



Base Cleveland Veteran News

Tuesday, January 15, 2019

Prepared and distributed to Veterans and supporters of those who served

SPECIAL EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE:

NEW

- **2019 Cleveland National Air Show dates released, featuring U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds: August 31 through September 2, 2019**
<https://fox8.com/2019/01/04/2019-cleveland-national-air-show-dates-released-featuring-u-s-air-force-thunderbirds/>
- **Joint Veterans Annual Luncheon – Saturday, Feb 23, 2018.**
Read more [here](#).
- **National Veterans Memorial & Museum in Columbus, Ohio**
For more go to: <https://clecityhall.files.wordpress.com/2018/09/nvmm-dedication-and-grand-opening.pdf>
- **Ohio Department of Veteran Services Seeks Veteran & Military Artists for Fall Exhibition. For more information go to...**
<https://clecityhall.files.wordpress.com/2018/07/2018-usono-golf-outing-full-page.pdf> or call (614) 644-0898.
- **Subscribe to the VA Official Blog of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs:** <https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/subscribe/>
- **Cleveland Veterans Administration:** calendar of events
<https://www.cleveland.va.gov/calendar.asp>.
- **Lest We Forget**
<https://lestweforgetsculpture.org/>

NEWS: *NEW*

Pentagon briefs senators on Syria plans, leaving unanswered questions

WASHINGTON — Pentagon officials visited Capitol Hill on Thursday to reassure lawmakers amid confusion over plans to implement President Donald Trump's order for U.S. troops to withdraw from Syria — but some Democrats and Republicans were left unsatisfied.

<https://www.defensenews.com/pentagon-briefs-senators-on-syria-plans-leaving-unanswered-questions/>

How the US and China collaborated to get nuclear material out of Nigeria — and away from terrorist groups

WASHINGTON — At a staging ground in Ghana, a group of nuclear experts watched the clock and nervously waited for the news.

<https://www.defensenews.com/how-the-us-and-china-collaborated-to-get-nuclear-material-out-of-nigeria-and-away-from-terrorist-groups/>

Marine reserve shooting team redeems Corps with a sniper competition win

A Marine reserve shooting team bested dozens of other civilian and military teams to win the Mammoth Sniper Challenge held over several days at Fort Gordon, Georgia.

<https://www.marinecorpstimes.com/marine-reserve-shooting-team-redeems-corps-with-a-sniper-competition-win/>

Vets working without pay: Government shutdown leaves hundreds of thousands in the lurch

Army veteran David Shanley-Dillman pretty much lives paycheck-to-paycheck since a recent string of financial issues depleted his family's savings. And because he works for the Department of Agriculture's U.S. Forest Service, one of the agencies impacted by the ongoing government shutdown, come Friday, the former military police officer is about to find out what it's like to live on no paycheck at all.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/vets-working-without-pay-government-shutdown/>

Lawmakers hope for swift action this year on 'blue water' Vietnam veterans benefits

WASHINGTON — Just days into the new session of Congress, leaders of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee have reintroduced legislation to give benefits to tens of thousands of ["blue water" Vietnam veterans](#) who saw their lobbying efforts last year fall just short of success.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/lawmakers-hope-for-swift-action-this-year-on-blue-water-vietnam-veterans-benefits/>

Trump insists he can use military funds and ‘declare an emergency’ to build border wall

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Monday cited the [new Democratic House Armed Services Committee](#) chairman’s own words [to support the idea of using military funding](#) to build his controversial southern border wall, twisting his political opponent’s message on the problems with making such a move.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/trump-reasserts-he-can-use-military-funds-to-build-the-southern-border-wall/>

Six militants killed in US air strike in Somalia, US says

Six Islamist militants were killed by a U.S. military airstrike in Somalia, an official confirmed Tuesday morning.

The operation was carried out on Sunday in the vicinity of Dheerow Sanle, in the lower Shabelle region, reports [Reuters](#).

<https://www.foxnews.com/u-s-military-says-it-kills-six-militants-in-an-air-strike-in-somalia/>

The Army’s 75th Ranger Regiment wants YOU — and there’s a big bonus for signing up

The Army isn’t offering a bonus to enlist as an infantryman right now, but if you’ve ever thought about serving in special operations as a [Ranger](#), there’s a [bonus](#) available both for recruits and for trainees already at basic.

<https://www.armytimes.com/the-armys-75th-ranger-regiment-wants-you-and-theres-a-big-bonus-for-signing-up/>

Trump struggles to replace Mattis as Pentagon chief

Former GOP Sen. Jon Kyl is at least the second person to say he's not interested in the traditionally sought-after top Pentagon post.

