

# The Lycoming Vet

Volume 8, Issue 2

April, 2015

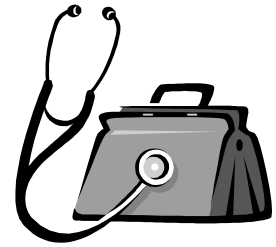
**A SNEAK PEAK AT WHAT'S INSIDE**



**Purple Heart Veterans  
9th Annual Event**

**VA News**

**VAMC Wilkes-Barre Toll Free: 1-877-928-2621**



**Did you know?**  
 If you were unable to get to your VA Hospital because of an emergency: you, your family, friends, or hospital staff need to contact one of the numbers within **72 hours** of your emergency, so you are better aware of what services VA may or may not cover.

**DAY: Utilization Management**  
**8:00AM-4:00PM**  
**EXT. \*7258**

**NIGHT: Health Benefits Advisor**  
**4:00PM-8:00AM**  
**EXT. \*7140**

<b>INSIDE THIS ISSUE:</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Sneak Peak Of Volume 7, Issue 2	1
Important Number	2
Purple Heart Veterans	3
9th Annual Event	4
VA News	5
American Legions, VFWs, and Other Vet Organizations	6
Your Reps In Washington & Harrisburg	7
News From the County, State, and U.S. VA	8
Your Local VA Clinic, Vet Center, Career Link	9
Contact Information, Holidays	10

# GULF WAR PURPLE HEART VETERANS



Jack and Sarah's Family Restaurant of Lycoming Creek Road has gotten together with Webb Weekly and 173rd Airborne Brigade Foundation, to show their appreciation to Purple Heart Veterans of the Gulf War.

With the donations from both groups Jack and Sarah have purchased Patriotic Blankets and Plaques to present to these Veterans who live in the Lycoming County. So far they have presented the blanket and plaque to four Veterans and they continue to look for Purple Heart Veterans of the Gulf War.



# UPCOMING EVENTS:



## 9th Annual Emergency Preparedness Day

Thursday, April 23, 2015 9:00am-2:00pm

This event will be held at the Federal  
Correctional Complex– Route 15–  
Allenwood and will include:

- Fire/Rescue Equipment
- Emergency Medical Service
- Local, State and Federal Law Enforcement
- Kingdom Kids, Inc.
- Emergency Management Agencies
- HAM Radio Operators
- Demonstrations by the USP Lewisburg/FCC Allenwood Special Operation Response Teams Disturbance Teams

# New to the VA

## \*VA Eliminates Net Worth as Health Care Eligibility Factors\*

Effective 2015, VA eliminated the use of net worth as a determining factor for both health care programs and copayment responsibilities. This change makes VA health care benefits more accessible to lower-income Veterans and brings VA policies inline with Secretary Robert A. McDonald's My VA initiative which reorients VA around Veterans' needs.

"Everything that we do and every decision we make has to be focused on the Veterans we serve," said VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald. "We are working every day to earn their trust. Changing the way we determine eligibility to make the process easier for Veterans is part of our promise to our Veterans."

Instead of combining the sum of Veterans' income with their assets to determine eligibility for medical care and copayment obligations, VA will now only consider a Veteran's gross household income and deductible expenses from the previous year. Elimination of the consideration of net worth for VA health care enrollment means that certain lower-income, non-service connected Veterans will have less out-of-pocket costs. Over a 5-year period, it is estimated that 190,000 Veterans will become eligible for reduced costs of their health care services.

---

## \*Six Months Left to Apply for the Persian Gulf BONUS\*

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs reminds Pennsylvania veterans that they have until August 31, 2015 to apply for a special one-time payment to honor their service and sacrifice if they served on active duty in the Persian Gulf Theater of Operations from August 2, 1990– August 31, 1991.

"With only six months left to apply, we are increasing our efforts to spread the word of this bonus to Pennsylvania's veterans of Operations Desert Shield or Desert Storm," said Brig. Gen. Jerry Beck Jr., deputy adjutant general for veterans affairs. "We also encourage any veteran who was previously denied for the bonus to reapply as we are doing our due diligence by reviewing all denials prior to the sunset of the program."

For detailed instructions on how to apply visit:

[www.persiangulfbonus.state.pa.us](http://www.persiangulfbonus.state.pa.us)

# AMERICAN LEGIONS, VFW's & OTHER COUNTY VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS



## **American Legion Post 1-**

Garrett Cochran  
10 E. 3rd St., Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-323-9409

## **Veterans of the Vietnam War – Post PA 51**

P.O. Box 23, Hughesville, PA 17737  
Phone: 570-547-2814

## **American Legion Post 35-**

Glenn Sharrow  
78 N. Main St., Hughesville, PA 17737  
Phone: 570-584-2123

## **VFW Post 3428-**

Edward J. Smith Post  
12 N Market St., Muncy, PA 17756  
Phone: 570-546-3820

## **American Legion Post 36 -**

George Webster Pepperman  
P.O. Box 211, Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
Phone: 570-398-4174

