



CHRONICLE

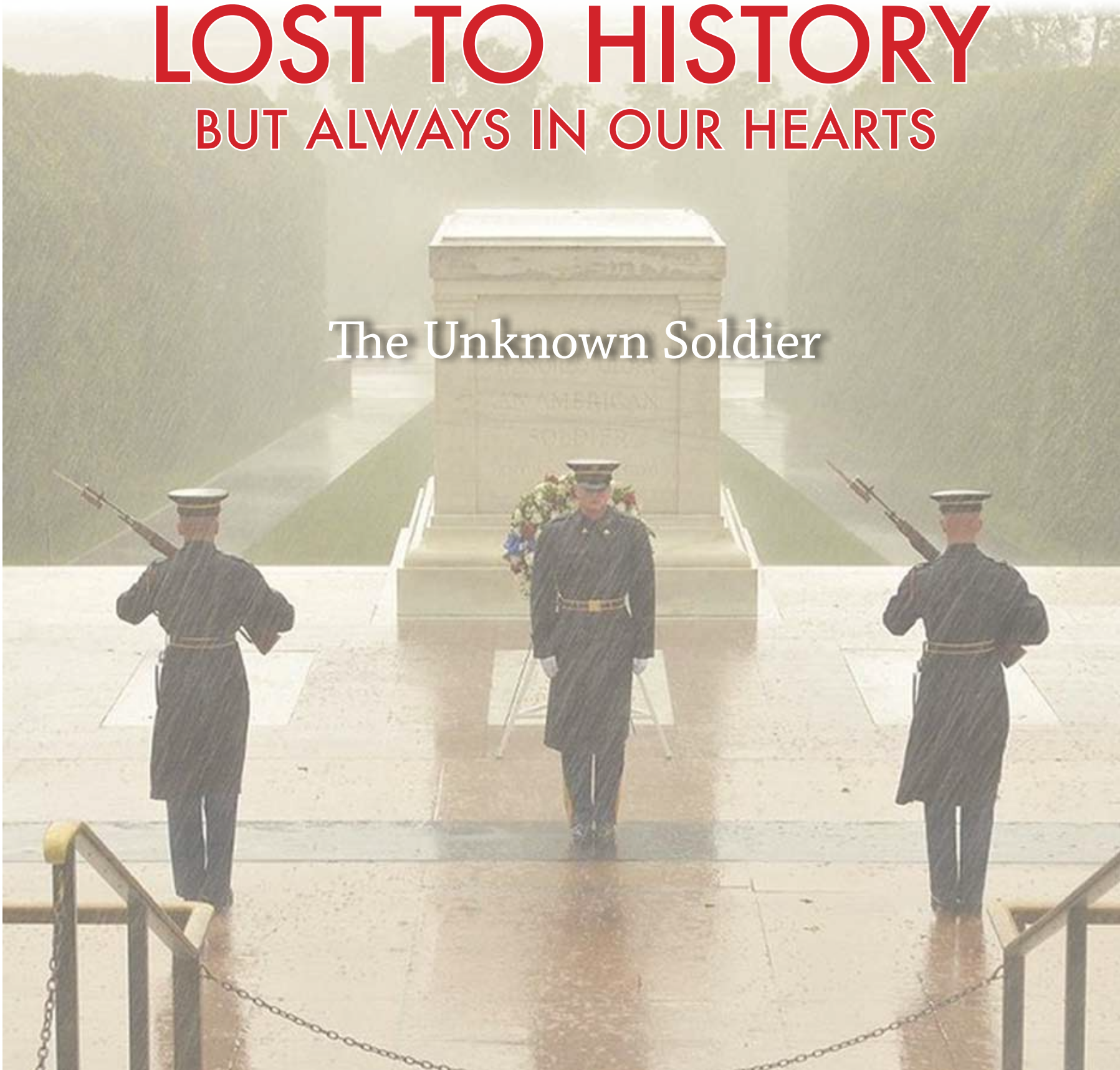
The Newspaper for Veterans and All Who Love Them.

VOLUME 6 NUMBER 1

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2015

LOST TO HISTORY BUT ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS

The Unknown Soldier



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Where futures beginSM

15-0740

UNIFORM OF THE DAY

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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.

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Unemployed Veterans: Ever think about robbing a bank?

My late, great friend, Bill Spellacy, was a Cleveland police lieutenant. A worldly man and observant, as well. He spent his career chasing criminals and usually caught them. He was always amazed at their sheer stupidity.

"If you rob the corner deli and get caught, you're going to the slammer," he said. "For what? A couple cartons of cigarettes and whatever is in the till? And a criminal record?"

Much better, he said, to plan a major heist. It would be an all-or-nothing effort. If you get it all, you'll never have to rob again. If you get arrested, at least you tried.

He said the key word is planning. With some local variations, here's how it would work.

Start by studying extradition treaties around the world. With diligent research you will know where you're going as well as the weather, housing costs, percentage of the population that speaks English, health care facilities, driving requirements, cost of living, rate of exchange and a great deal about the culture. He said



this is important because once you land, you ain't leaving. Double check these extradition treaties.

Decide on the target. The favorite, for good reasons, is banks. Most banks have cash enough to throw at ticker-tape parades. Since the government outlawed \$1000 bills, you'll have to settle for C-notes. Adds a bit to your luggage fees. That adds logistics to your quest. How many bundles of C-notes can fit in one bag? How many bags to fund your one-way trip? What type of bag? If you know the cost of living, the culture, and your life expectancy, you'll arrive at the approximate figure. Financial advisers will have one figure, but you will likely have another. I

mean, it's not as if you will be seeking work.

