



Base Cleveland Veteran News

Monday, July 15, 2019

Prepared and distributed to Veterans and supporters of those who served

SPECIAL EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

- **Ohio Women Vets Conference** - All-Day Event on **August 10** to Feature Many Distinguished Guests:

Find out more by clicking on the [Ohio Women Veterans Conference link](#). **Registration is required**. Purpose of the conference, go to [OhioVets.gov](#).

- **2019 Cleveland National Air Show dates released, featuring U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds: August 31 through September 2, 2019**

<https://fox8.com/2019/01/04/2019-cleveland-national-air-show-dates-released-featuring-u-s-air-force-thunderbirds/>

- **National Veterans Memorial & Museum in Columbus, Ohio**

For more go to: <https://clecityhall.files.wordpress.com/2018/09/nvmm-dedication-and-grand-opening.pdf>

- **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***

1. **Harold Brown, one of the last Tuskegee Airmen, recalls battling for victory — and equality.**

CATAWBA ISLAND TOWNSHIP, Ohio — While the controversy over whether transgender personnel can serve in the military rages on, there are a few people who experienced exclusion in the armed forces when it was more of a matter of black and white.

<https://www.cleveland.com/harold-brown-one-of-the-last-tuskegee-airmen-recalls-battling-for-victory-and-equality>

2. Why Every Veteran Should Know What's in Their Military Service Records

If military service records were relegated to some dusty Pentagon storage room for eternity - that would be one thing. But they aren't.

<https://news.clearancejobs.com/2019/07/07/why-every-veteran-should-know-whats-in-their-military-service-records/>

3. World War II Veteran Is Crossing the Country on Foot for Second Time

Three years ago, World War II veteran Ernie Andrus did what seemed like an impossible feat, and he's ready to do it once again. As [CNN reported](#), over the course of two years and 10 months, Andrus, who was 90 at the time, departed from Georgia and totaled 2,631 miles once he reached his destination of California in August 2016.

<https://people.com/human-interest/world-war-ii-vet-crossing-country-foot-second-time/>

4. VA Secretary Wilkie orders a stay on Blue Water Navy veteran benefits cases until 2020

After decades of trying to win disability benefits from the VA, thousands of [Blue Water Vietnam veterans](#) and others potentially exposed to toxic Agent Orange may have to wait until next year for a chance to receive those benefits.

<https://connectingvets.radio.com/articles/va-secretary-wilkie-orders-stay-blue-water-navy-veteran-benefits-cases-until-2020>

5. Admiral to lead Navy instead will retire; bad judgment cited

WASHINGTON (AP) — The four-star admiral set to become the Navy's top officer on Aug. 1 will instead retire, an extraordinary downfall prompted by what Navy Secretary Richard Spencer on Sunday called poor judgment regarding a professional relationship.

<https://apnews.com/8afc79b5ad554efd9b6b5ce9e6cf97b1>

6. A new drinking water crisis hits US military bases across the nation

<http://www.msn.com/a-new-drinking-water-crisis-hits-us-military-bases-across-the-nation/>

7. Sexual assault allegations complicate confirmation of Trump's nominee for military's No. 2 officer

The confirmation of President Trump's pick to become the U.S. military's No. 2 officer could be delayed as senators question how the Pentagon

handled sexual assault allegations against him, even though military authorities deemed them insufficient to bring charges.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/sexual-assault-allegations-complicate-confirmation-of-trumps-nominee-for-militarys-no-2-officer/>

8. Senators want to know if the next Joint Chiefs chairman can stand up to Trump

(Military Times) In a confirmation hearing that covered everything from budget to national security threats to sexual assault prevention, two senators used their time to level with the nominee for the next chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff: How far are you willing to go to keep the president from doing something dangerous?

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2019/07/11/senators-want-to-know-if-the-next-joint-chiefs-chairman-can-stand-up-to-trump/>

9. Esper's defense secretary confirmation hearing planned for Tuesday

(Defense News) The Senate Armed Services Committee has agreed to hold a confirmation hearing on July 16 for Mark Esper to be the next defense secretary, if the White House delivers the formal nomination by the day before, Defense News has learned.

<https://www.defensenews.com/congress/2019/07/11/esper-confirmation-hearing-set-for-tuesday/>

10. Gen. David Berger becomes the 38th Marine commandant. Here's what he will face leading the Corps

(Marine Corps Times) Berger now presides over a Marine Corps at an inflection point as it continues to modernize its force for a fight with rising rivals like Russia and China.

<https://www.marinecorpstimes.com/gen-david-berger-becomes-the-38th-marine-commandant-heres-what-he-will-face-leading-the-corps/>

11. Lawmakers question probe that cleared Hyten of sex assault allegations

(Defense News) Congress should be given the opportunity to hear directly from the woman who accused the nominee for vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of sexual misconduct, a key senator told reporters Thursday, as other legislators suggested a delay in the nomination process is needed.

<https://www.defensenews.com/congress/2019/07/11/lawmakers-question-probe-that-cleared-hyten-of-sex-assault-allegations/>

12. Navy nominee brings cyber experience to top echelons of Pentagon leadership

(C4ISRNET) The expected nomination of Vice Adm. Michael Gilday to lead the Navy brings forward an officer with key cyber experience to the top echelons of military leadership.

