



A Salute

TO NEVADA'S AFRICAN AMERICAN VETERANS

September 2020
—
December 2021

A Salute to Nevada's African American Veterans

African Americans have served with honor in every American war. In 2019, to commemorate and honor their service the Nevada State Legislature unanimously passed, and Governor Steve Sisolak signed, Senate Bill 336 designating July 28 as Buffalo Soldiers Day in the State of Nevada.

On July 28, 1866, after the end of the Civil War, Congress enacted legislation allowing African American men to serve in six segregated units in the United States Army. These units, consisting of former slaves and African American soldiers who fought in the Civil War, were the 9th and 10th Cavalry, and the 38th, 39th, 40th and 41st Infantry, later reorganized as the 24th and 25th.

These soldiers were nicknamed "Buffalo Soldiers" by the Native Americans against whom they fought, because of their reputation for toughness and bravery in battle, and the buffalo fur coats they wore in the winter. Throughout the era of the Indian Wars, Buffalo Soldiers were posted from Montana to Texas and New Mexico to Arizona, composing approximately 20 percent of the U.S. Cavalry.

Buffalo Soldiers had the lowest military desertion and court-martial rates of their time. Twenty-three Buffalo Soldiers received the Congressional Medal of Honor, which is the highest military distinction awarded in the name of Congress to members of the armed forces for bravery and service. Besides their impressive military contributions, the Buffalo Soldiers also had a significant role in the expansion of the West by escorting settlers, cattle herds and railroad crews, exploring and mapping vast areas and stringing hundreds of miles of telegraph lines. Buffalo Soldiers were some of the first park rangers in the national parks of the Sierra Nevada, where they protected the parks from illegal grazing, poaching, timber thieves and forest fires, while helping build roads and trails for the enjoyment of all Americans.



African Americans continued their distinguished service in the wars of the Twentieth Century, where, in 1940, the Tuskegee Airmen were the first black military aviators in the U.S. Army Air Corps, a precursor of the U.S. Air Force. Trained at the Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama, they flew more than 15,000 individual sorties in Europe and North Africa during World War II. Their impressive performance earned them more than 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses and encouraged the eventual integration of the U.S. Armed Forces.

In 1948, President Harry Truman issued Executive Order 9981 eliminating racial segregation in America's armed forces. The last all-black units were disbanded during the 1950s. The desegregation of the military led the way to national desegregation. The U.S. Armed Forces were ahead of their civilian counterparts in this regard.

As we salute those courageous African American warriors who served with honor, often while struggling against racism, bigotry, and discrimination, we celebrate the service of the veterans who carry on their legacy; the African American Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen and Women, and members of the Coast Guard who continue to serve with distinction.



(L-R) Nevada State Senators Pat Spearman and Dallas Harris, two of the co-sponsors of Senate Bill 336, at the July 28, 2019 Buffalo Soldiers Day celebration in Las Vegas with members of the Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club Las Vegas.

Sources:

- **Buffalo Soldiers History** - <https://www.history.com/topics/westward-expansion/buffalo-soldiers>
- **Nevada Senate Bill 336, Enacted 2019 Legislative Session** - <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bill/6605/Overview>
- **Nevada, 2019 Buffalo Soldier Proclamation** - http://gov.nv.gov/News/Proclamations/2019/Bufalo_Soldiers_Day_in_Nevada
- **Tuskegee Airmen History** - <https://www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/tuskegee-airmen>
- **National Association of Buffalo Soldiers and Troopers Motorcycle Club (NABCTMC)** - <http://nabstmc.com>
- **Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club Las Vegas** - <https://bsmclv.com>
- **Dates in Calendar**
 - Buffalo Soldiers: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/buffalosoldiers/timeline.htm>
 - Military Dates: <https://militarybenefits.info/military-calendar-holidays-events-observances>





Technical Sergeant Arzie Gordon

Arzie Gordon was a Technical Sergeant in the United States Air Force. He served from 1994 to 2014 as an Equal Opportunity Director. He is currently the Disabled American Veterans Department Commander for Nevada and is employed by VA Sierra Nevada Healthcare System as an Equal Employment Opportunity Manager.



