



## Department of State Office of Veteran Services

In support of DCVA

802 Silver Lake Blvd. Suite 100  
Dover, De 19904  
(302) 739-2792  
Fax (302) 739-2794  
[www.vets.delaware.gov](http://www.vets.delaware.gov)

John Carney, Governor  
Jeffery Bullock, Secretary of State  
Joshua Matticks, Executive Director



### Commissioners

Anna Lopez, Chair - At-Large  
Valarie Harwood, Vice Chair- At-Large  
Eugene Bradley - AMVETS  
Bill Farley - MCL  
Paul Lardizzone - DAV  
Nolan Lewis - At-Large  
Richard Magner - MOPH  
Bill McMullen - AFSA  
William Miller - American Legion  
Paul Philips, Jr. - VFW  
Dr. Ronald Sarg - MOAA  
Gregory Sutton - At-Large  
Mick Schroeder - KWVA  
Dan Watson - VVA

## MADAM CHAIR'S CORNER

Sincere greetings to all service members, veterans, family members, and community partners. Spring is in the air, flowers are blooming, and it's time to dust off the lawnmowers! Hopefully we can look forward to warmer days soon! It is great to see that after two long years of the pandemic, there is light at the end of the tunnel. It is already great camaraderie to see folks in person, not just through the computer or telephone. I can proudly say that the OVS staff and Commissioners, have been there for veterans and families throughout despite the challenges. Please welcome our newest Commissioner Dan Watson (VVA).



I was honored to be able to attend the USS Delaware SSN 791 Commissioning Ceremony, Saturday 2 April. What a great historic event! Memorial Day events at the Memorial Bridge in New Castle and the Bear and Millsboro cemeteries are fast approaching. The Office of Veteran Services, cemetery staff, and DCVA are working very hard to ensure that all Memorial Day events honor our fallen comrades, Gold Star families, veterans and loved ones. Flag Day is also right around the corner so please stay in contact for updates.

Crisis Awareness efforts continue for veterans and their families. There are many events in the near future to provide critical resources to our military communities. Recently announced was the Governor's Challenge to support the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration's (SAMHSA) to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families. Since the next quarterly newsletter will not publish until July 2022, I want to honor all U.S. Army service members and veterans and say Happy Army Birthday, 14 June 2022. Lastly, there is much going on all over the world. As the summer months approach and folks start to travel more, please remember to stay diligent and safe.

Respectfully,  
Anna, Madam Chair

# Director's Dialect



Photo: (Left) Director Josh Matticks, Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long, Larence Kirby attend the USS Delaware event

On April 2, I was honored to attend the commemoration of the USS Delaware. The First State has waited over 100 years to have a ship bare its name and to do it on a day with the sun shining and fair winds, added to the overall grand beauty of the event. The most inspirational part, however, was the veterans in the crowd. When asked to stand, the few peppered throughout the event rose. This struck me in two ways.

First, the pride that beams from our veterans and military when they stand up for their few seconds of recognition makes one feel the bond we all share. To say it was refreshing is an understatement. I was also in awe of the support our nation provides to our military. This was not so for our veterans in past wars. Second, our veteran population is diminishing, whether from age or lack of enlistment, we are a miniscule percentage of the country that we love. The military is a profession rarely chosen yet proudly displayed. We, as veterans represent our nation on the front lines, from land, air, and sea. We served our country with pride and honor. I was humbled to stand alongside that small but mighty group as the crowd cheered.

If you haven't heard the phrase "Thank you for your service" recently, allow me. Thank you for your service to this great nation. You are not forgotten, and we at the Office of Veterans Services stand beside you.

## ♀ DCVA feels the Girl Power! ♀

For the first time in Delaware Commission of Veteran Affairs history women are leading the ranks. After a commission vote Chairwoman Anna Lopez announced her new Vice Chair was Ms. Valerie Harwood.

Women in the military have had to overcome obstacles for over 200 years. Whether it was nurses in the Civil War, the first enlisted woman, or the first female fighter pilot, the women of the military have gone above and beyond to pave the way for future generations.

Not only did retired Army Sergeant Major Lopez defy active duty standards and become an E9, she also leads and contributes in several veteran organizations across Delaware. Now we add National Guard (Major select) Harwood to the mix, a duo that is sure to accomplish great tasks for the veterans of Delaware. Ms. Harwood is a vital member of the Delaware military community, working for the VA as an outreach specialist, ensuring that our veterans and their families know healthcare benefits and resources available to them. The experience, knowledge, and passion the two of these strong female leaders share will be a force to reckon with.



Photo: Anna Lopez (left) & Valerie Harwood (right)

Females continue to make history in the active duty military and veteran communities. More than 300,000 women have served in Iraq and Afghanistan since 9/11, more than 9,000 have earned Combat Action Badges, and females now makeup 16% of the U.S. Armed Forces. We are proud to have Ms. Lopez and Harwood leading our Delaware veterans and look forward to all they will accomplish as a team.



# TAX EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS DUE BY **APRIL 30, 2022**

.....  
Yes, you must apply! If you are a 100% disabled veteran, scan this for more info



## House Bill 214

On August 10th, 2021, Governor Carney signed into law House Bill 214 with House Amendment 1 allowing school districts to grant a Disabled Veterans School Property Tax Credit. Beginning in 2022, qualified persons may be eligible for a tax credit against 100% of non-vocational school district property tax. This credit may only be used against property taxes assessed on a primary residence. Applications for the upcoming tax year are due April 30th.

## Program Details

Qualified Persons must:

- Receive 100% disability compensation due to service-connected, permanent and total disability based on individual unemployability or a 100% disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (USVDA) and
- Have held legal domicile in Delaware for the past 3 years.

Individuals may not claim both the Disabled Veterans School Tax Credit and the Senior School Property Tax Credit.

## Please Note

- **Application Deadline:** April 30th.
  - Taxpayers must pay their property tax bill in full by the end of each tax year in order to qualify for this credit in a subsequent property tax year.
- To qualify, applicants must provide :
  - A valid driver's license or official state ID
  - Documentation of USDVA disability
  - A Copy of their Social Security card

**All applications should be PHYSICALLY turned into the proper county office where you reside. If you have a co-owner on a mortgage their information must be provided as well. Remember to take your state ID!**



Photo: Delaware veteran organizations gathered at American Legion, Post 14, in Smyrna, to witness Governor Carney sign HB 214 into law.



THE 1ST ANNUAL

# BATTLEGROUND CLASSIC

APRIL 29TH • SHOWTIME - 8:00 AM  
SHOTGUN START 9AM

Jonathan's Landing

1309 Ponderosa Dr, Magnolia, DE 19962

- \$100 a player
- Shotgun Start
- 4-person Scramble
- Traveling Trophy to best team, Prizes for longest drive and closest to the pin
- \$5 Mulligan package, limit 2 per person
  - 2 Mulligans
  - 1 Drive from red tees
  - 2 Throws



Scan QR code  
to Register!