<https://www.politico.com/trump-struggles-to-replace-mattis/>

Disabled Veterans Can Now Fly Space-A

Recent legislation makes it possible for many disabled veterans to fly Space-A on military aircraft.

The 2019 National Defense Authorization Act allows veterans with a permanent and total service-connected [Department of Veterans Affairs](#) disability rating to travel space available on military aircraft.

<https://www.military.com/disabled-veterans-can-now-fly-space.html>

OPM reverses course on senior official pay

The Office of Personnel Management is advising agencies to keep the pay of senior political officials, such as the vice president and other political appointees, at frozen 2013 rates through the duration of the shutdown, rather than increasing pay for 2019.

<https://www.federaltimes.com/opm-reverses-course-on-senior-official-pay/>

Do you feel a draft? Israeli pilots land F-15 after canopy flies off

The new year isn't even a week old, but two Israeli airmen may have already pulled off the [aviation feat](#) of 2019.

[Haaretz reported](#) Monday that the pair of aviators from Israel's air force got a rude surprise on Jan. 2, when [without warning](#), the canopy flew off their F-15.

<https://www.airforcetimes.com/do-you-feel-a-draft-israeli-pilots-land-f-15-after-canopy-flies-off/>

Coast Guard begins ice breaking operations in Great Lakes

SAULT STE MARIE, Mich. — U.S. Coast Guard Sector Sault Sainte Marie commenced Operation Taconite, the Coast Guard's largest domestic icebreaking operation, Monday, in response to expanded ice growth in the commercial ports of Western Lake Superior and the St. Marys River.

<http://news.pioneergroup.com//coast-guard-begins-ice-breaking-operations-in-great-lakes/>

Commander of MARSOC team falsely accused of war crimes finally cleared for promotion

A Navy records board has exonerated the commander of [Marine special operations team](#) and paved his way for a promotion more than decade after the unit was falsely accused of killing civilians during a March 2007 ambush in Bati Kot district of Afghanistan's Nangarhar province.

<https://www.marinecorpstimes.com/commander-of-marsoc-team-falsely-accused-of-war-crimes-finally-cleared-for-promotion-to-lieutenant-colonel/>

New in 2019: Can fighter squadrons get to 80 percent readiness?

Maintainers working on the F-16, F-22 and F-35 fighter jets will have their work cut out for them in the coming year. In a Sept. 17 memo,

Defense Secretary Jim Mattis ordered the Air Force to get those jets' mission-capable rates up to 80 percent by the beginning of October.

<https://www.airforcetimes.com/new-in-2019-can-fighter-squadrons-get-to-80-percent-readiness/>

The US Navy is back in the Black Sea, sending a message to Moscow

The U.S. Navy's [dock landing ship](#) Fort McHenry pulled into the Romanian [port of Constanta](#) on Monday for what officials term a "routine port visit" after transiting the Dardanelles Strait from the Mediterranean Sea the day before.

<https://www.navytimes.com/the-us-navy-is-back-in-the-black-sea-sending-a-message-to-moscow/>

Somalia combat operations to continue despite reports, Pentagon says

STUTTGART, Germany — The Pentagon on Monday denied reports of a looming drawdown in Somalia, saying there is no plan to cut back the mission in a country where U.S. Africa Command continues to carry out airstrikes.

<https://www.stripes.com/somalia-combat-operations-to-continue-despite-reports/>

Military investigating death of U.S. contractor in Iraq

The military has launched an investigation into how a U.S. contractor received fatal head wounds while working with special operations Marines [in Irbil, Iraq](#), according to three U.S. officials familiar with the investigation.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/military-investigating-death-u-s-contractor-iraq/>

MORE VETERAN NEWS SOURCES: <https://www.vnnusa.com/>

NEW

Polish Legion of American Veterans Winter 2019 News Letter:

<https://clecityhall.files.wordpress.com/2019/01/plav-ohio-2019-winter-newsletter.pdf>

NEW

Vietnam Veterans for Greater Cleveland Chapter #15 – January 2019 News Letter

<https://clecityhall.files.wordpress.com/2019/01/vva-greater-cleveland-chapter-15-newsletter-january-2019.pdf>

POW/MIA Bulletin: <http://www.veteransresources.org/powmia-bulletin/#.WoGZ4a6nGpo>

AL POST 703 NEWS LETTER FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2018: <https://clecityhall.files.wordpress.com/2018/09/al-post-703-sept-oct-2018-newsletter.pdf>

This Week at the VA:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVA/bulletins/20c2125>

DID YOU KNOW...*NEW*

Military Trivia:

Q: What marked the first time since the Revolution that the U.S. accepted direct financial aid to fight a war?

