

**VA ILLIANA MEDICAL CENTER
Danville, Illinois
March 2023**



Happy St. Paddy's Day!!!!

We have been very busy with activities and were able to have a Valentine Bingo Party in the SAR. Volunteers were allowed to attend. Everyone had a great time.

Each week, on Saturdays, the recreation therapists are meeting with Veterans to assist with finding housing, introducing them to what the VA can help with, and giving them a place to vent their concerns. Gift cards are needed for McDonald's, Hardy's, Burger King, Steak & Shake, etc. (\$25) so they can have coffee while they are meeting. Each week they meet at these different places.

As I am working with the volunteer office, I am finding there are more things needed. There is a small Food Pantry that gives a bag of groceries to Veterans in need. At this time, canned meats, pasta sauce, soups, crackers, and vegetables are needed. The Veterans are provided recipe cards to help vary their meals.

Board games are needed for a game day we are trying to establish. Monopoly, Scrabble, Parcheesi, and chess/checker sets are a few. We are checking to see if a poker event can be arranged as well. Chips and cards will be needed. As these events become established, our Auxiliaries and Posts will be able to host one of the games. You will be able to set the date for your event with the Volunteer Office.

Remember, all volunteers are required to wear masks and be tested for Covid at this time.

Thank you to all Auxiliaries who sent donations. Your gift enables the Veterans to receive the little things we take for granted but are not available on the programs at the VA.

Personal products such as: non-alcohol mouthwash, antiperspirants, lotions, etc. are always in high demand. Warm shirts, hats, and gloves are appreciated at this time of year.

Thank you for all you are doing to help our Veterans.

Loyally,

Deborah Gard
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