



Veterans-For-Change Newsletter

A Voice of the Veterans

Week Ending Sunday, March 28, 2021

Volume 12, Issue 13



This-N-That

Good afternoon Jim,

We've begun to finally get an even flow of new information in regarding Veterans and programs, a portion is noted throughout this newsletter, articles were posted to the VFC site and noted further down in this newsletter, the GAO has been a little slow, but the FDA seems to be on a roll now with various food and drug recalls, so, take the time to review each section, and if it piques your interest do read them.

We are also now back up and running full force with

our weekly fax blasts, always takes time to gather, verify, and enter into our custom fax program, and again thanks to Susie with Military-Veterans Advocacy we're up to speed there.

We will be adding more documents as well as web links this coming week, and I am sincerely hoping we can add to the FAQ's as well.

If you're looking for anything special, please do let me know, and we will search in our database, or on the internet for it. We do have a substantially large wish list of items we're looking for, and things we need to work on so we're getting there, just taking a bit longer than planned.

Please pay special attention to the **"TAKE ACTION"** section as we've added more items and look to be adding more this coming week.

As I said last week, I know it's been a nightmare with all the COVID restrictions, and some states have lightened up on them while others are more dictatorial, but, we want to continue to remind everyone to please continue to practice safe practices like masks when out, keeping safe social distancing, steer clear of anyone sneezing or coughing to help protect yourself and your family.

We continue to gain momentum on [MEWE](#), and some of our followers that we'd lost when we migrated from Face Book over to [MEWE](#) are finding us again, and we're pleased to have them rejoin us. And we encourage all of our readers to join us there, links to all our pages are further down in this newsletter.

If you've not visited our website, www.veterans-for-change.org or not visited in a while, please be sure to check often for updates on documents, web links, etc., we are a bit slow, but are moving as fast as we can, yet not over-loading to put more work on our Webmaster when we get to the transition into the new look.

I'd also like to remind everyone that Monday, March 29, 2021 is National Vietnam War Veterans Day. And we thank all who served and came home, and all those we lost.

I've never been to DC yet to see the Vietnam Memorial, but I have seen sections of the traveling wall, but if you ever plan a trip to the DC area, please do stop and visit.

And I'd like to encourage everyone who can to help and support Military-Veterans Advocacy go to

www.militaryVeteransadvocacy.org. They helped all our Blue Water Navy Veterans, and are still working on BWN and now many other issues, and Commander John Wells and his hard-working team continue to fight for all of our Veterans!

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




Military Veterans Advocacy

Military Veterans Advocacy is offering some free memberships for those who are struggling to get their claims through, are having financial difficulties. Annual dues are \$25.00 per year. Our organization includes special sections, Blue Water Navy, Veterans of Southeast Asia, Central Pacific Islands,

Veterans of Panama Canal Zone, and Okinawa. We have gift members available which can be paid by your fellow brother or sister veterans. Gift members are kept confidential. Go to this link and help a veteran.

https://www.militaryveteransadvocacy.org/.../c2/yearly_dues

You may contact Robin at
robin.barr@mvadvocacy.org



Q&A: When, Where, and How Can I Get a COVID-19 Vaccine?

There are now three vaccines authorized and recommended for people in the U.S. to prevent COVID-19. That means more opportunities for you and your family to get a COVID-19 vaccine are on the way. All three vaccines are safe and effective, and may soon be available near you. How soon can you expect to get yours? That depends on the current vaccination phase where you live.

To learn more, [read the article](#).



Army Veteran a champion for health and research

VA's Million Veteran Program is the largest genetics research program of its kind, supporting groundbreaking research in personalized medicine. Veteran Keisha Bellamy shares her story for enrolling.

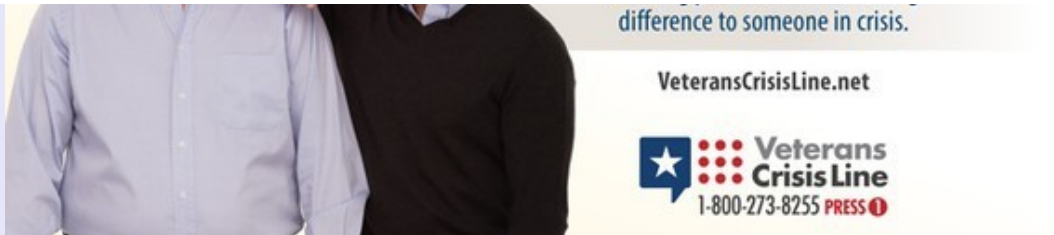
[Read More](#)

DOD officials provide COVID-19 response update

Three Defense Department officials spoke today at a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on the department's support for the COVID-19 response.

[Read More](#)





A day in Milwaukee Veterans Treatment Court

Veterans Treatment Court - a nontraditional approach to criminal justice in which Veterans can work to address problems. Those who complete the program typically have the charges reduced or dismissed.