August 2020

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October 2020

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September 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 VJ (Victory over Japan) Day (1945)	3	4	5
6 In 2005, the oldest Buffalo Soldier, Mark Matthews, died at 111 years old. He is interred at Arlington National Cemetery.	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11 Patriot Day, 9/11 Remembrance Day (2001)	12
13	14	15	16	17 Citizenship Day (1787)	18 National POW/MIA Recognition Day Air Force (USAF) Birthday (1947) Air National Guard Birthday (1947)	19
20	21 Originally part of the U.S. 10th Cavalry Regiment, the Buffalo Soldiers became a separate group (1866) Non-Commissioned Officer Association Birthday (1960)	22	23	24	25 Disabled American Veterans Birthday (1920)	26
27 Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day (1936)	28	29 National Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Day (1899) Lady Vets Birthday (2010)	30			



Chief Warrant Officer 2 Cicely Williams

Cicely Williams is a United States Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 in the Nevada National Guard. She graduated flight school in 2017 and is the Nevada National Guard's first female African American Black Hawk pilot.

September 2020

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November 2020

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October 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 Reserve Officers Association (RSO) Birthday (1922)	3
4	5 Buffalo Soldier Motorcycle Club (BSMC) Founded (1993)	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Navy Birthday (1775)	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 National Day of the Deployed	27	28	29	30 Nevada Day Observed (1864)	31



Lance Corporal Frank Greenwood

Frank Greenwood is a Vietnam Veteran who served in the United States Marine Corps as a Lance Corporal. He served from 1968 to 1970 as an Automotive Mechanic and from 1972 until 1975 as a Military Policeman. Frank currently spends most of his time advocating for veterans.

October 2020

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November 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Daylight Savings Time Ends	2	3 National Veterans & Military Family Month National Family Caregivers Month	4	5	6	7
8 Military Order of the Purple Heart Birthday (1932)	9	10 Marine Corps Birthday (1775) Marine Corps League Birthday (1937)	11 Veterans Day Armistice/Remembrance Day (1918)	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29	30					



Major General Ondra L. Berry

Major General Ondra L. Berry serves as the Adjutant General for the State of Nevada. As Nevada's first African American Adjutant General, he is responsible for formulating, developing, and coordinating all policies, programs and plans affecting more than 4,200 Nevada Army and Air National Guard personnel.

November 2020

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January 2021

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December 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Buffalo Soldier Motorcycle Club of Las Vegas activated as the 42nd Chapter of the National Association of Buffalo Soldiers & Troopers Motorcycle Club (NABSTMC) (2005)</p>		1 Civil Air Patrol (USAF Auxiliary) Birthday (1941)	2	3	4	5
6	7 National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (1941)	8	9	10 Hanukkah Begins AMVETS (American Veterans) Birthday (1944)	11	12
13 National Guard Birthday & Army National Guard Birthday (1636)	14 National Wreaths Across America (2007)	15	16	17	18	19
20 United States Space Force Birthday (2019)	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa Begins Jacob Dodson, enters Nevada as assistant and military scout to John C. Fremont (1843)
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve		



Sergeant Frank Woodbeck

Frank Woodbeck served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam Era from 1964 to 1968 as an Administrative Clerk and Passenger Service Specialist. Mr. Woodbeck currently serves as the Executive Director of Grants and Special Projects at the College of Southern Nevada.

December 2020

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February 2021

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January 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Vietnam Veterans of America Founded (1978)			1 New Year's Day Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) Birthday (1924)	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	19	20	21	22 Nevada Legislature ratifies 14th amendment to U.S. Constitution (1867)	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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Master Sergeant (R) Richard D. Walker

Richard D. Walker served in the United States Air Force from 1960 to 1982 and is a retired Master Sergeant and Vietnam Veteran. Mr. Walker currently serves as the Department Adjutant for the Disabled American Veterans of Nevada and was the first recipient of Nevada's Veteran of the Month Award.

January 2021

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March 2021

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February 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. Birthday (1942) Women Veterans of Nevada (WVON) Birthday (1985)	2	3	4	5	6
Black History Month			Four Chaplains Day	USO Birthday (1941)		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 President's Day	16 Nevada amends state constitution to abolish slavery (1864)	17	18 The Retired Enlisted Association Birthday (1963)	19 Coast Guard Reserve Birthday (1939)	20
	NATIONAL SALUTE TO VETERAN PATIENTS					
21	22	23 Military Officers Association of America Birthday (1929)	24	25	26	27
28						



Master Sergeant (R) Vickie Tippitt

Vickie Tippitt served as a Master Sergeant in the United States Air Force, completing four combat tours during OEF/OIF from 1997 to 2019. She currently serves as a Veterans Employment Representative with the State of Nevada Department of Education, Training and Rehabilitation.

