The Lycoming Vet

Volume 15, Issue 2

April 2023

Visit Your Local Veterans Affairs Office Located at 330 Pine Street in Williamsport, PA

Always a Free Service
Convenient Appointments
Walk-in Wednesdays
Home Visits
Questions Answered

Healthcare
Pension/ Widow's Benefits
Disability Compensation Claims
Tax Exemption
And more...

We have a chair waiting for you, come sit down with your local Veterans Service Office and see how the VA can help you.

Fully accredited as Veterans Service Officers by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and Department of Veterans Affairs



Office Hours

Scheduled Appointments on: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday $8:30\,\mathrm{AM} - 5:00\,\mathrm{PM}$

Walk-Ins Welcomed on Wednesday No Comp. or Pension Claims. No Appointment needed Information ONLY 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Closed weekends and major holidays.



Home Visits

Your Veterans Service Officer comes to you, when you are unable to come to the office.

Call and schedule an appointment. 540-327-2365



Health Care Eligibility Guidelines

Eligibility is automatic if:

- You were discharged or separated for medical reasons, early out, or hardship
- You served in theater of combat operations within the past 6 years
- You were discharged from the military because of a disability (not preexisting)
- You are a former prisoner of war
- You received a Purple Heart Medal
- You receive VA pension or disability benefits
- You receive state Medicaid benefits
- Did you serve in a combat Theater of operation after 11/11/1998
- Did you serve in SW Asia during the Gulf War between August 2, 1990 and November 11, 1998
- Do you have a VA Service-connected Rating
- Did you serve in an agent Orange Location between January 9, 1962 and July 31, 1980
- Did you serve in an ionizing Radiation location and participate in any nuclear testing treatments or clean up?
- Did you Receive Nose and Throat radium treatments while in the Military?
- Did you serve on active Duty at least 30 days at Camp Lejeune from August 1, 1953 through December 31, 1987

Also ask about Eligibility based on a combination of:

Character of Service

Income

Length of Service

Call if you have any questions or receive any letters from the VA.

Disability Compensation

Eligibility:

- Type of Service
 - o must be under conditions other than dishonorable
 - o Active Duty or Active Duty for Training
- · Current diagnosis of illness or injury
- · Record of illness or injury in service medical treatment record
- A connection that shows that what happened in the service is related to current medical issues

When did the illness or injury begin?

o Was the injury or disease incurred during your time in service?

Service-Connected refers to injury or illness that is caused by

or aggravated by active military service. It can also be a condition
that is associated secondarily to a condition that is service-connected.





VA Pension/Survivor's Pension Nursing Home Care/ Aid and Attendance/Housebound Help

Eligibility:

- Honorable Discharge
 Or General, under honorable conditions
- Service Time

90 days of active duty, including one day during a wartime period If active duty occurred after September 7, 1980 - 24 months or full period called to active duty

- Meet Income and Net Worth Guidelines
- Provider / Personal Care Unit/ Nursing Home documentation

Call for an appointment to walk you through the process of applying for VA Help.



Did you know?

If you were unable to get to your VA Hospital because of an emergency: please contact the VA within **72 hours** of your emergency, so you are better aware of what services VA may or may not cover.

Call: 844-724-7842

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MILITARY DATES OF REMEMBRANCE

April

Month of the Military Child

April 5 - Gold Star Wives Day

April 14 - Air Force Reserve Birthday

April 15 - Purple Up! For Military Kids

April 23 - Army Reserve Birthday

April 30 - National Military Brats Day

May

National Military Appreciation Month

May I - Loyalty Day and Silver Star Service Banner Day

May 8 - Victory in Europe Day/VE Day

May 12 - Military Spouse Appreciation Day

May 13 - Children of Fallen Patriots Day

May 20 - Armed Forces Day

May 26 - National Poppy Day

May 29 - Memorial Day

<u>June</u>

June 6 - D-Day, anniversary of WWII allied invasion in Normandy, France

June 14 - Flag Day and Army Birthday

June 23 - Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday

June 25 - Anniversary of the start of the Korean War

June 27 - National PTSD Awareness Day



Williamsport Detachment #388-Marine Corps League Hot Dog sale dates.

All sales 9am - 3pm

April 1, 2023 St. Paul Calvary United Methodist Church Rummage Sale

April 22, 2023 Tractor Supply

May 20, 2023 Tractor Supply

June 3, 2023 Sam's Club

June 17, 2023 Tractor Supply

July 1, 2023 Beiter's South Williamsport

July 22, 2023 Tractor Supply

August 3-6, 2023 Loyalsock Valley Antique Machine Association Show

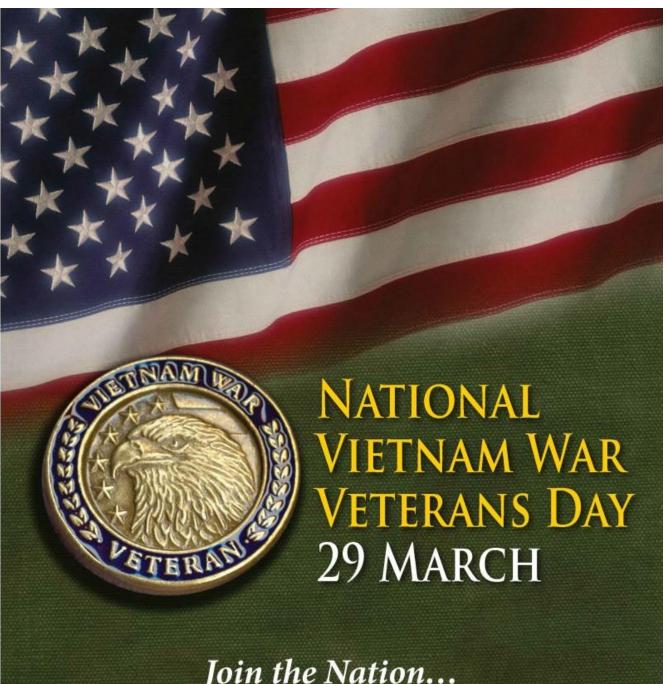
August 19, 2023 Tractor Supply

September 2, 2023 Beiter's South Williamsport

September 23, 2023 Tractor Supply

October 21, 2023 Tractor Supply

November 18, 2023 Tractor Supply



Join the Nation...
Thank a Vietnam Veteran
for Service to our Nation



U.S. Armed Forces personnel with active duty service between November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location of service.



vietnamwar50th.com



Governor's Office

PROCLAMATION

VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY March 29, 2023

WHEREAS, as we honor all the men and women who served in our nation's armed forces throughout history, Pennsylvania is proud to join in the national commemoration of Vietnam War Veterans Day; and

WHEREAS, this conflict defined an entire generation of Americans and numerous brave men and women served during the conflict, including 325,208 Pennsylvanians, of whom 3,147 Pennsylvanians were Killed in Action and eighty-nine are still unaccounted for, and

WHEREAS, as citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania we must never forget the pain and suffering that lingers today for the men and women who fought with honor and distinction, in the name of freedom and democracy for all; and

WHEREAS, we remember the men and women who so honorably served during more than a decade of fighting in challenging terrains of Southeast Asia, where they faced extraordinary and unprecedented dangers; we will never forget their sacrifice and we value their continued service to their fellow veterans today, as they embody the motto of the Vietnam Veterans of America: "Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another;" and

WHEREAS, since their return, these Veterans have contributed tremendously to their communities, the Commonwealth, and the nation. They have displayed unparalleled support for those currently serving by providing welcoming celebrations for those returning and honors to those who have fallen; and

WHEREAS, through this commemoration the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, and the Office of Veterans Affairs join with all citizens of this great state and nation to honor and remember our Vietnam Veterans and their families for their courage, sacrifice, and valor.

