



CHRONICLE

The Newspaper for Veterans and All Who Love Them.

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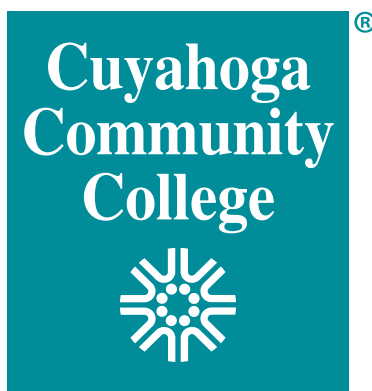


We remember the fallen.

**Cuyahoga Community
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veteran, a member of the
Guard or Reserve or on active
duty, you and your family are
welcomed home at Tri-C.

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Where futures beginSM

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Military Appreciation Month WOULDN'T BE HERE WITHOUT 'EM

May is National Military Appreciation Month, making it a great time to show appreciation to active duty military members and veterans.

There are over two million active duty members of the military and reserves, and according to the U.S. Census Bureau there are over 19 million veterans in the country. There are millions of those who have served our nation, deserving the appreciation this May, and numerous ways to show it.

SOME OF THE RECOGNITION DAYS THIS MONTH INCLUDE:

May 1, 2016 – Loyalty Day (affirming loyalty to the country)

May 6, 2016 – Military Spouse Appreciation Day

May 13, 2016 - Children of Fallen Patriots Day

May 21, 2016 – Armed Forces Day

May 30, 2016 - Memorial Day

HERE ARE A FEW WAYS TO SHOW APPRECIATION TO ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY MEMBERS AND VETERANS THIS MAY:

Support and donate to a charity. There are lots of military and veteran charities that fill important gaps that our government does not and none can accomplish their mission without the financial support of the public.

Support veteran-owned businesses. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, over nine percent of businesses are veteran-owned. Seek out local ones in your community area and share the news with others.

Visit the VA hospital. Stop in and visit the patients. There may be things you can do to brighten their day, such as reading to them, playing board games, or delivering some fresh-baked snacks.

Help a veteran or active duty family. Many active duty military servicemen and women are away from home, and there are families in need of help. Find a family in your neighborhood community, and offer to deliver a home-cooked meal, make small home repairs, mow the lawn, or run errands. It doesn't take much to express your gratitude.

**This Banner of Love and Devotion
is a Living Memorial to Our Veterans.**

The blue field represents the sky that overlooks our land and denotes the watchfulness of God, the Eternal. The red stripes tell us of the blood, sweat and tears that have been offered with devotion for the freedom of the country. The white stripes boldly proclaim the peace promised to future generations. This is our American Flag: One of the most recognized symbols of faith and liberty in the world.

With gratitude and praise to our veterans,
Jim and Mark Busch

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On Memorial Day, We Raise Our Glass and Offer a Toast; Hear, Hear!

I raise my glass and offer a toast. Here's to combat medics. Brave and bold. Young and fearless. They stanch spurting blood, close the eyes of men killed in battle, hold the shaking hands of the wounded, and counsel, "You're going to be all right."

Medics and corpsman are young, unprepared for the horrible wounds they treat, and the terrors of combat.

They race to the screams, "Medic!" or "Corpsman!" They have scant regard for their own safety. They are the first and unheralded defenders of life.

Hear, hear!

I raise my glass and offer a toast.

Here's to the nurses who care for our wounded. They stifle their breaking hearts and force themselves to smile for their charges. They change the dressings, soothe those who cannot sleep without nightmares, and encourage their boys, all the while knowing at war's end they will never see their boys again. Our nurses' sacrifice their youth and come away forever changed.



Hear, hear!

I raise my glass and offer a toast.

Here's to the fathers and mothers, to the friends and families, to the wives and children. Their hearts are filled with desperate hope their young man will come home, join them at the dinner table, clasp hands and ask the food be blessed. Their relief and gratitude are palpable.

Hear, hear!

I raise my glass and make a toast.

Here's to the legion of support troops. Artillerymen who accurately support forces engaged in battle. Armorers who ensure weapons work as they were designed. Helicopter pilots and door gunners whose re-

sponsibilities are two: Fly into battle and dare enemy forces to engage in combat and land in hot LZs to carry away the wounded. Chaplains who offer solace, comfort, and encouragement to young men often frightened and confused by their missions. Company and supply clerks who ensure mail is delivered, accurate records are kept, and supplies are delivered. Mechanics whose orders include keeping all manner of vehicles reliable and ready to work. RTOs who strap on their backs the only line of communication between combat troops and support troops. Those who serve in graves registration units. It is their job to prepare and send home the lifeless bodies of those killed in combat. Cooks and KPs. Armed forces travel on their stomachs. To the many troops unrecognized but vital to the success of Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Coast Guard, National Guard, and Air Force. To the veteran organizations that provide comfort and comradeship to those who return.

Hear, hear!

Mail Call

Editor is an Idiot

I'm disgusted with your opinions. I live in Ohio and I think Ohio's CCW requirements are just fine. One of the best in the country. By your logic, everyone that drives a car should be forced to undergo biannual refresher courses, too. And there are many more morons driving than carrying a gun.

If you got a CCW in Ohio, you passed a strict class and a very strict background check. To get a driver's license, you need to get 60 per cent right. You're an idiot.

Mark Rit (via Facebook/DD214 Chronicle)

Terrorism and Tactics

The terrorist killings in Brussels and previously in San Bernardino, Paris, Boston, London and Madrid highlight a stark reality that millions of Americans are loath to accept, to wit: It is absolutely impossible for a

uniformed military to defeat adversaries wearing civilian clothes and living among civilians. Such was the very successful modus operandi of the Viet Cong in Vietnam, a strategy since copied successfully by al-Qaeda in Iraq and the Taliban in Afghanistan. ISIS operates similarly.

The sole effective way to thwart terrorist plots is via sophisticated intelligence gathering that involves infiltrating cells, espionage and other covert operations.

In one example, a group of alleged Islamist terrorists planned in 2007 to blow up jet fuel pipelines and tanks that provide jet fuel for planes at JFK Airport in New York City. The pipelines run under densely populated areas of New York City.

An undercover law enforcement official recruited by the would-be terrorists foiled the plot, not our military. In a second 2007 example,

a terrorist cell in the U.S. plotted to kill as many soldiers as possible at Ft. Dix, New Jersey, but sophisticated undercover work involving New Jersey state and local police and the FBI thwarted that plan.

