



Veterans-For-Change Newsletter

A Voice of the Veterans

Week Ending Sunday, October 07, 2018

Volume 9, Issue 39



This-N-That

It would seem that at least one VA Medical Center is up to it's old tricks again. Iowa City, Iowa had been canceling appointments for the radiology department, patients showing up and not having been told their appointments were canceled, and doctors saying they never canceled the appointments.

Since 2016 more than 250,000 appointments had been canceled, and at least one smart radiology technician started keeping track of all these cancellations then went to USA Today and told the story.

The VA inspector general is auditing mass cancellations at eight VA medical centers “to determine whether VA processed radiology requests in a timely manner and appropriately managed canceled requests,” VA Inspector General Michael Missal said.

Those hospitals are in Tampa and Bay Pines, Florida; Salisbury, North Carolina; Cleveland; Dallas; Denver; Las Vegas; and Los Angeles.

In Iowa City, Dettbarn alerted the hospital’s compliance officer about his concerns. He is now facing disciplinary proceedings and contends they are an effort to retaliate against him.

Truly amazing that when someone stands up for Veterans they're always retaliated against!

If you have been a victim of schemes like this, please contact Donovan Slack at USA Today and tell him your story! He can be contacted via E-Mail at:

dslack@usatoday.com

If more Veterans would come forward, tell their story to reputable and reliable news sources not only would civilians be educated, but it just might be the one thing that would help all Veterans received better and more timely care.

This week we've added another 268 web links to the Veterans-For-Change website under "Health Topics", check them out, we're now up to having posted all topics up to the letter "C" and we will be adding more as quickly as we can.

We are experiencing a program glitch when it comes to subscribing, so I am checking new subscriptions often and making what ever repair is needed and will notify you by E-Mail. Please keep in mind our system security is case sensitive, so be sure to use the Log-In ID exactly as you created it as well as your passwords.

On behalf of our Volunteers nationwide and myself, we wish you and your family good health!

Respectfully,

Jim Davis

Founder

Jim.Davis@Veterans-For-Change.org



**TRICARE Recoups \$280 Million From
Drug Scams**

TRICARE, the health insurance program for military personnel, retirees and their families, recognized by 2015 that it had become the target of corrupt pharmacists, doctors and marketers peddling wildly overpriced compound drugs. Before it was all said and done the military pharmacy program had been bilked out of an estimated \$1.5 billion. Read the full story [here](#).



VA announces extension, expansion of contract with TriWest for community care

Also announces closeout plan with Health Net, extension of dialysis partnerships

Today the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs announced that it has reached an agreement with TriWest Health Care Alliance (TriWest) on a one-year extension of its current coverage of the Patient-Centered Community Care (PC3) and Veterans Choice Program (VCP).

The department also announced that it has reached an agreement with TriWest that will expand TriWest's services to all regions across the country under this program.

The expansion of TriWest's role will ensure access to community care where needed until the next generation of community care contracts are awarded and implemented.

"TriWest has worked collaboratively with VA from the start of the Veterans Choice Program to address implementation challenges and to improve the program to better serve Veterans," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "Extending the time and reach of our partnership with TriWest will ensure Veterans get the care they need while the department transitions to delivering care under the MISSION Act next year."

Separately, the department has reached an agreement with Health Net Federal Services (HNFS) on the PC3 and VCP closeout plan and associated contract

modification. Under this modification, VA and HNFS will continue to partner to ensure a seamless transition of care and services so that Veterans continue to get the care they need.

Finally, VA has extended its current dialysis contracts with multiple partners for six months, until March 31, 2019. VA will issue a Request for Proposal for the replacement contracts in October 2018, with ultimate contract awards anticipated in the spring of 2019.



Veterans-For-Change Web Site

The Veterans-For-Change website has been under construction since day one back in 2009 and every day since then. The looks pretty much stay the same, but in the background constant improvement and change is being done to make our website the most user friendly “One-Stop-Shop” website to find almost everything you might have tried to find searching the internet.

Almost a hundred people have been involved; collecting web links to documents now houses on the

VFC website, collecting thousands of web links for various issues, illnesses and benefits. Creating forums for all eras of service and two forums one just for men and one just for woman where you can go question, comment, share medical and personal concerns, what ever you'd like it to be.

We also have a forum with for Mental Health and are currently seeking a new Licensed Mental Health Worker, where you can seek help or just ask questions.

We average **2,900** hits per day, and downloads average **1,840** per day with a total **4,408,624** visitors as of Friday.

If you subscribe you will have full access to the entire website and best of all it's **FREE of charge!** You just need a valid E-mail address so the system can send you a confirmation E-Mail. Once received, click on the link to be authorized automatically.

www.veterans-for-change.org

- Documents Library with over 16,662 documents on-line (Updated: 08/27/18)
- FAQ's with more than 1,600 FAQ's and answers
- Multiple Forums
 - o Afghanistan Veterans

- o FMP - Foreign Medial Program
- o Gulf War & Desert Storm Veterans
- o Iraq Veterans
- o Korean Veterans
- o Men Veterans Forum
- o Mental Health for Veterans (**Counselor Needed**)
- o Political Issues
- o Suggestion Box
- o The Mess Hall
- o VA Hospitals and Medical Centers
- o Veteran Affairs
- o Vietnam Veterans
- o Welcome Mat
- o Women Veterans Forum
- o WW II Veterans
- Job Postings
- Memorial Pages (Updated: 01/11/18)
- News (Articles On-Line: **7,815**)
- Polls
- Web Links, more than **4,288**, Added **268** New Links (Updated: 10/01/18)

If you have a submission for the memorial pages, E-Mail: Jim.Davis@veterans-for-change.org



Navy GI Bill Transfer Process Update

The U.S. Navy has released a new electronic form for completing the Statement of Understanding (SOU) needed to submit Post-9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB) requests, and a new policy allowing Purple Heart recipients to transfer education benefits. Starting Oct. 1, Sailors will be able to complete the required SOU online via [My Navy Portal](#), or the [My Education website](#). Sailors should verify their current email information to ensure prompt feedback on TEB applications. Also, Purple Heart recipients are now immediately eligible to transfer their unused education benefits to their dependents.



Octobers's Featured Song

Wings Against The Moonlight

By

LT Bobby Ross

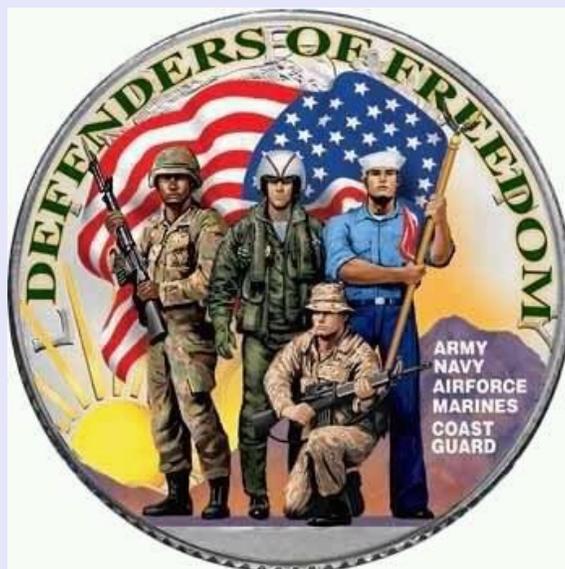
LT Bobby Ross - Voice Of America

Previous Featured Songs



The Women of WWI

The Yeoman (F)s, popularly called 'Yeomanettes', were established by the Secretary of the Navy in 1917 after U.S. entry into World War I. The expanding mission of the Navy and Marines prompted a need for more clerks and stenographers, while also needing to free male Sailors and Marines for duty at sea and abroad. Recruited at first just for clerical duties, by the end of the war their jobs included language translation and manufacturing munitions in factories. The Yeoman (F)s were of such invaluable service to the country that there was no question of women returning to Navy service during World War II. For more information, read the [VA Vantage Point Blog](#) and visit the [National Archives website](#) and [Wikipedia](#).