THEREFORE, I, Josh Shapiro, Governor of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2023, as VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY. I encourage all citizens to participate in activities that bestow honor and commendation on American heroes past and present.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twenty-eighth day of February two thousand twenty-three, the year of the Commonwealth the two hundred fortyseventh.

JOSH SHAPIRO



PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF

VIETNAM ERA WAR VETERANS DAY

WHEREAS, the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act was signed into law in 2017 designating March 29th as the National Vietnam War Veterans Day, and

WHEREAS, in recognition of what the Vietnam Veterans and their families endured during the war, upon returning home and throughout today, and

WHEREAS, in remembrance of those service members who lost their lives and those that remain unaccounted for, and

WHEREAS, in acknowledgement of the unspeakable hardships they suffered endangering their lives for the values of freedom and democracy for all, and

WHEREAS, today we remember the men and women of Lycoming County, and their families, who served our nation with honor, courage, valor and distinction and thank them for their service and sacrifice, and

WHEREAS, we are forever grateful for the valuable contributions they continue to make today, and

THEREFORE, on behalf of the grateful citizens of our County, the Lycoming County Commissioners urge all citizens to join with us in recognizing this day as a tribute to the Veterans of the Vietnam Era War, the sacrifices they made, and continue to make, on our behalf.

Lycoming County Commissioners

Scott L. Metzger, Chairman

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Tony R. Mussare, Vice Chairman

Richard Mirabito, Secretary



Vietnam Era War Veterans Day March 29, 2023

Richard Mirabito, Commissioner

Clyde English

Aldous Carpenter

Thomas Boyle

Charles Stutzman

John Lannan

W. Michael McMunn, Director of Veterans Affiars

Walter Steinbacher

Joseph Grafius

Kenny Reeder

Rodney Young

Scott L. Metzger, Commissioner

Picture taken at the Commissioners' Meeting, after the a proclamation was read by retired Army Lt. Colonel Matthew McDermott. March 23, 2023

Camp Lejeune Information



I'm a Veteran who believes I was exposed to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune, what can VA do for me?

Since 2012, Veterans who served on active duty in the Armed Forces at Camp Lejeune for 30 days or more between August 1, 1953, and December 31, 1987, have been eligible for hospital care and medical services for any of 15 illnesses or conditions identified in the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012, as amended (codified at 38 U.S.C. § 1710(e)(1)(F)). Veterans are also eligible to enroll in VA health care for other services they may require.

Veterans, Reservists, and National Guard members who served at least 30 days at Camp Lejeune between August 1, 1953, and December 31, 1987, and later developed one of the following eight diseases: Adult leukemia, aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes, bladder cancer, kidney cancer, liver cancer, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and Parkinson's disease, are eligible for disability compensation benefits.

For more specifics about VA benefits related to Camp Lejeune contaminated water, to include how to file a claim, visit www.VA.gov/CampLejeune or call 1-800-MyVA411.

LEARN MORE www.VA.gov/CampLejeune

LET'S TALK



Speak to a VA benefits specialist by calling 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)

LET'S MEET



Schedule a virtual or in-person appointment vets.force.com/VAVERA



What impact does the PACT Act have on Veterans and families who were exposed to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune?

On August 10, 2022, the President signed into law the Honoring our PACT Act (Public Law 117-168). Section 804 of this law is the Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022 ("CLJA"), which allows new lawsuits for individuals exposed to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune.

Whether Veterans and family members decide to seek relief under the CLJA is entirely their decision and will not influence VA's decision to provide them benefits or health care based upon their exposure; it also will not affect the amount of benefits or health care VA can provide them.

It is important to know, however, that if a Veteran or family member is awarded relief by the court in a lawsuit brought under the CLJA, the award must be offset by the amount of any disability award, payment, or benefit VA provided to the Veteran, family member, or their legal representative relating to exposure to water at Camp Lejeune. This would reduce the amount of the award Veterans or family members receive from the court, but it would not affect their VA benefits.



I'm seeing a lot of commercials about benefits I may be entitled to based on my time at Camp Lejeune. Are these ads connected to VA?

Lawyers, firms, and others have engaged in extensive advertising offering to represent Veterans in CLJA actions. These entities are not connected with VA benefits or services. Be aware that these entities may charge you a fee for legal representation.



Will seeking relief under the CLJA impact my VA benefits or health care?

Your VA compensation benefits or health care services will not be impacted if you file a lawsuit. If you are awarded relief from a CLJA lawsuit, your VA benefits will not be reduced, and your eligibility for other VA benefits or services will not be affected.



Will my court awarded relief (from filing a lawsuit) be impacted by VA benefits and services I already receive?

Yes, potentially. If you already receive VA benefits or services (disability pay or health care services) for conditions related to the contaminated water at Camp Lejeune, the court awarded relief will be offset by the amount of any disability award, payment, or other benefit VA provided to you related to your exposure at Camp Lejeune.



What if I file for VA disability AFTER I receive an award from my lawsuit brought under CLJA, will VA reduce my benefits as a result?

No. Any action you take or award you receive under the CLJA will not influence VA's decision to provide you benefits or health care based upon your exposure or the amount of compensation you receive from VA.

KNOW YOUR OPTIONS





How can I find the status of my CLJA case?

The Department of Justice established a phone number and email address for anyone with questions regarding the status of cases filed in Federal court under the CLJA. The phone number is (202) 353-4426, and the email is <u>campleieune.pactact@usdoi.gov</u>.



I've heard scammers are taking advantage of CLJA to commit fraud. How can I avoid these fraudsters?

Lawsuits under the CLJA are not related to VA benefits claims, and a lawsuit is not required to receive VA compensation benefits related to Camp Lejeune presumptive conditions. Veterans should be cautious of companies that advertise that VA benefits cannot be obtained without their help. VA and Veterans Service Organizations do not charge fees for assisting claimants in filing disability compensation claims. Check out organizations that provide free assistance with daims for VA benefits at www.VA.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation/index.asp. To report suspected fraudulent activity involving VA benefit claims, please contact vaoighotline@va.gov or call (800) 488-8244.



My spouse served in the U.S. Marine Corps, and we lived on Camp Lejeune during the impacted times. He has since passed away. What are my options under the CLJA?