Informants neutralize terrorist plots, not bombs that kill innocents and anger survivors, providing fertile ground for recruiting new terrorists.

Our uniformed military, however, totally useless and obsolete in the war against terrorism, does accomplish two things.

First, it provides a false sense of security for millions of fearful, gullible and naive Americans for whom critical thinking is an unfamiliar exercise; second, it fattens profits for such war profiteers as Halliburton, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Boeing, Raytheon, General Dynamics and United Technologies.

Louis H. Pumphrey

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Editorial Statement

DD214 Chronicle is committed to its readers: Veterans of every generation and all who love them. The printed newspaper is delivered across northern Ohio without charge: More than 60 libraries, colleges and universities that welcome veteran students, VFW and American Legion posts, city halls, Veteran Administration offices and health care facilities, organizations in support of veterans, advertisers, political offices, and Veteran Service Commissions. DD214 Chronicle also maintains dd214chronicle.com and DD214 Chronicle/Facebook.

The Chronicle would not exist without its advertisers. Make the effort to patronize them.

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*Our Thoughts for Memorial Day
 We remember you,
 Long after the heat of battle has cooled,
 Long after the smoke clears and the guns are silent.*

*We lift our glasses,
 A Veteran's salute to our comrades.
 Some tripped and fallen by the hands of time,
 Others who breathed one last time in the unbearable heat of battle.*

Cuyahoga Community College and the Veterans Memorial Garden



In 1994-95, Cuyahoga Community College was named a Fiftieth Anniversary Commemorative Community by the United States Department of Defense, honoring veterans from World War II. The Western Campus --- 11000 West Pleasant Valley Road, in Parma --- dedicated a seven-ton granite memorial on June 5, 1994, identifying the campus as the former location of Crile General Hospital. Veterans who served from World War I to Desert Storm were honored at the dedication.

A year later, a commissioned poem was dedicated at the site honoring the end of World War II. "Remembrance and Respect," was written by Leon Bibb, a Vietnam veteran and local reporter

and poet.

In 1998, the local chapter of the American Ex-Prisoners of War dedicated a POW Memorial to all Americans captured in battle.

All of the memorials are part of the Veterans Memorial Garden, which is also the site of annual programs on Veterans Day, Memorial Day and April 9, when area POWs and their families are honored.

In 2003, the Ohio Bicentennial Commission dedicated a marker at 7300 York Road on the campus, commemorating the historic location and contributions of Crile General Hospital.

*(Excerpted from Cleveland in World War II,
 by James Banks and Brian Albrecht.)*



**Welcome,
American Legion,
to the Buckeye State**

The American Legion hosts its national convention in a different city each year and welcomes a large number of attendees. Legionnaires attending the event can take advantage of planned tourism attractions, discounted hotel and travel rates, Legion-sponsored events, and other convention-related offers.

The 98th National Convention which will be held August 26 to September 1, 2016, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Location
Duke Energy Convention Center
525 Elm Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Cincinnati USA Convention & Visitors Bureau: www.cincyusa.com

**DO ARMY TROOPS SPEAK FUNNY?
WHY, YES, THEY DO.**



Humping: Troops moving with gear strapped on

Land of the Big PX: America

Gig line: The straight line of shirt buttons, belt and buckle, and zipper

Ham and Motherfuckers: C rations consisting of ham and Lima beans

Short Timer: Combat troops with just a few days before going home

Willie Peter: White phosphorous, artillery shell used to determine target before firing explosive shells



Ground Pounder: Infantryman

G.I.: Originally meant Government Issue

P-38: Small can opener

Five-Sided Puzzle: The Pentagon

Bird: A helicopter

Dustoff: Helicopter used to carry wounded from battlefield

Klicks: Kilometers

Doc: A medic

FUBAR: Fucked up beyond all recognition

Jody: The guy back home who is seducing your girlfriend

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to all N.E. Ohio Veterans for tickets to our 16th annual American Salute concert on May 27th at Severance Hall. Call the Severance Hall ticket office at 216-231-1111 and mention the promo code:

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Friday, May 27th~8p.m.~Severance Hall

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AMERICAN
SALUTE**



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Carl Topilow**

The Cleveland POPS Chorus

Mutual Gifts Gospel Choir

Vocalist Connor Bogart O'Brien

Violinist Sean Longjoo Lim

JROTC Color Guard

Supportive Services for Veteran Families



Beginning in 2011, FrontLine Service has received funding from the Department of Veterans Affairs. The service operates a program to assist homeless Veterans and Veteran families going from homelessness to permanent housing.

FrontLine's Supportive Services for Veteran families (SSVF) include: outreach, case management, assistance with obtaining Veterans Administration and other public benefits, including temporary financial assistance.

The program also serves Veteran families that are at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

The SSVF program focuses on quickly regain-

ing stability in permanent housing.

Every year since its inception, SSVF has served more than 400 Veteran/Veteran families. There is clearly a need for SSVF services and programs.

SSVF program services are community-based. In addition, United Way's First Call for Help refers homeless Veterans to SSVF.

The philosophy embodied by the SSVF program is assisting Veteran/Veteran families to quickly regain housing stability. Our philosophy clearly supports FrontLine's mission: Reaching out to adults and children in Northeast Ohio and aim to end homelessness.

There are no precondi-

tions, such as sobriety or treatment compliance. This allows SSVF staff to focus on assisting the Veteran.

SSVF staff assists Veterans with linkage to needed services. The challenge to the program is driven by need: homelessness is a crisis primarily caused by economic factors. Alleviating this crisis requires rapid placement into permanent housing, as well as targeted services.

Veterans are part of our community; FrontLine Service

For more information about FrontLine Service and the SSVF Program, you can visit our website at www.frontlineservice.org or call 216.674.6698.

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VA Announces Dayton Will Be Future Site of the VA National Archives

VA WILL HAVE A HOME FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S HISTORY IN DAYTON

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs today announced that the Dayton VA Medical Center has been officially selected as the site for the National Department of Veterans Affairs Archives. Secretary Robert A. McDonald made the announcement this morning speaking to a group of Dayton-area leaders.

“I believe that history is incredibly important to the VA. We’re all about keeping the promises of the past to the Veterans of the present and the future,” said Secretary McDonald.

