



Thank You VETERANS

Oct-Dec 2020

Vol. 27, No. 4



DELAWARE

Department of State
Office of Veterans Services
In Support of DCVA

802 Silver Lake Blvd. Suite 100
Dover, DE 19904
(302) 739-2792
Fax (302) 739-2794

www.veteransaffairs.delaware.gov

John Carney, Governor
Jeffrey Bullock, Secretary of State



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Chairman's Corner

Greetings Delaware Veterans and Families from Charles Baldwin, Chairperson of the Delaware Commission of Veteran Affairs! On August 1, 2020, I assumed the position as Chairperson of the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs (DCVA) to serve a two year term. I preferred the title of Royal Highness or Emperor to Chairperson but all the non Navy personnel objected so, Chairperson it is. I am a retired US Navy Command Master Chief, retired HS Principal and co-founder of the Delaware Military Academy and have served on the Commission for four years. I cherish the opportunity to help my brothers and sisters in any way possible. My fellow commissioners are equally committed and the new Vice Chair, Sgt. Major Anna Lopez, is an experienced veterans affairs advocate and look forward to our collaboration.

We have set up appointments with several Legislators to discuss the status of our disabled veterans tax exclusion bill that was not acted upon last year as PROMISED. We are still the only state without legislation addressing 100% disabled veterans, check it out on the internet.

We must also address the issue of military retired pay being exempted from state income tax. Delaware is one of 21 states which continues this practice. Veterans who are highly skilled in logistics, cyber security, port operations, and technology are opting not to come to our state. An additional item on the agenda is increasing pay of employees at the Veterans Home in Milford to an equitable level salary in relation to civilian counterparts. As well as improved communications to the veteran population on policies and procedures.

Several years ago I attended a Veterans Day service at the De. Memorial Veterans Park. Twenty minutes before the service began I observed a few vets being carried from vehicles to their seats under the tent as a result of their disabilities received in the service of their country. They were anxious to celebrate and pay respect to their brother and sister veterans who sacrificed life for defense of our way of life. God Bless them for demonstration of true affection. VIP's on Veterans Day and every day are **veterans!!**

Please communicate your concerns. Be assured we are not shy about holding to task responsible individuals in ensuring fair treatment for all veterans. Veterans are my heroes!! Happy Birthday to all our US Navy veterans on October 13th, US Navy Birthday.

The Vice Chair and I are available to attend organization meetings, if invited, and look forward to working with you to ensure the motto of the VA through the words of President Abraham Lincoln remains the guide in veterans care: *...to care for him who has borne the battle, and his widow and his orphan*

Stay safe—Chuck Baldwin, Chairperson DCVA



Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 83 Gold Star Program hosted Gold Star Mothers and Families for a service at the Delaware Hershel "Woody" Williams Gold Star Memorial on September 25. In keeping with Governor Carney's COVID-19 guidelines the service was limited in size. We were honored to have MG Frank Vavala as our keynote speaker. The DENG and DPG assisted in this memorable event.

Gold Star Mother's and Family's a Day is traditionally observed on the last Sunday in September. The day is for honoring immediate family members (mothers, fathers, spouses, children and siblings) of those who have received The Gold Star Lapel Button – the military award no one wants. The award commemorates the tragic death of a military member who has perished while on active duty in a combat theatre or Act of Terrorism and hopes to provide a level of comfort to the families that are left behind. Today only around 1% of the country is involved in military service, as compared to the 12% during other times of war, like World War II, there are still a significant number of surviving Gold Star families – not to mention, a Gold Star lives on in a family's legacy. There is also a Next of Kin Lapel Button issued to immediate family members whose loved one died while on active duty, but other than a combat theatre or Act of Terrorism death.

During World War I the Gold Star came to symbolize that an immediate family member had fallen in battle. Around that time, the term "Gold Star Family" came to mean that you were a surviving family of a person who died in service and families hung banners with a gold star outside their homes. The tradition has since been authorized and seeks to ease the grief of Gold Star Families while reminding that no one truly serves alone.

Gradually, there came to be many ways for grieving family members to honor their loved ones with symbols worn or places outside the home. In 1918, President Wilson allowed grieving military mothers to wear a traditional black armband featuring a gold star. Soon after, it was approved for families to cover the blue star on the service flag outside of their home with a gold one.

Though Gold Star Mother's and Family Day isn't observed as a National, federal holiday like Memorial Day, it was declared by Congress in 1936 to be the last Sunday in September – though, at the time, it was only known as "Gold Star Mother's Day." It was in 2011 that President Obama amended the declaration, declaring the day to include families as well as mothers. The holiday includes an immediate family member and authorizes that person to display the Gold Star Service Flag.

Understanding the sacrifice and acknowledging the holiday are the best ways to support the Gold Star mothers, fathers, children, spouses and siblings and honor the soldiers that gave the "last full measure". There is no one who understands the high costs of military service or the losses of war better than our Gold Star Families.

Our Gold Star Families continue to be honored in Delaware as we remain the model to the Nation as to how we recognize our Gold Star Families through our many programs. In the upcoming weeks we will be renaming an intersection in memory of one of our fallen. Thank you Delaware for never forgetting.