A: The Persian Gulf War.

Q: What U.S. military base was won in the last major battle against Japan?

A: Okinawa.

Q: What opportunistic country declared war on Japan five days before its surrender in 1945?

A: The Soviet Union.

Q: What U.S. war broke out the same year the federal government first printed paper money?

A: The Civil War.

Q: What country did ever-prudent King Farouk I declare war on in 1945?

A: Germany.

Q: What Bill Murray Ghostbusters term did Persian Gulf Warriors use to describe being hit by chemical weapons?

A: Slimed.

Q: What did an enemy have to be, for a U. S. soldier to call him a "believer" in the Vietnam War?

A: Dead.

Q: What trials, beginning in 1945, spawned the phrase "I was only following orders"?

A: The Nuremberg war crimes trials.

Q: What was the first war the U. S. took part in that was partially financed with lottery dollars?

A: The Revolutionary War.

Q: What southeastern state was the last to return to the Union after the Civil War?

A: Georgia.

Q: What Persian Gulf warrior called his young majors in charge of combat operations "Jedi Knights"?

A: Norman Schwarzkopf.

Q: Which two nations, constitutionally barred from military actions, sent money to support the Allied coalition against Iraq in "1991"?

A: Germany and Japan.

Q: What Ohio city was the 1995 Bosnian peace accord signed in?

A: Dayton.

Q: What Civil War general graduated first in the West Point class of 1829?

A: Robert E. Lee

Q: What was the B-17 long-range bomber nicknamed in World War II?

A: The Flying Fortress.

Q: What English King introduced death by boiling and legalized the killing of gypsies?

A: Henry VIII.

Source: [https://www.triviplaying.com/55 Military Questions.htm](https://www.triviplaying.com/55_Military_Questions.htm)

OTHER CONNECTIONS

Veterans Crisis Line

Veterans, Service members, and their loved ones can call **1-800-273-8255** and **Press 1**, send a text message to **838255**, or [chat online](#) to receive free, confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, even if they are not registered with VA or enrolled in VA health care.

https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/suicide_prevention/

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E)

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/index.asp>

The House Committee on Veteran Affairs:

<https://veterans.house.gov/news/>

About Cleveland Honor Flights:

<https://clecityhall.files.wordpress.com/2018/02/about-honor-flight-cleveland.docx>

VOLUNTEERISM

Here are some great opportunities to put your military experiences to work benefiting others in need.

- **National Park Service Volunteer Opportunities**

Make a vital contribution to Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) and our community! You can help the park fulfill its mission to provide visitor enjoyment and preserve resources. The mission of CVNP's Volunteers-in-Parks Program is to engage people in the park, building a community of park stewards. The volunteer program is co-managed by the National Park Service and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Depending on the volunteer position, volunteers will work with staff from National Park Service, the Conservancy for CVNP, Countryside Conservancy, and Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad.

<https://www.nps.gov/cuva/getinvolved/volunteer.htm>

<https://www.conservancyforcvnp.org/experience/volunteer/>

- **The American Red Cross'** unwavering commitment to members of the U.S. military, its veterans and their families continues to grow and develop more than a century after Clara Barton first recruited nurses to support the U.S. Army. Today, the Red Cross is meeting the needs of a changing military and expanding services to veterans. Red Cross support of military members and their families enhances morale and contributes to increased operational capability in several ways. New volunteers: visit <https://redcross.org/neo> Click on "volunteer" tab.
- **Cleveland Municipal Court's Veterans Treatment Docket** needs volunteers – preferably military veterans to help Veterans transition to a successful life. If you are interested in volunteering to help our veterans successfully re-enter civilian life, please contact Derek Moore at (216) 664-4712 or via email at moored@cmcoh.org for additional information.
- **Needed: 'A few good mentors': The Cuyahoga Common Pleas Veteran Treatment Court (VTC)** is a judge-monitored treatment program for military veterans. A key component of the program is volunteer Veteran Mentors who

volunteer their time to help veterans re-adapt to civilian life. For more information visit:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1NiwCZ_V-9iTF8wYXhqcE4yWm8/view?usp=sharing

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES / LINKS

Department of Veterans Affairs Link with the VA on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/VeteransAffairs/>

City of Cleveland

<http://www.city.cleveland.oh.us/CityofCleveland/Home/Community/CareerCenter>

Veteran Job Search Assistance: If you know a Veteran or Military Spouse who could benefit from FREE, UNLIMITED job search coaching, please have them visit www.gunnyret.com to schedule a "First Call".

Veteran Resources: <http://www.veteransresources.org/>

Ohio National Guard Employment Enhancement

Support: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B6KQApfHm1pGbnByRGITNEhyUIU/view?usp=sharing>

Free, Unlimited Military Veteran Job Search Coaching: provided by
www.gunnyret.com

VA JOBS Home: <http://www.va.gov/jobs/>

Ohio.gov: <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/ohio/default.cfm?clearSearch=1>

USAJobs: <https://www.usajobs.gov/Veterans>

MilitaryJobs.com: <http://www.military.com/veteran-jobs>

Ohio Federal Government Jobs: <http://federalgovernmentjobs.us/job-location/ohio-oh.html>

Stars and Stripes; Veteran Job Center: <http://veteranjobs.stripes.com/>

USERRA: The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) protects service members' reemployment rights when returning from a period of service in the uniformed services, including those called up from the reserves or National Guard, and prohibits employer discrimination based on military service or obligation. The U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) administers USERRA

- Link to DOJ USERRA website: <http://www.justice.gov/crt/military/statute.htm>
- Link to the DOJ website: http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra/userra_fs.htm

INFORMATION LINKS

VetBizCentral: MICHIGAN - OHIO – INDIANA

Veterans Helping Veterans - This is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the United States Small Business Administration.

http://vetbizcentral.org/events_oh.php

Cuyahoga County Suicide Postvention Response Team: For additional information, contact Coordinator Pete Bliss of the Cuyahoga County Suicide Postvention Response Team at [216-509-3594](tel:216-509-3594) or suicide_response@outlook.com

USS COD Submarine Memorial: <http://USSCOD.org>

Vietnam Wall <http://thewall-usa.com/names.asp>

Ohio Western Reserve Military Cemetery
<https://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/ohiowesternreserve.asp>

National Cemetery Administration Gravesite Locator <http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/>

Military Veteran Service Records <https://www.archives.gov/veterans>

Military Veterans' Travel Guide – Ideas, Discounts, & Resources
<https://upgradedpoints.com/military-veterans-travel-guide/>

Welcome to MyVA.COM. . . getting it right from the start

Enrolling for VA care is a life-changing decision for Veterans. Choosing your health care provider is a leap of faith that will impact your entire life. “Welcome to MyVA” (W2MyVA) starts that relationship right with a welcoming call from an informed, service-oriented VA representative.

<http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/30277/welcome-myva-getting-right-start/>

Dental Care Resources for Veterans: <https://www.emergencydentistsusa.com/dental-care-resources-for-veterans/>

Cleveland American Veterans Association: <http://www.cava4vets.org/>

Veteran Service Commission Meetings – are open to the public. The Commissioners encourage members of the Veteran Community to come and see how the Cuyahoga County Veteran Commission works and the benefits available to our Veterans. The meetings are held at the Commission offices at 1849 Prospect Avenue, Suite 150, Cleveland, Ohio 44115 at 9:30 AM the first and third Wednesday of each month.

Free Parking: The Veterans Service Commission reserved parking spaces in the lot just East of our building (on Prospect Avenue). The lot has signs posted noting they belong to the Veterans Service Commission. This will allow veterans to park for free.

Peer Advisors for Veteran Education: Representatives from more than 40 colleges and universities have come together to learn ways to support student Veterans who face two significant changes simultaneously: transitioning from the military to civilian life and the transition from the military to academia. Neither of these is easy. Read more at www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/29879/new-va-partnership-expands-power-of-peer-support-among-student-veterans/

Get connected with V.E.T.S Program: The Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater Cleveland is sponsoring a series of job preparedness, career development, financial literacy and computer training workshops. The program is designed to help veterans

overcome barriers in order to transition from military life, prepare to compete for jobs in the civilian labor force.

The VETS Program is in collaboration with the Manufacturing Advocacy & Growth Network (MAGNET), Cuyahoga Valley Careers Center, and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) Veterans Program

Read it here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1NiwCZ_V-9iQzJERUUwdThPaG8/view?usp=sharing

VAntage Point: the official blog of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: <http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/subscribe/>

311VET - new app answers general VA benefits questions
<http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/23378/311vet-new-app-answers-general-va-benefits-questions/>

Cuyahoga Community College Veteran Upward Bound Program: Since 1973, VUB has provided comprehensive educational support services to eligible U.S. military veterans interested in pursuing a college degree or certificate. Services include academic enrichment classes, math and English tutors, assistance with applying for federal student aid, and transition into a college or university of their choice. All services are **no cost** to the veteran. For information call 216-987-4938 or visit www.Tri-C.edu/vub