February 2021

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April 2021

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March 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Nevada 1st State to Ratify the 15th Amendment guaranteeing all Americans the right to vote (1869)	2	3 Navy Reserve Birthday (1915)	4	5 Seabee Birthday (1942)	6
7 Military Women History Month	8	9	10	11	12	13 United States K9 Corps Birthday (1942)
14 Daylight Savings Time Begins	15 Jewish War Veterans Birthday (1896) American Legion Birthday (1919)	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Medal of Honor Day (1863)	26	27
28 Blinded Veterans Association Birthday (1945)	29 National Vietnam War Veterans Day (1973) Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NDVS) Birthday (1943)	30	31			



Legalman Second Class (SW) Marie Holcomb

Marie Holcomb served as a Legalman Second Class (SW) in the United States Navy from 1993 to 2007. She currently serves as the Veterans Service Officer Supervisor for the Nevada Department of Veterans Services Veterans Advocate Support Team in Las Vegas.

March 2021

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April 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Month of the Military Child		1	2	3
4	5 Gold Star Spouses Day	6	7	8	9 National Former POW Recognition Day	10
11	12 Scottish-American Military Society (SAMS) Birthday (1981)	13	14 Air Force Reserve Birthday (1948) American Ex-Prisoners of War Birthday (1942) Paralyzed Veterans of America Birthday (1947)	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 Army Reserve Birthday (1908)	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



Master Sergeant (R) Nina Ridgeway

Nina Ridgeway served as a Master Sergeant in the United States Air Force from 1984 to 2004. As a Gulf War Veteran, she served as a Food Service Superintendent. She is currently Director of Career Center Services at Goodwill Industries of Southern Nevada. Nina is the founder and Chair of the Southern Nevada Veterans Community Engagement Board, a collaboration of 50 organizations serving Nevada's veterans and their families.

April 2021

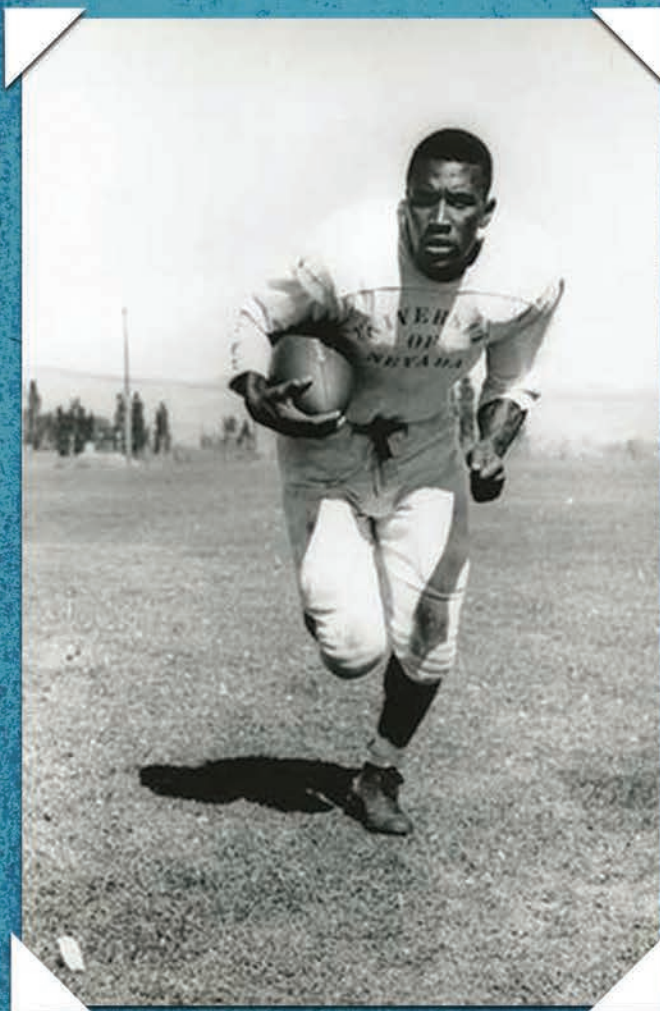
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May 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Month of the Military Caregiver National Military Appreciation Month				1 Loyalty Day Silver Star Service Banner Day (1818)
2	3 Air Force Sergeants Association Birthday (1947)	4	5 Veterans of the Vietnam War & The Veterans Coalition Birthday (1978)	6	7 Military Spouse Appreciation Day	8 VE (Victory in Europe) Day (1945)
9 Mother's Day	10	11	12	13 Children of Fallen Patriots Day	14 Women's Army Corps Veterans Association Birthday (1946)	15 Armed Forces Day
16	17	18	19 Catholic War Veterans Birthday (1935)	20 Peter Ranne is the first known man of African descent to enter the boundaries of the modern state of Nevada (1826)	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Memorial Day					