Contact:  
jennifer.jensen@delaware.gov  
or  
dalton.newell@us.af.mil







# BATTLEGROUND CLASSIC

GOLF TOURNAMENT

APRIL 29, 2022 / 8 AM SHOWTIME - 9 AM SHOTGUN START

JONATHAN'S LANDING

1309 PONDEROSA DR, MAGNOLIA, DE 19962



Pay online with  
our QR code

Player #1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Player #3

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Player #2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Player #4

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Information:** Payments can be made online or by check. Please confirm payment when emailing registration form.

Online visit: [igfn.us/form/gW4GLA](https://igfn.us/form/gW4GLA) or scan the QR code

Checks:

- Drop off or mail: 802 Silver Lake Blvd Suite 100, Dover, DE 19904
- Make payable to - Friends of Delaware Veterans

**Individual cost: \$100**

**Team cost : \$400**

**\$5 - Mulligan package (limit 2 per player) includes: 2 Mulligans, 1 drive from red tee, 2 throws  
PLEASE PAY DAY OF - CASH ONLY**

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle who your team represents: Active Duty Reserves Guard Veterans Civilians



EMAIL REGISTRATION & PAYMENT CONFIRMATION FORM TO:

JENNIFER.JENSEN@DELAWARE.GOV

# NABVETS News

By: Nolan Lewis

The National Association for Black Veterans, Inc., Delaware Chapter 94 (NABVETS) released its annual report and hosted two public events at the African American Medal of Honor Memorial in Wilmington, Delaware: one on February 28, 2022, commemorating Black History Month and the other on March 25, 2022, commemorating National Medal of Honor Day. Both events honored the 911 Medal of Honor recipient names embossed on the memorial and recognized their ultimate feats of sacrifice.

A third event is scheduled at the Brandywine Park location West 18th and Baynard Blvd Wilmington, DE 19802, Friday, May 27, 2022, 1 pm-4pm kicking off Memorial Weekend. All veterans and veteran supporters are encouraged to attend this free public event.



Photo: Pastor Louis McDuffy (left), Miguel Hurtado, Dennis Summers, Nolan S. Lewis Commander, Valerie Hardwood DCVA Vice Chair, and Michael Clothier at the Medal of Honor Day event.

## National Association for Black Veterans' Conference

Conference Theme:  
**"UNITY"**  
(Unifying The Body)

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**August 2-5, 2022**  
**Milwaukee, WI**

Room Rates \$99  
Block Code: S78

Conference Location:

**Holiday Inn Milwaukee Riverfront**

Phone: 414-962-6040

KingdomKreationDesign



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR  
BLACK VETERANS, INC., DELAWARE

## ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS

- One page sign-up
  - Affordable annual-life memberships
  - Great benefits and camaraderie
- Contact: (302) 894 - 8222

Protect Rights. Preserve History. & Promote Causes

VISIT [WWW.NABVETSDE.ORG](http://WWW.NABVETSDE.ORG) FOR DETAILS



# Welcome our new Commissioner Dan Watson



Photo: Mr. Watson

Dan Watson has been appointed by Delaware Governor John Carney to serve on the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs to a four-year term representing Delawareans who served during the Vietnam War between November 1, 1955 and April 30, 1975.

“As a life member of Kent County Chapter 850, Vietnam Veterans of America, Dan has been involved in many projects, including our service dog program. He also worked on the construction of the stand for the UH-1 helicopter at our Kent County Veterans Memorial Park,” said Paul Davis, VVA state council president. “We are proud to have him as our commissioner.”

## DE Vietnam Vets receive National Recognition

By: Dave Skocik

On March 15th, Vietnam Veterans of America National President Jack McManus traveled from Flat Rock, North Carolina, to Millboro, Del., to present the organization’s National Achievement Medal to 13 veterans from three Delaware Chapters for their long-time dedication to VVA and their communities.

His visit was hosted by Chapter 1105 President Rodger Rose whose meetings are held at American Legion Post 28 on Route 24. Also attending was Ted Wilkenson Region II VVA director.

McManus served in Vietnam in the Air Force and has advocated for veterans affected by Agent Orange and other chemicals. He was elected to serve as VVA National President at VVA’s 20th National convention, in November 2021 in Greensboro, North Carolina. First elected VVA national treasurer in 1995, he was reelected to the position in 1997 and again in 2019. He previously served as the VVA Michigan State Council President for six and one-half years from 1989 to 1996, overseeing the largest state program in VVA.

During his career as a private businessman, McManus's company employed approximately 3,500 in two service-sector businesses, with \$150 million annually in sales. In 1978, his company was recognized as the first drug-free workplace in the building service contracting industry. The company also emphasizes special hiring programs for handicapped individuals, ex-offenders, and rehabilitated substance abusers for its internal rehabilitation programs. From 1978 to 1985, McManus was the program manager of his company's contract with the Kennedy Space Center space shuttle program in Florida.

The recipients included, in alphabetical order, Kenneth Bodine, Terry Baker, Paul Davis, Thomas Daws, Mahlon Fegley, Rocky Graves, Raymond Harris, Joe A. Moore, Woodrow “Woody” Postle, Rhona Prescott, Rodger Rose, David Skocik, and Joseph Startt.

“It was certainly an honor for our national leader to visit us, and to be recognized was icing on the cake,” said Paul Davis, president of the Delaware VVA Council.



VVA National President Jack McManus

# USS Delaware Commissioning

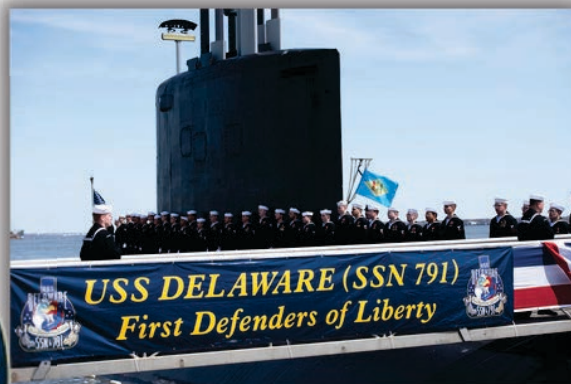
President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden attend the commissioning celebration of the USS Delaware (SSN 791), on April 2, 2022. Due to COVID restrictions the submarine did not receive the traditional commissioning ceremony as those in the past, and became the first to be commissioned while submerged underway on April 4, 2020.

First Lady Biden stated, "This vessel will always uphold the First State's motto of 'Liberty and Independence,'" she said. "It's difficult to put into words what it means to be a part of the USS Delaware family. It's an incredible honor that I take seriously. I've seen the heart of this crew and it makes me proud and humbled to be your shipmate for life."

