



# The Patriot Reader Newsletter

P.O. Box 2117

St. Augustine, FL 32085

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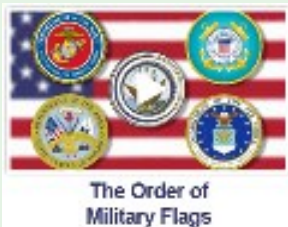
Volume 12, Issue 7

From Veterans Council Chairman Bill Dudley

July 2023

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Fellow Veterans,  
 With Memorial Day now behind us, your Veterans Council is now planning for this year's Veterans Day. The Veterans Day committee met this week to layout plans for this year's event. This year, we will honor all veterans who have served in the Global War on Terrorism. The period of service in order to be recognized as having served in the GWOT is from Oct. 2001-Aug. 2021. We are asking for all veterans who served during this period to attend this year's ceremony. We will recognize each veteran in a very special way. I think anyone who has

attended one of our Veterans Day Programs recognizes they are very special. This year's will be equally as impressive as we honor all who served during the Global War on Terrorism. Today, the Veterans Treatment Court Alumni group hosted a picnic at Vail Point Park for the entire VTC team. Those who have been a part of the VTC including veteran participants, mentors, Court staff and graduates of the program were on hand for a great time of fellowship. Of special importance was the honoring of the memory of the six participants of the VTC who have passed away since in-



ception of the program. Their names were read aloud and honored with the ringing of the bell after each name. A big shout out to the Alumni Group committee for their planning and preparation for today's picnic. Our next Veterans Council meeting is Thurs. June 29th at 7 PM. We have two excellent speakers for the upcoming meeting. Please come and join us and hear their interesting presentations. Bill Dudley  
 Chairman  
 Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc.

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County meets on the last Thursday of the month, all are invited to attend. We meet at the County Health & Human Services Building, 200 San Sebastian View, at 7 pm in the Muscovy room.



**Upcoming Speakers June 29**

Michael Dionian, Volunteering at the Jax Naval Museum,  
USS Orleck and

Rick McAllister: The Last Patrol: A Pilgrimage of Brotherhood.  
Six Vietnam vets making a 500 mile healing pilgrimage on the  
ancient Camino de Santiago across Northern Spain.

**July 27**

Roseann Vernon, Atlantic Coast Young Marines and  
Erich Saks, Operation Lifeline

**August 31**

Lynn Geiser, Hope 4 Veterans and  
Mike O'Brien, Director of Development, 5 Star Veterans Center

**September 28**

Maj. Zach Malamud, "Marine For Life Network"

**October 26**

Carl Cricco, CEO K9s For Warriors



# 2023 Annual Report

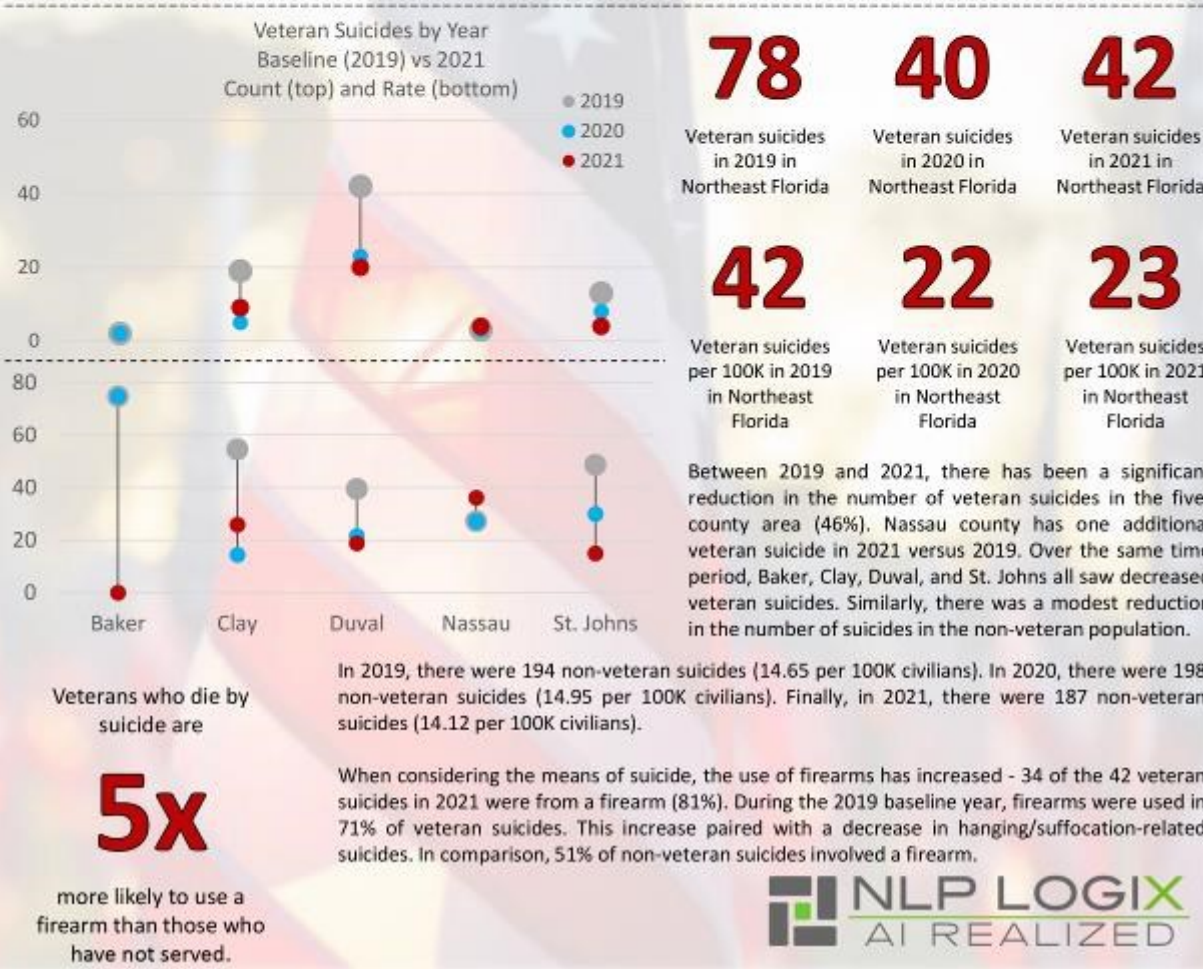
## Veteran Suicide in Northeast Florida

### Overall Summary

As a part of its mission to end veteran suicide, The Fire Watch created the Watch Stander program, equipping community members with the skills they need to identify veterans in crisis and point them toward resources. The Fire Watch is also working hard to ensure that data is tracked, by gathering data from the American Community Survey and the Florida Department of Health and performing independent analyses, including this report on the original five county region of Northeast Florida (Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, and St. Johns Counties), with data partner NLP Logix. Tracking data is beneficial to The Fire Watch in two ways:

- Identifying emerging trends within veteran suicide data to create tailored approaches to pre-emptively combat areas of concern.
- Ensuring that the efforts put forward by The Fire Watch are a part of “turning the curve” and decreasing veteran suicides.

Data provided is based on the most recent release of Department of Health death counts for veterans whose census tract is known. The rate of suicide is calculated based on the total population and the percent of veterans published by the US Census Bureau. The rate of suicide among veterans has decreased significantly in the five-county area from the baseline year of 2019. Results were generally consistent across counties, with raw counts of veteran suicide in 4 of the 5 counties either remaining the same or decreasing. Trends that should be monitored were seen in suicides among minority veterans.





# 2023 Annual Report

## Veteran Suicide in Northeast Florida

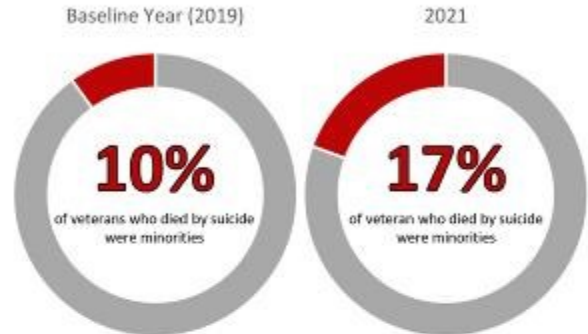
### Veteran Suicide Demographics

When considering the demographics of veterans who die by suicide, there are variations in the 2021 data. The proportion of minority suicides in the veteran community has ranged around 10% for the last ten years. This year, this proportion increased to 17%. This increase shifts the balance for 2021 to a disproportionate ratio of minority deaths. This is a trend that should be monitored to see if this continues in future years.

The rate of suicide by gender has remained constant.

The rate of suicide by age group fluctuated from the baseline year, but these fluctuations are not beyond what is expected based on prior years.

### Veteran Suicides for Non-minorities and Minorities



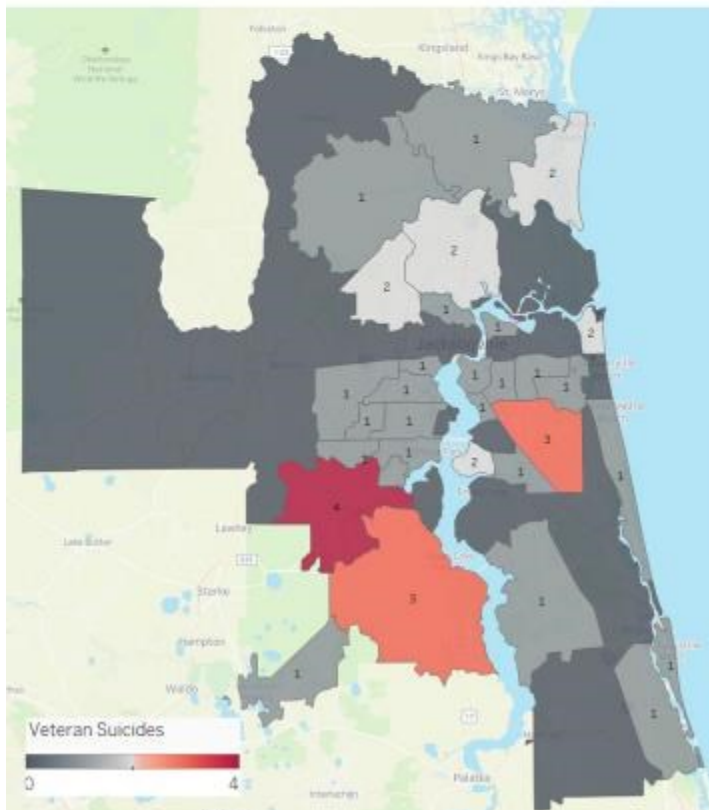
### Geographic Breakdown

Over the last 10 years, at least one veteran suicide has occurred in each of the ZIP codes in the five-county area. However, in 2021 there were no veteran suicides in 27 of the 59 ZIP codes in the five-county area. The ZIP Codes with the most veteran suicides in 2021 were 32068, 32043, and 32256.