Under the CLIA, anyone who resided, worked, or was otherwise exposed (including in utero exposure) to water at Camp Lejeune for at least 30 days between August 1, 1953, and December 31, 1987, may bring an action in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina to obtain appropriate relief for harm that was caused by exposure to the water at Camp Lejeune.

Claims under the CLJA must be filed initially with the Department of the Navy. Information on filing CLJA claims for personal injury or wrongful death can be found at: www.jag.navy.mil/organization/code 15. Camp Leieune Claims.htm



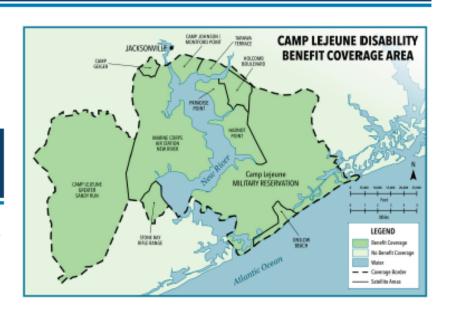
I am a family member of a Veteran, and I believe I was exposed to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune – what are my options?

In addition to filing a daim under the CLJA, VA may be able to provide you with benefits and health care for certain conditions. VA will provide payment or reimbursement for hospital care and medical services provided to a Camp Lejeune family member by a non-VA provider in certain situations. Contact VA to discuss your options.



Will VA treat my Camp Lejeune contaminated water related health care conditions without a lawsuit or disability claim?

Yes, you do not need court awarded relief or a VA compensation benefits decision for VA to provide health care services needed to treat related illnesses if you meet eligibility requirements established in law. Contact VA immediately to understand the resources available to you.



LEARN MORE www.VA.gov/CampLejeune



LET'S MEET
Schedule a virtual or in-person appointment
vets.force.com/VAVERA



LET'S TALK

Speak to a VA benefits specialist by calling

1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)



BE VIGILANT OF PACT ACT SCAMS



On August 10, President Biden <u>signed the</u> <u>PACT Act into law</u>. This law helps millions of Veterans and their survivors by:

- Extending VA health care eligibility for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and Post-9/11 (Post-September 11, 2001) eras
- Expanding benefits eligibility for Veterans exposed to toxic substances and their survivors



How to Apply for PACT Act Benefits

We want Veterans and survivors to apply now for their PACT Act-related benefits. You can learn more and sign up at <u>www.ya.gov/PACT</u>, or call us at 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411).

If you need help applying for benefits, <u>VA</u>, <u>accredited</u> representatives, and <u>Veteran Service Officers</u> are always standing by and ready to help. There's no cost for the forms, no fees to apply, and VA will never charge Veterans for processing a claim.



Tips to Avoid PACT Act Scams

Scammers are taking advantage of new opportunities to commit fraud. There's been an increase in PACT Act-related <u>phishing (email)</u>, vishing (phone), and <u>social media scams</u> targeting Veterans to access their PACT Act benefits or submit claims on their behalf.

Veterans should be cautious of anyone who guarantees a lucrative financial benefit or service. To report suspected fraudulent activity, please contact at vaoighotline@va.gov or call 1-800-488-8244.



Protect yourself against new scams with these tips:

- Do not provide personal, benefits, medical, or financial details online or over the phone. Federal agencies will not contact you unless you make a request.
- Do not click on online ads or engage with social media that seem suspicious.
- . Check for "https://" at the start of website addresses.
- · Enable multi-factor authentication on all accounts.
- · Work with Veteran service providers you already know.
- Submit any suspected fraud to ReportFraud.ftc.gov.

Visit the Cybercrime Support Network for additional resources to help Veterans, service members, and their families combat cybercrime.

www.VA.gov/PACT is the official source of PACT Act Information.





BE VIGILANT OF PACT ACT SCAMS

On August 10, President Biden <u>signed the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson</u>

<u>Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act (PACT Act) into law</u>. This law helps millions of Veterans and their survivors by:

- Extending VA health care eligibility for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and Post-9/11 (Post-September 11, 2001) eras
- Expanding benefits eligibility for Veterans exposed to toxic substances and their survivors



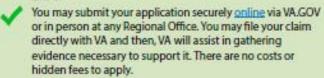


Tips to Avoid PACT Act Scams

Scammers are taking advantage of new opportunities to commit fraud. There's been an increase in PACT Act-related <u>phishing (email)</u>, vishing (phone), and <u>social media scams</u> targeting Veterans to access their PACT Act benefits or submit claims on their behalf.

Veterans should be cautious of anyone who guarantees a lucrative financial benefit or service.

Do's



- Be cautious of companies who advertise VA benefits can only be obtained with their help. These companies may not be recognized by VA and may be attempting to charge illegal fees.
- Be cautious of aggressive companies who may try to pressure you to sign their contract through frequent communications or by insisting "you must act now or lose your chance for benefits."
- Be cautious of companies who claim to be contacting you on behalf of VA or to have a special relationship with VA. Contact VA at 1-800-827-1000 if you are unsure about the authenticity of any message received.
- Validate: If you are interested in working with a Veteran Service Organization (VSO), agent, or attorney, use the Office of General Counsel <u>Accreditation tool</u> to confirm and validate their credentials.

Don'ts

- On not sign a contract agreeing to pay an unauthorized company a percentage of your benefit payment in exchange for their assistance with your VA claim. If you need help filing a claim, there are representatives of VSOs, agents, and attorneys who have been accredited by VA to assist you.
- O not sign a blank form for someone else to complete later.

 Always review the completed form before signing and keep a copy for yourself.
- Do not be fooled by companies who advertise they have special relationships with medical professionals and can guarantee your benefits award. If they are defrauding the Federal government, you could be held responsible for paying those benefits back.
- On not provide your social security number, medical records, or other personally identifiable information to anyone offering claims assistance before confirming their credentials using the Office of General Counsel Accreditation tool.
- O not sign forms that are not <u>VA generated</u> or third-party authorization for someone to provide "behind-the-scenes" claims assistance.

www.VA.gov/PACT is the official source of PACT Act information.

We want Veterans and survivors to apply now for their PACT Act-related benefits.

To report suspected scams, please contact the VA Office of Inspector General (OIG) Hotline (va.gov). File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission. Visit the Cybercrime Support Network for additional resources to help Veterans, service members, and their families combat cybercrime.



Conditions Presumed to be Service Connected

- Asthma (diagnosed after service)
- Brain cancer
- Chronic bronchitis
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Chronic rhinitis
- Chronic sinusitis
- Constrictive bronchiolitis or obliterative bronchiolitis
- Emphysema
- Gastrointestinal cancer of any type
- Glioblastoma
- Granulomatous disease
- · Head cancer of any type
- High blood pressure (hypertension)
- Interstitial lung disease (ILD)

- Kidney cancer
- Lymphomatic cancer of any type
- · Lymphoma of any type
- Melanoma
- Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS)
- Neck cancer
- Pancreatic cancer
- Pleuritis
- Pulmonary fibrosis
- Reproductive cancer of any type
- Respiratory (breathing-related) cancer of any type
- Sarcoidosis

As of August 10, 2022, a long list of new conditions are presumed to be service-connected due to various in-service toxic exposures.