For the first time in over a century the First State name will be yielded on the Navy Submarine. There has been seven other Navy ships named after our small historical state, none of which held the title of "ideal ship". Cmdr. Matthew Horton stated that the USS Delaware is, "limitless in range; unmatched in power, precision, and stealth. Her engineering renders her nearly undetectable; her sensors reveal the presence of any foes. Capable of dominating across the spectrum of warfare, she excels in all her assigned missions. From the depths of the ocean, ensuring sea control, to delivering precision strikes and supporting naval special warfare."



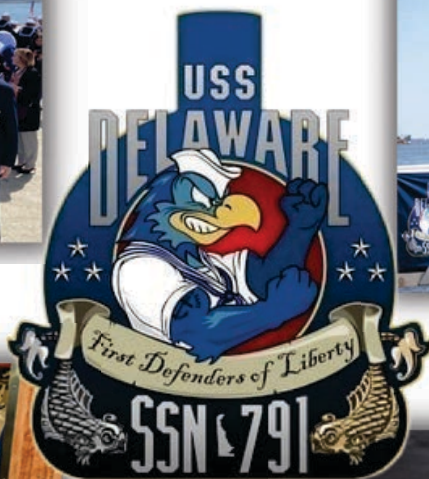
Photo: DCVA Commissioners were in attendance



The USS Delaware crew members took part in the ceremony and provided tours



President Biden and the First Lady spoke with crew members and toured the submarine





# Delaware Veterans Coalition Addresses Leadership Delaware

Dave Skocik, president of the Delaware Veterans Coalition, addressed Leadership Delaware's Class of 2022 during their March Sessions hosted at the New Castle Chamber of Commerce in Wilmington on March 4.

Leadership Delaware fellows interact with leaders from all walks of life and experience during their year-long participation in the program. Visit [www.Leadershipdelaware.org](http://www.Leadershipdelaware.org) for call 302-242-2359 for more information.



Mr. Skocik's presentation included the leadership military veterans of all generations bring to Delaware, their economic impact, their positive participation in their communities, and some of the challenges they and their families face during their service and deployments. Delaware is home to some 74,000 veterans and their families.

In addition to Dover AFB and its military and civilian employees, veterans also have a substantial impact on Delaware's seven institutions of higher learning through their educational benefits, medical care from multiple VA and community-affiliated clinics throughout the state and are part of community activities and businesses. Those who make Delaware their retirement home bring their assets and experience to the communities they become part of.

## CASH Program Awards K9

By: Dave Skocik

Retired Air Force MSgt Tim Hamilton and Chocolate Labrador Remington became partners at Mission BBQ in Dover on April 7. The dog was presented by Kent County Chapter 850, Vietnam Veterans of America's CASH program, (Canines Assisting Service Heroes). The ceremony was witnessed by supporters and customers with a round of applause.

Remi is the eighth fully-trained service dog presented to Delaware disabled veterans since the program's inception five years ago. The dogs assist male and female veterans who have been diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

The chapter works with Nelson Miller of Riedel K9, a local trainer who specializes in training service dogs. The average training time is 18 months and costs about \$10,000 per dog. Since 2017 the chapter has trained and placed service dogs for training and presentations.

The CASH program accepts puppies and contributions. It also hosts an annual fundraiser named "Four Paws Got Your Six," a Grass Roots Rescue fundraiser. For more information about the program contact Ray Harris at [cmbmap@verizon.net](mailto:cmbmap@verizon.net) or 302-632-8510.



Photo Caption: L to R:  
AF MSgt (ret) Tim Hamilton;  
K9 Remington;  
Joe Startt, president of VVA Chapter 850;  
and chapter member Ray Harris.



# Gold Star Families

By: Judy Campbell

The loss of a sibling is a complicated grief, it changes one's position within the family, leaves them grieving their first "best-friend" and leaves them taking on a role of support for their parents. American Gold Star Siblings are often referred to as the "Silent Mourners".

Governor John C. Carney and Lieutenant Governor Bethany Hall-Long recognize this loss and proclaimed February 8 the American Gold Star Siblings Day; they encouraged all citizens to support our American Gold Star Siblings by recognizing them and their deceased military brother/sister. (See Proclamation photo)



## Carry The Load Service

**May 5th 6:00 PM**  
RAIN OR SHINE!

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE DELAWARE HERSHEL "WOODY" WILLIAMS GOLD STAR FAMILIES MEMORIAL FOR A SERVICE, AS WE WELCOME CARRY THE LOAD AS THEY TRAVEL THROUGH DELAWARE.

Bring:  
*a Patriotic and grateful Spirit  
and your own chair*

PARK CLOSES AT DUSK  
ALL VISITORS MUST EXIT PARK AT THAT TIME

FOR DIRECTIONS TO DRBA VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK:

[HTTPS://DMBVETERANSMEMORIALPARK.COM/DIRECTIONS.PHP](https://dmbveteransmemorialpark.com/directions.php)

CARRY THE LOAD IS A NON-PROFIT DEDICATED TO PROVIDING ACTIVE, MEANINGFUL WAYS TO HONOR AND CELEBRATE THE SACRIFICES MADE BY OUR NATION'S HEROES - MILITARY, VETERANS, FIRST RESPONDERS AND THEIR FAMILIES. OUR NATIONAL RELAY IS MADE UP OF 5-DIFFERENT ROUTES THAT GO THROUGH 48-STATES AND COVER 20,000 MILES. THROUGHOUT THE RELAY, PEOPLE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE RELAY TEAM AND WALK TO HONOR OUR NATION'S HEROES.

**PARTICIPATION IS FREE TO THE PUBLIC. ALL WE ASK IS THAT YOU WEAR APPROPRIATE CLOTHING AND BRING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE. THIS IS A GREAT FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT THAT HELPS REMIND CITIZENS OF THE TRUE MEANING OF MEMORIAL DAY.**

TO REGISTER AS A PARTICIPANT, GO TO [CARRYTHELOAD.ORG](http://CARRYTHELOAD.ORG) AND CLICK ON MEMORIAL MAY EVENTS

### OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

#### PROCLAMATION IN OBSERVANCE OF DELAWARE GOLD STAR SIBLINGS DAY

*Whereas*, the recognition of Gold Star Families in the United States dates back to World War I, when the families of fallen service members displayed a service flag in the window of their homes with a gold star; and

*Whereas*, Gold Star Families, Mothers, Fathers, Children, Spouses, and Siblings receive the Gold Star Lapel Button and Nest of Kin Lapel Button presented by the U.S. Department of Defense to the immediate family of military personnel who lost their lives in combat, through an act of terrorism, or while on active duty in the U.S. Military; and

*Whereas*, the loss of a sibling can leave a family in grief and Gold Star Siblings can take on the responsibility of supporting family members during this difficult time; and

*Whereas*, the State of Delaware offers sincere gratitude to Gold Star Siblings while honoring the tremendous sacrifices their loved ones made in order to protect and secure the freedoms and liberties that Delawareans enjoy every day; and

*Whereas*, Delaware recognizes the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 83 Gold Star Program, which has worked tirelessly to increase awareness in Delaware and the nation about Gold Star Families, Mothers, Fathers, Children, Spouses, and Siblings through Hometown Hero Banners, Gold Star License Plates, Gold Star Highways, and many more initiatives.