Pictured front row L-R: Fred Yetter, Rocky & Donna Graves, George Higgins, Darrell Fiscus, Margaret Hohmann, Judy Campbell, Christine Loncki, Jennifer Gawinski and Deb Marckese

Back row L-R: SPC Gabrielle Chuke, SGT Sa'eed Abuwi, Taylor Hawk, Elaine Daws, Terry Baker, Tom Daws, Kathleen Higgins, MG Frank Vavala, Deb Fiscus, Chuck Baldwin, Holly Hitzig, BG Terry Wiley, Margie Donovan-Abbott, Sylvia Seppala, Joshua Matticks, Earl Seppala, Walt Loncki and Richard Campbell

WWII Marine Tributed on 100th Birthday

WWII veteran Richardson C. Tritt celebrated his 100th birthday on August 20 at his Dover home surrounded by family members, friends and elected officials. He was later recognized by members of his church in a drive-by salute.

Paul Davis, president of the Delaware Council, Vietnam Veterans of America, offered his thanks to Mr. Tritt for his years of wartime service between July 1942 and January 1945 where he served as a member of the Marine Corps Raiders, a special operations force that conducted amphibious light infantry warfare. They were said to have been the first Marine Corps special forces unit to see combat in WWII.

"I would do it all over again," said Mr. Tritt. Two legislative tributes were presented to Mr. Tritt lauding his military service and his years as a teacher and coach in men and women's sports in Greenwood before moving to Smyrna where he served as a football coach and taught physical education for 35 years. Mr. Carson noted Mr. Tritt was one of his elementary school teachers.



Photo L-R: Rep. Bill Bush (29th Dist.); Paul Davis, VVA; Sen. Dave Lawson (15th District); Rep Bill Carson, (28th District). **Seated:** Richardson Tritt.



L-R: Don Coffman, Winston Burns, Bryan Clarke, Woody Postles, John Sabanosh, Paul Davis, Joe Startt Jr., Dan Watson, Ken Bodine.
Not pictured: Ray Harris, Peter Senft, Dave Skocik

Four years after holding their national convention in Dover in September 2017, the Vietnam Dustoff Association, who referred to themselves as "A gathering of rusty eagles," will again bring their national convention to Dover from September 20 to 25, 2021, with the intention to make their affiliation permanent. According to Dustoff Association spokesman John Sabanosh, the organization intends to make Dover its official home base.

Again hosted by Kent County Chapter 850, Vietnam Veterans of America, former crew members and their spouses will be honored at a dinner at Dover's Modern Maturity Center as part of their activities that will include visits to a number of historic sites in Delaware and Washington, D.C.

"The decision to make Delaware their home results from their first visit," said Paul Davis, president of the State VVA Council. "They have rotated their conventions across the nation and will continue to do so, but have never been as acknowledged and honored as they were here in Kent County," he said. Chapter 850's convention committee has met several times and is working on a full schedule of events. The official sendoff will happen at a morning ceremony on September 25, 2021, at the Kent County Veterans Memorial Park in Dover.

Broadway Comes to Middletown

Historic Everett Theatre will be the venue for a fundraiser to build a unique Veterans Watchmaker School in Middletown.

“You’ll Never Walk Alone” is the theme of a **Saturday, October 17 at 7 p.m.** fundraising concert at Middletown’s Everett Theatre by Broadway vocalist, pianist, actor, and dancer Grace Field. See GraceField.net.

She will perform a combination of Broadway, popular and even operatic music to highlight the disabled American veterans being trained as certified watchmakers at the Veterans Watchmaker Initiative in Odessa and to raise money for a larger school in Middletown.



Reservations are required. Visit www.facebook.com/VeteransWatchmakerInitiative for a link to buy tickets for virtual attendees and a limited number of physical attendees in compliance with Covid19 restrictions, or to make a tax deductible contribution.

“This is the kickoff fundraising event for the long-planned school in Middletown welcomed by the town council three years ago. It will be built on acreage donated by the Money family,” said school founder and director Sam Cannan of Dover.

The current Odessa school, housed in a former EMT station, was opened in 2017 and is limited to a handful of students. This unique school, which trains disabled veterans tuition free, has gained national media attention. It was built through private and corporate donations, including donated labor by citizens and veterans organizations. The new school will accommodate 40 students from across the nation who will be trained, housed, and fed at no cost to them.

“Considering the selfless service our veterans have contributed to our nation, this is the least we can do for them,” said Mr. Cannan, himself a retired Swiss-trained watchmaker. The project is estimated to cost about \$5M and will also be built with private contributions. Visit www.VeteransWatchmakerInitiative.org for information on the school.

Graduates of the Technician Class of 2017



Graduates of the Technician Class of 2019



Please visit our FB page & website for more information!



Graduates of the 1st Master Watchmaker Class of 2019
Rick Auburn, Jonathan Dunn, Giancarlo LaRusso,
Sam Cannan, Jason Adams, and Don Morton.



Biddle House will be VWI Residence for out-of-state veteran students



Veterans Watchmaker Initiative Inc.



New Service Center!

‘I will treasure this always’: Newark veterans honored with Quilts of Valor

By Jacob Took (Jtook@chespubl.com)

Carol Holtmeyer joined the United States Air Force in 1974, serving five and a half years as an aircraft mechanic. On Wednesday, August 19, 2020, 46 years later, the Quilts of Valor Foundation honored Holtmeyer and fellow Air Force veteran Kathy Mosher in a ceremony outside Newark’s Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 475.

“The whole reason that I went into the military is because my brother, a Newark boy, gave his life in Cambodia. I knew that I had to complete his mission,” she said, referring to her brother, Richard Alan Bowman, who was killed during the Vietnam War. “To be recognized now is so significant.”

Quilts of Valor Delaware State Coordinator Dana Mason conducted the ceremony, thanking Holtmeyer and Mosher for their years of service. As they wrapped the quilts around the veterans' shoulders, members of Post 475 applauded. For Mosher, it was an emotional moment.

