



Veterans-For-Change Newsletter

A Voice of the Veterans

Good evening everyone,

I'd like to first apologize for my tardiness in getting this edition of the VFC Newsletter out!

I now can truly say I now understand what those of you who are dealing with cancer are going through, and

For me, I was diagnosed with malignant and very aggressive Squamous Cell cancer last November. And a

Finally after my arguing with them and my two oncology doctors and my ENT surgeon all diving into the pic

They did approve medical treatments but both were between 120 and 160 miles round trip and when the in

Finally they re-assigned me to two locations one is six miles away and the other is 14 miles away.

So no matter what they will do as they damn well please in an effort to save money, the heck with your hea

And that's how I see the VA operates as well! Delay, Deny, Stall, and the hell with your health, saving mon

But this has been an issue that not only VFC but many other organizations nationwide continue to fight for

All I can do as always is participate in the TAKE ACTION section! I now some maybe all items listed don't p
they will return to help you as well.

I know I'm beating a horse to death, but you can't imagine how important all issues are and why I continue

I don't know how many have noticed, but some changes have been made to the VFC Website!

Kristijan has been working is tail off in re-writing code, making adjustments, modifications and there are mc

The Contact Us Page is working now, but for the non-subscriber the contact information hasn't yet been ad

The libraries now have a much cleaner looking download list with cleaner looking information document by
FAQ's also has a "Search" feature that too had been recently added since there are so many it does help n
And I am hoping by June we will have a whole face lift with a cleaner and more crisp all new design. But th
If you have any ideas or thoughts, please do share them with us and we will certainly look at them and see
I was recently asked about the stats in last weeks newsletter, I do apologize I wasn't very clear, those stats
But as a constant reminder, please stay home as much as possible, use hand sanitizer, clean all working s
We all need to be mindful of our own health as well as those around us!

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

TREA is concerned that a "significant" number of disabled veterans and surviving family members may not

The concern is for disabled or low-income veterans and surviving family members who receive monthly cor

The Internal Revenue Service is using the addresses or direct deposit information on file from 2018 or 2019

Congress approved a \$2 trillion stimulus package March 27. The legislation provides direct payments of \$1
\$2,400. Families will receive an additional \$500 per child.

In an attempt to assure disabled veterans and family members get their checks, TREA joined others in sen
Security Administration. **The letter stated the payments should go to veterans automatically, without r**

Please contact your Representatives and urge them to take corrective action now to require paymen

(Washington, D.C.)--On April 7, the Department of Veterans Affairs informed Veterans Service Organizatio
to the Veterans

to the veteran.

"While every other governmental body in the nation is working hard to ensure that Americans are spared u
President.

"That's why we're asking for President Trump's immediate intervention to reverse this recent VA decision tl

"Our Veteran Service Officers routinely find errors during this 48-hour window, which allows them to work v
experiences suicidal thoughts."

Correcting an improper negative decision before it is received by the Veteran protects the Veteran from ha
valued by the country they served.

"The President said last week at his daily COVID-19 Taskforce press conference 'We're making every effo

It seems to be part of a trend towards non-transparency. It seems to be in keeping with the recent revised r

Commander J. B. Wells U. S. Navy (Retired)
Attorney at Law
Chairman of the Board and Director of Litigation
Military-Veterans Advocacy, Inc.

1. [West Virginia woman sues VA over Vet father's mistaken insulin injection that led to his death](#)
2. [Federal Taxes on Veterans' Disability or Military Retirement Pensions](#)
3. [First Veteran coronavirus case confirmed by Trump's VA secretary](#)
4. [Religious Insignia on Dog Tags Act would allow optional privately-produced jewelry to include both offici](#)
5. [Lubbock man whose remains left unclaimed might be a Vietnam War Veteran](#)
6. [To help stem the tide of Veteran suicides, VA must stop turning away patients](#)
7. [Vietnam, Gulf War Vets Get One Step Closer to New Benefit](#)
8. [First Veteran tests positive for coronavirus, VA leaders say they have space to care for more](#)
9. [COVID-19 Information and Recent Legislation](#)
10. [AHA News: What Heart Patients Should Know About Coronavirus](#)
11. [VA memo reminds staffers they can be fired for marijuana use](#)
12. [What's killing Staff Sergeant Wesley Black? The VA doesn't want to talk about it](#)
13. [VA spending plan turns into election year political fight](#)
14. ['Fantasy budget': House Democrats push back on VA spending request](#)
15. [US Marine in Virginia tests positive for coronavirus](#)
16. [US Navy sailor tests positive for coronavirus in Italy](#)
17. [Vets, personnel will be screened for coronavirus before entering VA facilities](#)
18. [DoD makes plans to combat Coronavirus](#)
19. [VA is ready for coronavirus — and working to protect you](#)
20. ['Afraid and overwhelmed': A look inside one hospital on the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic](#)
21. [VA nursing homes to stop visitations, new admissions amid coronavirus, except in special cases](#)
22. [Is your military household ready for the coronavirus?](#)
23. [MSNBC's Joy Reid tweets about reports coronavirus spending bill included Hyde Amendment loophole](#)
24. [Chinese Official Says US Army May Have 'Brought the Epidemic to Wuhan'](#)
25. [China hints at denying Americans life-saving coronavirus drugs](#)

