



Veterans-For-Change Newsletter

A Voice of the Veterans

Week Ending Sunday, April 25, 2021

Volume 12, Issue 17



This-N-That

Good evening Jim,

This week, we've added six more new pieces of legislation that needs everyone's attention and they can all be found in the **"TAKE ACTION"** section of this newsletter.

We should be sending out the same pre-written E-Mails every week, even if you send one last week, please do them again every week.

And as I mentioned in the last few newsletters,

some are duplicates, but they are two or more different organizations all fighting for the same thing, so please don't skip one even if you think it's a duplicate, it's simply another organization.

I've also had a few people ask why we post so many articles every week regarding court decisions, type of charges, etc. and the reason I do this is to first off help everyone be alerted so you too are not a victim, and also because I want everyone to see just how little over-sight there is no matter what government program(s) might be involved.

Lastly, since most if not everyone knows that the VA and their budget is low totem pole, and funds that are or were budgeted can easily be moved somewhat unnoticeably to other projects, programs, etc. totally non-Veteran related, and maybe just why so many claims are disapproved, or take so long on appeal.

Money? What money!

There is still so much waste, so much going on that no one is being held accountable for the money budgeted to a specific program or project, and if you remember we've had several VA Medical Center projects go way the heck over budget, and that's all that was mentioned!

No mention of anyone being held responsible, just shovel more into the bucket and move on.

It's been some time now since I've talked about ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) and Parkinson's Disease. Most Veterans don't know, have never been told let alone fore warned of signs and symptoms, nor that Veterans are 70% more likely than not to develop one of these over that of civilians.

So, please, take some time to read as much of the material on the Website about these two illnesses so you are aware of what to look for and possibly arrange testing if you develop one or more of the signs and symptoms.

I can tell you from personal Experience ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) is one of the most horrible diseases there could ever be. And that every second of every day this horrible disease will suck the life out of a caregiver and I would never in this lifetime ever wish either one of these diseases on anyone.

So, please, take the time to get educated. You may never need to know, but, on the off chance you do need to know, the sooner the better.

need to know, the sooner the better.

I did add a little more than 75 new web links, and there are more to come, but for now I am back to working on more documents to be uploaded soon.

Keep in mind a large portion of the system is set to those who subscribe providing you full access to comment on the various articles posted, see a great deal more library choices and the documents contained in each of those libraries. And hopefully soon the forums will be repaired and subscribers will have full access to those as well and there is never any fee for being a subscriber. Just as there is no fee to subscribe to the weekly 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.

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



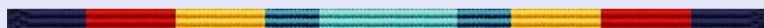
Military Veterans Advocacy

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_due

You may contact Robin at

robin.barr@mvadvocacy.org




Your TRICARE Benefits When You Separate

from the Military

Are you nearing the end of your active-duty service? If so, now's the time to begin planning your return to civilian life. You can start by making sure you and your family have health care coverage. Depending on the reason for your separation, you and your family may qualify for continued TRICARE coverage.

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



You Asked, We Answered: Could I be allergic to the vaccine?

Is it safe to stand in line to get my COVID-19 vaccination? Could I be allergic to the vaccine? Find the answers to these questions and others.

[Read More](#)



Sexual assault awareness and prevention a DHA, DOD priority

Sexual Assault Awareness Month has been commemorated every April since 2009, when President Barack Obama established it to raise public awareness and educate communities about

public awareness and educate communities about preventing sexual violence.

[Read More](#)



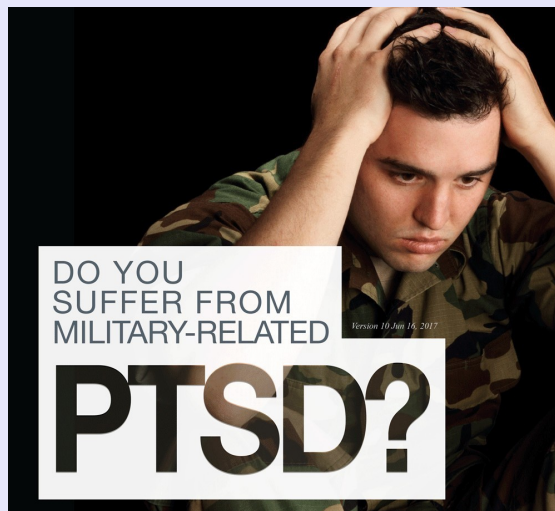
Recognize, Reduce and Manage: April is Stress Awareness Month!

April is National Stress Awareness Month. The Veterans Affairs (VA) Caregiver Support Program (CSP) offers resources to help caregivers recognize, reduce, and manage stress.

Each day, caregivers support the health and wellbeing of our nations' Veterans. CSP acknowledges that this can lead to potentially stressful situations and is here to support you! We can help you become more aware of stress, find ways to care for yourself as a caregiver and support healthy relationships while recognizing and managing this stress. We have a wealth of activities and material to support your self-care. From self-care exercises to an enrichment journal, [click here](#) for self-care activities for caregivers:

[Read More](#)





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

Getting TRICARE for Your Newborn Child

Are you a soon to be parent? Welcoming a new baby can be exciting and nerve-racking at the same time. If this is your first child, you may have questions about doctor visits and health care coverage. That's where TRICARE can help.