Study the target. I mean, really study it. You might discover it doesn't have all the features necessary. If that is the case, go to another target and begin studying it. Studying a target is time-consuming, but well worth it. You will want to know the opening, closing, and lunch hours. Approximate number of employees. Are there cameras mounted inside and outside? What are the banks' least busy hours? On which wall is the safe?

Take a tour of the facility. A week later, take another. Be observant. Can you see the security cameras? What about the guard(s)? Are they octogenarians not likely to pull a gun or are they young and eager to show off their shooting skills? How many are there? Are the guards bored or observant?

No one, Bill said, should carry a gun during the heist. Human nature being what it is, you don't want to get in a shoot-'em-up. You don't want blood on your hands. You want

continued on page 6

MAIL CALL

Editor:

Thank you for sending a copy of DD214 Chronicle. But more importantly, thank you for honoring Lt. Emily Perez on its cover.

Emily was a model cadet, officer, and American citizen. Those who taught and mentored her told me she had the talents, leadership, and brilliance to be the best at whatever she undertook. She loved her country, the Army, and the people she led.

Thank you for remembering and for honoring her legacy.

*Lieutenant General Robert L. Caslen, Jr.
Superintendent, West Point*

Editor:

As you may know, we are hosting a Convention Kickoff race next

July to benefit the Cleveland Fisher House. To draw awareness to our race and the need for a Fisher House in Cleveland, I am running the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, DC this month in honor of the Scott Family.

I can't imagine what it was like for Lilly Scott when she received the phone call that all military spouses fear--the call from her husband's commanding officer telling her that her husband had been severely injured in an IED attack and might not survive. Fear and panic probably doesn't begin to describe it especially since she had a three-year old daughter and was six months pregnant.

I've decided to sign up to raise funds and awareness for Fisher House, an organization that builds

"homes away from home" near military and VA medical centers so that families like the Scotts can be together during the long and difficult road to recovery.

For military families like the Scotts, I want to do something more than say, "Thanks for your service". Please help me make a real difference in the lives of our nation's service members, veterans, and their families when they need it most.

Any size donation makes a difference — please donate to Fisher House through my Team Fisher House at the 2015 Marine Corps Marathon & MCM10K campaign today. Click here to donate: <http://bit.ly/1Zls8w4>

*Thanks,
Sen. Rob Portman*



The Newspaper for Veterans and All Who Love Them.

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Baldwin Wallace University Student Served in Three Branches

by Jerri Donohue

As a part-time Baldwin Wallace University employee, full-time student Chad Marks helps former servicemen and women transition to academic life. His position comes naturally to Marks. After all, he served in the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard and the Air Force – and he worked closely with the Army overseas.

Marks enlisted in the Marines in 1995 and became a gunner on a 155 Howitzer. He was stationed on Okinawa when an ammo technician accidentally unloaded two pallets of rounds on Marks and another Marine as they stood beside the truck. Marks suffered two broken legs and a crushed left foot. After several surgeries, physical therapy and rehab, he received a medical discharge in 1999.

Marks then became a police officer, but the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 prompted him to return to military service. He joined the Coast Guard and was in Kuwait just three

months later, participating in escorts and patrols on land and water.

Back in the States, he worked port security in New Orleans. After another deployment to Kuwait and one to Iraq, he was stationed in Lorain, Ohio, and Buffalo, New York.

When his cousin, an Air Force Brigadier General, informed the coastguardsman that the Air Force needed people for a combat operations unit, Marks met with the necessary personnel. He made a seamless transfer to the Air Force in May 2008, joining the Tactical Air Control Party (TACP).

"You are attached to army units primarily," Marks said of his assignment. "Whenever they get into a firefight, or if there's a bad guy in



Chad Marks (left with flag holder) participates in the Memorial Day parade in Medina.

a certain building, they use you – the Air Force entity – to call a strike to the carrier on the ocean or the airfield near you, to come and bomb the area."

Marks eventually assumed a training role because he reinjured his knee on a jump in Afghanistan. He left military service at the end of 2011.

The veteran said he benefitted from serving in multiple branches. He took discipline and camaraderie from the Marines and learned attention to detail from the Air Force. In the Coast Guard, which interacts frequently with civilians, Marks acquired strong personal communication skills.

In 2014, the veteran enrolled in Baldwin Wallace University's "3-2"

program, intending to complete bachelor and master degrees in five years. He had already earned an associate degree in community college. Both his mother and grandmother graduated from Baldwin Wallace. Marks said he chose the university because of its veteran-friendly campus and because of its health care management and marketing programs. He aims for a career as a hospital administrator.

While pursuing a double major, Marks carries a full course load year round, works part time and always makes the dean's list.

At Baldwin Wallace, he promotes the university through outreach to young servicemen and women. Marks also enjoys organizing morale-boosting and socializing events for already enrolled veterans, such as a day at a rifle range.

"It can be tough to acclimate back to civilian life," Marks said.