Mosher served as a nurse in Germany during Operation Desert Storm, a military operation against Iraqi forces in Kuwait during 1990-91. She worked on the operating table, healing soldiers wounded on the battlefield. It was especially difficult, she said, because she saw her brother in each of those soldiers.

The Quilts of Valor Foundation honors veterans around the country with hand-sewn quilts, which symbolize the love and thanks of friends and family. Many of the veterans, like Holtmeyer, returned home to little fanfare.

Holtmeyer, who later served in the army and had a 30-year career at Chrysler, is involved with A Hero’s Welcome, an organization that honors returning veterans with welcome-home celebrations. She met Mosher at a welcome-home event for Holtmeyer's son, who served for 12 years in Iraq and whose best friend was killed by an improvised explosive device. He feels the pain of that loss to this day, Holtmeyer said.

Many returning veterans struggle with trauma from their experiences, and the quilts are meant to be comforting and healing. Marguerite Niemoeller, another Delaware state coordinator for Quilts of Valor, explained that the organization has awarded more than 252,000 quilts since its founding in 2003, including over 9,000 so far this year. Addressing Holtmeyer and Mosher at the ceremony, Mason said she considers it a privilege to honor them.

Mosher said that the quilts are special because they are a tangible reminder of love and support, not something to set on a shelf or put in a drawer. “They want us to wrap ourselves in it when we feel the need, and sometimes there’s a lot of need,” she said. “To know that in all of the pieces and all of the stitches, someone loved me enough to do this for me – it’s really special. I will treasure this always.”

Please visit: <https://www.newarkpostonline.com>, for the complete article & more pictures.



Holtmeyer poses with VFW Post 475 Quartermaster, John Morrow, after receiving her Quilt of Valor.
Newark Post—Photo by Jacob Took



Marguerite Niemoeller and Dana Mason, representatives of Quilts of Valor, present quilts to Carol Holtmeyer and Kathy Mosher during a ceremony outside VFW Post 475. Newark Post—Photo by Jacob Took

Carol Holtmeyer and Kathy Bowman Mosher are both members of the ‘A Hero’s Welcome.’ “Both members are great asset to our organization which are made up of 99% women. We are extremely proud of them.”

-Roselyn Robinson (A Hero’s Welcome –Delaware)



Masonic Charities of Delaware contributes to Warriors Helping Warriors

Masonic Charities of Delaware has contributed \$5,000 to Warriors Helping Warriors. The presentation was made on July 8, 2020, by Charities Board President S. Curtis Cole at the Masonic Lodge, Dover. He was accompanied by Fred Roland, past president of the Masonic charity.

Warriors Helping Warriors was started by Kevin Conley and his family, in December of 2013 in Middletown, Del. They sought out other veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan who had been frustrated working through the VA system dealing with health and benefits due them. The Brian Conley Veteran Resiliency Center is an educational, counseling, and residential center for Veterans and their families to receive support while reintegrating back into society after active duty.

For more information visit www.whwhonline.org.



The Resiliency Center in Middletown Delaware operated by Warriors Helping Warriors will be adding a new Handicapped ADA compliant bedroom and bath to further assist Delaware's Homeless Veterans. Shelter Executive Director Kevin Conley reports that 17 vets have moved from the home into independent living in the 18 months the shelter has been open. In all 38 vets have lived in the home ranging in stays from 4-6 months each.



Left to right: Fred Roland; William Conley; S. Curtis Cole; Dylan, Brynn and Kevin Conley; Angus (dog)



Due to COVID restrictions, DCVA's annual ceremony will be held virtually with the guidance from Chairman Baldwin and Vice Chair Lopez. We will share the video on November 11, 2020 at 10:30 am through approved technical channels. We appreciate your patience and understanding. -DCVA



John McNeal, Director & ADAC
302-739-3620

Dee L. Rivard, TBI Fund Administrator
302-257-3614

If you are living with a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), or know a survivor, please review and **share the information below**. Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBIs) are often referred to by medical professionals as the “**Silent Epidemic**.” We need your help to end the silence!

Applications from TBI survivors are considered on a case by case basis by the TBI Fund Committee to determine funding eligibility for short-term therapy, treatment, or necessary equipment that is not paid by healthcare insurance. To learn more or to submit an application to the TBI Fund, please click here:
<https://scpd.delaware.gov/brain-injury-funds.shtml>

The new SCPD **Traumatic Brain Injury Fund - Project Gallery** is now LIVE and accessible from the Information dropdown menu on the SCPD website. Please take the time to visit this page to see the type of things that Delaware's Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Fund can help Survivors obtain:
<https://scpd.delaware.gov/braininjuryfund/contentFolder/projectGallery.shtml>

Also if you have not yet had the opportunity to view the TBI Survivor Stories on the SCPD website please check them out at:
<https://scpd.delaware.gov/youStory.shtml>. We are sharing these stories of Delawareans who **ARE the Silent Epidemic**

While you are visiting the SCPD website, I hope that you will take the time to view the **Traumatic Brain Injury Fund - Thank You** section of the SCPD website at:
<https://scpd.delaware.gov/braininjuryfund/contentFolder/tbifThanks.shtml>

The Brain Injury Information section of the SCPD website contains Facts, Financial Assistance, TBI Information, a list of Resources, Rehabilitation Centers, and Support Groups available for Brain Injury Survivors and a Q & A section. This section is also available from the “Information” dropdown menu or you can visit it quickly by clicking here: <https://scpd.delaware.gov/braininjury.shtml>

Thank you for taking the time to read this. Please share it with social workers, case managers, and medical professionals who may want to share this information with Survivors and their family.

