

Base Cleveland Veteran News

Friday, January 26, 2018

Prepared and distributed to Veterans and supporters of those who served



Special Events

Holiday Wreath-Pickup Volunteers

Needed: The Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery Wreath Pickup. Volunteers are requested to assist with wreath removal at the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery. The staff are hopeful that many volunteers will come and assist with the pickup.

January 27, 2018 at 10 AM. 10175 Rawiga Road, Seville, Ohio. Contact Mark D. Polen, Cemetery Director at telephone 330 335 3069

Invitation: JVCOC 93rd Anniversary Luncheon

You are invited the Joint Veterans Council of Cuyahoga County's Officers Installation and Veteran of the Year Award, scheduled for Saturday, February 17, 2018 at the Embassy Suites Cleveland-Independence Hotel at 5800 Rockside Woods Blvd., Independence, OH. The event will begin at 12 noon, preceded by a social hour at 11 AM.

For ticket information, check Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rs-jvcoc-feb-17-2018-officer-installation-and-veteran-of-the-year-award-luncheon-tickets-30701302422?aff=es2>

Attention: Women Veterans

Save the Date: Join us for the Inaugural Women Veterans Resource Expo Friday, March 2, 2018 at Cuyahoga Community College Easter Campus. Visit www.tri-c.edu/womenveteransexpo to reserve your spot.

Subscribe to the VA

Official Blog of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
<https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/subscribe/>

Cleveland Veterans Administration: calendar of events

<https://www.cleveland.va.gov/calendar.asp>

News

AMVETS says NFL censored its ad against flag protests

WASHINGTON — AMVETS officials are decrying “corporate censorship” from the National Football League for their decision not to run an ad in their Super Bowl program which responds to league players’ decision to kneel for the national anthem in protest of national equality issues.

The ad, which would have cost the veterans organization \$30,000, features the tag “#PleaseStand” with a picture of service members saluting the American flag and information on how to donate to the congressionally-chartered organization.

<http://www.armytimes.com/news/2018/01/22/amvets-says-nfl-censored-its-ad-against-flag-protests/>

RAO Bulletin Update 15 January 2018 - Veterans Resources

<http://www.veteransresources.org/2018/01/rao-bulletin-update-15-january-2018/>

Former Fitzgerald, McCain COs Face Negligent Homicide, Dereliction of Duty Charges Over Fatal Collisions

The commanders of the two guided-missile destroyers that were involved in fatal collisions with merchant ships in 2017 will face military criminal charges that include dereliction of duty, hazarding a vessel and negligent homicide, after the two incidents that resulted in the death of 17 sailors total <https://news.usni.org/2018/01/16/former-fitzgerald-mccain-cos-face-negligent-homicide-dereliction-duty-charges-fatal-collisions>

At 90, lesbian Air Force veteran finally gets her honorable discharge

Military Times: The notice came via FedEx to Airman 2nd Class Helen Grace James' door Jan. 17, but she couldn't open it. She waited until two friends could come and open it for her. It was good news. Her "general discharge under honorable conditions" had been upgraded to "honorable." "I'm still trying to process it," James, 90, told Air Force Times. James received an "undesirable" discharge on March 3, 1955, after several "stressful" months of being watched and followed at the Roslyn Air Force Base in New York.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/2018/01/23/at-90-lesbian-air-force-veteran-finally-get-her-honorable-discharge/>

Closing time: Report shows VA loans take longest ... but not by much

Military Times: The notion that VA loans take longer to close than other mortgage products has become a popular one: Asked about what myths needed busting in the VA loan process, a top official counted the supposed closing delay as tops on his list. He's not alone. Real-estate agent and Army veteran Juanita Charles, who serves an area near Kentucky's Fort Campbell, said she's often told that "a buyer using a VA loan will be harder to get closed, and takes longer." "The truth is," Charles said, "you can close a

<https://www.militarytimes.com/home-hq/2018/01/23/closing-time-report-shows-va-loans-take-longest-but-not-by-much/>

News from the Ohio National Guard

<http://ong.ohio.gov/BuckeyeGuard.html>.

Seeking Applicants for the Ohio Women Veterans Advisory Committee

The Ohio Department of Veterans Services is seeking applicants for the Ohio Women Veterans Advisory Committee. ODVS wants to hear from women with military backgrounds who can provide leadership and insight. Let your voice be heard.