*Now, Therefore, We, John Carney, Governor,  
and Bethany Hall-Long, Lieutenant Governor,  
do hereby declare February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 as*

#### DELAWARE GOLD STAR SIBLINGS DAY

*in the State of Delaware, and urge all Delawareans to join in commemorating those who lost their lives defending our country, and to support family members of our fallen heroes.*



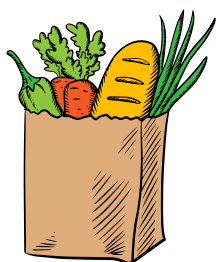
*John C. Carney*  
John C. Carney  
Governor

*Bethany A. Hall-Long*  
Bethany A. Hall-Long  
Lieutenant Governor

17-4048  
Number



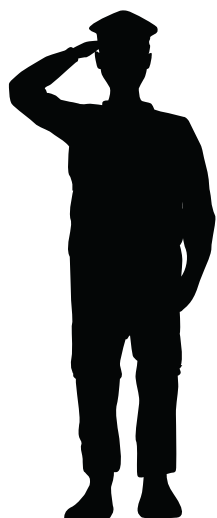
# Drive Thru Resource Fair



**Upcoming Dates:**  
**June 17th: 10am - 2pm**  
**Sept. 16th: 10am - 2pm**  
**Both @**  
**802 Silver Lake Blvd**

On March 18th, roughly 140 families paid a visit to the Office of Veteran Services to participate in the second drive thru food bank and resource fair. This event provides assistance to veterans and military families in need. The VA outreach program has decided to extend the program due to the success. If your veteran organization would like to be a part of the drive thru resources please contact Valerie Hardwood or Sable Vance. OVS will post future dates via social media.

## TBI Fund



Do you have a TBI and need services, treatment, or equipment related to your post traumatic brain injury that are not covered by your health insurance?



- Driver Evaluation Assessment/Training
- Medical Equipment
- Services, Treatment or Therapy (short-term)
- Specialized Equipment
- Case Management (short-term)
- Brain Training Neurotherapy (short-term)
- Assistive Technology
- Alternative Therapy (short-term)
- Medically Approved Summer Camps
- Eye-exam and glasses related to TBI

Scan for more info



### Contact:

302-739-3621  
 410 Federal St  
 Suite 3  
 Dover, DE 19901

# Serving our heroes. Better.

Find out if you qualify for a free service dog  
at [canine.org/veterans](http://canine.org/veterans).



Canine Companions is committed to supporting those who have served. Many brave men and women have returned home from combat with disabling injuries – visible and invisible – and Canine Companions service dogs can help veterans regain independence.

[canine.org/veterans](http://canine.org/veterans)

  
**Canine  
Companions®**  
Lead with Independence



# Purple Heart Veteran awarded new car



Hard work and perseverance pays off. Retired Staff Sergeant Daniel Wright not only fought inner battles after returning from 2 tours to Iraq and 2 from Afghanistan, but he fought to succeed and become a small business owner. As a Purple Heart recipient SSG used a therapeutic art program to cope with his mental struggles, and he discovered a love/talent for drawing, and decided to become a tattoo artist. He bought and converted school bus into a traveling tattoo parlor. He travels to clients in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.



Retired SSG Daniel Wright Jr. (2nd from the left)

On March 8th, SSG Wright was honored during the Philadelphia Flyers game in collaboration with Wells Fargo. Then on March 24th, Wells Fargo, Price Toyota Group, and Military Warriors Support Foundation presented, SSG Wright with a brand new Toyota RAV4.

If you are interested in not only getting a tattoo, also supporting a veteran owned small business please check out Wright's scan the QR code below and make your appointment now.



## Upcoming Events

**April 29th @ 0800-** Battleground Classic Golf Tournament  
(benefitting Delaware Veterans Trust Fund)

**May 28th @ 1000** - Bear Veterans Cemetery Memorial Day Ceremony

**May 30th @ 10:30** - Memorial Day Ceremony @ The Veterans War  
Memorial Plaza, (New Castle, DE)

**July 2** - Freedom 5k @ Buffalo Wild Wings

**\*\*To submit future information and articles to the veterans newsletter please email all submissions to [jennifer.jensen@delaware.gov](mailto:jennifer.jensen@delaware.gov)**

FREE  
Admission!



# THE WALL THAT HEALS

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL REPLICA & MOBILE EDUCATION CENTER



A PROGRAM OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND  
FOUNDERS OF THE WALL

**April 28 - May 1, 2022**

**at William Penn High School**

Volunteer, donate & learn more at  
**[wpthewallthatheals.com](http://wpthewallthatheals.com)**

**WE**





**SATURDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 24, 2022**

8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**TOWN OF WHITEHALL**

801 MAPLETON AVENUE  
MIDDLETOWN, DE 19709

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE OUR FAMILY, FRIENDS,  
AND NEIGHBORS IN THE MILITARY WITH A DAY  
FILLED WITH GREAT MUSIC, LAUGHTER, AND FUN!

## 10K RUCK

- 6:30 AM** Volunteers Arrive
- 8:00 AM** Registration & Bib Pick-Up
- 9:15 AM** National Anthem & Pep Rally for 10K
- 9:30 AM** 10K GoRuck Start
- 12:00 PM** Awards, Lunch, & Music

## 5K RUN & FAMILY WALK

- 6:30 AM** Volunteers Arrive
- 8:00 AM** Registration & Bib Pick-Up
- 10:45 AM** National Anthem & Pep Rally for 5K
- 11:00 AM** 5K Start
- 12:00 PM** Awards, Lunch, & Music

VET FEST WELCOMES HOME  
IRAQ & AFGHANISTAN  
VETERANS

*Starring Club Phred & Mark Farner  
formerly of Grand Funk Railroad*

- 9 - 11 AM** Veteran Groups Arrive & Set Up
- 12:00 PM** Awards, Lunch, & Music
- 12 - 2 PM** Veteran & Civilian Group Social
- 2:00 PM** Event Concludes

**ADMISSION: SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION OF \$5-10 AT THE DOOR**



FOR INFORMATION & EVENT REGISTRATION, VISIT  
**[WWW.VETFESTDELAWARE.COM](http://WWW.VETFESTDELAWARE.COM)** OR SCAN QR CODE



### VET FEST MISSION:

The mission of **22in22** is to connect the military and civilian communities in order to better equip our active duty and veteran military for life. We do this by supporting the non-profit **Stop Soldier Suicide, Inc.** and their mission, educating the community about the needs of our warriors, and engaging the community to take action.



