



Veterans-For-Change Newsletter

A Voice of the Veterans

Week Ending Sunday, September 04, 2022

Volume 13, Issue 35



This-N-That

Good evening Jim,

I apologize if you received last weekends newsletter in an illegible format. Our news service had a hiccup, that I am hoping is corrected.

I'm sure most if not all of you have seen the commercials on TV regarding the contaminated water at Camp LeJeune for possible big payouts if qualified.

Then I got the notice just below this piece regarding VA Benefits and how they will reduce your benefits by what ever amount received. My advice is to seriously weigh the applications of how this will affect you financially and personally. And hopefully you will steer clear of this option.

For the better part of a decade Congress has “contemplated” reversing Concurrent Receipt rules. I think a decade is far more than enough time to deal with this and correct the problem. So, I’m asking everyone to at least if nothing else, send out the pre-written E-Mail to your Rep and Senators and ask that they pass this legislation quickly.

Whether you believe it or not, this was just another way to steel benefits from you or your widow/er to the tune of \$1,000 or more per month and it’s time for it to come to an end.

We’re still looking for stories from all our Veterans regarding care received at any of the VA Medical Centers nationwide. Good, bad, indifferent doesn’t matter all help in our endeavor.

Please do visit 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!

Kindest regards,

Jim Davis

Founder

Jim.Davis@Veterans-For-Change.org

PS: If you like what we’re doing, have found the newsletter and website useful, please help us keep the site, newsletter and phone/fax lines operational so we can continue to provide in my humble opinion the best there is to offer Veterans. Click here to contribute what you can, please keep in mind this cannot be used as a tax deduction, it's merely a contribution in support. [Contribute](#)



Many veterans have reached out regarding the Camp LeJeune provision (Section 804) of the recently passed PACT Act.

Please be advised that there is an offset of VA disability benefits with any settlement that may be received through a lawsuit.

Veterans are encouraged NOT to sign any contracts to participate in lawsuits until VA clarifies how the settlements will affect service-connected benefits and care.

VA regulations on this are expected in the coming months.

For clarification on the impact to your current or future VA benefits, contact an accredited service officer near you.



Make Sure You Understand Recent TRICARE Telehealth Policy Changes

At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Defense Health Agency (DHA) made several temporary updates to the TRICARE benefit regarding telehealth. The DHA recently updated these telehealth policies.

[Read More](#)



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.



We are offering free lifetime memberships to widows/widowers of Veterans who died of service connected diseases? Please contact Robin Barr for more information.

Click [HERE](#) and help a Veteran.

You may contact Robin Barr at robin.barr@madvocacy.org



New Cultural Exemption Affects Midwife Services for TRICARE Families in Germany

Are you living in Germany? Are you planning to have a child? If so, you should learn about the new cultural exemption that covers German midwife providers under the TRICARE Overseas Program.

[Read More](#)



Drug Safety Communication

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is warning that results from a clinical trial show a possible increased risk of death with Copiktra (duvelisib) compared to another medicine to treat a chronic blood cancer called leukemia and a lymphoma, a cancer found in the lymph nodes. The trial also found Copiktra was associated with a higher risk of serious side effects, including infections, diarrhea, inflammation of the intestines and lungs, skin reactions, and high liver enzyme levels in the blood.

For more information, read the complete [Drug Safety Communication](#).



VA therapies relieve depression symptoms

All Veterans deserve to live their best lives. VA offers a variety of therapies to help with mental health concerns, including depression.

[Read More](#)



Navy Veteran's final wish: visit Pearl Harbor

With a life expectancy of just six months, Navy Veteran Joseph Teeny fulfilled his final dream of visiting Pearl Harbor with his family.

[Read More](#)





Your actions

could save a life.

Showing you care can make a big difference to someone in crisis.

VeteransCrisisLine.net



Relationships and mindfulness

Being mindful supports healthy connections. Here's a 5-minute appreciation practice that will help you connect with your own surroundings and relationships.

[Read More](#)



VA National Cemeteries Call on Volunteers to Participate in National Day of Service

VA national cemeteries are looking for volunteers to participate in the Sept. 9 National Day of Service to honor those who served in the nation's armed forces in the 21 years since 9/11. This is the fourth annual day of service, and it will take place at more than 60 cemeteries across the country. Volunteers will clean headstones and participate in other beautification activities that honor and remember our nation's heroes.