For more information: <http://dvs.ohio.gov/main/monthly-newsletter-2018-winter-edition.html>

POW/MIA UPDATE: January 2018

http://www.veteransresources.org/2018/01/pow-mia-update-january-7-2018/?utm_source=Feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Veterans+Resources+Feed#.WIUPZ.0o7IU

Navy Week 2018

From Springfield, Massachusetts to Sacramento, California, to Bossier City, Louisiana, America's Navy will sail into 14 cities across the country in 2018 as part of the Navy Week outreach program.

Navy Weeks, coordinated by the Navy Office of Community Outreach (NAVCO), are designed to give Americans the opportunity to learn about the Navy, its people and its importance to national security and prosperity. Since 2005, the Navy Week program has served as the Navy's flagship outreach effort into areas of the country without a significant Navy presence, with 210 Navy Weeks held in 74 different U.S. markets.

Navy Weeks are scheduled for the following cities in 2018:

- San Antonio, Feb. 19-25
- Waco, Texas, April 2-8
- Birmingham, Alabama, April 9-15
- Tampa, Florida, May 7-13
- Chattanooga, Tennessee, June 11-17
- Reno/Carson City, Nevada, June 17-23
- Sacramento, California, July 16-22
- Fargo, North Dakota, July 23-29
- Milwaukee, Aug. 6-12
- Louisville, Kentucky, Aug. 20-26
- Cleveland, Aug. 27-Sep. 2
- Albuquerque, New Mexico, Sep. 10-16
- Springfield, Massachusetts, Sep. 17-23
- Bossier City/Shreveport, Louisiana, Oct. 29-Nov. 4

http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=103650

Did you know..... Over 16 million Americans served in the military during World War II, with 405,399 killed in action and 671,278 wounded. Of those 16 million who served, just 558,000 are still alive at the end of 2017.

Volunteerism

Here are some great opportunities to put your military experiences to work benefiting others in need.

- **National Park Service Volunteer Opportunities**

Make a vital contribution to Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) and our community! You can help the park fulfill its mission to provide visitor enjoyment and preserve resources. The mission of CVNP's Volunteers-in-Parks Program is to engage people in the park, building a community of park stewards. The volunteer program is co-managed by the National Park Service and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Depending on the volunteer position, volunteers will work with staff from National Park Service, the Conservancy for CVNP, Countryside Conservancy, and Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad.

<https://www.nps.gov/cuva/getinvolved/volunteer.htm>

<https://www.conservancyforcvnp.org/experience/volunteer/>

- The **American Red Cross'** unwavering commitment to members of the U.S. military, its veterans and their families continues to grow and develop more than a century after Clara Barton first recruited nurses to support the U.S. Army. Today, the Red Cross is meeting the needs of a

changing military and expanding services to veterans. Red Cross support of military members and their families enhances morale and contributes to increased operational capability in several ways. New volunteers: visit <https://redcross.org/neo> Click on “volunteer” tab.

- **Cleveland Municipal Court’s Veterans Treatment Docket** needs volunteers – preferably military veterans to help Veterans transition to a successful life. If you are interested in volunteering to help our veterans successfully re-enter civilian life, please contact Derek Moore at (216) 664-4712 or via email at moored@cmcoh.org for additional information.
- **Needed: ‘A few good mentors’: The Cuyahoga Common Pleas Veteran Treatment Court (VTC)** is a judge-monitored treatment program for military veterans. A key component of the program is volunteer Veteran Mentors who volunteer their time to help veterans re-adapt to civilian life. For more information visit: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1NiwCZ_V-9iTF8wYXhqcF4yWm8/view?usp=sharing

Employment Opportunities / Links

Department of Veterans Affairs Link with the VA on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/VeteransAffairs/>

City of Cleveland <http://www.city.cleveland.oh.us/CityofCleveland/Home/Community/CareerCenter>

Veteran Job Search Assistance: If you know a Veteran or Military Spouse who could benefit from FREE, UNLIMITED job search coaching, please have them visit www.gunnyret.com to schedule a “First Call”.