[Read More](#)

Cardiovascular providers counter pandemic-induced sedentary lifestyle

The fear of encountering COVID-19 at civilian hospitals and emergency rooms is likely keeping patients away even if they are having a cardiac event, according to Air Force Col. (Dr.) Bryan

White, a cardiovascular specialist at the Mike O'Callaghan Military Medical Center located aboard Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada.

[Read More](#)



VA's new Whole Health app

Your Whole Health journey is now easier than ever with a new mobile app. It's a free easy-to-use tool created for Veterans and others interested in taking charge of their health. User-friendly design.

[Read More](#)



Links to Other Stories

1. [Milwaukee VA lowers age for Veterans to get COVID-19 vaccine](#)
2. [Eastern Oklahoma VA vaccinates 800](#)

000
Veterans
in
single
day

3. The
VA's
Pacific
Island
Director
Wants
Closer
Cooperation
with
Tripler

4. Vet
Groups
Make
Final
Effort
to
Kill
GI
Bill
Loophole
Through
COVID
Relief
Package

5. Crews
begin
clearing
land
for

000

new
VA
medical
center

6. Settlements

are
close
in
seven
Veterans'
deaths
at
VA
medical
center

7. Maine

considers
ban
on
aerial
herbicide
spraying
in
forestry

8. Marine

Veteran
sentenced
for
smuggling
guns
to
Haiti
to
train

army,
become
president

9. VA's
next
medical
challenge:
catching
up
on
millions
of
missed
Veterans'
appointments

10. uBiome
Co-
Founders
Charged
with
Federal
Securities,
Health
Care
Fraud
Conspiracies

11. Physician
pays
nearly
half
million
dollars
to
resolve

home
health
care
fraud
allegations

12. Cardiologist

Dinesh
Shah
Pays
\$2
Million
To
Resolve
False
Claims
Act
Allegations
Relating
to
Excessive
Testing

13. Elk

Grove
Woman
Pleads
Guilty
to
Medicare
Kickback
Scheme

14. 13

Defendants
Indicted
In

\$5.4
Million
Health
Care
Fraud
Conspiracy

15. Former
Evansville
Mental
Health
Counselor
Sentenced

16. Attorney
General
Ford
Announces
Felony
Convictions
of
Medicaid
Healthcare
Providers

17. Owner
of
Mental
Health
Services
Agency
Pleads
Guilty
to
Health
Care
Fraud

Charge

18. National Guard convoy carrying COVID-19 vaccines ambushed by gunman in Texas: police

19. The VA Just Got \$17 Billion in COVID Relief Money. Here's How They Plan to Spend It

20. Actor Jon Cryer

City
helping
LA
homeless
with
tiny
homes
project

21. Skepticism
surrounds
VA
promise
to
draw
down
backlog
of
compensation
and
pension
exams

22. Lawmakers
relaunch
landmark
bill
to
create
path
to
VA
care
for
Veterans
ill
from

from
toxic
exposure

23. Construction
of
new
VA
hospital
at
controversial
Louisville
site
can
begin,
judge
says

24. Novus
Hospice
CEO
Pleads
Guilty
to
Healthcare
Fraud



Vietnam memorial walls release schedule, with COVID restrictions

Veterans, families, friends and the general public have several options to see Vietnam memorial walls in 2021 with the release of traveling wall schedules.

[Read More](#)



10 ways to support holistic heart health

Heart disease has long been the No. 1 cause of death among adults in the United States. Research has shown that current and former service members are at greater risk for heart disease and heart attack than the civilian population as well.

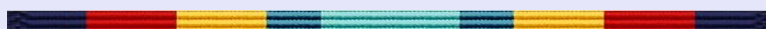
[Read More](#)



Tuskegee Airman Howard Lee Baugh

Air Force Veteran and Tuskegee Airman Howard Lee Baugh served in World War II as a fighter pilot and overcame the barriers of systemic racism.

[Read More](#)



Suicide Prevention Resources for Military and Veterans

**Military & Veterans
Crisis Line**

1-800-273-8255, Press 1
Text 838255, 24/7

**Office of Warrior
Care Policy**

warriorcare.dodlive.mil/

Military One Source

Vets 4 Warriors

855-838-8255

InTransition

1-800-424-7877

Military One Source

1-800-342-9647

Tragedy Assistance

Program for Survivors

[TAPS]

1-800-959-8277

VA to commemorate 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War

On March 29, our Nation will commemorate National Vietnam War Veterans Day on its 50th anniversary, an opportunity for VA employees and all Americans to recognize and thank our Vietnam Veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice during one of America's longest wars.

[Read More](#)

Army National Guard Veteran Aubrey: Why I get my health care at VA

Army National Guard Veteran Aubrey says VA's recreational therapists helped her realize that life didn't end with her paralyzing injury.