32068 (4 suicides in 2021) is a largely populated ZIP code with a higher-than-average veteran population percent (16%). This zip code had one more suicide than it did in the baseline year.

32043 (3 suicides in 2021) is a largely populated ZIP Code in Clay County centered around Green Cove Springs that also has a higher-than-average veteran percentage (16%)

32256 is a heavily populated ZIP code with a lower population of veterans on Jacksonville's Southside.



# Memorial Day St. Augustine National Cemetery pictures by Bill Gradwell



**The National Naval Aviation Museum is located in Pensacola, FL**



## **ABOUT US**

The National Naval Aviation Museum is the world's largest Naval Aviation museum and one of the most-visited museums in the state of Florida. Share the excitement of Naval Aviation's rich history and see more than 150 beautifully restored aircraft representing Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard Aviation. These historic and one-of-a-kind aircraft are displayed both inside the Museum's over 350,000 square feet of exhibit space and outside on its 37-acre grounds.

## **START YOUR ADVENTURE HERE**

Discover more than 4,000 artifacts and over 150 beautifully restored aircraft representing Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard aviation. Enjoy the thrill of flight in the Flight Simulators, catch all the drama and power of the amazing Giant Digital Screen Theater and refuel for lunch in the authentic Cubi Bar Café. Then gear up and take home the spirit of Naval Aviation with a unique memento from the Flight Deck Store.



## **EXPERIENCE HISTORY**

Journey through the evolution of Naval Aviation and experience hands-on history. Discover historic aircraft, cockpits, interactive exhibits and a vast collection of artifacts that are fun for all ages. Make the most of your adventure and see for yourself why the National Naval Aviation



Museum is consistently voted a “must-see” along the Gulf Coast.

## EXHIBITS & ATTRACTIONS

The National Naval Aviation Museum is alive with history and adventure. Each year, visitors by the hundreds of thousands marvel at our restored air-

craft, authentic memorabilia and unique experiences on site or by exploring our digital collections and online exhibits.

## START YOUR ADVENTURE HERE

Discover more than 4,000 artifacts and over 150 beautifully restored aircraft representing Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard aviation.

Enjoy the thrill of flight in the Flight Simulators, catch all the drama and power of the amazing Giant Digital Screen Theater and refuel for lunch in the authentic Cubi Bar Café. Then gear up and take home the spirit of Naval Aviation with a unique memento from the Flight Deck Store.

Public access to NAS Pensacola is available only from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. through the West Gate on Blue Angel Parkway. We are a cashless museum.

**The National Naval Aviation Museum is pleased to open the flight line behind the museum to view Blue Angels practice flight demonstrations. Gates open at 9:30 AM and the Blues are scheduled to take to the skies at 10:30 AM**

## **2023 PRACTICE SCHEDULE**

**March 28, 29**

**April 4, 5\*, 11, 12\*, 18, 19\*, 25, 26\***

**May 2, 3\*, 9, 10\*, 16, 17\*, 31\***

**June 6, 7\*, 13, 14\*, 20, 21, 27, 28\***

**July 11, 12, 25, 26\***

**August 1, 16\*, 22, 23\*, 29**

**September 6\*, 12, 19**

**October 18\*, 24, 25\***

**\* Indicates Blue Angels Autograph Sessions in the museum.**

### **Blue Angels Autograph Sessions**

**Following certain Wednesday practices, members of the Blue Angels visit the Museum to meet fans to answer questions and sign autographs.**







**From William Manley, NFG NG  
FLARNG It is with profound regret we  
announce the passing of Maj. Gen.  
(ret.) Kennedy C. Bullard, former Ad-  
jutant General of Florida.**



Major General Kennedy C. Bullard passed away peacefully at the age of 105 and ½ years.

General Bullard was born to George Franklin and Eva Marie Bullard in Palatka, Florida. He lived through the depression years on a small farm in Wachula Florida, then moved with his family back to Tampa where he attended Hillsborough High School. After graduating he attended the University of Florida before enlisting in the Florida National Guard. He served with the First Armored Division in World War 2, beginning in North Africa and then fighting in Italy at Anzio and Monte Cassino before his wartime service in Northern Italy. He received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star during his combat service in Italy. He later received the Distinguished Service Medal and most recently the Governor's Legion of Merit.

He returned to civilian life after the war but remained active in the National Guard. He worked several years as a public servant in Hillsborough County, ending that career as the Tax Collector of Hillsborough County. Over the years he continued to shoulder more responsibility with the Florida National Guard and was appointed Adjutant General of the Florida National Guard in 1975, holding that position until retirement in 1981.

The Post Command Headquarters of Camp Blanding was renamed the "Kennedy C Bullard Florida National Guard Post Headquarters" in his honor. He and his wife, Carmen shared several wonderful years in retirement, splitting their time between St. Augustine and the North Carolina Mountains where they constantly entertained family and friends. General Bullard was a passionate Florida Gator football fan and a regular golfer, and He served his country and his family well.



Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation provides college scholarships and educational counseling to military children, from all branches, who lost a parent in the line of duty.

We cover all college-related costs and there is a big need for our services as the VA does not cover the full cost of college. There is a \$25,000 average gap to cover one student for four years and we need your help.



**Scan here to support the children of those who made the ultimate sacrifice.**

*To mail a contribution, please send checks to:*

Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation  
ATTN: Courtney Nyren  
1818 Library Street, Suite 500  
Reston, VA 20190

**FALLENPATRIOTS.ORG**

**Thank you for your support of our mission. CFC #69859**



CFP is among top <1% of charities to receive a 100% rating in 2022

**VETERANS COUNCIL OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY**

**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**MAY 25, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Dudley**

**WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS: Chairman Dudley**

**PLEDGE: Chairman Dudley**

**INVOCATION: Ray Quinn**

**INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERS/GUESTS: Chairman Dudley**

**The new attendees at this month's meeting introduced themselves.**

**MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Minutes of last meeting conducted April 27, 2023, were presented by Chairman Dudley. Copies of the Minutes and Agenda are available on the sign-in table and were sent to members electronically by the Secretary. The minutes were approved by voice vote with no changes.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer John Mountcastle provided a detailed report that as of April 26, 2023, there was a balance of \$159,369.53 and as of date of meeting, with the liquid cash, there is balance of \$159,981.10. Most of the money is in a Fidelity Money Market Fund which is earning just under 5% interest currently. There is an available cash total of \$165,981.10. Treasurer Mountcastle went over the amounts spent this past month on various actions to assist our Veterans and other funds and how they were acquired. The Treasurer's Report was approved by voice vote with no changes.**

**SPEAKERS:**

**DeANDREA FULLER, OUTREACH DIRECTOR, STEVEN A COHEN MILITARY FAMILY CLINIC**

**General Mike Flemming introduced Ms. Fuller and gave information on her background. DeAndrea Fuller is a Navy Jag (retired) and Veteran, she is also a**



Navy spouse.

Ms. Fuller is the Director of the Cohen Military Family Clinic that provides military outpatient care to Veterans and their families. The Cohen Clinic provides top-notch behavioral healthcare to military members and their family members. They provide individual healthcare, individual therapies, family therapy, group therapy and child therapy – helping children cope with parents leaving and parents returning with PTSD and depression, not able to leave the war behind. The Cohen Clinic provides help to those that have served and currently 25% of those they help are still in the service. They accept every major insurance and if they can't afford to pay, there is a grant available to help those in need. They want to make sure that the mission of the service member is behind them and to help them get started on their new mission is life, to help them get better. Their focus is helping post 911 veterans, but they will help any veteran that is in need. The floor was open to any questions for Ms. Fuller.

#### **RYAN BAUMAN, BOARD MEMBER, FIRST COAST HONOR FLIGHT**

First Coast Honor Flight is based out of Jacksonville and has been operating for about 3 years. Honor Flight itself has been around for many years. The Honor Flight is at no cost to the Veteran and operates off of fundraising. Honor Flight started with WWII Veterans and now has incorporated other Veterans, Korea and Vietnam Veterans, into their program. As time carries on it will add other Veterans from other combat eras into their program. First Coast Honor Flight out of Jacksonville serves the nine counties around the First Coast. In addition to the Veterans on the flight, each Veteran will have a guardian with them for the day. It is a one-to-one matchup for each Veteran and will meet whatever the Veteran's needs may be. There are 3 basic events for each flight. The first is orientation that takes place a couple of weeks before the flight date. There is the actual flight date that takes a whole day and a couple of weeks after the flight there is a reunion date. The day in Washington DC has the Veterans on the Mall and they get to visit all the monuments for each com

bat era, including the Tomb of the Unknown. The next Honor Flight is scheduled for September 16, 2023. The floor was open for questions and answers.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

##### **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE UPDATE, JOSEPH MCDERMOTT**

Mr. McDermott talked about the Veterans Service Office and that they had just returned from their annual recertification training. Every year the officers have to be certified by the Department of Veterans Affairs and all successful in passing the test.

Mr. McDermott also discussed claims and the PAC ACT is still educating about the ACT. There is a lot to the ACT and it's very complicated. It is taking about 4 to 6 months from the time the claim is submitted until there is a response. The Veterans Service Office is trying to educate the Veterans that it takes this long.

Mr. McDermott also talked about the Veterans Standdown and the fact that the attendance has not been what is expected for such an event. Ways are being discussed about how to handle the future Standdowns.

Mr. McDermott discussed other ways of helping Veterans other than filing claims.

##### **VETERANS TREATMENT COURT, JOHN LESLIE**

Mr. Leslie was not in attendance for the meeting but did send Chairman Dudley a report on the Veterans Treatment Court. There are 31 people in the system currently and Court will be held on May 26, 2023. There are 76 that have graduated through the program since inception and there are 21 that have left the program without graduating due to other circumstances such as a legal reason, probation ended or had fulfilled their other obligations to end their legal programs. The Judge wanted to create an Alumni Group and it was established

a couple of months ago and it is working very well. On June 24, 2023, there will be a picnic with the group held at Vail Point Park.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS:**

Chairman Dudley discussed the upcoming Memorial Day event. Flags were to be put on all the grave sites on Friday, May 26, 2023, and on Memorial Day at 10:00 am is the actual Memorial Day ceremony at the National Cemetery in downtown St. Augustine and everyone is encouraged to attend.

MOAA had their state convention here in St. Augustine at World Golf Village. It was 4-day event that had about 160 Officers attend. It was a very positive, successful event.

Donna Boyce also spoke of the St. Joseph's Academy Legacy Program and had this year's book to show the Council.

The floor was open to anyone wanting to make a statement to the Council.

Next Veterans Council meeting will be held on Thursday, June 29th beginning at 7:00pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

William Dudley, Chairman



## Coquina Crossing WW II Heroes, neighbors

I retired in 2000 after 35 years teaching Special Education to Emotionally Disturbed teenagers in a Brooklyn High School.

My wife and I moved to Coquina Crossing, a 55+ community in Elkton, FL., just outside of St. Augustine.