Supportive Services FOR VETERAN FAMILIES



ARE YOU A VETERAN WHO IS HOMELESS OR AT RISK OF BECOMING HOMELESS

Call 1-888-385-1250 now for 24/7 connection to COVID-19 Emergency Assistance



Housing Placement and
Past-Due Rent Assistance,
Referrals & More are Available

Visit www.VMCenter.org for more information

MOAA
FOUNDATION

COVID-19
Relief Fund

As the nation endures the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), a nonprofit known as the MOAA Foundation established a COVID-19 Relief Fund to give immediate financial support to those who need it most.

Through the COVID-19 Relief Fund, the MOAA Foundation is providing grants up to \$500 per household for military and veteran families or caregivers experiencing financial hardship due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Applications will be taken until need no longer exists or funds have been exhausted.

Applicants should contact COL Eugenia "Gene" Thornton, Chapter President, Dover MOAA at 302 335 1655 or genethornton@comcast.net to receive forms required for processing. Applications *must* go through the local chapter before being sent to MOAA National for determination.

More information about MOAA's COVID-19 Relief Fund can be found at MOAA.org/covid19milsupport.

The MOAA Foundation creates, enhances, expands, and supports high-impact, proven-successful programs and services that enable the nation's uniformed service members and veterans of all ranks and their families to maintain a quality of life reflective of their selfless service to America. The foundation funds these programs and services through philanthropic contributions from the American people, corporations, MOAA members along with Councils and Chapters, those who seek to assist members of the military community.

WE HONOR VETERANS

Fellow veterans, allow me to introduce to you the We Honor Veterans program affording high value care in hospice services to our warriors. I am a member and encourage organizations and veterans to learn more about the program and how they may participate and support. To schedule a presentation please contact Charles Baldwin through the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs at 302 739 2792 or at email cbcbaldwin19@gmail.com

The **We Honor Veterans** partner program was established with the goal of helping agencies to care for and honor those who have served when they reach the end of life. It is a 5-tiered program allowing agencies to demonstrate systemic commitment to improving care for Veterans both within their organization and the communities they serve.

Compassionate Care Hospice in New Castle County Delaware has achieved the distinction of **Level 3 Partner**, demonstrating their strong relationships with VA medical centers and other Veteran organizations. This is recognized by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization as well.

Compassionate Care also provides specialized programs for Veterans through their Veteran-to-Veteran Volunteer Program, individualized Salutes, honoring events and memorial ceremonies provided to veterans on service as well as to their families after the loss of a Veteran.

Compassionate Care is working diligently to achieve Level 4 distinction and continue their ongoing efforts to care for and honor those who have served when they reach the end of life.

For more information please visit: <https://www.wehonorveterans.org/>





VETERANS AWARENESS CENTER FOUNDATION INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

Red, White & Bloom
Military Women's Tea Party

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A GARDEN STYLED PARTY
WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SHOW OFF YOUR FAVORITE SPRING FINERY AND
HATS!

DATE: Saturday, March 20, 2021 2pm-4pm

Location: Dover Elks Lodge
200 Sansbury Road
Dover, De. 19904

RSVP FOR THIS FREE EVENT BY MARCH 1, 2021

WE WOULD LOVE TO ADD ANY OF YOUR MILITARY PHOTOS TO OUR SLIDE
SHOW!

PLEASE FORWARD THEM, WITH YOUR RSVP, TO THE EMAIL ADDRESS
BELOW

NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2021

beth.militarytea@gmail.com
302-349-4898

Registration opens at 1:45 pm

DELAWARE 2021 VETERANS' STAND DOWN

Friday
23 April 2021
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Schutte Park
10 Electric Avenue
Dover, DE 19904



VETERANS' STAND DOWN

Community & VA Services for ALL Veterans

Housing • Medical • Dental • Flu Shots • Behavioral Health • VA Eligibility & Benefits
Hair Cuts • Legal Service • Hot Lunch • Warm Clothing
Transportation Provided at key pick up locations.

Donations may be sent to the "Delaware Veterans' Stand Down" at
12385 Sussex Highway • Greenwood, DE 19950

For more information contact:
302-349-4898 or lbjnavcret@hotmail.com



Veterans Assistance Day
FREE LEGAL ADVICE FOR VA APPEALS ONLY*
Fall 2020 Appointments

***Discharge Upgrade advice available on Sept. 23rd
and Oct. 21st.**

Widener University Delaware Law School Veterans Law Clinic is offering virtual appointments this fall for VA Appeals cases at the following dates and times:

- Wednesday, September 23rd
 - Wednesday, October 21st
 - Tuesday, November 10th
- Times – 9:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M., 11:00 A.M., 12:00 P.M. for all days.

If you would like to discuss your case with an attorney at the clinic, please leave a message at 302-477-2090 stating you are interested in setting up a phone or video conference.

Be sure to leave your name and number. Someone will reach out to you to schedule a convenient time, provided your issue is within our practice area (veterans benefits claims and appeals).

Widener University Delaware Law School
4601 Concord Pike
Wilmington, DE 19803-0406

302-477-2090
302-477-2227 (Fax)
delawarelaw.widener.edu



Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1105 Sussex County Delaware

Meetings - Every 3rd Tuesday @ 11:30 am

Meeting Location:

American Legion Post 28
31768 Legion Road - Route 24
Long Neck, DE 19966

We welcome all veterans!

VA Health Care & Benefits Information
VA Health Care in the Community
In Home Health Care - Nursing Home Information
Learnt about the 'New Disability Known Diseases'
Pensions and widows benefits

You owe it to 'Yourself and your family!'

