



OWS

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Department of State
Office of Veterans Services
In Support of DCVA

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Dr. Ronald Sarg *MOAA*
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Greg Sutton *At-Large*

Greetings Delaware Veterans and Families,

We are slowly coming out of the nightmare of the past 18 months. I pray all veterans and their families are well and have weathered the storm. COVID combined with veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange took a tragic toll on many of our brothers and sisters in arms. Please keep them and their loved ones in your thoughts and prayers.

A special shout out to two outstanding leaders Director Vince Kane of the VA Hospital and Director Carol Erhart of the Delaware Veterans Home who handled daily protocol changes in keeping veterans safe while significantly improving communications with clients. The administration of the COVID vaccine was monumental and implemented professionally and served as an example of excellence for the Delaware healthcare community. BRAVO ZULU!! (Navy talk for well done)

The General Assembly passed HB214 providing school tax relief for 100% service connected disabled military veterans. Long overdue, but BRAVO ZULU to State Representative Bill Carson, long time friend of military veterans, for his leadership in making this a reality. We have been informed that property tax relief for these same individuals must be granted by each County and are working hand in hand with Representative Carson to make this a reality as well.

Continuing with the legislative theme, Senate Bill 188 Military Retirement Pay Exemption from Delaware state income tax was introduced by State Senator Spiros Mantzavinos. We need to get this done in order to attract young military talent to consider Delaware as a great place to work, live, and retire. Currently we are one of the 9 states taxing military retirements and, as a result, veterans numbers in Delaware are declining at an alarming rate. The labor force is desperately seeking the skills veterans bring to the table. Please contact your elected officials and voice your support for Senate Bill 188.

I and Vice Chair Anna Lopez are available to attend organization meetings, if invited, and look forward to working with you to ensure 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



Memorial Day

REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE SACRIFICED



Governor Carney and DCVA Chair, Chuck Baldwin; escorting President Biden to his seat. DCVA annual event at the War Plaza/DE Bridge.



DCVA Commissioners seated to the left of the President, always showing continuous support to our veterans. Thank you DNG Honor Guard and all who made this a success. Not to mention, our guest speaker, DNG Major General Michael Berry who spoke at both ceremonies



Congresswoman Blunt Rochester and Senator Carper attended the ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Bear.



American Legion Auxiliary Unit 17 of Lewes Honors Our Lost Heroes Throughout Town



Wilmington Memorial Day Parade

Memorial Day Ceremony at the Kent County Veterans Memorial Park, hosted by VVA Chapter 850, Pictured: William Witham, Lee Widjeskog, Joe Startt, and Paul Davis Salute the colors.

Delaware Honors our Fallen ₂



The Dover Mayor's Crisis Awareness Challenge Walk

Successfully walked on Saturday May 22nd.



Freedom

5K Run/Walk

Benefits the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund



Early finishers Matt Sparacino, Landon Bratz, Mackenze Speed and David Allen (Son of Freddy Allen, from our very own Vet Center in Dover).




The annual Freedom 5K to benefit the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund happened Saturday, June 26, beginning at Wild Wings restaurant in Dover. Ray Parker of TriSports coordinated the event that raised more than \$4,000 on a day of intermittent showers. The Veterans Trust Fund provides one time grants to Delaware's honorably discharged veterans in proven financial emergency. Tax deductible contributions may be made at www.DelawareVeteransTrustFund.com.

Thank you to all our sponsors, runners, walkers, cheerleaders, volunteers, TriSportEvents for always showing up and never giving up on our veterans of Delaware!
We appreciate everyone's support!



Terry Woodward, joins our event every year, minus COVID 2020. This year, not even the down pour of rain at the end, stopped his determination! Job well done!


VETERANS CHOICE
 REALTY GROUP

BUFFALO WILD WINGS
DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, DEPT OF DE
MATTICKS FAMILY
SCHWARTZ & SCHWARTZ
 ★ ★ ★
VETERANS CRISIS AWARENESS CHALLENGE
HOONG CHOW
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY CENTRAL DELAWARE
 ★ ★
AMERICAN LEGION POST 29 FIRST STATE
BALDWIN FAMILY
DELAWARE DEVIL DOGS DET 780, MCL
DELAWARE VETERANS POST 2 INC
LOPEZ FAMILY
MCMULLEN FAMILY
VANCE FAMILY



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

VA Health Chat

Connect with Your VA Care Team Over Chat



"VA Health Chat increases access to care for many Veterans like me."