Every morning (except Sunday) from about 8am to 9:30am a group of men met in the Coquina Clubhouse, this group came to be known as “The Liars Club”.

This was a social gathering and we all got to know each other. After a few months of meeting at “The Liars Club” I learned that over 30 men in my community were World War II veterans.

Although I taught Special Education, my college degrees were all in American History. I sat with these men many days and listened to their stories and realized that their stories would be lost with them over the years. I decided to record their stories and save them for future generations. I realized that the war stories I was listening to were first-hand accounts of American History told to me by men who served their country proudly.

I had read that Ken Burns, the noted documentarian, was premiering his World War II documentary in a few months.

The time to record the men was now. After many, many phone calls, I finally spoke with Michael Boylan, then President/CEO of WJCT TV, the PBS affiliate in Jacksonville, FL. and he agreed to send a film crew to

Coquina Crossing and film us interviewing the Coquina WW II veterans.

After filming, additional help was needed to edit, add music, dialogue and check the historical accuracy of what we were going to use in the documentary.

One morning at the Liars Club, I met and spoke with Dr. Proctor, Chancellor of Flagler College who was there to speak to the residents and he was interested in my project and he put me in touch with a Flagler Professor, James Gilmour, who would provide his expertise & students to complete the documentary.

It is at this point that Veterans Council Chairman Bill Dudley joined the project and provided the finishing touches. With his guidance the documentary was put on DVD, a label and case design completed the documentary.

Over the years the documentary has been gifted to many colleges, high schools, museums, and veterans organizations across the United States, thanks to the generosity of the Veterans Council of St. Johns County.

The rest as they say is History.

*From the PBS FL Statewide Posting:*

*Serve and Protect : Stories From WWII*

"From a small senior community near St. Augustine, Florida over 30 veterans came together to share their stories. Produced by Flagler College TV Workshop Students and directed by Michael Rothfeld and Bill Dudley".

<http://www.floridastoriesofservice.org/serve-and-protect-stories-from-wwii/>





## World War II Veterans of Coquina Crossing

## Remains identified: Korean War soldier and orphan will rest in peace in Jacksonville



Matt Soergel, Florida Times-Union

Tommy Grimes was 6 when he and his four sisters came to live in the orphanage in Quinlan, Texas, in the middle of the Great Depression. His father had left the family, hopping a train bound for Arizona where he'd remarried. His mother, Lily Mae, had also remarried, but she and her baby had just died during childbirth.

Tommy and his sisters had been split up, living with other family members, but at least this way, in the orphanage, they could all be together during these tough times.

They were treated well there, but the Grimes children still couldn't wait to get out. For Tommy, that chance came when he was 16 and joined the Army. Three years later on July 20, 1950, he was an infantryman in Korea when he took a fatal bullet to his chest after his unit was forced to retreat during the Battle of Taejon.

That's what the representatives from the Army told his niece Connie Mitchell after his remains were finally identified last year, 72 years after the battle.

"It must have been over: Boom. He was gone," Mitchell said. "I know he must have been scared to death. They were in a town they were told to hold no matter what, and I know they were terrified, they were all so young."

Cpl. George Thomas "Tommy" Grimes was just 19 when he died. But because his body had not been identified, and because he was never determined to be a prisoner of war, he was considered missing in action until the Army declared his pre

sumptive death on Dec. 31, 1953.

Back in America, though, his family hung on to one word: Missing.

His father, Thomas Jefferson Grimes, believed until he died that Tommy was still alive in Korea. So did his sisters — Francis, Mildred, Ellen and Bertha. Mitchell said all four sisters eventually each named their firstborn sons Tommy, and they told reassuring stories about how their brother must have liked it in Korea and stayed and married a local woman, never to be heard from again.

But they were just that: stories. On Friday his remains arrived on an American Airlines flight in Jacksonville. At 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, after cremation, he will be interred with full military honors at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

#### Identifying the dead

A short while after Grimes was killed in 1950, the Army interred his unidentifiable remains with those of other slain soldiers at the United Nations Military Cemetery in Taejon. They were later reburied at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as the Punchbowl, in Honolulu.

The military's Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has been employing modern science to try to identify the remains of service members killed in battle, using DNA samples from relatives among other methods. In July 2019 the agency disinterred a set of remains known as Unknown X-219 as part of the Korean War Disinterment Project, sending the remains to a laboratory in Hawaii for analysis.

More than 7,500 Americans remain unaccounted for from the Korean War. But on Aug. 2, 2022, the laboratory determined it had found a match between Unknown X-219 and Tommy Grimes, who had been a light weapons infantryman assigned to A Company, 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division.

His sisters had all died by then. But for the younger family members, the news was both happy and sobering.

"Dear God, sometimes I cry, sometimes I'm just ecstatically happy," said Mitchell, his niece. "I feel such love for this man I never got to meet."

She is the daughter of Grimes' sister Ellen and was just 4 months old when her uncle was killed. She knows little about him other than he was said to be a good athlete, and the family has no photos of him other than his official Army photo.

But she knows this: "My mother and my aunts loved him unconditionally, so he must have been a wonderful child. I'm thrilled we can bring him home and put him to rest."

Jacksonville National Cemetery, with family

Mitchell lives in Jasper, a tiny town northwest of White Springs and near the Georgia border. That's the hometown of another soldier killed in Korea, Christie Alton, whose remains were also identified last year. Alton, who died July 5, 1950, 15 days before Grimes, was buried in Jasper this month.

"The whole town turned out and lined the streets," said Mitchell, who attended the funeral service.

Though Grimes had no ties to Jacksonville, Mitchell is pleased he will be interred at the National Cemetery there; it's close enough for her to visit, and there are other family members nearby.

Besides, Grimes' sister Bertha is interred there, along with her husband Ray Lewis who was in the Navy during both the Korean and Vietnam wars, and their son Tommy, an Air Force veteran who shared his late uncle's name.



*From Beth Heath*

## **Veterans, unsung heroes recognized during D-Day remembrance**

The We Can Be Heroes Foundation honored the veterans who served and sacrificed their lives during D-Day with its annual remembrance June 6 with a presentation at the Salem Centre Auditorium in Jacksonville.

John Connelly was one of the many veterans who attended the event on the night. He served during World War II as a pilot and was a prisoner of war, having spent time in two German prison camps after being captured during the war.

Also in attendance was Capt. Gregory Streeter, who retired from the U.S. Navy and was the past commander general of the Naval Order of the United States.

Streeter has become a regular over the years at the D-Day banquet, and it's only fitting because not only is he a veteran, but he also was instrumental in helping get a monument built on the beaches of Normandy, France, that honors the heroic acts of the U.S. Navy on that fateful day.

According to Streeter, at the time when the monument was erected, there were various D-Day monuments around the area, but none commemorating the U.S. Navy.

There were many veterans that had hoped to make it on the night but were unable to due to health-related issues they are dealing with.

Beth Heath asked the audience to remember to pray for those veterans who continue to battle the ailments they are going through. "Our veterans have set such a high bar for us to follow," Heath said. "Please include them in your daily prayers. They will appreciate your support and thoughts."

Tables throughout the auditorium had family members of World War II veterans who had passed away but continue to be honored by placing a photo of them in the middle of the table, often in their military uniform.

"Nine out of 10 times they've got the cutest and biggest smiles you'll ever see in those pho-

tos,” Heath said. “There are some sweet memories at those tables.”

Three members of the community were on hand and called up on stage to receive certificates and a special yard sign announcing that they were named as an “Unsung Hero” within the community.

Eadie Dumm is a member of VFW Post 7909 and recently set up a donation table to sell homemade goods to help raise donations for the Atlantic Coast Young Marines to go on a trip to Normandy to learn about World War II history firsthand this summer.

With the help of Dumm, We Can Be Heroes Foundation, and other veteran-supported groups, the Young Marines are sending 21 members to Normandy and will leave Jacksonville and fly to France on June 8.

Dianne Lavelle was honored for her countless hours both nights and weekends as a volunteer and helping to fill bags of food for homeless veterans.

Russell Greaney was the last person recognized as an “unsung hero” for his role as a member, mentor and inspiration for homeless veterans at the Clara White Mission in Jacksonville.

One of the last surprises of the night included Heath getting recognized and presented with a plaque by Jacksonville City Council member Al Ferraro for her continued dedication and work to help veterans in the local area.





# Stories of Service

## St. Johns County Veterans Oral History Project



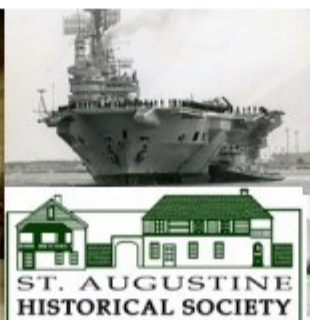
Stories of Service is an oral history project that aims to collect, document, and preserve the stories of local veterans for future generations by conducting audio interviews with them.



If you'd like to learn more about this project, contact Robert Covert:



904-825-2333 ext 203  
robert@sahs1883.com



# Modern aircraft carriers from around the world

## MODERN AIRCRAFT CARRIERS



USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)



FS CHARLES DE GAULLE (R91)



ITS CAVOUR (CVH-550)



USS BONHOMME RICHARD (LHD-6)

THE WARSHIPOLOGIST



# Did you know...



## How the U.S. Flag should be displayed?

### Displaying the Flag Outdoors



**On a vehicle** -- Attach the flag to the antenna or clamp the flagstaff to the right fender. Do not lay the flag over the vehicle.



**On a building** -- Hang the flag on a staff or on a rope over the sidewalk with the stars away from the building.



**Over the street** -- Hang the flag with the stars to the east on a north-south street or north on an east-west street.



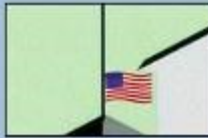
**Above other flags** -- Hang the flag above any other flag on the same pole.



**Other flags, separate poles** -- Hang all flags on equal poles. Hang the U.S. flag on its own right, hoist it first and lower it last.



**In a window** -- Hang the flag vertically with the stars to the left of anyone looking at it from the street.



**Half-mast** -- This is a sign of mourning. Raise the flag to the top of the pole then lower it to the half way point. Before lowering the flag, raise it to the top again.

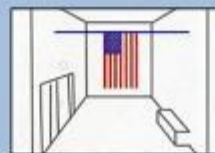


**Upside down** -- An upside-down flag is considered a distress signal.

### Displaying the Flag Indoors



**Multiple staffs** -- If you display the flag on a staff with other flags around it, place the flag at the center and highest point. Crossed staffs - Keep the flagstaff higher and on its own right.



**In a hall or lobby** -- Hang the flag vertically across from the main entrance with the stars to the left of anyone coming through the door.



**Next to a speaker** -- Place the flag in a stand on the speaker's right. Use the same placement for a religious service.



**Behind a speaker** -- Hang the flag flat on the wall. Do not decorate the podium or table with the flag. Use bunting for decoration.