POC: Joe A. Moore, President - 302-542-3889 or Roger Rose, 1st VP - 302-947-9626

Toll Free Numbers for Contacting Federal VA

Beneficiaries in receipt of Pension Benefits	1-877-294-6380
<p>Benefits (VA):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burial • Death Pension • Dependency Indemnity Compensation • Direct Deposit • Directions to VA Benefits Regional Offices • Disability Compensation • Disability Pension • Education • Home Loan Guaranty • Medical Care • Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment 	1-800-827-1000
CHAMPVA Meds by Mail	1-888-385-0235 (or) 1-866-229-7389
Combat Call Center	1-877-WAR-VETS (1-877-927-8387)
Debt Management Center (Collection of Non-Medical Debts)	1-800-827-0648
Children of Women Vietnam Veterans (CWVV) Foreign Medical Program (FMP) Spina Bifida Health Care Program	1-877-345-8179 (or) 1-888-820-1756
Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Dept. of VA (CHAMPVA) CHAMPVA In-House Treatment Initiative (CITI)	1-800-733-8387
eBenefits Technical Support	1-800-983-0937
Education (GI Bill)	1-888-442-4551
Health Care Benefits	1-877-222-8387
Life Insurance: Service members and/or Veterans Group Life Insurance Program All other VA Life Insurance Programs	1-800-419-1473 1-800-669-8477
Mammography Helpline	1-888-492-7844
Smoking Cessation Counselors	1-855-QUIT-VET (1-855-784-8838)
Special Issues - Gulf War/Agent Orange/Project Shad/Mustard Agents and Lewisite/Ionizing Radiation	1-800-749-8387
Status of Headstones and Markers	1-800-697-6947
Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD)	Dial 711
Veterans Crisis Line	1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255)
Vets.gov Help Desk	1-855-574-7286
White House VA Hotline	1-855-948-2311
Women Veterans Hotline	1-855-VA-WOMEN (1-855-829-6636)



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Wilmington - Regional Benefit Office
(Claims & Benefits)

1601 Kirkwood Highway
Wilmington, DE 19805
(800) 827-1000

Wilmington - VA Medical Center

1601 Kirkwood Hwy
Wilmington, DE 19805

(800) 461-8262
or (302) 994-2511

<http://www.wilmington.va.gov/>



**Community Based
Outpatient Clinic**

Dover VA –CBOC

1198 S. Governors Ave.
Dover, DE 19904
(800) 461-8262 x 2400

Georgetown VA –CBOC

21748 Roth Ave
Georgetown, DE 19947
(800) 461-8262 x 2300

Patient Advocate: (302) 633-5556

****For all medical facilities***

Mark Taylor

Community Outreach Specialist
Office of Director

Office: (302) 994-2511 ext. 4598
Work cell: (302) 932-7519
Fax: (302) 633-5591
Email: mark.taylor10@va.gov

Valerie Camarillo

Community Outreach Specialist
Kent & Sussex Counties

Office: (800) 462-8262
Work cell: (302) 357-8715
Fax: (302) 633-5591
Email: Valerie.camarillo@va.gov



File online with eClaims at www.benefits.va.gov.



Attention Veterans & Family Members:

**Due to COVID-19 restrictions,
please make sure you contact
the following agencies, veteran
organizations, offices, etc. to
confirm the times and
locations have not changed
before meeting with your VSO
(Veteran Service Office).**

**Thank you and
continue to stay safe!**



New Castle County: Lisa Smith
Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Bear, DE
Monday – Friday: 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Please call for an appointment: (302) 365-8231

Kent County: Josh Matticks
DCVA office in Dover, DE
Monday–Friday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Please call for an appointment: (302) 257-3119

Sussex County: Laurie Corsa
Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Millsboro, DE
Monday-Friday: 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Please call for an appointment: (302) 648-3068



Due to the renovations at the VA SVO Building,
the VFW Service Officer new address is:

Vet Center
2710 Centerville Road
Wilmington, DE
David Hilliard
302.994.2511 x7586
Website: www.vfwde.com

OUTREACH SCHEDULE:

**1st through 4th Thursday Mornings
8:30am to 11:30am**

Dover Department of Labor
Division of Employment and Training
(302) 739-5473
Blue Hen Corporate Center
655 South Bay Road
Dover, DE 19901

(The old Blue Hen Mall, 'round the back on the North end)

1st Thursday Afternoon - 1:30pm to 3pm

Blue Hen VFW Post 6483
(302) 422-4412
77 Veterans Circle
Milford, DE 19963

2nd Thursday Afternoon - 1:30pm to 3pm

Virgil Wilson VFW Post 4961
(302) 629-3092
9767 Middleford Road
Seaford, DE 19973

3rd Thursday Afternoon 1:30pm to 3pm

Rehoboth Beach VFW Post 7447
(302) 227-3469
101 State Road
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

4th Thursday Afternoon 1:30pm to 3pm

Virgil Wilson VFW Post 4961
(302) 629-3092
9767 Middleford Road
Seaford, DE 19973

REMINDER: Due to COVID restrictions, please contact the offices below to confirm times and locations have not changed. Thank you!