[VOLUNTEER](#)



Free Social Network for Sharing Health Updates

Veterans who are facing medical conditions and health challenges can create a free personal website for sharing health status updates.

[READ MORE](#)



VA Embracing Virtual Reality to Enhance the Patient Discharge Process

Virtual Reality technology is helping VA staff better understand the perspectives of patients and their journeys to discharge.

[READ MORE](#)



After Dobbs Decision, Department of Defense Provides Q&A Resource

The Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness published a Q&A that includes answers to questions around reproductive health care access — including leave and travel, sexual assault, contraceptives and other types of related assistance.

[Read More](#)



Women's Heart Attacks Symptoms Can Differ from Men's: Know the Signs

Women often experience symptoms other than the classic crushing chest pain and left arm pain that typically afflict men having heart attacks.

[Read More](#)



USU Facility Dogs Help De-stress USU Med Students

Shetland, a yellow Lab; and Grover, a black Lab, often wander through the student lounge, library, or school courtyard at USU's med school, seeking out hugs or getting belly rubs from students as part of their official duties to comfort, de-stress, and calm them.

[Read More](#)



Ultra-Endurance Military Athletes: What Motivates Them?

For some, sports are simply a way to stay fit, for others a way to de-stress. But for endurance athletes, it's a mental and physical challenge with themselves.

[Read More](#)



Deployment Readiness Education for Service Women App

The Deployment Readiness Education for Service Women App is designed for women before, during, and after deployment. It provides resources for their unique health care needs.

[Watch Video](#)



PACT Act Expands Eligibility for Benefits

VA is expanding eligibility for health care and benefits for Veterans who may have been exposed to hazardous materials — including burn pits, radiation, Agent Orange, and other Gulf War toxins — during their military service. The Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022 (PACT Act) adds more than 20 new presumptive conditions, including respiratory cancers, for Veterans exposed to burn pits or other toxins.

[Learn More](#)



September Is National Recovery Month

This month, VA recognizes National Recovery Month, an annual observance to support those in recovery from substance use disorder. Learn about the many evidence-based treatments available at VA, including in- and outpatient care, medications, support groups and specialized therapy.

[Learn About Treatment](#)



Seek Care for Schizophrenia at VA

Are you having a tough time thinking clearly or making sense when you speak? Do you feel like sometimes you see things or hear voices that might not be there or feel you are being watched or followed when you are not? These symptoms can be scary, especially the first time you experience them, and they may be a sign of a mental illness called schizophrenia. Many people with schizophrenia recover and live fulfilling lives when their condition is correctly diagnosed and treated.

[Learn More](#)



Access Mental Health Care by Computer or Phone

No matter what you've experienced in military or civilian life, you may be facing challenges that affect your health, relationships and overall happiness — but you don't have to face them alone. VA provides clinical support and connects you with resources so you can manage any mental health challenge. VA also offers both video and phone telehealth options that do not require you to travel to a facility.

[Schedule an Appointment](#)



Learn About Military Sexual Trauma-Related Care

VA uses the term "military sexual trauma" (MST) to refer to sexual assault or harassment experienced during military service. MST includes any sexual activity during military service in which you are involved against your will or unable to say no. Like other types of trauma, MST can negatively affect a person's mental and physical health, even many years later. If you are having any difficulties related to MST, VA is here to support you in whatever way helps you best.

[Find Resources](#)



VA Can Help You Manage Your Depression

Depression is a common but serious disorder that typically requires treatment to manage. It may be marked by feelings of intense sadness or hopelessness, and some people with depression lose interest or pleasure in activities that they used to enjoy. The good news is that even the most severe cases of depression are treatable.

[Learn More](#)



Trauma, Transitioning and Treatment

Justin and Brent discuss the traumas of their combat service in Iraq, the difficulties they faced when they transitioned out of the U.S. Army, and the therapies that worked for them.

[Read Their Story](#)



#Live Whole Health #135: Relationships and mindfulness appreciation practice

Relationships support our quality of life and contribute to our whole health. Relationships can affect our emotional, mental, and physical health and well-being. Connections to family, friends, community, and even animals can help reduce stress and improve physical and emotional well-being.

[Read More](#)



Everything you need to know about monkeypox

Monkeypox is a contagious viral disease that is closely related to the one that causes smallpox, but the disease is generally less severe and less contagious. Unlike the COVID-19 virus, which was a virus that was not known until 2020, monkeypox is a well-known illness that was first recognized in research animals in 1958.