(PACT Act)

Please contact our office to start a claim. 570-327-2365

New Radiation Presumptive Locations



If you were called to respond to one of the listed cleanup and response missions below, you may be eligible for radiation exposure presumptives under the PACT Act.

Response Effort	Dates
Cleanup of Enewetak Atoll	January 1, 1977-December 31, 1980
Cleanup of the Air Force B-52 bomber carrying nuclear weapons off the coast of Palomares, Spain	January 17, 1966-March 31, 1967
Response to the fire onboard an Air Force B-52 bomber carrying nuclear weapons near Thule Air Force Base in Greenland	January 21, 1968-September 25, 1968





News Release

Office of Public Affairs Media Relations

Washington, DC 20420 (202) 461-7600 www.va.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 16, 2023

New VA mission statement recognizes sacred commitment to all Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors

WASHINGTON — Today, the Department of Veterans Affairs announced an updated version of its 1959 mission statement. The new mission statement is: "To fulfill President Lincoln's promise to care for those who have served in our nation's military and for their families, caregivers, and survivors."

The new mission statement is inclusive of all those who have served in our nation's military — including women Veterans — as well as Veteran families, caregivers, and survivors. VA currently serves more than 600,000 women Veterans, the fastest growing cohort of Veterans. VA also serves more than 50,000 Veteran caregivers, more than 600,000 Veteran survivors, and millions of Veterans who did not serve in combat.

In crafting the new mission statement, VA surveyed roughly 30,000 Veterans. Among Veterans surveyed, the new version of VA's mission statement was chosen over the current version by every age group; by men and by women; by LGBTQ+ Veterans; and by white, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian and American Indian/Alaska Native Veterans.

"Whenever any Veteran, family member, caregiver, or survivor walks by a VA facility, we want them to see themselves in the mission statement on the outside of the building," said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. "We are here to serve all Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors — and now, our mission statement reflects exactly that."

In addition to two rounds of surveys, VA conducted dozens of small-group engagements with Veterans to understand what was most important to them in a VA mission statement, then incorporated that feedback into quantitative research. The new mission statement reflects that VA serves all of the heroes who have served our country, regardless of their race, gender, background, sexual orientation, religion, zip code or identity.

The previous mission statement was: "To fulfill President Lincoln's promise 'to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan." The previous mission statement is posted in roughly 50% of VA's facilities. Over the coming months, VA's new mission statement will replace the previous version.

Secretary McDonough will host an event today commemorating the new mission statement, featuring speeches from a woman Veteran, a caregiver and a survivor about what it means to feel included in VA's mission. The event begins at 2:00pm and can be livestreamed here.



12 WEEKS
FOCUSED ON HEALING FROM
SERVICE-RELATED TRAUMA

REBOOT Combat Recovery is a course—not a support group providing practical help for service members, veterans, and families dealing with the moral and spiritual wounds from combat trauma. You won't find shortcuts or easy answers, but instead you'll find solutions that last.

STARTING THIS SPRING, CALL OR EMAIL NATE

REGISTER NOW AT REBOOTRECOVERY.COM

MEETING DAY/TIME:

Thursday's 6:30-8:00 PM MEETING LOCATION:

Revival Tabernacle Gym 960 Susqueganna Trail

Watsontown, Pa 17777

CONTACT FOR INFO:

NathanTate-McCann

(570) 713-0671

tatercanns@gmail.com

- DINNER & CHILDCARE PROVIDED -

Korean War
Veterans of
Lycoming County
Honor Guard

Looking for Veterans to honor Veterans with graveside military honors

"We Still Serve"

Contact:
Honor Guard Commanders
Howard Wilt
(570) 745-3775
David Lomison
(570) 494-1301





Pennsylvania Veterans Registry

www.register.dmva.pa.gov

Don't miss out on valuable Veterans benefits that you may have earned!

Veterans, family members and people who work with Veterans, are welcome to visit online, the PA Veterans Registry to request information related to state benefits, programs and services offered by DMVA.

Registrants can also opt-in to receive timely, informative communications such as program updates, Veteran-related news items, employment opportunities, Veterans events and much more.

www.dmva.pa.gov/veteransaffairs/Pages/Outreach-and-Reintegration/PennsylvaniaVeteransRegistry.aspx



Drop off Location Lycoming County Veterans Affairs Office 330 Pine Street, Suite 401 Williamsport, PA 17701

Phone: 570-327-2365

Lycoming County Hometown Heroes, Inc. Hometown Heroes 2023 Streetlight Banner Program

The Lycoming County Hometown Heroes, Inc. (LCHH) program serves as a tribute to recognize service men and women from the Lycoming County area who have served or are serving our country in a branch of the military.

Reserve your space starting on **January 1**, **2023**. Purchase deadline will be **September 1**, **2023** (**Cost \$210.00**). Each individual banner will include the veteran's name, picture, branch of service, era of service and sponsor's name. The program is non-political and non-partisan.

- ★ Early Bird Special: Purchase Banner by April 7, 2023, and receive 15% off (Cost \$178.50).
- Special Offer- With the purchase of this year's banner we are offering a garden flag for \$40.00. The garden flag will have the Veteran's name, branch of service, era of service and picture. This flag will fit on a normal garden flag holder.

The Hometown Heroes Banners:

- ★ Will be on display for one year
- ★ Will be 18" wide and 36" high
- ★ Will be located on street lights in Williamsport
- ★ Will include the sponsor's name prominently displayed at the bottom of the banner

Ways to Sponsor a Banner

- ★ Family members and loved ones of veterans may purchase a banner themselves or obtain sponsorship by a local business.
 - LCHH is not responsible for finding sponsorship for banners purchased by individuals, family members or loved ones.
- ★ Should a family wish to purchase a banner; the family name will appear on the banner in place of the business sponsorship name.
- ★ Businesses may sponsor a banner for a particular veteran by contacting Lycoming County Home Town Heroes Inc.
- ★ Cost of sponsorship for families, individuals and civic organizations and businesses is \$210.00.
- ★ Please make checks Payable to LCHH (Lycoming County Hometown Heroes).

Sponsorships Benefits include:

- ★ Sponsor's name listed on each banner purchased
- ★ Participation in the Lycoming County Hometown Hero Ceremony
- ★ Listing in the Lycoming County Hometown Hero Ceremony Program Booklet

Lycoming County Hometown Heroes, Inc. is a not for profit, organization whose mission is to recognize the contributions of our veterans who served, promote role models for our youth, and provide assistance to veterans and their families in need.

All sponsorships are tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law.

★ Not looking to Sponsor a Banner, Donations also accepted all year round.

