



Base Cleveland Veteran News

Tuesday, January 1, 2019

Prepared and distributed to Veterans and supporters of those who served

SPECIAL EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE:

- **Joint Veterans Annual Luncheon – Saturday, Feb 23, 2018.**
Read more [here](#).
- **National Veterans Memorial & Museum in Columbus, Ohio**
For more go to: <https://clecityhall.files.wordpress.com/2018/09/nvmm-dedication-and-grand-opening.pdf>
- **Ohio Department of Veteran Services Seeks Veteran & Military Artists for Fall Exhibition. For more information go to...**
<https://clecityhall.files.wordpress.com/2018/07/2018-usono-golf-outing-full-page.pdf> or call (614) 644-0898.
- **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>
- **Lest We Forget**
<https://lestweforgetsculpture.org/>

NEWS: ***NEW***

World War I at 100: Buckeye Brigade returns to honor heritage

Members of the Ohio National Guard's 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team traveled to Europe to participate in the centennial commemorations of World War I and pay tribute to the men who served before them.

Read about their visit and the reception in the new Buckeye Guard digital magazine at <https://ong.ohio.gov/BuckeyeGuard.html> or <http://pub.lucidpress.com/>

National Museum of the US Air Force in Dayton ranks among the 20 best aviation museums in the world

It's easy to forget that barely more than a century has passed since Orville and Wilbur Wright flew the first successful airplane in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. The intervening 115 years has produced enough artifacts and knowledge to fill dedicated museums around the world.

The greatest aviation museums capture the achievements and products of the pilots, designers and engineers who completed those rickety first flights then set their sights on space while we were just trying to ignore the guy clipping his toenails in seat 17B. Thankfully, there's no need to fasten your seat belt, shut off phones or worry about turbulence and legroom to enjoy the world's best aviation museums.

<https://www.news5cleveland.com/news/world/national-museum-of-the-us-air-force-in-dayton-ranks-among-the-20-best-aviation-museums-in-the-world>

In Iraq visit, Trump makes false claims about military pay again

(Military Times) President Donald Trump's visit to Iraq this week brought with it another round of controversy surrounding White House claims about military pay, as the commander in chief again incorrectly claimed he provided the troops with their first raise in more than a decade

<https://link.militarytimes.com/trumpallegedfalseclaimson troop pay/>

Trump's visit to Iraq prompts concerns about politicization of military

(Washington Post) A day after President Trump's surprise visit to American forces in Iraq and Germany, questions persisted about whether he had jeopardized the political neutrality of the U.S. military by leveling partisan attacks and signing red "Make America Great Again" hats for the troops.

<https://link.militarytimes.com/trumpvisitoIraqconcerns/>

AF says nothing was improper about airmen displaying pro-Trump merchandise at Ramstein

(Stars & Stripes) U.S. Air Forces Europe said troops holding "Make America Great Again" hats during President Donald Trump's visit Thursday to Ramstein Air Base were not in violation of military rules that prohibit taking part in partisan activities while in uniform.

<https://link.militarytimes.com/protrumpdiplayisOK/>

Nation's oldest World War II vet dies at age 112

(The Associated Press) A family member says the nation's oldest World War II veteran who was also believed to be oldest living man in the U.S. has died in Texas.

https://link.militarytimes.com/oldest_ww2_vet_dies_at_112yo

Does the Army need an alternative for its new fitness test?

(Army Times) The forthcoming Army Combat Fitness Test requires a good deal more space and equipment than its predecessor, which will make it a lot harder to conduct a fitness test at a small combat outpost on a mountainside in, for instance, Afghanistan.

[https://link.armytimes.com/Does the Army need an alternative fitness test?/](https://link.armytimes.com/Does_the_Army_need_an_alternative_fitness_test?/)

Here's the first look at the Sikorsky-Boeing Defiant helicopter

WASHINGTON — Sikorsky and Boeing provided the first look at the Defiant helicopter, one of two designs competing under the U.S. Army's Joint Multi-Role technology demonstrator program, two weeks after [confirming the first flight would be delayed until 2019](#).