[Read More](#)



Reflections from the Front: A new podcast from the VA history office

Reflections from the Front is a VA history podcast that covers the experiences of women Veterans. Women have been a vital part of our Nation's military, and from the very beginning. Although they were not able to serve in an official capacity until the 20th century, women have always found ways to assist America's war efforts.

[Read More](#)



VA honors Women's Equality Day

August 26 is Women's Equality Day. One hundred two years ago this month, the 19th Amendment was ratified solidifying the right to vote for women. The battle was not earned over night, rather it took decades. From the Seneca Falls Convention of 1848 to World War I and beyond, it was an uphill battle for all women in the home to the halls of Congress.

[Read More](#)



Military Recruitment Crisis

During the House Armed Services, Military Personnel Subcommittee (HASC-MP) markup of the FY2023 National Defense (NDAA-H.R.7900), Ranking Member Mike Gallagher (Wis.) said, "We are on the cusp of a military recruiting crisis." Lawmakers from both parties have expressed concern that this year could be the worst recruiting environment since the end of the Vietnam War. According to Politico the Army has reached 66 percent of its goal for the fiscal year ending in September, and the Navy is at 89 percent, according to data compiled from October 2021 to May 2022. Even with rates of 100 percent for the Air Force, Space Force, and the Marine Corps (Marines reduced their end strength by 1500), that leaves the department with a total rate of just 85 percent.

The FRA noted in its written statement to HASC-MP for the NDAA subcommittee markup that with the high rate of inflation there is no more critical morale issue for active-duty warriors than adequate pay with adequate pay increases. Further the association advocates for Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) payments to be restored to 100 percent of housing costs from the current 95 percent and more oversight of military housing to ensure safe and healthy housing. The FRA believes that these and other enhancements would improve recruitment and retention.



Does TRICARE cover Telemental Health services?



TRICARE beneficiaries have the option to use Telemental health services as part of their TRICARE benefit. A beneficiary's regional contractor has a network of providers who can evaluate, treat, and refer as necessary. Telemedicine can be done using live audio and video or audio-only services. Beneficiaries can search for a Telemental health provider on their TRICARE contractor's provider directory. Beneficiaries can also call their regional contractor to request Telemental health services or other types of mental health services.

Depending on a beneficiary's TRICARE health plan, they may first need an authorization or referral. Active-duty service members need a referral for Telemental health care. Beneficiaries can contact their regional contractor for more information.



VA makes all toxic-exposure conditions presumptive immediately following signing of PACT Act

The VA had planned to phase in the system, under which specific health conditions likely resulting from exposure to toxins are recognized as service-related, over the next few years.

[Read more](#)



Residents are less happy with Army family housing, survey finds

Army families' satisfaction with base housing dropped this year, regardless of whether the soldier was renting from the government or a private landlord, according to survey results released Thursday.

[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 09/02/22)

Please note, we've added THREE new items to the **TAKE ACTION** list.

- 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) [H.R. 333, Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act](#)
- 6) [H.R. 344, Support the Women Veterans TRUST Act](#)

- 7) H.R. 914, the Dental Care for Veterans Act
- 8) Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act
- 9) S. 134/H.R. 637, the Veterans Economic Recovery Act of 2021
- 10) S. 437, Take Action for Veterans Exposed to Burn Pits
- 11) S. 89, Ensuring Survivors Benefits during COVID-19 Act of 2021
- 12) STOP TRICARE Fee Increases
- 13) Support Bills to Expand Coverage for ChampVA and TRICARE Young Adults
- 14) Veterans Economic Recovery Act Introduced
- 15) H.R. 855, the Veterans Expedited TSA Screening (VETS) Safe Travel Act
- 16) 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.
- 17) Support Repeal of TRICARE Select Enrollment Fee
- 18) HR 1585 & S 565- Provide for the treatment of Vets who participated in the cleanup of Enewetak Atoll as Radiation Exposed
- 19) Please Support S. 344, the Major Richard Star Act
- 20) Support the Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act
- 21) S. 810 & H.R. 1972, the Fair Care for Vietnam Veterans Act of 2021
- 22) HR 109 Establish an Advisory Committee on Implementation by the DVA of an electronic health record
- 23) HR 2372 and S 952 will Provide for Presumption of Service Connection for certain diseases associated with exposure to toxins
- 24) Please Ask you Senator to support S.952 the Warfighters Act
- 25) Support Improving VA Homelessness Program
- 26) S. 976, Caring for Survivors Act of 2021
- 27) H.R. 303, the Retired Pay Restoration Act
- 28) H.R. 912, American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans Mental Health Act