Lycoming County Hometown Heroes, Inc. will make a good faith effort to hang banners on light poles in areas desirable to your business; however, final placement is at LCHH's discretion.

The banners will be provided to the sponsor of the banner at the end of the display year.

*If the specific veteran is being honored, the sponsor must complete the sponsorship form. This helps to ensure that LCHH has the most accurate and correct information. Sponsorship forms CANNOT be completed by LCHH, or over the telephone. *Forms MUST be fully completed to be accepted for sponsorship.

*Please include the Veteran/ Family of Veteran's personal information so we are able to send the LCHH Ceremony information directly to them.

2023 Hometown Heroes Banner Program

Hometown Hero Information (Please print) Submit an ORIGINAL PHOTO- it will be returned

Name of Veteran in Phot	O (as it should appea	r on banner):		
Is the Veteran? ALIVE	DECEASED	KIA	POW/MIA	
Era of Service (WWI, WV	VII, etc.)**		Branch of Military:	
Is this a Renewal? Yes	No	lf so, are you u	sing the same Picture? Yes	No
Sponsor's Name (as it she	ould appear on ban	ner):		85 W 18
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Veteran/ Family of Vetera	an's Information:			
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(Signature)		(Da	(Printed n	name)
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Global War on Terror (GWOT): September 11, 2001 - to present

Cold War: September 2, 1945 - December 26, 1991 Korean Conflict Era: June 27, 1950 - January 31, 1955 WW I Era: April 6, 1917 - November 11, 1918

Persian Gulf: August 2, 1990 - August 31, 1991 Vietnam Era: November 1,1955 - May 7, 1975 WW II Era: December 7, 1941 - December 31, 1946

Black Vietnam vet finally awarded Medal of Honor for bravery

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Nearly 60 years after he was recommended for the nation's highest military award, retired Col. Paris Davis, one of the first Black officers to lead a Special Forces team in combat, received the Medal of Honor on Friday for his bravery in the Vietnam War.

After a crowded White House ceremony, a grateful Davis emphasized the positive of the honor rather than negative of the delay, saying, "It is in the best interests of America that we do things

Thanking President Joe Biden, who draped a ribbon with the medal around his neck, he said, "God bless you, God bless all, God bless America.

The belated recognition for the 83-year-old Virginia resident came after the recommendation for his medal was lost, resubmitted — and then lost again. It wasn't until 2016 — half a century

after Davis risked his life to save some of his men under fire — that advocates painstakingly recreated and resubmitted the paperwork.

Biden described Davis as a "true hero" for risking his life amid heavy enemy fire to haul injured soldiers under his command to safety. When a superior ordered him to safety, according to Biden, Davis replied, "Sir, I'm just not going to leave. I still have an American out there." He

went back into the firefight to retrieve an precision artillery fire and thwarted the injured medic.

"You are everything this medal means," Biden told Davis. "You're everything our nation is at our best. Brave and big hearted, determined and devoted, selfless and steadfast.

Biden said Davis should have received the honor years ago, describing segregation in the U.S. when he returned home and questioning the delay in awarding him the medal.

"Somehow the paperwork was never processed," Biden said. "Not just once.

Davis doesn't dwell on the delayed honor and says he doesn't know why decades had to pass before it finally arrived.
"Right now I'm overwhelmed," he told

The Associated Press in an interview Thursday, the eve of the medal ceremo-

ny.
"When you're fighting, you're not thinking about this moment," Davis said. "You're just trying to get through that moment

"That moment" stretched over nearly 19 hours and two days in mid-June 1965.

Davis, then a captain and commander with the 5th Special Forces Group, engaged in nearly continuous combat during a pre-dawn raid on a North Vietnamese army camp in the village of Bong Son in Binh Dinh province.

He engaged in hand-to-hand combat with the North Vietnamese, called for

capture of three American soldiers — all while suffering wounds from gunshots and grenade fragments. He used his pinkie finger to fire his rifle after his hand was shattered by an enemy grenade, according to reports.

Davis repeatedly sprinted into an open rice paddy to rescue members of his team, according to the ArmyTimes. His entire team survived.

"That word 'gallantry' is not much used these days," Biden said. "But I can think of no better word to describe

Davis, from Cleveland, retired in 1985 at the rank of colonel and now lives in Alexandria, Virginia, just outside Washington. Biden called him several weeks ago to deliver the news.

He says the wait in no way lessens the

honor.
"It heightens the thing, if you've got to wait that long," he said. "It's like someone promised you an ice cream cone. You know what it looks like, what it smells like. You just haven't licked it."

Davis' commanding officer recommended him for the military's top honor, but the paperwork disappeared. He eventually was awarded a Silver Star, the military's third-highest combat medal, but members of Davis' team have argued that his skin color was a factor in the disappearance of his Medal of Honor recommendation.

"I believe that someone purposely lost the paperwork," Ron Deis, a junior member of Davis' team in Bong Son, told the AP in a separate interview

Deis, now 79, helped compile the recommendation that was submitted in 2016. He said he knew Davis had been recommended for the Medal of Honor shortly after the battle in 1965, and he spent years wondering why it hadn't been awarded. Nine years ago he learned that a second nomination had been submitted "and that also was somehow, quote, lost.

"But I don't believe they were lost," Deis said. "I believe they were intentionally discarded. They were discarded because he was Black, and that's the only conclusion that I can come to.

Army officials say there is no evidence of racism in Davis' case.

"We're here to celebrate the fact that he got the award, long time coming, Maj. Gen. Patrick Roberson, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army Special Operations Command, told the AP. "We, the Army, you know, we haven't been able to see anything that would say,

Hey, this is racism."
"We can't know that," Roberson said. In early 2021, Christopher Miller, then the acting defense secretary, or-dered an expedited review of Davis' case He argued in an opinion column later that year that awarding Davis the Medal of Honor would address an injustice.

Williamsport Sun-Gazette, Sunday, March 5, 2023





UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO

- O Did you move?
- W Household changes?
- New phone number?
- New email address?

Don't risk missing important updates about your benefits.

Check and update your information: dhs.pa.gov/COMPASS

or call the Customer Service Center at 1-877-395-8930 or 1-215-560-7226 in Philadelphia

PILLAR COLLEGE OFFERS

TUITION DISCOUNT FOR MILITARY FAMILIES & VETERANS

Let Us Help You Pursue Your Dreams

Pillar College as proud supporters of the GI Bill* supports military veterans and their families by offering a special discount to spouses and children of military veterans, Gold Star Families, and to those veterans no longer eligible for veteran benefits.

Pillar College: Here To Serve You

Our President, Dr. Rupert A. Hayles, Jr., served in the United States Air Force as an officer, and has this to say about our institution:

"Whatever academic program you choose, one thing is sure; you will be on a path of personal transformation as you interact with extraordinary faculty, staff, and students."





Hector Cruz, Veterans Representative U.S. Marines 1986 | Pillar College Alumni All Marine Corps Boxing champion

"I enlisted in the Marines, delayed entry program in April 1986. Upon being discharged in 1991, I held multiple Jobs and went years undlagnosed with PTSD. In losing myself, I found my calling. I earned two bachelor's degrees and two master's degrees from Pillar College. My calling is to minister to veterans."