“With the necessary capital improvements, I can announce today that the Dayton Headquarters and Club House buildings will serve as a fitting home for VA’s National Archives and we look forward to working with community leaders to make the archive a reality and to improve the lives of Veterans.”

Dayton has a long history of service to our nation’s Veterans and is home to one of the original United States Veterans’ facilities. The Ohio community has been

caring for our nation’s Veterans since the Civil War era when it was a branch of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, a predecessor to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Department of Veterans Affairs and its predecessor agencies have generated archival records and artifacts from the time before the Revolutionary War. Many of these historic materials are stored at the Washington-area facilities of the National Archives and Records Administration along with records from other federal agencies.

The VA is one of the largest federal agencies and it owns more historic buildings than any other civilian federal agency.

Many of its historical documents, photographs, artifacts, and other materials are spread across the country in its 150 facilities under conditions that do not meet federal curation standards.

The VA Archive at Dayton will enable VA to organize and protect its important heritage and eventually share VA’s rich history with the public.



Honoring Our Veterans

At Hospice of the Western Reserve, we honor our veterans every day. Through our Peaceful & Proud initiative, hospice veterans can receive care from staff members trained on how the unique life experiences of veterans shape end-of-life preferences. Through specialized, quality care, we can help patients and families live their lives with dignity. See why more families choose the hospice of choice at hospicewr.org/serving-our-veterans.



800.707.8922 | hospicewr.org

...almost home...



THE OBJECTIVE:

Build a comfort home for military families that come to Cleveland to receive treatment from the Louis Stokes VA Medical Center, the 3rd largest VA in the country.

TOTAL BUILD COST:

\$7 million dollars

TOTAL FUNDRAISING GOAL:

\$3 million dollars

(50% will be donated by national Fisher House Foundation)

TOTAL RAISED TO DATE: \$2.8 million

On behalf of our veterans, our task force, and our community, we humbly ask that if you are able, please help us reach our goal and break ground on this long overdue facility by donating any amount. This is a one time campaign for building costs. Operational costs will be provided for by the Stokes VA.

HELP A HERO BY DONATING ONLINE:

www.gcfh.org/donate



ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

Private First Class Ross A. McGinnis

Date of Issue: 06/05/2008

Organization: U.S. Army, Company C, 1st Battalion, 1st Infantry Division

Date Entered Service: June 14, 2004



Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty: Private First Class Ross A. McGinnis distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the

call of duty while serving as an M2 .50-caliber Machine Gunner, 1st Platoon, C Company, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, in connection with combat operations against an armed enemy in Adhamiyah, Northeast Baghdad, Iraq, on 4 December 2006.

That afternoon his platoon was conducting combat control operations in an effort to reduce and control sectarian violence in the area. While Private McGinnis was manning the M2 .50-caliber Machine Gun, a fragmentation grenade thrown by an insurgent fell through the gunner's hatch into the vehicle. Reacting quickly, he yelled "grenade," allowing all four members of his crew to prepare for the grenade's blast.

Then, rather than leaping from the gunner's hatch to safety, Private McGinnis made the courageous decision to protect his crew. In a selfless act of bravery, in which he was mortally wounded, Private McGinnis covered the live grenade, pinning it between his body and the vehicle and absorbing most of the explosion.

Private McGinnis' gallant action directly saved four men from certain serious injury or death. Private First Class McGinnis' extraordinary heroism and selflessness at the cost of his own life, above and beyond the call of duty, are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Why employers seek veterans: their military educations

By John H. Tidyman, editor

Here are some reasons a military education is attractive to employers. First, vets understand the value of education; second, veterans understand the values of teamwork and dedication; third, each military occupational specialty (MOS) can be a stepping stone to additional education funded by the government.

Here is what employers can expect from veterans:
Well-trained and educated employees;

Vision. Veterans see the long-term goals of employers and understand the many, vital steps to achieve goals;

The value of work. Veteran employees appreciate their personal contribution to goals;

Veterans are quick to share information with other employees; Veterans' talents have been honed by military service. Those talents are transferred to civilian occupations.

Here is a partial list of talent available to America's workplaces:

[25M](#)--Multi-media Illustrator

[25R](#)--Visual Information Equipment Operator

[25V](#)--Combat Documentation/Production Specialist

[35D](#)--Air Traffic Control Equipment Repairer

[35H](#)--Test, Measurement, and Diagnostic Equipment (TMDE) Maintenance Support Specialist