- 29) S. 976, the Caring for Survivors Act of 2021
- 30) HR 2269 and S 657 cover herbicide exposure in Thailand
- 31) Bipartisan Bill Introduced to Help Military Survivors
- 32) Legislation asks for Study of Involuntary Discharges for Women
- 33) H.R. 2436, the Veterans Burn Pit Exposure Recognition Act
- 34) H.R. 958—the Protecting Moms Who Served Act
- 35) HR 2127 and S 927, the TEAM bills Veterans Exposed to Toxic Substances
- 36) Ask your Senator to Support S.1520 Military Justice Improvement Act
- 37) Ask your member and senator to support HR 2580 and S 1151 to provide for a presumption of service connected disability for certain Veterans who served in Palomares, Spain, and for other purposes
- 38) HR 855, VETS Safe Travel Act
- 39) HR 3368, the Guam, American Samoa, and Johnston Island bill
- 40) H.R. 2521, Delivering Optimally Urgent Labor Access (DOULA) for Veterans Affairs Act of 2021
- 41) H.R. 1273, the Vietnam Veterans Liver Fluke Cancer Study Act
- 42) H.R. 2968, the Military and Veteran Student Loan Relief Act
- 43) H.R. 845, the VA Billing Accountability Act
- 44) Comprehensive Toxic Exposure Bill Introduced in House
- 45) HR 303 and S 1147 The Retired Pay Restoration Act
- 46) Ask Your Legislators to Support Concurrent Receipt Reform HR-1282
- 47) HR 1656 TREAT PTSD Act
- 48) S. 1664, the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Processing Claims Improvement
- 49) Please Support H.R. 3452 —Veterans Preventative Health Coverage Fairness Act
- 50) HR 2192, The Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2021

- 51) HR 5026, The Panama Canal Zone Veterans Act of 2021
- 52) HR 3368, HR 5026, HR 2269, S 657 are all Toxic Exposure Bills that need special attention and more pressure to get passed!
- 53) H.R. 4627, Veterans' Culturally Competent Care Act of 2021
- 54) S. 2172, Building Solutions for Veterans Experiencing Homelessness
- 55) H.R. 4571, the SERVICE Act of 2021
- 56) H.R. 4732, Protect Individual Unemployability Benefit for All Disabled
- 57) S. 1937, the Delivering Optimally Urgent Labor Access (DOULA) for Veterans Act of 2021
- 58) S. 2283 and H.R. 5073—the Crisis Hotline REACH for Veterans Act
- 59) HR 852 and S 221, United States - Israel PTSD Collaborative Research Act
- 60) Ask Congress to Preserve Arlington National Cemetery
- 61) HR 4949 and S 692, the Hello Girls Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2021
- 62) HR 2963, the VOW to Hire Heroes Extension Act of 2021
- 63) S 1970, The Clean Water for Military Families Act
- 64) Support S. 1198/H.R. 2819—the Solid Start Act of 2021
- 65) H.R. 3402/S. 976—Caring for Survivors Act of 2021
- 66) HR 3537 and S 1813, Accelerating Access to Critical Therapies for ALS Act
- 67) S. 2386/H.R. 4575, the Veteran Peer Specialist Act
- 68) H.R. 5721—the VIPER Act
- 69) H.R. 5607, Justice for ALS Veterans Act
- 70) HR 2601 and S 1188, SFC Heath Robinson Burn Pit Transparency Act
- 71) S. 3017, Veterans Dental Care Eligibility Expansion and Enhancement Act
- 72) HR 1361 and S 444, AUTO for Veterans Act
- 73) H.R. 4880 and S. 2720, the Veterans' Prostate Cancer Treatment and Research Act
- 74) HR 2800, the WINGMAN Act