Degree Programs:

Several concentration and specialties available

- ★ A.A. General Studies
- * B.A. Applied Chemistry
- B.A. Biblical Studies
- B.A. Business Administration and Management
- * B.A. Elementary Education
- * B.A. Intercultural Communication
- * B.A. Psychology and Counseling
- * B.A. Organizational Leadership
- ★ M.A. Counseling
- M.A. Ministry Leadership M.B.A. Social Sector Management



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APPLY FOR OR MANAGE BENEFITS FROM THE COMFORT OF HOME.

YOU DON'T HAVE
TO COME TO THE
COUNTY ASSISTANCE
OFFICE (CAO) TO
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF
VALUABLE SERVICES
OFFERED BY DHS.



* NOTE: SNAP applications by phone is a time-limited service that was implemented to help serve Pennsylvanians while CAOs are closed due to COVID-19.

WE'RE ALWAYS AVAILABLE

ONLINE

Visit www.compass.state.pa.us on a computer or other device

- Apply for Medical Assistance, cash assistance, SNAP, or LIHEAP
- Submit your benefit renewal information
- Review your benefits and case record information
- · Report a change in case information

MOBILE APP

Download the free myCOMPASS PA app for Apple or Android devices

- Upload verification documents to your case record
- Submit your benefit renewal information
- Review your benefits and case record information
- · Report and review changes in case information

PHONE

- Apply for SNAP* or Medical Assistance benefits —
 Call the Consumer Service Center at 1-866-550-4355
- Get COMPASS technical assistance Call 1-800-692-7462
- Request a replacement EBT card Call 1-888-328-7366
- Report a change in information or ask questions about your benefits —
 Call the Statewide Customer Service Center at 1-877-395-8930 or
 215-560-7226 in Philadelphia
- Complete your cash assistance or SNAP interviews with your caseworker

MAIL

Submit your application, verification documents, or renewal packet

- Mail your materials to your local CAO
- · Place your materials in the drop-box outside your local CAO

WWW.DHS.PA.GOV · WWW.COMPASS.STATE.PA.US · 1-866-550-4355



Keeping up with your benefits is as easy as:



- Use COMPASS to apply for and manage benefits online. Visit dhs.pa.gov/COMPASS to get started.
- Download the myCOMPASS PA mobile app from your app store to manage your benefits from your phone.
- Receive updates and alerts from DHS via text message. Go to dhs.pa.gov/Text to find out how to opt-in.





How to Keep Your Health Care Coverage

Pennsylvania is preparing for the end of continuous coverage for Medical Assistance (MA) and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) recipients resulting from the national Public Health Emergency, effective April 1, 2023.

The Department of Human Services (DHS) encourages providers to share the following information with recipients of MA and CHIP to help them stay informed about actions they can take to maintain their coverage after the continuous coverage requirement ends.

More information is available from DHS at www.dhs.pa.gov/PHE.





Continued Coverage

Under the continuous coverage requirement, individuals covered by MA have been able to keep their health coverage even if they would have otherwise become ineligible for the program based on other factors.



Evaluating Eligibility

Once the continuous MA coverage requirement ends, DHS must reach out to see if people are still eligible for MA or CHIP. Recipients will have to complete a renewal to maintain their coverage as long as they are eligible.



DHS will provide instructions on how to re-enroll or share options for coverage if individuals are no longer eligible. Options for free or low-cost health coverage are available at www.pennie.com.



Completing MA or CHIP Renewals

Renewals should be completed when they are received, even if recipients receive them before April 1, 2023.

Recipients will receive a renewal packet in the mail when it is time to renew their coverage. Information about their renewal will start to arrive 90 days before it is due.

It is very important that renewal forms are completed and returned even if nothing has changed.

Completing a renewal will help DHS determine eligibility for MA or CHIP coverage. Coverage will continue for recipients who are still eligible.

There are a few ways for you to complete a renewal:

- Complete the forms DHS sends and mail them back in the envelope included in the packet.
- Drop completed forms off at the local county assistance office (CAO).
- Complete the renewal online at dhs.pa.gov/COMPASS.
- Complete the renewal over the phone by calling 1-866-550-4355.

Updating Contact Information with DHS

Recipients should update any contact information that may have changed so they receive their renewal and other important information:

Utilize these methods to update your address, phone number, or email address:

- Visit COMPASS and log into their My COMPASS Account.
- Use the free myCOMPASS PA mobile app.
- Call 1-877-395-8930 or 1-215-560-7226 (in Philadelphia), Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.





SCAN. UPDATE.

✓ Scan this code
with the camera on their
mobile device to access
the COMPASS website at
dhs.pa.gov/COMPASS



Visit ww.dhs.pa.gov/PHE to stay up to date with DHS information.

The website includes frequently asked questions, videos and webinars, helper information, and more.



Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 press 1

Confidential help for Veterans and their families

Confidential chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net
Or
Text to 838255

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

Commercial: 570-824-3521 Utilization Management - EXT. 27258

24 hr/7 days a week Health Benefits Advisor, Administrative Officer On Duty - EXT. 27140

2nd Annual Veterans Mental Health Awareness Walk

75 Miles / 24 Hours



My name is Ryan Hayslip, after serving 8.5 years active-duty Army with 2 tours to Iraq, I had a hard time adjusting back to civilization. Luckily with the help of my family, the local Vet Center, and the Veterans Affairs, I have been able to manage my mental health problems. So, I wanted to find a way to give back to the Veterans in my area and let them know they are not alone.

I have decided to do another 24-hour walk starting on May 12th at 2pm. The walk this year is a 5K Course at Hepburn St. Riverwalk Parking Lot to allow for more flexibility for people come out and support, anyone is welcome. Feel free to come out and walk to your heart's desire.

100% of the donations are being kept to local programs to help veterans.

CCVA MilitaryShare or MilitaryShare: VFW 7863 Heroes & Horses Local VetCenter

Shirts are for sale this year at 25\$ each. Email me if you are interested in purchasing a shirt.

GoFundMe



Sign Up Page



Contact Info: Ryan Hayslip 253-310-1567 ryanhayslip@ymail.com





Attention Veterans

Announcing Our 2023

Veterans Service Partnership WETERANS SERVICE PARTNERSHI

Fly Fishing Kickoff Event

Saturday, April 8, 2023, 8 A.M. - Noon (Lunch at 11)

At The Millport Conservancy 737 E Millport Rd, Lititz PA 17543

2nd and 4th Saturday each month April through October (May vary)

Donegal Trout Unlimited Veterans Service Partnership (VSP) is offering a free program to Veterans and their family members designed to teach you the basics of fly fishing.

