



**HOSPICE OF  
ORANGE & SULLIVAN COUNTIES, INC.  
WE HONOR VETERANS  
LEVEL V  
ANNUAL REPORT**

**08/01/2021 TO 07/31/2022**



# Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties, Inc.

## We Honor Veterans

### Level V

## Annual Report

08/01/2021 to 07/31/2022

*Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties Takes Pride in Caring for and Recognizing Veterans.*



According to the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), one out of every four dying Americans is a Veteran. Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties is the leading community resource for providing patients and families with compassionate physical, emotional, and spiritual end-of-life care with comfort, dignity, and respect.

As part of our mission to care for and honor Veterans, Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties, offers Veterans the opportunity through our Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties Veteran Program, to be honored and thanked for their service.

Each recognition is tailored to the patient's and family's preference, which may include a pin, a certificate of service, a patriotic blanket (hand-made by a local crafter), a Thank You card (made by a child from one of our local communities), and an Honor Salute. We continue to create partnerships with Veteran organizations throughout Orange and Sullivan Counties to provide these salutes to honor our Veterans.

Our Veterans have done everything asked of them in their mission to serve our country, we believe it is never too late to give them a hero's welcome home!



# Veterans by the Number



Total Number of Veterans Served 128

Total Number of Honor Recognition Salutes 55



# Hudson Valley Veteran Honor Recognition Salutes Are a Community Effort

Since its inception in 2015, Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties' Honor Recognition Salute Program has been a community effort. Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties reaches out to senior centers and local crafters to make patriotic blankets that are given to Veterans in its care. It also reaches out to local school-aged children to make "Thank You for Your Service" cards that are distributed to Veterans in its care and are always well received. In addition, Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties is in continual contact with local Veteran organizations which provide Honor Recognition Salutes. Even though some of the COVID-19 restrictions began to be lifted this past year, Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties still experienced challenges with in-person salutes.

Honoring our Patients – The following photos and captions are samples of the work Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties did this past year recognizing the Veteran patients it serves.



"It was an honor and privilege to celebrate this moment with Veteran Holohan's strong and dedicated family," stated Tara Mary Furey McCartney, Social Worker. Thank you for your service of 29½ years in the Coast Guard.



Veteran, Michael Dibattista, surrounded by his proud family and Hospice social worker Alina Burger after receiving a Veteran Honor Recognition. Thank you for your service, Veteran Michael Dibattista.



Thank you for your service, Veteran Richard Reynolds.



Thank you for your service, Veteran Richard Paffenroth.



Thank you for your service, Veteran Basabe-Fernandez.



# Hudson Valley Veteran Honor Recognition Salutes Are a Community Effort

continued



Thank you for your service, Veteran Stanley Sondey. Your family, hospice family, and country recognize and appreciate your sacrifice.



Thank you to our veteran partners Mulberry House Senior Center for their continued support of providing patriotic blankets for our HOSC Veteran Program.



Thank you Kassie Correa, daughter of Hospice Aide Specialist, Lissa Reyes, for organizing this project with her 5th-grade class with Ms. Leavey at Round Hill Elementary School in Washingtonville. These patriotic cards were given to Veterans in Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties' care.



On Friday, Nov. 26, 2021, Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties had the privilege to recognize Purple Heart recipient, WW II Army Veteran, Vincent Ianuzzi with an Honor Salute. The salute was provided by Veteran Hospice Volunteer Dave Wilcox. A beautiful patriotic quilt, a certificate of service, a gold We Honor Veterans Pin, and a child's card were presented.



A heartfelt thank you to Meals on Wheels of Greater Newburgh and the Windsor Academy for the beautiful handmade Valentine's Day Cards for the Veterans in Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties' care on Valentine's Day.



With heartfelt thanks to Ellenville Central School District Elementary School for the box of Veteran Valentines and "Thank You for Your Service" cards hand-made by your students. These cards had significant meaning to the Veterans in our care.

# Hudson Valley Veteran Honor Recognition Salutes Are a Community Effort

continued



Rita Bellomo from the Mamakating Senior Center made this blanket Senator Larkin received at his Honor Salute.



Beautiful patriotic quilts from Quilters of the Hudson Highlands. Thank you for your continued support of our HOOSC Veteran Program. 10 unique quilts, each one more beautiful the other.



Thank you to the Heart & Soul Crochet Group from Our Savior Lutheran Church in Fishkill for these lovely patriotic blankets for our Veterans. Each one will go to honor those in our care.