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

Details on FEMA's COVID-19 Funeral Expense Reimbursement Program

NCA has received calls from family members and funeral homes asking about the Funeral Expense Reimbursement Program. Here are the details on

FEMA's program.

[Read More](#)



Young cancer survivor rings bell signifying treatment end

After a two-and-a-half-year battle with a rare childhood disease, one little girl has a big reason to celebrate.

[Read More](#)



Caring for your Finances as a Caregiver

Are you balancing a budget? Need an emergency fund? Planning for your financial future?

April is National Financial Literacy Month.

To help foster literacy in understanding and caring for finances, CSP teamed up with the USAA Educational Foundation to present a series of videos to assist caregivers in establishing a budget, building an emergency fund, and getting an estate plan together.

[Read More](#)



Links to Other Stories

1. Queens
Pharmacy
Owner
Pleads
Guilty
to
Health
Care
Fraud
2. Comprehensive
Pain
Specialists
and
Former
Owners
Agree
To
Pay
\$4.1
Million
To
Settle
Fraud
Allegations
3. Massachusetts
Eye
and

Ear
Agrees
to
Pay
\$2.6
Million
to
Resolve
False
Claims
Act
Allegations

4. Howard
County
Physician
Pays
More
Than
\$660,000
to
Resolve
False
Claims
Act
Allegations
of
Fraudulent
Billing

5. Six
Individuals
Sentenced
for
Nearly
\$8

Million
Health
Care
Fraud
Involving
Northern
Virginia
Pharmacies

6. Sandusky
physician
charged
with
prescribing
medically
unnecessary
controlled
substances
and
health
care
fraud
7. Winston-
Salem
NC
Pain
Management
Company
to
Pay
\$789,292.95
to
Resolve
Allegations
of

False
Claims
for
Urine
Drug
Testing

8. New
web
tool
shows
how
Social
Security
cuts
could
hit
your
wallet
9. Caregivers
rejected
for
VA
financial
aid
could
get
new
appeal
chances
10. Multiple
VA
medical
centers
may

be
rebuilt
under
Biden's
infrastructure
plan

11. New
VA
secretary
promises
unity
around
work
to
reform
Veterans
programs

12. Veterans
virtual
career
fair
scheduled
for
May

13. For-
profit
trade
school
owner
guilty
of
bilking
VA
out

of
\$72
million

14. VA
Disability
Appeal
Success
Rates:
Understanding
the
Statistics
15. Postal
Employee
Pleads
Guilty
to
Theft
of
Mail
16. Top
10
Tips
for
Supporting
a
Loved
One
with
PTSD
17. Lawmakers
introduce
bill
to
protect

Veterans
from
online
threats
from
scammers,
extremists

18. Las
Vegas
Businessman
Pleads
Guilty
to
His
Role
in
\$13
Million
Fraud
Upon
North
Carolina
Medicaid
Program

19. Gloucester
Man
Admits
Trafficking
Prescription
Pills
and
Engaging
in
SNAP

Fraud

20. Sacramento

Area

Home

Health

Care

and

Hospice

Agencies

Owner

Pleads

Guilty

to

Conspiring

to

Defraud

Medicare

21.

Two

Montana

nurse

practitioners

admit

telemedicine

scheme

to

defraud

Medicare

of

more

than

\$18

million

22.

Manager

of

Hospice
and
Home
Health
Companies
Sentenced
to
Prison
for
Role
in
\$150
Million
Health
Care
Fraud
Scheme



COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Expands for TRICARE Beneficiaries

Today, the Department of Defense (DOD) officially moved vaccination sites to tier 2 of the DOD Population Schema. This means all eligible or authorized TRICARE beneficiaries and DOD individuals can make an appointment to get the COVID-19 vaccine at DOD sites as it becomes available.

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



Honoring health care heroes through the Brave of Heart Fund

The Brave of Heart Fund provides financial and emotional support to families of healthcare workers and volunteers nationwide who lose their lives to COVID-19.

[Read More](#)



VA offering financial wellness seminars for Veterans

April is Financial Literacy Month making it a good time to update budgeting skills. VA offering financial wellness seminars for Veterans.

[Read More](#)



Suicide Prevention Resources for Military and Veterans

Military & Veterans Crisis Line

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

Vets 4 Warriors

Office of Warrior Care Policy

warriorcare.dodlive.mil/

Military One Source

1-800-342-9647

Vets 4 Warriors

855-838-8255

InTransition

1-800-424-7877

1-800-542-7847

Tragedy Assistance
Program for Survivors
[TAPS]

1-800-959-8277

4 WAYS TO HELP HOMELESS VETERANS

- 1 Encourage the Veteran or their families to visit the closest VA Medical Center or Community Resource and Referral Center for help.
- 2 Give the Veteran the phone number to the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans (1-877-424-3838).
- 3 Call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans (1-877-424-3838) on behalf of the Veteran.
- 4 Explore www.va.gov/homeless to learn about VA programs for Veterans who are homeless and share that information with others.