U.S. Army Veteran
Josef Mendez Lopez



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/>



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**

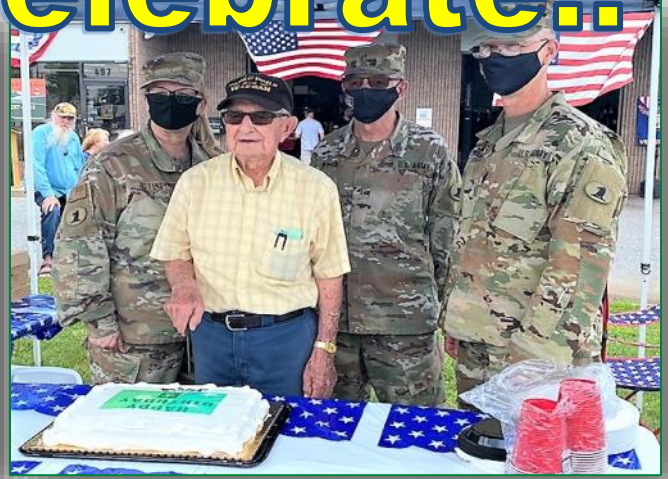
National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at:
1-877-4AID-VET

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.

Reasons to celebrate!!



100th b'day drive-by for WWII Woman Vet, Antonetta Schumacher. DCVA Chair, Chuck Baldwin dropped off some flowers and a card for her, on behalf of the Commission, a few days before. She looks pretty amazing for being 100!



L-R: ANG Command Master Chief, Patricia Ottinger; Tom Anderson; ANG Command Chief, Ron Wilson; ANG Command Sgt. Major Ed Crossman. On behalf of Adjutant Gen. Mike Berry, they also presented Mr. Anderson with a Guard coin for his 98th b-day!



WW II pilot honored by Veteran leaders

Heroes live among us. Those singled out for their actions during times of conflict deserve the honors and accolades accorded them. But the great majority who survive remain unknown, even to their families as they rebuild their lives and move on.

One of the quiet ones celebrated his 100th birthday on June 23 at a Kent County assisted living facility. Few knew of **Gordon Blythe's** service during WW2 as a B-17 Flying Fortress pilot who survived 25 bombing missions over Germany with the Mighty 8th Air Force, then had another 10 added. The organization's most well-known aircraft, The Memphis Belle, was the subject of a movie as the first aircraft to complete 25 missions without being shot down.

The 8th Air Force suffered half of the U.S Army Air Forces' casualties in World War 2, with more than 47,000 casualties including more than 26,000 dead. They flew 985 combat missions losing 6,130 Bombers and Fighters. They earned 17 Medals of Honor, 220 Distinguished Service Crosses, 850 Silver Stars, 7,000 Purple Hearts and 46,000 Air Medals. Many more were presented after the war.

In addition to being celebrated by the facility and his family, Mr. Blythe was honored by local veterans who tributed his service. Dave Skocik, president of the Delaware Veterans Coalition, built and presented a detailed model of a B-17 to the former pilot, and retired Marine Corps officer and Delaware Veterans Commissioner Bill Farley thanked him for his courageous service during that conflict. Both men are Vietnam veterans and presented organizational coins to Mr. Blythe.

L-R Bill Farley & Dave Skocik display coins presented to Gordon Blythe.



L-R: John Tworig, with Eagle Creek Golf Course at Dover AFB helped gather Doc Green's golf buddies to surprise him. Elvira Jameson, DCVA VSO and a Reservist with the 512th Memorial Affairs Sq. at Dover AFB, knew Doc from the golf course too.

The Commission goes Green

The Commission of Veterans Affairs conference room was the site of a surprise 96th b- day party for retired Air Force dentist Col. Hampton Green Jr. on June 22nd. Col. Green was honored for his work on establishing the first dental clinic on Dover AFB. Attendees included friends from military and civilian communities who presented multiple awards and recognition. Also, his golf buddies from Dover AFB.



L-R: Sharon Noone and Nancy Thomson with Quilts of Valor; Lt Col Kristen Nichols, Medical Group, Dover AFB; Judy Faunce with Hero's Welcome and Gold Star Mothers; Hampton Green Jr.; Josh Matticks, Director, Office of Veterans Services presented a Tribute from the Governor; Lt Col. Jessica Weaver, Commander, Dover AFB Dental Sq.; and Jennifer Rambo of Mission BBQ. Not pictured, Commissioner Paul Lardizzone, presented certificate of appreciation on behalf of DCVA & Sable Vance for putting all this together for her dear friend, Doc Green.

Vets Coalition, Treatment Court mark 10 years of service By Mike Finney

DOVER — Two veterans service organizations, the Delaware Veterans Coalition and the Delaware Veterans Treatment Court, got together to mark their 10th anniversaries together in front of the Old State House on The Green Wednesday afternoon. During the ceremony, William L. Witham Jr., JD, resident judge of Kent County and resident judge of the Superior Court of Delaware, was honored for his work with the Veterans Treatment Court, which began in February 2011 as the first statewide program and the first to have a diversion and probation track.