[Read More](#)

Legislation Introduced for Agent Orange Conditions

Conditions

On Wednesday, the Fair Care for Vietnam Veterans Act of 2021 was introduced by Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Jon Tester (D-MT) along with 16 senators. The VFW-supported bill would add hypertension and MGUS (monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance) to the list of presumptive conditions associated with Agent Orange exposure. VA has yet to add these to the list even though science shows they meet a stronger evidentiary standard than some of the previously approved conditions.

[Learn more](#)



VA Releases New Coaching App

VA has released a new app called the R.E.A.C.H Coaching Tool, part of REACH, which is the first national public health campaign focused on suicide prevention. This tool is designed to provide users with step-by-step guidance which when reaching out for help for yourself or others. Included are additional resources and suggested language to start what can be a difficult conversation. [Download the How We R.E.A.C.H. Coaching Tool.](#)



Veterans-For-Change Web Site

The Veterans-For-Change website has been around since 2009. The looks pretty much stay the same for now, but in the background our new webmaster has been working on a whole new look and feel, a facelift so-to-speak. And we're sincerely hoping to roll out the new website sometime this coming June.

Constant improvement and change are 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 **3,094** hits per day, and downloads average **3,867** per day with a total **7,210,999** visitors as of Friday afternoon.

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 us a notification to approve your account. Once received, and we approve, the system will send you an E-Mail letting you know your account has been approved. Be sure to check your junk and spam folders just in case you don't receive it in your In-Box.

www.Veterans-for-change.org

- Documents Library with over **19,535** documents in **237+** Libraries, added **235** new documents on-line (Updated: 03/18/21)
- FAQ's on-line with **1,843** FAQ's on 104 topics! (Updated 05/30/20 - 46 NEW)
- 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: 04/23/20) (3 Added)
 - News (Articles On-Line: **10,356**)
 - Polls
 - Web Links, more than **8,016**, Added 74 New Links (Updated: 03/02/21)

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



Remarks of President Joe Biden honoring women Veterans

During Women's History Month, I want to honor some of our nation's heroes, who have too often gone unsung, uncelebrated: Our proud women Veterans

veterans.

[Read More](#)



Live Whole Health #64: Gratitude gives you power over mind

Does focusing on your daily challenges lead to stress? Thinking of your challenges in this way can cause you to feel fatigued, with low energy. The mind can gravitate toward stressful thoughts without us even realizing it's happening. The good news is that we have the power to change our perspective by refocusing on gratitude; we can train ourselves to focus on those things we are grateful for in the present moment.

[Read More](#)



VA extends debt relief for Veterans

VA is extending debt relief for Veterans through September 30, 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. VA will suspend collection of all Veteran benefit overpayments incurred between April 6, 2020 and September 30, 2021. No adverse actions or collection attempts will occur during this

suspension period.

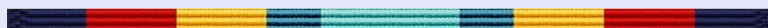
[Read More](#)



Making community emergency care easier for Veterans

Community Emergency Care Reporting process changes improve efficiency, timeliness and security for Vets and providers. Easier to notify VA when Veteran receives emergency care at community provider.

[Read More](#)



USPHS-VA partnership provides Veteran COVID care, new career opportunities

U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps officers at the Charlie Norwood VAMC are among those who serve Veterans across the country.

[Read More](#)





Jim, below are links to all currently active pre-written E-Mails to many pieces of legislation. We ask that you go to each one, and send the pre-written E-Mails, and to also call your Reps or Senators and ask for their support on a weekly basis!

Jim you don't need to be Active Duty or a Veteran, in fact we ask all Veteran friends to also help!
(Updated 03/25/21)

1. [HR 1014 - Furnish Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy \(HBOT\) to a Veteran who has a Traumatic Brain Injury \(TBI\)](#)

(TBI)
or
Post-
Traumatic
Stress
Disorder
(PTSD)

2. HR
109
will
establish
an
advisory
committee
on
the
implementation
by
the
DVA
of
an
electronic
health
record
3. Concurrent
Receipt
Legislation
Introduced
4. Expand
Concurrent
Receipt
5. FRA
and

Others
asks
SecDef
Not
to
Raise
TRICARE
Fees

6. H.R.
333,
Disabled
Veterans
Tax
Termination
Act

7. H.R.
344,
Support
the
Women
Veterans
TRUST
Act

8. H.R.
914,
the
Dental
Care
for
Veterans
Act

9. Military
Retiree
Survivor

Comfort
Act

10. Oppose
TRICARE
fee
Increases

11. S.
134/H.R.
637,
the

Veterans
Economic
Recovery
Act
of
2021

12. S.
437,
Take
Action
for
Veterans
Exposed
to
Burn
Pits

13. S.
89,
Ensuring
Survivors
Benefits
during
COVID-

19
Act
of
2021

14. STOP
TRICARE
Fee
Increases

15. Support
Bills
to
Expand
Coverage
for
ChampVA
and
TRICARE
Young
Adults

16. Veterans
Economic
Recovery
Act
Introduced

17. Support
Bipartisan
Bill
to
Expanding
COVID-
19
Vaccine
Access
for

for
Veterans
and
Families

18. H.R.
855,
the
Veterans
Expedited
TSA
Screening
(VETS)
Safe
Travel
Act

19. HR
1355
and
S
454.
These
companion
bills
will
provide
health
care
and
benefits
to
veterans
who
were
exposed
to

to
toxic
substances
while
serving
as
members
of
the
Armed
Forces
at
Karshi
Khanabad
Air
Base,
Uzbekistan.