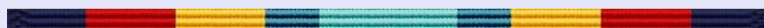
NRD.GOV

VA baby showers help Veterans amid the pandemic

VA Veteran mom baby showers: Usual in-person indoor celebrations in VA Medical Centers adapted to drive-through or virtual platforms. Nearly 300 moms

were honored at 14 medical centers.

[Read More](#)



Farmer Veteran Coalition helps Veterans into agriculture careers

Farmer Veteran Coalition is a nationwide organization and the largest non-profit organization that guides Veterans to careers in agriculture.

[Read More](#)



#VeteranOfTheDay Army Veteran Chris Loudenslager

During National Park Week, today's #VeteranOfTheDay is Army Veteran Chris Loudenslager, who is now a National Park Service superintendent.

[Read More](#)



SAVES LIVES Act and Keep Me, Informed Tool:

This past March, the newly enacted [SAVE LIVES](#)

[Act](#) allows VA to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to all Veterans, spouses, and caregivers! This opportunity for expanded benefits is extraordinary. Please keep in mind the expanded authority depends on readily available COVID-19 vaccine supply.

Receive the latest information about VA COVID-19 services through the VA's new Keep Me Informed tool. This resource helps Veterans, spouses, and caregivers stay on top of the latest information and ask questions regarding VA's COVID-19 services, including vaccinations. You do not have to be enrolled in VA healthcare to subscribe to Keep Me Informed and can access the link here:

[Read More](#)



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, whatever 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 **3,722** hits per day, and downloads average **5,396** per day with a total **7,294,219** visitors as of Saturday 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

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** FAQs 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: **10,450**)
 - Polls
 - Web Links, more than **8,094**, Added 78 New Links
- (Updated: 04/20/21)

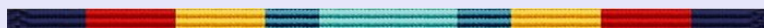
If you have a submission for the memorial pages, E-Mail: Jim.Davis@Veterans-for-change.org



100-year-old widow receives vaccine thanks to SAVE LIVES Act

VA pharmacist David Panning worked on the studies for a new COVID-19 vaccine, then used a similar drug to vaccinate his great grandmother-in-law thanks to the SAVE LIVES Act.

[Read More](#)



How VA supports military families on the job and at home

Benefits like onsite child care, telework and generous PTO ensure that VA's Veteran employees

and their families feel supported at work and home.

[Read More](#)



VA priority: Vaccinating Veterans in CLCs

Residents of VA's 134 nursing homes who are older and may have complex health conditions remain a priority for COVID-19 vaccination. VA's goal is to vaccinate every Veteran who wants one.

[Read More](#)



VFW Hosts Toxic Exposure Press Conference

On Tuesday, the VFW hosted a press conference in front of the VFW Memorial Building in Washington, D.C., for the introduction of the Presumptive Benefits for War Fighters Exposed to Burn Pits and Other Toxins Act of 2021. Speakers included the bill sponsors, Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Marco Rubio (R-FL), Reps. Raul Ruiz (D-CA) and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), as well as TV personality Jon Stewart, veterans service organizations, and veteran advocates. "The War Fighter Act is a great step in taking care of the millions of men and

women exposed to toxic hazards during their military service overseas,” said VFW National Legislative Service Associate Director Kristina Keenan. “Veterans like myself and others may never know what we were exposed to during our service. Without legislation like this, the burden of proof falls too heavily on veterans when they develop serious health conditions linked to their service.” [Watch the press conference.](#)



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 04/24/21**)

1. [HR 1014](#)

-
Furnish
Hyperbaric
Oxygen
Therapy
(HBOT)

to
a
Veteran
who
has
a
Traumatic
Brain
Injury
(TBI)
or
Post-
Traumatic
Stress
Disorder
(PTS)

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

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.
427

457,
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 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
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
22. Please
Support
S.
344,
the
Major
Richard

Star
Act

23. Support
the
Military
Retiree
Survivor
Comfort
Act

24. S.
810
&
H.R.
1972,
the
Fair
Care
for
Vietnam
Veterans
Act
of
2021

25. HR
109
Establish
an
Advisory
Committee
on
Implementation
by
the
DVA

of
an
electronic
health
record

26. HR
2372
and
S
952
will
Provide
for
Presumption
of
Service
Connection
for
certain
diseases
associated
with
exposure
to
toxins

27. Please
Ask
you
Senator
to
support
S.952
the
Warfighters

Transitions

Act

- 28. Support
Improving
VA
Homelessness
Program
- 29. S.
976,
Caring
for
Survivors
Act
of
2021
- 30. H.R.
303,
the
Retired
Pay
Restoration
Act
- 31. H.R.
912,
American
Indian
and
Alaska
Native
Veterans
Mental
Health
Act
- 32. S.
976

970,
the
Caring
for
Survivors
Act
of
2021

33. HR
2269
and
S
657
cover
herbicide
exposure
in
Thailand
34. Bipartisan
Bill
Introduced
to
Help
Military
Survivors
35. Legislation
asks
for
Study

of
Involuntary
Discharges
for
Women

36. H.R.
2436,
the
Veterans
Burn
Pit
Exposure
Recognition
Act



TREA Takes Lead Supporting Military Families in Times of Tragedy

WASHINGTON: The Enlisted Association, representing enlisted servicemembers, veterans, retirees, and their families, is taking the lead on supporting [S.781, The Elaine M. Checketts Military Families Act of 2021](#).