- No experience necessary, beginners welcome!
- We meet the second and fourth Saturday(may vary) of each month for instruction and fishing
- We travel to many different streams beyond Lancaster County
- Free first year membership for Veterans to Donegal Trout Unlimited
- Our Leadership team will provide instruction and stream side guidance
- Equipment and supplies are provided
- Opportunities to participate in conservation efforts in your community
- This program will include an introduction to all the aspects of fly fishing, including: the proper fly fishing equipment and setup, flies and hatches on local trout streams, hands-on fly rod casting instruction, and techniques for catching trout in our local streams, as well as opportunities to participate in conservation efforts

To see what we've been up to, visit our chapter Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Dtuvsp/



DONEGAL CHAPTER

*Space is limited. To register please contact Nick Di Bernardo at dtuvsp@gmail.com, or 717-305-4658.

Donegal Trout Unlimited Veterans Service Partnership Proud to Serve Our Veterans

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YOUR SUPPORT CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY VETERANS

Top Prize: 8 Tournament Winners Will Receive Cruise Vouchers For Two (5 Days, 4 Nights)

Prizes Awarded to Top Male and Female Performers In-Game Contests • Raffles • Networking Opportunities • And More!

> Choose Your Preferred Course Based On Availability

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

For more information or to register, call (717) 263-4326, email veteransoutreach@franklincountypa.gov or visit bit.ly/FranklinVetsGolf

Proceeds benefit the Franklin County Veterans Affairs Outreach Fund

\$500 FOURSOME

Registration includes:
Light Breakfast
Greens Fees • Cart Fees
On-Course Refreshments
Lunch • Door Prize Ticket
Appreciation Gift







Lycoming County Veterans **Memorial Park**

Purple Heart Monument Campaign



The Lycoming County Veterans Memorial Park is adding a Purple Heart Monument to honor those who have received the Purple Heart in defense of our Nation.

Make a \$150 donation to the new Purple Heart Memorial and receive a personalized 4x8 brick with 3 lines of text containing 16 characters per line that will be placed in the walk by the Purple Heart Memorial.

Complete the information below and submit with your donation of \$150:

Line 1				g	ES 5					23
Line 2	/) }		
Line 3										

Text will automatically be centered on brick by the engraver

Your Name			
Address	City	State	Zip
Phone	Email		
Submit completed form	Streets and Parks Department Attn: Veterans Memorial Park		

1550 West Third Street Williamsport, PA 17701

Make checks payable to: Lycoming County Veterans Memorial Park

LYCOMING COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK WILLIAMSPORT, PA

Honor or memorialize a Veteran with a personalized brick permanently placed within the renovated walkways of the Lycoming County Veterans Memorial Park, located at West Fourth Street and Wahoo Drive, Williamsport, PA.

elect a size:		George Dickens US Army 1968				
4" x 8" Up to 3 \$50 Maximum of including and symbol		Vietnam				
includir and symb	of 15 chang letters	aracter s, numbe	s per 1 ers, sp	ine, aces,		
ase fill out 1 order form per b	rick. PRINT	clearly v	vith 1 cha	racter per bl	ock.	
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Address:				-		
						Department Memorial Park
1				3000000	Veterans r West Third	
194 (070)					msport, PA	

Make checks payable to: Lycoming County Veterans Memorial Park

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK OF PICTURE ROCKS

A 501 © (3) Non-Profit Corporation

PERSONALIZED VETERAN BRICK ORDER FORM

Honor or memorialize a Veteran with a personalized brick permanently placed within the walkways of the newly constructed Veterans Memorial Park of Picture Rocks. ALL Veterans, not just those from Picture Rocks, are eligible to have a brick.

The park is located on South Main Street (US Route 220) in Pictures Rocks, Pennsylvania.

Bricks may be engraved with three (3) lines of text. Each line can accommodated a maximum of eighteen (18) characters (which includes letters, punctuation and spaces.)

The \$50.00 price includes the cost of one brick with three lines of engraving and a tax deductible donation of \$32.00.

The f	ollowi	ng cor	ntact in	ıforma	tion is	reque	sted o	f the p	erson j	placin	g the b	orick o	rder:				
Name	Name:																
Mailing Address:																	
City, State & Zip:																	
Telephone:																	
Email Address:																	
Using brick.		locks 1	provid	ed belo	ow, ple	ease P	RINT	clearly	the ir	nforma	ation y	ou wis	sh to h	ave en	graveo	l on th	e

Please submit your completed brick order form, along with a check for the amount of \$50.00, to the following address:

Veterans Memorial Park of Picture Rocks, Inc P.O. Box 410 Picture Rocks, Pa 17762-0410

Checks are payable to the Veterans Memorial Park of Picture Rocks, Inc.

Events:

Veterans Breakfasts

Grim's Diner Hillside Assisted Living Community

5849 Warrensville Road 2725 Four Mile Drive

8:00 a.m. 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

2nd Monday of every month 1st Tuesday of every month

\$8.00 Free

Events:

Horses Healing Heroes

When: 22nd of every month

Where: Elysian Fields Equestrian Center

1345 Tallman Hollow Road, Montoursville

570-975-4991

Free, call for more information

Marine Corps League

3rd Saturday of the Month

August September October November

Tractor Supply

Hot dog and Hamburger sale



That's why we will now offer a **10% discount** on all burial property purchases for veterans with proof of service. Because of your bravery we are able to pay it forward.



List of Businesses with Military Discounts

Restaurants: Services: Products: A & W Root Beer AA Auto Amtrak Arby's AT &T Advance Auto Auntie Anne's Meineke Aeropostale Apple Back Yard Burgers Geico Jiffy Lube Captain D's Auto Zone Chick-Fil-A **Avon Stores** Pep Boys Cotton Patch Bass Pro Shops **Cell Phone Service:** Denny's Bath and Body Works **Dunkin Donuts** Big 10 tires **Sprint** Friendly's T-Mobile The Buckle Verizon Hard Rock Café Champs Sports **IHOP Copelands Sports** Java Café Dell The Following may have annual discount specials **KFC** The Discovery Channel Anheuser Busch Store Long John Silver Dress Barn Disney Outback The Finish Line Homewood Suites by Hilton Panda Express Movie Theaters Footlocker Pizza Hut **Professional Sports Teams GNC** Quizno's Ripley's Attractions and Mu-Home Depot Sizzler seums Hot Topic Sonic Sandals Resorts Jockey Taco Bell Sea World The Kitchen Store TGI Friday

Kohls

Lowes

Michaels Pac Sun

Pure Beauty

Suncoast

Spencer's Gifts

Wilson Leather

Play It Again Sports

Sally Beauty Supply

Timberland Outlets

Whataburger

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

American Legion Post 35-

Glenn Sharrow 76 N. Main St., Hughesville, PA 17737 Phone: 570-584-2123

American Legion Post 36 -

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

American Legion Post 104 -

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

American Legion Post 251 -

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

American Legion Post 268 -

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

American Legion Post 617 -

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

United States Submarine Veterans Inc.