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

On Monday, VA announced, in a policy memorandum, that veterans impacted by COVID-19 are eligible for higher-level review, the submission of additional evidence, and attendance at a hearing or a compensation hearing. “The process VA has established does not guarantee an extension will be granted.” The VFW continues to reschedule your appointment. [Find a VFW-accredited Service Officer near you.](#)

The Veterans-For-Change website has been around since 2009. The looks pretty much stay the same, but

There are still repairs being made, but the polls are now working 100% and there are five polls open

Constant improvement and change is being done to make our website the most user friendly “**One-Stop-Service**”

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

We average **3,723** hits per day, and downloads average **5,212** per day with a total **6,087,911** visitors as of

If you subscribe you will have full access to the entire website and best of all it’s **FREE of charge!** You just

- Documents Library with over **18,650** documents in 171+ Libraries, added **1** documents on-line (Updated: 08/29/19)
- FAQ's on-line with **1,790** FAQ's on 101 topics! (Updated 08/29/19 - 128 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: 02/26/18) (115 Added)
- News (Articles On-Line: **9,644**)
- Polls
- Web Links, more than **7,461**, Added **55** New Links (Updated: **04/02/20**)

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

On Tuesday, VA announced, in a memorandum, that it will rescind its policy of permitting accredited service officers (VSOs), attorneys are not permitted to review claims decisions within the 48-hours preceding claims for accuracy to ensure that all claims were properly evaluated and are free from error prior to a veter

Below are links to all currently active pre-written E-Mails to many pieces of legislation. We ask that you go

You don't need to be Active Duty or a Veteran, in fact we ask all Veteran friends to also help!

1. [Allow Active Duty to Sue Military for Medical Malpractice \(H.R. 2422\)](#)
2. [Urge Congress to Pass the Retired Pay Restoration Act](#)
3. [Protect Bankrupt Disabled Veterans from Losing Benefits](#)
4. [S. 2966, the Rural Veterans Travel Enhancement Act of 2019](#)
5. [S. 1003, VET OPP Act to Reform VA Employment Programs](#)
6. [H.R. 4574 - Pass the Veterans' Right to Breathe Act Now!](#)
7. [S. 2810, the Veterans Hearing Benefits Act of 2019](#)
8. [Support H.R.4985, the Veterans Residential Care Choice Act](#)
9. [New Concurrent Receipt Bills Introduced!](#)
10. [STOP Downsizing of Military Treatment facilities](#)
11. [Support H.R. 5610 and S. 3444 to add Agent Orange Presumptives](#)
12. [Temporarily Waive TRICARE Mail Order Campaign](#)
13. [Need Your Help on Recovery Rebate Checks](#)
14. [Put In Stimulus Bill a Waiver of Mail Order Cessus During Pandemic](#)

The VFW wants its members and supporters to be careful of scams that target TRICARE beneficiaries regarding [Prevention](#) (CDC), your medical provider is the only one who can determine if you need testing. So be sure numbers. “If someone you are unfamiliar with requests your personally identifiable information, immediately

As an update to last week's NewsBytes story, the FRA is working to include the TRICARE pharmacy home which includes retirees, active duty service members and their families, as well as the pharmacy staff. With

The pharmacy copay structure strongly incentivizes beneficiaries to fill prescriptions in-person at MTF pharmacy medication filled through TRICARE's mail-order pharmacy service. This copayment structure creates a strong mail-order pharmacy during the public health emergency.

Currently there is ongoing negotiations on provisions in the next stimulus bill. Once there is agreement, the ensure beneficiaries are not exposed to COVID-19 and don't experience unexpected costs for medications

The Defense Health Agency has issued a warning that while medical professionals in the U.S. and overseas scam. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, your medical provider is the only one

- A fever.
- A cough.
- Shortness of breath.

Other risk factors include:

- If you've come into contact with someone known to have COVID-19.
- If you recently traveled to a CDC confirmed infected region.