## **VFW Post 5859-**

Billy O. Brandt Post  
201 N. Lincoln Ave., Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
Phone: 570-398-2801

## **American Legion Post 104 -**

Eugene Grafius  
1312 Broad St., Montoursville, PA 17754  
Phone: 570-368-9000

## **VFW Post 7863-**

Le Roy O. Buck Post  
150 Shaffer St., South Williamsport, PA 17702  
Phone: 570-323-1579

## **American Legion Post 251 -**

Bower Decker  
185 Broad St., Montgomery, PA 17752  
Phone: 570-547-2039

## **VFW POST 844-**

Howard W. Kahler Post  
1260 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-326-2752

## **American Legion Post 268 -**

Roland Ritter  
515 Legion Rd., Muncy, PA 17756  
Phone: 570-546-5210

## **Forty & Eight Voiture 382**

345 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-322-1670

## **American Legion Post 617 -**

Royal P. Steinbacher  
901 Market Street, South Williamsport,  
PA 17702  
Phone: 570-327-0255

## **Susquehanna Valley Chapter 47 of The Disabled American Veterans**

P.O. Box 3372, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-567-4554

## **American Legion Post 999 -**

West Branch Service Post  
2985 Four Mile Drive, Apt. 107  
Montoursville, PA 17754  
Phone: 570-447-1572

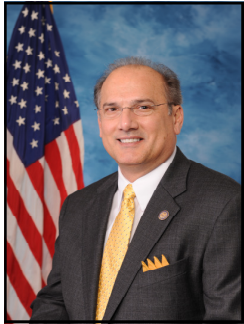
## **Williamsport Detachment 388 Marine Corp League Inc.**

P. O. Box 3245, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-323-9900

## **Korean War Veterans of Lycoming County, Inc.**

P. O. Box 3232, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-745-3775 (Military Funerals)

# Your Reps in Washington & Harrisburg



## U.S. Representative Thomas Marino— 10th Congressional District

**Williamsport District Office**  
**1020 Commerce Park Drive, Suite 1A**  
**Williamsport, PA 17701**  
**Phone: 570-322-3961**  
**Fax: 570-322-3965**  
**Office Hours: M-F 9-5**  
**Website: <http://marino.house.gov/>**



## PA State Senator Gene Yaw— Senate District 23

<b>330 Pine Street, Suite 204</b>	<b>One Progress Plaza, Suite 13</b>
<b>Williamsport, PA</b>	<b>Towanda, PA 18848</b>
<b>Phone: 570-322-6457</b>	<b>Phone: 570-265-7448</b>
<b>Fax: 570-327-3703</b>	<b>Fax: 570-268-4313</b>
<b>Toll-free: 1-800-443-5772</b>	
<b>Website: <a href="http://senatorgeneyaw.com/">http://senatorgeneyaw.com/</a></b>	<b>Email: <a href="mailto:gyaw@pasen.gov">gyaw@pasen.gov</a></b>



## PA State Representative Garth D. Everett— 84th Legislative District

<b>Penn Hills Plaza, Halls Station</b>	<b>Tiadaghton Valley Mall</b>
<b>21 Kristi Road, Suite 2</b>	<b>Room 105</b>
<b>Muncy, PA 17756</b>	<b>Jersey Shore, PA 17740</b>
<b>Phone: 570-546-2084</b>	<b>Phone: 570-398-4476</b>
<b>Fax: 570-546-5220</b>	<b>Fax: 570-398-5963</b>
<b>Office Hours: M-F 9-5</b>	<b>Office Hours: M-F 9-4:30</b>
<b>Website: <a href="http://www.repeverett.com/">http://www.repeverett.com/</a></b>	<b>Email: <a href="mailto:geverett@pahousegop.com">geverett@pahousegop.com</a></b>



## PA State Representative Jeff Wheeland— 83rd Legislative District

<b>349 Pine Street Suite 1</b>	<b>Room 414 Irvis Office Building</b>
<b>Williamsport, PA 17701</b>	<b>P.O. Box 202083</b>
<b>Phone: 570-321-1270</b>	<b>Harrisburg, PA 17120-2083</b>
<b>Fax: 570-327-3719</b>	<b>Phone: 717-772-1314</b>
	<b>Office Hours: M-F 8-5</b>

**Website: <http://www.pahouse.com/mirabito/>**  
**Email: [jwheeland@pahousegop.com](mailto:jwheeland@pahousegop.com)**

**Not sure who your representative is? Find out at:**

**<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/findyourlegislator/countylist.cfm?CNTYLIST=LYCOMING>**

## FROM THE LYCOMING COUNTY VA OFFICE:

Would you like to have a VA Benefit Seminar at a Nursing Home, Legion, VFW, or Other Organization? Have George come and speak to the Veterans and Widows about what they could be eligible for through the VA. Call our office at 570-327-2365 to set it up.

Home Loans? Contact Bob Brown, Sr. Loan Officer at Allentown Mortgage Corp. VA Loan Specialist/ Residential Financing.