BENEFITTING THE DE VETERANS TRUST FUND

WHERE: BUFFALO WILD WINGS - DOVER

WHEN: JULY 2, 2022

START TIME: 9 A.M.

POC: 302-739-2792

REGISTER HERE



# FREEDOM

## 5K



EVERY SATURDAY AT 9 AM

# FREE WORKOUT

CAMARADERIE. MISSION. PURPOSE.



- CROSSFIT PETRAM - 14 W.MAIN ST, MIDDLETOWN
- ALL FITNESS LEVELS WELCOME
- TEXT "WEEKLY FIGHT" TO 302-464-6050 TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFO





# DELAWARE JOINING FORCES



DELAWARE  
JOINING FORCES



A MILITARY AND COMMUNITY  
PARTNERSHIP FOR SERVICE  
MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR  
FAMILIES

Delaware Joining Forces (DJF) is a network of state agencies, nonprofits and external service providers who proactively work together to provide solutions for military members, veterans and families. The DJF network is called upon to provide solutions that improve the quality of life and welfare of the statewide military community.

**HOW DO YOU HELP VETERANS?** Complete a service provider profile at the DJF website to describe your organization, how you currently help our service members, veterans and families (SMVF). Provide contact information and explain how SMVF may access your services. Click REGISTER from the home page to obtain a login and password. Select Start an Application.

This community-level effort directly supports military service members, veterans and their families by addressing critical issues and needs including:

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
EDUCATION  
EMPLOYMENT**

**FINANCIAL  
HOMELESSNESS  
HOUSING**

**LEGAL  
MILITARY YOUTH  
WELLNESS & FAITH**

## COMMUNITY NETWORK \* MONTHLY MEETINGS

### 3rd Thursday of every Month

All DJF Community Network meetings are 8:30am-10:00am. Due to COVID restrictions, all Meetings will be virtual via ZOOM.

#### Join Zoom Meeting

ZOOM LINK for All Meetings → <https://militaryonesource.zoom.us/j/3024943825?pwd=bzdjNmIOWjg0MUUpWcEJxbkQ2STBkZz09>

2022 Meeting ID: 302 494 3825, Passcode: 933544

Dial by your location +1 646 876 9923 US

#### 2022 MONTHLY MEETING DATES & TOPICS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

JAN 20 -- LEGAL	JUL 21 -- EMPLOYMENT
FEB 17 -- FINANCIAL	AUG 18 -- EDUCATION
MAR 17 -- MILITARY YOUTH	SEP 15 -- SUICIDE PREVENTION
APR 21 -- BEHAVIORAL HEALTH	OCT 20 -- YELLOW RIBBON REINTEGRATION SVCS
MAY 19 -- HOUSING	NOV 17 -- HOMELESSNESS
JUN 16 -- WELLNESS & FAITH	DEC -- NO MEETING * HAPPY HOLIDAYS



No single organization can meet all the needs of our Service Members, Veterans and their Families (SMVF), but a community of partners can provide an array of essential services. DJF is a collaborative effort led by state agencies ~ the Delaware National Guard and the DE Office of Veteran Services (OVS).



#### Delaware National Guard

**Christine F. Kubik**

Director, Joint Support & Outreach Svcs, DE NG  
302-326-7582 OFFICE  
[christine.f.kubik.nfg@army.mil](mailto:christine.f.kubik.nfg@army.mil)

#### DE Office of Veteran Services

**Joshua Matticks**

Executive Director, DE OVS  
302-739-2293 OFFICE  
[joshua.matticks@delaware.gov](mailto:joshua.matticks@delaware.gov)



Find us on  
**Facebook**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE PROVIDERS \* REGISTER TO ADVERTISE YOUR SERVICES TO OUR VETERANS**

[www.delaware.gov/djf](http://www.delaware.gov/djf)



# **DELAWARE 2022 VETERANS' STAND DOWN**

**SAVE the DATE  
Friday  
23 September 2022**

**Schutte Park  
10 Electric Avenue  
Dover, DE 19904**



## **VETERANS' STAND DOWN**

**Community & VA Services for ALL Veterans**

**Housing • Medical • 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](mailto:Lbjnavcret@hotmail.com)**





## POST-TRAUMATIC GROWTH PROGRAMS FOR VETERANS /SERVICE MEMBERS AND FAMILY MEMBERS

We help you and your family find relief from the symptoms of PTSD, mTBI and Chronic Pain with a series of 6-day Post-traumatic Growth Programs.

### The series includes:

- **Individual Veteran/Service Member Program** – focuses on relief from trauma, innovative tools, and wellness
- **Veteran Spouse Program**- focuses on self-care, establishing boundaries, caregiver stress, & self-advocacy
- **Couples Program**- focuses on communication, connection, and strengthening the relationship
- **Family Program**- forms a more resilient bond between family members, allowing each of you to move forward together as a cohesive unit.

Our programs use a variety of tools that are not widely available and focus on relief from the symptoms of invisible wounds. You will leave the program with an Individualized Post-traumatic Growth Plan for continued healing. Our programs are held in Texas and North Carolina. For more details visit: [lsfprograms.org](http://lsfprograms.org)

### APPLICATION PROCESS

- Complete the eligibility questionnaire at [lsfprograms.org](http://lsfprograms.org)
- Check your email. You will get an email requesting a DD214 and link to the application.
- We will contact you to discuss further details and scheduling.

### CONTACT US

[lsfprograms.org](http://lsfprograms.org)  
1414 11th Street, Huntsville, TX 77340  
936-755-6075  
[programs@lonesurvivorfoundation.org](mailto:programs@lonesurvivorfoundation.org)

### ELIGIBILITY

- All service eras and US branches
- A diagnosis or service-connected disability is **NOT** required
- You must be able to interact in a group environment and be willing to have a roommate for in-person programs.
- You must be able to administer your own medication(s) and self-care
- If substance abuse has been an issue, you must have been in recovery for at least six months prior to attending.





**Department of Delaware**  
183 South Street  
PO Box 407  
Camden DE 19934

## **ATTENTION KENT CO. VETERANS**

**WE WILL BE OFFERING DAV VAN PICK-UPS FROM HOME TO DOVER CBOC (CLINIC). PLEASE NOTE THE THIS PICK-UP SERVICE IS FOR VETERANS WHO ARE AMBULATORY (ABLE TO WALK). THIS SERVICE WILL ONLY BE OFFERED IF THERE IS NO ONE TRAVELING TO THE WILMINGTON VAMC.**

**WE WILL BE RUNNING MONDAY- THURSDAY ONLY. PLEASE CALL ME @ (302) 697-9061 OR MY CELL# (973) 868-8725 TO SCHEDULE A PICK-UP.**

**PLEASE TRY TO SCHEDULE YOUR DOCTORS APPOINTMENT BEFORE 12PM.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE  
DOVER DRIVING COORDINATOR  
ABRAHAM VELEZ**





Located outside of beautiful Chestertown, Maryland, Easterseals Camp Fairlee has been providing recreation and respite for individuals age 6 and up since 1954. Camp Fairlee provides a safe and accessible camp experience where campers are challenged to discover their full potential, acquire new skills, and make new and lasting friendships while under the guidance of trained and qualified staff. While campers enjoy their time at Camp Fairlee, their families are able to take a much needed break from caregiving.