REBELLIOUS STRIPES  
1792



HULBERT  
1794



FORSTER  
1794



CONTINENTAL COLORS  
1794



MOUTREIE  
1794



AN APPEAL TO HEAVEN  
WASHINGTON'S  
CRUISERS PINE TREE  
1794



SONS OF LIBERTY  
1793



CULPEPER MINUTEMEN  
1776



BEDFORD  
1794



TRUMBULL'S CONTINENTAL  
1776



WASHINGTON'S  
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
1783



GADSDEN  
1780



BETSY ROSS  
1776



GREEN MOUNTAIN BOYS  
1776



EASTON  
1776



BENNINGTON  
1777



TRUMBULL'S SARATOGA  
AND YORKTOWN  
1781



BRANDWINE  
1777



FORT MIFFLIN  
1777



FORT MERCER  
1777



FRANCIS HOPKINSON  
1776



SOUTH CAROLINA  
NAVY ENSIGN  
1776



ALLIANCE  
1778



SERAPIS  
1781



GEORGE ROGERS CLARK  
1774



COWPENS  
1781



BAUMAN'S YORKTOWN  
1781



GULFORD  
1781



FRENCH ALLIANCE  
1792



SLOAN  
1789



FORT MIFFLIN  
1777



NATHAN BEMAN  
1776



INDIAN PEACE  
1784



STAR-SPANGLED BANNER  
1794



20-STAR  
1804



GREAT STAR (20)  
1804



OLD GLORY  
1803



GREAT STAR (24)  
1807



GREAT FLOWER  
1804



CROSSICUSTER  
1804



PHALANX  
1804



FORT SUMTER DIAMOND  
1864



WAGON WHEEL  
1862



MEDALLION CENTENNIAL  
1876



CONCENTRIC CIRCLE  
1876



48-STAR  
1892



49-STAR  
1912



50-STAR  
1962

# AMERICAN FLAGS

1767 - PRESENT



# President Eisenhower's letter to the troops before the D Day Invasion

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE



Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force!

You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you. In company with our brave Allies and brothers-in-arms on other Fronts, you will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny over the oppressed peoples of Europe, and security for ourselves in a free world.

Your task will not be an easy one. Your enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle-hardened. He will fight savagely.

But this is the year 1944! Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940-41. The United Nations have inflicted upon the Germans great defeats, in open battle, man-to-man. Our air offensive has seriously reduced their strength in the air and their capacity to wage war on the ground. Our Home Fronts have given us an overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men. The tide has turned! The free men of the world are marching together to Victory!

I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full Victory!

Good Luck! And let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.

*Dwight D. Eisenhower*

# Cecil Field POW MIA Memorial, Inc.

In 2016, the Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial Museum was formed and received its 501 C3 Tax exempt status from the IRS.

Your support helps us continue to honor our nation's heroes. [#SupportOurMission](#)  
[#CecilFieldPOWMIAMemorialMuseum](#)  
[#POWMIADayeveryday](#)





# LEAVE A LEGACY

at the St Augustine Lighthouse  
& Maritime Museum



## Military Honor Plaza



### Commemorative Brick

**\$300**

Each brick features 3 lines of 20 characters.

We suggest that the brick include the individual's name, rank and branch of service.

Includes a certificate suitable for framing. We reserve the right to approve any text prior to ordering the brick.

The St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum is proud to announce the opening of the Military Honor Plaza featuring commemorative bricks to honor members of the nation's armed forces. During World War II, the St. Augustine Light Station served as a United States Coast Guard station. Housed in the former Coast Guard Barracks built in 1941, "the Guardians of the First Coast: Building Readiness for World War II" exhibit highlights the history of northeast Florida in the early years of World War II.



## **Attention Purple Heart recipients & families!**

We're thrilled to unveil the 2023 Purple Heart Scholarship Program! Let us help you achieve your dreams of higher education. Don't miss out, apply now before it's too late!



We are proud to announce the opening of the 2023 Purple Heart Scholarship Program! This program gives the Military Order of the Purple Heart the ability to assist Purple Heart recipients and their families with their goals of continued education. If you or a qualifying family member want to apply, please submit quickly.

The Purple Heart Scholarship Program is a very competitive program that awards scholarships to Purple Heart recipients and their spouses, children, and grandchildren each year. At least one applicant with military service will also be awarded a Navy SEAL LT Michael P. Murphy Memorial Scholarship Award.

### **Scholarship Deadline: July 15, 2023, At 5:00 PM EST**

The Purple Heart Scholarship Committee will evaluate all timely received applications and meet the eligibility and application requirements described below. All aspects of the application (academic achievement, extracurricular activities, community, and military service, work experience, letters of recommendation, and essay) are considered and evaluated by the Purple Heart Scholarship Committee. The Purple Heart Scholarship Committee shall make all decisions regarding the eligibility for a Scholarship and a Scholarship award. All decisions by the Purple Heart Scholarship Committee are final.

Not every applicant will receive a scholarship. This is not a full-tuition scholarship. The scholarship amount may vary each year, subject to funding levels. Both the student and the school must endorse Purple Heart Scholarship checks. Therefore, the college or university may exercise some control over how the funds are utilized, which can impact the level of financial benefit realized by the student.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible to apply for a Purple Heart Scholarship, applicants need to be a member of one of the following categories:

A Purple Heart recipient who is a Member of the MOPH, or

The spouse of a Purple Heart recipient who is a member of MOPH, or

The direct lineal descendent (child, step-child, adopted child, grandchild, step-grandchild, or great-grandchild) of a Purple Heart recipient who is a Member of MOPH, or

The spouse, widow/widower, or direct lineal descendent as defined above of a service member killed-in-action or who died of wounds. If the Purple Heart recipient is listed as killed-in-action or died of wounds, supporting documentation and evidence must be included with the application.

A Purple Heart recipient who is not a member of the MOPH can become a member by applying online through the MOPH website: [www.purpleheart.org](http://www.purpleheart.org). To be eligible to apply for the scholarship, the Purple Heart recipient must be a current member, a member at the time of his or her death, or documented as killed-in-action or has having died of wounds.

A MOPH Associate membership or membership in the MOPH Auxiliary does not by itself convey scholarship eligibility. It is highly recommended that non-Purple Heart recipients become either Associate members or members of the Auxiliary, and such membership does convey additional credit in the application process.

To be eligible to receive a Purple Heart MOPH Scholarship, applicants must meet the following three requirements:

A graduate or upcoming graduate (current senior) of a high school or GED program, and Accepted by or enrolled as a FULL-TIME undergraduate student at an accredited U.S. college, university, or trade school at the time the scholarship is awarded, and

Able to demonstrate the capacity for advanced academic achievement or technical proficiency by maintaining at least a 2.75 cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) based on an un-weighted 4.0 grading system.

For more information, please read the application packet and our website at [www.purpleheart.org/ScholarshipProgram](http://www.purpleheart.org/ScholarshipProgram).



*You've made our country*  
**A BETTER PLACE.**

**Enjoy your well-earned retirement at Silver Creek.**

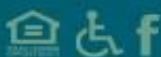
Thank you veterans for your service and sacrifice! At Silver Creek, you can live life as you choose with greater freedom, comfort and independence through the unique living options at our community - including independent concierge living, assisted living, enhanced assisted living and memory care.

Discover first-class amenities, holistic wellness programming, gourmet all-day dining and vibrant activities while enjoying camaraderie and friendship at our close-knit community.

Call **800-821-8170** to schedule a tour and learn more.



165 Silver Lane | St. Augustine, FL 32084 | [SilverCreekRetirement.com](http://SilverCreekRetirement.com)



**Independent Concierge Living – Assisted Living**  
**Memory Care – Short-Term Stays**

Assisted Living Facility #12928



## VETERANS, IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO PREPARE YOUR END-OF-LIFE DOCUMENTS



All forms that are referred to below are available to download on this site:  
[veteranfacilitator.com](http://veteranfacilitator.com)

### ATTENTION VETERANS, FAMILY MEMBERS, AND CAREGIVERS

“Preparing for death doesn’t have to be a difficult process. However, it’s a part of living. Being proactive and taking the right steps won’t only give you peace of mind at the time of your passing it will ease the minds of your loved ones, especially your spouse. As mentioned, it’s never too early to prepare and assemble important end-of-life documents. Advance-care planning lets loved ones and healthcare providers know your wishes regarding medical care if at any point you’re unable to express your wants.

Without these documents, families of loved ones often experience much anxiety and stress in attempting to make decisions, causing an already difficult time even more difficult.

Putting your affairs in order may not be a priority, but it should be. Having a Legacy Binder, containing these documents stored in one place and within easy reach of your spouse and family members – will help ease the pain.

The first step to receiving assistance and benefits for a veteran’s death is to report it to the appropriate agencies. Social Security can be notified by calling 1-800-772-1213. The Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) can be notified by calling 1-800-538-9552.

**FOR THE VETERAN, WHEN DISCUSSING YOUR FINAL WISHES WITH YOUR LOVED ONES DISCUSS YOUR MILITARY SERVICE AND ANY VA DISABILITY RATING INFORMATION WITH YOUR FAMILY AND IF POSSIBLE, LOCATE COPIES OF YOUR MILITARY SEPARATION DOCUMENT(S), SUCH AS YOUR DD214.**

**USE VA-FORM 21-686C TO DOCUMENT YOU AND YOUR SPOUSE’S MARITAL HISTORIES.**

**THIS INFORMATION MAY BE NEEDED IF YOUR SPOUSE APPLIES FOR VA BENEFITS AFTER YOUR PASSING. CLICK ON DOWNLOAD ICON TO DOWNLOAD FORM. VISIT: [HTTPS://WWW.VA.GOV/VIEW-CHANGE-DEPENDENTS/](https://www.va.gov/view-change-dependents/)**

**DISCUSS YOUR FINAL WISHES REGARDING YOUR REMAINS. IF YOU WISH TO BE BURIED IN A NATIONAL CEMETERY AFTER YOUR PASSING, CONSIDER APPLYING NOW FOR PRE-NEED BURIAL ELIGIBILITY.**

**BE SURE TO COMPLETE AND ANNUALLY REVIEW YOUR LIFE INSURANCE BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION(S), WHICH WILL MAKE IT MUCH EASIER TO FILE A CLAIM AND RECEIVE BENEFITS QUICKLY.**

**FOR THE VETERAN'S FAMILY, AS THE VETERAN IS APPROACHING END OF LIFE**

**SPEAK TO THE VETERAN'S DOCTOR ABOUT HOW TO OBTAIN COPIES OF MEDICAL RECORDS BEFORE AND AFTER THE VETERAN'S PASSING, IN CASE THEY MAY BE NEEDED IN THE FUTURE.**

**USE VA-FORM 21-686C TO DOCUMENT YOU AND YOUR SPOUSE'S MARITAL HISTORIES. THIS INFORMATION MAY BE NEEDED IF YOUR SPOUSE APPLIES FOR VA BENEFITS AFTER YOUR PASSING.**