Phone: 610-883-7601 or 484-494-6593

Email: [bobbrown@worldlynx.net](mailto:bobbrown@worldlynx.net)

Web: [www.allentownmortgage.com](http://www.allentownmortgage.com)

\*Licensed by the PA Dept. of Banking\*

## FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS:

Are you rated 100% disabled by the VA? Then you may be eligible for real estate tax exemption and free hunting and fishing licenses. Call 570-327-2365 for more information.

If you or anyone you know are interested in being trained for an Honor Guard position please contact the VA office at 570-327-2365.

## Important information to Know when Transitioning from TRICARE Prime to Standard.

- You can still see your same doctor.
- Costs for care will change.
- Your health care prior authorizations are still valid.

Be aware that your out-of-pocket costs for existing care will change from TRICARE Prime copayments to TRICARE Standard (Extra) cost-shares and deductibles on **October 1, 2013**.

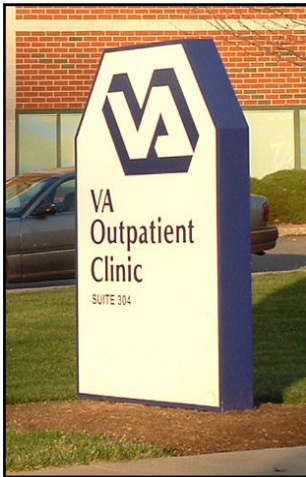
If you have any other questions or concerns please contact us at 570-327-2365





GULF WAR PURP  
HEART VETERAN

# VA Outpatient Clinic



The VA Outpatient Clinic was established July 1997 on the Campus of Divine Providence Hospital in the Wenner Building, 1705 Warren Avenue, Suite 304, Williamsport, PA **Phone: 570-322-4791 Fax: 570-322-5170**  
Open: Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Scheduled appointments only  
~ No Emergency Services/No walk-ins

**Services Include:** Primary Care, Enrollment/Eligibility forms, Psychiatry, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Social Services, Counseling, Lab, Nutrition services, and Immunizations.

**The VA Clinic has a social worker at the clinic on Tuesday and Thursday. Her name is Chris Veach; please call the clinic at (570) 322-4791 to schedule an appointment.**

## Vet Center

The Vet Center is located at Suite 104, 49 East Fourth Street, Williamsport, next to the James V. Brown Library. Phone 327-5281. All services provided by the Vet Center are **FREE OF CHARGE**. These include readjustment counseling and outreach services to all veterans who served in any combat zone. Services are also available for their family members. These include:

- individual and group counseling: women, spouses, WWII, Korean, Vietnam, OEF/OIF, and other combat veterans.
- group counseling
- marital and family counseling
- bereavement counseling



- substance abuse information and referral
- referral in applying for VA Benefits, job counseling and educational VA benefits
- referral for homeless vets
- military sexual trauma (male and female) counseling & referral
- outreach and community education

*Pennsylvania*  
**CareerLink**  
LYCOMING COUNTY

The PA Career Link—Lycoming County office is located at 329 Pine Street in Williamsport and is open Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays.

**Contact: Timothy French**

**E-mail: [tifrench@state.pa.us](mailto:tifrench@state.pa.us)**

**Phone: 570-601-5934**

**Online: [www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us](http://www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us)**



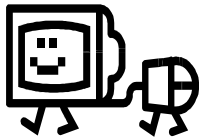
**Lycoming County Office of Veterans Affairs**

330 Pine Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
Suite 401  
Executive Plaza Building  
Mailing Address:  
48 West Third Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
570-327-2365

*County Commissioners*  
*Jeff C. Wheeland,*  
*Chairman*  
*Ernest P. Larson,*  
*Vice Chairman*  
*Tony R. Mussare,*  
*Secretary*



For up-to-date  
News and  
Information  
For Veterans



***The Lycoming Vet***  
*is published*  
*by the Office of*  
*Veterans Affairs*  
*in Lycoming County, PA*

**We are here to help you . . .**

**MSGT George W. Heiges (Ret.)**

**Lycoming County Director of Veterans Affairs**

570-327-2365 gheiges@lyco.org

- Fully accredited as a Veterans Service Officer by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Twenty- one years USAF

**David A. Keene**

**Assistant Director of Veterans Affairs**

570-327-2365 dkeene@lyco.org

- Fully accredited as a Veterans Service Officer by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Four years USMC

**To make an appointment, please contact**

**Natalie Miller at: 570-320-2101**

**Office Hours**

Monday through Friday 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM  
Monday– Thursday: Scheduled Appointments Only  
Friday: Walk-Ins 9:00 AM- 4:30 PM  
Closed weekends and major holidays.

**The Lycoming County VA**

**Office Will Be Closed:**

Good Friday- Friday April 3, 2015  
Memorial Day– Monday May 25, 2015

**Do you have announcements  
or information to share???**

The Lycoming County Office of Veterans Affairs invites you to submit articles and items of interest to be published in the next edition of *The Lycoming Vet*.

For questions or to make submissions,  
please contact Natalie Miller at the Veterans Affairs Office.