[35L](#)--Avionic Communications Equipment Repairer

[35Q](#)--Avionic Flight Systems Repairer

[42E](#)--Optical Laboratory Specialist

[43M](#)--Fabric Repair Specialist

[44B](#)--Metal Worker

[44E](#)--Machinist

[45B](#)--Small Arms/Artillery Repairer

[45D](#)--Self-propelled Field Artillery Turret Mechanic

[45E](#)--M1 ABRAMS Tank Turret Mechanic

[45N](#)--M60A1A3 Tank Turret Mechanic

[45T](#)--Bradley Fighting Vehicle System Turret Mechanic

[46Q](#)--Journalist

[46R](#)--Broadcast Journalist

[51B](#)--Carpentry and Masonry Specialist

[51K](#)--Plumber

[51M](#)--Firefighter

[51R](#)--Interior Electrician

[51T](#)--Technical Engineering Specialist

[52C](#)--Utilities Equipment Repairer

[52D](#)--Power-Generation Equipment Repairer

[52F](#)--Turbine Engine Driven Generator Repairer

[52G](#)--Transmission and Distribution Specialist

[54B](#)--Chemical Operations Specialist

[57E](#)--Laundry and shower Specialist

[62B](#)--Construction Equipment Repairer

[62E](#)--Heavy Construction Equipment Operator

[62F](#)--Crane Operator

[62G](#)--Quarrying Specialist

[62H](#)--Concrete and Asphalt Equipment Operator

[62J](#)--General Construction Equipment Operator

[63B](#)--Light-Wheel Vehicle Mechanic

[63D](#)--Self-propelled Field Artillery System Mechanic

[63E](#)--M1 ABRAMS Tank System Mechanic

[63G](#)--Fuel and Electrical Systems Repairer

[63H](#)--Track Vehicle Repairer

[63J](#)--Quartermaster and Chemical Equipment Repairer

[63N](#)--M60A1A3 Tank System Mechanic

[63S](#)--Heavy-Wheel Vehicle Mechanic

[63T](#)--Bradley Fighting Vehicle System Mechanic

[63W](#)--Wheel Vehicle Repairer

[63Y](#)--Track Vehicle Mechanic

[67G](#)--Utility Airplane Repairer

[67N](#)--UH-1 Helicopter Repairer

[67R](#)--AH-64 Attack Helicopter Repairer

[67S](#)--OH-58D Helicopter Repairer

[67T](#)--UH-60 Helicopter Repairer

[67U](#)--CH-47 Helicopter Repairer

[67V](#)--Observation/Scout Helicopter Repairer

[67Y](#)--AH-1 Attack Helicopter Repairer

[68B](#)--Aircraft Powerplant Repairer

[68D](#)--Aircraft Powertrain Repairer

[68E](#)--Aircraft Electrician

[68G](#)--Aircraft Structural Repairer

[68J](#)--Aircraft Armament/Missile Systems Repairer

[68X](#)--AH-64 Armament/Electrical Systems Repairer

[71D](#)--Legal Specialist

[71G](#)--Patient Administration Specialist

[71L](#)--Administrative Specialist

[71M](#)--Chaplain Assistant

[73C](#)--Finance Specialist

[73D](#)--Accounting Specialist

[75B](#)--Personnel Administration Specialist

[75H](#)--Personnel Services Specialist

[76J](#)--Medical Supply Specialist

[77F](#)--Petroleum Supply Specialist

[77L](#)--Petroleum Laboratory Specialist

[77W](#)--Water Treatment Specialist

[88H](#)--Cargo Specialist

[88K](#)--Watercraft Operator

[88L](#)--Watercraft Engineer

[88M](#)--Motor Transport Operator

[88N](#)--Transportation Management Coordinator

[88P](#)--Railway Equipment Repairer

[88T](#)--Railway Section Repairer

[88U](#)--Railway Operations Crewmember

[91A](#)--Medical Equipment Repairer

[91B](#)--Medical Specialist

[91C](#)--Practical Nurse

[91D](#)--Operating Room Specialist

[91E](#)--Dental Specialist

[91K](#)--Medical Laboratory Specialist

[91M](#)--Hospital Food Service Specialist

[91P](#)--Radiology Specialist

[91Q](#)--Pharmacy Specialist

[91R](#)--Veterinary Food Inspection Specialist

[91S](#)--Preventive Medicine Specialist

[91T](#)--Animal Care Specialist

[91V](#)--Respiratory Specialist

[91X](#)--Mental Health Specialist

[92A](#)--Automated Logistical Specialist

[92G](#)--Food Service Operations

[92M](#)--Mortuary Affairs Specialist

[92R](#)--Parachute Rigger

[92Y](#)--Unit Supply Specialist

[93C](#)--Air Traffic Control (ATC) Operator

[93F](#)--Field Artillery Meteorological Crewmember

[95C](#)--Corrections Specialist



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Avon Lake Shoremen Send Graduate Around the World

By Petty Officer 3rd Class Abigail Rader

SAN DIEGO – A 2000 Avon High School graduate and Avon, Ohio native is serving in the U.S. Navy as part of a team supporting one of the country's most versatile combat ships.

Lt. Adam Quintana is a training liaison officer and a member of Commander, LCS Squadron One which supports both variants of littoral combat ships based in San Diego.

A Navy training liaison officer is responsible for helping crews with training plans as well as rescheduling as necessary. "I like dealing with the different people on the crews and staff," said Quintana. "I enjoy getting teams together to complete the mission."

The LCS platform has a unique manning concept called "3-2-1," where three crews serve aboard two different littoral combat ships, one of which is deployed.

This innovative manning concept allows the LCS to spend more time forward deployed without overtaxing the crew, according to Navy officials.

Designed to defeat threats such as mines, quiet diesel submarines and fast surface craft, littoral combat ships are a bold departure from traditional Navy shipbuilding programs. The LCS sustainment strategy was developed to take into account the unique design and manning of LCS and its associated mission modules.

"I like that the command is different than any other command that one would go to," said Quintana. "What we do at the squadron is different than anywhere else in

the Navy. I get to have my hand in the different areas of training."

According to Navy officials, the path to becoming an LCS sailor is a long one. Following an 18-month

training pipeline, sailors have to qualify on a simulator that is nearly identical to the ship. This intense and realistic training pipeline allows sailors to execute their roles and responsibilities immediately upon stepping onboard.

"Sailors that work aboard this platform are expected to be capable of performing a variety of tasks to assist in the completion of the LCS mission," said Capt. Warren R. Buller, Commander, LCS Squadron One. "The training that is required of our sail-

ors is rigorous and difficult. This ensures that they are mission ready to defend and protect America at all times."

As a service member supporting the LCS mission, Quintana explained it is building a legacy that will last beyond their lifetimes. Sailors know how important it is for the Navy to develop new war fighting capabilities to continue their success on the world's oceans.

"I want to serve my country and the people in the world," added Quintana. "I like being able to protect the citizens of the United States."

Through innovative planning, the design of systems, and crew requirements, the LCS platform allows the fleet to increase forward presence and optimize its personnel, improving the ability of the Navy to be where it matters, when it matters.



Lt. Adam Quintana

In a world full of people who couldn't care less, Choose to be someone who couldn't care more...

Life is about the choices we make.

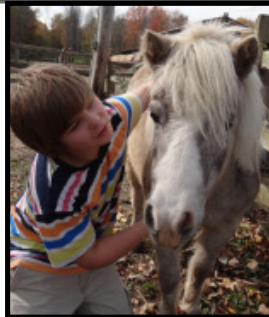
At Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, we encourage you to choose to make a difference by being one of the many *amazing* people who care.

As animal rescue workers, we see some pretty horrific animal abuse on a regular basis. **However, we don't dwell on that aspect of our work, and we don't want you to either.** Even though dealing with difficult animal abuse cases is what we do, we focus on the positive things, such as:

- Nearly 5,000 farm animals including horses, pigs, goats, sheep, feathered friends and even a buffalo have been rescued and found loving, permanent

homes through Happy Trails Rescue and Adoption Programs since 2000.

- Happy Trails acquired two new properties in 2014,



one being the site of our new Education Center, helping people connect to animals through animal care classes, seminars, clinics, special presentations, and animal-art workshops.

- Retired senior citizens and many others have found their lives changed

in a very positive, very profound way through their volunteer work at the sanctuary.

- Rescued goats, chickens and a mini-horse visit nursing homes and give love and companionship to their community.

