bring the Village back into full bloom! Our team and volunteers will soon be busy preparing the flower beds and planting fresh spring varieties to brighten up our walking paths and communal spaces.

Outside the Village

Mental Health First Aid (Free for Military & Veterans)

Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2026
Time: 8:15 AM – 5:15 PM

Location: Timber Lounge, 100 S Birch St, Kimberly, WI

Details: This specialized certification course teaches you how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges within the military and veteran community. Registration is typically required.

Cost: Free for Veteran and Their Family.
Register here:



Boots and Bags Luncheon

Date: Saturday, May 16, 2026
Time: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Location: BEAMING Ranch, Neenah, WI

Details: A fundraising luncheon supporting equine-assisted services for veterans and first responders. Enjoy a meal at the ranch and learn how their horse programs help with trauma and healing.

Appleton Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony

Date: Monday, May 25, 2026
Time: 9:00 AM (Step-off)

Route: Starts at College Ave & Appleton St, moving east to Meade St.

Details: A tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice. A memorial ceremony will follow at Riverside Cemetery.



Board Member Spotlight: Steve Day



MEET YOUR BOARD: JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS!

Did you know that our Board of Directors meetings are open to the community? We warmly invite all residents and members of the Village to sit in on our monthly board meetings. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet our board members, stay informed about Village projects, and see firsthand how we are working together to build a better future for our community.

When: 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM (Third Monday of every month)

Where: Village Community Center / Suite 500

We value your presence and look forward to seeing you there

Steve Day has dedicated his life to service—first to his country, and now to his fellow veterans. After an extraordinary 46½-year career in the United States Coast Guard Reserve, retiring as a Rear Admiral, Steve continues his mission by volunteering on the Board of the Wisconsin Veterans Village.

His commitment to service extends beyond the military. As a teacher, coach at Port Edwards, WI from 1975 - 1987, and adjunct college instructor at Midstate Technical College from 1987 – 2008. Steve has spent decades developing leaders, mentoring young people, and strengthening communities. Also, he was employed by Great Northern Nekoosa, Georgia Pacific, and Domtar in paper manufacturing in safety, training, and labor relations from 1987 – 2008. Today, he brings that same passion and leadership to the Wisconsin Veterans Village.

Since joining the Board in 2018, Steve has served in multiple key roles, including President, Secretary, and Vice President of Fundraising and Marketing. He currently chairs the Fundraising and Marketing Committee and has played a critical role in shaping the organization's leadership and direction.

Steve's driving goal is clear: to ensure the long-term success of the Village by paying off its loan on or before May 2033. Achieving this milestone will secure the Village's future and allow it to continue providing vital support, expand housing, and community for veterans in need.

To reach this goal, Steve is leading an ambitious and focused 2026 fundraising effort centered around three major events:

An Evening with Rocky Bleier – June 10, 2026

5th Annual Rocky Bleier Golf Outing – June 11, 2026

Wisconsin Timber Rattlers Promotional Event – July 12, 2026

These events are more than fundraisers—they are opportunities for the community to come together, honor veterans, and directly impact lives.

Steve's service on the Board is not just volunteerism—it is a continuation of a lifetime commitment to those who have served. With your support, the Wisconsin Veterans Village can achieve its goals, eliminate its debt, and continue to be a place where veterans find stability, dignity, and community.

Veteran Resources, Discounts and Perks



Is this the right dog for you?

Are you a Veteran ready to make a change and reclaim your life? This dog is best for someone who wants a working partner, not just a companion. They enjoy structure, and are confident, calm, and consistent. You must have a mobility related disability that benefits from trained tasks.