20. Support
Repeal
of
TRICARE
Select
Enrollment
Fee

21. HR
1585
&
S
565-
Provide
for
the
treatment
of

vets
who
participated
in
the
cleanup
of
Enewetak
Atoll
as
Radiation
Exposed



MHS Nurse Advice Line Available 24/7 to Help You

When it comes to staying healthy, TRICARE knows having health and safety resources you can count on matters. Did you know that one of those resources is round-the-clock health care advice? If you ever have health-related questions or concerns, the [Military Health System Nurse Advice Line](#) is available 24/7 and at no cost to you.

To learn more, [read the article](#).



Veterans benefit from VBA computer systems innovation

A group of VBA employees worked together to speed up a process to get benefits into the hands of Veterans faster than ever by revamping computer systems.

[Read More](#)



All Veterans, their spouses, caregivers can get COVID-19 vaccinations from VA

All Veterans, their spouses and caregivers can get COVID-19 vaccinations from VA under the SAVE LIVES Act signed into law March 24.

[Read More](#)



Army Veteran a champion for health and research

Army Veteran Keisha Bellamy begins each day with a cup of coffee, opens her laptop and logs in to Zoom. She facilitates a six-week course on healthy living for Veterans, and on one particular morning, one woman in the group was struggling. The Veteran lives with post-traumatic stress disorder, and was feeling defensive, disrupting the group conversation.

[Read More](#)



**CONTACT YOUR
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS!**

To Call your Representative:

202-225-2305

To Call your Senators:

202-224-3841 or 202-224-3553

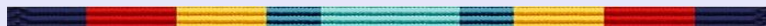
To call Different Members of Congress:

202-224-3121

TOLL FREE: 866-272-6622

PLEASE... STOP Making Excuses!

www.veterans-for-change.org



**COVID-19 vaccine questions answered: Do I
need it?**

Your COVID-19 questions answered. VA is listening to your questions about the COVID-19 vaccine and hosting a blog series on questions from Veterans. Tell us what you think.

[Read More](#)



**A day in Milwaukee Veterans Treatment
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Veterans Treatment Court - a nontraditional approach to criminal justice in which Veterans can work to address problems. Those who complete the program typically have the charges reduced or dismissed.

[Read More](#)



Cardiovascular providers counter pandemic-induced sedentary lifestyle

The fear of encountering COVID-19 at civilian hospitals and emergency rooms is likely keeping patients away even if they are having a cardiac event, according to Air Force Col. (Dr.) Bryan White, a cardiovascular specialist at the Mike O'Callaghan Military Medical Center located aboard Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada.

[Read More](#)



Laser eye surgery: Provides clarity for active-duty service members

Annually, more than 4,000 graduates of the U.S. military academies begin their service to the nation.

[Read More](#)



Follow us on [MEWE](#)! The support staff at [MEWE](#) is responsive, open to suggestions and works very hard to protect your personal information.

We hope you will join us on this new site.

[VETERANS-FOR-CHANGE](#)

[HOMELESS HEROES PROGRAM OF
VETERANS-FOR-CHANGE](#)

[AMVETS GROUP](#)

[VETERANS SOCIAL GROUP](#)

[{USAVET} SUPPORTING GOD & ALL WHO
SERVED OUR GREAT NATION](#)

[AMERICANS FOR SOVEREIGNTY](#)



New features on VA.gov improve Veterans' online experience

VA.gov has been redesigned based on Veterans' feedback to make information on VA benefits and services simpler to find and understand.

[Read More](#)



The COVID-19 pandemic, one year later in the DOD

The United States has spent more than one year in various states of physical distancing, mask-wearing, and quarantine as COVID-19 continues to spread around the world.

[Read More](#)



Soldiers' Angels Baby Brigade brings virtual baby showers to Veteran, military families

Welcoming a new baby into the world can prove challenging for any family, but military and Veteran families face additional challenges that can quickly fill this moment with stress and worry. Thankfully

in the moment with stress and worry. Thankfully, national nonprofit Soldiers' Angels is here to help ease the pressure.