New Castle County:

1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Bldg. 13, Room 27
Wilmington, DE 19805

Mark Donberger, DAV NVO Supervisor

Please call to set up appointments:
302-993-7258
302-994-84254 (fax)

Kent County:

DAV Dept. Service Officers: (302) 697-9061

Paul Lardizzone: (302) 382-3448

Benjamin G. Flynn (404) 902-1920

Audrey Cohen (302) 448-0397

William R. Muffley (302) 382-3449

DAV Headquarters Building
183 South Street
Camden, DE 19934

Monday - Thursday 8:00-11:00 AM (Walk-ins)

Sussex County:

Dept. of Labor / Div. of Employment & Tng.
(302) 856-5230

20093 Office Circle, Georgetown, DE 19947

For more info. please call: 302-697-9061



VA Regional Office
1601 Kirkwood Hwy
Wilmington, DE 19805

Nolan Lewis at (302) 345-6911

nabvetsde.chpt94@gmail.com or nlewis2939@yahoo.com

Hours: 11am– 3pm (1st and 3rd Mondays of month)
Please contact for more schedule info.

Joseph T. Houghton
Dept. Service Officer:
(302) 993-7255



Friday, October 2, 2020

Post #28-Millsboro

10:00 AM- 1:00 PM:

(302) 945-1673

Thursday, October 9 2020

Walter L Fox/Post #2-Dover

10:00 AM- 1:00 PM: (302) 674-3922

Friday, November 6, 2020

Oak Orchard/Riverdale/Post #28-Millsboro

10:00 AM- 1:00 PM: (302) 945-1673

Friday, November 20, 2020

Walter L Fox/ Post #2 –Dover

10:00 AM- 1:00 PM: (302) 674-3922

Friday, December 4, 2020

Oak Orchard/Riverdale/Post #28-Millsboro

10:00 AM- 1:00 PM: (302) 945-1673

Friday, December 11, 2020

Walter L Fox/ Post #2 –Dover

10:00 AM- 1:00 PM: (302) 674-3922

Friday, December 18, 2020

Callaway-Kemp-Raughley-Tee, Harrington



VA Regional Office
1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Rm 26
Wilmington, DE 19805
(302) 993-7252/7253

2114 S DuPont Hwy, Suite 2, Dover DE
Thursdays: 8:00 AM - 12 PM

Dover CBOC:
1st & 3rd Thursdays: 1PM - 4PM

Georgetown CBOC :
2nd & 4th Thursdays: 1PM - 4PM



VSO—VVA Representative
VA Regional Office
1601 Kirkwood Hwy.
Wilmington, DE 19805
(302) 993-7250-7250

24/7 Housing Help for Veterans 877-424-3838

If you are a veteran who is homeless and need somewhere to sleep tonight...

Referral to Shelter

Housing Alliance Delaware:
(302) 654-0126 X122

The Department of Veterans Affairs
(302) 994-2511 X 2445

If you are a veteran who is homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless and you need help...

SSVF- Supportive Services for Veteran Families Programs

Connections Community Support Programs:
(302) 250-5868 New Castle Co.
(302) 518-5338 Kent Co.
(302) 332-0913 Sussex Co.

VMC -Veterans Multi-Service Center:
Statewide: (302) 668-7331

Other Resources

www.DelawareHousingSearch.org
877-428-8844

Delaware 211
www.delaware211.org

Delaware Joining Forces
<http://Delaware.gov/djf/>



Are you in need of emergency food assistance?
The Food Bank of Delaware directly
distribute to the public!

222 Lake Blvd. Newark, DE 19713	1040 Mattlind Way Milford, DE 19963
Mon-Fri: 7:00am—3:30pm	Mon-Friday: 8am—4pm
3rd Thursday: 7:30am—7pm	2nd Tuesday: 8am-7pm
2nd Saturday: 9am-noon	2nd Saturday: 9am-noon
Entrance in back of bldg., near loading ramp.	Enter through the front door with green awning.



Stand By Me can help you reach financial
well-being at every stage of your life.
Personal financial coaching is available free of
charge to Delawareans from all walks of life.

For more information, please contact us at:
302-255-9621 or info@standbymede.org

Statewide Emergency Repair Program (SERP)
Housing Development Corporation
302-491-4010
Toll Free: 844-413-0038

**VA's Adapted Housing Grants
for Disabled Veterans**
1-800-827-1000
www.eBenefits.va.gov



Transitional home for homeless veterans.

HOB I for Men: (302) 424-1681
HOB II for Women & Children: (302) 422-4146

Jessica Finan (Executive Director)
Stephanie Beers (Case Manager)



The Brian Conley- Veterans Resiliency Center
Warriors Helping Warriors

104 S. Broad Street
Middletown, DE 19709
(302) 696-2320/ 2318 (fax)
<https://www.whwonling.org>

Please visit our DE Joining Forces website to research more resources available to veterans:
<http://Delaware.gov/djf/>



Veteran Employment Services

Wilmington / Allen Jones : (302) 761-8141

Newark / Freddy Rodriguez : (302) 451-3456

Dover / Danny Mosby: (302) 857-5881

Georgetown/ Gail Gartner: (302) 858-5232

Division of Vocational Rehab.: (302) 761-8275



VA Disability &
Social Security programs

For more information please visit:
<https://www.ssa.gov/people/veterans/>

Call or visit your local Social Security Office:
1-800-772-1213

Defense Finance and Accounting Services Retired Military & Annuitants

1-800-321-1080
Retirement Pay Questions



Retired Activities Office:

Bldg. 520, Room 105, Dover AFB, DE 19902

MSgt (R) Bill Oldham: (302) 677- 4610

William.Oldham.2@us.af.mil

Retired Navy Activities Affairs Office:

Naval & Marine Corps Reserve Ctr. - (866) 827-5672

Brain Injury Trust Fund

State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD)
currently has funding available for the Traumatic Brain
Injury Fund & encourages people who may
benefit to apply.