The summer program at Camp Fairlee provides a traditional camp experience for campers of all ages and abilities to experience adventures! Daily schedules include activities such as arts & crafts, music, sports, games, swimming, hiking, canoeing, hayrides, campfires, and more. The summer camp staff is comprised of professionals and college students recruited from around the world. Each staff member is carefully selected based on skills and experience. An extensive week-long, pre-camp training encourages the enthusiasm, creativity, and sense of commitment that is our tradition.

To learn more about Camp Fairlee visit: [www.campfairlee.com](http://www.campfairlee.com)

## **The Mia Shorteno Fraser Scholarship Fund - For Campers of Veterans/Active Military Families**

Full or partial funding is available for a limited number of campers whose family members are serving – or have served - in the US armed forces and would like to attend summer or respite sessions at Camp Fairlee.

This scholarship honors the life and work of Mia Shorteno Fraser, Psy. D. who dedicated her career to the practice of clinical psychology, and in particular, the issues facing veterans, active military, their families and caregivers. Mia was brilliant, hardworking and determined, demonstrating incredible grit in the face of adversity. Mia's family has established this scholarship to fulfill her dream of supporting those who have served our country.

This scholarship is available to help them, their families and caregivers, who face the additional challenges of caring for loved ones with a range of disabilities.



[Please complete this form to apply for a scholarship](#) and return it with proof of military status, a copy of last year's tax return, your essay question answer and your Camp Fairlee registration form. This confidential application will only be reviewed by the Camp Director for the purpose of determining eligibility. No other camp participant, counselor or volunteer will be aware of this application or subsequent award of scholarship, if any. There are limited scholarships available.

**To register for Camp Fairlee or apply for the Mia Shorteno Fraser Scholarship please visit:**  
[www.campfairlee.com/summer-camp](http://www.campfairlee.com/summer-camp)



**APRIL 27TH  
JOB FAIR  
DOVER, DE**

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR JOB FAIR  
POLYTECH HIGH SCHOOL**

**APRIL 27TH | 4:30PM TO 6:00PM, DOVER**

**823 WALNUT SHADE ROAD DOVER, DE (ENTER BACK OF SCHOOL)**

**Remote Jobs, Medical, Warehouse / Logistics, Production /  
Manufacturing, Welding, Federal Government,  
State Government, IT, Transportation / Truck Driving, Finance,  
Security / Corrections, Maintenance Mechanics, Sales,  
Automotive Diesel and engine repair, Retail, Food Service,  
Management, Supply Storage Distribution, Nursing.**



Create a free Delaware JobLink job seeker or employer account for job searches, resume building, training opportunities, employer services, and more!

**[joblink.delaware.gov](http://joblink.delaware.gov)**





# HELP INITIATIVE, INC. OF DELAWARE



## HOW CAN I UNDERSTAND AND AFFORD MY UTILITY BILLS?

### HOME ENERGY COUNSELING AND CHECK-UP PROGRAM

The Home Energy Counseling & Check-up Program is designed to empower Delaware residents by providing access to high-quality energy efficiency education, products and services. You may be eligible for one of the following opportunities:

- 1. In-Home Energy Check-Up and Counseling:** An Energy Advisor will provide a personalized overview of ways to save, plus install FREE energy-saving products (**up to \$100 value**).
- 2. Energy Conservation Workshops:** A FREE workshop that includes a Weatherization Kit (**\$30 value**) and low-cost/no-cost ways to save energy.
- 3. One-on-One Energy Counseling:** An Energy Educator will discuss your energy-related needs, provide advice and referral services.



### DO I QUALIFY?

Household Size	Annual Income
1	\$44,250
2	\$50,550
3	\$56,900
4	\$63,200
5	\$68,250
6	\$73,300
7	\$78,350
8	\$83,400

### APPLY TODAY!

Call Toll Free @ **833-888-0410**

# SEEKING MENTORS

*Change the world; influence a life one youth a time!*



## **Be a Mentor for Someone Special Make a Difference in a Youth's Life**

Next Youth Challenge Class starts March and July 2022



The Youth Challenge program provides a second-chance opportunity to Delaware at-risk youth. Now entering its 13<sup>th</sup> session partnered with the Capital Guardian Youth Challenge Academy, the DNG program has been able to successfully assist and graduate 82 Cadets. Our Cadets have moved on to pursue higher education, seek employment, and some have joined the military. Mentor/Mentee relationships are key to supporting the Cadet's success.

A Mentor is a person or friend who guides a less experienced person by building trust and modeling positive behaviors. A mentor should be able to invest in the life of a Cadet and provide, personal, education, and career guidance following graduation.

### **Who can be a Mentor?**

- Must be same sex as cadet being mentored
- Must be at least 21 years old
- Must consent to a criminal background check
- Can commit to volunteer their time for the youth in the program over the 17 ½ months of the program.

### **Expectations of a Mentor include:**

- Complete Mentor training to prepare for the role (provided online)
- Begin building a relationship with the Cadet by writing weekly and providing encouragement during the 5 ½ months of residential phase. Participate in at least 1 (one) onsite visit
- Continue the Mentor/Mentee relationship through visits, email or email and telephone during the 12 months post residential phase
- Provide guidance for social development and achievement for the Cadet's goal and objectives, after graduation.
- Submit a monthly progress report to the Academy's assigned staff monthly for 12 months post residential phase.
- Undergo a criminal background check conducted by the District of Columbia.

## **Take the First Step to Become a Mentor – submit your Mentor Application!**

**ABOUT THE PROGRAM:** The Delaware National Guard, Delaware Department of Education, and the Capital Guardian Youth Challenge Academy have joined to provide Delaware youth, ages 16-18, with opportunities for personal growth, self-improvement, and academic achievement. The National Guard's Youth Challenge program is for high school dropouts, those no longer attending, and those failing in high school. The Youth Challenge program is a highly structured military styled, non-traditional educational environment that integrates training, mentoring, tough love, and diverse educational and extracurricular activities. The Youth Challenge Academy is a 17-1/2 month program that offers at-risk youth the opportunity to get a GED after a 22-week in-resident program located in Laurel, MD. This program is an excellent opportunity for students that cannot conform to a traditional learning environment and are willing to learn but need discipline.