**DISCUSS YOUR FINAL WISHES REGARDING YOUR REMAINS. IF YOU WISH TO BE BURIED IN A NATIONAL CEMETERY AFTER YOUR PASSING, CONSIDER APPLYING NOW FOR PRE-NEED BURIAL ELIGIBILITY.**

**BE SURE TO COMPLETE AND ANNUALLY REVIEW YOUR LIFE INSURANCE BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION(S), WHICH WILL MAKE IT MUCH EASIER TO FILE A CLAIM AND RECEIVE BENEFITS QUICKLY.**

## **END-OF-LIFE DOCUMENTS FOR VETERANS AND FAMILIES**

### **MY RECORD OF PERSONAL AFFAIRS**

**This form on the website lets you record personal information such as date and place of birth, information about your parents, names of your children, including Date of Birth, and Social Security Numbers. When completing this form, you may want to include other information not shown on this form, when this is the case, download the Notes form shown on this page to record your thoughts and attach it to this document.**

## **YOUR WILL**

**This form on the website lets you record information regarding your Will. The process begins by asking you if you have a Will or not. This information is followed by Power of Attorney information such as the name of POA, location of the POA, including City, State, Zip Code, marital history. In addition, you may want to include personal information such as the name of your spouse, marriage location, date of marriage for all your marriages. When completing this form may you think may want to include other information shown on this form, when this is the case, download the Notes form shown on this page to record your thoughts and attach it to this document.**

## **MILITARY DOCUMENTS**

**This form available for free on their website lets you record important information about your military service. Such as the location of your DD214 (separation papers), active and retired military status, funeral and burial arrangements including location, name, address, and phone number of your funeral director, church, clergy, or desired officiant, as well as wishes for interment in a VA National Cemetery, pallbearers, special instructions, and obituary biography. When completing this form you may want to include other information shown on this form, when this is the case, download the Notes form shown on this page to record your thoughts and attach it to this document.**

## **WISHES FOR BURIAL AND FUNERAL SERVICE**

**This form lets you record important burial and funeral service arrangements. Information may include the name of resting place and phone number, hymns, music, scriptures, poetry, any special requests, flowers, memorials in lieu of flowers, memorial, and remembrances. Additional information may include prepaid burials, plot confirmations, pallbearers, special instructions, and obituary biography. When completing this form you may want to include other information shown on this form, when this is the case, download the notes shown on this page to record your thoughts and attach them to this document.**

### **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**This form lets you record additional information such as Advanced Directives, Do Not Resuscitate orders, Living Will/Health Directives, Checklist of Important Documents, and copies of documents that may be needed by the spouse or dependent children such as Death Certificates, Spouse's Birth Certificate, Minor or Adult Birth Certificates. When completing this form you may want to include other information shown on this form, when this is the case, download the notes form shown on this page to record additional information and attach it to this document.**

### **DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY**

**An Advance Directive is a legal form that helps your doctors and loved ones understand your wishes about medical and mental health care and make decisions about your care if you are not able to make decisions for yourself. An Advance Directive is the best way to ensure that your future medical care reflects your wishes. The VA Advance Directive includes sections that allow you to identify the person who would make decisions for you (also called a Health Care Agent) and to specify your treatment preferences. When completing this form, you may want to include other information shown on this form, when this is the case, download the notes form shown on this page to record additional information and attach it to this document.**

### **ADDITIONAL NOTES**

**When completing this document, you may want to include other information not asked for on this form. When this is the case, record your notes, print, and download additional notes and attach them to the appropriate document. For example, if you are completing Military Documents, and need more information to complete the document, use this form attached or file behind the associated document. Make sure you reference the associated document as shown.**

**This is in response to a question that was asked at the June Veterans Council meeting.**



Emotional Support Animals are not permitted. Service Animals are permitted. However, both the Service Animal and Veteran must be fully compliant with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Service Animal Requirements. Veterans requesting to travel on an Honor Flight with a Service Ani-

mal should note that request on their Honor Flight application.

Thanks,

Don Simmons, Pres. FCHF

Capt. USN ret



**SAVE THE DATE**

**FRIDAY  
15 SEPT 2023  
One o'clock**

**St. Johns Golf Club  
4900 Cypress Links Blvd  
Elkton, FL 32033**



**Who Will Dethrone  
Three-Time Champion  
Tony Johnson**



CNN —

North Carolina's Fort Bragg is now Fort Liberty, as the US Army on Friday redesignated one of the largest military installations in the world.



The renaming was formalized in a ceremony on Friday morning.

The change follows a branch-wide push to rename bases that bear the name of Confederate leaders. It is currently named after Gen. Braxton Bragg, an unpopular Confederate general who garnered a lot of criticism for his hot temper, combative personality and often subpar performance on the field.

Fort Bragg was among nine bases that a congressional commission proposed renaming, but while the others have been — or are expected to be — redesignated after notable people, Fort Liberty will be the only facility named after a value.

“Liberty is about changing the narrative a bit about who we are, but it is not about forgetting who we are or what we’ve done,” said Fort Bragg Garrison Commander Col. John Wilcox in a statement to CNN. “It is about dedicating time and effort to honor those who have made sacrifices along the way.

“Liberty lives here. It is part of our ethos and it’s part of who we are,” he added.

The Army acknowledged concerns from those who argue the history of the base should be preserved, but said on its website that “no act can take away from the heritage this installation’s service members created while stationed here or anywhere else, serving our nation.”

“We understand the original name’s prestige in the eyes of some of the Soldiers, Families, and our nation, was built upon the bravery and dedication of those who served here, not because of an obscure, incompetent, ill-tempered confederate general’s legacy,” the website continued.

“Nevertheless, our nation’s representatives felt a need to move on from that name and put the redesignation into law, and we are abiding by that law.”

As part of the redesignation, several streets on the base will also be re-named after service members with “a unique connection” to the military post. These changes are expected to be completed before December 31.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin, the first Black person to hold the position, approved the congressional commission’s naming recommendations last year.

Last month, Fort Hood in Texas, another major military installation, was redesignated Fort Cavazos, in honor of Gen. Richard Edward Cavazos, a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam wars who became the first Hispanic person to wear four stars on his uniform.

*CNN’s Ray Sanchez, Oren Liebermann, Devan Cole, Barbara Starr and Ellie Kaufman contributed to this report.*



# MARINE FOR LIFE NETWORK

## MARINE FOR LIFE NETWORK

Connecting transitioning Marines and their family members to education resources, employment opportunities, and other Veterans services that aid in their career and life goals outside of military service.

### ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A **MARINE!**

### Marine for Life Network can guide your search for:



Career & Technical Opportunities



Educational Opportunities



Entrepreneurial Endeavors

### NETWORKING IS KEY

#### Linked in



Our online network utilizes LinkedIn to help Marines network with one another and connect with employers who want to hire Marines.

#### Face to Face Network



We focus on connecting Marine Veterans to local and national resources, as well as encouraging networking through Marine For Life events and meet ups.

[company/marine-for-life-network](https://www.linkedin.com/company/marine-for-life-network)

[marineforlife.org](http://marineforlife.org)

866-645-8762

[/MarineForLifeNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/MarineForLifeNetwork)



## **Florida offers a treasury of World War II museums and sites, both to serious researchers and the casual history buff.**

By Jon Wilson

**World War II museums, monuments and archives are available around the state. From deep-research repositories to simple roadside markers, floating museums to fighting aircraft, Florida sites provide a picture of a war that claimed an estimated 45 to 60 million lives.**

Reflected are stories of an entire world at war, but also of the Sunshine State's role and its heroes.

Several sites are widely known. The **Camp Gordon Johnston Museum in Carrabelle** comes to mind; it is said to be the only Florida museum entirely devoted to World War II.

Well-known as well are the museum and park at **Camp Blanding near Starke, the Jacksonville Naval Air Station's memorial aircraft park and the Pensacola Naval Air Station Museum** with its restored airplanes, movies and a flight simulator. (Note: Admission to the museum is currently limited to Department of Defense ID cardholders and their guests, and veterans with a Veterans Health Identification Card.)

But dozens of lesser-known World War II Museum exhibits, galleries, libraries and memorials are found throughout the state. A good place to find both the high-profile exhibits and the lesser-known spots is the Department of State's Florida's World War II Heritage Trail.

### **Here's a list of a few of the less obvious opportunities for absorbing World War II history:**

**In Tampa**, the SS American Victory is docked at 708 Channelside Drive. This floating museum is one of 414 Victory ships built to carry cargo. Tours show off much of the original equipment aboard.

**In Fort Pierce**, the UDT-SEAL Museum is on the site where World War II Navy frogmen trained. It shows off many of the period's artifacts.

**In Arcadia**, Oak Ridge Cemetery contains the remains of 23 British RAF pilots who died in Florida during training. A ceremony for them is held each Memorial Day. Another memorial honoring British cadets is in Clewiston's Civic Center Park.

**In Stuart**, The House of Refuge at Gilbert's Bar features a museum with permanent exhibits, photographs and a map identifying American ships sunk by Nazi U-boats. During the war, the site was a naval and Coast Guard base to repel hostile submarines and aircraft.

**In Avon Park**, a museum in the old Seaboard railway station has World War II scrapbooks, uniforms, photos and artifacts.

**In Orlando**, a Battle of the Bulge Memorial, downtown at Lake Eola Park, honors participants in the battle, which cost more American lives than any other operation in the war. This unusual memorial has a statue of a victorious soldier on a base with the insignias of the 41 infantry and armored units that took part in the fight. Bulge veterans are recognized with named bricks in a Circle of Honor.

**In Altoona**, the McTureous Homestead and Museum honors Medal of Honor winner Robert M. McTureous Jr., who was mortally wounded on Okinawa. A genuine Florida hero, McTureous was originally classified 4F but financed two operations to correct a physical problem before he was allowed to join the Marines.

**In DeLand**, the Naval Air Station Museum features aircraft models and parts, practice bombs, ammunition, historical newspapers, books, photos and a video.

**In Monticello**, the Ernest “Boots” Thomas memorial honors Thomas, who led the patrol that raised the first (and famously depicted) American flag on Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima.

**In Tallahassee**, the Institute on World War II and the Human Experience is a researchers’ dream that offers personal diaries, newspapers, photos and other memorabilia relating to the everyday experiences of WWII participants. The Florida State archives also has WWII resources.

**In Miami**, the HistoryMiami (formerly the Historical Museum of Southern Florida) contains a huge collection of photos, posters and period maps relating to South Florida’s role in the war.

**In Miami Beach**, the Jewish Museum of Florida has a permanent exhibit entitled “Florida Jews in the Military,” with WWII references.

**In Fort Lauderdale**, the Naval Air Station was the training site for future President George Herbert Walker Bush, and is best known for being home base for the “Lost Patrol,” five TBM Avengers that, with their pilots, were mysteriously lost on a training run in 1945.