Amputee Recreational Support Group of Central Ohio: <http://www.arsgcooh.org/> regularly schedules recreational activities for amputees – Veterans and non-Veterans, including Yoga for Amputees, shooting events, and recreational swimming. For more information, contact Robert Hass at (614) 288-5105 or Amputee@columbus.rr.com

Department of Defense Media Center: <http://www.dma.mil/>

Veterans Business Support Center: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1NiwCZ_V-9iS0NiUjQ3cnFLTE0/view?usp=sharing

Ohio National Guard Employer Advisory Council: The ONG Employer Advisory Council was developed to provide military-friendly employers with useful resources and guidance to help them success with military retention and recruitment initiatives. https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1NiwCZ_V-9ibUNOOG02S2gybWc/view?usp=sharing

Columbus Honor Flight: www.honorflightcolumbus.org

Honor Flight Cleveland: www.honorflightcleveland.com

Veterans Crisis Line: 1 800 273 8255

Women of Hope, Inc: www.womenofhopeoh.org

Chase Bank Support for Veterans: www.ChaseMilitary.com

Justice for Veterans: <http://www.justiceforvets.org/>

Google for Veterans: <http://www.googleforveterans.com/>

Military Memorabilia Donations: www.ohiohistory.org/militarycall

Ohio Veterans Memorial Park: <http://www.ovmp.org/>

Cold War Recognition Certificate: the Cold War Recognition Certificate is a recognition certificate awarded by the [Secretary of Defense](#) to all [U.S. Armed Forces](#) personnel and qualified federal government civilian personnel who faithfully and honorably served the United States anytime during the [Cold War](#) era, which is defined as September 2, 1945 to December 26, 1991. Anyone who served in the military or the Federal Government during this period is authorized to receive the certificate.

<http://usmilitary.about.com/cs/genmedals/ht/coldwar.htm>

Veteran Resources: <http://www.veteransresources.org/>

Cleveland VA Regional Benefit Office: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/cleveland/>

This Week at VA: <https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/47109/va-now-offers-adoption-reimbursement/>

VetBiz.gov Home: <http://www.vetbiz.gov/>

Joint Veterans Council of Cuyahoga County: www.jvccoc.org

Equal Honor for All: www.equalhonor.org

Greater Cleveland Fisher House: The Goal of the Greater Cleveland Fisher House Organization is to raise \$7,000,000 for the construction of a Fisher House (there are currently 62 houses in operation across the US, Germany, and England) that will be located on the grounds of the Louis Stokes VA Hospital in Cleveland, the third largest VA hospital in the US. <http://greaterclevelandfisherhouse.org/>

Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center:

<http://www.cleveland.va.gov/?wvsessionid=fe802c6620da402484b74ac24a5f1650>

Greater Cleveland Veterans Memorial (GCVM): www.clevelandvetmemorial.org

GCVM Honor Roll: The Citizens of Cuyahoga County have served the nation well, and paid a heavy price. When America needed defenders the men and women of Greater Cleveland have answered the call. From 1899 to 2014, a span of 115 years, 5,552 patriots of the county have fallen in military service during time of war. Search the honor roll: <http://www.clevelandvetmemorial.org/GCVM-honor-roll-search.asp>

My HealthVet: www.myhealth.va.gov

Rewards for Justice Website: The Rewards for Justice program continues to be one of the most valuable U.S. Government assets in the fight against international terrorism. Established by the 1984 Act to Combat International Terrorism, Public Law 98-533, the Program is administered by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Diplomatic Security. <http://www.rewardsforjustice.net/english/most-wanted/all-regions.html>

Locating Veterans and Service Members: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/locate-service-members.html>

National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics: <http://www.va.gov/vetdata/>

Military News: www.military.com

The American Legion: <http://www.legion.org/>

Veterans of Foreign Wars USA: <http://www.vfw.org/>

Stars and Stripes Veterans Link: <http://www.stripes.com/news/veterans>

Air Force Times: <http://www.airforcetimes.com/>

Army Times: <http://www.armytimes.com/>

Marine Corps Times: <http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/>

Navy Times: <http://www.navytimes.com/>

Defense News: <http://www.defensenews.com/>

Veterans Benefits Administration: <http://www.vba.va.gov/>

GI Bill website: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/>

Explore VA Benefits: www.explore.VA.gov

Ohio VFW: <http://www.ohiovfw.org/>

Ohio Legion News: <http://ohiolegionnews.com/>

National Marine Corp Business Network: <http://www.nmcbn.com/>