

# Southwest Montana Veteran's Home Update #38

By Mike Lawson

Greetings once again, to you the Veterans/Communities/Counties of SW MT, who are the chief organizers and supporters of the SW MT Veterans Home.

Site Superintendent Mike Ascheman and I had a good visit on the forward moving progress of our Veteran's Home. The weather was cold in the morning for a few of the days and then warmed up where the carpenter crews could work. The roofers were really affected until it warmed up, as warmer temps allowed them to get the bundles of shingles broke apart without breaking the shingles. Not many of the guys were sick this week which was a plus, but Mike did say that if they're sick, it's better they stay home and get well. No sense in getting everyone sick.

## SW MT Vet Home Construction Update:

**Community Center;** This building is seeing heavy-duty construction movement on a number of fronts. To begin with, the County Inspections went very well, which opened the doors to continue the next phases of work to move forward. The Engineers/Architects made the adjustments for the electricians to be able to move forward with the wiring. The exterior walls are being insulated and then sheet rocked. The interior walls will be sheet rocked on one side so the sound insulation can be put between the studs, against the inside of that sheeted side. This will be followed by the un-sheeted side being sheet rocked. The whole purpose of this operation will then be a wall that sound won't come through. The Electricians will be getting their wiring done, ahead of this stage. The Sheet-Metal workers are hanging duct-work and working on the heating system. All the metal door frames should be installed at this time. There were a few, that were wrong and sent back, being replaced by the correct new ones. The Lid sheet rock seams, have been fire taped,

On the outside of the Community Center, the peel and stick 3M Air Barrier rolls of material have been applied to all sides of this building. All the exterior windows have been put in, except for the Big Store Front/Picture Windows, which are scheduled to be installed this week, on Thursday or Friday. Next week the big outside/inside entrance door glass is expected to be installed. The foam installation exterior wall board will be installed this week which allow the exterior siding crew, from S&H Aluminum out of Great Falls, to start the siding on the first of March. This will really bring a whole new finished look to this building

**Cottage #1;** This building is in the wings and ready for a big influx of workers to "man-it up" as we say in the construction world. Both Site Superintend Mike Ascheman and GF John Kotka are ready to move on, in getting the progressive steps of construction done here. These steps are very similar as to what the Community Center, has had done. The "Lid" and the insulation blown in above it, the mechanical/electrical/plumbing/insulation/sheet rock/windows/3M peel&stick/etc. as well a small amount of framing will be happening from this week on. Look for a more detailed update next week.

**Cottage #2;** Not much going on here until Cottage #1 is to the point of the work crews being able to move there after most of their work is done in #1. The roofers are finishing up the roof shingles.

**Cottage #3;** Exciting to see what's been done here, within the last few weeks. All the walls are raised/tipped up, all the roof trusses are rolled into place and the roof sheeting is mostly nailed down, on top of these trusses. The soffit around the roof edges is being worked on and the roofers will soon be roofing, if weather permits it. The big push will be in getting it dried in so the other craft workers can get started on what they need to do.

**Cottage #4;** Mike said GF John Kotka, plans to have a couple of framers building wall, and within the next two or weeks have them standing, ready for trusses. They keep the snow shoveled off the floor which will make things much easier when they can get people working there.

**Cottage #5;** Pretty much on hold, other than shoveling the snow off the floor.

Liaison Mark Gollinger is keeping on top of things both at the Vet Home Site and all that's happening with the State of Montana, concerning our Vet Home. One thing he mentioned is the Contract Bids deadline for submittal, to operate our Vet Home, has been extended to the middle of March, instead the beginning of March. The Foundation's SW MT VET HOME LOGO Contest has been advertised and is waiting for some of you folks or your kids to enter with a Logo to be judged and chosen. So far, Mark said, no one has submitted any applications so please, please, consider doing this. The address is <https://dphhs.mt.gov/sltc/homelivingoptions/montanaveteranshomes/swmvh/DesignContest.pdf>. Remember our Foundation Meeting will be at the new American Legion Hall on Winn Ave. in Butte at 1:00 PM

I'll close for now so take care until next time.