Earlier today, TREA sent a letter of support to Chairmen Jack Reed and Adam Smith, and Ranking Members James Inhofe and Mike Rodgers of the U.S. House and Senate Armed Services Committees requesting that S. 781 be included in the FY22 National Defense Authorization Act.

Currently, service branch regulations instantly terminate a servicemember's paid family leave if the child for whom the leave was taken for passes

away. This regulation restricts the options commanders have to support the servicemember, forcing servicemembers during an incredibly difficult time to either immediately return to service, or, if they have available leave days, apply for chargeable emergency leave. S. 781 would empower commanders to allow servicemembers to complete the remainder of their pre-approved primary or secondary caregiver leave following the death of the child for whom the leave was taken.

“No servicemember should have to return to work the day after losing their child” said Justin Jump, National President of The Enlisted Association. “The Elaine M. Checketts Military Families Act would rightfully provide commanders the necessary authority to support military families who are grieving tragic loss. TREA applauds this bipartisan effort and firmly believes that family readiness is essential to the overall readiness of the total force.”

S. 781 is named in honor of the daughter of a servicemember stationed at JBSA-Lackland who confronted this issue following her death. To find a copy of the bill text, click [HERE](#).



**Veteran Regains Confidence Through Whole
Health**

"I just feel happy to be alive and I feel much more outgoing now," says Veteran Christopher Young, who has regained his confidence and strength through Whole Health coaching, exercise and acupuncture.

[Read More](#)



How much do you know about Parkinson's disease?

VA has partnered with the Parkinson's Foundation to help Veterans who are diagnosed with the disease live healthier lives. 10-15% of the time, Parkinson's is linked to family genetics.

[Read More](#)



VFW Testifies on Pending EO Legislation

On Wednesday, VFW National Legislative Service Deputy Director Matthew Doyle testified before the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity. The subcommittee considered 16 bills to strengthen VA education and training benefits, combat veteran homelessness,

and improve the adaptive automobile grant program. Doyle stated “A one-time grant shifts the burden of purchasing a subsequent vehicle to the veteran. It would be analogous for VA to provide only the first prosthetic or assistive device to a service-disabled veteran, only to make them purchase their next device out-of-pocket.” [Watch the hearing](#) or [read the testimony](#).



**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

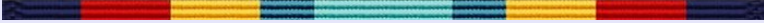
PLEASE... STOP Making Excuses!
www.veterans-for-change.org



**Lung cancer stories important for healing
and connection**

Diagnosed with lung cancer can be a lonely experience. VA partner GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer has a page dedicated to stories from Veterans of various ages, service backgrounds and cancer type.


[Read More](#)



Keesler uses post-vaccine waiting period to identify routine care gaps

Adaptation has been a common theme over the past year, especially within the medical community.

[Read More](#)



First Three Innovative iNET Greenhouse Collaborations Underway at VHA

Health care innovators have flocked to the VHA Innovation Ecosystem's iNET Greenhouse, and the first three collaborations are now underway.

[Read More](#)



House Hearing on Pending Health Legislation

On Thursday, the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health conducted a hearing to discuss pending health care legislation. VA representatives responded to questions on VA's

policies and procedures regarding rural veterans, maternity care, use of video camera equipment, doula services, women-specific care for substance abuse programs and treatment, service dog training grants for veterans with PTSD, and use of commonly spoken languages for VA fact sheets. In a statement submitted for the record, VFW National Legislative Service Associate Director Tammy Barlet cited results from two VFW surveys regarding maternity care and rural veterans' mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Watch the hearing](#) or [read the testimony](#).



The short sweet story of the Veteran's birthday that almost wasn't

Skye Miller wanted to visit her father at a VA hospital. She was going to surprise him on his birthday with cake, presents and balloons. When restrictions stopped her, a VA Chaplain made it happen.

[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](#)

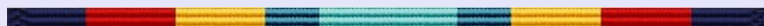
[HOMELESS HEROES PROGRAM OF
VETERANS-FOR-CHANGE](#)

[AMVETS GROUP](#)

[VETERANS SOCIAL GROUP](#)

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

[AMERICANS FOR SOVEREIGNTY](#)



Chicago VA hospital reaches vaccine milestone

Fifty-three percent of Veterans receiving health care at Hines have received at least one dose either through Hines, its six outpatient clinics, or its homeless and homebound care outreach programs.

[Read More](#)



From COVID-19 testing to MHS GENESIS support, lab techs do it all

Even though April 18-24, 2021 is designated as Medical Laboratory Professional Week, for laboratory technicians like Navy Hospital Corpsman 1st Class KC Geisler, there's no slow down or reduction of service taking place during the week.