Thank you Norma Bordeman, Colleen Archer, and the ladies at Wallkill Living Center for the beautiful patriotic blankets and other lovely blankets handcrafted for our patients. Both Norma and Colleen said they don't know what they would have done without our care for their loved ones. These were made in memory of Norma's dad, Irwin "Sonny" Brown and Colleen's mom, Barbara Hickey.



Thank you Susan Vrana, Elaine Grausso, and everyone in the Woodbury Senior Center's Wednesday Quilters and Crocheters Group for the beautiful donation of handmade blankets for our HOOSC Veteran program. We appreciate your ongoing support.



# Community Outreach Education

## The Focus

Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties, Inc.'s Newsletter. It is published three times a year and mailed to over 5,000 households. It is also distributed via email, social media, and posted on our website. Every Focus features stories about our HOSC Veterans Program.

Fall 2021

## We Honor Veterans



Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties, Inc. is proud to announce we have once again achieved the Level 5 Partnership in the We Honor Veterans Program, created by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and Department of Veteran Affairs.

We hold in high regard this high-level standard to maintain the Level 5 We Honor Veterans Partnership. We take pride in caring for our veterans at the end of life, and we train staff and volunteers to continue to meet this standard, ensuring every veteran receives the right care at the right time.

The hard work to consistently earn the highest level of partnership is achieved through the veterans' committee, under the direction of Kim Warner, Director of Social Work and Bereavement Services. The committee is made of hospice staff and veteran volunteers who work together to maintain all criteria needed for this accreditation.

As part of our commitment to specialized care for veterans, we offer the Honor Salute/Recognition Program. This program could not continue without the dedicated support of community members, including, Veteran organizations, local quilters and crafters, and our local schools and youth organizations who provide handmade Thank You for Your Service cards.

Each Veteran is presented with a pin, framed certificate of service, a patriotic lap quilt/blanket, and a card from a child thanking them for their service. You can read more about this program, including our Veteran-to-Veteran Volunteer program here: <https://hospiceoforange.com/veterans-care-honor-salute-program/>



Crafters from Town of Mamakating Senior Center: Loretta Alteio, Eileen Carney, Irene Czerwinski, and Rita Kehrl. Not pictured: Arsenarie Willard, Mary Fowler, Mary Felber, and Maria Broccoli, who donated these beautiful patriotic blankets this past July.



Veteran Louis Tomasi with his son Vincent and his hospice care team.

## November is Hospice Awareness Month



As your trusted community resource for providing patients and families with compassionate physical, emotional, and spiritual end-of-life care, we understand the difficulty for many who struggle with the decision to place loved ones in our care.

One of the best ways to make sure you benefit fully from hospice is to talk about it before it's time. Far too many people wait until they are amid a health care crisis before thinking about what options are available or what care they or their loved ones would have wanted.

Coping with a terminal illness can be a difficult enough experience without having to worry about pain management, medication costs, and assistance with caregiving. Surprisingly, many Medicare beneficiaries are unaware that Medicare's Hospice Benefit is available to assist patients and their families with these issues at the end of life.

When a family is coping with a serious illness and a cure is no longer possible, hospice provides the type of care most people say they want at the end of life: comfort and dignity, with the wishes of the patient and family, always at the center of care.

Care is paid for by Medicare, Medicaid, and most private insurance plans and HMOs.

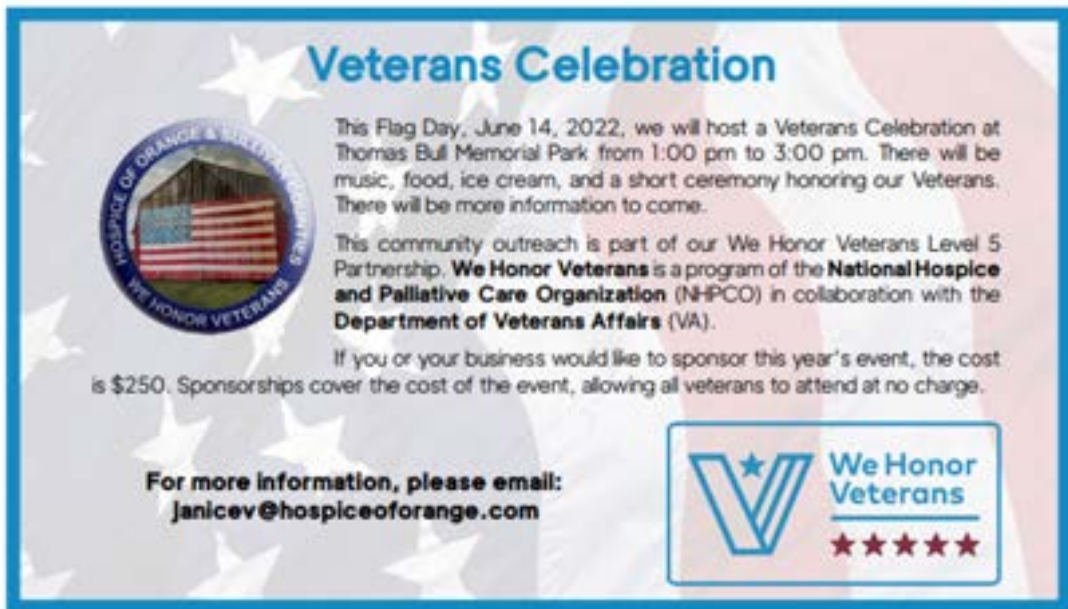
# HOSPICE of ORANGE & SULLIVAN Counties, Inc.