There are so many incredible, healing aspects connected to the work of Happy Trails. **How can you personally get involved in farm animal rescue and choose to be someone who couldn't care more? Here's how...**

- Sit at home in your jammies and the comfort of your living room and forward weekly Happy Trails email updates to your friends, family and co-workers to share exciting sanctuary news. Create an animal-friendly network of people who are willing to pass along Happy Trails news to their family and friends as well.
- Experience the sanctuary by signing up for a week-



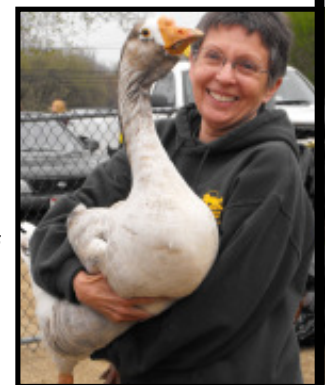
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Cleveland Chaplain Serves at Arlington

By Jerri Donohue

The Reverend Joseph Brankatelli walked the grounds of Arlington National Cemetery when he arrived there as the Army's Catholic chaplain in May 2014. As he surveyed the fields of headstones, he felt a strong emotional reaction.

"It really hit home, knowing what I might have to experience," the Moreland Hills native said.

Since then, he has buried as many as six veterans every weekday, in rain and wind, in cold and snow, and in stifling heat and humidity. He dismisses any discomfort the weather presents because he considers his work an honor.

"This is probably the most prestigious assignment a chaplain can receive," Brankatelli said.

Previously a parish priest at Holy Family Church in Parma, Brankatelli volunteered for the Chaplain Corps in 2012. He chose the Army, in part to honor his paternal grandfather, for whom he is named. "Grandpa Joe" served in the Army in World War II.

Brankatelli also knew the Army has the greatest shortage of Cath-

olic chaplains, a fact underscored during his later deployment to Afghanistan.

"I was one of only four priests serving an area about the size of the state of Ohio," Brankatelli said.

In his current assignment, the chaplain has buried hundreds of men

and women, none of whom he knew in life.

At least a week before the committal service, he telephones the next of kin to confirm details such as the veteran's rank, pronunciation of name and the Scripture reading the family prefers. The sons of South Euclid resident Robert Andre, for example, chose a passage from the



Army chaplain Joseph Brankatelli conducts a graveside service in Arlington National Cemetery.

Bible popular at weddings, 1 Corinthians 13:4, because the remains of Andre's late wife were being interred with him.

The day of the burial, Brankatelli meets the deceased's friends and relatives about a half hour before the service. He explains how the

ceremony will unfold and re-checks pertinent information. If the family seems receptive, he asks them to tell him about their loved one.

"Especially when it's not a tragic death," the chaplain said. "When you're celebrating the life of a person 80, 90, even 100 years old – there's just so much to a person's life."

Because Andre's sons proudly

showed him the citations that accompanied their Dad's Silver Star and Bronze Star, Brankatelli learned much about the former captain's ordeals during World War II.

The priest has buried ex-prisoners of war, a Medal of Honor recipient and men who flew with the Army Air Force during the Second World War. He officiates at graveside services of men and women who served during the Vietnam War or earlier. Younger men and women are usually suicides.

"It's a very stark reality that soldiers have lost hope and die to suicide," the chaplain said.

Brankatelli knows the Army will transfer him this summer. Whatever happens next, his cemetery assignment will remain a highlight of his life.

"You have more than 400,000 Americans who are buried there," he said. "To understand the significance of Arlington being the most hallowed and sacred grounds in our nation for a national shrine ... I don't think anyone could argue against that."

Skyland Golf Course on Day One

THE GROUND ATTACK ON PAR

By Ed Senko



Ah, Spring — When hearts, minds, and foursomes assemble at the first tee. Every player arrives at the first tee brimming with confidence. New golf shirts, likely Christmas gifts, add to the cocksure players' hopes for drives that are long and straight.

Good luck with that; my research indicates the second shot is taken from the rough.

Instead of a sign reading, No.1, with an arrow, the sign should read, "Abandon Hope All Ye Who Enter Here."

I sit, clipboard in lap, pencil at the ready. The research I do is simple, yet telling.

There are two columns, the first

marked 'in,' and the second 'out.' If a player hits in the fairway, I check the first column. If a player misses the fairway, I check the second.

I seek to know the percentage of players whose first tee shots finally roll and stop in the short grass. For all of us who believe we can control a fade or draw, reality sets in and we hit duck hooks or banana balls.

(Next year, I'm going to add another category, players-who-miss-the-fairway-and-curse, and the rest of us, who accept what the Golf Gods have given us. We list the good things instead of the bad: sun shining, playing with guys we like, the plastic bag filled with ice and beers in the cart.)

Skyland Golf Course, on SR 303 in Medina, has a first hole designed to inspire confidence. It is a short par 4 with a slight dogleg left. No hazards. Big, flat green.

Me, I use a 3-wood, confident that if I miss the fairway, the Dimpled One is not going far.

No. 2 is a surprise; clearing the lake in front of the tee is a mental impediment. Not for me. Many years ago, the owner suggested I hit from the women's tee. No water.

The green on No. 2 is the most difficult on the course. I usually settle for a three. I don't mean I sink it in three. I mean my longtime golf partner tells me, "Pick it up before you

hurt yourself."

From there, it's a roller coaster ride of differently designed holes. Except Nos. 9 and 18. Both are long pars fours and if there is one thing on my Bucket List, it is to par both of them in the same game. My partner always says, "Keep dreaming, Bubs."

Regardless of score, a reward awaits behind the 18th green: the clubhouse. Air-conditioned filled with chairs and long tables. Beer and whiskey behind the bar. Very good food, including steaks grilled outside.

See you on the first tee. I'll be the fat and balding guy with clipboard in hand.



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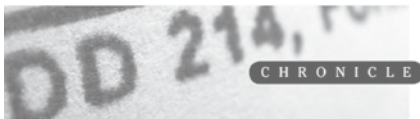
VSO's also assist Veteran's in obtaining their DD 214 (discharge papers), applying for reissue of medals and a high school diploma for wartime Veterans.

The Veteran must provide their DD 214, proof of residency and other vital documents such as marriage and birth certificates, divorce decree, custody papers, verification of household income as required for financial assistance and VA claims assistance.