[Read More](#)




VFW Commander-In-Chief Testifies Virtually Before Congress

VFW National Commander Hal Roesch testified via video teleconference before a special joint hearing of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs. The VFW delivered its top priority of toxic exposure reform, demanding Congress develop a comprehensive solution for veterans who were exposed to toxic chemicals during their time in service. Roesch cited examples of toxic exposure throughout history, countering the notion that the claim is a new phenomenon. "Toxic exposure for our troops has been synonymous with service for more than a hundred years, but every time we're faced with it, we act as if it's never happened before," Roesch said. The VFW recommends Congress establish an independent commission, free of DOD and VA oversight, as well as partner with the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine to identify toxic exposures and evaluate their association to certain diseases. [Watch the hearing.](#) [Read the testimony.](#)



Office of Inspector General

1. VA
Acquisition
Management:
Comprehensive
Supply
Chain
Management
Strategy
Key
to
Address
Existing
Challenges



Budget friendly healthy grocery tips for Veterans and their families

Here are some great healthy food shopping suggestions for Veterans and their families. Emphasis on good-for-you-groceries on your local budget store. Print it out and take it along.

[Read More](#)



VA offers appreciation to outgoing leaders,

names those acting in the interim

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) thanks senior leaders whose tenure has ended as their deputies step up to lead temporarily. Departing are executive directors Stephen Dillard and Jacquelyn Hayes-Byrd who led the Center for Minority Veterans (CMV) and Center for Women Veterans (CWV) respectively. The deputy directors for CMV and CWV will step up to lead those offices until permanent successors are named.


[Read More](#)



Free Veteran training for Microsoft Software and Systems Academy

The Microsoft Software & Systems Academy is offering free Veteran training to military and Veteran community. This free, formal training takes place in some of the technology industry's most in-demand roles. Transitioning service members' and Veterans' experiences often uniquely prepare and qualify them for the skills and security clearances technology companies need.

[Read More](#)



House Hearing on Improving Women Veterans' Health

On Thursday, the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health and Women Veterans Task Force conducted a hearing to look beyond the Deborah Sampson Act to continue to improve women veterans' health care. VA representatives responded to questions concerning VA's policies and procedures regarding reproductive services and care, gender-specific in-patient substance abuse treatment, COVID-19 vaccination hesitancy, and research on the reproductive health of both men and women. In a statement submitted for the record, VFW National Legislative Service Associate Director Tammy Barlet cited results from a VFW survey of women veterans on gender-specific services, expanding interoperability of electronic health records between VA and Community Care Network providers, and ensuring VA prioritizes reproductive health. [Watch the hearing.](#) [Read the testimony.](#)




VA woman Veteran author: Air Force Veteran Irene Trowell-Harris

Air Force Veteran Irene Trowell-Harris is a woman

Veteran author who wrote "Bridges: A Life Building and Crossing Them" about her life.

[Read More](#)



COVID-19 vaccine, pregnancy and breastfeeding

VA is listening to your questions about the COVID-19 vaccine and is hosting a blog series on questions from Veterans. Tell us what you think. Is it safe to get a COVID-19 vaccine during pregnancy? According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), if you are pregnant and want the COVID-19 vaccine, you should be able to receive it.

[Read More](#)



Borne the Battle: Air Force Veteran Graciela Tiscarena-Sato

Air Force Veteran Graciela Tiscarena-Sato is the founder of Gracefully Global Group, a multicultural publishing and content development firm. On this week's episode, she discusses her military experience, transitioning into a global marketing position for Siemens, writing, publishing and more.

[Read More](#)

Free tax prep help to Veterans, military and families

AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide is among the programs aimed at helping the military community and others file their state and federal tax returns. Tax-Aide is free and available (appointment only) to all Veterans, military personnel and their families regardless of age or whether they are AARP members.

[Read More](#)



CLICK HERE TO FOLLOW US ON TWITTER !

New state-of-the-art MRI machine at Ozarks VA soothes patients

An MRI can be stressful for some. Veteran patients at the Ozarks VA will now have a more relaxing

at the Ozark VA will now have a more relaxing experience. A new state-of-the-art MRI is ready to provide patients a new and more pleasant exam.

[Read More](#)



New Chief Veterans Experience Officer: VA is building a world class customer experience

"VA has to build a world class customer experience. We know this because Veterans today look much different than those of my grandfather's generation. And the Veterans I served alongside in Iraq as a Marine Corps non-commissioned officer and those I worked with in my home state of Texas come from diverse backgrounds, families, and have unique needs." - John Boerstler, VA Chief Veteran Experience Officer

[Read More](#)