**Now is the Time to Call SVAC
Chairman to get Vote on Agent
Orange Reform**

The “Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act” (H.R. 299) has stalled in the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee (SVAC). The bill already passed the House (382-0). Now is the time to call the SVAC Chairman Johnny Isakson (Ga.) to urge him to call a committee vote on this legislation, without amending it. (202) 224-3643

Tell the Senator that you believe Congress should recognize these veterans, who served off the coast of Vietnam, were exposed to Agent Orange herbicide and the committee should authorize presumptive status for VA disability claims associated with this exposure.

Members are also encouraged to use the FRA **Action Center** to weigh in on this issue with their Senators.





Choose Your TRICARE Health Plan

You can use several online tools to choose your TRICARE health plan. If you are not sure what health plans you may be eligible for, start by using the [TRICARE Plan Finder](#). If you want to compare several health plans, you can compare their features side-by-side using the [Compare Plans](#) tool. Simply select the plans you are interested in learning more about. The results will display in a table, allowing you to compare the main features and costs of each plan. Take command of your health by making informed decisions about your TRICARE benefit. Also — keep in mind TRICARE's Open Enrollment Season begins November 12 and runs to December 10.



**CONTACT YOUR
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS!**

To Call your Representative:

202-225-2305

To Call your Senators:

202-224-3841 or 202-224-3553

To call Different Members of Congress:

202-224-3121

TOLL FREE: 866-272-6622

PLEASE... STOP Making Excuses!

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TRICARE's Post-Florence Emergency Procedures

TRICARE has emergency procedures in place in all counties in Georgia, Washington, D.C., Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia due to Hurricane Florence. To get an emergency refill, take your prescription bottle to any TRICARE retail network pharmacy. To find a network pharmacy: (1) call Express Scripts at 1-877-363-1303 or search the [network pharmacy locator](#). If possible, visit the pharmacy where the prescription was filled. If you use a retail chain, you can fill your prescription at another store in that chain. If your provider is available, he or she may call in a new prescription to any network pharmacy. You can request assistance at another pharmacy, but it is at that pharmacy's discretion to help you.



AMERICAN SOLDIERS

**WILLING TO DIE FOR THE COUNTRY
THAT ISN'T WILLING TO PAY THEM!**



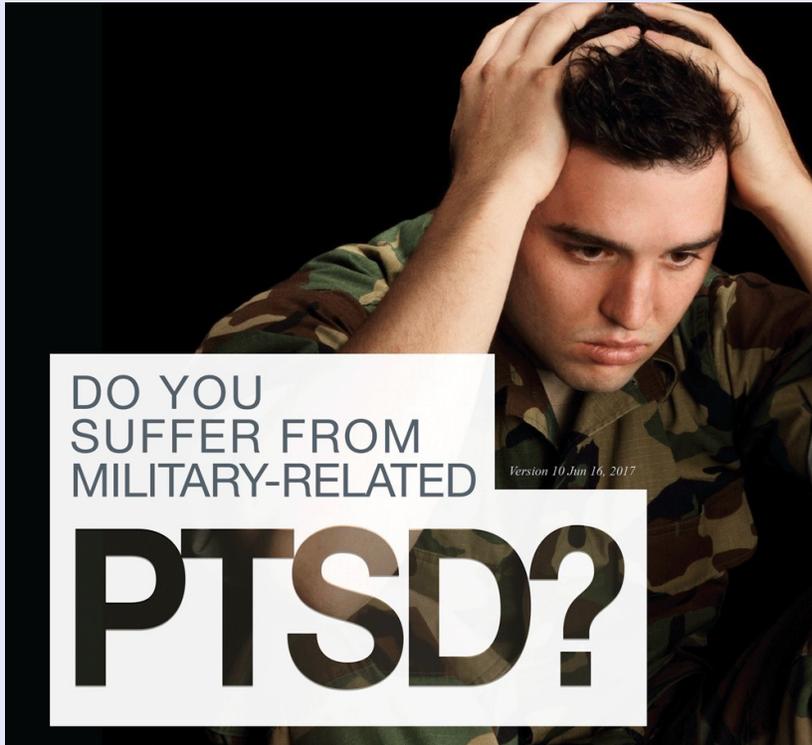
Federal Voting Assistance Program

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) is a Department of Defense (DoD) organization that works to ensure Service members, their eligible family members, and overseas citizens are aware of their right to vote and have the tools and resources to successfully do so — from anywhere in the world.

FVAP assists voters through partnerships with the Military Services, Department of State, Department of Justice, and election officials from the 50 states, U.S. territories and the District of Columbia. State and local governments administer U.S. elections, including those for federal offices. FVAP supports state and local election officials by providing absentee voting information, materials, training and guidance.

If you'd like more information on the Federal Voting Assistance Program or need help with the absentee voting process please go to [FVAP.gov](https://fvap.gov) or call FVAP at 703-588-1584 (toll free 1-800-438-VOTE or DSN 425-1584) or email (vote@fvap.gov).





DO YOU
SUFFER FROM
MILITARY-RELATED

Version 10, Jun 16, 2017

PTSD?

**Veterans Crisis Line:
1-800-273-8255 & Press 1
Ntl Call Center for Homeless Vets
1-877-424-3838**



**Services to Help Veterans Get Back
on Their Feet**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) connects homeless and at-risk veterans with housing solutions, health care, community employment services and more. Veterans and their families can access services by calling the confidential VA National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 1-877-4AID-VET (1-877-424-3838). VA [HUD-VASH](#) is a supportive housing program that helps veterans find and sustain permanent housing. In addition to meeting other guidelines, veterans must be VA health care eligible to be a candidate for these programs. For more information, contact your local VAMC or Community Resource and Referral Center or visit [Explore.VA.gov](#).



Time is running out to help the Blue Water Navy Vets

Jim Doyle

“When there is a deadlock, my personal belief is that the tie should be broken in favor of the brave men and women that put their lives on the line for all of us.”

Former Veterans Administration Secretary Dr. David Shulkin

In 1991, Congress passed the Agent Orange Act. The

act presumed certain diseases were tied to Agent Orange exposure during a Veteran's military service, and would make them eligible for VA benefits.

In the 27 years since the law was enacted, the list of diseases associated with exposure to Agent Orange has grown and includes various cancers, diabetes, Parkinson's Disease, peripheral neuropathy, and heart disease among others.

The VA website states the following: "For the purposes of VA compensation benefits, Veterans who served anywhere in Vietnam between January 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975 are presumed to have been exposed to herbicides, as specified in the Agent Orange Act of 1991. These Veterans do not need to show that they were exposed to Agent Orange or other herbicides in order to get disability compensation for diseases related to Agent Orange exposure."