Since its inception, the state's veterans courts have expanded to help more than 400 men and women veterans and has the lowest recidivism rate of any court in the state. "A lot of people support their Veterans Treatment Court, which we want to keep it going for the future because of the returning veterans from overseas wars," said Judge Witham, who will retire this month. "Around half of them have a severe mental health issue that has to be treated. "They've served us, and we ought to be able to serve them." Judge Witham knows a little bit about serving the country himself. After all, he served in the Delaware National Guard and the Reserves for 33 years in numerous command and staff positions, including Deputy Commander of the Delaware Army National Guard.

Judge Witham insists that it's not just him, that there are a lot of people involved with the success of the Veterans Treatment Court, saying there are several other judges who are interested in participating.

"We started this in 2011 and the reason why we did it is because I had a sentencing involving a person who just got back from Iraq," the judge said. "He was drinking very heavily, and he was traveling on a back road from the Clayton Tavern, and he had an accident.

"He was inebriated and killed the husband-to-be with his fiancée's car. It was really tragic, and the family of the victims did not want him incarcerated because he was charged with vehicular homicide and DUI.

"It had to evolve. So, after that we decided to set up programs so that these veterans can get treated."

The Veterans Treatment Court's mission is to divert veterans who meet strict requirements from the traditional criminal justice system and provide them with the tools to lead a productive and law-abiding life. Studies have shown that such collaborative courts enhance public safety, cut recidivism and are more cost effective than the typical manner of processing offenders.

Meanwhile, the Delaware Veterans Coalition celebrated its 10th anniversary on the sweltering Wednesday as well.

The Veterans Coalition was established in May 2011 and was co-founded by Vietnam veterans Dave Skocik – the organization's president – and Vice President Paul Davis as a pro bono lobbying organization and an additional voice for the state's veterans of all generations.

"I think it's a lucky coincidence," Mr. Skocik said, of the dual anniversaries. "We started it because we wanted veterans to have an additional voice in addition to the Commission of Veterans Affairs, with whom we work very closely."

In 2013, the Delaware Veterans Coalition was instrumental in the establishment of the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund under the auspices of the Commission of Veterans Affairs. The fund provides one-time grants to honorably discharged veterans in financial emergency. During the ceremony, legislative tributes were presented to Judge Witham, the Veterans Treatment Court and the Delaware Veterans Coalition.

Attendees included Mr. Davis; Don Kaufman, coalition secretary; Chuck Baldwin, chairman of the Commission of Veterans Affairs; and Josh Matticks, executive director of Veterans Services. "Dave (Skocik) and I started the Delaware Veterans Coalition," Mr. Davis said. "We were very excited about it, and it's been very, very positive. We're registered lobbyists in the General Assembly, and I want to commend them for their working with us. They've done a lot to help us and all of the veterans." Mr. Baldwin said if someone wanted to see who the individuals were that are working together to make life brighter for Delaware's veterans, they just had to look in front of the Old State House on Wednesday. "There's not thousands of people here today, but I will tell you that the key players with veterans are all surrounded right here," Mr. Baldwin said. "It's an honor to work with all these individuals. "Working with incarcerated veterans and helping them in society is so, so important and we know that we owe the judge (Witham) an awful lot ... more than just those papers that we gave. We owe him a great deal of gratitude." Reach Mike Finney at 741-8230 or mfinney@newszap.com.



L- Judge Witham receiving a Legislative Tribute from Charles Baldwin, Commission Chairman; Dave Skocik, president, Delaware Veterans Coalition

R-Dave Skocik, Coalition president; Don Coffman, Coalition Sec/Treasurer; Paul Davis, Coalition VP; and Josh Matticks, Exec. Dir. of Veteran Services display tribute from Delaware Legislature.



WILLIAM L. WITHAM, JR.



The Honorable William L. Witham Jr., JD, is the Resident Judge (Chief Judge with responsibility for the County Courthouse) of Kent County, Delaware and a Resident Judge of the Superior Court of Delaware. Resident Judge Witham is currently a member of the Delaware State and American Bar Associations, Terry-Carey Inn of Court and the National Association of Drug Court Professionals.

During his career, Resident Judge Witham has served as a member of the Board of Bar Examiners, the United States Third Circuit Merit Selection Screening Committee, the Governor's Magistrate Screening Committee, Trustee of Delaware Technical and Community College, President of the Central Delaware Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Inc., Director of the Board of Managers of the Central Delaware YMCA and as President of

the Dover Kiwanis Club. He served as President of the Kent County Bar Association and as Vice President of the Delaware State Bar Association. Prior to joining the Superior Court, he was a partner with Prickett, Jones, Elliott, Kristol and Schnee in Dover, Delaware.

Colonel Witham served in the Delaware National Guard and the Reserves for thirty-three years in numerous command and staff positions. Prior to his mandatory years-in-service retirement his final position was Deputy Commander of the Delaware Army National Guard. He attended many military schools and graduated from the United States Army War College in 1998.