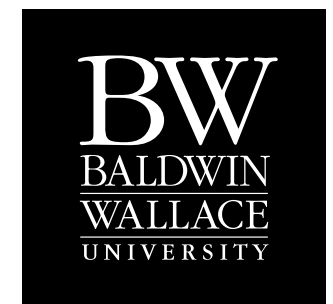


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Very Casual Survey with Area Veterans

Q: What was the best feature of being in the military?

- Loved the 24-hour way of telling time.
- In basic training, you could have white or chocolate milk. Man, I loved the chocolate. As much as you wanted, too.
- Back in the 60s, they paid you in cash. With new bills.
- Sleeping in. But I should tell you I'm a farmer.
- Howitzers, just loved them howitzers. I even wrote a poem about them.
- My old lady had no idea where I was.
- My old man had no idea where I was.
- Free clothes and boots. Had to do your own laundry, though.
- Learned so many new words: lifer, FTA, latrine, K.P., MOS, shit-on-a-shingle, grunt, EM club, dinky-dow, and "Incoming!"

Survey conducted by Incognito
Insights, Inc.



Howitzers ... poem worthy?

Stand at Ease continued from page 4

hands gripping a couple of cash-filled satchels.

Create your escape route, from the bank to the airport. How long does it take? What are the traffic conditions at the time of day you'll be using them? Rent a car, pick it up the day of the robbery. You want reservations on as many planes as possible. You will board only one, but it's a diversionary tactic that can buy you some time.

Never speed or otherwise make yourself stand out.

And if all that doesn't work, you'll soon be fitted for a prison uniform.

Of course there's risk. But there are also rewards.

I was thinking about Bill and a guy he never met: Ted Conrad.

Ted was a member of the Lakewood High School Class of '67. Member of the choir and student council. I think he was also

on the swim team. Very nice guy. After high school, Ted took a job at a local bank.

With good planning, opportunity, luck, and a sense of adventure, Ted pulled off a bank heist. Netted him \$215,000 in 1969 dollars.

He's never been seen since. It is not likely he will be joining his next class reunion.

I tell you this story because I'm angry with American corporations moving facilities to foreign lands. The corporations take advantage of cheap, unskilled labor. The quality of the products is usually lacking.

Military veterans might find inspiration in this story. Instead of being shunned from employment offices, start your own enterprise.

What the hell, veterans have all the skills necessary. Plus, they're used to taking risks.

THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN VIETNAM: Reflections on an Era

by John H. Tidyman

For Vietnam veterans, *The American Experience in Vietnam: Reflections on an Era* shakes awake the memories of confusion, courage, drugs, R & R, blood and death.

For widows, wives, husbands, children, best friends, and parents of Vietnam veterans, welcome to our world of long, long ago.

Welcome to all those who protested and insisted we get the hell out of a war-racked country where we didn't belong.

Those of us who went halfway around the world weren't welcomed there, and we weren't thanked by the Vietnamese. On coming home, whether walking, or in wheelchairs

or caskets, we weren't welcomed and we weren't thanked.

We were the catalyst for the great divide. Gratitude was a virtue lost in the battles here and in Vietnam.



For those who never knew the war, and students who are eager to learn, *The American Experience* is a detailed and sober study of a military debacle.

It answers a troubling question: How could we win so many battles and lose the war?

Between the covers of *The American Experience* answers rise to the surface: Inept leadership at the command level, ignorance of history, the arro-

gance of political leaders. And American citizens who failed to ask, "Why?"

Other answers can be found, but only with questions not asked. Who benefited from the war? War has always been a rich source of profit for the merchants of blood. A passion for money always has a single objective: Make more money and fuck the consequences. The consequences are not limited to the loss of life, but loss of life is the consequence that most affects us.

Congress and the White House decided an invasion of Vietnam would save Vietnam from communism. They failed miserably by not asking and answering the logical second question, "To what end?"

Was that reason even reasonable?

Or did we pick a fight we believed we could easily win? And do what with a victory? Lay palm fronds on the steps and in the halls of Congress?

This book perfectly balances editorial and photography of the war, from the beginning of American involvement to the return of POWs.

The American Experience begins with *The Roots of Involvement* and ends, 58,000 Americans dead later, with an epilogue by senior writer Nick Miller. His wish for us is simple and often repeated, "Welcome home."

We've heard it millions of times, but coming from this dedicated student and writer of the Vietnam War, it resonates deeply in our hearts.

Boston Publishing Co. Zenith Press

LAST TO DIE by Stephen Harding

A book review by JC Sullivan

Stephen Harding is a New York Times bestselling author of eight books. He began kicking around the idea for this one over thirty years ago when he first got wind of the story of Sergeant Tony Marchione, the last to die in combat in World War Two.

He was born into a first-generation Italian-American family from the heavily-Italian south end of Pottstown, Pennsylvania.

His parents, Raffaele Marchione and Emelia Ciancaglioni, had emigrated from the Abruzzo region of Italy, he from San Buono and she from Scerni. Although born nine miles apart in the same week of June, 1877, they met here in the U.S. and married June 25, 1922 in St. Aloysius Church in Pottstown.

Tony grew up there, graduating from Pottstown High School in 1943. He was a talented guy, an accomplished design draftsman and musical trumpeter, playing in the High School Band and a small group that earned extra cash for them by playing local gigs.

When World War Two broke out he enlisted in the then-US Army Air Force, later to become our U.S. Air

Force. Enlisting to be a pilot, he ended up being trained in a different Military Occupational Specialty.