[Read More](#)



Borne the Battle #238: Army Veteran Dr. Anneke Vandebroek, Director of Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Easterseals

Army Veteran Dr. Anneke Vandebroek, a board-certified clinical psychologist, discusses changes in mental health in times of COVID, the importance of mental healthcare and how any Veteran, regardless of discharge status, can receive cost-free mental health care at any Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinics in the country.

[Read More](#)



Pittsburgh Veteran supports fellow Veterans in palliative care

Air Force Veteran Steven Hernandez is involved with end-of-life and palliative care for his local Veteran community. Pittsburgh's Veteran Community Partnership serves Veterans with terminal illnesses.

[Read More](#)



Office of Inspector General

1. [Public Service Loan Forgiveness: DOD and Its Personnel Could Benefit from Additional Program Information](#)
2. [DHS Office](#)

Office
of
Inspector
General:
Preliminary
Observations
on
Long-
Standing
Management
and
Operational
Challenges
Statement
of
Christopher
P
Currie,
Director,
Homeland
Security
and
Justice


3. Veterans
Affairs:
Ongoing
Financial
Management
System
Modernization
Program
Would
Benefit
from
Improved

Improved
Cost
and
Schedule
Estimating

4. Economic
Adjustment
Assistance:
Experts'
Proposed
Reform
Options
to
Better
Serve
Workers
Experiencing
Economic
Disruption

5. COVID-
19:
HHS
Should
Clarify
Agency
Roles
for
Emergency
Return
of
U.S.
Citizens
during
a
Pandemic

6. Medicaid:
Information
on
the
Use
of
Electronic
Asset
Verification
to
Determine
Eligibility
for
Selected
Beneficiaries



**At MHS pharmacies, every day is 'Drug
Take-Back Day'**

While April 24 has officially been designated National Drug Take Back Day by the Drug Enforcement Agency, pharmacists across the Military Health System in recent years have been stressing that every day is a drug take back day.

[Read More](#)



**Tanker medics from McDonnell AFB are
fighting COVID-19 in St. Paul**

Approximately 25 tanker medics from McConnell Air Force Base 22nd Medical Group help make life-saving vaccines readily available to the American people.

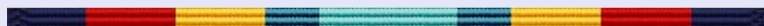
[Read More](#)



Gold Star mother keeps promise to help Veteran families

After her son was killed in Bagdad, Cynthia Garcia made good on a promise to him that he would not be forgotten. Today, there are Adam's Corners in Fisher Houses, born from a mother's love for her son.

[Read More](#)



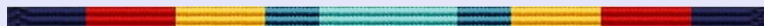
Inaugural Flag Raising Over New WWI Memorial

On Friday, the American flag was raised for the first time over the new National WWI Memorial site in Washington, D.C., after having flown over nine American WWI battlefield cemeteries in Europe and at the U.S. Capitol. Actor Gary Sinise hosted a

virtual 90-minute program that included performances by the U.S. Army Band “Pershing’s Own,” as well as the 369th Regiment “Hellfighters Band.” President Joe Biden and Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Mark Milley were featured speakers. There was also a flyover by the 94th Aero Squadron established during WWI. [Learn more.](#)




CLICK HERE TO FOLLOW US ON TWITTER !



Bettie J. Morden: A driver for women's rights

Veteran Bettie J. Morden was an advocate for women's rights in the military and later became a quintessential historian, sharing her stories on and off the field.


[Read More](#)



Oral cancer kills about one person every hour

Key to preventing deaths and serious consequences from oral cancer is early detection. Milwaukee VA dentists hosting virtual information session to discuss types of oral cancer and how to prevent it.

[Read More](#)



Project Sanctuary helps military families heal

Project Sanctuary hosts Veteran and active-duty families through six-day therapeutic retreats at locations across the United States. While at retreats, families participate in sessions directed at improving relationships, financial literacy and mental health.

[Read More](#)





VA North Texas takes the White Ribbon VA Pledge

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and the White Ribbon VA supports the national "Stand Up to Stop Harassment Now!" campaign.

[Read More](#)

The importance of advance care planning

During a crisis, family members may be called upon to help make health care decisions for a loved one. It may be difficult for family members or trusted others to know exactly what decisions to make.

[Read More](#)

Early screening for lung cancer saves lives

Vietnam Veteran found out he had lung cancer when he took part in a nationwide VA program to boost the number of Veterans screened for lung cancer. He got treatment through a VA clinical trial.