# CHILD & ADOLESCENT SERVICES

at the Steven A. Cohen  
Military Family Clinic at Centerstone



## HOW WE CAN HELP

- ★ **CHILD PARENT PSYCHOTHERAPY (CPP)**  
For small children that have been through difficult events.
- ★ **PARENT CHILD INTERACTION THERAPY (PCIT)**  
For young children experiencing behavioral and/or emotional difficulties.
- ★ **TRAUMA FOCUSED COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY (TF-CBT)**  
For children and adolescents who have experienced trauma.
- ★ **CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES**  
Supporting young minds to reach their full potential.
- ★ **NURTURING PARENTING**  
Helps parents improve relationships with children and gain healthy parenting skills.
- ★ **COMMUNITY ROOM EVENTS**  
Regularly scheduled events available to the entire military community.

For a list of upcoming Cohen Clinic at Centerstone groups, workshops & events, please visit:

[coheninthecommunity.com](http://coheninthecommunity.com)

## HOW TO GET CONNECTED

The Steven A. Cohen  
Military Family Clinic  
at Centerstone



**VISIT**

7011 A. C. Skinner Parkway  
Jacksonville, FL 32256



**CALL**

904-431-3500



**LEARN MORE**

[cohenFL@centerstone.org](mailto:cohenFL@centerstone.org)  
[centerstone.org/cohen](http://centerstone.org/cohen)

Contact us to learn more about our care available in-person or via CVN Telehealth



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# Gator Hunts for Heroes



Seeking donors, sponsors, and military or first responder families who have never experienced alligator hunting.

Email [Founder@10CANoutdoors.com](mailto:Founder@10CANoutdoors.com) for more information or visit [www.10CAN.us](http://www.10CAN.us) to become a member today.

Phone: 352-219-1138



# NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS VETERAN HOMEOWNERS SAINT JOHNS COUNTY

## FREE HOME REHAB

We believe everyone deserves to live in a healthy home. At Operation Lifeline Inc., we feel particularly indebted to those who served in the Armed Forces and have committed to helping as many struggling veterans as possible. Our program provides home rehabilitation services at no charge to eligible veterans to address accessibility and HUD's Eight Healthy Homes Principles.

## QUALIFICATIONS

### Participant Eligibility:

- Verifiable veteran status
- Gross income below 80% of the area's median income
- Occupy the property as a principal residence and have proof of ownership
- Be in compliance with any existing mortgage on the property
- Be current with utility accounts and property taxes

### Property Eligibility:

- Must be a single-family residence
- Must be the applicant's homestead
- Applicant must own the property by fee simple title
- Must be free of any encumbrances other than a first mortgage
- Located within the unincorporated portion of Saint Johns County or the City of Saint Augustine Beach

\* Please review full eligibility criteria on our website \*

## CONTACT US TODAY

*Funding is Limited and Restricted  
to Saint Johns County Homes*

Please visit our website to fill  
out an application

[WWW.OPLIFELINE.ORG](http://WWW.OPLIFELINE.ORG)



**OPERATION  
LIFELINE INC.**

\* Calling all rental property owners/managers \*

# SPRING IS HERE, HELP VETS SPRING INTO NEW HOMES

Many Veterans would love a place to call home this season

Our community is working to house Veterans experiencing homelessness in partnership with the US Veterans Administration. Pledge your rental unit to the effort!

We have Veterans connected to rental and move-in assistance, plus supportive services. All they need is a home!

Security deposit assistance and landlord incentives available.



Have a rental?

Email: [Charmin.Alston@va.gov](mailto:Charmin.Alston@va.gov)

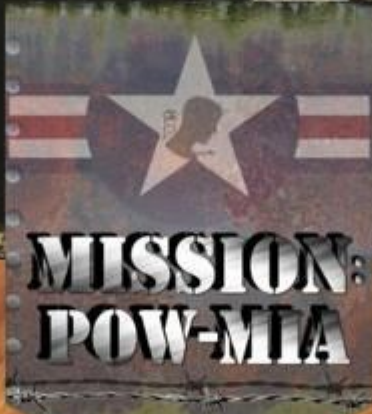
Phone: 904-534-1009

## Navajo Code Talkers

This Navajo Code Talkers monument is located in Window Rock, Ariz. The monument pays tribute to the Navajo Code Talkers, a small band of warriors who created an unbreakable code from their Native language and changed the course of modern history.



*"BRING THEM ALL HOME"*



**Remember Everyone Deployed**

*Created by JJ Hoffman*



# RESERVE COMPONENT TRANSITION ASSISTANCE ADVISORS



Are you a member of a Reserve Component? Have you served 180 or more consecutive days on Title 10? Do you have a service-related injury or health care issue? Perhaps you're about to retire from service and need someone to show you how to get back into the swing of civilian life. Getting to know your Reserve Component Transition Assistance Advisor (RCTAA) means you'll have reliable, professional support when you need it.

I am here to help with the following benefits:

- State and Local Benefits
- VA Assistance for Physical and Mental Health
- Disabled Veterans Program Assistance
- Education and Training Assistance
- Employment Assistance
- Health and Life Insurance
- Financial Assistance
- Legal Assistance
- Relocation Assistance
- Effects of a Career Change

Since 2005, RCTAAs have assisted Reserve Component service members with 180 days or more T-10 AD service obtain their federal benefits and entitlements. You could save an average of:

- Employment Counseling (\$75/hour)
- Health Insurance (\$1430/Service Member)
- Legal Assistance (\$255/hour)
- VHA DAV Benefit Received (\$15,034/Service Member)
- VA Benefit Received (\$5786/Service Member)
- Education Benefits Received (\$15,285/Service Member)

Average benefit per eligible Reserve Component service member across all benefits areas=\$11,970.

If you or someone you know needs assistance with federal benefits and entitlements, don't hesitate to contact me. You can either scan this QR code and fill out the attached form or contact me directly using the information below.



***Thank you for serving, now let me serve you.***

According to the National Defense Authorization Act 2013, [Reserve Component] transition assistance advisors "serve as points of contact to assist eligible members of the reserve components in accessing benefits and health care furnished under laws administered by the Secretary of Defense and benefits and health care furnished under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs" (Sec. 513).

**David "Dave" Kennett**

Reserve Component  
Transition Assistance Advisor

Federal Contractor

202-987-3864

DKennett@gapsi.com

**DIRECTION | BENEFITS | COMPASSION**



# RESERVE COMPONENT SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS

## Do you need direction to your benefits?

RCTAAs provide **DIRECTION** through the maze of programs available to the Reserve Component and connection to earned **BENEFITS** with the **COMPASSION** of someone who knows what it's like to transition.



*Ask your Reserve Component Transition Assistance Advisor (RCTAA) to show you the way!*



### BENEFITS:

- » State and Local Benefits
- » VA Assistance for Physical and Mental Health
- » Disabled Veterans Program Assistance
- » Education and Training Assistance
- » Employment Assistance
- » Health and Life Insurance
- » Financial Assistance
- » Legal Assistance
- » Relocation Assistance
- » Effects of a Career Change



*This picture might be worth \$1000 or more in federal benefits and entitlements! Enter your contact information to receive a call from a RCTAA.*



*Locate your closest RCTAA here!*



By law, Transition Assistance Advisors "serve as points of contact to assist eligible members of the Reserve Components in accessing benefits and health care furnished under laws administered by the Secretary of Defense and benefits and health care furnished in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs" (NDAA, 2013, Sec. 513).

# From American Legion 5th District FL

## **IMPORTANT VETERAN INFORMATION**

Every spouse of a veteran should have in his/her personal file the following:

Veteran's Birth Certificate - 3 copies  
Spouse's Birth Certificate - 3 copies  
Children's Birth Certificate - 3 copies  
Certificate of Marriage - 3 copies  
Wills (for veteran & spouse) - 2 copies  
Spouse's Social Security number  
Veteran's Social Security number  
Discharge papers - 2 copies  
Separation records - 2 copies  
V.A. "C" number  
G.I. Insurance Policy Number  
All Insurance Policies with addresses and numbers. (Originals needed)  
Cemetery plot or vault locations and numbers  
Death Certificates and divorce decree of all prior marriages (if applicable)

Copies of the following are needed to file a Claim for Death Benefit:

Certificate of Marriage  
Birth Certificate of minor children  
Death Certificates or divorce decrees of all prior marriages on either side  
Service discharge papers  
Service separation papers  
V.A. "C" number  
Social Security number of both parties  
V.A. insurance papers  
Proof of Death Certificate (minimum 4 copies)  
Bills from Funeral Home

ALL originals should be kept in a safety deposit box or equivalent.

NEVER release an ORIGINAL copy.

APPOINT an administrator for minor children.

FURTHER ASSISTANCE: contact your County Veterans' Service Officer



8th Annual



# Rocketman Run

Benefiting

## Service Dogs for Patriots



September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Cost**  
\$20 Per Rider  
\$5 Passenger  
\$5 Extra Roll

**Registration 9:00-11:00 AM**  
**Last Bike Out 11:00 AM**  
**Last Bike In 4:00 PM**  
**Drawings Begin At 5:00 PM**  
**Sanctioned Event**

**Food**  
**Music**  
**Auctions**  
**Raffles**

Start: American Legion Post 250 - Middleburg  
1<sup>st</sup> Stop: VFW Post 1988 - Green Cove Springs  
2<sup>nd</sup> Stop: Orioles Nest - North St. Augustine

3<sup>rd</sup> Stop: Cheyenne Saloon - East Palatka  
4<sup>th</sup> Stop: Howlin Wolf - Melrose  
Final Stop: American Legion Post 250 - Middleburg

★ ACTIVE DUTY ★ VETERANS ★ NATIONAL GUARD & RESERVE ★

# MILITARY SUPPORT RETREATS

RETREATS FOR COMBAT VETERANS AND THEIR PRIMARY SUPPORT PERSON



**Marineland**  
Florida



**MAY 4-7**



**Helen**  
Georgia



**JUNE 1-4**



**Amelia Island**  
Florida



**JULY 6-9**



**Helen**  
Georgia



**AUG. 17-20**

**From Thursday at 5:00pm – Sunday at 2:00pm**



★ **RESTORATION** ★ **RECREATION** ★ **RELAXATION** ★

*Strengthen and restore connections, enjoy the natural beauty of each location, be inspired by fun outdoor activities, learn about available support resources, and relax while exploring the stress coping concepts of Post Traumatic Growth.*

★ Small, friendly group setting ★

★ All accommodations, food, and activities are provided free of charge ★

★ Facilitated by Vets, Licensed Clinicians, and Community Nonprofit Support Organizations ★

*Please note: Must be 18 to attend and no childcare is provided. Participants are responsible for travel.*

**TO LEARN MORE AND TO APPLY VISIT: [GRATITUDEAMERICA.ORG/RETREATS](http://GRATITUDEAMERICA.ORG/RETREATS)**



CHRISTOPHER DUKE  
770-298-7654  
[DUKE@GRATITUDEAMERICA.ORG](mailto:DUKE@GRATITUDEAMERICA.ORG)



# KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



## **CALLING ALL KOREAN WAR AND KOREAN DEFENSE VETERANS**

We invite you to join the KWVA Brotherhood. There are KWVA Chapters throughout America. Go to our KWVA Facebook Page, our KWVA Website at [kwva.us](http://kwva.us) or call the KWVA National Office to join the KWVA at **217-345-4414**

# Blue Angels Show Schedule 2023

## Jacksonville in October

*Blue Angels*

### ► 2023 | SHOW SCHEDULE

#### **MARCH**

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11 | NAF El Centro, CA | NAF El Centro Annual Air Show  
18 · 19 | NAS Point Mugu, CA | Point Mugu Air Show  
25 · 26 | Barksdale AFB, LA | Defenders of Liberty Air Show

#### **APRIL**

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1 · 2 | Lakeland, FL | Sun 'n Fun Aerospace Expo  
15 · 16 | NAS Key West, FL | Southernmost Air Spectacular  
22 · 23 | MCAS Beaufort, SC | MCAS Beaufort Air Show  
29 · 30 | Fort Lauderdale, FL | Fort Lauderdale Air Show

#### **MAY**

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6 · 7 | Corpus Christi, TX | Wings Over South Texas Air Show  
13 · 14 | Scott AFB, IL | Scott AFB Air Show  
20 · 21 | Seymour Johnson AFB, NC | Wings Over Wayne Air Show  
24 | USNA, Annapolis, MD | U.S. Naval Academy Air Show  
26 | USNA, Annapolis, MD | U.S. Naval Academy Fly Over  
27 · 28 | Long Pond, PA | The Great Pocono Raceway Air Show

#### **JUNE**

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10 · 11 | Smyrna, TN | The Great Tennessee Air Show  
17 · 18 | Columbus, OH | Columbus Air Show

#### **JULY**

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1 · 2 | Oklahoma City, OK | Tinker AFB Star Spangled Salute  
8 | Pensacola Beach, FL | Pensacola Beach Air Show  
15 · 16 | Duluth, MN | Duluth Air and Aviation Expo  
22 · 23 | Milwaukee, WI | Milwaukee Air and Water Show

#### **AUGUST**

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5 · 6 | Seattle, WA | Boeing SeaFair Air Show  
12 · 13 | Billings, MT | Yellowstone International Air Show  
19 · 20 | New Century, KS | KC Air Show  
26 · 27 | Lincoln, NE | Guardians of Freedom Air Show

#### **SEPTEMBER**

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2 · 4 | Toronto, ON, Canada | Canadian International Air Show  
16 · 17 | NAS Oceana, VA | NAS Oceana Air Show  
23 · 24 | MCAS Miramar, CA | MCAS Miramar Air Show  
30 | McMinnville, OR | Oregon International Air Show

#### **OCTOBER**

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1 | McMinnville, OR | Oregon International Air Show  
7 · 8 | San Francisco, CA | San Francisco Fleet Week  
14 · 15 | Grand Junction, CO | Grand Junction Air Show  
21 · 22 | Jacksonville Beach, FL | Sea and Sky Air Show  
28 · 29 | Greenfield, IN | Crossroads Air Show

#### **NOVEMBER**

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3 · 4 | NAS Pensacola, FL | NAS Pensacola Homecoming Air Show

# The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs

Our App got an upgrade! The free App is a quick and easy way to access benefit information, look for available jobs, and connect to the latest news regarding Veterans' issues. Get it now!

<https://app.floridavets.org/>

#FDVA #FLVets

**GET OUR FREE  
UPGRADED  
APP.**

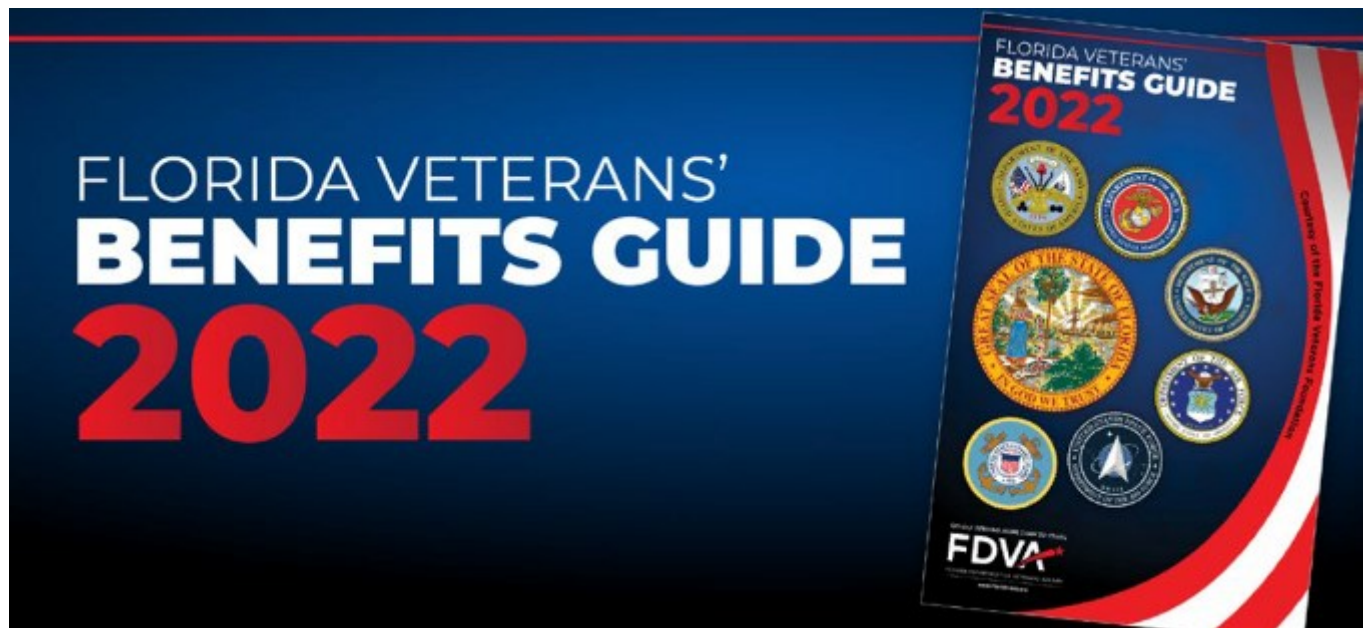
It won't take  
up space on  
your phone.





## The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs

Have you checked out the new 2022 Florida Veterans' Benefits Guide? It is now available for download. The annual guide helps connect Florida's Veterans and their families with earned federal and state benefits, services and support. It also contains helpful phone numbers and website addresses for additional information. To view online, click here: <https://bit.ly/3BovveB>. To download a copy for your records, click here: <https://bit.ly/3HYgTF0>.





# VA SURVIVOR BENEFITS & THE PACT ACT

ESGR4U

You may be eligible for VA benefits and services after your loved one has passed.



## The PACT Act makes it easier for many survivors to receive Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC).

VA will be contacting survivors who were previously denied DIC benefits and may be newly eligible under the PACT Act. You do not need to wait for VA to contact you to submit a claim.

### How to Apply for DIC and/or Accrued Benefits

Surviving family members may apply for these benefits using the appropriate VA form on [va.gov/family-member-benefits](https://va.gov/family-member-benefits).



#### Dependency and Indemnity Compensation

Monthly payment for the eligible surviving spouse, dependent children or parent(s) of the Veteran or service member IF Veteran or service member died in the line of duty or due to a service-related injury or illness.



#### Accrued Benefits

A one-time payment to a surviving spouse, dependent child(ren) or dependent parent(s) of a deceased Veteran based on relationship when the record shows additional benefits (such as VA compensation or pension) due to the Veteran prior to passing.

### Additional Survivor Benefits Available:



#### Burials and Burial Allowance

Burial benefits available include a gravesite in any of our National cemeteries with available space, opening and closing of the grave, perpetual care, a government headstone, marker, or medallion, a burial flag, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate, at no cost. Some survivors may also be eligible for a plot allowance, transportation allowance, and burial allowances based on the service connected disability status of the deceased Veteran.



#### Education and Training

Chapter 35 benefits and Fry Scholarship are the two main GI Bill programs offering educational assistance to survivors and dependents of Veterans who died in the line of duty or as a result of service-related disabilities.



#### Final Monthly Payment

If a Veteran who is receiving VA compensation or pension benefits passes away, their last month of benefits can be paid to their surviving spouse.



#### Home Loan Guaranty

Certificate of Eligibility is available for surviving spouses receiving DIC.



#### Health Care

Survivors and dependents of Veterans may qualify for health care benefits, such as CHAMPVA.

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Learn more and sign up at [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT)  
Download the [VA Health and Benefits App](#)  
Call us at 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)  
Find a VA at [VA.gov/find-locations/](https://va.gov/find-locations/)



**LIVE ASSISTANCE**  
General information, directory assistance and technical support for VA.gov

**VA HEALTH CARE**  
Eligibility, enrollment, locations and COVID-19

**COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE**  
MISSION Act eligibility, copayments

**NATIONAL CEMETERIES**  
Burial benefits, interment scheduling and headstone/Veteran marker

**VETERANS CRISIS LINE**  
Immediate connection to caring, qualified responders

**DEBT MANAGEMENT**  
Debt details, payment options and debtor rights

**FACILITY LOCATOR**  
Locations of medical centers, benefits offices or cemeteries

**BENEFITS ASSISTANCE**  
Information about a variety of VA benefits

**HOMELESS VETERANS LINE**  
Information and support for homeless and at-risk callers

**COVID-19 INFORMATION**  
Frequently asked questions and live assistance for COVID-related questions

## FLORIDA SURVIVOR OUTREACH SERVICES AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY



## Are You eligible to file for benefits based on Presumptive Exposure?

Were you exposed to hazardous materials while serving in the military, such as from Agent Orange or burn pits? Did you serve in Vietnam, Thailand or Southwest Asia? If so, you may be eligible to file for service-connected benefits based on presumptive exposure.

Over the course of the last six months, VA has begun processing service-connected disability claims for six new presumptive conditions related to exposure to hazardous materials.

In May 2021, VA started implementing provisions of the William M. Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (NDAA), adding bladder cancer, hypothyroidism and Parkinsonism to the list of medical conditions presumptively associated with exposure to Agent Orange. A few months later, VA added asthma, rhinitis and sinusitis (to include rhinosinusitis) on a presumptive basis based on particulate matter exposures during military service in Southwest Asia and certain other areas.

Any Veteran who was previously denied service-connection for any of these six conditions but had symptoms manifest within 10 years of military service would need to file another claim. Be sure to use VA Form 20-0995, "Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim" when filing. The claim form should include the name of the medical condition and also specify that the medical condition is being claimed due to in-service exposure to environmental hazards.

VA is committed to assisting Veterans who may have been exposed to hazardous materials during their military service.

Be sure to stay plugged in to [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) for the most recent developments around environmental hazards; VA is constantly conducting research and surveillance, as well as reviewing scientific literature for conditions that may be related to exposure during military service.