Trust has a name  
**HOSPICE**  
of ORANGE & SULLIVAN

# Community Outreach Education

continued

Winter 2022





**Veterans Celebration**

This Flag Day, June 14, 2022, we will host a Veterans Celebration at Thomas Bull Memorial Park from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. There will be music, food, ice cream, and a short ceremony honoring our Veterans. There will be more information to come.

This community outreach is part of our We Honor Veterans Level 5 Partnership. **We Honor Veterans** is a program of the **National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO)** in collaboration with the **Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)**.

If you or your business would like to sponsor this year's event, the cost is \$250. Sponsorships cover the cost of the event, allowing all veterans to attend at no charge.

**For more information, please email:**  
[Janicev@hospiceoforange.com](mailto:Janicev@hospiceoforange.com)



## With a Little Help from Our Friends



Dan Grady and Alan Seidman

Thank you, Alan Seidman and the Construction Contractors Association, SMACNA, and Fabricators and Erectors' Association, for your continued support of your community Hospice of Orange and Sullivan Counties, Inc. Dan Grady attended the CCA 2021 Annual Holiday Party and Charity Event and received total donations of over \$4,000.



With heartfelt thanks to Ellenville Central School District Elementary School and Windsor Academy for the box of handmade veteran valentines and thank you for your service cards. These cards have significant meaning to the Veterans who receive them and often bring a tear to their eyes.



Thank you, Bethe Moskowitz, for your gift of seventeen handmade patriotic blankets. Bethe feels a dedication to our Veteran Recognition Program as a Greenwood Lake Senior Center member.

"When hospice made a presentation about this program to our senior center, we learned how important these blankets can be to the veterans," says Bethe, "and of a veteran who loved his blanket so much, it was buried with him, that did it for me," says Bethe.



# Community Outreach Education

continued

Summer 2022

## Flag Day Veteran Celebration



Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties CEO Dan Grady presents Paul V. Rader Veteran2Veteran Volunteer Award to David Wilcox, US Army Specialist 5th Class (E5) May 1967- May 1970

On June 14, 2022, Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties held the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Veteran Celebration at Thomas Bull Memorial Park. The Veteran Celebration welcomed over 100 Veterans to thank and honor them for their commitment and service to our country.

The afternoon began with a Presentation of the Colors by Warwick Valley VFW Post 4662 and a videoed rendition of the Star-Spangled Banner by Lead Vocalist for the West Point Band, SGM MaryKay Messenger, US Army. Then, Kim Warner, Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties Director of Social Work and Bereavement Services, gave a presentation on Veteran care and the Hospice Veteran2Veteran Volunteer program.

Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties provides Veterans with superior end-of-life care and offers a unique Veteran2Veteran Volunteer program. The Veteran2Veteran Volunteer program allows the Veteran patient to spend time with a Veteran volunteer who can give exceptional comradery support, bedside reminiscing, participation in Veteran recognitions, and explore obtaining awarded medals not received.

The presentation ended with the Paul V. Rader Veteran2Veteran Award that is given to an exceptional Veteran Volunteer. This year's award was given to David Wilcox. Dave has been a Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties Veteran Volunteer for four years, and has been an integral part of the Veteran Program. He has supported Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties efforts to honor Veterans by providing support to them in the community and at the Kaplan Family Hospice Residence.

Dave participates in Honor Salutes and attends all Veteran community events. In addition, he has assisted in the assembly and transportation of gifts to Veterans in area nursing homes when needed. He is always willing and able to provide support in any way he can for the program. Congratulations, Dave, on this special honor.

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  - VFW Post #1161 Town of Newburgh "The Poppy Fund"
  - Warwick Valley VFW Post 4662
  - West Point - Highland Falls Rotary Club
  - YIT Foundation

# Community Outreach Education

continued



HOSC Veteran Program Pamphlet - Pamphlet distributed throughout the community.



November 9th Quarterly, Fox Hill Community Breakfast - Pat Larkin, wife of former Senator Bill Larkin, presented this Afghan blanket to Janice Valentino, Director of Marketing and Community Outreach for Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties, Inc. It was a touching moment and in the spirit of what the Colonel was all about giving back to our Veterans.

# Community Outreach Education

continued



November 13th Veteran Partnership Community Event - During Veterans week, Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties volunteers were at the Newburgh Armory Community Center in support of Sharon Toney-Finch and the YIT Foundation. Sharon, a Purple Heart recipient, was on Fox & Friends Thursday, Nov 11 to receive a special commemorative coin.



November 24th Newburgh Rotary Club - Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties Director of Marketing and Community Outreach, Janice Valentino, spoke to a group of over 50 guests at the Newburgh Rotary Club's 40th Inter-Service Luncheon. She presented about Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties and the We Honor Veterans Level 5 Program. Special thank you to William Sestrom.



# Community Outreach Education

continued



Ed Madson, Luis Cabrera, and Debbedo Brown



Members of the VFW Post 8858 from Harriman & American Legion Post 488

On December 16th, Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties recognized National Guard Member, Luis Cabrera, who was assisting patients and Veterans at the Valley View Center, Nursing home.



December 17th Warwick Valley VFW Post 4662 - Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties congratulates Warwick Valley VFW Post 4662 Veterans & First Responder Center at the Open House of their new office. Janice Valentino presented a special quilt to Post 4662 for their support of the HOSC Veteran program.

# Community Outreach Education

continued

May 17th WTbQ's The Nonprofit Notebook - Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties provides a 30-minute radio show on WTbQ's The Nonprofit Notebook monthly on Tuesdays 11:30am to 12:00pm. The show on May 17th highlighted the We Honor Veterans Level 5 Program with guest speaker Home Care Social Worker, Christina Carmody, who provided personal testimony about the Veteran Recognitions and Honor Salutes which she has facilitated to the patients and families in her designated territory.



June 2022 Office of the Aging Senior Day - Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties coordinated an information table for seniors and Veterans, staffed by volunteers. Over 300 seniors registered and attended the event.



Veteran Affairs Accredited Agent of Veteran Service Officer - Christin Farrell, Director, Orange County Veterans' Service Agency, is a steadfast resource to our agency and clinical staff in serving our patients.

# Veteran's Day Patient Recognitions

On Veterans Day, Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties coordinated, to over 31 Veterans in its care, the distribution of Girl Scout Cookies and handmade "Thank You for Your Service" cards, courtesy of Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Troop 215, "Marion Wild Service Unit". Social Workers personally delivered Girls Scout Cookies, Thank You cards, and played and watched with Veterans Hudson Valley Honor Flight of Mission #12 from 2016 that was posted on Facebook specifically with the purpose of Social Workers to be able to sit with and watch video with Veteran patients.



## Veteran's Day

On Veteran's Day we honor all,  
Who answered to a service call.  
Soldiers young, and soldiers old,  
Fought for freedom, brave and bold.  
Some have lived, while others died,  
All of them deserve our pride.  
We're proud of all the soldiers who,  
Kept thinking of red, white and blue.  
They fought for us and all our rights,  
They fought through many days and  
nights.  
And though we may not know each  
name,  
We thank ALL veterans just the same.

With love,  
Sebastian



On behalf of Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties, and the veterans we serve, we thank teacher Irina Natale for organizing the "Cards for Veterans" project with her pre-school class at the Easter Seals New York Project Excel, in Monticello. "We thank them all for their service and sacrifice, and hope to continue this project every year", said Irina.



# Veteran's Day Patient Recognitions

continued



Thank you to Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson Troop 215, "Marion Wild Service Unit", out of Walden and Alison Bergman for donating boxes of wrapped cookies and Veteran cards for the Veterans in our care. All Veterans in our care, on Veterans Day, received gifts and cards thanking them for their service.