Resident Judge Witham received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Delaware in 1970, and his Juris Doctorate from the University of Maryland in 1973. He was admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar in 1975 and the Delaware Bar in 1976. Resident Judge Witham received the honor of being selected for and listed in the Fifth and Sixth Editions of The Best Lawyers in America.

Multiple contributions made to the Veterans Trust Fund Endowment

The Delaware Veterans Trust Fund was established in 2013 by the Delaware Legislature under the Commission of Veterans Affairs. Its purpose is to provide emergency financial assistance to honorably discharged veterans residing in Delaware.

It has stopped cutoff of utilities, repossessions of vehicles, provided repairs for housing and other grants.

The Foundation was established in 2019 under the Delaware Community Foundation to build a self-funded source of income to supplement the Trust Fund.

Tax deductible contributions to the Trust Fund Foundation can be made online at www.DelawareVeteransTrustFund.com or mailing a check made to Delaware Veterans Trust Fund and mailed to Commission of Veterans Affairs, 802 Silver Lake Blvd., Suite 100, Dover, DE 19904. Call 302-739-2792 for more information.



Dave Tiberi, left, President of ERP (Emergency Response Protocol) presents Charles Baldwin, Chairman Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs with a \$2,500 donation for the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund Endowment on July 13. Mr. Tiberi, a longtime supporter of the veteran community, is leading an effort to end veteran suicide with **Stop 22 in 22**, an effort to stop 22 veteran suicides each day in 2022.



Bob Hill, (right) President of Emory Hill Real Estate Development, presents a \$10,000 donation for the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund Endowment to Charles Baldwin, Chairman of the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs on July 13. "Bob Hill is a Vietnam veteran who is an outstanding member of the community and serves on the Board of Directors of the Delaware Military Academy," said Mr. Baldwin.

What's New at the Delaware Military Museum?

Thanks to the Covid crisis we have been forced to limit public attendance at our museum. We have built an on-line presence both on our website <https://www.delawaremilitarymuseum.org/> and our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/192329010870956>. If you have not already done so, we urge you to become part of our Facebook Group where we post fresh material every day. It is a lively forum for all kinds of interesting new stories.

We also built a "Virtual Museum" originally as a substitute for our live museum experience. However it has become a different kind of experience all its own. This format gives us the ability to share with you not only our collections, but artwork, biographies and stories that stand by themselves. Our emphasis is on Delawareans, like our naval heroes of the War of 1812, Delaware military organizations like the Delaware National Guard, and facilities like Dover Air Force Base. It is a great place to browse for your particular interests. The postings are augmented by images, narration, and very often a video of the topic. You can find it here:

For virtual tours of the artifacts on display in the museum:

<https://izi.travel/en/ccf5-delaware-military-museum-virtual-tour/en>

Virtual Views the collections & facilities:

<https://izi.travel/en/b160-delaware-military-museum-digital-collection/en>

We have not been idle at the museum. Our volunteers are working on a number of new initiatives. We took delivery last week of our first prototype kiosk for the World War II exhibit. It is the first of a projected half dozen such kiosks. This one tells the story of Delawareans at Pearl Harbor as well as the exploits of the 198th Coast Artillery Regiment, Delaware National Guard in the South Pacific.

The Delaware Air National Guard will celebrate its 75th Anniversary in September, so we have begun to assemble a temporary exhibit to observe that noteworthy event. The museum is supporting the celebration in September with the temporary loan of materials during their big birthday bash.

There is always something going on and there are always new developments which is why I like my job and never get bored or run out of things to do. I hope you will visit us and see for your self our latest improvements now that we have once again re-opened to the public on Saturday June 12, 2021.



Submitted by: Kennard Wiggins, Curator,
Delaware Military Museum

NABVETS adds its banner to Bear Veterans Cemetery

The National Association for Black Veterans has added its flag to those flown at the Veterans Cemetery in Bear, Del. Nolan Lewis, U.S. Army veteran and a member of the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs, raised the flag as Commission Chairman Charles "Chuck" Baldwin, Executive Director of Veterans Services Josh Matticks, and Delaware Veterans Coalition President Dave Skocik saluted.

Mr. Lewis serves as president of NABVETS Chapter 94. NABVETS was created to help ensure veterans whom come out of service have a way to help them go back to a healthy life.

"May 4, 2021 was a 'banner day' in more ways than one because it acknowledges an outstanding organization that assists all veterans, regardless of color," said Mr. Baldwin. "Mr. Lewis is well-known and respected for his contributions and active participation in veterans affairs and we are honored to have him aboard the DCVA." Barbara Cooke, administrative director of the New Castle County Veterans Cemetery, also participated in the flag raising ceremony.

Visit www.Nabvetsde.org, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for more info.