If you feel you have a chronic condition attributed to an in-service exposure, we highly encourage you to file a claim. For more information about VA benefits and eligibility, or how to file a claim, Veterans and survivors can visit VA's website at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) or call toll-free at 1-800-827-1000.



The **Fire Watch** is Northeast Florida's fight to end veteran suicide. Over 6,000 U.S. military veterans die by suicide each year, including 500 annually here in Florida. But suicide is preventable. And everyone can help. **Join us as a Watch Stander today.** Learn how to identify the risk signs of veterans in crisis and to direct them to the help they need.

3 minutes to enroll. 30 minutes to train. A lifetime of saving lives.

Visit: [www.thefirewatch.org/watch-standers](http://www.thefirewatch.org/watch-standers) to learn more.

Thanks!

Nick Howland

Executive Director, The Fire Watch

[www.thefirewatch.org](http://www.thefirewatch.org)

904.525.1761



**From Veterans Council Chairman Bill Dudley**

**Subject: VA Transportation Assistance**

**I received the email below from Dr. McKenzie. If any of our veterans require transportation assistance to any VA medical centers, have them call our CBOC at 904- 829-0814 and ask for the primary social worker for help with transportation.**

**We recently found that we are able to assist with patients who have significant issues with transportation to VA medical centers. Our primary care social worker can assist with this problem. Patient can call here and ask that she be notified of problem. She will be able to contact them and attempt to provide assistance.**

**From Michael Isam**

**The DAV van is now operating 5 days /week!**

**It will now transport a full capacity of riders.**

**Schedule your seat on the DAV Chapter 6 van.**

**It departs from the large parking lot of the clinic at 0600!!!**

**Contact the VA Clinic at 904-823-2954**





## Legal Aid for Veterans

The Florida Veterans Legal Helpline is a project of the Major General Ernest A. and Marilyn Bedke Veterans Law Center at Bay Area Legal Services, Inc. The helpline is a free service for eligible Florida veterans and their family members.

When you call, you will speak to a screener who will determine your eligibility and set your appointment with an attorney.

**1.866.486.6161**

**Call Today!**

**Hours: Monday – Friday  
9 AM to 4:30 PM**



## We Can Help With

- Landlord-Tenant Matters
- Consumer Credit Issues
- Foreclosure
- Divorce + Child Support
- Drivers Licenses/ID cards
- Social Security + Public Benefits
- Discharge Upgrades
- VA Benefits
- And Other Civil Legal Matters  
(No Criminal or Traffic Matters)

Supported by the: **FDVA**  
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL SERVICES  
FLORIDA BAR ASSOCIATION

**Become a Watch Stander with The Fire Watch**

## Vietnam Veterans of America



If you are a Vietnam Era Veteran and live in one of these counties, please contact the President for information as to how to join

### Chapter/President/email/Location

1046	Albert White	
1048	Bob Adkins	adk123robert@outlook.com
1059	Ansil Lewis	ansil.lewis@yahoo.com
1084	Ron Howard	ronehoward@gmail.com
1088	Roy (Corky) Rudd	corkstopper50@yahoo.com; Nassau
1092	Forest Hope	foresthope@usa.net; Gainesville
1134	Marvin Lagle	mdlagle@gmail.com; Baker



### REMEMBER WHAT OUR MEDAL STANDS FOR:

- RED:** REPRESENTS THE THREE ANCIENT VIETNAMESE EMPIRES OF TONKIN, ANNAM AND COCHIN.
- YELLOW:** THE IMPERIAL COLOR OF VIET NAM.
- GREEN:** SURROUNDED BY EXPANSIVE JUNGLE.
- TED PIECKO, The NAM.

### Veterans Council of Clay County:

President: Ansil Lewis

Meeting day is the same, first Wednesday of the month, but the location is changed to Clay County Administration Building, 1st floor conference room, 477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. Meeting start at 11 a.m.





**PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO MEET VETERANS' UNIQUE NEEDS**

**Advance Care Planning**

Community Hospice & Palliative Care offers Honoring Choices® Florida, a program to help you document your health care wishes in advance, so that, in the event you become ill and cannot speak for yourself, your wishes are known and can be followed.

**Palliative Care**

Our palliative care services can help people with serious illnesses get relief from physical, emotional, and spiritual pain, symptoms, and stress while seeking curative treatment.

**Hospice Care**

We also provide support during the final phase of advanced illness, with a focus on comfort and quality of life.

- ★ **Team Approach:** Trained clinicians identify and address the psychological, physical, spiritual and emotional needs of veterans and their caregivers.
- ★ **Pinning Ceremony:** We provide a veteran-to-veteran pinning ceremony to honor the service of our nation's bravest.
- ★ **Service Branch Flags:** For veterans who receive care at our inpatient centers, we fly the flag of their service branch outside their room and entrust the flag to the family following death.
- ★ **Veterans History Project:** Members of our Community Hospice Veterans Partnership (CHVP) record veterans' stories and share them online and with the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.
- ★ **Community Hospice Veterans Partnership:** A select group of veteran leaders serving as brand ambassadors throughout Northeast and North Central Florida bringing awareness to, and providing access for, veterans and their caregivers facing advanced illness and end-of-life care.

**Complementary Therapies**

In addition to routine home care, respite care, continuous care and inpatient hospice, we also provide the following services to patients and their families:

- ★ **Grief and Loss Support**
- ★ **Certified Music Therapy**
- ★ **Certified Pet Therapy**
- ★ **Pet Promises**

**We Need Volunteers**

Whether you offer companionship and a listening ear or assist at fundraising events, there's a volunteer role for everyone. Opportunities include pinning ceremonies, Veterans History Project recordings, CHVP membership and other special programs.

**WE HONOR VETERANS**  
*Partner*

**Community Hospice & Palliative Care** participates in We Honor Veterans, a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization program that honors veterans for their service and sacrifices.

For more information or to volunteer, call toll free **866.253.6681** or visit **CommunityHospice.com**.



Along with traditional reimbursement for hospice services, we offer payment options to veterans with TRICARE. As with all Community Hospice & Palliative Care patients, we provide care and support to all who need it, regardless of their ability to pay.

VET 007 5/20

## Mission Statement:

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc. is a 501 C3 Not-For-Profit Florida Corporation.



The Veterans Council of St. Johns County is comprised of representatives from various veterans' organizations that work with city and county governments and organizations to assist with matters concerning veterans and veterans' activities.

## What the Council has done:

- The Veterans Treatment Court
  - Wreaths Across America
  - Homeless Veterans Standdown
  - Veterans Day Parade
  - Vets 4 Vets
- And so much more...

SA-0003147064-01

# Veterans Crisis Line

1-800-273-8255 **PRESS 1**

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

**STAND BY THEM**  
Confidential help for Veterans and their families

**NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE**  
1-800-273-TALK (8256)  
[suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

..... Confidential chat at [VeteransCrisisLine.net](http://VeteransCrisisLine.net) or text to 838255 .....

## Military/Veterans Crisis Line

1-800-273-8255

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

Confidential chat at [MilitaryCrisisLine.net](http://MilitaryCrisisLine.net) or text 838255

## Veterans Councils of Northeast Florida



### **BAKER COUNTY**

President: Larry Porterfield

Meetings:

Second Thursday of each month

Location:

MacClenny Primitive Baptist Church  
Fellowship Hall on North Boulevard

Time : 1800 (6pm)

### **CLAY COUNTY**

President: Harry Silvers

Meetings:

First Wednesday of each month

Location:

American Legion Post 250  
3939 County Rd 218  
Middleburg, FL 32068

Time: 1400 (2pm)

### **DUVAL COUNTY**

President

Meetings:

Third Tuesday of each month

Location:

American Legion Post 37  
Main Building  
San Juan Avenue

Time: 1900 (7 pm)

### **NASSAU COUNTY**

President: Mike Doran

Meetings:

First Thursday of each month

Location:

American Legion Post 54  
626 South 3rd St  
Fernandina Beach fit 32034

Time: 1900 (7pm)

### **St. Johns County**

President: Bill Dudley

Meetings:

Last Thursday of each month

Location:

Health & Human Services building  
Muscovy room, 1st floor  
200 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine

Time: 1900 (7pm)

**The Veterans Council of St. Johns County is proud to announce that it has modernized its website and created a Facebook page.**



We are inviting all veterans to visit our website at:

**NEW** <http://www.veteranscouncilsjc.org>

The Veterans Council will post items of interest to all veterans, post pictures, articles, flyers, events, etc. We will post our meetings dates and keep you informed about events at the Jacksonville and St. Augustine National Cemeteries.

Please join our group on Facebook at:

<http://veteranscouncilsjc.org>

Please select **Join the Group** to become a member

Once you have joined the Veterans Council Facebook group you will be able to post your meetings, pictures, articles, fund raisers, etc. It will be your common site to go to and see what's happening.

The website and Facebook page were updated and created so that there would be a central place to list all veterans activities in NE FL.

***You may have noticed the Veterans Council's new logo, it was created by Roy Havekost.***

***He can be contacted at [webmaster@veteranscouncilsjc.org](mailto:webmaster@veteranscouncilsjc.org)***

*Veterans Council of St. Johns County,  
"Helping All Veterans"*

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County welcomes article submissions from all County Veterans & organizations. Articles should be of interest to all and veterans related. Submissions may be edited &/or shortened and used if space permits.

Send to: rothfeldm@gmail.com



**The Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc. is a  
Not For Profit Florida Corporation.**

Our formation date was July 4, 2001 in a proclamation issued by the St. Johns County Commissioners. It is composed of representatives of the various veterans' organizations within St. Johns County.

The Veteran's Council will work with city and county governments and other local organizations to achieve the mutual goal to provide a central agency to assist in the coordination and presentation of matters concerning veterans and veterans activities in St. Johns County.

The Veteran's Council will endeavor to precipitate, stimulate and assist various organizations as they perform patriotic events. One of the major purposes is the promotion and education of national patriotic matters.

**The St. Johns County Veterans Council meets the  
last Thursday of the month at 7 pm.**

***The Veterans Council will meet at the County  
Health & Human Services Building,  
200 San Sebastian View  
Auditorium, 1st floor***

**Veterans Service Office  
200 San Sebastian View, Suite 1400  
St. Augustine, FL 32084**

*(physical location)*

*The VSO Office is located in the St. Johns County Health and  
Human Services Building.*

*The office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily,  
Monday through Friday excluding holidays.*

*Service is by appointment.  
Phone: 904-209-6160 Fax: 904-209-6161  
Joseph McDermott, VSO  
Travis Neidig, Assistant VSO  
Angela McKenzie, Assistant VSO  
Lori Chapman, Assistant VSO  
Anna Marie Scott, Office Specialist*

*The views expressed in The Patriot Reader Newsletter articles, submissions and spotlights are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Veterans Council of St. Johns County or the editors of The Patriot Reader. It is the purpose of this periodical to share a variety of information that pertain to local veterans and their organizations.*