Applying for the Traumatic Brain Injury Fund
**Applications are available here:

<https://scpd.delaware.gov/brain-injury-funds.shtml>

For additional info., please contact Director John McNeal.
at (302)-739-3620 or John.McNeal@state.de.us

College & Trade Schools Military/Veterans Affairs

Delaware State University

Natasha Scott-Knight: (302) 857-6378

nscottknight@desu.edu

Delaware Technical Community College

Dover: Rebecca Craft

(302) 857-1056

rcraft@dtcc.edu

Georgetown: Angela Showell

(302) 259-6073/

ashowel3@stcc.edu

Stanton: Wilford Oney

(302) 454-3926

woney@dtcc.edu

Wilmington: Joe Limmina

(302) 571-5307

jlimmina@dtcc.edu

Southern Illinois University

Dover AFB: Karen M. Nagyiski

(302) 734-7829

nagyiski@siu.edu

DoverAFB@siu.edu

University of Delaware

Brooks Raup

302-831-0552

braup@udel.edu

Wesley College

Erin Elsberry

(302) 736-2434/ Erin.elsberry@wesley.edu

Widener University School of Law

Pattie Donoghue

(302) 477-2710/ pmdonoghue@widener.edu

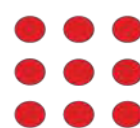
Wilmington University

Jim Webb / Jennifer Bacci

(302) 342-8669 / (302) 356-6962

james.s.webb@wilmu.edu

jennifer.l.bacci@wilmu.edu



**Veterans
Crisis Line**

1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

Please visit our DE Joining Forces website to research more resources available to veterans:

<http://Delaware.gov/djf/>

Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.

302-575-0660 (New Castle Co.)
302-674-8500 (Kent Co.)
302-856-0038 (Sussex Co.)
<http://www.declasi.org/>

*Provides free legal services to: People with disabilities,
older citizens (60+), housing discrimination (HUD),
low-income, & victims of domestic violence.*

Legal Services Corporation of Delaware, Inc.

302-478-8850 or 302-734-8820

*Offering Legal Advice & Assistance to
low-income Delawareans.*

Widener University Delaware Law School Veterans Law Clinic

302-477-2090
Delaware.widener.edu

*Pro Bono Representation
for veterans benefits appeals.*

Veterans Justice Outreach Program

*Program is to avoid unnecessary criminalization of
mental illness and extended incarceration.*

For more information please call: 302-468-5670

Veterans Treatment Court Program

*Assist justice-involved veterans with mental health
& substance abuse issues to obtain necessary
services & reduce recidivism.*

302-255-0800 (New Castle Co.)
302-735-1900 (Kent Co.)
302-855-7055 (Sussex Co.)

**Please ask for the Veterans Treatment Court*



New Castle Co: (800) 461-8262 x 5434
Kent Co: (800) 461-8262 x 2430
Sussex Co: (302) 225-9110
(Readjustment Counseling)



100 Delaware Veterans Blvd
Milford, DE 19963
(302) 424-6000
Veterans Nursing Home

Veterans United Outreach of Delaware

Mike Snyder: 302-678-1285 or 302-382-9394
Gary Kalmus: gmkskier@gmail.com

<http://www.veteransunitedoutreach.com/>

*We are a mobile educational unit, with a variety of
information for all veterans and their family.
We go out to the veteran community.*



People's Place: Veterans Outreach

Mike Rowe: (302) 422-8033 x 173
<http://www.peoplesplace2.com/>

*Services range from career counselling; guidance to
access state and federal VA benefits, such as medical
care and treatment; psychotherapy referrals; mental
health counseling; and door-to-door transportation
to medical facilities in the region.*

Delaware Veterans Awareness Center

12385 Sussex Hwy
Greenwood, DE 19950
Liz & Bill Jiron: (302) 349-4898
Veteransawarenesscenter.org
*Veterans' Stand Down
Military Women's Tea
"Give a Vet a Smile" (Dental Program)*

Please visit our DE Joining Forces website to research more resources available to veterans:
<http://Delaware.gov/djf/>

Veteran Organizations

Air Force Sergeants Association	(302) 677-5264	Alexander Collazo, MSgt
American Legion	(302) 628-5221	Richard “Ric” Santos
AMVETS	(302) 945-2170	Eugene Bradley
Delaware Veterans (DELVETS)	(302) 475-9891 (302) 674-9956	Post 1 Post 2
Delaware Veterans Coalition	(302) 270-7145	Dave Skocik delawareveteranscoalition@gmail.com
Disabled American Veterans	(302) 697-9061	Paul Lardizzone
First State Military Women Warriors	(302) 387-1309	Pat Cerhio
Fleet Reserve Association	(302) 322-0681	Philip Pushel
40 & 8	(302) 678-8077	Eugene “Chip” Rosan
Gold Star Families	(302) 593-5991	Judy Campbell
A Hero’s Welcome Delaware	(302) 530-4984	Rosely Robinson ahwdelaware@gmail.com
Korean War Veterans Association	(302) 933-0228	Edward Johnson
Marine Corps League	(302) 242-7926	William C. Farley
Military Officers Association of America	(302) 335-1655 (302) 519-0611	Gene Thornton (Kent Co.) Fred Seth, Jr. (Sussex Co.)
New Castle Co. veterans/resident can contact the 2 representatives for questions/concerns. Thank you!		
Military Order of the Purple Heart	(302) 422-6760	Gary “Mo” Morris
Military Order of the World Wars	(302) 239-0641	Earl Seppala eseppala@aol.com
Nat’l Association of Black Veterans DE Chapter 94	(302) 345-6911	Nolan S. Lewis nabvetsde.chpt94@gmail.com or nlewis2939@yahoo.com
Paralyzed Veterans of America	(302) 284-4719	Elmer (Art) Titus
The Reserve Officers Association	(302) 234-1418	LTC Richard Chappell (Ret) rwc49ps54ud@comcast.net
Veterans of Foreign Wars	(302) 526-0993	Mark Newman
Vietnam Veterans of America	(302) 697-8384	Paul Davis