Marion Motley

Marion Motley was a WWII veteran and University of Nevada alumni. He played for University of Nevada from 1940 to 1943 before enlisting in the United States Navy, where he played football for the Navy Bluejackets. In 1946, Marion joined the Cleveland Browns as a fullback, where along with three other players, he broke the professional football race barrier. In 1968 Marion was enshrined in the Football Hall of Fame.

May 2021

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July 2021

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June 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4 American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. Birthday (1928)	5 Birthday of WWII veteran and UNR alumni, Marion Motley, who broke the Pro Football race barrier in 1946 and is enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame (1920)
6 D-Day (1944)	7	8	9	10	11	12 Women Veterans Day Merchant Marines Birthday (1775)
13	14 U.S. Flag Day Army Birthday (1775) Henry Flipper, First African American West Point graduate, commanded the Buffalo Soldier 10th Cav. Reg.	15	16	17 Disabled American Veterans Birthday (1920)	18	19 Juneteenth
20 Father's Day	21	22	23 Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday (1939)	24	25 Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) Birthday (1985)	26
27 National PTSD Awareness Day Judge Addelir Guy III, WWII/ Korean War veteran, appointed to the Eighth Judicial District Court, Dept. XI (1975)	28	29	30 Buffalo Soldier 10th Cavalry takes part in the Battle of Tayacoba, in which four members will be awarded the Medal of Honor (1898).			



Lieutenant Colonel (R) Pat Spearman

Senator Pat Spearman served in the United States Army from 1977 to 2007 as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Military Police Corps. She currently serves as State Senator for District 1 in the Nevada State Legislature. She is a strong advocate for veteran issues and, along with Senator Dallas Harris and others, authored the Bill establishing Buffalo Soldiers Day in Nevada.