L-R: Josh Matticks, Charles Baldwin, Dave Skocik,
Barbara Cooke, Nolan Lewis

Air Force Sergeants Association Helping DVH

April 12, 2021 we had our first volunteer event at the Milford Vet's Home. We had 19 volunteers show up and worked hard through the rain to beautify the landscaping at the location. The team spent a total of seven hours on location helping remove last season's material by replacing with new material.



Delaware Gold Star Families : NEVER FORGET

Delaware Gold Star Families continues to recognize and honor not only the Gold Star Families who live within our state, but our veterans and others. During the month's of March, April and May; Gold Star Families were at Bear Veteran Cemetery, Kent County, Bob Evan's Restaurant, Police Departments and "The Bridge"

This past quarter we honored the memory of a homeless veteran who was laid to rest at the Bear, VA Cemetery. We presented his family with flowers for the grave of their loved one. This veteran evidently had struggled with serious PTSD, his pain only he knew. His funeral drew representatives from the Delaware Patriot Guard, Delaware State Police, U of D Campus police and representatives from various veteran organizations. His service and sacrifice will never be forgotten. May he RIP.

We helped welcome home a veteran with a car parade through his neighborhood. Fire trucks, police cars, motorcycles and private vehicles gave this veteran a welcome home he and his neighbors will NEVER forget. It warmed everyone's heart to see neighbors waving the American Flag and smiles galore.

Vietnam Veterans Day and Memorial Day we participated in the Kent County Services, hosted by VVA Chapter 850. It was an honor to place the Gold Star Memorial Wreath to remember the sacrifice of the men who did not return and remember their families, our Gold Star Families. We carried over our honor to one very heroic Vietnam Veteran, Sky Soldier Lou DeSeta. A small gathering of friends met to present Lou with a "Miracle Quilt".

"Miracle Quilts" were created to the service and sacrifice of 173rd Airborne Sky Soldier PFC Joseph A. Miracle (KIA July 5, 2007, Afghanistan). "Miracle Quilts" have been delivered to many locations and not limited to: Walter Reed Medical Center; multiple Fisher Houses; Bethesda Naval Hospital; Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan; Lanstuhl, Germany; multiple Veterans Hospitals and veterans.

How fitting a 173rd Airborne Sky Soldier be a recipient of such a beautiful quilt. We hold dear the service and sacrifice not only borne of our Gold Star Families, but our Veterans. WELCOME HOME!

Just prior to "Police Week", we teamed up with the Delaware Patriot Guard and surprised nine local police stations with lunch. We were amazed as to how generous and willing restaurants were in donating pizzas, despite the sacrifices incurred by restaurants during COVID.

Memorial Day, one day a year, set aside to honor our fallen was observed in various services, including the Bear Veterans Cemetery and the annual service at the Delaware River Bay Authority Veterans Memorial Park. Gold Star Families were honored to hear President Biden speak on the loss, which he knows all to well.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been truly challenging for everyone, but one thing remains, Memorial Day is everyday for our Gold Star Families. Each fallen service member is the son or daughter, husband or wife, brother or sister, dad or mom and precious to each of us. How fitting, we put aside any political or personal feelings and unite in gratitude, this one day a year, to honoring and remembering.

Below are some suggestions you may want to consider putting into place, throughout the year, as we all work together to continue the work of being the example to the nation as to how Delaware recognizes our American Gold Star Families:

- 1) Pray daily for our Gold Star Families. Grief has no timeline and waves of grief can hit at anytime with no explanation
- 2) Write to tell them you are thinking of them
- 3) Send them flowers, just because
- 4) Invite to drive them to their loved ones grave or the Gold Star Memorial
- 5) Ask them about their loved one and be willing to listen
- 6) if you know of an elderly Gold Star Family or one who lives alone, offer to assist with home repairs; encourage your children and grandchildren to assist
- 7) Donate to a veterans organization in memory of their loved one. May I suggest donating to Phase II of the Gold Star Memorial?

Donations may be sent to:

VVA Chapter 83

PO Box 8167

Wilmington, DE 19803

Attn: Judy Campbell, Gold Star Chair

Delaware Gold Star Families Representative



L-R Judy Campbell and Joyce Procter present wreath during Vietnam Veterans Day Service hosted by Kent County VVA Chapter 850

Mrs. Jo Ann Maitland, newly appointed President of the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. would like to introduce the newly designated primary representative for the American Gold Star Mothers and their Families in the Delaware area, Mrs. Donna Lowell.