- 75) H.R. 5944, Veterans Administration Backlog Accountability Act of 2021
- 76) HR 3400, VA Emergency Transportation Act
- 77) HR 2992, TBI and PTSD Law Enforcement Training Act
- 78) HR 6260, the Casualty Assistance Reform Act of 2021
- 79) H.R. 5819, Autonomy for Disabled Veterans Act
- 80) HR 3596, the Lawrence J. Hackett, Jr. Vietnam Veterans Agent Orange Fairness Act
- 81) H.R. 2327 – to Remove Delimiting Dates for Survivors and Dependents' Educational Assistance
- 82) S. 2513/H.R. 4772, Improved VA Clothing Allowance Benefit for Disabled Veterans
- 83) S. 3293, the Post 9-11 Veterans Mental Health Care Act of 2021
- 84) HR 6402 and S 1725, will grant a Federal charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated
- 85) HR 6659 and S 3541, the Health Care for Burn Pit Veterans Acts
- 86) H.R. 6543, Restore Veterans Compensation Act
- 87) H.R. 3967, Honoring Our PACT Act Going to House Floor for a Vote
- 88) H.R. 2916/S. 1467, the VA Medicinal Cannabis Research Act of 2021
- 89) S. 3483, Justice for ALS Veterans Act
- 90) H.R. 6273 and S.3397, the VA Zero Suicide Demonstration Project Act of 2021
- 91) HR 7050, Ernest Peltz Accrued Veterans Benefits Act
- 92) S. 3851/H.R. 7089, the Veterans Exposed to Toxic PFAS Act
- 93) S. 3854/H.R. 6823, the Elizabeth Dole Home Care Act
- 94) HR 4601 and S 2405, Commitment to Veteran Support and Outreach Act
- 95) S. 3304/H.R. 5754, the Patient Advocate Tracker Act
- 96) Please Support H.R. 7369, VENTURE Act
- 97) Please support of HR 7524, the ACES Act

- 98) HR 7589, Remove Copays Act
- 99) Support Concurrent Receipt Bills
- 100) S. 3025 and H.R. 5666, the Servicemembers and Veterans Empowerment and Support Act of 2021 to Improve the Claims Process for MST Survivors
- 101) Support S. 4156, the VA Workforce Improvement, Support, and Expansion (WISE)
- 102) Making Advances in Mammography and Medical Options (MAMMO) for Veterans
- 103) They must pass the Honoring our PACT Act NOW
- 104) HR 7048, Protect Lifesaving Anesthesia Care for Veterans Act of 2022
- 105) HR 1476, PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Program Act
- 106) S. 4223 and H.R. 7846, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) Act of 2022
- 107) HR 7158, Long-Term Care Veterans Choice Act
- 108) H.R. 3950, the Veterans Medical Legal Partnerships Act
- 109) HR 7158 and S 2852 Long-Term Care Veterans Choice Act
- 110) Honoring our PACT Act
- 111) S. 4308—Veterans Marriage Recognition Act of 2022
- 112) HR 6647 will make certain improvements relating to the eligibility
- 113) S. 4580, the Lactation Spaces for Veteran Moms Act
- 114) HR 7337, Access for Veterans to Records Act
- 115) HR 8736, the GUARD Act



Fort Bragg moves 100 soldiers from mold-plagued barracks, plans to move 1,000 more by month's end

The Army has now moved about 204 soldiers out of uninhabitable barracks in the installation's Smoke Bomb Hill area.

[Read More](#)



Olympian trades spikes for boots, enlists as an Army medic

Already serving at the rank of specialist, Noah Akwu will finish his advanced individual training at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston in Texas in October, then head north to Fort Hood.

[Read More](#)



US, South Korea wrap up their first large-scale live-fire exercise amid drill season

American and South Korean troops of the combined 2nd Infantry Division wrapped up the allies' first coordinated, division-level live-fire exercise.

[Read More](#)



988 Veterans Crisis Hotline

Veterans now have the option to Dial 988 then Press 1 to connect with caring, qualified responders for 24/7 crisis assistance. “During a crisis, every second counts,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “This new, shorter number makes it easier for veterans and those who care about them to reach lifesaving support without having to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care.” While [Dial 988 then Press 1](#) is a new option for contacting the Veterans Crisis Line, the original number, 1.800.273.8255 and press 1, remains available, and individuals can make contact via chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat or by texting 838255.