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www.LorainCountyVeterans.com



Upcoming July-August Edition

Order of Battle DD214 Chronicle

Fourth of July Edition

Great essay on the Fourth of July: Why veterans take special pride in the holiday. First we salute, and then we enjoy our families

• PTSD and other illnesses: From WWII, Vietnam, and the Middle East

• Veterans taking advantage of the GI Bill

• MOSs that transfer to jobs

• Women in uniform: Recognizing and honoring women in service to America

• There is plenty more for veterans (and all who love them!)

U.S. Army: By the Numbers

The basic building block of all Army organizations is the individual soldier. A small group of soldiers organized to maneuver and fire is called a squad. As elements of the Army's organizational structure become larger units, they contain more and more subordinate elements from combat arms, combat support and combat service support units.

A company is typically the smallest Army element to be given a designation and affiliation with higher headquarters at battalion and brigade level. This alphanumeric and branch designation causes an "element" to become a "unit."

Squad - 9 to 10 soldiers. Typically commanded by a sergeant or staff sergeant, a squad or section is the smallest element in the Army structure, and its size is dependent on its function.

Platoon - 16 to 44 soldiers. A platoon is led by a lieutenant with an NCO as second in command, and consists of two to four squads or sections.

Company - 62 to 190 soldiers. Three to five platoons form a company, which is commanded by a captain with a first sergeant as the commander's principle NCO assistant. An artillery unit of equivalent size is called a battery, and a comparable armored or air cavalry unit is called a troop.

Battalion - 300 to 1,000 soldiers. Four to six companies make up a battalion, which is normally commanded by a lieutenant colonel with a command sergeant major as principle NCO assistant. A battalion is capable of independent operations of limited duration and scope. An armored or air cavalry unit of equivalent size is called a squadron.

Brigade - 3,000 to 5,000 soldiers. A brigade headquarters commands the tactical operation of two to five organic or attached combat battalions. Normally commanded by a colonel with a command sergeant major as senior NCO, brigades are employed on independent or semi-independent operations. Armored cavalry, ranger and special forces units this size are categorized as regiments or groups.

Division - 10,000 to 15,000 soldiers. Usually consisting of three brigade-sized elements and commanded by a major general, divisions are numbered and assigned missions based on their structures. The division performs major tactical operations for the corps and can conduct sustained battles and engagements.

Corps - 20,000 to 45,000 soldiers. Two to five divisions constitute a corps, which is typically commanded by a lieutenant general. As the deployable level of command required to synchronize and sustain combat operations, the corps provides the framework for multi-national operations.

Army - 50,000 + soldiers. Typically commanded by a lieutenant general or higher, an army combines two or more corps. A theater army is the ranking Army component in a unified command, and it has operational and support responsibilities that are assigned by the theater commander in chief. The commander in chief and theater army commander may order formation of a field army to direct operations of assigned corps and divisions. An army group plans and directs campaigns in a theater, and is composed of two or more field armies under a designated commander. Army groups have not been employed by the Army since World War II.



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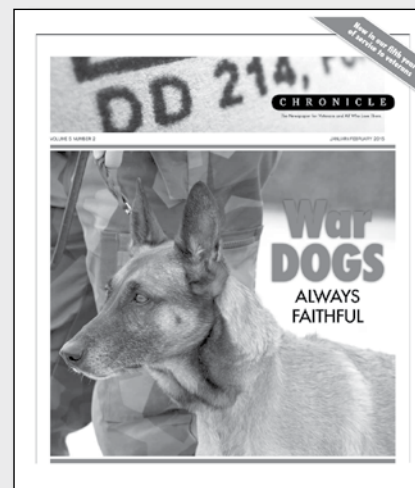
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JUST A COMMON SOLDIER

(A Soldier Died Today)

by A. Lawrence Vaincourt

He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was falling fast,
And he sat around the Legion, telling stories of the past.
Of a war that he had fought in and the deeds that he had done,
In his exploits with his buddies; they were heroes, every one.

And tho' sometimes, to his neighbors, his tales became a joke,
All his Legion buddies listened, for they knew whereof he spoke.
But we'll hear his tales no longer for old Bill has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer, for a soldier died today.

He will not be mourned by many, just his children and his wife,
For he lived an ordinary and quite uneventful life.
Held a job and raised a family, quietly going his own way,
And the world won't note his passing, though a soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state,
While thousands note their passing and proclaim that they were great.
Papers tell their whole life stories, from the time that they were young,
But the passing of a soldier goes unnoticed and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land?
A guy who breaks his promises and cons his fellow man?
Or the ordinary fellow who, in times of war and strife,
Goes off to serve his Country and offers up his life?

A politician's stipend and the style in which he lives
Are sometimes disproportionate to the service that he gives.
While the ordinary soldier, who offered up his all,
Is paid off with a medal and perhaps, a pension small.

It's so easy to forget them for it was so long ago,
That the old Bills of our Country went to battle, but we know
It was not the politicians, with their compromise and ploys,
Who won for us the freedom that our Country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger, with your enemies at hand,
Would you want a politician with his ever-shifting stand?
Or would you prefer a soldier, who has sworn to defend
His home, his kin and Country and would fight until the end?

He was just a common soldier and his ranks are growing thin,
But his presence should remind us we may need his like again.
For when countries are in conflict, then we find the soldier's part
Is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor while he's here to hear the praise,
Then at least let's give him homage at the ending of his days.
Perhaps just a simple headline in a paper that would say,
Our Country is in mourning, for a soldier died today.

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Baldwin Wallace University Student Vets to Intern at RNC

by Jerri Donohue

Army veteran Robert Quayle and Navy/Coast Guard veteran D. Eric Milligan will join 10 other Baldwin Wallace University students interning at the Republican National Convention this summer.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Quayle said. "The fact that this a presidential election makes it part of history. And we also have the possibility of a contested convention, and all the controversy around the candidates."

Quayle and Milligan will participate in a program developed by The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars (TWC), a Washington, D.C. based non-profit that offers students immersion experiences. When Cleveland was chosen for the site of the 2016 Republican convention, the Center asked Baldwin Wallace University to help create an experience for college students built around the convention.

From July 11 through 13, more than 100 students from around the country will spend five or six hours daily in

seminars and discussion workshops about campaigns, the political convention process and related topics.

Beginning July 14, students work in internships with the media, security, state delegations, interest groups or the Committee on Arrangements. Baldwin Wallace University will house attendees on its campus.

