



Base Cleveland Veteran News

Sunday, September 15, 2019

Prepared and distributed to Veterans and supporters of those who served

SPECIAL EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

- **Army Night - Indians Game – Saturday, September 21**

The link below is a ticket tracker that lists every seat to include section and row number should someone be interested in knowing exactly location of available seats.

[https://drive.google.com/Army Day Game Seat Availability September 21 2019](https://drive.google.com/Army+Day+Game+Seat+Availability+September+21+2019)

** If interested please contact Maj. Timothy Jenkins at 216-778-0006 or by email at tjenkins@jcu.edu.

- **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. **VA secretary wants answers on string of West Virginia patient deaths as a second homicide is confirmed**

The Veterans Affairs secretary is calling for his department's inspector general to speed up the investigation into [a string of suspicious deaths at a West Virginia veterans hospital](#) amid reports of a second confirmed homicide at the facility.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/va-secretary-wants-answers-on-string-of-west-virginia-patient-deaths-as-a-second-homicide-is-confirmed/>

2. Trump calls off secret Camp David meeting with Taliban, Afghan leaders

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said Saturday he canceled a secret weekend meeting at Camp David with Taliban and Afghanistan leaders [after a bombing in the past week](#) in Kabul that killed 12 people, including [an American soldier](#), and has called off peace negotiations with the insurgent group.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/trump-calls-off-secret-camp-david-meeting-with-taliban-afghan-leaders/>

3. C-17 crew stops at Trump's Scottish golf resort en route to Kuwait

A C-17 crew comprising both Air National Guard and active-duty airmen stayed at President Donald Trump's posh Turnberry golf resort in Scotland during a trip earlier this year to deliver supplies to Kuwait, [Politico reports](#).

<https://www.airforcetimes.com/c-17-crew-stops-at-trumps-scottish-golf-resort-en-route-to-kuwait/>

4. Defense lawmakers set aggressive schedule for NDAA

WASHINGTON—When Congress returns to work Monday, authorizers will aim for quick passage of the [National Defense Authorization Act](#), even though a host of differences in the separate House and Senate versions of the bill have yet to be resolved formally.

<https://www.defensenews.com/defense-lawmakers-set-aggressive-schedule-for-ndaa/>

5. 'Tequila-drinking Navy SEAL' in the running to oversee elite troops

The Pentagon is considering recommending a brash former Navy SEAL who has bragged about his tequila drinking for the top civilian post overseeing special operations forces — eliciting concerns about whether he has the mindset to rein in a pattern of misconduct among the elite troops.

<https://www.politico.com/navy-seal-lou-bremer-assistant-secretary-defense/>

6. Why the entire SEAL Team 7 leadership team got canned

In the wake of a series of scandals dogging California-based SEAL Team 7, the entire senior leadership team was relieved of duty on Friday morning.

<https://www.navytimes.com/why-the-entire-seal-team-7-leadership-team-got-canned/>

7. Team Richardson: Married three-star generals say teamwork is critical for dual-military families

How do dual-military couples succeed in their careers? According to Army aviators James and Laura Richardson — who are both lieutenant generals — teamwork is the key.

“I would not be where I am today without being married to her,” Lt. Gen. James Richardson said during the Joint Women’s Leadership Symposium on Aug. 22, quoted in [an Army news release](#).

<https://www.armytimes.com/team-richardson-married-three-star-generals-say-teamwork-is-critical-for-dual-military-families/>

8. Devil Dog reservists summon the power of ‘oorah’ in wonky trailer for prison break thriller, ‘Semper Fi’

Baskets of motivation picked from Chesty Puller’s Tree of Eternal Oorah are once again getting the on-screen treatment, this time in the form of a high-stakes prison breakout featuring characters with names like Jaeger, Oyster, Snowball, and Milk.

Motivated whole milk!

<https://www.militarytimes.com/devil-dog-reservists-summon-the-power-of-oorah-in-wonky-trailer-for-prison-break-thriller-semper-fi/>

9. Intoxicated Marine breaks into home and cooks meal

Not every day does a champion emerge to match the exploits of the infamous Florida Man, but on Tuesday, Florida Marine volunteered as tribute.

Nineteen-year-old Marine Gavin Crim reportedly broke into a Dunedin, Florida, home just after 4 a.m. Tuesday, and immediately set out in hurriedly exercising his perceived right to satisfying hunger pangs at any cost.

<https://www.marinecorpstimes.com/intoxicated-marine-breaks-into-home-and-cooks-meal-tells-alarmed-homeowner-to-go-back-to-sleep/>

10. Court ruling could give veterans an extra year of GI Bill benefits

A recent federal court decision could dramatically expand veterans education benefits by allowing them an extra year of tuition assistance if they qualify for both the Post-9/11 GI Bill program and the older [Montgomery GI Bill](#) payouts.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/court-ruling-could-give-veterans-an-extra-year-of-gi-bill-benefits/>

11. Army IG finds widespread concerns with privatized housing and lack of oversight

Families' concerns about health and safety issues in their privatized military housing are widespread, according to a new Army Inspector General report that reveals systemic problems with the [companies' responses to families](#), and with the Army's oversight of the projects.