Improvements to Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry

VA is making several changes to its [Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry](#) to expand eligibility and make it easier to use. Veterans are now eligible to participate if they have deployed to one of three new locations – Syria or Uzbekistan since Sept. 11, 2001, or Egypt since August 1990. Other veterans and service members who can participate include those who deployed to the Southwest Asia theater of operations any time after Aug. 2, 1990, or Afghanistan or Djibouti on or after Sept. 11, 2001. In addition, VA is making the registry more user friendly and ensuring that veterans have the option to have an in-person health exam. [Read more.](#)



Veterans Needed for Million Veteran Program

The world's largest medical research biobank, [Million Veteran Program](#) (MVP), enrolled its 900,000th veteran and is seeking more to reach one million in the next calendar year. MVP seeks to learn how genes, lifestyles, and military exposures affect health and illness. Women veterans are encouraged to participate as they are often underrepresented in biomedical research which can leave gender-specific health questions unanswered. By contributing a blood sample to the biobank, veterans can help ensure that the research is more comprehensive. [Read more.](#)



VA Resources for Prostate Cancer Awareness

One in five veterans will develop prostate cancer. It is commonly diagnosed via a prostate specific antigen (PSA) blood test and digital rectal examination. VA recommends talking with your provider about prostate cancer [screening](#) if you are between 55-69 years old. VA utilizes [genetic testing](#) to ensure precision treatments. [Read more.](#)



Benefits for Farmers

Whether you are a seasonal or year-round farmer, [Benefits.gov](#) can be a resource for you. [Benefits.gov](#) houses information on over 40 benefits specific to agriculture and environmental sustainability. In this article, we will share programs and resources that will help you on your path to finding government benefits.

[Read More](#)



5 Student Benefit Programs You Need to Check Out!

Navigating education and the costs that come with it can be tricky but Benefits.gov is here to help. From government aid to fellowships, we cover it all! In this article, we will highlight five student programs to help you succeed!

[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





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We hope you will join us on this new site.

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Office of Inspector General

- 1) Retirement Security: Recent Efforts by Other Countries to Expand Plan Coverage and Facilitate Savings
- 2) DHS Headquarters Consolidation: Project Cost and Schedule Estimates Are Not Finalized
- 3) VA Disability: Clearer Claims Processing Guidance Needed for Selected Agent Orange Conditions



- 1) Albertsons Companies Expands Voluntary Recall of Select ReadyMeals Seafood Products Due to Undeclared Allergens
- 2) Beware of Ultraviolet (UV) Wands That Give Off Unsafe Levels of Radiation
- 3) Certain Philips Respironics BiPAP Machines Recalled Due to a Plastic Issue: FDA Safety Communication
- 4) Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Authorizes Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccines for Use as a Booster Dose
- 5) FDA Approves First Treatment for Acid Sphingomyelinase Deficiency, a Rare Genetic Disease
- 6) FDA Drug Shortages
- 7) FDA initiates the Lysosomal Diseases Pre-Consortium at the Critical Path Institute
- 8) FDA Roundup: August 30, 2022
- 9) FDA Roundup: September 2, 2022
- 10) FDA's Overdose Prevention Framework Aims to Prevent Drug Overdoses and Reduce Death
- 11) Hamilton Medical AG Recalls Hamilton-C6 Intensive Care Ventilator Due to Potential Water Ingress that May Cause Breathing Support to Stop
- 12) Integra Recalls CereLink ICP Monitor for Risk of Incorrect Intracranial Pressure Readings
- 13) Integra Recalls CereLink ICP Monitor for Risk of Incorrect Intracranial Pressure Readings
- 14) Intera Oncology Recalls Intera 3000 Hepatic Artery Infusion Pump Due to Faster Than Expected Flow Rates That May Impact Infusion Delivery
- 15) Using A Whole-Of-Governments Approach to Combating Illicit Health Products
- 16) Van Law Food Products Issues Allergy Alert on Undeclared Soy and Wheat in Product

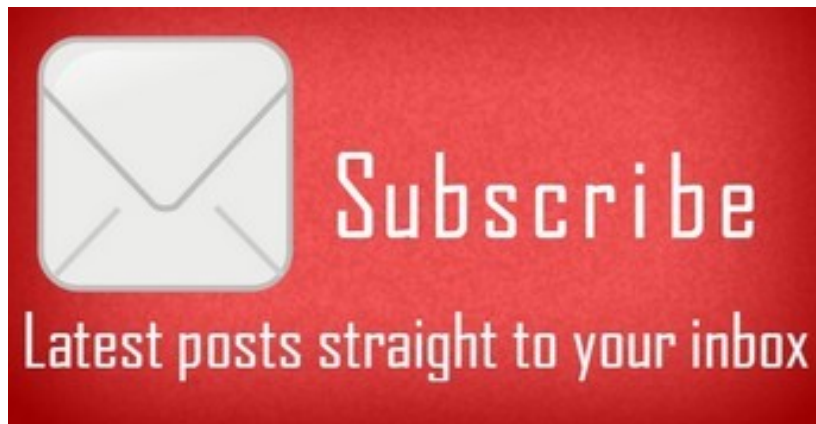




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The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced four burial

updates and six 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:

Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. David M. Lewis, 20, of Dallas, was assigned to 345th Bombardment Squadron, 98th Bombardment Group, 9th Air Force. On Aug. 1, 1943, the B-24 Liberator aircraft on which Lewis was piloting crashed as a result of anti-aircraft fire during Operation Tidal Wave. Following the war, his remains could not be identified. He will be buried in Saltillo, Texas, on a date yet to be determined. [Read about Lewis.](#)

Army Pfc. Worley D. Jacks, 21, of Rutland, Ohio, was assigned to Company L, 232nd Infantry Regiment, 42nd Infantry Division. His unit was engaged in battle with German forces near Lichtenberg, France, when he was wounded and reported missing. With no body recovered and the Germans never reporting him as a prisoner of war, on Oct. 4, 1945, the War Department declared Jacks killed in action. He will be buried in Marion, Ohio, on a date yet to be determined. [Read about Jacks.](#)

Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Donald R. Duchene, 19, of St. Paul, Minnesota, was assigned to 344th Bombardment Squadron, 98th Bombardment Group, 9th Air Force. On Aug. 1, 1943, the B-24 Liberator aircraft on which Duchene was a tail gunner crashed as a result of anti-aircraft fire during Operation Tidal Wave. Following the war, his remains could not be identified. He will be buried in Minneapolis on a date yet to be determined. [Read about Duchene.](#)

Army Pfc. Donald Hofman, 19, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was assigned to Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division. Elements of his unit were supporting five companies attempting to secure terrain near Reipertswiller, France, when they were surrounded by German forces. On Jan. 20, 1945, Hofman was killed as the surrounded

companies attempted a break-out through German lines. His body could not be recovered due to the ongoing battle. He will be buried in Byron Center, Michigan, on a date yet to be determined. [Read about Hofman.](#)

Army Air Forces Tech. Sgt. Harold Kretzer, 32, was assigned to 66th Bombardment Squadron, 44th Bombardment Group, 8th Air Force. On Aug. 1, 1943, the B-24 Liberator aircraft on which Kretzer was a gunner-engineer crashed as a result of anti-aircraft fire during Operation Tidal Wave. Following the war, his remains could not be identified. Interment services are pending. [Read about Kretzer.](#)

Army Air Force Pvt. Joseph E. Lescaut, 21, was assigned to the 16th Bombardment Squadron, 27th Bombardment Group, when Japanese forces invaded the Philippine Islands in December 1941. Intense fighting continued until the surrender of the Bataan peninsula in 1942. He was among those captured and held at the Cabanatuan POW Camp, where he reportedly died on July 26, 1942, and was buried. Interment services are pending. [Read about Lescaut.](#)

Army Sgt. Alfred H. Sidney, 23, was assigned to Company H, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on May 18, 1951, after his unit was attacked near Hangye, South Korea. Repatriated POWs reported he had been captured and held as a prisoner of war at Camp #1, where he died in July 1951. Interment services are pending. [Read about Sidney.](#)

Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Howard L. Dickson, 30, was assigned to 328th Bombardment Squadron, 93rd Bombardment Group, 9th Air Force. On Aug. 1, 1943, the B-24 Liberator aircraft on which Dickson was a gunner and instructor crashed as a result of anti-aircraft fire during Operation Tidal Wave. Following the war, his

remains could not be identified. Interment services are pending.

[Read about Dickson.](#)

Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. John F. Minogue, 24, was assigned to 328th Bombardment Squadron, 93rd Bombardment Group, 9th Air Force. On Aug. 1, 1943, the B-24 Liberator aircraft on which Minogue was the co-pilot crashed as a result of anti-aircraft fire during Operation Tidal Wave. Following the war, his remains could not be identified. Interment services are pending. [Read about Minogue.](#)

Army Master Sgt. Merritt L. Wynn, 31, was assigned to Company K, 3rd Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. On Nov. 26, 1950, he was reported as missing in action while fighting with the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces east of Unsan, North Korea. As Wynn's body was not recovered nor was he listed as a prisoner of war, he was declared nonrecoverable on Jan. 16, 1956. He was posthumously awarded the Silver Star. Interment services are pending. [Read about Wynn.](#)



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