The Joint Multi-Role Technology Demonstrator effort will inform requirements for the U.S. Army's FVL family of systems, which will come online in the 2030s.

<https://www.defensenews.com/heres-the-first-look-at-the-sikorsky-boeing-defiant-helicopter/>

Iraqi prime minister accepts Trump's invitation to White House

Iraq's prime minister has accepted an invitation from President Trump to visit the White House, according to White House press secretary Sarah Sanders.

Trump extended the invitation to Iraqi Prime Minister Adil Abdul-Mahdi in a phone call during the president's surprise visit to see U.S. troops at Al Asad Air Base, located west of Baghdad, Sanders told reporters traveling with the president on his trip.

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/iraqi-prime-minister-accepts-trumps-invitation-to-white-house/>

New chief for military spy agency

Rear Adm. Robert Sharp will become the next director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in February, according to a Dec. 26 news release from the organization.

He will take over for Robert Cardillo, who has served as head of the agency since 2014.

<https://www.c4isrnet.com/new-chief-for-military-spy-agency/>

The US Navy's surface fleet: Here's what's ahead in 2019

WASHINGTON — The [U.S. surface fleet](#) has a big year in store for 2019, and we're going to start getting more details very soon on what the future has in store for surface warriors.

But surface leadership has been dropping clues on where things are going. Here's a handy reference guide for heading into January's Surface Navy Association annual symposium and for what the fleet has up its sleeve for the coming months.

<https://www.defensenews.com/the-us-navys-surface-fleet-heres-whats-ahead-in-2019/>

Bring it on! New Taliban video shows intense training for cheer squad competition

Taliban training video documentation is the gift that keeps on giving.

And in the true spirit of Christmastime generosity, the organization decided to release a new film — reportedly shot in Afghanistan — documenting their foray into cheer squad competitions.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/bring-it-on-new-taliban-video-shows-them-training-for-cheer-squad-competition/>

Marine who survived two mass shootings braces for first deployment to Afghanistan

A U.S. Marine who survived two mass shootings is getting ready to be deployed to Afghanistan in two weeks for his first tour of duty.

Brendan Kelly, 22, told [The New York Times](#) in an article published Wednesday that his experience living through the mass shootings in Las Vegas and Thousand Oaks, Calif., only galvanized his desire to serve his country abroad in the new year, so he can protect fundamental freedoms at home — including the right to bear arms.

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/Marine-who-survived-two-mass-shootings-braces-for-first-deployment-to-afghanistan/>

MORE VETERAN NEWS SOURCES: <https://www.vnnusa.com/>

POW/MIA Bulletin: <http://www.veteransresources.org/powmia-bulletin/#.WoGZ4a6nGpo>

AL POST 703 NEWS LETTER FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2018: <https://clecityhall.files.wordpress.com/2018/09/al-post-703-sept-oct-2018-newsletter.pdf>

This Week at the VA:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVA/bulletins/20c2125>

DID YOU KNOW...*NEW*

Celebrities Who Were In The Military: They Sure Needed Good Health Insurance!

<http://misspennystocks.com/insurance/celebrities-who-were-in-the-military-they-sure-needed-good-health-insurance/>

Military Trivia:

- **From 1942-1944, the Coast Guard had a championship hockey team, the Cutters**

The Cutters played in the Eastern Amateur Hockey League, considered to be one of the most competitive leagues of its time.

So, can we come in? A “roof stomp” (which is nowadays often a “porch stomp”) at Schriever Air Force Base, Colorado. Air Force photo[/

- **A “roof stomp” is an Air Force tradition where airmen welcome new commanders or celebrate special occasions [by banging on the commander’s roof, windows, and doors](#)**

The commander then opens the door to welcome in the group for refreshments. In recent years, some airmen have modified the tradition to a “porch stomp.”