The people involved in the COVID-19 testing scam are looking to steal personal information from beneficiaries [Program Integrity Office](#). Also, report it to the TRICARE regional contractor. (<https://www.tricare.mil/About>

For more information about TRICARE and COVID-19, visit the [TRICARE coronavirus page](#). For the latest

Follow us on MEWE! The support staff at MEWE is responsive, open to suggestions and works very hard to

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

Last week, Senate offices sent a letter to Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie requesting that he us could aggravate all service-connected disabilities. [Read more.](#)

The Acting Secretary of the Navy Thomas B. Modly has resigned after the backlash of him relieving the C: if they weren't swiftly evacuated from the virus-infected aircraft carrier. The acting SecNav suggested the c

Secretary of Defense Mark Esper released a letter explaining the resignation of the acting SecNav and app McPherson will serve as acting Secretary of the Navy until a permanent Navy Secretary is confirmed.

SecDef Esper's letter notes that he briefed President Trump and that the Chief of Naval Operations, Admir: completed.

VA released a tip sheet on “Caregiver Support Program Information for Caregivers During COVID-19.” During the pandemic, VA provides program resources. Remain connected with family, friends, clergy, and other caregivers through the phone.

The Pentagon recently tightened its policy on face masks to help stop the spread of the novel coronavirus, and other diseases. It does not apply to a service member's home on a military base. Defense Secretary Esper claims that

DOD has received many questions regarding childcare for military families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many families with COVID-19 and are no longer able to care for their children. To address these concerns, the team at MI

The FRA, and several other organizations, have dispatched a letter to key lawmakers (Chairmen and Ranking members), retirees, their families and vital medical staff.

Military Treatment Facility (MTF) pharmacies are high-traffic areas. They are often congested with beneficiaries, becoming even busier and more congested than normal. This is exactly the opposite of effective social distancing.

The TRICARE pharmacy co-pay structure strongly incentivizes beneficiaries to fill prescriptions in-person rather than medication filled through TRICARE's mail-order pharmacy service. This copayment structure creates a barrier to payments for use of TRICARE's mail-order pharmacy during the public health emergency.

The Military Health System, in response to the current COVID-19 outbreak, announced that MTFs and pharmacies. Those decisions will be based on ensuring the health, safety, and security of patients, staff and beneficiaries.

You are strongly urged to go to [FRA Action Center](#) to weigh in on this important issue.

1. [Maternal Mortality: Trends in Pregnancy-Related Deaths and Federal Efforts to Reduce Them](#)
2. [Science & Tech Spotlight: CRISPR Gene Editing](#)
3. [FDA Drug Approval: Application Review Times Largely Reflect FDA Goals](#)

The U.S. Navy aircraft carrier, USS Theodore Roosevelt has a growing outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) first known among the Navy's active duty force. Later in the week, three more sailors tested positive. The infection has spread to almost 2,000 more will be off by in the next 24 hours.

Acting Navy Secretary Thomas Modly and Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Mike Gilday announced the outbreak.

In related news, the USNS Mercy was deployed to Los Angeles and the USNS Comfort was deployed to Norfolk. The risk of infection is anticipated to increase.

President Trump signed into law (P.L. 116-128) legislation (S.3503), sponsored by Senate Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Dan Claitor. Under the instruction, the VA determined those students should receive the "online only" housing rate, which is significant. The law was signed into law by the President.

The DOD Financial Readiness Program website now has a COVID-19 landing page with financial resource state. [Learn more.](#)

LOS ANGELES – The California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) today announced a resident of th

“My thoughts are with our resident and his family as we pray for a full recovery,” said CalVet Secretary Vitc
work closely with county, state, and federal health officials to mitigate the spread.”

CalVet is following all protocols and is coordinating with the Los Angeles County Department of Health as
including staff, who may have come in contact with the resident. In addition to all county, state and federal

“We are doing everything possible to continue to protect our other veterans and their spouses, along with o

On March 31, CalVet announce that two staff members at its Redding home had tested positive for COVID

Due to the sensitive and dynamic nature of this public health situation, we ask our partners in the media to

Stay informed: www.covid19.ca.gov.

Background: On Sunday, March 15, 2020 CalVet began restricting all visitation to the homes except to tho
increased the cleaning and sanitizing of all spaces. CalVet has isolation areas in every home and all home

Each of CalVet’s eight veterans homes has a dedicated phone line to address calls from family members a

SACRAMENTO – The California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) today announced that additional
respective veterans homes. In addition, a staff member at the West L.A. home has tested positive and is is

The total number of confirmed COVID-19 positive cases in the Redding home is now one resident and three
“Our entire CalVet family wishes these residents and employees a speedy and full recovery,” said CalVet’s
employees are doing a remarkable job and we will continue to do all we can to prevent the spread of this vi

CalVet is following all protocols and is coordinating with the California Department of Public Health and the
with the cases. CalVet staff have already moved some residents who have had contact with these COVID-
have ample supplies of sanitizers, gloves, and masks.

Each of CalVet’s eight veterans homes has a dedicated phone line to address calls from
family members and to make sure they can check on their loved one and get up-to-date
information. The homes have also assisted with video calls between residents and their
loved ones.