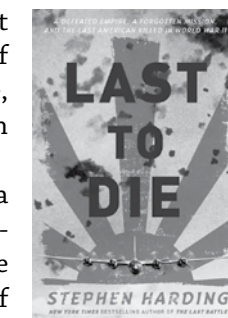
His high school photography courses put into a different direction.

On August 18, 1945, three days after the war ended, he was a gunner/photographer's assistant on a photo reconnaissance flight over Tokyo. Although on that day he was in a Consolidated

Aircraft B-32 Dominator from the 386th Bombardment Squadron, his actual unit was the Yontan-based 20th Reconnaissance Squadron.

Unfortunately, there were Japanese die-hard pilots who weren't ready to listen to their Emperor's dictate to lay down their arms. The B-32 was attacked and, while comforting a wounded crewman, Marchione was fatally wounded himself. He bled to death in the skies over Tokyo.

Last to Die is a multi-faceted story. Yes, it's about the unfortunate end of Sergeant Marchione and the impact his death had on his family. But it's also a historical education about the Pacific War; our WWII US Army Air Force, our aircraft, our men, our Commanders in



the Theater, the Far East Air Forces (FEAF) and even the attempted coup in Hirohito's Imperial Palace.

Author Stephen Harding does not bore the reader with his incredibly detailed research about the men, their aircraft and the part of the war they were engaged in. In sentence after sentence, paragraph after paragraph and chapter after chapter he commands your attention.

Were this 1950 I would recommend Pacific War veterans read about themselves and understand details of it and the bigger picture. As we know, they're passing in record numbers. Being this is not, perhaps their descendants, and even

Japanese-Americans of historical bent and military historians will appreciate what Harding has detailed.

And they would also learn of the sacrifice of the Marchione family and their son, Sergeant Anthony Marchione, who is interred in St. Aloysius Cemetery, Pottstown, Pennsylvania.

Sullivan is a U.S. Army veteran who served with the 2nd Armored Division (Hell on Wheels) at Fort Hood, Texas, the Arizona/California Mojave Desert and with NATO in the field in Europe. He resides in Northfield Village, Ohio. He's Past Commander of American Legion Post 196, Brecksville and Post 801, Nardon Hills.

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Taps for Our Comrade-in-Arms

by Taylor Moore

He was African-American. He was drafted in 1959. He made history. He was my grandfather. SP/4 Fred Moore was the first black troop to join the 3rd Infantry Brigade, The Old Guard, which since 1948 has guarded the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

When his draft notice arrived, the Cleveland native was not pleased. "I was working and the draft notice just rubbed me the

wrong way." The last place he wanted to be was in Army basic training, where life dramatically changes. Fate had other ideas.

At Fort Knox, Kentucky, he marched instead of walking. There was no dining room; he ate in the mess hall. Shoes were replaced by boots. No private bed or bedroom; Moore slept on a bunk bed in the barracks. He learned to accurately fire a rifle and clean it well enough to satisfy his drill sergeant.

His platoon sergeant told the new troops, "The Army can do more to you than you can do to the Army." The sergeant should have said, "The officer should have said, "The officer can do more for you than you can do for the Army."

While still in basic training, he was called to an officer's office. The officer told Moore he had scored exceptionally well on tests. At 6 feet 1 inch, Moore was an impressive troop.

The officer asked Moore if he would like to be in the Honor

Guard Company.

Moore had no idea what the officer was talking about.

The officer told Moore the 3rd Infantry Brigade was called The Old Guard. Among its duties, The Old Guard protected the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The Tomb is on a hilltop in Arlington National Cemetery. Come hell or high water, these spit-shined troops faithfully perform their duties.

Moore accepted the assignment.

The Old Guard Honor Company also provides an escort platoon, a casket platoon, a firing party, and a color guard. Moore was first assigned to the firing party. "We served military funerals in Arlington National Cemetery. Sometimes we did funerals every half hour."

There was more. He and his unit were part of parades and ceremonies. For visiting dignitaries, his unit was assigned as the ceremonial guard.

Though there is a spectacular view of Washington, D.C., visitors

don't pay much attention to the scenery. They are focused on the white marble sarcophagus and the lone soldier who guards it, 21 steps at a time.

While there has been a 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week military guard at the Tomb since July of 1937, the 4th Battalion, 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) didn't assume its watch until 1948.

"You were busy all the time.



SP/4 Fred Moore

You were busy, just about every day. When I first got there, once I got my training and settled into the company, I was on the military firing party, we did military funerals in

Arlington National Cemetery," Moore recalled. "We fired the rifles over the graves, and we did that five days out of the week. Sometimes, we would have burials every half-hour on the hour.

"The next thing I know, the word came back to the company that they told me to get my stuff, I was moving out of the 3rd Platoon, I was going down to the Tomb Guard platoon, I was going into training, and that was in January. So I went into training in January and in March I became a guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier," he said.

My grandpa was a man among men. He is loving, modest, and his service to the Unknown Soldier is exemplary.

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Staff Sergeant Salvatore A. Giunta, Medal of Honor

Date of Issue: 11/16/2010

Organization: U.S. Army, Battle Company, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173d Airborne Brigade

Citation: Specialist Salvatore A. Giunta distinguished himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in action with an armed enemy in the Korengal Valley, Afghanistan, on October 25, 2007.