- **Johnny Cash, Morgan Freeman, and James Stewart are just a handful of the celebrities who have served as airmen**

Jimmy Stewart – who won an Oscar for “Philadelphia Story” in 1940 before flying on missions in World War II and Vietnam – [rose to the rank of brigadier general in the Air Force Reserve.](#)

- **Every March [airmen participate in Mustache March](#), growing mustaches to honor Air Force legend and triple ace Brig. Gen. Robin Olds**

- **Fewer than 100 people have received the title of honorary Marine**
The title of honorary Marine can only be bestowed by the Commandant of the Marine Corps. In order of seniority, the list of honorary Marines includes:

Chuck Norris (rank unknown but also unneeded)

Brig. Gen. Bob Hope <https://www.uso.org/stories/154-bob-hope-the-uso-s-one-man-morale-machine>

Master Sgt. Bugs Bunny

Cpl. Jim Nabors, star of Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C.

[Gary Sinise] <https://www.uso.org/stories/2024-gary-sinise-lt-dan-band-performance-marks-actor-s-97th-uso-tour>

- **Only female Marines are authorized to carry umbrellas in uniform**

- **“Tossing a Dixie Cover under the Bridge”**

For many a short-timer, crossing under the Coronado Bridge (or any other bridge near home port) marks a moment of reflection. Should the sailor stay in or get out? Because sailors are often superstitious, many leave the decision up to the sea, tossing their cover into the deep. If it floats, the sea is asking them to stay. If it sinks, it's time to move on.

- **Marines often pin their next promotable rank onto their uniforms as a motivator**

They usually hide these pinned reminders in their cover, or under a pocket flap.

- **Before World War II, [the Army's 45th Infantry Division wore a swastika patch on their left shoulders in honor of Native Americans](#)**

They changed it to a thunderbird in the late 1930s.

- **Anthony Christy was the oldest active serving Coast Guard member**

The keeper of the Christiana Lighthouse in Delaware, Christy died on duty in September, 1862 at the age of 105.

- **The Legend of Bill the Goat**

Bill the Goat has been the Naval Academy mascot since the early 1900s. Legend has it that a Navy ship once kept a goat as a pet, but on the way back to port the goat died. Two ensigns were entrusted to have the goat stuffed, but were distracted by a Naval Academy football game. One of the ensigns allegedly dressed up in the goatskin and pranced around at halftime. The crowd loved it, and the Navy won the game.

- **Marines who attend MCRD San Diego are often called “Hollywood Marines”**

Parris Island Marines call San Diego Marines “Hollywood Marines” because MCRD Parris Island was the first of the two depots.

Hollywood Marines don't have a name for Parris Island Marines, because they feel bad about the sand fleas.

- **Before the Air Force became its own branch of the military, it was a part of the Army**

On Aug. 1, 1907, the U.S. Army Signal Corps formed the Aeronautical Division, which later evolved into the Air Force.

- **Two U.S. presidents — Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush — [served as airmen](#)**

Reagan's served when the branch was still known as the Army Air Forces. George W. Bush served in the Texas Air National Guard, before transferring to the Air Force Reserve.

Source: <https://www.uso.org/stories/1546-33-military-facts-that-may-surprise-you>

OTHER CONNECTIONS

Veterans Crisis Line

Veterans, Service members, and their loved ones can call **1-800-273-8255** and **Press 1**, send a text message to **838255**, or [chat online](#) to receive free, confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, even if they are not registered with VA or enrolled in VA health care.

https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/suicide_prevention/

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E)

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/index.asp>

The House Committee on Veteran Affairs:

<https://veterans.house.gov/news/>

About Cleveland Honor Flights:

<https://clecityhall.files.wordpress.com/2018/02/about-honor-flight-cleveland.docx>

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-9iTF8wYXhqcE4yWm8/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".

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

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

VetBizCentral: MICHIGAN - OHIO – INDIANA

Veterans Helping Veterans - This is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the United States Small Business Administration.

http://vetbizcentral.org/events_oh.php

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.

<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/>

This Week at VA: <https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/47109/va-now-offers-adoption-reimbursement/>

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 Memorial (GCVM): www.clevelandvetmemorial.org

GCVM 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/GCVM-honor-roll-search.asp>

My HealthVet: 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/>