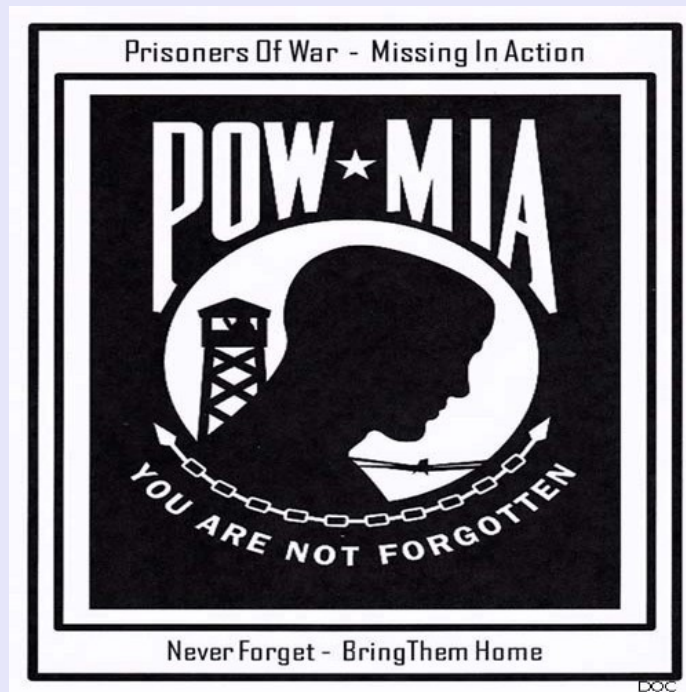


Borne the Battle: Army Combat Wounded Amputee to CEO

Army Veteran Dawn Halfaker never expected she would be in the military. She was a guard on her

high school basketball team when the NCAA sponsored her trip to visit West Point, one of the schools recruiting her.

[Read More](#)



Touching family signs a sign of the times

Veterans from the Community Living Center were on the bus. Their families were in the parking lot with signs of love and separation. The hospital arranged the unique Safe Family Visits and Scenic Bus Rides.

[Read More](#)

Physical therapy program reduces chronic pain for older Veterans

California VA physical therapy program combines exercises with instruction on the neuroscience of pain to help older Veterans increase mobility, reduce chronic pain and improve quality of life.

[Read More](#)



Register your SNAP EBT card on Amazon for exclusive benefits and discounts

According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, about 1.3 million Veterans live in households that participate in SNAP (formerly food stamps). In every state, thousands of low-income Veterans use SNAP to help put food on the table

[Read More](#)



1. Investigation
of
Acute
Non-
viral
Hepatitis
Illnesses
—
“Real
Water”
Brand
Alkaline
Water
(March
2021)
2. Learn
More
About
COVID-
19
Vaccines
From
the
FDA
3. FDA
Drug
Shortages
4. Bobo’s
Issues

a
Voluntarily
Allergy
Alert
on
Undeclared
Peanuts
in
Product

5. Food
Lion
Recalls
Select
Taste
of
Inspirations
Parmesan
Garlic
Wing
Sauce

6. Select
Taste
of
Inspirations
Wing
Sauce
Lots
Recalled
Due
to
Undeclared
Allergen

7. Bravo
Packing,

Inc.
Expands
Previously
Announced
Voluntary
Recall
of
Pet
Food
Products
Due
to
Potential
Salmonella
and
Listeria
monocytogenes
Health
Risks
to
Humans
and
Animals

8. Coronavirus
Disease
2019
(COVID-
19)
(03/24/21)

9. FDA
In
Brief:
FDA
Provides

Preliminary
Assessment
on
Five
Bulk
Drug
Substances
for
Use
by
Outsourcing
Facilities

10. FDA
Warns
Companies
Illegally
Selling
Over-
the-
Counter
CBD
Products
for
Pain
Relief

11. Help
Stop
the
Spread
of
Coronavirus
and
Protect
Your

Family

12. Coronavirus
(COVID-19)

Update:

FDA

Authorizes

First

Machine

Learning-

Based

Screening

Device

to

Identify

Certain

Biomarkers

That

May

Indicate

COVID-

19

Infection

13. FDA

advises

health

care

professionals

not

to

use

ChloroPrep

3

ml

THE
applicators
manufactured
by
BD
(Becton,
Dickinson
and
Company)

14. Zydus
Pharmaceuticals
(USA)
Inc.
Issues
Voluntary
Nationwide
Recall
of
Acyclovir
Sodium
Injection,
50
mg/mL
Due
to
Crystallization

15. BD
Expands
Voluntary
Recall
of
ChloraPrep™
3
mL

Applicator
Nationwide
to
Include
All
U.S.
States

16. Medtronic
Recalls
Affinity
Pixie™
Oxygenator
and
Cardiotomy/Venous
Reservoir
with
Balance™
Biosurface
for
Possible
High
Levels
of
Endotoxins

17. Investigation
of
Acute
Non-
viral
Hepatitis
Illnesses
—
“Real
Water”
—

Brand
Alkaline
Water
(March
2021)

18. FDA
In
Brief:
FDA
Republishing
Fee
Rates
under
the
Over-
the-
Counter
Monograph
Drug
User
Fee
Program
19. Durisan
Hand
Sanitizer
Recall
Due
to
Microbial
Contamination
20. FDA
updates
on
hand

sanitizers
consumers
should
not
use

21. Alembic
Pharmaceuticals
Limited
Issues
Voluntary
Nationwide
Recall
of
Telmisartan
Tablets,
USP,
20
mg
Due
to
Label
Mix-
Up

22. Benzedrex
(propylhexedrine):
Drug
Safety
Communication
-
FDA
Warns
that
Abuse
and

Misuse
of
the
Nasal
Decongestant
Causes
Serious
Harm

23. FDA
warns
that
abuse
and
misuse
of
the
nasal
decongestant
propylhexedrine
causes
serious
harm



Veteran discounts available year round

As a way to say thank you, many retailers and businesses offer a Veteran and/or military discount year round. We've compiled a list of deals for you.