While conducting a patrol as team leader with Company B, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 503d Infantry Regiment, Specialist Giunta and his team were navigating through harsh terrain when they were ambushed by a well-armed and well-coordinated insurgent force.



Specialist Salvatore A. Giunta

While under heavy enemy fire, Specialist Giunta immediately sprinted towards cover and engaged the enemy. Seeing that his squad leader had fallen and believing that he had been injured, Specialist Giunta exposed himself to withering enemy fire and raced towards his squad leader, helped him to cover, and administered medical aid.

While administering first aid, enemy fire struck Specialist Giunta's body armor and his secondary weapon. Without regard to the ongoing

fire, Specialist Giunta engaged the enemy before prepping and throwing grenades, using the explosions for cover in order to conceal his position.

Attempting to reach additional wounded fellow soldiers who were separated from the squad, Specialist Giunta and his team encountered a barrage of enemy fire that forced them to the ground. The team continued forward and upon reaching

the wounded soldiers, Specialist Giunta realized that another soldier was still separated from the element.

Specialist Giunta then advanced forward on his own initiative. As he crested the top of a hill, he observed two insurgents carrying away an American soldier. He immediately engaged the enemy, killing one and wounding the other.

Upon reaching the wounded soldier, he began to provide medical aid, as his squad caught up and provided security. Specialist Giunta's

unwavering courage, selflessness, and decisive leadership while under extreme enemy fire were integral to his platoon's ability to defeat an enemy ambush and recover a fellow American soldier from the enemy.

Specialist Salvatore A. Giunta's extraordinary heroism and selflessness above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, Company B, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 503d Infantry Regiment, and the United States Army.



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Monsanto and Dow Chemical: War Profiteers



\$20,000,000 lobbying, giving almost one million dollars directly to political campaigns. During the same period, Monsanto spent almost \$10,000,000 in lobbying. (Source: OpenSecrets.org)

In November 1961, President John F. Kennedy authorized the start of Operation Ranch Hand, the codename for the U.S. Air Force's herbicide program in Vietnam.

Agent Orange was manufactured primarily by Monsanto Corporation and Dow Chemical.

It was given its name from the color of the orange-striped barrels in which it was shipped, and was by far the most widely used of the so-called "Rainbow Herbicides."

Follow the money. Dow Chemical's 2013 net sales exceeded \$57 billion according to their 2013 annual report.

Monsanto made almost \$15 billion last year. And these companies don't hesitate to throw their financial weight around the halls of government.

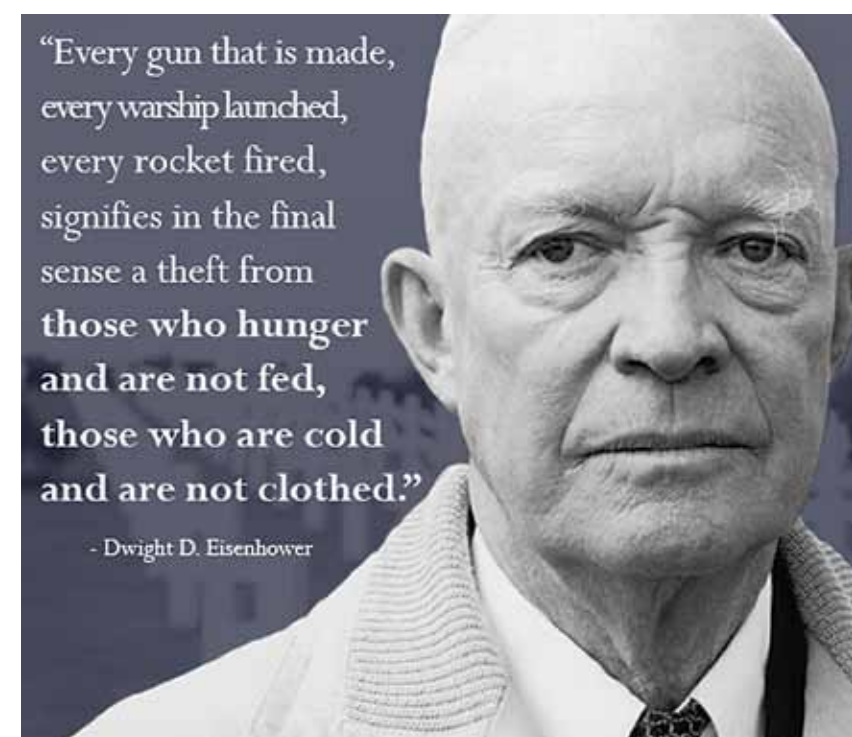
During the 2014 election cycle, Dow Chemical spent over

The 2,4,5-T used to produce Agent Orange was contaminated with 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzodioxin (TCDD), an extremely toxic dioxin compound.

In some areas, TCDD concentrations in soil and water were hundreds of times greater than the levels considered safe by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

"Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired, signifies in the final sense a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed."

- Dwight D. Eisenhower



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*The US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Honoring Those Who Served ... and Kept on Serving

The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame was created by former Governor George V. Voinovich in 1992 to demonstrate his concern for Ohio veterans returning home due to military downsizing as a result of the end of the Cold War.

Former Ohio Bureau of Employment Services' Administrator, James Conrad, proposed the Hall of Fame to recognize the post-military achievements of outstanding veterans and realized how such a program would spotlight all veterans' contributions to the civilian workplace.