Donna and Jim Lowell live in New Castle, DE. Their son was AZC (Aircraft Maintenance Administration Chief Petty Officer) John W Lowell, USN. He served from 1983 to 1995. He served in Cubi Point in the Philippines & USS Theodore Roosevelt before being transferred to ACU - Four NAB Little Creek. He died of cancer in Walter Reed Hospital on May 5, 1995. They have another son (Daniel E Lowell) who retired from the Army Reserve after 28 years between active Navy, Army National Guard & Army Reserves. Her husband, Jim, was in the Marines and father served with Merrill's Marauders in WWII. "We are proud of all our military family and friends, We honor them by displaying our show car in shows, parades & escorting troops whenever we can. We also volunteer for the Wreaths Across America Convoy.' Lowell Family.



Jo Ann became eligible to join American Gold Star Mothers on December 3, 2002, when her son SPC Richard "Buck" Hubbell III, US Army, died while on active duty at age 22. Buck was with the 3rd Squadron, 6th Heavy Cavalry Regiment at Ft. Hood, TX where he outfitted the AH-64D Apache Longbow attack helicopters.

As the founding member of the Treasure Coast Chapter of American Gold Star Mothers, she experiences comfort and sisterhood from the membership of an organization that no one wants to be eligible to join.

Jo Ann has served American Gold Star Mothers as the past Department President for several years and the National Executive Board for seven years holding the Banner Guard, National Service Officer, 2nd Vice President, 1st Vice President Offices along with many Chairmanships. Sunday, she has been elected to the high office of National President.

Jo Ann is a long-time member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 62, Stuart and has served as Past District 11 President, Chapter President, and multiple Department Chairmanships. She is also a member of the American Legion Riders and Rolling Thunder.

Her family has a rich Military history with Her Father, Major Thomas G. Churchill Jr., US Army, Brother Thomas G. Churchill III served in the US Navy. Brother, Richard S. Churchill, USMC, Ret., who first served in the US Army, 1st Cav., Gary Owen, with two tours in Vietnam then retired out of the USMC Reserves.

Dr. Stephanie Golinveaux, Jo Ann's daughter, resides in Maine with husband Will and two children, Matthew and Annabelle. Married to US Navy Submarine Veteran and Legionnaire Frank Maitland, their home is in Stuart, FL with their two girls Zoey and Jezebel.



On June 4, 1928, a group of twenty-five mothers residing in Washington, DC, met to make plans to organize a national organization to be known as American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., a nondenominational, non-profitable and nonpolitical organization. On January 5, 1929, the organization was incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia.

The Charter was kept open for ninety days. At the end of this time they had a membership of sixty-five, which included mothers throughout the United States: North, South, East and West. There were many small groups of Gold Star Mothers functioning under local and state charters.

When these groups learned of a national organization with representation in nearly every State in the Union they wished to affiliate with the larger group and many did so. This group was composed of women who had lost a son or daughter in World War I. Beyond World War I

During the 1942 National Convention of the AGSM, the membership was opened to mothers who had lost a son or daughter in World War II and was again opened after the Korean Conflict.

For complete history and more information please visit:

www.americangoldstarmothers.org

American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
Headquarters is located at:

2128 Leroy Place NW
Washington, DC 20008
(202) 265-0991

Email: goldstarmoms@yahoo.com

House Bill 68

Thank you, Michael Smith 22nd District Representative for helping us by introducing the bill and having it pass. House Bill 68, 151st General Assembly (Present).

Introduced on: January, 1 2021.

Primary Sponsor: Michael Smith

Additional Sponsor(s): Sen. Ennis, Lawson Reps. Carson, Dorsey Walker, Ramone Co-Sponsor(s): Sen. Hansen, Hocker, Lopez, Mantzavinos, Pettyjohn, Pinkney, Townsend, Walsh Reps. Baumbach, Brady, Briggs King, Chukwuocha, Collins, Dukes, Gray, Hensley, Mitchell, D. Short, Smyk, Spiegelman, Vanderwende, K. Williams, Yearick.

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE AND VOLUME 68, CHAPTER 88 OF THE LAWS OF DELAWARE, RELATING TO BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Original Synopsis: The National League of Families POW/MIA flag is a "symbol of our Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoners, missing, or unaccounted for in all U.S. wars" 36. U.S.C. § 902. In 1989, the United States required the National League of Families POW/MIA flag be flown on Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day, and Veterans Day. In 1991, Delaware enacted Senate Bill No. 87, Chapter 88 of Volume 68 of the Laws of Delaware, which required certain state buildings to fly the POW/MIA flag each day. Senate Bill No.87 was not drafted as an amendment to the Delaware Code and so was not included in the Delaware Code. This Act codifies Senate Bill No. 87 into § 408 of Title 29 to conform § 408 with existing Delaware and federal law in recognition of this State's commitment to our Veterans. This Act also makes technical corrections to conform existing law to the standards of the Delaware Legislative Drafting Manual. HB 68 also includes all schools to fly the POW/MIA Flag under the American Flag. Governor Carney signed the bill into law on June 3rd of 2021.