[Read More](#)



Department of Defense revises several Force Health Protection measures

In line with recent updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of Defense has revised several Force Health Protection measures.

[Read More](#)



Army Veteran Natasha: Why I get my health care at VA

Army Veteran Natasha was badly injured in Iraq when a landmine detonated under her Humvee. She spent a year recovering in military hospitals, followed by extensive rehabilitation.

[Read More](#)




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Army dietitian uses nutritional care to fight COVID-19

Army Capt. Melissa Shaffer, a registered dietitian-nutritionist at Blanchfield Army Community Hospital at Fort Campbell in Kentucky, doesn't swab nasal cavities to test for COVID-19 or administer COVID-19 vaccines.

[Read More](#)



Veterans! Don't post your vaccination card photo on social media

Some Veterans may be celebrating their second

COVID-19 vaccination by posting a photo of their vaccination card on social media. Don't do it. You could be inviting identity theft.

[Read More](#)



Explore Your Provider Options with TRICARE Overseas Program

Are you looking for a doctor overseas? If so, the [TRICARE Overseas Program](#) can help you find one. Depending on your sponsor's status and where you live overseas, you may only be able to get care at a military hospital or clinic if space is available. But the good news is that you do have a wide range of civilian providers you can see for care.

To learn more, [read the article](#).

Army recruiter volunteers to administer COVID-19 vaccination

As the COVID-19 vaccination effort ramps up across the country, a key element to delivering the vaccine is having enough qualified health care workers to administer the doses.

[Read More](#)



Minority women at greater risk of heart disease

Heart disease is the number one cause of death for women in the U.S., yet many women aren't aware of this. Additionally, women from many minority communities are at greater risk for developing heart disease than other women.

[Read More](#)





PTSD?

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



Veterans' poor sleep can lead to mental health nightmares

Sleep disorders can lead to increased thoughts of suicide. VA researchers are conducting a study to better understand the relationship between sleep disorders and suicidal ideation.

[Read More](#)



March is Brain Injury Awareness Month; TBICoE's mission lasts all year

Navy Capt. (Dr.) Scott Pyne sees March's Brain Injury Awareness Month as an opportunity to highlight what the Traumatic Brain Injury Center of Excellence does all year long.

[Read More](#)



Formerly homeless Veteran makes big impact supporting Veterans at Jesse Brown VA

In 2012, Michael Marshall was homeless. Now, thanks to the support he received from the HUD-VASH program, he works at the Jesse Brown Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois, as a certified peer support specialist. The formerly homeless Veteran's job - and his personal goal - is to support Veterans like himself who have experienced homelessness.

[Read More](#)




Virtual events available for National Vietnam War Veterans Day

National Vietnam War Veterans Day is March 29. Veterans can stay connected and participate in the following virtual events.

[Read More](#)


[Read More](#)



COVID-19: DOD vaccinates more than 1 million beneficiaries worldwide

The Department of Defense has administered more than one million COVID-19 vaccinations.

[Read More](#)



Studying sleep problems that affect Veterans

Neurologist specializes in treating sleep disorders. Program aims to understand sleep and the impact that poor sleep can have on the brain and body. And how sleep is affected by TBI and PTSD.

[Read More](#)



Tax & Credit Information



1. [IRS
Office
of](#)

Chief
Counsel
unveils
National
Virtual
Settlement
Days
effort
this
year
to
reach
more
taxpayers
in
more
parts
of
the
nation

2. Tax
Time
Guide:
Use
the
'Where's
My
Refund?'
tool
or
IRS2Go
app
to
check

tax
refund
status

3. Tax
Day
for
individuals
extended
to
May
17:
Treasury,
IRS
extend
filing
and
payment
deadline
4. IRS,
Treasury
disbursed
90
million
Economic
Impact
Payments
from
the
American
Rescue
Plan
5. Tax
Time
Guide:

IRS
reminds
taxpayers
of
recent
changes
to
retirement
plans

6. IRS
expands
help
to
taxpayers
in
multiple
languages
with
new
forms,
communication
preferences

7. IRS
is
issuing
third
round
of
Economic
Impact
Payments

8. The
right
to

to confidentiality
is
a
fundamental
right
of
all
taxpayers

9. More Economic Impact Payments set for disbursement in coming days; taxpayers should watch mail for paper checks, debit cards

10. IRS, Treasury disburse another 37 million Economic

Economic
Impact
Payments
from
the
American
Rescue
Plan

11. Answers
to
tax
questions
are
available
anytime
on
IRS
(dot)
gov

12. IRS
Criminal
Investigation
pledges
continued
commitment
to
investigating
COVID-
19
fraud
as
CARES
Act
reaches

one-
year
anniversary

13. People
who
adopt
may
benefit
from
this
special
tax
credit

Annie's Coping During COVID messages help manage stress during pandemic

Annie is VA's automated text messaging program that sends information and self-care reminders. There are many types of Annie text messages and they work on any cellphone with texting capabilities.