June 2021

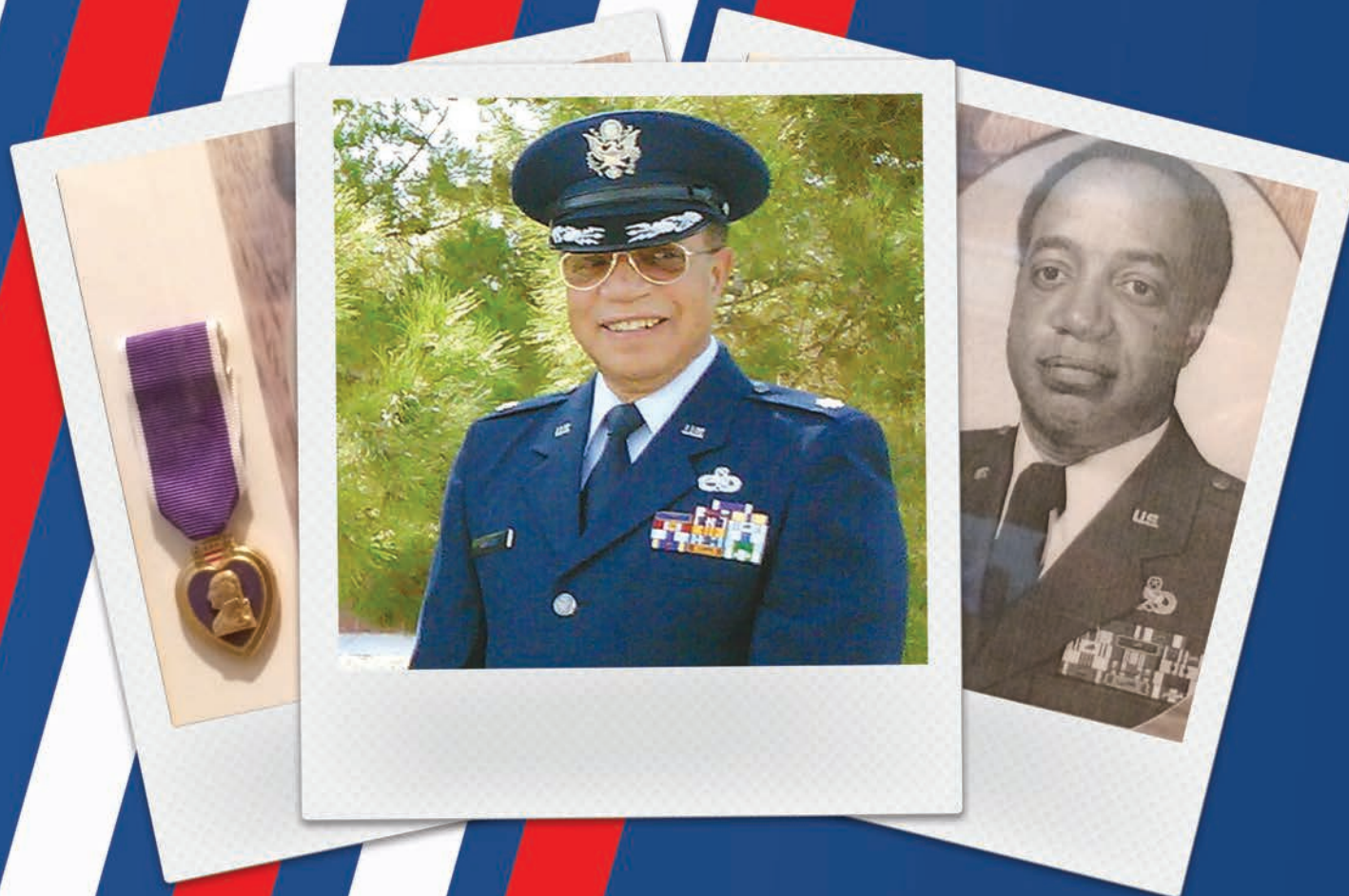
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August 2021

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July 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	National Association for Black Veterans, Inc. Founded (1969)			1 Veterans Services Commission (VSC) Birthday (1975) United Veterans Legislative Council Birthday (UVLC) (2012)	2 Passage of Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibiting discrimination in employment and public places.	3 NV Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs (ICVA) was formed by Executive Order (2012)
4 Independence Day	5 Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. Birthday (1945)	6	7	8	9 14th Amendment Ratified, granting citizenship to all persons born or naturalized in the United States (1868)	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Pres. Truman signed Executive Order, integrating the segregated military (1948)	27 National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day (1953)	28 Buffalo Soldier Day in Nevada (2019) The Army Reorganization Act of 1866 authorized six regiments for African Americans.	29	30	31



Lieutenant Colonel (R) Tom Waters

Dr. Tom Waters served in the United States Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel and his many awards include the Purple Heart for injuries sustained in combat during the Vietnam War. Dr. Waters led the successful efforts to create the State of Nevada Silver Star and Bronze Star license plates, as well as leading the initiative to have Nye County and Pahrump named as Purple Heart entities.