Ohio National Guard Employment Enhancement

Support: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B6KQApfHm1pGbnByRGITNEHyUIU/view?usp=sharing>

Free, Unlimited Military Veteran Job Search Coaching: provided by www.gunnyret.com

VA JOBS Home: <http://www.va.gov/jobs/>

Ohio.gov: <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/ohio/default.cfm?clearSearch=1>

USAJobs: <https://www.usajobs.gov/Veterans>

MilitaryJobs.com: <http://www.military.com/veteran-jobs>

Ohio Federal Government Jobs: <http://federalgovernmentjobs.us/job-location/ohio-oh.html>

Stars and Stripes; Veteran Job Center: <http://veteranjobs.stripes.com/>

USERRA: The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) protects service members' reemployment rights when returning from a period of service in the uniformed services, including those called up from the reserves or National Guard, and prohibits employer discrimination based on military service or obligation. The U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) administers USERRA

- Link to DOJ USERRA website: <http://www.justice.gov/crt/military/statute.htm>
- Link to the DOJ website: http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra/userra_fs.htm

Information Links

Cuyahoga County Suicide Postvention Response Team: For additional information, contact Coordinator Pete Bliss of the Cuyahoga County Suicide Postvention Response Team at [216-509-3594](tel:216-509-3594) or suicide_response@outlook.com

USS COD Submarine Memorial: <http://USSCOD.org>

Vietnam Wall <http://thewall-usa.com/names.asp>

Ohio Western Reserve Military Cemetery
<https://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/ohiowesternreserve.asp>

National Cemetery Administration Gravesite Locator <http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/>

Military Veteran Service Records <https://www.archives.gov/veterans>

Military Veterans' Travel Guide – Ideas, Discounts, & Resources

<https://upgradedpoints.com/military-veterans-travel-guide/>

Welcome to MyVA.COM. . . getting it right from the start

Enrolling for VA care is a life-changing decision for Veterans. Choosing your health care provider is a leap of faith that will impact your entire life. “Welcome to MyVA” (W2MyVA) starts that relationship right with a welcoming call from an informed, service-oriented VA representative.

<http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/30277/welcome-myva-getting-right-start/>

Dental Care Resources for Veterans: <https://www.emergencydentistsusa.com/dental-care-resources-for-veterans/>

Cleveland American Veterans Association: <http://www.cava4vets.org/>

Veteran Service Commission Meetings – are open to the public. The Commissioners encourage members of the Veteran Community to come and see how the Cuyahoga County Veteran Commission works and the benefits available to our Veterans. The meetings are held at the Commission offices at 1849 Prospect Avenue, Suite 150, Cleveland, Ohio 44115 at 9:30 AM the first and third Wednesday of each month.

Free Parking: The Veterans Service Commission reserved parking spaces in the lot just East of our building (on Prospect Avenue). The lot has signs posted noting they belong to the Veterans Service Commission. This will allow veterans to park for free.

Peer Advisors for Veteran Education: Representatives from more than 40 colleges and universities have come together to learn ways to support student Veterans who face two significant changes simultaneously: transitioning from the military to civilian life and the transition from the military to academia. Neither of these is easy. Read more at www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/29879/new-va-partnership-expands-power-of-peer-support-among-student-veterans/

Get connected with V.E.T.S Program: The Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater Cleveland is sponsoring a series of job preparedness, career development, financial literacy and computer training workshops. The program is designed to help veterans overcome barriers in order to transition from military life, prepare to compete for jobs in the civilian labor force.

The VETS Program is in collaboration with the Manufacturing Advocacy & Growth Network (MAGNET), Cuyahoga Valley Careers Center, and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) Veterans Program

Read it here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1NiwCZ_V-9iQzJERUUwdThPaG8/view?usp=sharing

VAntage Point: the official blog of the U.S. Department of Veterans

Affairs: <http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/subscribe/>

311VET - new app answers general VA benefits questions

<http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/23378/311vet-new-app-answers-general-va-benefits-questions/>

Cuyahoga Community College Veteran Upward Bound Program: Since 1973, VUB has provided comprehensive educational support services to eligible U.S. military veterans interested in pursuing a college degree or certificate. Services include academic enrichment classes, math and English tutors, assistance with applying for federal student aid, and transition into a college or university of their choice. All services are **no cost** to the veteran. For information call 216-987-4938 or visit www.Tri-C.edu/vub

Amputee Recreational Support Group of Central Ohio: <http://www.arsgcoh.org/> regularly schedules recreational activities for amputees – Veterans and non-Veterans, including Yoga for Amputees, shooting events, and recreational swimming. For more information, contact Robert Hass at (614) 288-5105 or Amputee@columbus.rr.com