[Read More](#)

Solar Ready Vets Network looking for transitioning service members and Veterans

The Solar Ready Vets Network is made up of several solar workforce development programs that provide Veterans with training, development and

provide veterans with training, development and jobs.

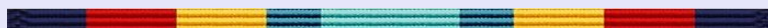
[Read More](#)



Vietnam War Veterans Day March 29th

On March 29, our Nation will commemorate National Vietnam War Veterans Day on its 50th anniversary. There are several virtual events, live webcasts and 2021 traveling wall schedules posted to help us remember and respect the nine million American men and women – more than six million of whom are living today – who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces during our involvement in Vietnam from November 1, 1955 to May 7, 1975.

[Read More](#)

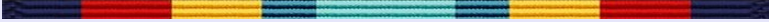


IRS delivering third round of economic stimulus payments

Most Social Security retirement and disability beneficiaries, railroad retirees and those who received Veterans' benefits in 2020 should not need to take any action to receive a payment. As with the first two stimulus payments, the IRS is to send out

With the first two stimulus payments, the IRS is to send out the new payments the same way benefits are normally paid. Tax Day filing for individuals has been extended to May 17, 2021.

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Veteran Employment and Entrepreneurship Q & A

View all the questions and answers posted in RallyPoint concerning Veteran employment tips and resources.

[Read More](#)



DHA implements standard practices to improve maternal outcomes

The Defense Health Agency's Women and Infant Clinical Community has recently implemented standardized practices to improve maternal outcomes in all its military medical treatment facilities around the world.

[Read More](#)



Eight nations participate in West African virtual pandemic exercise

Medical experts from six African nations, the United Kingdom and the United States, participated in a Virtual Pandemic Preparation and Response Engagement on March 16, in support of Obangame Express 2021, the largest multinational maritime exercise in Western Africa.

[Read More](#)



SAVE LIVES Act Passes the Senate

On Wednesday, the Senate passed VFW-supported H.R. 1276, Strengthening and Amplifying Vaccination Efforts to Locally Immunize All Veterans and Every Spouse Act (SAVE LIVES Act), previously titled the Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans' and Caregivers' COVID-19 Immunizations Now Expanded Act of 2021 (VA VACCINE Act of 2021). The Senate version would expand on the VA VACCINE Act to include all veterans, their spouses, and caregivers when VA has the vaccine supply to do so. "Vaccines are our best shot at ending this pandemic," said Sen. Jon Tester, D-MT. "Unanimous passage of the Saves Lives Act brings us one step closer to our goal of

providing free vaccination services to every veteran, spouse, child and caregiver at VA.”

[Read More](#)



The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced eight new identifications and one burial update for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from World War II and Korea. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Robert Parker, 23, as a pilot assigned to the 35th Fighter Squadron, 8th Fighter Group. On Nov. 15, 1943, he was piloting a P-40N Warhawk fighter on a patrol mission with seven other P-40s over the Markham River Valley, New Guinea, when his formation encountered a swarm of enemy aircraft on the southern edge of the Finisterre Range. After shooting down one

enemy aircraft, Parker collided with another, the impact shearing a wing off of each. The P-40 crashed near Sagarak, and it was reported that he did not eject. Interment Services are pending. [Read about Parker.](#)

Navy Fireman 2nd Class Carl M. Bradley, 19, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Bradley. Interment Services are pending. [Read about Bradley.](#)

Navy Fireman 1st Class Denis H. Hiskett, 20, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Hiskett. Interment Services are pending. [Read about Hiskett.](#)

Army Sgt. 1st Class Nicholas J. Valentine, 22, was a member of Battery B, 57th Field Artillery

Battalion, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 6, 1950, after his unit was attacked by enemy forces as they attempted to withdraw near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered. Interment Services are pending. [Read about Valentine.](#)

Army Cpl. Walter A. Smead, 24, was a member of Battery A, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 6, 1950, after his unit was attacked by enemy forces as they attempted to withdraw near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered. Interment Services are pending. [Read about Smead.](#)

Navy Electrician's Mate 3rd Class Leslie P. Delles, 21, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Delles. Interment Services are pending. [Read about Delles.](#)

Navy Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Everett R. Stewart, 22, was assigned to the battleship USS

Stewart, 22, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Stewart. Interment Services are pending. [Read about Stewart.](#)

U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Pfc. Jack E. Hill, 21, was a member of Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 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, to secure the island. Hill died on the third day of battle, Nov. 22, 1943. Interment Services are pending. [Read about Hill.](#)

Navy Gunner's Mate 3rd Class Shelby Treadway, 25, of Manchester, Kentucky, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Treadway. He will be buried on

June 2, 2021, at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. [Read about Treadway.](#)



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Jim.Davis@Veterans-for-change.org

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