To get these benefits, though, Veterans "must have actually set foot on Vietnamese soil or served on a craft in its rivers (also known as 'brown water' Navy)," the Congressional Research Service wrote. Those who instead spent time on deep-water Navy ships (called "Blue Water Navy" Veterans) do not qualify unless they can show that they spent time on Vietnam land or rivers, the report said.

HR 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2018, a bill whose original sponsor is Rep. David Valadao, R-Hanford, would restore benefits to nearly 90,000 Veterans of the Navy who served off the coast of Vietnam during the war and were subject to the same exposure to Agent Orange as their dry land and Brown Water Navy comrades.

These benefits, arbitrarily rescinded in 2002, included medical and disability treatment and compensation. Valadao's bill, HR 299 passed in the House 382 – 0 and was sent on to the Senate where it was also expected to pass without opposition.

Now, an openly hostile Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Robert Wilkie, has urged senators to reject legislation that would make health care and disability compensation available to approximately 90,000 “Blue Water” Navy Veterans – those sailors aboard aircraft carriers, destroyers and other ships who contend they were exposed to Agent Orange through the ships' water systems. The dioxin-laden herbicide has been found to cause respiratory cancers, Parkinson's disease, and heart disease, as well as other conditions.

Wilkie, who came from the Pentagon where he was deputy secretary for personnel and readiness, has staked his tent in the far territory, beyond reason and in

opposition to objective facts.

These are our neighbors, friends, co-workers, and fellow retirees who face the daily challenge of fighting illnesses directly associated with their military service, nearly 50 years after that honorable service ended.

And the VA, at its highest administrative level, refuses to extend the hand pledged on the bronze plaque next to the front door at 801 Vermont St. in Washington, the Department of Veterans Affairs: "To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan."

Is it any wonder less than half of 1 percent of our 330 million fellow Americans choose to join the military, when confronted with the knowledge that previous generations in their families have been refused treatment and compensation for health issues directly related to their service?

Many of our Blue Water Navy Veterans will not survive Wilkie's tenure in office. It is unconscionable that an individual who has expressed open hostility to Veterans was even nominated, much less confirmed as secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Veterans might expect better from an administration that claims to support our men and women who have

served, but as we've seen with much out of this administration, it is so much smoke being blown up our skirts.



**Our values
match yours.**

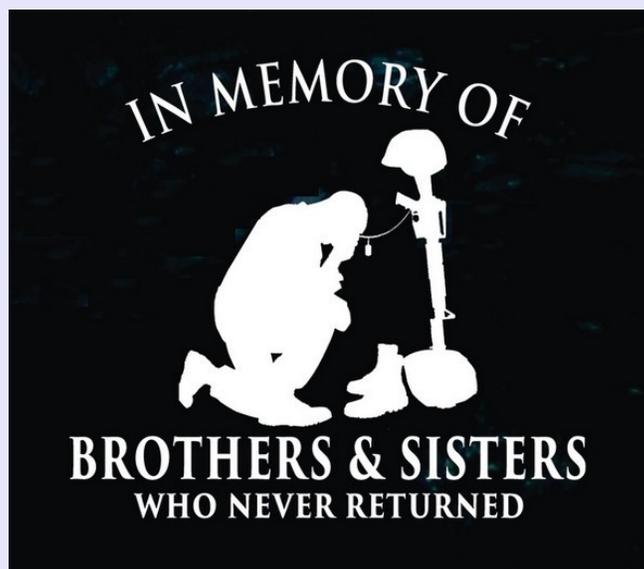


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VA Achieves Appeal Goal

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has exceeded its goal to deliver 81,000 appeals decisions of disability benefits and services to Veterans in fiscal year 2018. Veterans who disagree with the initial claim decision have three options: (1) Higher Level Review at the office of original jurisdiction; (2) Supplemental Claim with the office of original jurisdiction; and (3) Appeal to the Board. Once a Veteran appeals to the Board, he or she remains in control of the process by choosing one of [three dockets](#) best suited to the appeal: (1) Direct Review Docket; (2) Evidence Docket; or (3) Hearing Docket. For information about the Board and its progress on appeals modernization, visit the [VA Board of Veterans Appeals webpage](#).





Senate Bill Would Continue Help for Homeless Vets

Senator Mazie K. Hirono and Arkansas Senator John Boozman introduced a bill to renew several federal homeless veteran programs for the next fiscal year through 2020. The bill, known as the Keeping Our Commitment to Ending Veteran Homelessness Act of 2018, would renew seven US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and US Department of Labor programs that provide services to homeless veterans and their families. These programs will begin to expire on Sept. 30 without Congressional action. The seven programs that might expire are: (1) Healthcare for Homeless Veterans, (2) Grants and Per Diem Homeless Veterans With Special Needs, (3) Supportive Service for Veterans Families, (4) Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program, (5) Homeless Women Veterans and Homeless Veterans With Children Reintegration Program, (6) Incarcerated Veterans Transition Program, and (7) Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans.





VA Releases Veteran Suicide Report

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has released national and state-level findings from its most recent analysis of veteran suicide data, from 2005 to 2016. The analysis is part of VA's ongoing examination of non-veteran and veteran death records that is being used to evaluate and improve VA's Suicide Prevention Program. Overall, the fact remains that on average about 20 current or former servicemembers die each day; six have been in VA health care and 14 were not. The rate of suicide among 18-34-year-old veterans continues to increase. The 'VA National Suicide Data Report 2005-2016,' and the accompanying state data sheets, are available [online](#).



Veterans and Headaches

While treatment for headaches is available at all VA medical centers, seven hospitals are specifically working to help polytrauma and traumatic brain injury (TBI) Veterans. Headache management for veterans with TBI and multiple co-morbid conditions is challenging and is best managed by an interdisciplinary team. Chronic Headache Management Program (CHAMP) participants are required to keep a diary, noting the time a headache starts, what they were doing, what they were eating and other aspects of their lives that can be critical to understanding what might be triggering the headaches. About 60 people are in CHAMP at any given time, including those patients who are followed after discharge. For more information, read the VA [VAntage Point Blog](#).



Veteran Crisis Resources

Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1

Military Crisis Line 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

National Call Center for Homeless Veterans

1-877-4AID-VET (424.3838)

VA Caregiver Support Line 1-855-260-3274



Eliminate Your Out of Pocket Costs with a TRICARE Supplement

Get a TRICARE supplement that pays your cost shares and can pay 100% of covered excess charges. Get valuable coverage now.