HOW TO APPLY

- Visit our website
- Choose "Apply for Your Service Dog"
- Fill out the request form
- or call us at (715) 298-1373

TASKS

- ✓ Retrieving dropped items
- ✓ Finding specific items
- ✓ Assistance standing
- ✓ Opening automatic doors

OUR MISSION

At no cost to qualified Veterans, we educate and train Psychiatric Service Dog Teams to have a fulfilling and meaningful life in the community of their choice.

www.patriotk9s.org

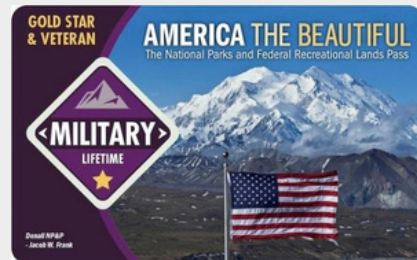
Disabled veterans can obtain a free Lifetime Access Pass for U.S. National Parks and federal recreational lands, providing free entrance to over 2,000 locations.

How to Obtain:

In Person (Recommended): Visit a participating federal recreation site (e.g., National Park) to receive the pass immediately.

Online/Mail: USGS Store (\$10 processing fee, plus \$7.50 handling).

For state-specific passes, such as in Wisconsin, veterans can apply through the DNR for free admission, which requires state-specific certification Wisconsin DNR.



Veterans Benefits

County Veterans Service Officers
920-832-5698

CVSO assists with applying for benefits (federal or state) that you may be interested in and eligible for.

Fox Valley Veterans Council

920-358-0662

Assist, connect and honor military veteran families in our community.



Invite all Vets & Friends patrons to come join for classic card & board games starting on 3/25 from 1-3 and every following 2nd/4th Wednesday of the month.

Location: 792 W. Northland Ave.



Every Wednesday and Friday, we welcome veterans and a friend to enjoy delicious, home-cooked meals at no cost. It's more than food. It's a chance to share stories, laugh, and connect with fellow veterans in a relaxed, welcoming environment.

Location: 100 W Capitol Drive, Appleton, WI 54911

Wednesday: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Friday: 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Shout-Outs

Thrivent Choice: For the **\$2,855** received in 2025 through the Choice Dollars program directed by their members.



We extend our deepest gratitude to **Mr. Walter Wiechert**, a former board member whose vision and dedication were instrumental in the creation of our Courtyard of Honor.

A veteran himself, Walter's commitment to the Village goes far beyond his time on the Board. He and his family have been cornerstones of our growth, sponsoring multiple apartments across Freedom, Independence, and Patriot Halls to ensure his fellow veterans have a dignified place to call home.

THANK YOU, DONORS!

We are especially grateful for those who committed to the Buck-a-Day initiative, helping to raise **\$41,000** in 2025:

Board Members & Friends:

- Steven Day
- Randall Boss
- Norbert Bolda
- Robert Marx
- Amie Carper
- Scott Kluesner
- Rob Underhill
- Gary Mennen
- Sherri McNamara
- Mike Siddall
- Matthew Huettner

Community Members:

- William Burzynski
- Colleen & Patrick Marx
- Chad Marx
- Ryan & Stacy Marx
- John Leyerle
- Drake Daggett
- Lee Santkuyl
- Adam Schrubey

There are several impactful ways to support the Wisconsin Veterans Village Association (WisVVA) and their mission to provide affordable housing and services to veterans in Appleton.

Online: You can make a one-time or monthly recurring gift through a [secure donation portal](https://www.wisvva.org) (WISVVA.ORG)

By Mail: Send checks made payable to the Wisconsin Veterans Village Association, Inc. to:
2919 W. Glenpark Dr., Suite #500 Appleton, WI 54914

The "Buck-A-Day" Program: This initiative asks for a commitment of \$1 per day (approximately \$30/month or \$365/year) for five years.

Amazon Wish List: The Village maintains a [Wish List on Amazon](#) for communal living supplies and cleaning products. Items purchased through this list are shipped directly to the campus.

Planned Giving: You can work with a financial advisor to establish a bequest, life insurance gift, or charitable trust.

Fundraising Events: Participate in local events like the Rocky Bleier Golf Outing (June 11, 2026) or the Evening with Rocky Bleier (June 10, 2026).