In 1992, a special panel of representatives from the state's veterans organizations was brought together to discuss the idea of es-



tablishing the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame. The panel endorsed the idea for the purpose of increasing awareness of the lifetime contributions of veterans after completion of honorable military service.

Charter members of the Hall of Fame included the six Ohio military veterans who were elected

president of the United States and all Medal of Honor recipients from Ohio. A committee of veterans serves as advisors for the Hall of Fame and selects up to 20 inductees annually from nominations solicited from all citizens of Ohio throughout the year. Men and women chosen for this honor come from all eras, all branches of service and

all walks of life.

The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame is not a military hall of fame. Those selected for the honor are veterans who have honorably served their country and who have continued to serve and inspire their fellow man with their deeds and accomplishments throughout their lifetime.

News from the pharmacy

Endo Pharmaceuticals is pushing its drug, **Xiaflex**, for patients suffering Dupuytren's contracture, in which a finger contracts.

Xiaflex helps straighten a "rope-like" cord which can be felt. The stuff is designed to straighten, along with surgery, the condition.

Here are the benefits:

In two clinical trials, success rates of 64 percent and 44 percent.

Here are the negative effects:

- In two clinical trials, success rates of 64 percent and 44 percent. Sixty-four and 44 percent? *I think your odds are better at the blackjack tables;*
- Tendon rupture or ligament damage; *there goes your fastball;*
- Nerve damage or other serious injury of the hand;
- Hypersensitivity reactions. Severe allergic reactions because it contains foreign proteins. *Foreign proteins? From what country or planet?*

Hospice of the Western Reserve and HMC Hospice of Medina County Announce Completion of Merger; Expanded Organization Offers Increased Efficiencies, More Care Options

CLEVELAND AND MEDINA, OHIO (Sept. 1, 2015) – The merger between Hospice of the Western Reserve and HMC Hospice of Medina County is complete, and the agreement is fully executed. The news follows a March announcement that the nonprofit community agencies had signed a letter of intent to explore a strategic partnership. With a shared history of nearly 70 years of service in Northern Ohio, the two organizations are among the nation's oldest and most experienced legacy providers of hospice care.

For one year, both entities will operate under their own names. No workforce reductions are planned. Collectively, the two agencies care for approximately 2,300 patients and their families each day. Together, they will have cared for more than 100,000 patients by October of this year. The service area encompasses Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina and Summit counties.

"Healthcare reform requires greater efficiency to address rising operational costs and declining reimbursements and to maintain high quality care," explained Bill Finn, President and CEO. "Uniting the two organizations makes sense. It accomplishes these goals."

Hospice of the Western Reserve will oversee organizational, financial and leadership responsibilities. Andy Dunham, previously a member of the HMC Hospice of Medina County Board of Directors, has transitioned into a new role as a member of the Board of Directors of Hospice of the Western Reserve. A newly formed Medina County Advisory Council will play an integral role in representing Medina County, working hand-in-hand with the Board.

"We're especially excited about the expanded continuum of care that will be available for those who struggle with progressive illness," added Mitzi Kerr, Executive Director, HMC Hospice of Medina

County. "Each agency has added programs and services in response to community needs. Many of our programs complement each other. Patients, families and local communities will benefit from a richer and more extensive range of services."

Some of the enhanced assets and services available through the newly merged organizations include:

- The regions largest team of certified hospice and palliative care professionals
- Three hospice house care centers to provide short-term, specialized symptom control and comprehensive support in the final days of life
- Home healthcare and private-pay services
- Palliative care (symptom management) for those with earlier-stage chronic disease
- A specialized pediatric palliative care team
- A combined force of more than 3,350 dedicated volunteers
- One of the nations most compre-

hensive grief support programs, available to the community as well as patients families

• A Hospice Institute providing fellowships, training and continuing education credits to Northern Ohio healthcare professionals, clinical research and an award-winning end-of-life library

• An advanced illness home care program offered in partnership with insurance providers to help those with earlier-stage chronic illness maintain independence and reduce hospitalizations

"Patients and families are the real beneficiaries of the merger," Finn said. "Those served by both organizations can be confident they will receive the same level of specialized, high quality care they expect and deserve." Both agencies enthusiastically endorse and support the merger, believing it will improve access to a well-coordinated continuum of care for the patients and families who need it most.

Save the Date to Join Us for Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary's 2015 Compassionate Thanksgiving Buffet — Sat., Nov. 14th

Every year, just before the actual day of Thanksgiving, 500 guests join Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary to start off their holiday celebration in a big way.

Happy Trails Compassionate Thanksgiving welcomes the beginning of the season of good will with a traditional yet animal-friendly feast that the sanctuary hosts at Todaro's Party Center located on Akron-Peninsula Road in Akron.

An amazing, mouth-watering buffet that

features traditional Thanksgiving dishes that are created vegan (no animal products) is made exclusively for this event by the Master Chefs at Todaro's.

The Compassionate Thanksgiving also gives guests an opportunity to show their support of the animal rescue, educational and community outreach programs of Happy Trails and snag some unique gift items as well. Happy Trails logo apparel such as winter jackets, scarves, hats, t-shirts, and other logo items such as mouse pads, travel mugs, key chains, bumper stickers, jewelry, calendars, and more, are available to purchase at the event.

Another event highlight is the inspiring presentation by Happy Trails Founder and Executive Director, Annette Fisher. Focusing on all that is good and positive, she shares animal updates and sanctuary news, and encourages everyone with suggestions on how to make your holidays animal-friendly and cruelty-free.