It was an amazing Veterans week at Hospice. We received so many Veterans cards from children throughout the communities we serve. Thank you to Girls on the Run and Hospice volunteer Julia Siep, Miss Dina, and Miss Maylin's 3PK class at Sullivan County Headstart, Inc., Monticello, and Ms. Magnan's students from Middletown. Our Veterans were overjoyed with the cards they received.

# December 7th Vet Cafes

On the 80th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor. In remembrance of this day in our history, Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties Veteran's committee delivered over 80 recognition packets to Veterans across our communities including a special card, child's card, and ribbon.



It was our privilege to honor these veterans on December 7, 2021, the 80th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day. We honored our Veterans on National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day by sending care packages, including Girl Scouts Cookies. A special thank you to Dave Wilcox, a Veteran Volunteer, for all his efforts on this date.

Janice Valentino interviewed Peter Adams, a Veteran Volunteer for an 8-minute interview on our Facebook. Pete turned 7-years-old on December 7, 1941 and shared what he remembered as a young boy 80 years ago.

Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties facilitated a total of 6 cafes simultaneously. Our Veteran volunteers assisted in delivering packages Veterans in the surrounding nursing homes, and invited them to listen to an interview on our Facebook page as one of our Veteran volunteers remembered the bombing of Pearl Harbor when he was as a child.





# March 29th Vietnam Veteran Day Celebration

Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties was the lead agency on March 29, 2022, hosting the 2nd Annual National Vietnam War Day observance in Orange County. The following organizations partnered with Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties for this event: Detachment #249 of Greater Newburgh, Marine Corps League, Orange County Veterans Service Agency, VFW Post 973, Newburgh, NY, and the VET2VET Program through the Mental Health Association of Orange County.

The event took place at Cornwall on the Hudson Yacht Club. It was broadcast live on Facebook with over 285 individuals tuning in for the event. Local newspaper Mid-Hudson News covered the event. Veteran groups in attendance included: Newburgh ROTC, Rolling Thunder, Veteran Task Force, Christian Farrell, Senator Larkin, VFW 973, Marine Corp Greater Newburgh Attachment 249. With an additional non-veteran guest in attendance.





# June 14th Veteran Annual Celebration

Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties hosted its Annual Veteran Celebration on Tuesday, June 14th at Thomas Bull Memorial Park Pavilion in Montgomery. This year's event had 27 sponsors including Pepsi of Hudson Valley. Notable attendees included Orange County, County Executive, Steve Newhouse. Also present at the event was the Stewart Airport Color Guard. Two Veteran Owned food trucks were on-site and provided 250 meals, each. There were over 100 Veterans in attendance.

**Attention Veterans!**

HOSPICE of Orange & Sullivan Counties, Inc.

Invites you as our guest to attend

*A Veteran Celebration*

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

*Flag Day* 

1:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Thomas Bull Memorial Park

Group Picnic Area

HOSPICE of Orange & Sullivan Counties believes it's never too late to Thank Our Veterans.

For more info: Janice Valentino  
845-561-6143 x 324  
janicev@hospiceoforange.com

**THIS EVENT IS POSSIBLE THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF YOUR COMMUNITY THROUGHOUT ORANGE AND SULLIVAN COUNTIES**

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Right On Cue Productions  
& DJ Erick Santana



*Catering by*

FlavorHut Food Truck



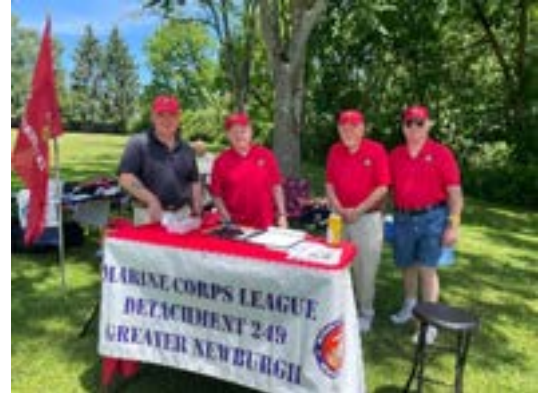
Baby Dahl's Catering Truck



Ice Mother & Sons Ice Cream Truck



**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS**



# June 14th Paul Rader Annual Award

Presented to Veteran Volunteer Dave Wilcox. The Paul Rader Annual Award is given out annually highlighting the commitment, dedication to the HOSC Veteran Program, and spirit of giving as a Veteran to Veterans.



Trust has a name



# HOSPICE

of **ORANGE & SULLIVAN**

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