August 2021

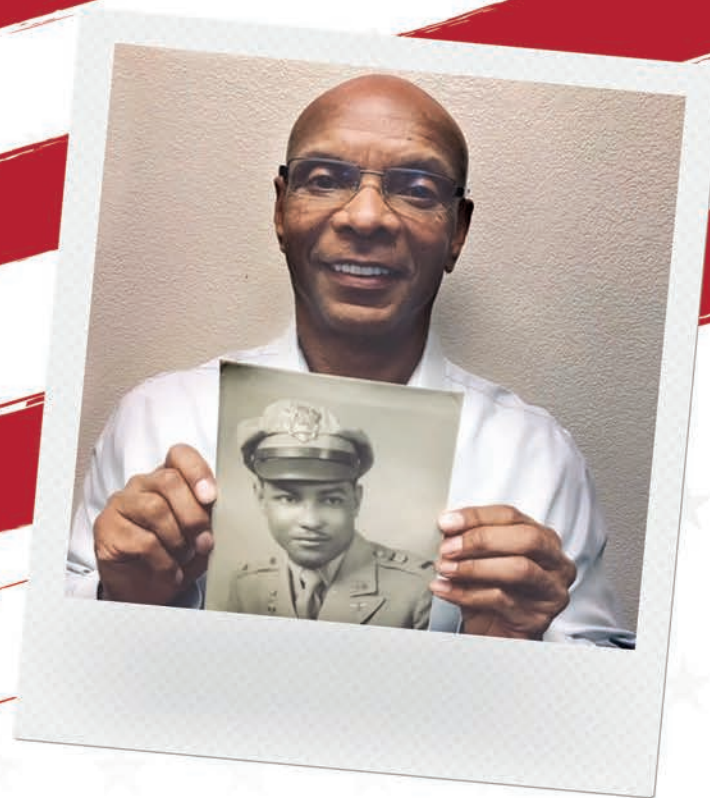
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 Coast Guard Birthday (1915)	5	6	7 Purple Heart Day (1782)
8	9	10 U.S. Department of Defense Birthday (1949)	11	12	13	14 Navajo Code Talkers Day Congressional Medal of Honor Society Birthday (1863)
15	16 National Airborne Day (1940)	17	18	19 Major General Ondra Berry appointed as first African American Adjutant General for Nevada (2019)	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Marine Forces Reserve Birthday (1916)	30	31				



Captain Wendell Blaylock

Captain Wendell Blaylock served in the United States Air Force from 1979 to 1983 as a Hospital Clinical Social Worker. He now serves as a member of Nevada's Veterans Service Commission. He is pictured holding a photograph of his father, Tuskegee Airman Joseph Blaylock, who served during World War II and was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	National Suicide Prevention Month		1	2 VJ (Victory over Japan) Day (1945)	3	4
5	6 Labor Day In 2005, the oldest Buffalo Soldier, Mark Matthews, died at 111 years old. He is interred at Arlington National Cemetery.	7	8	9	10	11 Patriot Day, 9/11 Remembrance Day (2001)
12	13	14	15	16	17 Citizenship Day (1787) National POW/MIA Recognition Day	18 Air Force (USAF) Birthday (1947) Air National Guard Birthday (1947)
19	20	21 Non-Commissioned Officer Association Birthday (1960) Originally part of the U.S. 10th Cavalry Regiment, the Buffalo Soldiers became a separate group (1866)	22	23	24	25 Disabled American Veterans Birthday (1920)
26 Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day (1936)	27	28	29 National Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Day (1899) Lady Vets Birthday (2010)	30		



Master Sergeant (R) Willette Gerald

Willette Gerald served as a Master Sergeant in the United States Air Force. She served from 1974 until 1995 as a Military Personnel Administrator. Ms. Gerald now serves as the Nevada Department of Veterans Services Education and Employment Program Manager.