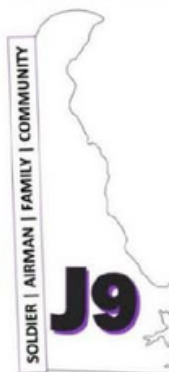
**For more information or to obtain a Mentor Application , please contact:**

**Karen Hughes**

Youth Challenge Counselor Liaison

302-326-7102 OFFICE

karen.m.hughes18.nfg@mail.mil



NOTE: The Adjutant General has approved up to three days cumulative time for DNG technicians providing direct support to the Youth Challenge program in a Mentor role. DNG Technicians should contact Ms. Hughes for further direction from HRO. This is subject to supervisor concurrence of the employee's participation. HRO Contact is Lt Col Dave Rice.





## VA Health Chat

Connect with Your VA Care Team Over Chat



*When in doubt, chat it out.*

The VA Health Chat app provides easy online access for Veterans enrolled with Wilmington VA Medical Center and its Community Based Outpatient Clinics in Kent and Sussex Counties to chat with VA staff with minor health questions.

Use VA Health Chat for immediate answers when you:

- ✦ Need medical advice for a minor injury or illness.
- ✦ Feel ill and unsure about going to an ER or clinic.
- ✦ Have questions about your medications or need a refill.
- ✦ Have questions about your consults.
- ✦ Looking for results of lab or imaging tests.

Read Health Chat user and U.S. Army Veteran Josef Mendez Lopez's testimonial [here](#).

"I opened the app, signed in with my My HealtheVet Premium account credentials, and from there it was easy to follow the prompts and begin using the app," he said. "I was able to chat with a nurse within one minute."

VA team members are available to chat Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. local time, excluding holidays.

Download the VA Health Chat app on the VA App Store, the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store. The app is also available through the VA Launchpad app.

<https://www.va.gov/wilmington-health-care/va-health-chat/>



**Veterans  
Crisis Line**  
1-800-273-8255 **PRESS 1**

## Ending Veteran Homelessness, Increasing Access to Affordable Housing

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted a need for Veteran housing in America. According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's 2020 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR).

The [Department of Veterans Affairs \(VA\)](#) and [Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#) are committed in its partnership in a mission of ending Veteran homelessness by:

- ✦ Make ending Veteran homelessness a top priority
- ✦ Lead with an evidence-based housing first approach
- ✦ Reach underserved Veterans
- ✦ Ensure the delivery of quality supportive services
- ✦ Increase the supply of and access to affordable housing

### Increase the Supply of and Access to Affordable Housing

There is a low inventory of available housing for at-risk Veterans in our area, and landlords are not accepting [HUD-VASH \(VA Supportive Housing\) Program](#) vouchers at previous rates. This is leading to a housing and health crisis for vulnerable Veterans.

"Housing is an essential part of health care. Reliable housing leads to an increase in access to health care services," said Vince Kane, Director, Wilmington VA Medical Center. "When Veterans have stable housing, we can more easily connect with them and ensure they are receiving the health care services they need. Our goal is to work with private landlords to educate and encourage them to accept HUD-VASH vouchers to house our nation's Veterans. Together, we can end Veteran homelessness."

As part of this education effort, Wilmington VA Medical Center will be holding a virtual landlord resource fair in the coming months.

If you would like more information on the HUD-VASH Program, visit the websites below or contact:

- ✦ **Celia Gonzalez, VA Homeless Programs Supervisor**  
Phone: 302-824-9322
- ✦ **Karen Zogheib, VA Housing Development Specialist**  
Phone: 302-944-2511, ext. 4470

### Resources/VA Websites:

**HUD-VASH**  
**VA Programs for Homeless Veterans**  
**HUD-VASH Program Eligibility**  
**HUD-VASH Program Office**

National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at:  
**1-877-4AID-VET**

Wilmington VA Medical Center provides health care services to approximately 33,000 Veterans through its main medical center and five Community Based Outpatient Clinics in Delaware and southern New Jersey. For more information, please visit [www.wilmington.va.gov](http://www.wilmington.va.gov).



# Toll Free Numbers for Contacting Federal VA

Beneficiaries in receipt of Pension Benefits	1-877-294-6380
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Benefits (VA):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Burial</b></li> <li>• <b>Death Pension</b></li> <li>• <b>Dependency Indemnity Compensation</b></li> <li>• <b>Direct Deposit</b></li> <li>• <b>Directions to VA Benefits Regional Offices</b></li> <li>• <b>Disability Compensation</b></li> <li>• <b>Disability Pension</b></li> <li>• <b>Education</b></li> <li>• <b>Home Loan Guaranty</b></li> <li>• <b>Medical Care</b></li> <li>• <b>Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment</b></li> </ul>	<b>1-800-827-1000</b>
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
<b>Veterans Crisis Line</b>	<b>1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255)</b>
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)



**VA**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****655 South Bay Road** (new location)  
Dover, DE 19901  
(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 DirectorOffice: (302) 994-2511 ext. 4598  
Work cell: (302) 932-7519  
Fax: (302) 633-5591  
Email: [mark.taylor10@va.gov](mailto:mark.taylor10@va.gov)**Valerie Harwood**Community Outreach Specialist  
Kent & Sussex CountiesOffice: (800) 462-8262  
Work cell: (302) 357-8715  
Fax: (302) 633-5591  
Email: [Valerie.camarillo@va.gov](mailto:Valerie.camarillo@va.gov)**eClaims**

ONLINE VA CLAIMS MADE SIMPLE.

**eBenefits**[www.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov)

## **ATTENTION!** **Veterans & Family**

Due to unforeseen COVID-19 circumstances, please contact your Veteran Service Officer to confirm appointments.

**DO NOT ATTEND APPOINTMENT  
IF COVID SYMPTOMS ARE  
PRESENT.**

We always place the health & safety of our veterans and VSOs first, so please help us help you.

Thank you and continue to stay safe!



**New Castle County:** Lisa Smith  
Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Bear, DE  
(302) 365-8231

**Kent County:** Dennis Linehan & Elvira Jameson  
DCVA office in Dover, DE  
(302) 257-3119/3118

**Sussex County:** Laurie Corsa  
Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Millsboro, DE  
(302) 648-3068

*Hours may vary due to COVID restrictions.  
Please call to make an appointment with  
any of our VSOs.*



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](http://www.vfwde.com)

### **OUTREACH SCHEDULE:**

**1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> 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)*

**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday Afternoon - 1:30pm to 3pm**  
Blue Hen VFW Post 6483  
(302) 422-4412  
77 Veterans Circle  
Milford, DE 19963

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday Afternoon - 1:30pm to 3pm**  
Virgil Wilson VFW Post 4961  
(302) 629-3092  
9767 Middleford Road  
Seaford, DE 19973

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Afternoon 1:30pm to 3pm**  
Rehoboth Beach VFW Post 7447  
(302) 227-3469  
101 State Road  
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