<https://www.fifthdomain.com/dod/2019/07/11/navy-nominee-brings-cyber-experience-to-top-echelons-of-pentagon-leadership/>

13. Highly mobile rocket systems to stay in Australia after Talisman Sabre ends

(Stars & Stripes) High-Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems, known as HIMARS, will train with Marines in Darwin, Australia, after participating in this month's Talisman Sabre exercise Down Under, according to the Marine Corps.

<https://www.stripes.com/news/highly-mobile-rocket-systems-to-stay-in-australia-after-talisman-sabre-ends-1.589829>

14. Veterans Have a Secret Weapon to Deal with Homelessness: Land

ARLINGTON, Va.—When Bob Romano was installed as commander of American Legion Post 139 in 2014, his family attended the ceremony. Walking out of the veterans facility in Virginia Square, his wife turned to him and said, “I’m never going back in that building.”

<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2019/07/11/veterans-homelessness-housing-solve-american-legion-227273>

15. VP Pence lauds Coast Guard crew for massive cocaine haul

Vice President Mike Pence stopped by Naval Air Station North Island near San Diego on Thursday to honor the crew of the Coast Guard cutter Munro, which offloaded nearly 20 tons of cocaine seized during recent counter-narcotics operations.

<https://www.navytimes.com/news/your-navy/2019/07/11/vp-pence-lauds-coast-guard-crew-for-massive-cocaine-haul/>

16. Outgoing Marine commandant Neller emphasizes need to prepare for 'very different' conflicts

WASHINGTON — Gen. David H. Berger became the 38th Commandant of the United States Marine Corps during a passage of command ceremony on Thursday, July 11, 2019. He replaces retiring Gen. Robert Neller.

<https://www.stripes.com/news/us/outgoing-marine-commandant-neller-emphasizes-need-to-prepare-for-very-different-conflicts-1.589920>

17. M4 carbine training and qualification comes to Air Force basic training

The Air Force on Monday opened up a newly renovated combat arms range at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in Texas, and is now allowing basic trainees to train on the M4 carbine for the first time.

<https://www.airforcetimes.com/news/your-air-force/2019/07/11/m4-carbine-training-and-qualification-comes-to-air-force-basic-training/>

18. Officials say these guys fleeced \$5 million from military members

SAN DIEGO — California authorities say three men have been arrested on charges of bilking military service members out of nearly \$5 million. Attorney General [Xavier Becerra](#) and San Diego District Attorney [Summer Stephan](#) said Thursday that Paul Flanagan, Ranjit Kalsi and Gregory Lee Martin ran a tax fraud and identity theft scheme.

<https://www.navytimes.com/news/your-navy/2019/07/12/officials-say-these-guys-fleeced-5-million-from-military-members/>

19. Alaska gets Army Pacific chief of staff as new commander

The chief of staff for [Army Pacific](#) will assume command of [Army Alaska](#) next week. Maj. Gen. Peter B. Andrzyiak will take over after a ceremony at Pershing Field, [Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson](#), on Tuesday, July 16, service officials said in a release.

<https://www.armytimes.com/news/your-army/2019/07/11/alaska-gets-army-pacific-chief-of-staff-as-new-commander/>

20. For at-risk veterans, finding pathways to good sleep is critical

There is a dangerous connection between insomnia and suicide ideations, attempts and deaths, this author says.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/opinion/commentary/2019/07/08/for-at-risk-veterans-finding-pathways-to-good-sleep-is-critical/>

21. Strong support for Trump among veterans in new national poll

Among former military surveyed, 57 percent said they approve of Trump as commander in chief.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2019/07/10/strong-support-for-trump-among-veterans-in-new-national-poll/>

22. Veterans doubt value of wars in Iraq, Afghanistan in new poll

More than half said the recent wars overseas weren't worth the cost in resources and troops' lives.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2019/07/10/veterans-doubt-value-of-wars-in-iraq-afghanistan-in-new-poll/>

23. Homicide detective probing veteran's death following altercation with VA medical center police

The veteran, who was headed to the Kansas City VA Medical Center because he contracted an infection following hernia surgery, died in May 2018 after an altercation with VA police, who told him he was headed the wrong way in the parking lot.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/homicide-detective-probing-veterans-death-following-altercation-with-va-medical-center-police/>

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

VFW Action Corps Weekly, July 12, 2019: <http://www.vfw.org/>

VVA Web Weekly, July 12, 2019: [VVA Weekly Report, July 12, 2019](#)

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

DID YOU KNOW...*NEW*

Military Jokes and Humor (Video):

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QSCPBMFqUE8>

Parma Heights, Post 703 July-August 2019 Newsletter:

- <https://clecityhall.files.wordpress.com/2019/07/al-post-703-jul-aug-newsletter.pdf>

Veterans Administration Information Regarding Blue Water Navy:

- [Veterans Administration Extends Agent Orange Presumption To Blue Water Navy Veterans](#)
- [Blue Water Navy One Pager](#)

Army Training Manual 7-0:

- [Army Doctrine Publication 7-0 Army Training Manual](#)

2019-2020 Cleveland Play House Productions and Performance Calendar:

- [Cleveland Play House Productions and Performance Calendar](#)

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.arsgcooh.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-9iSONiUjQ3cnFLTE0/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.jvccc.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/>