Memorial Day Ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park in New Castle. Gold Star Mothers Judy Faunce and Donna Lowell stand with The American Gold Star Wreath with Senator Tom Carper.



Carry the Load

On May 24, 2021, we 'Carry the Load' at the Wilmington Riverfront. Doing our part for our fallen. Included is Sha'Mere Blatch (Merriella McMillian's daughter one of 22in22 from 2020) her son DJ McMillian, grandson LJ in stroller, Gold Star Mother Donna Lowell, Veteran Carol Holtmeyer, our flag guide, Jim Robinson.



'Carry The Load' started in 2011 as a grassroots effort by two Veteran U.S. Navy SEALs who felt like the nation had forgotten the meaning of Memorial Day. Carry The Load inspires people to actively participate in its Memorial Day events to restore the true meaning of Memorial Day.



L-R: Vietnam Veterans, Peter McTeague, 22nd District Representative Michael Smith, A Hero's Welcome Delaware, Rosely Robinson.

DELAWARE 2021 VETERANS' STAND DOWN

**SAVE the DATE
Friday
17 September 2021**

**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**

Dine with “Rusty Eagles” on September 22

Some 40 Vietnam Dustoff Association crewmembers who flew UH1 “Huey” medivac helicopters in Vietnam will be welcomed as brothers by Kent County Chapter 850, Vietnam Veterans of America, during their annual reunion in Dover between September 20 – 26, 2021.

The highly-decorated aviators were part of a 10-year operation credited with saving 900,000 lives during the Vietnam War, sometimes at the cost of their own.

The four-man Dustoff crews flew day and night, in all weather, in mountains and valleys, often under fire. They had a casualty rate greater than 30 percent with 121 killed and 545 wounded, and 199 helicopters lost. Dustoff 90 and its crew are still listed as Missing In Action. Visit [When I Have Your Wounded - YouTube](#) for the Dustoff story.

Activities will include a trip to the Vietnam Wall in D.C. and to Ft. Miles in Lewes along with a guided tour of the AMC Museum at Dover AFB and visits to Dover businesses.

But the most significant events will be a September 22 dinner at Dover’s Modern Maturity Center to honor them, followed by a 10 a.m. ceremony on September 25 at Kent County Veterans Memorial Park in Dover where more than 100 bricks will be dedicated in honor of Dustoff crews, including those lost in action. The bricks will create a Walk of Honor placed under the Huey in the park.

The Vietnam Dustoff Association, aka “Rusty Eagles,” originally based in California, have traveled the nation since 2003 for their reunions. They visited Dover in 2017 and were so impressed by their reception by local, county and state organizations that they plan to make Dover their official home base this September.

“These guys are the heroes who saved my life in Vietnam,” said twice-wounded Joe Startt, Chapter 850 president, “and we are honored to embrace them again.”

A limited number of dinner tickets are available to the public at \$40 on a first-come-first-served basis. Contact Woody Postle at 302-632-5284 or one9marine@gmail.com, for tickets and to order a roast beef or stuffed chicken dinner.



UH1 'Huey' at Dover Veterans Memorial Park



The graphic has a black background. At the top, there is a photograph of soldiers in a combat situation, with one soldier holding an American flag. Below the photo, the text "FREEDOM ISN'T FREE" is written in large, white, distressed, block letters. Underneath that, "VETERANS DAY II.II" is written in white, block letters inside a white rectangular box. At the bottom, the text "Veterans Eat FREE on Veterans Day!" is written in white, block letters. Below that, in a smaller font, it says "Free Sandwich for American Heroes ... our Veterans". At the very bottom right, there is a logo for "MISSION BBQ" with a star and the tagline "The American Way".



**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 25, 2021**

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!

**GROUP A:
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

**GROUP B:
5K RUN**

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

GROUP C:

**VET FEST WELCOMES
HOME VIETNAM ERA
VETERANS**

11:15 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 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.





Meet our veterans and the faces of JFV
L-R:

Duane Mcghy
Army

Chris Derbak (CEO)
Air Force and Coast Guard

Chris Malone
Army

Kevin Petit
Army

Max Slovins
Coast Guard

Dawne Kickerson
Navy

Jump for Valor is a charitable organization that strives to offer military veterans, including combat, retired and disabled veterans, access to a community that brings them joy, a sense of freedom, and something they can participate in and enjoy with friends and family.

Skydiving provides a unique environment with many therapeutic and positive effects. The sense of accomplishment after a tandem skydive or Advance Free Fall (AFF) certification is immeasurable. Also, completing a tandem skydive or Advance Free Fall (AFF) certification can help a disabled veteran feel more in control and gives them a sense of achievement. Facing your fears, fine-tuning your situational awareness, creating confidence and improving communication are just a few of the mental and cognitive benefits of skydiving. If I can jump out of an airplane, what else is possible?