**4<sup>th</sup> Thursday Afternoon 1:30pm to 3pm**  
Virgil Wilson VFW Post 4961  
(302) 629-3092  
9767 Middleford Road  
Seaford, DE 19973





New Castle County:

1601 Kirkwood Hwy  
VAMC, Room 1012  
Wilmington, DE 19805

**Mark Donberger, DAV NSO Supervisor**  
**Ginny Fisher: Secretary**

**Please call to set up appointments:**  
**302-994-2511 Ext: 4586/4555**

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](mailto:nabvetsde.chpt94@gmail.com) or [nlewis2939@yahoo.com](mailto:nlewis2939@yahoo.com)

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

## WOMEN VETERANS!



**Ladies, do you miss the comradery  
of active duty? Are you a Active  
Duty, Reservist or Guard looking  
for a group to connect with?**

**Benefits of Joining:**

Networking

Volunteer Events

Making a difference for female  
veterans in Delaware

**If interested please contact:**

**Pat Cerchio**

**401-338-3798**



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:

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays: 1PM - 4PM

Georgetown CBOC :

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays: 1PM - 4PM



VSO—VVA Representative  
VA Regional Office  
1601 Kirkwood Hwy.  
Wilmington, DE 19805  
(302) 540-0103



# 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**

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

***Other Resources***

**[www.DelawareHousingSearch.org](http://www.DelawareHousingSearch.org)**  
**877-428-8844**

**Delaware 211**  
**[www.delaware211.org](http://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:s0am—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](mailto: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](http://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>**





### **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](mailto: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](mailto:John.McNeal@state.de.us)

College & Trade Schools Military/Veterans Affairs

### **Delaware State University**

Natasha Scott-Knight: (302) 857-6378

[nscottknight@desu.edu](mailto:nscottknight@desu.edu)

### **Delaware Technical Community College**

Dover  
(302) 857-1056

Georgetown  
(302) 259-6073

Stanton:  
(302) 454-3926

Wilmington:  
(302) 571-5307

### **Southern Illinois University**

Dover AFB: Karen M. Nagviski  
(302) 734-7829

[nagviski@siu.edu](mailto:nagviski@siu.edu)  
[DoverAFB@siu.edu](mailto:DoverAFB@siu.edu)

### **University of Delaware**

Brooks Raup  
302-831-0552  
[braup@udel.edu](mailto:braup@udel.edu)

### **Wesley College**

Erin Elsberry  
(302) 736-2434/ [Erin.elsberry@wesley.edu](mailto:Erin.elsberry@wesley.edu)

### **Widener University School of Law**

Pattie Donoghue  
(302) 477-2710/ [pmdonoghue@widener.edu](mailto:pmdonoghue@widener.edu)

### **Wilmington University**

Jim Webb / Jennifer Bacci  
(302) 342-8669 / (302) 356-6962  
[james.s.webb@wilmu.edu](mailto:james.s.webb@wilmu.edu)  
[jennifer.l.bacci@wilmu.edu](mailto: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](http://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) 236-5301  
<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](http://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

23

<b>Air Force Sergeants Association</b>	(302) 677-4473	Jeremy Coney, TSgt
<b>American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.</b>	(202) 265-0991 (302) 656-7162	DC Headquarters Donna Lowell (DE Representative) <a href="mailto:ptangel3@comcast.net">ptangel3@comcast.net</a>
<b>American Legion</b>	(302) 628-5221	Richard "Ric" Santos
<b>AMVETS</b>	(302) 945-2170	Eugene Bradley
<b>Delaware Veterans (DELVETS)</b>	(302) 475-9891 (302) 674-9956	Post 1 Post 2
<b>Delaware Veterans Coalition</b>	(302) 270-7145	Dave Skocik <a href="mailto:delawareveteranscoalition@gmail.com">delawareveteranscoalition@gmail.com</a>
<b>Disabled American Veterans</b>	(302) 697-9061	Paul Lardizzone
<b>First State Military Women Warriors</b>	(302) 387-1309	Pat Cerhio
<b>Fleet Reserve Association</b>	(302) 322-0681	Philip Pushel
<b>40 &amp; 8</b>	(302) 678-8077	Eugene "Chip" Rosan
<b>Gold Star Families</b>	(302) 593-5991	Judy Campbell
<b>A Hero's Welcome Delaware</b>	(302) 530-4984	Rosely Robinson <a href="mailto:ahwdelaware@gmail.com">ahwdelaware@gmail.com</a>
<b>Korean War Veterans Association</b>	(302) 933-0228	Edward Johnson
<b>Marine Corps League</b>	(302) 242-7926	William C. Farley
<b>Military Officers Association of America</b>	(302) 335-1655 (302) 262-4617	Gene Thornton (Kent Co.) Larry Hess (Sussex Co.)
New Castle Co. veterans/resident can contact the 2 representatives for questions/concerns. Thank you!		
<b>Military Order of the Purple Heart</b>	(302) 422-6760	Gary "Mo" Morris
<b>Military Order of the World Wars</b>	(302) 239-0641	Earl Seppala <a href="mailto:eseppala@aol.com">eseppala@aol.com</a>
<b>Nat'l Association of Black Veterans DE Chapter 94</b>	(302) 345-6911	Nolan S. Lewis <a href="mailto:nabvetsde.chpt94@gmail.com">nabvetsde.chpt94@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:nlewis2939@yahoo.com">nlewis2939@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Paralyzed Veterans of America</b>	(302) 284-4719	Elmer (Art) Titus
<b>The Reserve Officers Association</b>	(302) 234-1418	LTC Richard Chappell (Ret) <a href="mailto:rwc49ps54ud@comcast.net">rwc49ps54ud@comcast.net</a>
<b>Veterans of Foreign Wars</b>	(302) 526-0993	Mark Newman
<b>Vietnam Veterans of America</b>	(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.

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

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

### ***Pick-Up Points:***

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Camden: DAV, 183 South Street</li> <li>• Dover: McDonald's - Route 10</li> <li>• Dover: Luther Towers, Kings Hwy</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Magnolia: Fire Department</li> <li>• Dover: IHOP/Safeway Shopping Ctr.</li> <li>• Smyrna: Rest Area</li> </ul> |
|--|---|



**T**his 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](http://delaware.gov/djf)

Joshua Matticks  
OVS, Executive Director  
302-739-2792  
[Joshua.matticks@delaware.gov](mailto:Joshua.matticks@delaware.gov)

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



**T**he 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](http://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: Frank Silva



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 reflect the views of the Commission of Veterans Affairs or the State of Delaware. Paid for with State Funds.**

**The “DVCA Newsletter” is now available electronically via our website: [vets.delaware.gov/veterans-newsletter/](https://vets.delaware.gov/veterans-newsletter/) or scan the QR code below. To obtain a hard copy of the newsletter, visit one of our office locations.**



**STATE OF DELAWARE  
“Veterans First in the First State”**



**DCVA 20-01-02-22-04-15**