Visit www.happytrailsfarm.org

Happy Trails 2015 Compassionate Thanksgiving

Todaro's Party Center

1820 Akron Peninsula Rd., Akron

Saturday, November 14th

Tickets \$55 per person

Reservations required. Event sells out. Be sure to get your tickets early!

330-296-5914 • happytrailsfarm.org

Doors Open/Holiday Shopping - 5:00pm

Thanksgiving Buffet (vegan) - 5:30pm

Presentation by Annette Fisher - 6:15pm

Join Us for the Private VIP Cocktail Reception 4pm - 5pm!

Enjoy unlimited cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the private meet-and-greet cocktail reception with Happy Trails Founder and Executive Director, Annette Fisher, Board of Directors members, and key staff. Ask questions. Hear stories.

Be a part of the team.

(\$40 per person for the VIP Reception)



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

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Woodland Cemetery: Soldiers and Citizens

By Heidi K. Fearing

On June 14, 1853 Cleveland's Mayor, city government officials, clergy, and a few citizens gathered under a shady grove for the dedication of Woodland Cemetery.

The flat but tree copious 60-acres used for the new burial ground had been purchased in 1851 and developed by Cleveland's city council to take the place of Erie Street Cemetery. Its name, decided one week before the dedication, originated from a poem about Cleveland by the Scottish poet Thomas Campbell called "Pleasures of Hope." The ground was dug for the cemetery's first burial nine days after its dedication. Since then Woodland has become the final resting place for everyone from the ordinary citizen, to Ohio governors, to war veterans.

Woodland's markers are just as varied as the people buried there, adding to the charm and interest of the cemetery. The gravestones are arranged in a rural cemetery style, using the landscape to determine their placement, and creating a park-like atmosphere. These and



other features, such as a fountain, a chapel, and a stone gateway, made Woodland an attractive place for Clevelanders to visit. However, its popularity and location as a stop for Cleveland street cars had also made it a convenient, but temporary, location for illegalities such as prostitution and cadaver hunting.

Two Soldiers' Lots for Civil War soldiers were purchased by the federal government in 1868. These lots do not contain all of the veterans buried in Woodland. Graves belonging to soldiers from every war

since 1812, some unmarked, are scattered amongst the graves of civilians.

There is even one Confederate soldier among them. Not surprisingly, Civil War soldiers outnumber the other veterans in the Cemetery. Out of the 15,600 Cuyahoga county men who were eligi-

ble for service during the Civil War, over 10,000 served in the military.

Three monuments stand in the cemetery to honor these men: one for the 23rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry was erected in 1865; one for the 7th Ohio Volunteer Infantry was built in 1872; and one recognizing the Grand Army of the Republic was built in 1909. Future presidents Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley were in attendance at the dedication of the latter. The cemetery will soon have a fourth Civil War monument built

to honor the 86 black soldiers who are buried there.

Not all of the courageous individuals from that time have monuments or soldier burials at Woodland Cemetery. An example is Sara Lucy Bagby Johnson, a runaway slave who hid in Cleveland. When she was finally apprehended she became one of the last slaves to face charges under the Fugitive Slave Act. A headstone has just recently been given to Johnson, who before had been buried in an unmarked grave. Also buried there is Eliza Simmons Bryant who founded the Cleveland Home for Aged Colored People, and Ohio's first black state senator, John Patterson Green. While visiting and exploring Woodland Cemetery, one can stumble upon these and the graves of other famous politicians, inventors, and Cleveland pioneers.

Heidi K. Fearing, "Woodland Cemetery," *Cleveland Historical*, accessed August 16, 2015, clevelandhistorical.org/items/show/327.

Image Courtesy of Cleveland Public Library Photograph Collection.

VA Benefits, Compensation and Grants for Veterans with ALS

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is considered a disease with presumptive service connection. Simply put, if a veteran has ALS, it is assumed that the disease either occurred during or was aggravated by military service. Because of that designation, certain benefits, compensation and grants are available to these veterans.

Disability compensation is one form of the benefits often provided for service connected diseases. Paid monthly, the amount of compensation varies based on the severity of the disability and the number of the veteran's dependents. In some severe cases, veterans may be eligible for additional VA compensation known as Special Monthly Compensation.

In addition, grants are available for specially adaptive housing (SAH), vehicles and adaptive equipment. As the disease results in loss of motor skills, certain adaptations may be deemed necessary for veterans with ALS to navigate their daily activities. The SAH grant can be given up to three times, but the total of all grants may not exceed the maximum allowed amount of roughly \$73,000.

Unlike the SAH grant, the automobile grant can only be issued once during a veteran's lifetime. This grant cannot exceed \$20,114.34, and it must be used for the purchase of a new vehicle or conveyance that is needed as a result of a service connected condition. Adaptive equipment grants may also be issued, and that grant can be used to make adjustments to help the eligible veteran in and out of the vehicle. Some examples include power steering, power windows, power brakes, power seats or other adaptive equipment.

Before purchasing equipment, you should contact your local VA medical center's prosthetic department. The adaptive equipment grant may be paid more than once, and it may be paid to either the seller or the veteran.

