

Veteran's Stand Down

Twenty seven cadet recently took part in a Veteran's Stand Down held at the Omaha Civic Auditorium on November 2nd. Stand Downs are just one part of the Department of Veterans Affairs' efforts to provide services to homeless Veterans. Stand Downs are typically a one day event providing services to homeless Veterans such as food, shelter, clothing, health screenings, VA and Social Security benefits counseling, and referrals to a variety of other necessary services, such as health care, housing, employment, and substance use treatment. Stand Downs are collaborative events, coordinated between the local VAs, other government agencies, and community agencies serving the homeless. Creighton University and Allegiant Health hosted the event designed to serve our estimated 500 homeless veterans.

Benson JROTC Cadets were paired up with a veteran and were able to connect at a personal level. The students learned of hardships that led to their veteran's current situation after honorably serving their country years ago. Our students quickly agreed they enjoyed giving back to our community and plan on making this an annual event to participate in.



A Stack of Cakes

Members of the Benson JROTC surpassed their goal at a fundraising pancake breakfast Sunday, November 10. The JROTC members set a goal of \$3,000 and surpassed it by raising more than \$3,050.

“Twenty-five Cadets served up pancakes, sausage, and beverages for 200 guests at the Benson VFW Center,” said Lt. COL Michael DeBolt, Senior Army Instructor.

DeBolt said the pancake breakfast benefited the fundraising efforts to send 29 students to march in the 70th D-Day Anniversary Parade in Normandy. The group has raised \$65,000 of their \$90,000 goal.

“The event itself was an overall amazing achievement,” said Cadet Battalion Commander Liz Green “Working together to raise money so we can all go as a JROTC family to France is an honor.”

“It feels amazing to do something so fun. It was exciting to see Senator Lee Terry, Miss Nebraska JaCee Pilkington and professional baseball player Tyler Cloyd all come out to support us.” Cadet Ana Schneider said. “ And to see KMTV, WOWT and KETV cover our event is such an inspiration.”

First Sergeant Dan Falcon said the students did a fantastic job.

“I am so proud of them for their hard work in raising money for their trip,” he said. “As a teacher, it is humbling to see such selflessness from our students and such support from our community. We plan to do another pancake breakfast in the spring and hope the community will join us again as we march towards France.”

Creighton Basketball & Benson Cadets Honor our Nation



Veteran's Day Parade

The Annual Veterans Parade, was held Saturday, November 9, 2013 in Old Towne, Bellevue. Bellevue is the host of Nebraska's Official Veterans Parade for the state.

Celebrating the 14th year, the tribute includes representatives of most military branches and veterans from recent wars and conflicts. 106 units marched in this year's parade. This marks the second year of Benson JROTC participation.

As a community we gather to say thank you to our veterans for their efforts and sacrifices.



Upcoming Events

Nov 27-29 Fall Break

Dec 11 Annual Federal Inspection

Feb 14 Spaghetti Dinner

Domestic Violence Walk



Over 200 people take part in a walk to end Domestic Violence. The event was hosted by the senior JROTC Class as part of their Service Learning Project. The event was covered by KETV. 20 Bags of clothing was delivered to the Women's Center for Advancement. Class leader was Selena Gray.

Flag Football for Cancer

Army vs. Navy JROTC Flag Football game was a charity event in the fight against cancer. Papillion-LaVista South High School hosted the event and approximately \$500 was raised.