[Read More](#)



1. [Durisan Announces a Voluntary Recall Expansion of its Antimicrobial Hand Sanitizer](#)
2. [CareFusion 303, Inc.](#)

Recalls

BD

Alaris

Pump

Module

Model

8100

Due

to

Risk

of

Stuck

or

Unresponsive

Keys

3. Tenacore

Recalls

Alaris

Pump

Bezel

Assembly

and

Alaris

Infusion

Pumps

repaired

with

Bezel

Assembly

Due

to

Possible

Cracked

or

or
Separated
Bezel
Repair
Posts

4. Colorectal
Cancer:
What
You
Should
Know
About
Screening
5. Coronavirus
(COVID-
19)
Update:
April
20,
2021
6. Medtronic
Perfusion
Systems
Recalls
Bio-
Console
560
Extracorporeal
Blood
Pumping
Console
for
Possible
Electrical
Failure

Failure
Causing
the
Pump
to
Stop

7. Blount
Fine
Foods
Voluntarily
Recalls
a
Limited
Amount
(a
Single
Lot)
of
Lobster
Bisque
Due
to
Possible
Undeclared
Egg
Allergen

8. Jose
Madrid
Salsa
Issues
a
Voluntary
Recall
Due
to

to
an
Undeclared
Anchovy
Allergen

9. Shearer's
Foods
LLC
Issues
Allergy
Alert
on
Undeclared
Milk
in
Raley's
Salt
&
Vinegar
Flavored
Potato
Chips

10. Creative
Foods
Inc
Issues
Allergy
Alert
on
Undeclared
Hazelnut,
Peanut
And
Barley
(Gluten)

(Gluten)
In
Two
Coffee
Substitute
Gluten-
Free
Products

11. Lake
Champlain
Chocolates
Voluntarily
Recalls
Mr.
Goodtime
Bunny
With
Best
By
Date
11/20/2021
for
Undeclared
Almonds

12. Advancing
the
Development
of
Safe
and
Effective
Regenerative
Medicine
Products

13. BD
Announces
the
Voluntary
Recall
of
Specified
Lots
of
ChloroPrep™
Hi-
Lite
Orange™
26
mL
Applicator
in
the
United
States
and
U.S.
Territories
Due
to
Defective
Applicator

14. Durisan
Announces
a
Voluntary
Recall
Expansion
of
its

its
Antimicrobial
Hand
Sanitizer

15. Tenacore
LLC
Issues
Nationwide
Recall
of
Tenacore's
Replacement
for
the
Front
Bezel
Assembly
of
the
CareFusion
Alaris
8100
Infusion
Pump
Module

16. FDA
Stresses
Critical
Importance
of
Safe
Disposal
of
Medications
Ahead

Bureau
of
National
Prescription
Drug

Take
Back
Day

17. FDA
Approves
Immunotherapy
for
Endometrial
Cancer
with
Specific
Biomarker

18. FDA
Drug
Shortages

19. Outbreak
Investigation
of
Salmonella
Duisburg:
Jule's
Cashew
Brie
(April
2021)

20. FDA
Authorizes
Marketing
of

Device
to
Facilitate
Muscle
Rehabilitation
in
Stroke
Patients

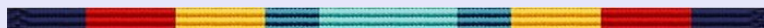
21. Cordis
Recalls
Precise
PRO
Rx
US
Carotid
System
Due
to
Risk
of
Separation
in
Device
During
Use

22. Coronavirus
Disease
2019
(COVID-
19)
(04/23/21)

23. Wolfies
Roasted
Nut

Co.
Issues
Voluntary
Recall
of
its
Crunchy
Cheddar
&
Jalapeno
Nuts

24. FDA
and
CDC
Lift
Recommended
Pause
on
Johnson
&
Johnson
(Janssen)
COVID-
19
Vaccine
Use
Following
Thorough
Safety
Review



**Major milestone met for implementing
location-based housing changes**

Location-based housing changes

VA made a promise to make Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) payments whole for Post-9/11 GI Bill® students impacted by implementation of the Colmery Act.

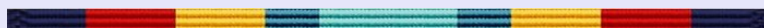
[Read More](#)



Hiring Our Heroes awards 2021 Toyota 4Runner to Army Veteran

Hiring Our Heroes awarded Veteran Ernest Knight with a 2021 Toyota 4Runner as the winner of the Committed to America's Heroes sweepstakes, a contest that he entered through a link he saw in VA's VetResources newsletter last year.


[Read More](#)



If you received this newsletter as a courtesy or a forward from a friend or relative, you can sign up to receive in your E-mail every week.

[Subscribe Now](#)


CLICK HERE TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE VEO NEWSLETTER!



Clinic doors open wide for those wanting COVID-19 vaccine

As of April 19, just about any adult in DOD can get a COVID-19 vaccine if they want one.

[Read More](#)



Secretary, VA leaders affirm the White Ribbon VA pledge

On April 14, 2021, VA Secretary Denis McDonough held a virtual ceremony to underscore his zero tolerance for gender-based harassment or sexual assault in VA facilities. At the ceremony, McDonough and VA senior leaders, including Army combat Veteran Chief of Staff Tanya Bradsher, affirmed their commitment to the White Ribbon VA pledge.

[Read More](#)



Compare Colleges with VA

Planning to use your GI Bill benefits to fund your education? The GI Bill Comparison Tool can help

you find the right school for you. The tool provides an estimate of your GI Bill benefits as well as information about each college's value and affordability.

[Read More](#)



Laboratory professionals play important role in fight against COVID-19

Medical Laboratory Professionals Week recognizes the behind-the-scenes work laboratorians do to generate clinical lab results and, ultimately, guide the courses of treatment for patients throughout the military and civilian health systems.