Experts in VA claims and benefits are available to provide complimentary assistance to veterans at county veterans service commissions in each of Ohio's 88 counties. These experts can provide guidance on how best to apply for compensation, benefits and grants, helping veterans through the entire process. A fully developed claim with accurate and complete information will expedite the process for veterans and decrease the chance of their claim being lost in the backlog.

Veterans with other service connected conditions may also be eligible to receive VA benefits. For more information about service connections or about applying for compensation, the automobile grant and/or the special adaptive equipment grant, call the Summit County Veterans Service Commission (VSC) at 330-643-2830. Request an appointment with a County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO) to assist in completing the necessary forms. The VSO will then submit all required forms and supporting documentation to the local VA regional office.

THE VSC CAN HELP.

YOU'VE SERVED. NOW LET US SERVE YOU.

The Veterans Service Commission (VSC) of Summit County connects veterans and their families with the resources to bridge the gap from military service to civilian life. The VSC also assists veterans who have successfully transitioned but may need help connecting with benefits and services available to honorably discharged veterans.

VSC PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO VETERANS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- ★ VA claims and benefits
- ★ Military service injuries or illnesses
- ★ Emergency financial aid
- ★ Education options
- ★ VA health care
- ★ Transportation services
- ★ Funeral and burial services
- ★ And more



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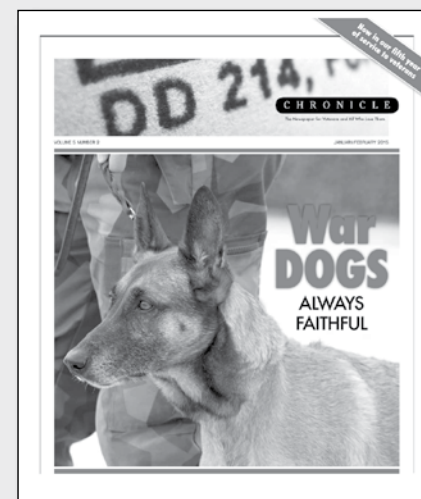
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Keep a globe next to your desktop or marry a military historian

The United States of America has invaded or fought in 85 out of 194 countries in the world and has had some form of military involvement with a spectacular 191 out of 194 of them.

Military historian Christopher Kelly can take you on a global tour this Veteran's Day of America's military activity around the world, from the halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli and everywhere in between.

Kelly can reveal many of the little-known triumphs, tragedies and even oddball involvement of American forces, all of which he has included in his new book with co-author Stuart Laycock, *America Invades: How We've Invaded or Been Militarily Involved With Almost Every Country on Earth*.

1. How many countries has the U.S. has invaded and how many countries we have been militarily involved with?

Out of 194 UN countries in

the world (excluding the US itself) Americans have invaded eighty-five or 44 percent of the total. We defined invasion as an armed attack or intervention by American forces. Incidentally, we added the 85th country, Syria, to the E-book after publication of our printed edition – due to the activity related to countering ISIS.

2. What was the very first invasion launched by Americans?

Our first American Invasion (NOT by the USA of course) took place in 1741 when over 3,500 American colonial troops participated in an assault on Cartagena in what is today Columbia. This took place during the War of Jenkin's Ear between the British and the Spanish. The leader of the expedition was Admiral Edward Vernon. One of the American soldiers was Lawrence Washington, the older half-brother of George. The assault was

not successful but George named his home, Mount Vernon, in honor of Lawrence's commanding officer.

3. What is the most current invasion launched by Americans?

Our most recent "invasion", as defined above, is our recent activity in Syria against ISIS.

4. Can you tell us some little-known stories and fun facts about America's military involvement with countries around the world?

Shakey Johnson was a Swedish-American who grew up in Sacramento, California (my hometown). After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor Johnson joined the US Navy. He served on board a ship that cruised through the Mediterranean. His ship called at ports in Italy where he learned about pizza. Johnson later founded the first American family pizza chain – Shakey's Pizza parlors.



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or visit www.lorainccc.edu/veterans

or email our office at veterans@lorainccc.edu.



"The Veterans Services staff at LCCC is great and I was able to work with a success coach right from the beginning," said Navy veteran Esperanza Correa. She is studying social work at LCCC through the University Partnership.



 Lorain County Community College

News From a Parallel Universe



Weight Watchers is partnering with the U.S. Army to market a weight loss program. WW members will be offered surplus C-Rations. Brigadier Gen. Atticus Muldoon told a packed audience at WW's annual conference, "This could be a win-win situation, or, a win-lose situation." The audience roared, thinking about the fun of ham and lima beans, pound cake, and the odd P-38. Gen. Muldoon added, "It's good for Weight Watchers, and it's good for the Pentagon supply warehouses. There are about 55 million meals crated and ready to ship."

Parades for Veterans Day this year will include a float featuring barrels of Agent Orange. The floats will be sponsored by Monsanto.

As part of the Department of Defense cost-cutting program, meat will no longer be served on Navy ships. Admiral Edward Senko said, "Why I didn't think of this before, I'll never know. We're sitting on top of a fish fry that can include oysters, lobsters, shrimp, and clams. Maybe we'll even serve shark fin soup. How's that for a recruiting tool?"

The U.S. Department of Defense is selling its aging stock of drones. The governor of Texas yelled, "Can we have first dibs?"



Before you sign on the dotted line, enlistment papers now have this addition, printed


in ink only a fly could see, "I promise to leave behind my cell phone, lap top, CDs, Nooks, and anything else my parents really don't care for."

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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.



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