Last but certainly not least, we provide veterans with a support system. Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a major cause of suicide for veterans, with up to 22 veterans affected each day. Veterans can feel isolated and have trouble communicating their feelings, re-engaging with their community or feel a sense of purpose after their military careers.

Through our program, qualified veterans can meet people with similar backgrounds and problems and work through them together. We also strive to get loved ones involved, as tandem skydivers, ground photographers, jump observers, or whatever role they want to play.

Objectives of Organization:

- ◆ To share our passion for skydiving and aerial sports with other veterans
- ◆ To assist our participants in overcoming the physical limitations of their disabilities through skydiving
- ◆ To promote retired and transitioning veterans' lifelong participation in skydiving activities
- ◆ To ensure the safe and professional conduct of our charitable purposes
- ◆ To ensure that our participants are not exploited for commercial or political purposes



Check out the website to view awesome pictures and more information on this exciting organization, to include Veterans Day Boogie in November.

<https://jump4valor.org/>

Toll Free Numbers for Contacting Federal VA

Beneficiaries in receipt of Pension Benefits	1-877-294-6380
<p style="text-align: center;">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)

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 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:

Most COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted, but please still 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
(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

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



FULFILLING OUR PROMISES
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

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 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, July 2, 2021

Post #28-Millsboro

11:00 AM– 2:00 PM: (302) 945-1673

Friday, July 9 2021

Walter L Fox/Post #2-Dover

11:00 AM– 2:00 PM: (302) 674-3922

Friday, August 6, 2021

Oak Orchard/Riverdale/Post #28-Millsboro

11:00 AM– 2:00 PM : (302) 945-1673

Friday, August 13, 2021

Walter L Fox/ Post #2 –Dover

11:00 AM– 2:00 PM: (302) 674-3922

Friday, September 10, 2021

Oak Orchard/Riverdale/Post #28-Millsboro

11:00 AM– 2:00 PM: (302) 945-1673

Friday, September 17, 2021

Walter L Fox/ Post #2 –Dover

11:00 AM– 2:00 PM: (302) 674-3922

Friday, September 24, 2021

Nanticoke, Seaford, DE

11:00 AM -2:00PM : 302-629-9915



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) 540-0103

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:

**BEHAVIORIAL 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 2021 Meetings will be virtual via ZOOM. To receive the meeting link, email Christine Kubik.

JAN 21
FEB 18
MAR 18

APR 15
MAY 20
JUN 17

JUL 15
AUG 19
SEP 16

OCT 21
NOV 18
DEC 16



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@mail.mil

DE Office of Veteran Services

Joshua Matticks
Executive Director, DE OVS
302-739-2293 OFFICE
joshua.matticks@delaware.gov



Find us on
Facebook

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROVIDERS REGISTER

www.delaware.gov/djf

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
877-428-8844

Delaware 211
www.delaware211.org

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



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)



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



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
 (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
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



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) 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

*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) 677-4473	Jeremy Coney, TSgt
American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.	(202) 265-0991 (302) 656-7162	DC Headquarters Donna Lowell (DE Representative) ptangel3@comcast.net
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 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
2. DAV Seaford, DE
Dispatcher: Henry Tiff
302-629-3759
302-858-7588 cell
Call Mon-Weds. 7am-9pm
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
4. American Legion Post 28
Oak Orchard, DE
Dispatcher: 302-945-1673
Monday-Thursday
Van Arrives at VAMC at 8:30am
5. DAV—Dover, DE
Dispatcher: 302-697-9061
Fax: 302-697-9041
Monday—Thursday
Van arrives at VAMC at 8:30am
6. VFW Post 7234—Oceanview, DE
Dispatcher: 302-539-9981
Monday—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
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*
- *Dover: McDonald's - Route 10*
- *Dover: Luther Towers, Kings Hwy*
- *Magnolia: Fire Department*
- *Dover: IHOP/Safeway Shopping Ctr.*
- *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

Joshua Matticks
OVS, Executive Director
302-739-2792
Joshua.matticks@delaware.gov

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 _____

Veterans who are unable to get COVID vaccination through VA healthcare,

Please visit:

vaccinerequest.delaware.gov

Don't have computer access?

Call: 1-833-643-1715

For more information,
such as other age groups:

<https://coronavirus.delaware.gov/vaccine/>



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



DELAWARE HEALTH
AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Division of Public Health

Questions about coronavirus in DE?

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
CALL CENTER

 **1-866-408-1899**

 **DPHcall@delaware.gov**

Hours of Operation
M-F 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sat.-Sun 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The call center is open to take questions from the public, schools,
medical providers, and community organizations.

People with hearing impairments can dial 7-1-1

For the latest Delaware updates:
de.gov/coronavirus

Updated 3/13/20

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STATE OF DELAWARE
"Veterans First in the First State"



DCVA 20-01-02-21-07-01