Volunteer Transportation Network

This program is providing courtesy transportation to our Delaware veterans. Please remember this is NOT AN ENTITLEMENT. Reservations must be made 2 weeks prior to your appointment. Trips depend on availability of volunteer drivers. Veterans need to travel to designated stops. All vans leave the VAMC between noon and 1pm for return trips. Please schedule your appointments accordingly.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Hospital Service Coordinator
Wilmington VAMC
Thea Kersey
302- 633-5414
800-461-8262 X 5414
Mon-Thurs 8am—noon | 5. DAV—Dover, DE
Dispatcher: 302-697-9061
Fax: 302-697-9041
Monday—Thursday
Van arrives at VAMC at 8:30am |
| 2. DAV Seaford, DE
Dispatcher: Henry Tiff
302-629-3759
302-858-7588 cell
Call Mon-Weds. 7am-9pm | 6. VFW Post 7234—Oceanview, DE
Dispatcher: 302-539-9981
Monday—Thursday
Van arrives at VAMC at 8:30am |
| 3. People's Place Veterans Outreach Service
Milford, DE
Director: Mike Rowe
302-422-8033 X 173
Thursday—van arrives at VAMC at 8:30am | 7. DAV Chapter 44—Cape May, NJ
Coordinator: Fred Trasatti Jr.
215-778-5599 (cell)
609-886-8383 (Chapter)
Monday-Wednesday VAMC
Thursday—Philly VAMC |
| 4. American Legion Post 28
Oak Orchard, DE
Dispatcher: 302-945-1673
Monday-Thursday
Van Arrives at VAMC at 8:30am | 8. VTS Salisbury, MD
DAV—Ed Elder (410) 845-0933
Coordinator: Jim Boston
(443) 366-6316
Departs VFW Post 194 (Tues. & Thurs) |

Coatsville HSC: Al Gerhart - (610) 384-7711 X 3368

Pick-Up Points:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Camden: DAV, 183 South Street | • Magnolia: Fire Department |
| • Dover: McDonald's - Route 10 | • Dover: IHOP/Safeway Shopping Ctr. |
| • Dover: Luther Towers, Kings Hwy | • Smyrna: Rest Area |

This community-level effort directly supports military service members, veterans and their families by addressing critical issues and needs including: Financial and legal assistance; job training and employment; homelessness and housing; behavioral health and wellness; and education. Veterans can use this website to search for resources listed above. Our website is growing weekly with service providers that are registering their services to our veteran community. To include attending our quarterly meetings. For more information, POC are below.



delaware.gov/djf

Delaware Office of
Veterans Services
302-739-2792

Christine F. Kubik
DNG/Community Relations
(302) 326-7582
chritine.f.kubik.nfg@mail.mil



The Delaware Trust Fund, signed into law in September 2013, is administered by the DCVA. The Friends of DE Veterans, Inc. was established in 2014 to serve as the fund raising arm of the Trust Fund. For more information and how to donate please visit: delawareveteranstrustfund.com

To apply for “emergency” financial assistance through DVTF, please contact any of the following offices:

New Castle Co. - 302-365-8231
Kent Co. - 302-739-2792
Sussex Co. - 302-648-3068

**Please allow 5-7 business days for processing.*

Delaware State Veterans Cemeteries

Veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States, their spouses, and dependent children may be interred at the DE Veterans Memorial Cemeteries. Eligibility requirements are prescribed by the National Cemetery Administration. Please contact the cemeteries or DCVA for an application or further questions/concerns.



2465 Chesapeake City Road
Bear, DE 19701
(302) 834-8046

Administrator: Barbara A. Cooke



26669 Patriots Way
Millsboro, DE 19966
(302) 934-5653

Administrator: Greg A. Bee

DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Certificate of Appreciation Application

Veterans Name: _____
First Middle Last

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Phone: (Home) _____ (Work or Cell) _____

Date Entered Service _____ **Date Separated** _____ **Branch of Service** _____

Date of Birth _____ **Type of Discharge** _____ **Highest Rank Achieved** _____
(Only required if requesting rank on certificate)

Is Veteran Deceased? Yes or No (please circle one)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: A current resident of the State of Delaware or resident when he or she entered the Armed Forces of the United States and honorably discharged.

**Please submit this application with a copy of Certificate of Release or
Discharge from Active Duty, (DD-214) to:**

Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs
Robbins Building
802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100
Dover, DE 19904
Phone: (302) 739-2792 or 1-800-344-9900 (in State only)

Signature of Veteran/spouse or next of kin _____ **Date** _____

Print Name and Relationship if not veteran _____

Provide alternate address if different from above _____

NOTE: *Please anticipate 2 to 3 weeks in receiving your Certificate*

TO BE COMPLETED BY DCVA: _____ Approved _____ Pending _____ Disapproved

Name/Title: _____ **Date** _____



The "DCVA Newsletter" is published for informational purposes only and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Commission of Veterans Affairs or the State of Delaware. Paid for with State Funds.

The "DCVA Newsletter" is now distributed electronically. To receive your copy by email, subscribe at our web site: www.veteransaffairs.delaware.gov. To obtain a hard copy of the newsletter, visit one of our office locations or your local veterans post home.

STATE OF DELAWARE
"Veterans First in the First State"



DCVA 20-01-02-20-10-01