[Read More](#)

Live Whole Health #68: Taking time to pause

As we enter spring and see signs of the earth blooming, we should think about ways we wish to grow and bloom in our lives. Spring is a great time to bring to life our vision and to set goals for our health and well-being. Taking time to pause allows us to consider the ways.

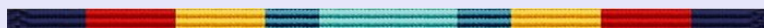
[Read More](#)



Enhance Your VA Pension

If you receive a VA pension and require help with daily activities, or if you're housebound, you may be eligible for additional monthly payments. VA Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits can help you pay for in-home care, assisted living, or a nursing home. Learn if you qualify and how to apply.

[Read More](#)





Hiring Our Heroes awards new Toyota to Army Veteran

Army Veteran Ernest Knight entered a Hiring Our Heroes sweepstakes through a link he saw in (this) VA's [VetResources](#) newsletter.

"I'll put my name, even though it's never going to happen" Knight said. "And surprisingly, it happened. When I found out that I won a car, I was totally shocked."

Knight was randomly selected among more than 85,000 entries. The sweepstakes were open to all active duty, reserve and guard service members, Veterans and military spouses late last year.

[Read More](#)

Tidewater set to become fifth Military Health System market

The Defense Health Agency officially established the Tidewater Market in southeast Virginia on April 19.

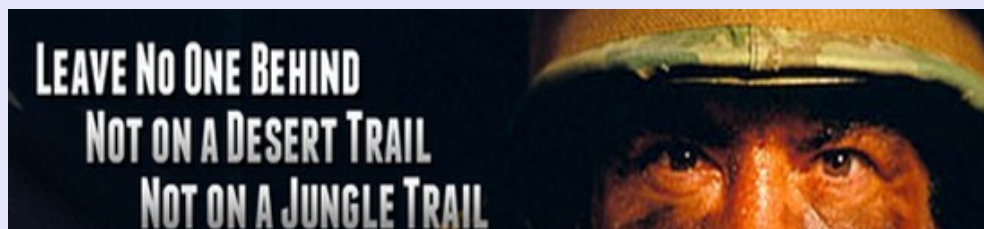
[Read More](#)

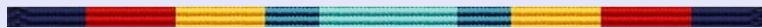


Women Veterans Empowerment Retreat

Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) celebrates women Veterans with disabilities by inviting them to the annual Women Veterans Empowerment Retreat taking place April 22-25. Participants will gain the tools and information they need to navigate the unique challenges of their everyday lives in an inclusive and supportive environment. Register today for the all-expenses-paid retreat!

[Read More](#)

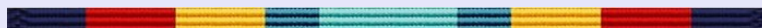




Veterans, become a Delivery Service Partner with Amazon

Veterans, find a new mission in owning and operating a package-delivery businesses in partnership with Amazon and their Delivery Service Partner (DSP) Program.

[Read More](#)



Oral cancer kills about one person every hour

Key to preventing deaths and serious consequences from oral cancer is early detection. Milwaukee VA dentists hosting virtual information session to discuss types of oral cancer and how to prevent it.

[Read More](#)



President Releases FY2022 Budget Outline

President Joe Biden released the FY2022 budget outline to Congress. The outline does not have the

detail of a full budget request but does give Congress a general understanding of President Biden's budget priorities. The president plans to ask for \$715 billion in discretionary spending for the Department of Defense for the next fiscal year, which would be a 1.6 percent increase over the current fiscal year. The Pentagon has responded to a Military Coalition (TMC) letter that the FRA signed onto, which urges the Pentagon not to include a new TRICARE fee increase in the budget. The DoD response indicates that there will be no TRICARE fee increase in the Biden Administrations request. In addition, the outline indicates that active-duty service members will receive the full scheduled active-duty annual pay increase. Senator James Inhofe (Okla.) Ranking Member, Senate Armed Services Committee has recommended a 3-5 percent increase in the FY2022 Defense Budget. The House Progressive Caucus has demanded that the Defense Budget be cut by 10 percent.

The outline indicates that spending for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will increase 8.2 percent over the current fiscal year. The outline increases funding for the Electronic Health Record (EHR) implementation, suicide prevention (75 percent increase), homelessness assistance and toxic exposure research. The outline wants the VA

to hire 334 new claims processors to support claims for new Agent Orange presumptive conditions and reduce the pandemic-caused disability claims backlog. A more detailed budget is expected in May or June. The FRA will continue to monitor the legislative process to ensure adequate funding for both agencies and make sure there are no cuts in earned benefits.