September 2021

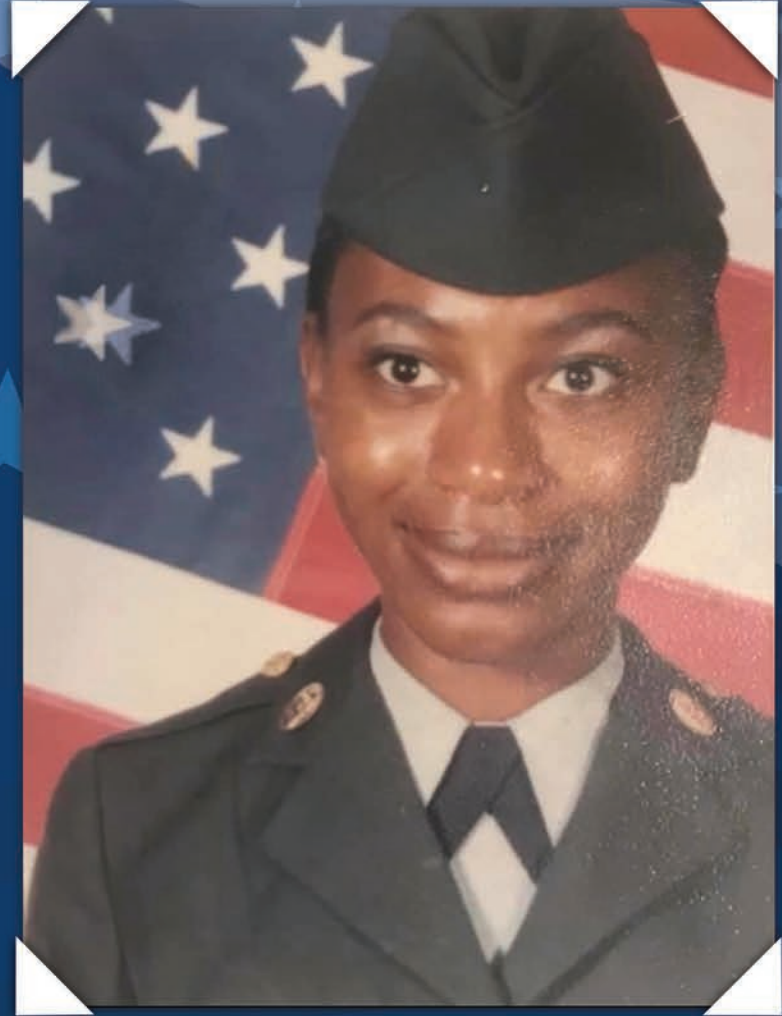
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October 2021

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					1	2 Reserve Officers Association (RSO) Birthday (1922)
3	4 Buffalo Soldier Motorcycle Club (BSMC) Founded (1993)	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Navy Birthday (1775)	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 National Day of the Deployed	27	28	29 Nevada Day Observed (1864)	30
31						



*Husband and Wife,
Non-Commissioned Officers, Jerome and Charise Washington*

Jerome Washington served as a Staff Sergeant in the United States Army from 2001 to 2006 as an Air Traffic Controller and in Army Security Forces having served a tour Iraq. Jerome now serves as a Congressional Analyst for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Charise Washington served as a Sergeant in the United States Army from 2001 to 2007 as a Logistician and is a Global War on Terrorism Veteran. She served two tours in Iraq. Charise now serves as a Veterans Service Representative for the VA.

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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
National Veterans & Military Family Month National Family Caregivers Month	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Daylight Savings Time Ends	8 Military Order of the Purple Heart Birthday (1932)	9	10 Marine Corps Birthday (1775) Marine Corps League Birthday (1775)	11 Armistice/Remembrance Day (1918) Veterans Day	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving	26	27
28 Hanukkah Begins	29	30				



Chaplain (LTC) Sherman Baker, US Army (Ret)

Chaplain (LTC) Sherman Baker, US Army (Ret) served in the United States Army from 1987 to 2017, with combat service during the GulfWar. He continues serving as a Chaplain for the VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System in Reno.

November 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

January 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

December 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Civil Air Patrol (USAF Auxiliary) Birthday (1941)	2	3	4
5 Buffalo Soldier Motorcycle Club of Las Vegas activated as the 42nd Chapter of the National Association of Buffalo Soldiers & Troopers Motorcycle Club (NABSTMC) (2005)	6	7 National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (1941)	8	9	10 AMVETS (American Veterans) Birthday (1944)	11
12	13 National Guard Birthday & Army National Guard Birthday (1636)	14 National Wreaths Across America (2007)	15	16	17	18
19	20 United States Space Force Birthday (2019)	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day
26 Kwanzaa Begins Jacob Dodson, enters Nevada as assistant and military scout to John C. Fremont (1843)	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	



Reno (775) 688-1653
Las Vegas (702) 224-6025

Elko (775) 777-1000
Fallon (775) 428-1177

Pahrump (775) 751-6372



This calendar was created by the Nevada Department of Veterans Services
to honor Nevada's African American Veterans.

For more information about Nevada African American Veteran Service Organizations,
please contact:

**Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club
Las Vegas**

Website:

bsmclv.com

Address:

P.O. Box 98092
Las Vegas, Nevada

Phone:

(651) 367-9757

**National Association for Black Veterans
(NABVETS)**

Website:

www.nabvets.weebly.com/nevada.html

Address:

Las Vegas Chapter #0062
10161 Park Run Suite #150
Las Vegas, NV 89145