The Cleveland Foundation provided \$50,000 to fund 12 scholarships for Baldwin Wallace students and 12 for students of Cuyahoga Community College, targeting underserved groups.

Both Milligan and Quayle are back in school after long military careers.

Quayle served in the Army from 1983 until 1992. After many years as a banker, he returned to the Army in 2008 when the economy collapsed. He retired in 2013 because of injuries sustained on duty.

"I did all-source intelligence analysis," he said. "I took all of the information from all the other intelligence fields and combined it with my own research."

"The biggest bragging rights that I

have are that I got to participate in the downfall of Osama Bin Laden," Quayle said. "Not directly but indirectly. I produced reports on him and his people."

Quayle is majoring in business management with a minor in criminal justice.

During the convention, he will intern with the media, preferably FOX News.

"My primary source of information is the BBC and Al Jazeera," Quayle said. "They are completely unbiased. They have no concern one way or the other about what happens here."

"Al Jazeera is a legitimate news channel," Quayle said. He values it for insight into events in the Middle East.

"But the main reason is to participate in history," he said.

Milligan spent four years in the Navy. During his subsequent 14 years in the Coast Guard, he became part of an anti-terrorism team. The former 1st class boatswain's mate helped ensure the safety of New York City during the 2004 Republican conven-

tion and of Boston during the 2004 Democratic convention.

"We were watching the ship traffic coming out and doing security on the ships, security on the water, making sure nobody was tampering with the big ships coming in," Milligan said.

Milligan received a Bachelor's in Political Science from Baldwin Wallace last May and is now in the university's Executive MBA program.

"I served my country for 18 years, and I don't feel like I'm done," he said. "It's a great benefit, coming to Baldwin Wallace. The professors I have are amazing and in tune with Ohio politics, like Tom Sutton, who I consider my mentor."

Like Quayle, he will network at the convention.

Because Milligan has a minor in public relations and has worked on Baldwin Wallace University's radio station, he opted to intern with the media at the convention.

"If I can't be the face of change by getting a political position, maybe I can be the voice of it," he said.

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(Excerpted from *A World of Hurt: Between Innocence and Arrogance in Vietnam* by Mary Reynolds Powell)

added up all the numbers of dead and wounded enemy reported during the war, it would come out three

or four times the actual number.

“After I had changed the numbers for the newsman, he’d change

them when he read them. It was almost as if the figures came out of thin air.”

AFVN (Armed Forces Vietnam Network,) “serving you from the Delta to the DMZ,” was based in Saigon and had both AM and FM stations as well as a television station.

On the AM dial, we heard a variety a rock and country-and-western sounds. For the entire year I was in Vietnam, the most often-played song on the radio was *I Beg Your Pardon, I Never Promised You a Rose Garden* (as if we needed reminding.)

In the clubs, the song most often played by the live rock groups was *We Gotta Get Outta This Place* (never played on the radio.) AFVN-FM carried the “easy listening music,” which meant elevator music. The DJs on AFVN were enlisted men and women from all branches of the military.

Eighteen years after I left Vietnam, one of those DJs provided insight for me into the military radio network.

Betty Ann Addy Horning had been a 21-year old Marine sergeant with Armed Forces Radio and TV in 1967.

Though she was the weather girl for the 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. news in Okinawa, her shows were broadcast in Vietnam.

Keeping the listening audience’s attention for the weather report was a challenge for Betty Anne. “It was always the same. It was rainy season or not the rainy season. After three days of it, I’d pick different states, take information from the AP tickertape, and tell the guys what the weather was like back home.”

She also wrote the news reports with adjusted casualty figures.

“We’d get figures for the NVA and VC we had killed and deliberately double or triple them. If we thought the statistics were too high, we’d cut them, especially if it was around the holidays.

“I was a Marine. We had always been told we were good for three or five of the enemy. I swear, if you

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Zachary Fisher - Builder, Philanthropist, Patriot

FOUNDER, FISHER HOUSE PROGRAM
September 26, 1910 – June 4, 1999

Zachary Fisher was a prominent figure in the New York real estate community and a major philanthropic benefactor for the men and women in the United States Armed Forces, as well as numerous other not-for-profit organizations.

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Mr. Fisher began working in construction at the age of 16. Shortly thereafter, he and his brothers, Martin and Larry, joined forces to form Fisher Brothers, which has grown into one of the real estate industry's premier residential and commercial developers, owning more than five million square feet of office space.

From the earliest days of his construction career, Mr. Fisher was a strong supporter of the U.S. Armed Forces. Prevented from active service in World War II due to a leg injury, Mr. Fisher drew on his building skills to assist the U.S. Coastal Service in the construction of coastal fortifications. His patronage of the Armed Forces became an ongoing concern from that time, evolving to occupy increasing amounts of his energies.

In the 1970s, while remaining active in Fisher Brothers, Mr. Fisher's commitment to both the Armed Forces and other philanthropic causes intensified still further through his leadership role in a number of major projects.

In 1978, he founded the Intrepid Museum Foundation to save the historic and battle-scarred aircraft carrier INTREPID from the scrap yard. Four years of involvement with the Foundation resulted in his spearheading the opening of the Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum in New York City, now the world's largest naval museum.

In 1982, the same year as the Museum's opening, Mr. Fisher established the Zachary and Elizabeth M. Fisher Armed Services Foundation. Through the Foundation, he made significant contributions to the families of the victims of the bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut in 1983. Since then, the Foundation has made contributions of \$25,000 to numerous military families who have lost loved ones under tragic circumstances.

Mr. Fisher made similar donations to the families of New York City firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty. His Armed Services Foundation also provides scholarship funds to active and former service members and their families.

In 1990, Mr. and Mrs. Fisher began the Fisher House program, dedicating more than \$20 million to the construction of comfort homes for families of hospitalized military personnel.

In 1994, Mr. Fisher, in partnership with David Rockefeller, established the Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research Foundation, which funds Alzheimer's disease research with the goal of finding a cause and cure. The

Foundation operates the nation's largest and most modern Alzheimer's research laboratory, housed at The Rockefeller University in New York City.

Throughout his life, Mr. Fisher held a number of posts on a variety of charitable and arts organizations and military charities throughout the country.

He served as Honorary Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation and was a supporter of the Coast Guard Foundation, the Navy League and other military charities.

Mr. Fisher also established the annual Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Award for Excellence in Military Medicine.