Williamsport Base

Mailing: 160 North Broad St, Hughesville, PA 17737
Meeting Location: Zafar Gorotto Club
381 E. 2nd St, S. Williamsport, PA 17702
Phone: 570-244-1351

VFW Post 3428-

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

VFW Post 5859-

Billy O. Brandt Post 201 N. Lincoln Ave., Jersey Shore, PA 17740 Phone: 570-8656216

VFW Post 7863-

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

Susquehanna Valley Chapter 47 of The Disabled American Veterans

P.O. Box 3372, Williamsport, PA 17701 Phone: 570-244-6649

Williamsport Detachment 388 Marine Corp League Inc.

507 Cemetery Street, 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

Lycoming County Veterans Council Inc.

C/O 2310 Newberry Street Williamsport, PA 17701 570-220-8156

Blue Star Mothers of America Inc. -

Chapter 12 P.O. Box 851

Williamsport, PA 17703

Phone: 570-772-4638

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Your Reps in Washington & Harrisburg



U.S. Representative Dan Meuser — 9th Congressional District

350 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20003

Washington, DC Office 202-225-6511

Market Street Plaza 1000 Market Street Suite 39 Bloomsburg, PA 17815 570-871-6370



PA State Senator Gene Yaw — Senate District 23

175 Pine Street, Suite 105
Williamsport, PA 17701
Phone: 570-322-6457
Senate Box 203023
Harrisburg, Pa 17120-3023

Fax: 570-327-3703 Phone: 717-787-3280 Toll-free: 1-800-443-5772 Fax: 717-772-0575

Website: http://senatorgeneyaw.com/ TTY: 800-364-1581

Email: gyaw@pasen.gov



PA State Representative Joe Hamm — 84th Legislative District

274 Broad Street Tiadaghton Valley Mall

Montoursville, Pa 17754 Room 105

Jersey Shore, PA 17740 Phone: 570-546-2084 Phone: 570-398-4476 Fax: 570-368-5668 Fax: 570-398-5963

Website: http://www.repjoehamm.com/ Email: jhamm@pahousegop.com



PA State Representative Jamie Flick — 83rd Legislative District

Water Tower Square Suite 104 155A East Wing Williamsport, PA 17701 P.O. Box 202083

Phone: 570-337-7638 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2083

Phone: 717-787-2885 Fax: 717-782-2948

Not sure who your representative is? Find out at:

http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/findyourlegislator/county list.cfm?CNTYLIST=LYCOMING

ROM THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS:

id you serve during a period of war and currently have a 100% total and permanent disability rating with the VA or do you have war time service and Individual Unemployability?

Then you may be eligible for real estate tax exemption and free hunting and fishing licenses.

Call 570-327-2365 for more information.

60% - 99% - ask about reduced hunting and fishing licenses.

ROM THE LYCOMING COUNTY VA OFFICE:



Va Benefit Seminar at a Nursing Home, Legion, VFW, or other organization?

Have Mike, Jim or Natalie 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 up a time.



I ome Loans? Contact Bob Brown, VA Loan Officer at Best American Mortgage Company.

Phone: 484-494-6593

Web: www.BESTPALOAN.COM

Licensed by the PA Dept. of Banking

*call for information on eligibility

*call for COEs

*call even if you've had bankruptcy or been denied

ID Card Office Online

Are you active duty or retired from active duty or a dependent of an active duty/active duty retiree, or do you have a 100% total and permanent VA disability rating?

Do you need an ID card?

Go to: https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/

This is for the RAPIDS ID Card Office Online (IDCO) home page.

It is the access point to all IDCO functions.

From this page you can access the ID Card Office Locator, CAC Maintenance, Family/Sponsor update, and My Profile functionality.

The IDCO home page is publicly accessible.

Accessing certain functions from the Home page will require CAC or DS Logon.

Contact them for additional assistance or to report problems, please call:

Toll Free: 800-538-9522 Commercial: 505-335-9980

Community Care

https://www.va.govhttps://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/programs/veterans/index.asp/

Contact for Wilkes-Barre VA is: 570-824-3521; ask for Care in the Community

Overview

VA provides health care for Veterans from providers in your local community outside of VA. Veterans may be eligible to receive care from a community provider when VA cannot provide the care needed.

This care is provided on behalf of and paid for by VA.

Community care is available to Veterans based on certain conditions and eligibility requirements, and in consideration of a Veteran's specific needs and circumstances.

Community care must be first authorized by VA before a Veteran can receive care from a community provider.

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 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Scheduled appointments only

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. 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 570-327-5281.

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

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The Lycoming County CareerLink office is located at: 329 Pine Street in Williamsport

Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday - 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 570-601-5465

For a dedicated professional to help veterans find job opportunities:

Contact: Timothy French
Phone: 570-601-5934
E-mail: tifrench@pa.gov
Online: pacareerlink.pa.gov

Do you know about VRRAP? Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP)

The Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP) offers education and training for high-demand jobs to Veterans who are unemployed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Go online or visit Pennsylvania Career Link to learn more!

https://www.va.gov/education/other-va-education-benefits/veteran-rapid-retraining-assistance/

Lycoming County Office of Veterans Affairs

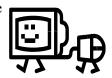
330 Pine Street Williamsport, PA 17701 Suite 401 Executive Plaza Building

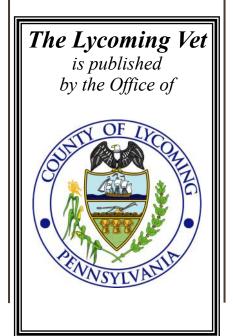
Mailing Address: 48 West Third Street Williamsport, PA 17701 570-327-2365

County Commissioners
Scott Metzger,
Chairman
Tony R. Mussare,
Vice Chairman
Richard Mirabito,
Secretary

Visit Our Web Site: Www.lyco.org/VA

For up-to-date News and Information For Veterans





We are here to help you, please call 570-327-2365 to schedule an appointment.

Fully accredited as a Veterans Service Officers by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

W. Michael McMunn Director of Veterans Affairs

wmcmunn@lyco.org

US Army

Natalie S. Steppe Assistant Director of Veterans Affairs nsteppe@lyco.org

> James Mitchley Assistant of Veterans Affairs

jmitchley@lyco.org

• US Army

Keely J. Hitchens Secretary kjhitchens@lyco.org

Office Hours

Scheduled Appointments on:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8:30 AM — 5:00 PM

Walk-Ins Welcomed on Wednesday No Comp. or Pension Claims. No Appointment needed Information ONLY 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Closed weekends and major holidays.

The Lycoming County VA Office Will Be Closed:

Good Friday - April 7, 2023

Memorial Day - May 29, 2023

Independence Day - July4, 2023

Labor Day - September 4, 2023

Veterans Day - November 10, 2023

Warm Up Shop



In need of a warm jacket or other necessity?

Come on in for a visit, no appointment needed!

Items available vary!!









We are looking for gently used or new jackets, scarves, gloves or other necessities.

Other items may include:

Blankets

Walkers

Canes

Clothes for interviews

Hats

Etc.

Thank you!!!!