

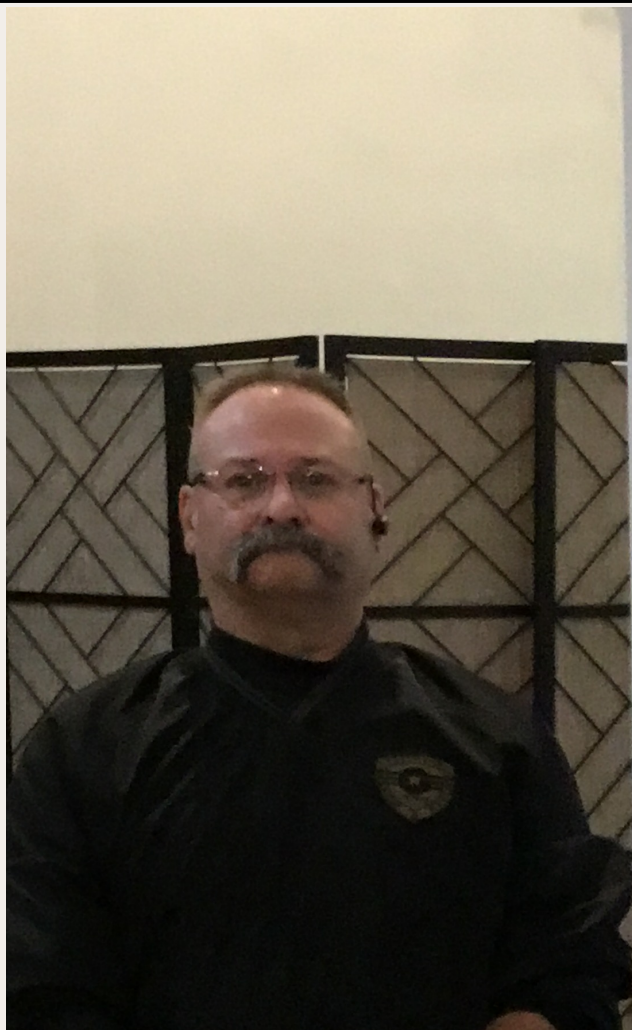
Cortland  
**BREAKFAST**  
ROTARY

November 17, 2021

# NORM STITZEL VETERANS

AS A DISABLED MARINE VETERAN, NORM FOUNDED THE VETERANS SEARCH AND RESCUE, AN INDEPENDENT, FREE LANCE ADVOCATE FOR VETERANS. HE IS ALSO CHAPLAIN FOR THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS CHAPTER #153 IN CORTLAND AS WELL AS COMMANDANT FOR THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE COORDINATING THE TOYS FOR TOTS CAMPAIGN. THE #1 PRIORITY FOR VETSTAR ISSUICIDE PREVENTION; THE TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN LIFE CAN BE BEYOND DIFFICULT. WE DON'T WAIT FOR VETS TO COME TO US WE ARE ACTIVE IN THE COMMUNITY TO MAKE THESE CONNECTIONS. SOMETIMES THEY JUST NEED TO SIT DOWN OVER COFFEE TO RECONNECT THEIR CAMARADERIE.

The process of refurbishing the Cortland Memorial Park started ten years ago, with actual reconstruction starting in the summer of this year. Individuals can purchase a Memorial Brick for \$100 ([www.VETSAR.com](http://www.VETSAR.com)) for continued repairs and upgrades to the Memorial Park. We hope it is a place that parents and teachers can bring kids of all ages and educate them on the Price Paid for our freedom, as well as a place for Veterans to come for solitude and reflection.



President      Pete Williams.      Front Desk.      Jim Dempsey, Dianne Higgins  
invocation.      Ed Finkbeiner.      50-50.      Pat Clune



**Conrad Janke**--we need 3 more volunteers to help with the Salvation Army Kettle Drive on December 3.

**Don Richards**--There will be calling hours for **Jim Hopkins** on Tuesday, 11-23, from 530-930pm at the United Church of DeRuyter (1632 Cortland St., DeRuyter. On Saturday, November 27 will be a Memorial Service at the Parish House of the United Church of DeRuyter, 1670 Cortland St., DeRuyter. There will also be a reception at the Center of the Arts at 4-7pm.

**Don** also announced that the Homer Business Association, a group Jim was President of, will be having it's Christmas Dinner at the Center for the Arts at 630pm, \$25 per person.

**Pete Williams** asked members to wear masks at meetings after they gave eaten their breakfasts.

**Norm Stitzel** announced that **VETSAR** will hold a fundraiser at the Homer Elks on November 20, "A Night at the Canteen, featuring The Belltones.



Everyone who attended the meeting either gave a dollar in honor of **Jim Hopkins** or plans to.

**Steve Cinquanti** started a posthumous Paul Harris Award for Jim, and donated **\$100**. Several members followed suit.

**Mike Shafer** gave a dollar for Loaves and Fishes.

**Conrad Janke** donated a dollar for a weekend trip to Florida.



**A gentle giant, a man whose heart is bigger than his stature. We miss you Jim Hopkins.**