He was a major supporter of the Metropolitan Opera, Temple Israel, the Jewish Institute of National Security Affairs, the George C. Marshall Foundation, the Margaret Thatcher Foundation, the Reagan Presidential Library, the United Jewish Appeal and many other organizations.

Mr. Fisher also served on the boards of Carnegie Hall and several other institutions and received honorary doctorate degrees from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences.

In 1998, Mr. Fisher received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Bill Clinton in honor of his wide-ranging contributions on behalf of the young men and women in the US Armed Forces.

He also received the Horatio Alger Award, the Volunteer Action Award, the Presidential Citizens Medal, the Senior Civilian Award from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Secretary of Defense, as well as the top awards a civilian can receive from each branch of the military.

Separately, Presidents Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George Bush and Bill Clinton, as well as Margaret Thatcher and the late Yitzak Rabin, recognized Mr. Fisher for his support of charitable organizations throughout the United States.

In December, 1999, President Clinton signed Public Law 106-161 conferring upon Zachary Fisher the status of an honorary veteran in the U. S. Armed Forces. He was recommended for this honor prior to his death on June 4, 1999.

Three words, etched in the marble of Zachary Fisher's tomb, speak to his legacy:

Builder ... Philanthropist ... Patriot
ZACHARY FISHER
FOUNDER
FISHER HOUSE PROGRAM
September 26, 1910 — June 4, 1999



Zachary Fisher

LET'S COMPLETE THE MISSION

CLEVELAND TO GET TWO FISHER HOUSES

"Let's complete the mission!"

Those are the words of Greater Cleveland Fisher House Board President Tom Sweeney as the capital campaign for The Greater Cleveland Fisher House (GCFH) heads into the homestretch.

Fisher House, based in Rockville, MD, is a national philanthropic organization that recognizes the stress on family members when veterans have to travel for



Tom Sweeney

special treatment at VA hospitals.

"Having your loved ones close means a faster recovery because family members are able to spend time with the patient. Prior to Fisher House, the expense of staying at hotels made that important part of therapy difficult and often impossible," Sweeney said.

The Fisher House Foundation pays one-half of construction costs; the other half is assumed by funders from the community.

"We are only \$200,000 from our goal of \$3,000,000 for this campaign," said Sweeney. "And the best motivation for mission completion is this exciting news: Cleveland is going to have two Fisher Houses. The second Fisher House will be funded in whole by the foundation."

The original design was for a single structure with 20 suites. With the second Fisher House, there will be accommodations for up to 50 family members.

The families will be able to stay without charge while their veterans undergo treatments at the Louis Stokes Veterans Administration Hospital in University Circle.

Previously, family members from out of town had to stay in commercial hotels and motels while their veterans underwent treatments not available at other VA health facilities. The expense meant many family members were unable to stay close to the hospital.

Saddle up and let's finish this mission.



We provide two basic services:

1. Temporary emergency financial aid and assistance to eligible veterans and family members who have demonstrated a need as set forth by the Commission.
2. Assist veterans, family members and survivors when applying to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for benefits.

Our assistance includes but is not limited to:

- Financial Assistance:
- Rent and mortgage payments
- Utilities: Gas, Electric and Water
- Food and personal Hygiene items
- Certain Medical
- Transportation to and from VA Medical Centers in Cleveland (Wade Park), Parma and Akron, Ohio
- Grave markers and flags
- Free Notary for Veterans & Families

Service Assistance:

- Preparations of forms and paperwork
- Documentation of claims and pertinent data
- Proper submission of claims to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs thru a service organization
- Submission for awards decorations and medals
- Notary Public & DD 214 Certification



Our services are FREE of charge!



The Moving Wall™

Up-coming Events

June 23 through 27, 2016, "[The Healing](#)" (part two) of our 50th Commemoration of the Vietnam War here in Medina County. The Moving Wall will be on display at the intersections of E. Union St. and Weymouth Rd (rte 3) at the Medina High School the Moving Wall is open 24 hours a-day starting on Friday. Stay tuned for the events schedule.

August 6, 2016, "[Welcome Home, Passing of the Torch](#)" (part three). Commemorative Ride, Please join us in honoring and "Welcoming Home" our vets with a picturesque ride through Medina County with brief stops and ceremonies at various locations the final destination will be the American Legion Post 170 in Wadsworth. Eyes of Freedom collages will be on display at the strand theatre as a remembrance for all who have answered the call of service and "Passing the Torch" from one generation of warriors to the next Aug 6, 2016, Registration: 10:30– 11:45 am VFW Post 9520, 1430 S. Carpenter Rd. Brunswick, Ohio



Contact us:

210 Northland Dr. - Medina, Ohio 44256

veterans@medinacountyveterans.org

www.medinacountyveterans.org

lakelandcc.edu/veterans

This Memorial Day, we honor our fallen soldiers and celebrate the freedoms for which our service members have fought.

Lakeland
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
VETERANS SERVICES

Lakeland Community College is committed to helping active duty personnel, veterans, reservists, and dependents attain their educational goals.

The college is a Servicemembers Opportunity College and is approved by the Ohio State Approving Agency for veterans. Lakeland's Veterans Services Office can help with questions about educational benefits, advice on how to fill out and complete VA forms, and much more!

Fall registration is now open. Visit lakelandcc.edu/veterans to get started.

Student veterans at Lakeland enjoy these free services:

- ★ Military transcript evaluation
- ★ Transition assistance
- ★ Priority registration - student veterans get to register early for classes
- ★ Veterans lounge equipped with computers, printers and snacks
- ★ Approved chapter of the Student Veterans of America, a student-led organization for veterans

Join us for this upcoming event!

Memorial Day Celebration

Thursday, May 26

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Lakeland's Main Campus

Free and open to the public.

For more details:

Rhonda Osagie-Erese

Veterans Program Coordinator

440.525.7526

lakelandveterans@lakelandcc.edu



GROWING STRONGER COMMUNITIES.



We're putting down deep roots and giving back to the communities we serve.



We think it's only natural to cultivate meaningful relationships in the communities where we live and work. And at Dominion, that means we do more than write checks. So while we're very proud to invest more than \$20 million in our communities annually, we're even prouder of Dominion's employees for

volunteering over 130,000 hours of their time. From refurbishing homeless shelters to replenishing local food banks to cleaning up parks to helping soldiers and their families, we're donating the most precious resource of all: our energy. Learn more by visiting dom.com/foundation.



dom.com  