<https://www.armytimes.com/army-ig-finds-widespread-concerns-with-privatized-housing-and-lack-of-oversight/>

12. Pentagon chief suggests European allies replace funds diverted to border wall

The Pentagon said on Wednesday it would pull funding from 127 Defense Department projects abroad and at home, including schools and daycare centers for military families, as it diverts \$3.6 billion to pay for President Donald Trump's wall along the U.S. border.

<https://www.reuters.com/pentagon-chief-suggests-european-allies-replace-funds-diverted-to-border-wall/>

13. Senate sets date for joint Air Force, Army secretary nomination hearing

WASHINGTON — U.S. President Donald Trump's nominees to lead the Army and Air Force are expected to have a joint confirmation hearing next week.

The Senate Armed Services Committee has [scheduled](#) a Sept. 12 hearing for Ryan McCarthy, to lead the Army, and Barbara Barrett, to lead the Air Force.

<https://www.defensenews.com/air-force-army-secretary-nomination-hearing-set-for-sept-9/>

14. THE GATE RUNNER: How a bizarre breach at Mildenhall transformed base security across the Air Force

It was about 1 p.m. when the odd man with a teddy bear strapped to his chest showed up at the main gate to [RAF Mildenhall](#) in England. He was from the Secret Service, he said, as he attempted to show the guard a British passport as identification.

<https://www.airforcetimes.com/the-gate-runner-how-a-bizarre-breach-at-mildenhall-transformed-base-security-across-the-air-force/>

15. Secretary of State Pompeo Declines to Sign Risky Afghan Peace Deal

The U.S. is closing in on a deal with the Taliban that is designed to wind down America's 18-year war in Afghanistan, but the best indication of how risky the pact may be is this: Secretary of State Mike Pompeo is declining to sign it, according to senior U.S., Afghan and European officials.

<https://time.com/pompeo-afghanistan-peace-deal/>

16. Here's everything the Pentagon is putting on hold to concentrate on building the border wall

Several schools and weapons ranges, as well as hazardous waste treatment, special operations and a host of other facilities are [on the chopping block](#) following [Defense Secretary Mark Esper's](#) Wednesday decision

<https://www.militarytimes.com/heres-everything-the-pentagon-is-putting-on-hold-to-concentrate-on-building-the-border-wall/>

17. US Air Force to keep A-10 off the chopping block in next budget request

WASHINGTON — The [A-10 Warthog](#) will not be one of the planes the U.S. Air Force requests to retire in its upcoming fiscal 2021 budget request, a senior service official confirmed.

<https://www.defensenews.com/air-force-not-planning-to-cut-a-10-under-budget-reorg/>

18. Can POTUS sign your MAGA hat? Experts weigh-in on recent campaign season controversies involving troops

A recent incident in which an [Army National Guard major](#) said “I hope and pray that you will be our next president” to former Vice President Joe Biden during a campaign rally has once again drawn attention to the role service members play in an increasingly partisan political landscape.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/can-potus-sign-your-maga-hat-experts-weigh-in-on-recent-campaign-season-controversies-involving-troops/>

19. US troops and allied Kurdish force patrol Syria-Turkey border

BEIRUT — U.S. troops and an allied Syrian militia conducted a joint patrol Wednesday in a town on the border with Turkey, a Kurdish news agency and a Syria war monitor reported. The move appeared to be part of an agreement [to set up a safe zone](#) along Syria's northeast border.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/us-troops-and-allied-kurdish-force-patrol-syria-turkey-border/>

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

VFW Action Corps Weekly, Sept. 13, 2019: <https://www.vfw.org/Sept-13-2019>

VVA Web Weekly, September 6, 2019: [VVA Weekly Report](#)

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

DID YOU KNOW...***NEW***

Military Jokes and Humor

<https://www.mcsweeneys.net/articles/humor-in-uniform> Trivia

Department of Homeland Security Active Shooter Handbook

<https://clecityhall.files.wordpress.com/2019/08/dhs-active-shooter-booklet.pdf>

DD214 Chronicles: the Newspaper for Veterans and all who love them

<http://dd214chronicle.com/>

VFW Action CORPS Weekly

View the current and past editions: <http://www.vfw.org/actioncorpsweekly>.

Health and Wellness News

- **PTSD Guide:** <https://www.helpguide.org/articles/ptsd-trauma/ptsd-in-military-veterans.htm>

For more information contact: Rick DeChant (CDR USCG, ret) at:
Phone 216-987-3193 or Email: richard.dechant@tri-c.edu

- **2019-2020 Cleveland Play House Productions and Performance Calendar:**

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

- **Find VA locations**

<https://www.va.gov/find-locations/>

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 *NEW Special*

Military Veteran Amputees Need Your Help

If you are like me, you have probably never thought about how different and challenging daily life would be if missing an arm, a leg – or worse all four as a result of an accident. Following is a brief introduction to one such veteran who is a quadriplegic, Travis Mills.

In 2012 Travis was critically injured during his third tour of duty while on routine patrol in Afghanistan. His injuries weren't typical. They were life altering. He is only one of five quadruple amputees from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan to survive such injuries.

To learn more about Travis Mills story and the challenge many severely wounded military veterans face, please click on the brief and captivating short videos below.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oXucc4pp85I>
- <https://youtu.be/eSytAgtLqVw>
- [The Travis Mills Foundation - YouTube](#)

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, call Coordinator Pete Bliss of the Cuyahoga County Suicide Postvention Response Team 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: 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

<http://www.arsgcoh.org/>

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/>