In addition to all county, state and federal directives, CalVet staff follows the Veterans Homes of California’s

Stay informed: www.covid19.ca.gov.

On Monday, VA announced, in a policy memorandum, that veterans impacted by COVID-19 are eligible for higher-level review, the submission of additional evidence, and attendance at a hearing or a compensation review. “The process VA has established does not guarantee an extension will be granted.” The VFW continues to reschedule your appointment. [Find a VFW-accredited Service Officer near you.](#)

On Tuesday, VA announced, in a memorandum, that it will rescind its policy of permitting accredited service officers (VSOs), attorneys are not permitted to review claims decisions within the 48-hour period preceding a claim for accuracy to ensure that all claims were properly evaluated and are free from error prior to a veteran's appeal.

The VFW wants its members and supporters to be careful of scams that target TRICARE beneficiaries regarding COVID-19. For more information on COVID-19, visit [Prevention](#) (CDC), your medical provider is the only one who can determine if you need testing. So be sure to call the numbers. “If someone you are unfamiliar with requests your personally identifiable information, immediately

Last week, Senate offices sent a letter to Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie requesting that he us could aggravate all service-connected disabilities. [Read more.](#)

VA released a tip sheet on “Caregiver Support Program Information for Caregivers During COVID-19.” Dur program resources. Remain connected with family, friends, clergy, and other caregivers through the phone

DOD has received many questions regarding childcare for military families during the COVID-19 pandemic with COVID-19 and are no longer able to care for their children. To address these concerns, the team at Mi

The DOD Financial Readiness Program website now has a COVID-19 landing page with financial resource stale. [Learn more.](#)

The Military Health System is working to meet the health care demands of COVID-19. You can help by sta

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

To keep up with self-distancing practices due to COVID-19, you should strongly consider rescheduling cert health care.

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

1. [IRS extends deadline for 2021 Taxpayer Advocacy Panel applications, adds new members for the 2020](#)
2. [IRS: Employee Retention Credit available for many businesses financially impacted by COVID-19](#)
3. [IRS issues warning about Coronavirus-related scams; watch out for schemes tied to economic impact p](#)
4. [Economic impact payments: What you need to know](#)
- 5.

[Follow IRS on social media, sign up for e-news subscriptions for urgent updates on COVID-19, scams and

6. [IRS urges taxpayers to use electronic options; outlines online assistance](#)
7. [IRS provides guidance under the CARES Act to taxpayers with net operating losses](#)
8. [IRS extends more tax deadlines to cover individuals, trusts, estates corporations and others](#)

If you received this newsletter as a courtesy or a forward from a friend or relative, you can sign up to receive

This is timely. I especially relate to the role reversal of old and young folks;

2019: Stay away from negative people.

2020: Stay away from positive people.

The world has turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house, and their kids are yelling at the

You think it's bad now? In 20 years our country will be run by people home schooled by day drinkers...

This virus has done what no woman had been able to do...

Cancel all sports, shut down all bars, and keep men at home!!!

Do not call the police on suspicious people in your neighborhood!

Those are your neighbors without makeup and hair extensions!

Since we can't eat out, now's the perfect time to eat better, get fit, and stay healthy.

We're quarantined! Who are we trying to impress? We have snacks, we have sweatpants – I say use them

Day 7 at home and the dog is looking at me like, "See? This is why I chew the furniture!"

Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands???

I never thought the comment “I wouldn’t touch him/her with a 6 foot pole” would become a national policy, k

Me: Son what’s the weather this weekend? Son: It doesn’t matter – you’re not going anywhere.

Can everyone please just follow the government instructions so we can knock out this coronavirus and be

I feel like a school kid who keeps losing more recess time because one or two kids can’t follow directions.

I swear my fridge just said “what the hell do you want now?”

When this is over...what meeting do I attend first...Weight Watchers or AA?

Quarantine has turned us into dogs. We roam the house all day looking for food.

We are told “no” if we get too close to strangers.

And we get really excited about car rides.

SOURCE: Paul Sutton

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced two new identifications, and one burial update for s

Army Pvt. Wayne M. Evans, 21, was a member of Battery G, 59th Coast Artillery Regiment, when Japanese Interment services are pending. [Read about Evans.](#)

Marine Corps Sgt. Donald D. Stoddard, 22, was a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Reg
M... 00 1010... [Read about Stoddard.](#)

NOV. 22, 1943. Interment services are pending. [Head about Stoddard.](#)

Army Cpl. Ralph L. Cale, 19, of Covington, Virginia, was a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 32nd Inf attack and he was not reported as a prisoner of war. Cale will be buried Aug. 14, 2020, at Arlington Nation:

Plea:

