



June 2018

NDVS Veterans Voice Newsletter

Message from the Director

June is going to be a busy month at NDVS! Several big events are in the planning stages!

Before I fill you in on those upcoming events, you'll be happy to hear Memorial Day saw record crowds once again at the Veterans Memorial Cemeteries in Fernley and Boulder City. The crowds just seem to keep growing year after year, demonstrating the support for our veteran and military communities in Nevada. It is nice to see that support as we honor the men and women who died protecting and serving our country.

In both northern and southern Nevada, even the preparation event prior to Memorial Day brought out the crowds. Hundreds of volunteers showed up at our veteran cemeteries to place an American flag on each and every grave site. For many families and groups, like the Girl and Boy Scouts, the "flag-in" event has become a tradition.

In addition to Memorial Day, Nevada will soon have its own permanent memorial dedicated to those who died in combat. The long anticipated BATTLEBORN: Memorial to Nevada's Fallen will be dedicated in Carson City on the Capitol Complex grounds on November 9, 2018. The reception will start at 9:00 AM with the ceremony beginning at 10:00 AM. We could use your help to locate immediate family members who lost a loved one in combat. We would like to invite them to the dedication ceremony paying for travel arrangements, up to two people per family. There are lots of details to determine eligibility. To learn more, go here: XXXXXXXXXXXX

Another big dedication ceremony is also in the planning stages: the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Northern Nevada State Veterans Home in Sparks!

Last month, the Sparks City Council graciously agreed to a name change of the street in front of the new home. It now carries the perfect address of 36 Battleborn Way! Nevada, of course, was the 36th State to join the Union! Look under "Health and Wellness" in this edition of *Veterans' Voice* for an update on the new home!

Finally, NDVS, in partnership with the VA, will be hosting a free half-day seminar on Military Sexual Trauma (MST). The program will feature two MST experts, Dr. Nicole Anders, Psy.D and Dr. Brian T. Potts, Clinical Psychologist. The seminar will be held Saturday, June 23, 2018 at the VA Southern Nevada Health Care System, 1st Floor Auditorium, 6900 North Pecos Road in North Las Vegas.

Seating is limited so it is recommended you "save your seat" by registering here: <http://bit.ly/2l9pkma> or call 702-486-5627.

The event will provide information, resources and support for survivors of MST or those who want to support a survivor. Last year this free event was well attended and we received positive feedback. So, with your help, we want to continue to build on that success!

Hope you enjoy our newsletter and the start of your summer!

Respectfully,
Kat Miller
Director

Honoring Nevada's Heroes

Happy Birthday to the United States Army and Coast Guard Auxiliary

By Josh Loftis

(Reno, NV) – The U.S. Army and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary both celebrate birthdays this June.

This year the U.S. Army celebrates its 243rd birthday on June 14, 2018. Later in the month, June 23rd, the U.S. Coast Guard will mark its 79th birthday.

The Army is the largest and oldest of all U.S. military branches. Did you know the U.S. Army was formed before the United States even declared its independence from Great Britain? The Army is considered a descendent of the Continental Army, which was established by the Second Continental Congress in 1775. Its rich history is reflected in the chorus of an older version of the U.S. Army song, "Those caissons go rolling along" – referring to the two-wheel carts used to carry munitions during the frontier days.

Army soldiers are celebrated for their vigor and bravery starting with the first skirmishes at Lexington and Concord, to the Mexican War and Civil War, to the World Wars as well as the conflicts of today, stemming from the Global War on Terrorism.

For a great article on the history of the U.S. Army go here:

<https://www.military.com/join-armed-forces/us-army-overview.html>

As for the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Congress established the U.S. Coast Guard "Reserve" in 1939, which was re-designated as the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary in 1941.

Today, Coast Guard Auxiliary members provide an invaluable service to the U.S. Coast Guard in a wide variety of missions. Its primary mission is recreational boating safety, providing free vessel safety checks as well as boating safety classes and patrols. These patrols can often turn into search and rescue missions. In total, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary contributes more than 4.5 million volunteer hours a year to support the U.S. Coast Guard.

But that is not all they do! Auxiliary members are authorized to assist any Coast Guard mission, not involving direct military or law enforcement action. So that means these missions could include things beyond boating safety, such as providing culinary specialists to prepare meals on Coast Guard bases and cutters, to radio watchstanders, to language interpreters, even media outreach and administrative support of all types.

In 2017, newer Auxiliary programs allowed members to assist active duty and reserves in clergy support and financial education about the "[Blended Retirement System](#)." They also provide help to monitor Coast Guard shore construction projects as well as musical support for Coast Guard ceremonies and cyber security support too.

These volunteer members exemplify the Coast Guard Core Values of Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty.

Here is a great video that provides more detail on the history of the Coast Guard Auxiliary: https://youtu.be/DdURL_x5odY

Top 10 Things to Remember About Flag Retiring

By Josh Loftis

(Las Vegas & Reno, NV) – Thursday June 14, 2018 is Flag Day. It sits right between Memorial Day and the Fourth of July, which are two perfect times to proudly display your American flag. But time, elements, even storage can take a toll on your flag leaving it weathered, worn, and ready for retirement. We checked with the experts to provide a top 10 list of things you will want to keep in mind when you retire your flag.

#10 - Ceremonial Flag Burning

We know what you might be thinking, but burning the flag, is a perfectly acceptable method for disposing of the flag as long as it is done respectfully. This can be done by folding the flag properly and then gently laying the flag on a pit or fire. You can have someone salute or recite the "Pledge of Allegiance," or sing "The National Anthem" while the flag is burning. You can find instructions on how to properly fold your flag here: <http://www.usflag.org/foldflag.html> The goal is to get a fire big enough and hot enough that nothing will remain of the flag after it has been burned.

9 - Synthetic Flag Burning

Burning nylon or a synthetic material is different from burning wool or cotton as the synthetic materials can create hazardous gases or vapors, because these synthetic materials can be petroleum-based. On the positive side, these synthetic materials can hold their colors and last much longer than natural cloth or fibers. But when it is time to retire the synthetic fabric flag, instead of burning it, there are some who recycle synthetic flags to make brand new ones! American Flag Disposal can assist you. Contact them at FlagRecycling@Gmail.com or call 262-783-4800. You can check out their website at www.americanflagdisposal.com.

#8 – Flag Burial

Another acceptable method for disposing of your flag is to bury it. To do this fold the flag properly. (See link under Ceremonial Flag burning for proper flag folding.) Then, place the flag carefully in a dignified box for burying. You can take this time to say aloud what the flag means to you as you bury it in the ground.

#7 – Flag Shredding

We know this doesn't sound right, but shredding the flag can be appropriate when done properly. If you decide to shred your flag, it is recommended you get a nice, sharp, pair of scissors and cut each of the 13 stripes very carefully from each other, leaving the blue field and stars intact. Be careful to not let the pieces touch the ground (Maybe assign someone to hold each of the pieces as they are being cut). Once all of the pieces have been cut, you can dispose of the flag by either burning or burying it per the instructions above.

#6 - Flag Touches Ground

This probably goes without saying but don't let it touch the ground! Still, accidents happen. If it touches the ground don't fret. Just carefully pick up the flag. There is a misconception that if a flag touches the ground, it MUST be retired. Our experts tell us, that's not always the case, particularly if it remains suitable for display, so keep that in mind!

#5 - Don't Repurpose

You may be looking at that ripped flag and think, "Hey, I could use that as a bandana or make cute baby clothes out of what is left!" Please, don't! We appreciate your patriotism and desire to repurpose "Old Glory," but please do not use the flag for any other purpose than for what it is intended for, which is to be displayed in a place of honor and respect.

#4 --- Don't Throw It Away

This also probably goes without saying but throwing your flag in a trash can would be extremely disrespectful to the flag! The rules we observe are laid out in the U.S. Code with Title 4, Chapter 1, Section 8 under, "Respect for Flag," stating: "The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water or merchandise. In paragraph (k) it also states: "The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

#3 – Wash It

Sometimes your flag is just a little soiled or dirty. Despite misconceptions, washing your flag is perfectly acceptable. If it is soiled in a small area, it is recommended you spot clean using a damp rag with a mild detergent. If the flag is obviously soiled or dirty overall, you may want to take it to a dry cleaner.

#2 – Teaching Moment

Whatever method you choose to dispose of your flag, you are encouraged to take this as an opportunity to gather with family, friends, and neighbors to show respect and honor to our flag. This is a great opportunity to talk about what it means with your children and show them the proper respect our flag deserves.

#1 - Give It Away

There are many qualified organizations that provide flag disposal for you. Veteran Service Organizations, Boy or Girl Scout Organizations and your local National Guard may receive the flag. Additionally, the Nevada Department of Veterans Services, through our Veterans Memorial Cemeteries, will be glad to dispose of your flag for you. If you're unsure where to start, just contact the Nevada Department of Veterans Services at 775-688-1653 and we can get you in contact with a qualified organization in your area.

The Long Arm of the American Revolution Reaches Into Today

By Chuck N. Baker

(Boulder City, NV) - When it comes to remembering the heritage from patriotic American families there are several organizations that continue to embrace and honor their lineage. At the forefront is *The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution* (NSDAR).

Recently, the organization held an American flag ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Boulder City. Patriotic groups retired old flags that had been damaged over the years. Nikki Allen-Kyger, a regent with the Valley of Fire NSDAR chapter, thanked the audience at the opening ceremony for their devotion to the flag and our country.

Chaplain Alexx Green delivered an invocation, followed by a musical piece performed by bagpiper Dennis Hangey with the Scottish American Military Society. Shirley Dunph led the Pledge of Allegiance and Liberty High School AFJROTC Posted the Colors. The Green Valley High School Madrigals provided additional music.

Several speakers presented formal patriotic comments while others presented personal statements.

Fred Wagar, Deputy Director of the Nevada Department of Veterans Services, stated the American flag is known by several names — Stars and Stripes and Old Glory, just to name a few. He noted, "This piece of cloth can create many emotions as the flag represents so much." Wagner explained the importance of retiring a damaged flag in the most dignified way possible adding, "We are all here because we respect this flag."

See Top 10 Things to Remember About Flag Retiring under Honoring Our Heroes

Formal selections were read by NSDAR officials including Ann Phillips, who read "The America's Creed" and Michele Mueller who read "The Preamble to the Constitution" as well as Bobi Pike-Oates who recited "The Thirteen Folds." During Pike-Oates' presentation, members of Boy Scout Troop 7 demonstrated the folds using a large flag. Moreover, Madison Van Ness, from the Children of the American Revolution, performed a personal poem titled "Proud To Serve You." (See the poem at the bottom of this article.)

The conclusion of the formal ceremony saw members of the audience help carry the distressed flags outside to the *Walk of Life*, where a burn pit is located. They stood with their hands over their hearts while "TAPS" played in the background. One by one, men and women, boys and girls placed the flags over the flames. A military helicopter flew

overhead to express honor. It flew low enough for those on the ground to easily see the smiling pilot, prompting participants to wave excitedly at him. It was a fitting end to a day of respect, honoring America's flag, from the ground to the sky.

PROUD TO SERVE YOU

by Madison Van Ness

Children of the American Revolution

I'm the symbol of hope and the banner of freedom

I fly high to let all know

I'm not ordinary but I'm extraordinary

I have grown since watching over the first little thirteen colonies

Born from the flames of their fight of freedom

To the proud fifty sovereign states of a united nation that still stand tall

That watched over all with Justice and Charity

The people that fight for this nation look to me in their time of need to find

Hope and the Courage to push through the darkest of hours

One that stands for Freedom, Equality, Justice and Liberty

I'm a banner of Red, White and Blue

And I stand tall to let all know I am the flag of the United States of America

I could never be more proud to be the symbol of this nation

Memorial Day Brings Crowds Together to Honor and Remember

By Terri Hendry and Chuck N. Baker

(Fernley & Boulder City, NV) — Crowds and media members gathered at Nevada's two State Veterans Memorial Cemeteries in Fernley and Boulder City this year. Each year, thousand gather to pay respects and remember those who have died in service to America.

Additionally, Flag-in events on Saturday, May 26 at both cemeteries brought out hundreds of volunteers who placed an American flag on each gravesite. This event prepares the cemetery for the Memorial Day event and has become a tradition for family members and various organizations alike.

At the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Naval Lt. Cmdr. Ed Giron noted how impressed he was by the devotion to duty he witnessed as Army officer in Iraq. He recalled the strength and resolve of a fellow officer who surprised him by showing up the very next day following a firefight despite a serious leg wound and death of a colleague.

Kat Miller, Director of the Nevada Department of Veterans Services and a retired Army officer, shared her own experience of recently visiting family members in North Carolina. She visited the grave of her grandmother, whom she had never met. Some of the burial plots were 200 years old. She managed to locate the grave of her grandmother — Dorothy Young Miller — who had passed away in 1935. While she never knew her grandmother, she said It gave her a sense of serenity knowing that her grandmother would be proud of how members of the family had grown into solid citizens and how some had been in the military.

In northern Nevada, Brigadier General William Burks, Adjutant General with the Nevada National Guard and Rear Admiral Nathan Moore, with the United States Coast Guard spoke to the crowd. Both shared experiences demonstrating devotion and service to country.

Media members captured the sentiments, sights and sounds of the two events. Check out the links below:

<http://mynews4.com/news/local/memorial-day-service-at-northern-nevada-veterans-cemetery-in-fernley>

<http://www.kolotv.com/content/news/Thousands-gather-to-celebrate-Memorial-Day-in-Fernley-483894191.html>

<http://www.ktvn.com/category/170899/video-landing-page?clipId=14381078&autostart=true>

<http://www.ktvn.com/category/170899/video-landing-page?clipId=14381143&autostart=true>

Here is the coverage from Boulder City!

<http://www.fox5vegas.com/video?autoStart=true&topVideoCatNo=default&clipId=14380384>

Operation Battleborn: Ruck to Remember

By Terri Hendry

(Las Vegas to Fernley, NV) – In Nevada, *Operation Battleborn: Ruck to Remember* is a new and uniquely different way to honor and remember the military men and women who've made the ultimate sacrifice since September 11th. The Nevada ruck march combines the challenges of a grueling marathon with the comrade and teamwork necessary to complete any endeavor by a large group.

There have been ruck marches held in other parts of the country, but Operation Battleborn is the first ruck march in the Silver State. The Nevada march started May 20th at the Nevada State Veterans Memorial in Las Vegas. Over the course of eight days, volunteers and veterans took turns marching northward, carrying two ruck sacks filled with nearly 7,000 service member dog tags. The tags included 57 of Nevada's fallen. All 7,000 died in combat in the post 9-11, Global War on Terrorism.

By May 28th, the group had traveled 370 miles to the north, ending their march in Fernley at the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery. The two ruck sacks containing the 7,000 dog tags were laid in front of a ceremonial wreath. The 57 Nevada dog tags were presented to Brigadier General William Burks with the Nevada National Guard. He was one of the keynote speakers for the event, presenting on behalf of Governor Brian Sandoval.

The march was held in partnership between veterans groups at UNLV, UNR and Truckee Meadows Community College. Supporters hope to make this event an annual one in Nevada.

Vietnam Wall Display Honors Fallen

By Chuck N. Baker

(Las Vegas) —A traveling tribute to Vietnam's fallen made its way to Las Vegas month. The traveling memorial is a replica of the somber wall in Washington D.C. so those who cannot travel can at least view a facsimile in their local cities.

The traveling memorial was on display at Craig Ranch Regional Park. The occasion was the American Patriot Fest, where commercial vendors set up their tents, tables and array of American flags all waving majestically in the breeze.

Veterans, young and old, their spouses, widows, family members and non-military-connected visitors stood in front of the 80-percent scaled down display. They offered prayers and gave silent thanks to the people whose names are etched into history. Representatives from the Vet Center provided free counseling services to those requesting it. Steve Darnell and the Vegas Rat Rods provided music for listening and dancing. Other entertainment included a military vehicle display, a Cars and Stripes automotive showing and close order drill by members of the Rancho High School JROTC.

One family brought their four young children to learn about the war. Their father, an Air Force veteran, said that he wanted to bring his three boys and a daughter to pay their respects, even though they have no friends or relatives whose lives were lost in Vietnam. In some cases, visitors located the names of loved ones and used pencil and paper to complete rubbings to take with them. Others left gifts for the fallen including bottles of beer, pictures, miniature flags and small reminders of past lives.

A spokesman traveling with the wall said it had last been on display in Texas. The next stop was scheduled for Minnesota. But the actual wall will always have a permanent location in the hearts of those who served and their families who remember.

As an aside, the park was a fitting location to display American pride. Craig Ranch Regional Park is located on a former golf course, it was slated to be developed commercially, but the city purchased the land with funds from the Southern Nevada Lands Management Act and redeveloped it into a 170-acre park with numerous amenities for residents to enjoy. Veterans and military groups often hold events at the park throughout the year.

U.S Army Veteran and The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas Receive Award and Recognition from Governor Brian Sandoval

(Las Vegas, NV) – U.S. Army veteran Jefferson Detrick and luxury resort and casino, The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, received special honors and recognition for outstanding service and support of Nevada's veterans.

Detrick was named *Veteran of the Month* and The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas named *Veteran Supporter of the Month* in a special ceremony held on Friday, May 25, 2018 in Las Vegas.

Detrick spent 13 years in the U.S. Army with two deployments to Iraq and one to Afghanistan. In civilian life, he has held many important leadership roles at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas including President of the Rebel Vets (2013-2015) and Founding Leader of UNLV's Peer Advisors for Veterans Education (PAVE). Additionally, he has served on the Governor's Student Veteran Advisory Board, has worked every UNLV Career Fair, as well as served as a student worker at the UNLV Military and Veterans Service Center. He has also been selected to attend an SVA Leadership Symposium at President George W. Bush's ranch and attended the UNLV-LinkedIn Veteran Partnership training program.

The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas is known for initiatives that include hiring, training and mentorship in support of Nevada's veterans and their spouses. The luxury hotel and casino plans to hire 50,000 veterans within the next five years working with Blackstone portfolio companies. Additionally, the Las Vegas hotel-casino has sponsored and supported numerous events ranging from Toys for Tots, 5K/10K runs and golf tournaments. The Cosmopolitan has also sponsored events aimed at helping at-risk veterans and their families with housing and employment.

The Veteran of the Month and Veteran Supporter of the Month were created to recognize individuals and organizations that go above and beyond in support of Nevada's veterans and military communities.

Gulf War Veteran? Free Gift for You!

The State of Kuwait is providing a special "thank you" to the men and women who served in Operation Desert Storm. Gulf War veterans may receive a free commemorative, first-edition book, *The Liberation of Kuwait*. It includes a companion, feature-length documentary on DVD. The set retails for \$49.95 but is yours, free, because of your service.

The high quality book was published in 2016 by Remember My Service Productions. It is full color, printed on heavy glossy paper. The 9" X 11" book has a hardcover and dust jacket.

We regret we cannot mail the free book sets due to cost. But you may arrange to pick up your free copy by emailing hendryt@veterans.nv.gov. We can make arrangements for you to pick up your copy from the nearest NDVS office. Thank you for your service!

Health and Wellness

Important Information From the VA About Emergency Care

The VHA Office of Community Care is providing updated information to clarify when a veteran should seek emergency medical care and how the VA can pay for a veteran's service-connected and non-service connected emergency care from a community provider.

Take a look at the new resources below:

- [Video - Emergency Medical Care](#)
- [Fact Sheet - Emergency Medical Care](#)
- [Fact Sheet - Emergency Transportation \(Ambulance\)](#)
- [Website - Emergency Care](#)

Understanding your emergency care benefits is important and will help support greater consistency and better outcomes for veterans and their families.

June is PTSD Awareness Month!

What is PTSD? Get the facts here:

https://www.ptsd.va.gov/about/ptsd-awareness/ptsd_awareness_month.asp

What are the signs and symptoms of PTSD?

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/workings-well-being/201307/recognizing-the-signs-post-traumatic-stress>

Did you know *this* about PTSD?

<https://www.inspiremalibu.com/blog/dual-diagnosis/a-call-to-rally-june-is-post-traumatic-stress-disorder-awareness-month/>

Understanding, Support and Resources at Free Half-Day Seminar on Military Sexual Trauma

By Janel Gibson

(Las Vegas, NV) – The Veterans Administration refers to Military Sexual Trauma (MST) as unwanted or upsetting sexual experiences while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. MST could include sexual assault or repeated, threatening sexual harassment. Simply put, MST is a sexual experience that happened against your will, without your consent.

To provide a better understanding of MST, as well as information on the resources and support available, there will be a free, half-day MST seminar. It will be held on Saturday, June 23, 2018 from 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM, in the first floor auditorium of the VA Southern Nevada Health Care System, 6900 North Pecos Road in North Las Vegas.

Space is limited so it is recommended you "save your seat" by registering at this link: <http://bit.ly/2l9pkma> or call 702-486-5627.

Registration is also available day of the event beginning at 7:30 AM.

The workshop will be led by MST experts Dr. Nicole Anders, Psy.D and Dr. Brian T. Potts, Clinical Psychologist. Both are from Las Vegas.

The event is hosted by the Nevada Department of Veterans Services in partnership with The Department of Veterans Affairs and the Women Veterans of Nevada. Special thanks to the Women Veterans of Nevada for providing the funding for food and beverage for the event.

Don't Miss the Sixth Annual Mental Health Summit

By Robi McMordie

(Reno, NV) – The Sixth Annual Mental Health Summit is a rare opportunity to bring key stakeholders together from the northern Nevada, with the goal of enhancing access to mental health care for veterans and their families.

The event provides a forum for discussion and dialog between the Veterans Administration in northern Nevada and community-based colleagues. It also provides the opportunity for networking and sharing information.

The Summit will be held on June 20, 2018 from 8:00 AM through 3:30 PM at Renown Health's Mack Auditorium, 1155 Mill Street, Reno, NV.

The topics will include:

- Access and Transitioning to Care
- Suicide Prevention
- Whole Health Initiative
- Pain Management

Seating is limited. It is recommended you "save your seat" by registering here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-mental-health-summit-tickets-45386699841>

For more information contact Robi McMordie, LCSW, 775-326-2955

Roberta.mcmordie@va.gov

Congratulations AGAIN to the Nevada State Veterans Home!

Once again, the Nevada State Veterans Home (NSVH) recently received two distinguished awards. NSVH again received the highest rating possible, a 5-Star rating, by the Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services (CMS)! Additionally, the home's administrator and staff also again, received the American College of Health Care Administrators' 2018 Eli Pick Facility Leadership Award!

The CMS 5-Star rating is designed to help consumers, their families and caregivers compare nursing homes more easily. There is one overall rating for each nursing home ranging from the lowest of 1-Star, up to the best score of 5-Stars. The rating is based on three major factors. The first is health inspections. The rating reviews inspection results from a facility's last three years. The second factor is staffing. It reviews the number of hours of care provided on average to each resident's needs. For example, a nursing home with resident who had more severe needs would be expected to have more nursing staff than a facility where resident needs are not as high. The third factor is what is known as Quality Measures which consists of 11 different physical and clinical measures for nursing home residents. The rating now also includes information about the use of antipsychotic medications in both long-stay and short-stay residents. The Quality Measures rating offers information about how well a nursing home is caring for the physical and clinical needs of a resident.

Receiving the 2018 Eli Pick Leadership Award is another significant honor for NSVH Administrator Linda Gelinger, staff and team. Fewer than 11 percent of facilities nationwide qualify for the Eli Pick Leadership Award. This year, 351 administrators in 45 states were awarded the facility leadership award nationally. Eligibility is based on three years of skilled nursing facility survey data, including, the Health, Fire Safety, and Complaint surveys and the top quartile performance on designated Quality Measures. A criterion includes an 85% or greater facility occupancy and three year avoidance of a Special Focus Facility Status. The award is presented each year in memory of the late Eli Pick, who was dedicated to advancing professionalism and leadership in long term care.

Congratulations to the team for continued outstanding service and care. Our veterans and their families deserve no less than the absolute best!

Programs and Services for You

State Program Helps Veterans Get Into Homes of Their Own

By Jackie Ruiz Shelton

(Statewide, NV) - The Nevada Housing Division has designed a program specifically for veterans, active military personnel and their spouses. *Home Is Possible for Heroes* gives you more buying power and more opportunities to experience the joys of homeownership — for less.

“Service members’ lives are often challenged by deployment,” said Nevada State Department of Business and Industry Director CJ Manthe, who introduced the program in 2014, when she served as Administrator for the Nevada Housing Division. “Anything we can do to help Nevada veterans and their families is invaluable to our entire community.”

The program is designed to help service members overcome the challenges of buying a home, particularly in the current environment where houses are snapped up as quickly as they’re put on the market.

“I was working with my Realtor when, out of the blue, she asked if I was a veteran,” shares Army National Guard veteran Leo M. “Then she told me about the *Home Is Possible For Heroes* program. It was seamless, because the professionals knew what had to be done. And it was great because I got a low interest rate, and the program honors veterans.”

Key Benefits:

- Below-market fixed interest rate 30-year loan
- Reduces monthly mortgage payment
- No first-time homebuyer requirement
- Can be combined with the Mortgage Credit Certificate (MCC) with program fees waived
- Statewide program

Program Requirements:

- Qualifying income below \$98,500
- Home price below \$400,000
- Government issued loans only (no conventional loans)
- Minimum credit score of 640
- Homebuyer must live in home as primary residence
- Homebuyer education course required
- Must meet standard underwriting requirements
- One-time fee of \$675

If you're a veteran who has been honorably discharged, are in the National Guard, are a surviving spouse or you're on active military duty, *Home Is Possible For Heroes* was made specifically for you. For information, visit www.homeispossiblenv.org/program/home-possible-heroes.

Why You Should Become a Nevada Veterans Advocate

By Cathy Yates

(Statewide, NV) – The volunteers with the Nevada Veterans Advocate (NVA) program are passionate about helping veterans. They've not only completed a 20-hour online course and received certification through the Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NDVS), but many made it clear they wanted to do even more!

So, NDVS is now involving NVA's in community events. This participation expands outreach to veterans connecting them and their families to earned benefits. Some of the events NVAs participated in over the past several months include: Nevada Women's Expo, Office of Military Legal Aid Resource Fairs in Las Vegas, Reno and Winnemucca, Veterans Housing Summit, Reno Earth Day, Armed Forces Day events and the Sixth Annual Summer Salute Car Show.

Several of our NVAs in northern Nevada have participated in three or more events including, Larry Osborne, Ed Kaatz, Seth Welman, Graham Stafford and Cynthia Donahue. When asked why they volunteer for NDVS, Larry said "Being a veteran, from a veteran family that served in WWI, WWII, and Korea, I believe our country owes all of our veterans a sacred promise to provide benefits as well as care and assistance to them for their service and sacrifice. I also believe Nevada and NDVS are doing a great job of fulfilling that promise. I'm honored to play a small role in that effort, as an NVA, helping veterans to learn about and to access those programs."

Graham had this to say about why he became an NVA, "Becoming an NVA has allowed me to give back to my fellow veterans. It is one of the most heartfelt things I've done in my life. Helping veterans battle the red tape of benefits and answering questions about what the USA and Nevada can do for veterans gives my life wonderful purpose. I am very grateful to be an NVA for our Nevada veterans." Cynthia stated, "I have served in public service and volunteered in the community for most of my life, so for me to be a NVA is an extension of this calling and living out my purpose. I love serving our fellow veterans!"

We could not participate in as many outreach activities as we are able to without our NVA volunteers. We are in great need of more NVAs in our rural areas so that we can reach veterans throughout Nevada. We invite you to become an NVA and join in the fun.

The Nevada Veterans Advocate program provides the education necessary for volunteers to be able to conduct outreach to veterans and veteran families about the benefits and services available in Nevada.

We are planning a free two-day workshop in Elko in October. We will be sharing the dates and location with you in the weeks ahead.

The goal is to recruit and train 1,000 NVAs to serve veterans throughout Nevada and we currently have 353 trained NVAs. As NDVS ramps up their outreach program, NVAs are a crucial component of that program. With the number of estimated veterans living in Nevada to be close to 300,000 thousand, many may be unaware of all of the benefits and resources available to them, particularly in the rural areas of the state.

For more information on how to become a Nevada Veterans Advocate, contact McKensie King, the NVA Program Coordinator at (775)321-4708 or go to our website: www.veterans.nv.gov.

Devil Pups Learn Teamwork Skills

By Chuck N. Baker

(Las Vegas) — California's Camp Pendleton is a staple of the United States Marine Corps. But it is also more than a solid military base for active duty troops and a training camp for new recruits. Once each year it becomes home for a ten day physical leadership encampment for teenagers enrolled in two hand-in-hand programs — the Southern Nevada Devil Pups and the Teen Leadership Breakthrough.

This year, teenagers from southern Nevada will take part in the joint program in July. A total of 300 teens from California, Utah, Arizona and southern Nevada will be involved, with a limit of 45 from Nevada. Marie Tomao, Director of the Nevada contingent, said, "Our teens truly need programs like this. It's an amazing opportunity for teens to learn motivation, focus, respect and integrity." Recently Tomao presided over a parent/applicant informational meeting that provided details of the programs. Fathers, mothers and their offspring were able to learn as a group about some of the details of the encampment. Tomao said the Camp Pendleton programs provide life-application skills and leadership teamwork. "Everything we do leads to the teens gaining more self-confidence," she said. Prior to the 10-day encampment, applicants must take part in a 12-week preliminary training program at Sunset Park in Las Vegas that stresses personal responsibility and community service.

The age group for participants is limited to healthy 14-17 year olds who must pass a physical fitness test. There are strict medical limitations, since the program includes daily workouts and physical training. There is a long list of other details that automatically disqualify applicants. No one is accepted if they are gang members, have arrest convictions, display visible tattoos, use drugs or tobacco or have other negative behaviors.

Families pay only for uniforms but never for encampment fees. Individuals and companies are asked for donations but additional funds are always required to go toward counselor fees, food, transportation, insurance, office supplies and other expenses. Registration is closed for this year's program, but Tomao said the program has been falling short financially this time around and donations are overwhelmingly needed. "Some kids won't be able to go if we don't receive more funds," Tomao said. In the past she said local elected officials generously donated funds, "But today not one has come forward. We have had full cooperation from both sides of the aisle, but not this year."

Organizations that have currently donated include the Black Mountain Marine Corps League Detachment 186, the Las Vegas Police Officers Protective Association, the Henderson Police Officers Association and the Boulder City Police Protective Association. Henderson Mayor Debra March is a long-time supporter. The organization is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charity.

Once off the bus and lined up during their arrival to begin the ten day quasi-military program, teens receive a military "shock treatment" with Marine Corps officers screaming orders in their faces and directing them to step way outside of their normal comfort zones. It's not exactly basic training, but it's close. Before it's over the kids will have shouted "Yes Sir!" and "No Sir!" thousands of times.

The Devil Pups program is blended with the Youth Leadership Authority that has related goals. The principles of discipline, leadership and teamwork are a part of its mission. When it's all over and graduation day arrives, the sense of accomplishment is obvious on the faces of the teens. They are visibly more confident than when they started. The program is called Devil Pups, but the teens have come a long way from being mere pups. They have taken another step down the path to becoming mature, responsible adults. For more information or to make a donation, Tomao can be reached at (702) 285-4142.

News You Can Use

Annual Nevada Veterans of Foreign Wars Convention Coming to Sparks

By Cathy Yates

(Reno, NV) - The annual state of Nevada Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Convention will get underway in Sparks from June 6 through June 9, 2018.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Department of Nevada and its Auxiliary will host the event. VFW chapters throughout the state will be attending this year.

The convention will be held at the Sparks Nugget Casino Hotel. The VFW Post 3819 will have a post "home night" for \$25 on Friday, June 8, 2018.

A Veterans Job Fair will be held during the conference on June 8th from 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM.

Tickets range from \$5 - \$45. There is a nominal fee for all meals. To pre-register visit here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/vfw-department-of-nevada-2018-state-convention-tickets-42723708763>

Northern Nevada Events Provide Discharge Upgrade Opportunities for LGBTQ Veterans

By Rob Williams

(Reno, NV) – The Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NDVS) will be attending several events over the month of June that will provide LGBTQ veterans with the opportunity to see if they are eligible for a discharge upgrade.

The Department of Defense has changed some of its policies that might impact some individuals who received a less than an honorable discharge due to their sexual orientation.

NDVS will be at the following events:

June 8th Reno VA Diversity Fair, VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System. You are asked to meet at the Flagpole, 975 Kirman Avenue, Reno from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

July 14th Carson City Sassabration, meet at Carson City Hot Springs, 1500 Old Hot Springs Road, Carson City.

July 28th Reno Pride Festival at Wingfield Park.

Should you or someone you know have been discharged improperly or unfairly, we encourage you to speak to our representative at one of these events to learn more. You may also make an appointment with a Veteran Service Office by calling 775-321-4880.

How Bricks and Biceps Helped Korean War Veteran

By Chuck N. Baker

(Las Vegas) — One might assume an 88-year-old married woman and her 85-year-old Army veteran husband, who served during the Korean War era and now enjoys playing the saxophone, has seen most everything in their years together. But you know what they say about assumptions.

The couple was pleasantly surprised when the home they've lived in for many years was one of several chosen to be revitalized, at no cost to them! This was made possible through the Las Vegas affiliate of the national organization, "Rebuilding Together." The work was completed this past April, when National Rebuilding Month is celebrated annually.

Frank and Norma McDuffie presented their story to the Rebuilding Together team hoping their home would be selected. But they figured the story of their ups and downs in life was typical of thousands of others. They were married on Valentine's Day 50 years ago, raised three sons and a daughter. They purchased their home in 2002 and later suffered several bouts of health issues and other family hardships. A theft of essential parts from their air conditioning unit left the house sweltering in the summer adding to their woes. When word finally came that a Rebuilding team would be upgrading the McDuffie property, the couple was stunned to learn their dream came true.

Rebuilding Together Southern Nevada focuses on safe and healthy housing. It serves to transform the lives of low-income homeowners by rehabilitating existing homes to improve overall health and safety. Executive Director Bob Cleveland said, "Our work extends far beyond the four walls of the home to impact the health and vibrancy of people's lives and entire neighborhoods."

Outside of the house on a day filled with sunshine, dozens of exuberant men and women volunteers from Wells Fargo Bank, the Veterans Association of Real Estate Professionals and other companies worked in the yard and on the home's exterior to compliment work that had already been accomplished inside. Hands and arms were blurred in continuous motion providing modern, uplifting touches to the property.

Frank McDuffie was drafted into the Army during the Korean War. He was sent to Germany to work in the Medical Corps where he served four years but did not take part in Korean combat. He often thinks about friends who did serve in the war and did not survive in Korea. He remains proud that he at least served during that turbulent time. He is aware that all who were in the military at the time contributed in their own way in shoring up America's resolve to confront our nation's enemies.

Frank and Norma McDuffie were interviewed several times by Rebuilding Together representatives to determine their economic situation and to review plans for potential critical repairs needed on their home. Work included air conditioner repair, plumbing upgrades, installing exterior electrical units, installing safety rails in the bathroom, installing fire extinguishers and latest model smoke detectors, fixing windows that were non-operational, replacing dead plants with drought tolerant landscaping and removal of an empty, unused hot tub from the back yard. Jason Matthes of the Rebuilding group only half-humorously said, "If (anything) weighed more than two pounds, we threw it away!"

Capping off the physical work, employees of Wells Fargo arrived with an oversized bank check representing a donation of \$90,000 to Rebuilding Together. When reviewing the activity of the volunteers and the unselfish donations of various companies, Frank McDuffie exclaimed, "Las Vegas is more than just plain gambling." And that's a sure bet.

These Peddlers Don't Sell — They Give Their All

By Chuck N. Baker

(Henderson) — The Second Annual Cycling Challenge to benefit the Air Force Association's Wounded Airman Program was held on May 19. This year it was hosted by the local Thunderbird Chapter of the Air Force Association. According to member Bobi Oates, "The program provides life-changing and lifesaving support to wounded, ill and injured airmen who have given so much to the Air Force and the nation."

Although it's called the Cycling Challenge, the name demands a bit more of a definition. It doesn't involve motorcycles, and it doesn't involve bicycles. The "cycles" in this fund-raiser are stationary bikes that are used to help individuals exercise and stay in physical shape. Airmen and others were invited to sign up and participate as paid "riders" at the Cycle Bar consumer facility.

There are many financial goals for 2018. Overall, the national program aims to raise more than \$200,000 to support airmen and their families as well as additional support for caregivers whose services are needed by many participants. The funds will also go for travel expenses for 60 or more wounded warriors to attend annual Warrior Games and other official military events.

Unfortunately, the turn out for the cycling event was low. Several active duty and retired airmen participated and several hundred dollars was raised for the program. Cycle Bar donated the facility and use of the equipment.

Oates said she is looking forward to stronger promotion and more individuals becoming involved next year. "Help is needed so that we can continue giving direct assistance grants, purchase adaptive sports equipment and provide support for rehabilitation events. As the program continues to grow, so does the amount of direct support we plan to provide."

For more information, contact Bobi Oates at boates4616@aol.com.

Female Veteran Speakers Bureau

By Anne Davis

(Statewide, NV) – The Nevada Women Veterans Advisory Committee is putting together a "Nevada Women Veterans Speakers Bureau." We are hoping to raise awareness about women veterans through our participation in various speaking engagements.

We have speakers who are available to address the following topics:

- Leadership
- Transition Through Life and Career
- Honoring Women Veterans
- Why "Our Story" is Important to You

We tailor our presentations to accommodate a group's needs or time frame. If you have a meeting, conference, training session or other event and need a speaker, contact us!

For more information or to book an engagement contact Annie Emprima-Martin (Las Vegas area): 702-427-0515 or Anne Davis (Reno area): 435-849-6055

"Served Like a Girl" Recognizes Growing Trend of Female Veteran Homelessness

By Janel Gibson

(Las Vegas, NV) – Vegas PBS provided a free screening of the movie, "Served Like a Girl" last month.

The movie provides a candid look at the rising number of homeless women veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan and suffer from PTSD, sexual abuse and other traumas. According to U.S. Veterans Magazine, when director and producer Lysa Heslov heard about the 55,000 homeless women veterans currently in the US, she knew she had found the inspiration behind her next film.

"When I always thought of homeless veterans, mistakenly, I had always thought that it was a man pushing a shopping cart," Heslov tells PEOPLE.

For two years, she entrenched herself in the company of many of these veterans and created the documentary. It focuses on five women who are competing for the crown of Ms. Veteran America, and the struggles they have faced since returning home from war.

"To be able to tell their stories and hopefully have some impact with these women — it became a mission for me," she says about the film adding, "We became a family."

Sadly, in real life, the VA is reporting some disturbing news about female veterans and homelessness. From 2016 to 2017, the number of homeless female veterans increased by 7 percent, compared to 1 percent for their male counterparts.

More in this article from Military.com:

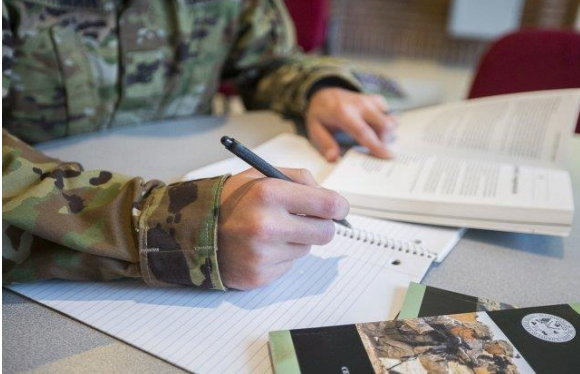
<https://www.military.com/militaryadvantage/2018/03/28/female-veterans-are-fastest-growing-segment-homeless-veterans.html>

Woman Behind the Only Female Veteran Memorial

<https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/05/the-world-s-only-memorial-for-female-veterans/>

Education and Employment

The Takeaways Every Veteran Should Know Following the Latest 2018 Jobs Report



The GI Bill has massive potential to assist veterans earn an education and a means of new employment opportunities.

By Taylor Pittman

(Statewide, NV) - The latest report from the U.S. Labor Department shows the U.S. added 164,000 jobs in April bringing America's unemployment rate to a historic low of 3.9 percent. According to The New York Times, this demonstrates American employers continue to find reasons to expand their payrolls. The numbers show April of 2018 is the 91st consecutive month of job gains, the longest streak of increases on record.

In Nevada, there are many elected and state officials who are asking and wondering what that means for veterans, who are looking for employment after transitioning from the Global War on Terrorism into civilian life. In 2010, when Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval took office, he vowed to make Nevada the most veteran and military friendly state in the nation. Providing employment to the men and women transitioning into civilian life has and remains a priority.

Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NDVS) Director Kat Miller is one of the State officials tasked with tracking veteran employment numbers and making sure veterans are provided every opportunity possible to gain employment.

Miller said, "It is encouraging to see the employment number continue on their current trajectory. I believe this is the 91st straight month of job gains. Yes, historic!" She added, "But we are looking at what this means for veterans transitioning into civilian life. They have unique needs as some have mental health issues and others have a gap in job skills. Others are not sure how to proceed or if their earned benefits can assist them."

Miller advised many veterans come out of military service and just want to move on, not thinking about the benefits they've earned that could assist them in their transition. Miller said, "Many don't even ask, or some don't understand they've earned benefits that could pay for their education or additional training." She explained, "I would encourage them to contact a Veteran Service Officer by going to our NDVS website at www.veteran.nv.gov."

Michelle Nash, the postsecondary education specialist with the Veteran Affairs (VA), agreed with Miller that many veterans just don't understand the Post 9-11/GI Education Bill.

Nash explains, "We are seeing a resurgence of trades, such as plumbers, electricians, beauticians, auto mechanics, you name it." She continued, "Many think the GI Bill is for a college education only. That is not true. There are many trade schools, even for truckers, that can help a veteran transition into civilian life. Our goal is for them to get the training they need to secure gainful employment."

Nash said veterans should reach out to her department at the VA. In addition to trades, the GI Bill benefits can even be used for training to become a police officer, firefighter, deputy, highway patrol officer and more.

Nash states, "I would encourage them to contact my office at the VA to find out what schools, trades, community colleges and universities in Nevada qualify under the GI Education Bill."

Terina Caserto, Director of Veteran Services at the University of Nevada, Reno, said, "We see veterans in transition every day and work hard to ensure they are connected and stay connected, not only to their benefits, but to each other."

At Truckee Meadows Community College, Tamara Cumming said as a veteran she found the transition from military life to college student an easy one, "I was expecting this to be a challenge. I came from the military where everything is structured and I didn't know what to expect. I was happy to learn I had a group on campus that could help guide me and make me still feel part of group, just like how I felt in the military."

Director Miller said, "When you get out of the service you have a million and one things going on. You need to find a place to live. You may be thinking about education but not know what you want to do. You may have health care issues. You may just want to move on and not really think it through." That is why Miller and others recommend if you are transitioning from military life to a civilian, you contact a Veteran Service Officer. Appointments are not necessary. Go here for an office near you: <http://www.veterans.nv.gov/page/veterans-service-officers>

Always Remember, Never Forget

The Frontier Wars of 1622

Our goal in 2018 is to honor every American who served in the U.S. Armed Forces. We want to recognize and remember every generation of veteran and every veteran who served in times of peace or conflict.

America's history includes violence and bloodshed with a good dose of both sweat and tears. History.com provides a glimpse into America's past in 1622, when the ancestors of American brothers and sisters of today took up arms against each other decades ago.

<https://www.history.com/topics/native-american-history/american-indian-wars>

Jamestown settler describes his life in the year 1622.

<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/content/jamestown-settler-describes-life-virginia-1622>

Mark Your Calendar

EXCITING BREAKING NEWS! You're among the first to learn dates have been set for two very important events coming up later this year! By all means, MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

NEVADA GOLD STAR PARENTS! TRAVEL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO UP TO TWO IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS. (Round trip air fare from Las Vegas to Reno and fuel reimbursement for travel in excess of 75 miles from Carson City)

Dedication of BattleBorn Memorial for Nevada's Fallen!

November 9, 2018, Reception 9:30 AM with Ceremony 10:30 AM

Capitol Complex, inside and behind State Archive Building

Contact: David Johnson, johnsonj@veterans.nv.gov

COUNTDOWN! RIBBON-CUTTING FOR NEW NORTHERN NEVADA STATE VETERANS HOME IN SPARKS!

December 17, 2018, Time to be determined

Contact: David Johnson, johnsond@veterans.nv.gov

Las Vegas – Saturday Night Survivors Ride

Reoccurring on June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 8:00 PM – 11:00 PM

3355 Clayton Street, Suite 15, North Las Vegas

Contact: Kelley Guidry, 702-706-5777, Info@ForgottenNotGone.Org

Work for Warriors Veterans

Entire month of June 2018, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, Monday - Friday

Looking for a job? Work for Warriors may be able to help offering career counseling, resume development, skills translation, interview preparation, resource outreach, employer partnerships and hot jobs!

Contact: Northern Nevada call: (775) 384-5848

Southern Nevada call: (702) 856-4951.

Vietnam War Commemorative Ceremony

June 4, 2018, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

1000 North Green Valley Parkway, Suite 720, Henderson, NV 89074

Contact: Rob Cole, Humana, call: (702) 269-5200

Veterans of Foreign Wars Department Convention

June 7 – 9, 2018, Day and Night Events

Eldorado Hotel, 345 North Virginia Street, Reno

Registration and Convention Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/vfw-department-of-nevada-2018-state-convention-tickets-42723708763?aff=escb&utm-medium=discovery&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-source=cp&utm-term=homepage>

Contact: David Sousa, vfwpost3396@me.com

Work for Warriors Veterans Job Fair

June 8, 2018, 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Nugget Casino Sparks

Contact: Veterans of Foreign Wars Silver State Post 3398

Register at Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/work-for-warriorsvfw-veterans-job-fair-tickets-43507975526?aff=es2>

Reno VA Diversity Fair

June 8, 2018, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Reno VA Medical Center, meet at flagpole, 925 Kirman Avenue, Reno

Contact : Rob Williams, williamsro@veterans.nv.gov

Gerlach Rural Health Fair

June 8, 2018

Let's Fiesta Expo

June 9, 2018, 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

777 West Lake Mead Parkway (Next to the Festival Buffet)

Contact: Cathy Yates, yatesc@veterans.nv.gov

22 Warriors Foundation Mixer

June 12, 2018, 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM (Meets every second Tuesday of the month)

Las Vegas Distillery, 7330 Eastgate Road, Henderson

Contact: See Eventbrite for contact information.

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/22-warriors-foundation-2nd-tuesday-of-the-month-mixer-tickets-46550071517?aff=es2>

22 Warriors Foundation and Average Dad Cooking host second Tuesday of the month mixer each month. Dinner is provided. There are exciting raffle prizes, amazing cocktails for purchase by the Las Vegas Distillery and great company!

Women Veterans' Writing Workshop

Reoccurring June 12 and 26, 2018 (Second and fourth Tuesday of each month)
Black Mountain Institute, UNLV
Contact: Sonya Padgett, vegasveteranswrite@yahoo.com

Stewart Indian School Powwow

June 15- 18, 2018
5500 Snyder Avenue, Carson City
Contact: <http://stewartindianschool.com/events-calendar/fathers-day-powwow-2018/>

Office of Military and Legal Assistance

June 15 – 16, 2018, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Armory, 14 Joe Parr Way, Yerington
Contact: Attorney General's Office, (775)684-1100

FREE Military Sexual Trauma Seminar, Understanding Resources, Support

June 23, 2018, 8:00 AM – 12:30 PM
VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System, 1st floor auditorium, 6900 North Pecos Road, North Las Vegas, NV
Contact: Janel Gibson, gibsonj@veterans.nv.gov

Summer Lovin

June 23, 2018, 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Sunset Station Casino, 1301 West Sunset Road, Henderson
Contact: Cathy Yates, yatesc@veterans.nv.gov

Sixth Annual Mental Health Summit

June 20, 2018, 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM
Renown Mack Auditorium, 1155 Mill Street, Reno, NV
Contact: Robi McMordie, LCSW, 775-326-2955 Roberta.mcmordie@va.gov
Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-mental-health-summit-tickets-45386699841>

Las Vegas Vetwork (Veteran Network) April Luncheon (Yes! It is in JUNE and there are multiple dates!)

June 22, 2018, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Dougie J's Café, 603 South Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas

Contact: John Bowman, see Eventbrite for contact information

Register: Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/las-vegas-vetwork-veteran-network-april-luncheon-tickets-45196624320?aff=es2>

This events pulls together veterans from UNLV, Team Red, White & Blue, Team Rubicon, USO Pathfinder, State of Nevada, State of Nevada Dept. of Employment Training & Rehab, City of Las Vegas, US Dept. of Veterans Affairs will be there to answer questions about programs. Mixer to meet, greet veterans and supporters in various professional fields looking to mentor you!

Rural Outreach for Veterans Enrichment and Resources (ROVER) Dates

To see a Veterans Service Officer.

Walk-in appointments are welcome, but can only be seen as time permits.

To make appointments for ROVER, and for times:

in the south, contact Mary Alley at 702-224-6025

in the north, contact Melissa Wilson at 775-321-4777

To coordinate/request a ROVER event, contact Janel Gibson at 702-486-5627

Veterans are advised to bring a copy of their DD-214 discharge document, current VA paperwork, medical information and banking account information. If the claim involves dependants, bring birth certificates, current and prior marriage certificates, divorce decrees, and social security numbers.

Pahrump (South)

Every Monday and Friday

1981 E. Calvada Blvd. #110.

Pahrump,

Ely (North), Interactive Video

June 1, 2018

2155 Bobcat Dr.

Ely

Mesquite (South)

June 5, 2018 and June 21, 2018
840 Hafen Way.
Mesquite

Click on the links, below, for their respective calendar events.

June 5: <http://veterans.nv.gov/events/209437/rover-mesquite-south>

June 21: <http://veterans.nv.gov/events/209446/rover-mesquite-south>

Hawthorne (North)

June 7, 2018
775 Sierra Rd.

Battle Mountain (North), Interactive Video

June 8, 2018
835 N. 2nd St.
Battle Mountain

Silver Springs (North)

June 12, 2018
2945 Fort Churchill St.
Silver Springs

Beatty (South)

June 14, 2018
100 A Ave. South
Beatty

Winnemucca (North), Interactive Video

June 15, 2018
5490 Kluncy Canyon Rd.
Battle Mountain

Austin (North)

6-20-18
122 Main St.
Austin

Tonopah (South)

June 21, 2018
1120 Globe Mallow Lane.
Tonopah

Wendover (North), Interactive Video

June 22, 2018
2000 Elko Ave.
Wendover

Gardnerville (North)

June 26, 2018
1329 Waterloo Lane.
Gardnerville

Laughlin (South)

June 26, 2018
1510 Bruce Woodbury Dr.
Laughlin