Links to Other Stories

1. 'I knew something was not right': Mass cancellations of diagnostic test orders at VA hospitals draw scrutiny
2. 126,000 service members in crosshairs for separation as DoD's 'deploy or get out' policy takes effect
3. 3 Charged in Temple VA fraud case
4. A 33-year-old Vet went to the VA for help. Hours later he took his own life
5. As Medical Marijuana Becomes More Accepted, Veterans Urge the VA To Prescribe It
6. Congress Increases Research Funding, Shows Support for Care Partners

7. Decision Issued on Herbicide Exposure at Fort Drum
8. eMedicare – Another step to strengthening Medicare!
9. Family Of Marine Veteran Who Died At Tomah VA Cut Ads Praising Baldwin
10. Here are the new rates for military retiree dental coverage under new FEDVIP benefit
11. In Case You Missed It: Highlights from the National VA/DOD Women's Mental Health Mini-Residency
12. Increase in Tennessee Veteran suicides found by VA
13. Managing Pain
14. Marine Corps Veteran's family wants VA to learn from his suicide
15. Men say their breast cancer was caused by contaminated water at Camp Lejeune
16. Otsego's Water is Safe Despite Trace Dioxins
17. Pain in the Ear
18. Prostate Cancer Awareness Month: Empowering patients
19. Qualifications for Veteran Status
20. Second chance to register: Join TRICARE for Oct. 11 webinar on new dental, vision coverage
21. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie State of VA Community Town Hall
22. The VA report is in – again – and Veterans and doctors don't buy it

- 23. [VA Observes Breast Cancer Awareness Month](#)
- 24. [Why Participate in a Clinical Trial? What Else Should I Know?](#)
- 25. [Why the VA is botching cash housing stipends for 360,000 GI Bill users](#)

You can help VFC by reading articles posted and commenting at the bottom and rate the articles. If you don't have an account, sign up today, it's FREE. Your comments and rankings tell us what type of information you want most.

Check us out today: www.veterans-for-change.org



Your VA Loan Benefit: Lock In Your Low Rate Today with \$0 Down

Don't waste your money on rent when you can buy a home with \$0 down. Now is the time to use your VA loan benefit. Qualified borrowers can buy or refi with as little as \$0 down, and have no PMI payments with great rates and financing up to \$453k. [Use your VA Loan Benefit today.](#)



Special Forces Medic Receives Medal of Honor

President Trump presented the Medal of Honor on Monday to former Army Special Forces medic Staff Sgt. Ronald J. Shurer II for fighting his way through an enemy ambush to render aid to wounded Special Forces soldiers and Afghan commandos in an April 6, 2008 battle in Shok Valley in northeastern Afghanistan. Shurer was initially awarded the Silver Star for his role in the operation, but a Pentagon review of all valor medals awarded since 9/11 resulted in the award being upgraded to the Medal of Honor. Shurer is currently a special agent with the U.S. Secret Service. [Watch the White House presentation ceremony.](#)



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Finding Your Best College Option

CollegeRecon is a free educational resource built exclusively for military service members and veterans. The online research tool helps veterans, service members and their families find military and veteran-friendly schools while maintaining their privacy. The education needs of the military community are unique. CollegeRecon's tool provides information regarding housing, out-of-pocket costs and military and veteran support programs from nearly 3,000 schools to help you make the best decision regarding your future. Visit [CollegeRecon](#) for more information.



VA to Host Economic Development Events in Puerto Rico

In the aftermath of Hurricane Maria and the devastating impacts on Puerto Rico last year, there are still many veterans who are attempting to get back to normal. On Nov. 8, VA's Office of Transition and Economic Development will host an event offering multiple services at Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico. The centerpiece of the event will focus on a veteran economic themed roundtable from 9 a.m. to noon where attendees can learn of some of the programs they might be eligible for. During this event there will also be an all-day large scale claims clinic available to veterans from the surrounding area. On Nov. 14 at Fort Buchanan there will be a Hiring Our Heroes job fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The VFW is glad to see VA is making sure to take care of the veterans from Puerto Rico in their times of need.



*** RED ALERT ***

**Everyone Call The Senate Committee
On Veterans Affairs Members Ask
Them To Support and Vote to pass
HR 299 Blue Water Navy
Vietnam Veterans Act Of 2018 to the
Full Senate for a Vote!**

**Jon Tester (D - MT)202-224-2644-Tony
Murray, Patty (WA)202-224-2621-Ryan
Sanders, Bernie (VT)202-224-5141-Matt
Brown, Sherrod (OH)202-224-2315-Anna
Blumenthal, Richard (CT)202-224-2823-Ethan
Hirono, Mazie (HI)202-224-6361-Adam
Manchin, Joe (WV)202-224-3954-Emily**

**Please Ask everyone to Make The
Calls and Share this with
Everyone!**

**Thank You Michael F Kvintus
Sr. BWNVVA
National Vice Commander**



Compare 2019 FEDVIP Dental and Vision Plans

Starting in 2019, dental and vision insurance plans for military retirees and their families will be available through the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP). If you're eligible, the first opportunity to enroll in a plan is during the Federal Benefits open season, which will take place from Nov. 12 to Dec. 10. [Compare FEDVIP plans and rates](#) before open season begins.



VA and Complimentary Medicine

A recent major shift in practice by the Veterans Health Administration (VA) now means that complementary and integrative health (CIH) therapies such as meditation, yoga and acupuncture are increasingly being offered to VA patients as non-drug approaches for pain management. A recent study has looked at the use of CIH use by gender among veterans with chronic musculoskeletal pain. The research is featured as the 'Editor's Choice' in the September/October issue of **Women's Health Issues**. The research found that the rates of use of CIH range from 25-42 percent among women and 15-29 percent among men, depending on race/ethnicity and age.



Office of Inspector General

1. Better Measures Needed to Assess Regional Office Performance in Processing Claims
2. Further Improvements Needed to Help Ensure Timely Payments to Community Providers
3. Selected States' Program Structures and Challenges Providing Services



On-Base Shopping Privileges to Expand

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 includes a provision to open on-base commissary, exchange and MWR privileges to stateside Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war, and those with service-connected disabilities and their caregiver spouses. Once implemented on Jan. 1, 2020, the new beneficiaries will be allowed to use these facilities on the same basis as any service member, dependent or military retiree, although a new user fee might be created for this population to offset additional expansion expenses. The delay to enact is to give the military services, exchange systems and Defense Commissary Agency time to ensure the launch is seamless. Gate access and shopping privileges will be based on the new VA-issued Veterans Health Identification Card (VHIC), which identifies the holder as having a service-connected disability. The DOD's electronic physical access control system, to be completed by Sept. 2019, will accept the VHIC to enable streamlined access to installations. The VFW will monitor and report back as expansion efforts progress.



**“We Proudly Support our
Military Personnel & Families”**



Trump Donates His Salary to Veteran Entrepreneurs

President Donald Trump is donating his second quarter salary to a Small Business Administration program that will help veteran entrepreneurs. At a White House briefing on Wednesday, SBA Administrator Linda McMahon accepted a \$100,000 check from the president. “This money is going to be used in our veterans program. We’re going to establish a seven-month intensive training program called ‘Emerging Leaders.’ It’s an adaptation of that program for our veterans, helping them transition from military life into private sector if they desire to start their own jobs and their own companies, and be entrepreneurs,” McMahon said. “We thank the president very much for this and it will be put to very good use.” Trump donated his first quarter salary for 2018 to the Department of Veterans Affairs for caregiver programs.



End of fiscal year hospital Star rating shows large improvement in overall quality of services at VA Western New York Healthcare System

BUFFALO, NEW YORK — Today, as part of the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) efforts to remain transparent and hold VA facilities accountable, VA released its [end of fiscal year 2018 \(FY2018\) hospital Star ratings](#), which evaluate and benchmark quality of care delivery at VA medical centers (VAMCs) across the nation.

VA Western New York Healthcare System was one of the facilities that made positive strides in the benchmarks and is striving to continue progress. VA Western New York Healthcare System improved from a three star rating to four star rating, placing Western New York in the Top 20% of all VA Hospitals for overall quality measures.

“VA Western New York Healthcare System continues to be a leader in inpatient and outpatient mental health services,” said Michael J. Swartz, Executive Director. “We continue to make improvements using electronic medical records and analytics to identify patients who

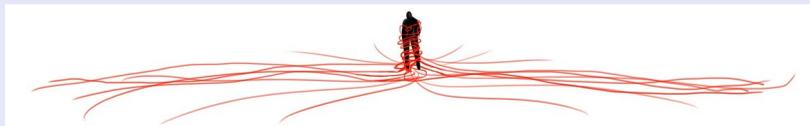
could benefit from additional services to improve their quality of life, such as home based primary care and home health services. In addition, VA staff continues to make strides to improve hospital outcomes in the areas of reducing readmissions and infections.”

The Star rating designation is designed to help VA identify best practices of its top performing hospitals and share them across VA’s health care system to achieve system-wide improvements.

Compared with data from the same period a year ago, the release of [VA’s Strategic Analytics for Improvement and Learning](#) (SAIL) report shows 66 percent of VA Medical Centers (VAMCs) have improved in overall quality in the third quarter — with the largest gains seen in areas where there were VA-wide improvement initiatives, such as mortality, length of stay and avoidable adverse events. Six VAMCs had a decrease in quality, and improvement activities are underway at each of these facilities.

Additionally, of the medical centers placed under the Strategic Action for Transformation program (StAT), an initiative that monitors high-risk medical centers and mobilizes resources to assist them, eight are no longer considered high risk and 80 percent (12 medical centers) show measurable improvements since being placed under StAT in January 2018.

“There’s no doubt that there’s still plenty of work to do, but I’m proud of our employees, who work tirelessly to move VA in the right direction for Veterans and taxpayers,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie.



**HonorBound Foundation Awards
VFW a Grant to Help Service Officers**

HonorBound Foundation has awarded the VFW a \$55,263 grant to help offset a larger initiative that will begin equipping VFW service officers with new laptops and tablets so that they can more efficiently and effectively help veterans file disability claims with the Department of Veterans Affairs. The VFW has nearly 2,000 VA-accredited service officers across America and abroad, and reliable Internet connectivity is key to helping veterans process their claims. The HonorBound Foundation grant will help jumpstart a larger \$300,000 VFW initiative to ensure all service officers have the ability to provide the same service to all veterans anytime, anywhere. “The VFW is in business to help as many veterans and their families as possible, and part of our success relies on technology,” said VFW National Commander B.J. Lawrence. “We’re thankful for the HonorBound Foundation’s generosity, which will help ensure our professional advocates can process more VA claims wherever and whenever needed.”





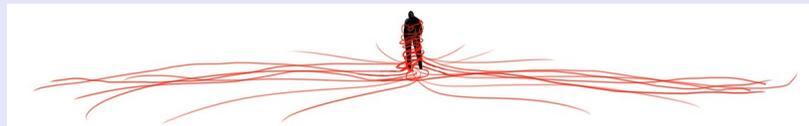
U.S. FOOD & DRUG
ADMINISTRATION

1. Caution When Using Pen Needles to Inject Medicines: FDA Safety Communication
2. Differences in strength expression on product labels of compounders and conventional manufacturers may lead to dosing errors
3. Endo Pharmaceuticals Issues Voluntary Nationwide Recall for Two Lots of Robaxin® 750mg Tablets 100 Count Bottle Packs Due to Incorrect Daily Dosing Information on Label
4. List of Device Recalls
5. Oscor Inc. Issues Recall of TB – Temporary Bipolar Pacing Lead (Unshrouded 2 mm Pins Models)
6. Pro-Med Instruments Recalls the DORO LUCENT Headrest Due to Possible Malfunction and Failure
7. Silver Star Brands, Inc. Issues Voluntary Nationwide Recall of Human and Animal Drug Products Due to Microbial Contamination
8. Ventana Medical Systems Recalls Multiple Detection Kits Due to Potential for False Negative Results Caused by Reagent Dispenser Issues
9. Voluntary Recall on Harris Teeter Low Fat Cookies & Cream Frozen Yogurt Due to Undeclared Peanut Product





SURVIVAL IS FUN



From Military-Veterans Advocacy

Just back from another week in the Swamp where I had a number of meetings mostly on the Senate side. Had to shovel my way through the snowflakes that were disrupting business. Look, I don't care if they protest that is their right. But accosting and screaming at people (I scream back), blocking hallways and occupying Senate offices while chanting crosses the line. The Capitol Police did a good job of protecting the right to protest while removing those who interfered

with access to the Senate offices.

I think we all felt that 2018 would be the year for the Blue Water Navy veterans. We had the support of the VA Secretary, Secretary Shulkin, Congressman Phil Roe of TN, the House Committee Chairman supported us. We had a new sponsor who also served on Appropriations Committee. Over 300 Members of Congress across both parties sponsored our bill. What could go wrong?

The first roadblock was when the Ranking Member, Tim Walz of Minnesota (currently running for Minnesota Governor) blocked the financial offset required by the Pay As You Go Act of 2010. The Committee was trying to use COLA round downs, which would have rounded down increases in annual cost of living compensation benefits to the nearest dollar. We had tried that in 2015 and been blocked by Senator Bernie Sanders. Still we felt that a bi-partisan vote from the House would have overcome Sanders resistance - especially in an election year. But that was not to be, and we knew a party line vote would let it die in the Senate. So, Chairman Roe wisely tabled the bill.

After six months of creative financing, and constant urging by Chairman Roe, the House Committee came up with a plan to finance the bill using an increase in the VA Home Loan guarantee fees. Disabled veterans

would be exempt except for jumbo loans (in excess of \$453,000.00) where only 100% disabled vets would be exempt. ALL, repeat ALL VSOs agreed to this offset.

In May 2018 HR 299 passed the House Committee unanimously, we ran into another speed bump. The State Department had reservations about defining the Vietnamese territorial seas. This is understandable, given the ongoing issues with the Red Chinese in the South China Sea. We also considered that we were giving too much latitude to the VA by allowing them to define the territorial sea. That could result in them limiting it to a lake in Saigon. So, we worked with the Committee to designate geographical points instead of the term territorial seas although they mirrored the area Vietnam claims as their territorial sea. The House then passed HR 299 by a vote of 382-0.

We hoped to pass the bill by unanimous consent but the Senate Chairman, Sen. Johnny Isakson of Georgia decided to pursue "regular order." There had been an objection to the jumbo loan provisions by a real estate group and Sen Isakson was himself a former real estate agent. We addressed these concerns with the Senate Committee, noting that the bill also lifts the cap on jumbo loans which would allow the veteran to exceed the cap without having to arrange for secondary financing. This would save the veteran

money in the long run. Senator Tillis of North Carolina, who has done great work in enacting legislation to block predatory lenders, also had some concern with the effect of the bill.

It was at this point that the naysayers struck back. Secretary Shulkin had left the VA and returned to private life. The VA ambushed us starting with an op-ed by former Secretary Principi and culminating with the August 1, 2018 legislative hearing where they trashed the bill. Under Secretary Paul Lawrence, who refused to talk with me, and Dr. Ralph Erickson, who in my opinion lied to the Committee, presented false and misleading information. They highlighted the jumbo loan provision as a negative and actually inflated the cost estimate of the bill. This was followed by a September 6 letter from Robert Wilkie, the new VA Secretary reiterating the disingenuous August 1, testimony.

We fought back. I wrote a rebuttal to Secretary Wilkie's letter. We distributed talking points and began to receive more favorable media coverage. The VA submitted a letter signed by four former VA Secretaries, we countered with a letter from former Secretary Shulkin. Thanks to the assistance of Fleet Reserve Association National Executive Director Tom Snee, the Military Coalition, which recreants 5.5 million

veterans, wrote a strong letter in our support. Admiral Chris Cole of the Association of the United States Navy wrote a terrific op-ed supporting us.

It was pretty obvious that the momentum had changed in our favor until we ran into what I am afraid will be a fatal road block. Our so-called allies - the Legion the VFW, the DAV and the Paralyzed Veterans of America wrote what was termed a letter of support, but included a lethal paragraph opposing the jumbo loan provisions. This was the same provision they had agreed to prior to the May House Committee hearing. They did not discuss this with us or even give us a warning that they were going to take this approach. The VA, of course, jumped on this letter as justification for their opposition to the bill.

I believe that this cowardly reversal on the part of these VSOs, will be the death knell if HR 299 in its present form. The problem is that we have no time left for behind the scenes negotiation, any changes to the bill will require a vote by the House. The House is in recess until the election, so we are looking at the lame duck session.

In my talks in the Senate this past week, the jumbo provision is toast. If the jumbo provision goes away, that will reduce the offset by about \$124 million. There was some additional money in the bill to cover

discretionary costs (two types of spending mandatory and discretionary. The VA has inflated both). This reduction would leave us short on the discretionary money. It could possibly be worked out with more creative financing, but then the bill would have to go back to the Congressional Budget Office for scoring and possibly come back to the Senate or go to Conference. There will not be enough time to accomplish all of this before adjournment. In other words, the Legion, VFW, PVA and DAV have killed HR 299 in its present form.

Not to say there isn't any good news, Senator Isakson did lay the law down to Secretary Wilkie and tell him there would be a blue water bill passed. In meetings with the Senate Committee staffs, the indications are that the Senator wanted the bill passed but he was uncomfortable with the jumbo provisions.

I'm not being critical of Senator Isakson or Senator Tillis. They are trying to do the right thing. I have been in contact with the Committee staff director and he has asked good questions. Have met with the Committee three times in the last six weeks. When I met with them last week I saw our chart showing Vietnam, baseline, territorial seas and the VSM service medal area blown up on a big chart in his office. They are working the problem. Our issue is not with the Senate it is with the

calendar. Of course, the Legion, VFW, DAV and PVA have not helped the situation,

We may have to live with reduced overage - perhaps the harbor areas, with the understanding that we would come back next Congress to cover the remaining area. The House and the sponsors think that this is not desirable but due to time constraints may be our only option to covering some folks this year. The important thing is that if this happens, I want to make sure everyone, on these pages and in the Congress know that we will be back to cover the remaining area next year. I do not like this alternative, but if the other option is that nothing gets passed, we have to be willing to deal with it. It will allow us to cover some of our folks, and frankly the majority of them, rather than no one.

I ambushed (excuse me accidentally ran into) Secretary Wilkie at the September 26 hearing. HE said he would meet with me. He also told me that his September 6 letter was not the final decision. It seemed final to me but that was after Senator Isakson had told him there will be a blue water bill. I was also invited to join a VSO round table on Friday September 28 at the VA. While Blue Water Navy was not on the agenda (ok I slipped in a couple of comments) there was a lot of good information concerning other things going on within the VA, This included the electronic

health records (10 year implementation plan way too long in my opinion) the appellate reform program (still sucks in my opinion but the same VSOs who stabbed us in the back love it) and an approval to filling vacancies which I thought had some merit. There is also a new emphasis on customer service and I met with the Deputy Chief of Staff in charge of that. They were interested in my feedback. This process is at early stage but at least they are addressing the problem.

We have to work with Secretary Wilkie and the VA. After this battle is over there are many more that need to be addressed. The incitation to this round table (and yes, I was invited to the next one) is a show of good faith on their part. So, we need to move past our current disagreement. They also know that we are not backing down. We also have a strong advocate in our corner, former Secretary David Shulkin. They have also recognized we have strong allies on the Hill. I think they realize that we will not go quietly into the night. Military-Veterans Advocacy is here to stay!

We also have to note the progress being made on the Procopio case. I met again with the partner from the Orrick firm who is working the case pro bono. We sat down with representatives from FRA and AUSN who will be along with BWNVVA filing an amicus brief.

Another attorney from San Diego will be drafting that brief. Our principal brief is due on October 1st. I have just finished my final review of it. Remember oral argument is December 7 at the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, 717 Madison PI NW Washington DC. Afterwards we can walk the two blocks to the VA and let them know we are still around. (NOTE: Rules for conduct will be forthcoming. We will not do what the protestors at the Senate Office building did).

I am feeling good about our chances with Procopio, but do not expect a decision before late Spring or early Summer, this is a full court briefing before 11 Judges, so we may see some concurring and dissenting opinions. Procopio will not only help us, it will force the VA to apply the pro-veteran canon of statutory construction. That could assist hundreds of thousands if not millions of veterans.

Brian Moyer has been shouldering the Guam situation and has given a number of interviews. He has been a hero in his own right while I have been tied down here with HR 299.

We will hopefully keep the Thailand and Korea provisions in HR 299 as those folks deserve coverage too. I talked with Senator Boozman about the expanded Thailand provisions in S 2105. CBO has costed it at \$1.6 billion. That is way too expensive.

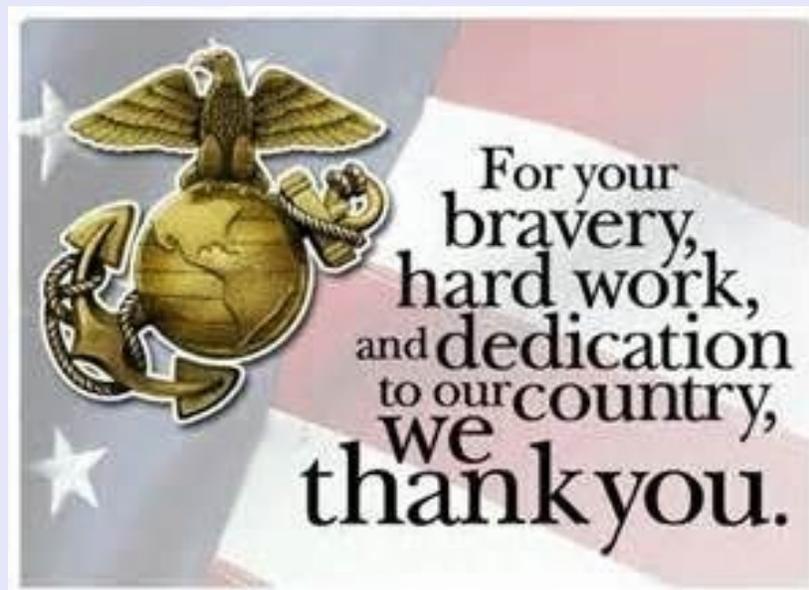
The overall answer to this is a comprehensive veterans toxic exposure bill to cover everything from blue water to burn pits. This bill must have an independent source of funding, we spend a bit of time this Congress floating some trial balloons. Next Congress we need to hit the ground running. There are over 4.5 million victims of Military Toxic Exposure. They are our brothers and sisters. We need to help them all.

Going back to the swamp in October!

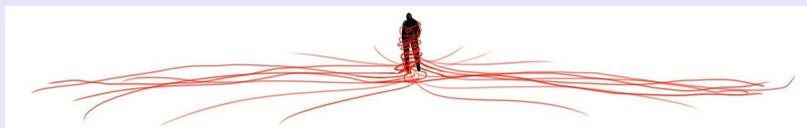
John B Wells

Commander USN (Retired)

Executive Director



1. Coming soon: A new tax transcript to better protect taxpayer data
2. Here are facts to help taxpayers understand the different filing statuses
3. IRS alerts taxpayers: Scammers scheming around Oct. 15 deadline; Here's what to do
4. New credit benefits employers who provide paid family and medical leave
5. Oct. 15 tax-filing extension deadline approaches for millions of taxpayers
6. Tax preparers should look out for these signs that a criminal stole information
7. Tips for tax preparers on how to create a data security plan



MIA Update

This week, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced 7 new identifications, and the burial dates and locations for 12 previously identified servicemen. Returning home with full military honors are:

Navy Reserve Cmdr. Charles B. Goodwin, 25, of Haskell, Texas, whose remains were previously identified, will be buried on Oct. 12 in Abilene, Texas. Goodwin was the pilot of an RF-8A aircraft, assigned

to Detachment D, VPF-63, CVW-15. On Sept. 8, 1965, Goodwin was conducting a combat reconnaissance mission over the Democratic Republic of Vietnam when he reported that he had encountered thunderstorms en route to the target area. That was the last transmission heard from him. Search efforts over the target area and adjacent coastal waters were unsuccessful, and Goodwin was declared missing in action as of Sept. 8, 1965. [Read about Goodwin.](#)

Army Sgt. Eugene W. Yost, 18, of Milaca, Minn., whose remains were previously identified, will be buried on Oct. 5 in Fort Snelling National Cemetery, Minn. Yost was a member of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. In September 1950, his unit participated in a defense of the Pusan Perimeter, a large defensive line west and north of Pusan, South Korea. Yost was reported to have been killed in action on Sept. 3, 1950, but his remains could not be located following the battle. [Read about Yost.](#)

Army Pvt. Donald E. Brown, 24, of Thompson, Iowa, whose remains were previously identified, will be buried on Oct. 6 in his hometown. Brown was a member of Company A, 745th Tank Battalion, fighting in support of the 1st Infantry Division in the European Theater in World War II. Brown was killed in action on

July 28, 1944, when his M-4 Sherman tank was destroyed by enemy fire near Camberton, France.

[Read about Brown.](#)

Army Sgt. Melvin C. Anderson, 31, of Omaha, Neb., whose remains were previously identified, will be buried on Oct. 12 in his hometown. Anderson was a member of Company C, 803rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, participating in intense fighting in the Hürtgen Forest. On Nov. 25, 1944, his company was deployed as direct-fire support of American infantrymen attacking the town of Grosshau. The M10 tank destroyer Anderson was commanding was knocked out in the fighting. He was killed during the battle, though his status was initially listed as missing in action. On Dec. 21, 1944, his status was amended to killed in action. [Read about Anderson.](#)

Marine Corps Pfc. William F. Cavin, 19, of Ewing, Va., whose remains were previously identified, will be buried on Oct. 13, in Hancock County, Tenn. Cavin was assigned to Company F, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force. On Nov. 19, 1943, Cavin's unit landed on the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll against stiff Japanese resistance. Cavin was killed on the first day of the battle, one of approximately 1,000 Marines and Sailors killed in the intense fighting. [Read about Cavin.](#)

Marine Corps Reserve Tech. Sgt. Harry A. Carlsen, 31, of Brookfield, Ill., whose remains were previously identified, will be buried on Oct. 13, in Elwood, Ill. Carlsen was a member of Company A, 2nd Amphibian Tractor Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force, which landed against stiff Japanese resistance on the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll of the Gilbert Islands. Over several days of intense fighting at Tarawa, approximately 1,000 Marines and Sailors were killed and more than 2,000 were wounded. Carlsen died on the first day of the battle, Nov. 20, 1943. [Read about Carlsen.](#)

Marine Corps Reserve 2nd Lt. Elwood R. Bailey, 22, of Parma, Mich., whose remains were previously identified, will be buried on Oct. 13 in his hometown. On Aug. 24, 1942, Bailey was a member of Marine Fighting Squadron 223 (VMF-223), Marine Aircraft Group 23. Bailey was piloting an F-4 Wildcat in aerial combat with Japanese Military Air Forces over Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, when he was reported missing in action after being shot down. [Read about Bailey.](#)

Navy Water Tender 1st Class Stephen Pepe, 43, of Bridgeport, Conn., whose remains were previously identified, will be buried on Oct. 8 in Bourne, Mass. Pepe was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was

moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, on Dec. 7, 1941, when the ship sustained multiple torpedo hits and quickly capsized, resulting in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Pepe. [Read about Pepe.](#)

Navy Seaman 2nd Class William V. Campbell, 20, of Elizabethton, Tenn., whose remains were previously recovered, will be buried on Oct. 10 in his hometown. Campbell was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, on Dec. 7, 1941, when the ship sustained multiple torpedo hits and quickly capsized, resulting in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Campbell. [Read about Campbell.](#)

Navy Seaman 1st Class Natale I. Torti, 19, of St. Louis, whose remains were previously identified, will be buried on Oct. 12 in Jefferson Barracks, Mo. Torti was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, on Dec. 7, 1941, when the ship sustained multiple torpedo hits and quickly capsized, resulting in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Torti. [Read about Torti.](#)

Navy Seaman 2nd Class Harold L. Head, 20, of Browning, Mo., whose remains were previously identified, will be buried on Oct. 10, in Laclede, Mo. Head was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, on Dec. 7, 1941,

when the ship sustained multiple torpedo hits and quickly capsized, resulting in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Head. [Read about Head.](#)

Navy Seaman 2nd Class Bernard V. Doyle, 19, of Red Cloud, Neb., whose remains were previously identified, will be buried on Oct. 13 in Lake City, Iowa. Doyle was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, on Dec. 7, 1941, when the ship sustained multiple torpedo hits and quickly capsized, resulting in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Doyle. [Read about Doyle.](#)

Army Sgt. 1st Class James L. Boyce was a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, engaged in combat operations against the North Korean People's Army south of Chonui, South Korea. Boyce could not be accounted for and was declared missing in action on July 11, 1950. Interment services are pending. [Read about Boyce.](#)

Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Allen R. Turner was a pilot assigned to the 1330 Army Air Force Base Unit, Air Transport Command. On July 17, 1945, his aircraft crashed in a remote area en route from Jorhat, India, to Hsinching, China. All four passengers were declared deceased after an extensive search effort failed to

identify the crash site. Interment services are pending. [Read about Turner.](#)

Army Air Forces Pfc. Joseph I. Natvik was a flight engineer assigned to the 1330 Army Air Force Base Unit, Air Transport Command. On July 17, 1945, his aircraft crashed in a remote area en route from Jorhat, India, to Hsinching, China. All four passengers were declared deceased after an extensive search effort failed to identify the crash site. Interment services are pending. [Read about Natvik.](#)

Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. James R. Lord was a P-47D pilot assigned to the 66th Fighter Squadron, 57th Fighter Group, 12th Tactical Air Command. On Aug. 10, 1944, his aircraft crashed a mile off the coast of Anghione, Corsica while returning from combat operations near the French border. No witnesses reported seeing any parachute sightings. Interment services are pending. [Read about Lord.](#)

Army Pfc. Marvin E. Dickson was a member of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 110th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division. Dickson was allegedly killed in the early morning hours of Nov. 13, 1944, when he and other Soldiers moved to the front lines to reestablish broken telephone lines. Surviving members could not confirm Dickson's death, nor

provide the exact location to where he was killed. He was subsequently listed as missing in action. In Nov. 14, 1945, his status was amended to killed in action. Interment services are pending. [Read about Dickson.](#)

Navy Seaman 1st Class Herbert J. Poindexter was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, on Dec. 7, 1941, when the ship sustained multiple torpedo hits and quickly capsized, resulting in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Poindexter. Interment services are pending. [Read about Poindexter.](#)

Chief Pharmacist's Mate James T. Cheshire was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, on Dec. 7, 1941, when the ship sustained multiple torpedo hits and quickly capsized, resulting in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Cheshire. Interment services are pending. [Read about Cheshire.](#)



This month please remember these women who died during October while serving our country in or during war times

1 Oct 1918: ANC Ethel Leach, died at Edgewood Arsenal, MD

1 Oct 2003: USA PFC Analaura Esparza Gutierrez, 21, IRAQ

1 Oct 2003: USA SPC Tamarra Joharidelonda Ramos, 24, IRAQ

1 Oct 2006: NYARNG SGT Denise A Lannaman, 46, non-combat gunshot, KUWAIT

1 Oct 2007: USN MASA Apprentice Shayna Ann Schnell, 19, non-combat vehicle accident, Dubai

1 Oct 2012: USA SGT Donna R Johnson, 29, suicide bomber, AFGHANISTAN

1 Oct 2015: USMM Danielle Randolph, 34, lost at sea on El Faro

2 Oct 1918: ANC Flora Ruth, died at Camp Pike, AR

2 Oct 1944: WASP Marie Michell Robinson, WW II

2 Oct 2015: USAF A1C Kcey E Ruiz, 21, plane crash, AFGHANISTAN

3 Oct 1944: WASP Peggy Wilson Martin, WW II

3 Oct 2004: USA SSG Gina R Sparks, 35, non-combat incident, died at Fort Polk, LA

3 Oct 2012: USA SGT Camella M Steedley, 31, died in AFGHANISTAN

4 Oct 1918: ANC Rose Rapp, died during WWI

5 Oct 1943: WASP Virginia C. Moffatt, WW II

5 Oct 2007: USAR SPC Rachael L Hugo, 24, IRAQ

6 Oct 2004: ILARNG SPC Jessica Lynn Cawvey, 21, IRAQ

6 Oct 2011: USA SGT Catalina M Ruiz, 27, murdered at Fort Bragg

6 Oct 2013: USA 1LT Jennifer Moreno, 25, IED, AFGHANISTAN

7 Oct 2010: USA SGT Amanda A Sheldon, 24, suicide, Cape Fear, NC

8 Oct 1918: ANC Florence Leclare, pneumonia, Camp Devens, MA

8 Oct 1918: ANC Grace Buell, WWI

10 Oct 2007: USAR SSG Lillian (Cobbin) Clamens, 35, IRAQ

11 Oct 2004: USA SGT Pamela G. Osbourne, 38, IRAQ

11 Oct 2008: USMC SGT Denise M Quintero SanFillipo, 25, died 2 weeks after

giving birth to daughter in Camp Pendleton

11 Oct 2015: USAF MAJ Phyllis J Pelky, 45, helicopter crash, AFGHANISTAN

12 Oct 2000: USN CSSN Lakeina Monique Francis, 19, USS Cole, ADEN, YEMEN

12 Oct 2000: USN SN Lakiba Nicole Palmer, 22, USS Cole, ADEN, YEMEN

12 Oct 2014: USA SGM Jody A George, 48, died from Agent Orange complications, Temple, TX

13 Oct 2012: USA SPC Brittany B Gordon, 24, IED, AFGHANISTAN

14 Oct 2006: USA SPC Latosha B. Vines, 22, struck

by train, Germany

14 Oct 2006: USA PFC Lena Karungi, 21, struck by train, Germany

15 Oct 1898: Army Contract Nurse Carolina Wolfe (Nun—Sister Caroline),

Typhoid Fever, SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

15 Oct 2005: USAF SSG Elizabeth M Johnson, 22, buried in FL

16 Oct 1944: WASP Marjorie “Margie” Laverne Davis, WW II

16 Oct 1944: WASP Jeanne Lewellen Norbeck, WW II

17 Oct 1898: Army Contract Nurse Margaret Greenfield, Typhoid Fever, SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

18 Oct 2006: USN Jeanne “Linda” Michel, 33, suicide in her home, Clifton Park, NY

19 Oct 2008: USMC L/CPL Stacy Dryden, 22, IRAQ

19 Oct 2009: USAF A1C Lauren Lagudi, 20, struck by train in Italy

21 Oct 1918: ANC Flossie E Brownlee, died in NYC

21 Oct 1944: USA ANC LT Frances Slinger, WW II

22 Oct 1915: ANC Margaret Hamilton, WWI

22 Oct 1944: USA ANC 2LT Sara Vance, Italy, WW II

22 Oct 2007: USN MASN Anamarie Sannicolas Camacho, 20, murdered by US sailor, Bahrain

22 Oct 2007: USN MASN Genesis Mattril Gresham, 19, murdered by US sailor, Bahrain

22 Oct 2010: USA SSG Aracely Gonzalez O'Malley, 31, non-combat incident, AFGHANISTAN

22 Oct 2011: NCARNG 1LT Ashley I (White) Stumpf, 24, IED, AFGHANISTAN

23 Oct 1898: Army Contract Nurse Mary Sweeney (Nun—Sister Mary Agnes), Typhoid

Fever, SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

25 Oct 1994: USN LT Kara Hultgreen, 26, plane crash aboard USS Abraham Lincoln

25 Oct 2003: USN FN Jakia Sheree Cannon, 20, IRAQ

25 Oct 2008: USA PFC Cori Feltner, 22, died in St Louis hotel enroute to her first assignment in Korea

25 Oct 2009: USA Eduviges G Wolf, 24, AFGHANISTAN

26 Oct 1918: ANC Hannah L Burden, pneumonia, Camp Sherman, OH

26 Oct 1944: WASP Gertrude V. Tompkins-Silver, WW II

26 Oct 2003: USA PFC Rachel K. Bosveld, 19, IRAQ

28 Oct 1898: Army Contract Nurse Clara Ward, Typhoid Fever, SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

28 Oct 2005: MOARNG 1LT Debra (Butler) Banaszak, 35, non-combat incident, KUWAIT

29 Oct 2009: USCG AET2 Monica L Beacham, 29, plane/chopper crash in Pacific

31 Oct 1918: ANC Grace Copland, WWI



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