Department of Defense Media Center: <http://www.dma.mil/>

Veterans Business Support Center: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1NiwCZ_V-9iS0NiUjQ3cnFLTE0/view?usp=sharing

Ohio National Guard Employer Advisory Council: The ONG Employer Advisory Council was developed to provide military-friendly employers with useful resources and guidance to help them success with military retention and recruitment initiatives. https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1NiwCZ_V-9ibUNOOG02S2gybWc/view?usp=sharing

Columbus Honor Flight: www.honorflightcolumbus.org

Honor Flight Cleveland: www.honorflightcleveland.com

Veterans Crisis Line: 1 800 273 8255

Women of Hope, Inc: www.womenofhopeoh.org

Chase Bank Support for Veterans: www.ChaseMilitary.com

Justice for Veterans: <http://www.justiceforvets.org/>

Google for Veterans: <http://www.googleforveterans.com/>

Military Memorabilia Donations: www.ohiohistory.org/militarycall

Ohio Veterans Memorial Park: <http://www.ovmp.org/>

Cold War Recognition Certificate: the Cold War Recognition Certificate is a recognition certificate awarded by the [Secretary of Defense](#) to all [U.S. Armed Forces](#) personnel and qualified federal government civilian personnel who faithfully and honorably served the United States anytime during the [Cold War](#) era, which is defined as September 2, 1945 to December 26, 1991. Anyone who served in the military or the Federal Government during this period is authorized to receive the certificate.

Congress established the Cold War certificate in Section 1084 of the fiscal 1998 National Defense Authorization Act. The Department of Defense designated the Department of the Army as the executive agent for the Cold War Recognition Certificate program. <http://usmilitary.about.com/cs/genmedals/ht/coldwar.htm>

Veteran Resources: <http://www.veteransresources.org/>

Cleveland VA Regional Benefit Office: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/cleveland/>

VetBiz.gov Home: <http://www.vetbiz.gov/>

Joint Veterans Council of Cuyahoga County: www.jvcooc.org

Equal Honor for All: www.equalhonor.org

Greater Cleveland Fisher House: The Goal of the Greater Cleveland Fisher House Organization is to raise \$7,000,000 for the construction of a Fisher House (there are currently 62 houses in operation across the US, Germany, and England) that will be located on the grounds of the Louis Stokes VA Hospital in Cleveland, the third largest VA hospital in the US. <http://greaterclevelandfisherhouse.org/>

Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical

Center: <http://www.cleveland.va.gov/?wvsessionid=fe802c6620da402484b74ac24a5f1650>

Greater Cleveland Veterans (GCV) Memorial: www.clevelandvetmemorial.org

GCV Honor Roll: The Citizens of Cuyahoga County have served the nation well, and paid a heavy price. When America needed defenders the men and women of Greater Cleveland have answered the call. From 1899 to 2014, a span of 115 years, 5,552 patriots of the county have fallen in military service during time of war. Search the honor roll: <http://www.clevelandvetmemorial.org/GCV-honor-roll-search.asp>

My HealtheVet: www.myhealth.va.gov

Rewards for Justice Website: The Rewards for Justice program continues to be one of the most valuable U.S. Government assets in the fight against international terrorism. Established by the 1984 Act to Combat International Terrorism, Public Law 98-533, the Program is administered by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Diplomatic Security. <http://www.rewardsforjustice.net/english/most-wanted/all-regions.html>

Locating Veterans and Service Members: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/locate-service-members.html>

National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics: <http://www.va.gov/vetdata/>

Military News: www.military.com

The American Legion: <http://www.legion.org/>

Veterans of Foreign Wars USA: <http://www.vfw.org/>

Stars and Stripes Veterans Link: <http://www.stripes.com/news/veterans>

Air Force Times: <http://www.airforcetimes.com/>

Army Times: <http://www.armytimes.com/>

Marine Corps Times: <http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/>

Navy Times: <http://www.navytimes.com/>

Defense News: <http://www.defensenews.com/>

Veterans Benefits Administration: <http://www.vba.va.gov/>

GI Bill website: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/>

Explore VA Benefits: www.explore.VA.gov

Ohio VFW: <http://www.ohiovfw.org/>

Ohio Legion News: <http://ohiolegionnews.com/>

National Marine Corp Business Network: <http://www.nmcbn.com/>