

## “BUDDY” POPPY/VFW NATIONAL HOME

### MAY

This May report is from our “Buddy Poppy” & VFW National Home Ambassador Jodie Hollinger. I hope you enjoy, for I’m busy finishing up our last minute details for year-end reports.

As the From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans year begins to wind down and the final year-end reports are completed, please remind your Auxiliaries to continue our “Buddy”® Poppy distributions. Their efforts will be counted towards next year’s Program, ensuring ongoing support for our veterans.

I have received many beautiful photos from various Departments sharing their “Buddy”® Poppy displays. While some of you may have held an unofficial “Buddy”® Poppy contest - which is wonderful - please remember that winners of an unofficial contest will not be forwarded to National VFW for judging.

The Official National VFW “Buddy”® Poppy Display Contest takes place annually at the National Convention. There are three (3) categories that displays are judged in:

- Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign
- Memorial or Inspirational Displays
- Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies

Have Auxiliaries follow the link: <https://malta.vfwauxiliary.org/MemberResources>

They will click on the “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home tab on the left for the Contest Rules and Judging guidelines.

A century of service is a huge milestone for the VFW National Home, and definitely worth CELEBRATING. In January, the VFW National Home marked its incredible 100-year milestone with a heartfelt birthday celebration filled with balloons, delicious cupcakes and inspiring speakers. A special thank you goes out to the dedicated Department Chairmen for

their tireless efforts in promoting the birthday card initiative. Thanks to each of you, the gym's walls are now covered in a beautiful display of love, appreciation and support.

I hope everyone had the chance to see the dedication and ribbon cutting of our Missouri II/Pollett House on Facebook! This home is a tribute to both the Pollett family, the first to reside at the National Home, and the VFW Department of Missouri, whose generosity and support make this possible. With this meaningful addition, the VFW National Home now proudly offers 43 homes on campus, continuing its mission to provide stability and support for veterans and their families. Be sure to follow the VFW National Home on Facebook to stay up to date on all the latest events, news and happenings around campus.

Our CELEBRATION is far from over! On June 28, the VFW National Home will host an exciting Community Celebration filled with fun for all ages. From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., families can enjoy a variety of activities, free carnival rides and more! But the excitement doesn't stop there, after 4 p.m. get ready for live music and a laser light show. Mark your calendars and join them for the unforgettable event.



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