Tax & Credit Information



1. Here's how the third Economic Impact Payment is different from earlier payments
2. IRS extends additional tax deadlines

to
May
17

3. IRS,
Treasury
disburse
25
million
more
Economic
Impact
Payments
under
the
American
Rescue
Plan
4. IRS
reminds
U.S.
territory
residents
about
U.S.
income
tax
rules
relating
to
pandemic
unemployment
compensation
5. IRS
announces

several
key
executive
changes
as
agency
gears
up
to
implement
the
Taxpayer
First
Act

6. Treasury,
IRS
provide
guidance
on
tax
relief
for
deductions
for
food
or
beverages
from
restaurants

7. IRS
will
recalculate
taxes
on

2020
unemployment
benefits
and
start
issuing
refunds
in
May

8. IRS
reminds
taxpayers
to
make
April
15
estimated
tax
payment

9. IRS
suspends
requirement
to
repay
excess
advance
payments
of
the
2020
Premium
Tax
Credit;
those

claiming
net
Premium
Tax
Credit
must
file
Form
8962

10. IRS
reminds
foreign
bank
and
financial
account
holders
the
FBAR
deadline
remains
April
15

11. IRS
urges
participants
of
abusive
micro-
captive
insurance
arrangements
to
exit

from
arrangements

12. Free
recorded
workshop
helps
small
business
owners
understand
their
tax
obligations

13. IRS,
Treasury
disburse
2
million
more
Economic
Impact
Payments
under
the
American
Rescue
Plan;
VA
beneficiaries
bring
total
to
approximately
159
....

million
as
payments
continue

14. Here's
how
people
can
pay
their
federal
taxes

15. IRS
Free
File
can
help
people
who
have
no
filing
requirement
find
overlooked
tax
credits
and
get
a
refund

16. Claiming
the
employee

retention
credit
in
the
first
and
second
calendar
quarters
2021

17. What
taxpayers
need
to
know
about
getting
their
unclaimed
2017
tax
refunds

18. Those
experiencing
homelessness
can
get
Economic
Impact
Payments
and
other
tax
benefits;

permanent
address
not
required

19. Taxpayers
should
use
the
correct
filing
status
for
accuracy
and
to
avoid
surprises

20. 20-
year
Exam
veteran
selected
as
new
Office
of
Promoter
Investigations
acting
director

21. Do's
and
don'ts
for

taxpayers
who
get
a
letter
or
notice
from
the
IRS

22. Steer
clear
of
typical
tax
return
errors;
May
17
deadline
nears
Some
mistakes
on
tax
returns
can
slow
refunds

23. Taxpayers
should
file
their
tax

return
on
time
even
if
they
can't
pay
their
tax
bill
in
full

24. American
Rescue
Plan
tax
credits
available
to
small
employers
to
provide
paid
leave
to
employees
receiving
COVID-
19
vaccines;
new
fact

sheet
outlines
details

25. People experiencing homelessness can get Economic Impact Payments and other tax benefits



Rural Health: Solutions for unique Veteran population

VA provides health care to nearly 3 million Veterans in rural communities. Their needs are as unique as the communities they call home, ranging from chronic disease to mental health to acute care.

[Read More](#)



Appenzeller emphasizes: Get COVID-19 vaccine, no matter where

Army Major Gen. (Dr.) George "Ned" Appenzeller


would love it if the military administered every COVID-19 vaccine to every service member.

[Read More](#)



Happy Birthday Navy Nurse Corps

The U.S. Navy Nurse Corps celebrated its 113th birthday on April 13, which was officially established by Congress in 1908. Unofficially, however, women had been working as nurses aboard Navy ships and in Navy hospitals for nearly 100 years. The Navy Nurse Corps was all-female until 1965. After the establishment of the Nurse Corps, twenty women were selected as the first members and assigned to the Naval Medical School Hospital in Washington, D.C. In time, the nurses would come to be known as "the Sacred Twenty" because they were the first women to formally serve as members of the U.S. Navy.



Complete the VFW's 2021 COVID-19 Health Survey

Last April the VFW tallied responses to our COVID-19 survey and used that data to advocate for veterans with Congress and VA. The VFW has

developed a follow-up survey to evaluate your health care experiences, how your health care may have changed in the last six months, and your perceptions of your overall physical and mental health over the past 30 days. Your feedback is vital to our advocacy efforts and to compile a report on this important topic. Help the VFW hold VA and Congress accountable by taking this short survey regarding your experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Take the survey.](#)



The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced two burial updates and two new identifications 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:

Sgt. 1st Class Nicholas J. Valentine, 22, of Cassville, Wisconsin, 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. Valentine will be buried in his hometown in May 2021. [Read about Valentine.](#)

Navy Radioman 3rd Class Charles A.

Montgomery, 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 Montgomery. Interment services are pending. [Read about Montgomery.](#)

Navy Patternmaker 1st Class Stanislaw F.

Drwall, 25, 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 Drwall. Interment services are pending. [Read about Drwall.](#)

Navy Ship's Cook 3rd Class Robert Goodwin, 20, of Wichita, Kansas, 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 Goodwin. Goodwin will be buried on May 14, 2021, in Topeka, Kansas. [Read about Goodwin.](#)



Veterans-For-Change, Inc.

Riverside County, CA

Visit our website today

www.Veterans-For-Change.org

Serving those who served!

**Please pass on to all your Veteran Friends and
Family!**



Please do not reply to this E-Mail, this is an unattended E-Mail address, please send all correspondence to:

Jim.Davis@Veterans-for-change.org

©2021 Veterans-For-Change.org | CA 92584-8870

[Web Version](#)

[Preferences](#)

[Forward](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

Powered by
[GoDaddy Email Marketing](#)®