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A Monument Befitting Their Sacrifices

The Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument on Public Square: An Intimate Visit to the Men Who Fought and Died to Keep America, 'One Nation, Under God, With Liberty and Justice for All'

By Tim Daley, Executive Director Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission

This monument to the 9,000 Cuyahoga County men who fought and won the Civil War is history writ large. All the anguish, bravery, and power of the Union forces is here. It is visual and tactile. Once inside the recently renovated shrine, the cool air and sober silence encourage reflection and wonder.

Visiting the monument can take a few minutes or a couple hours. It is purely fascinating and a touchstone to our past.

Dedicated July 4, 1894, the monument resulted from the collective efforts of Civil War veterans, their supporting organizations and the need to remember the more than 9,000 Civil War soldiers and sailors from Cuyahoga County.

Today the monument is both a highly identifiable part of Public Square and one of Cleveland's best-kept secrets. While the dramatic exterior bronzes and the late Victorian style monument with its column are landmarks, the colorful monument interior containing the names and service organizations of the veterans with four significant bronze reliefs is unknown to many long-time residents.

A visit can be both somber and uplifting with historic figures and events depicted in life-size works. The monument's architect and sculptor, Levi Scofield, was a veteran from Cuyahoga



Senior Clerk Bill Tyler, your gracious host at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, is happy to show you some of the secrets here, such as, that's Todd Lincoln behind his father, Abraham.

County who incorporated his wartime experiences in his work. This is a site not to be missed by those interested in the Civil War, its veterans and lovers of art.

The monument was recently renovated throughout its interior, restoring the majestic colored marble tablets to their original glory. The funds came from public and private supporters, including Cuyahoga

County, the State of Ohio and the U.S. Department of Interior (National Park Service *Save America's Treasures Program*.) Former County Architect Berj Shakarian describes it, "... a labor of love expressing the best of its era – a romantic period in America."

The monument is open for visitors year round with extended hours during Navy Week.

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I Want a Draft and I Want it Now

I want a draft and I want it now. I want every 18-year old American boy and girl to register for the draft ... and be drafted. Term of service will be two years.

Draftees will have two choices: national service or the military.

If the choice is national service, they will help repair urban infrastructures, work as firefighters as the trend toward massive and destructive forest fires continues, take positions with organizations such as the Humane Society of America, Habitat for Humanity, and the Red Cross. Opportunities are virtually unlimited.

If the choice is military, included are uniforms, training, travel, and adventure, as well as the possibility of violent death, loss of limbs, and PTSD.

In both the armed forces and the national service, training will be provided. Reasonable paycheck, too,

along with health care, and educational benefits.

Deferments are limited to those in comas, body casts, caskets, and prisons. Anyone refusing national service will be placed in a coma, a body cast, a casket, or prison.

The benefits are so numerous they cannot be listed here. However, major benefits to national or military service include:



The opportunity to meet and live with persons from other parts of the country. A Bronx accent is different than a Memphis accent, which is different than a New Orleans accent, which is different than a Dallas accent, which is different than a St. Johnsbury, Vermont accent. Perspectives are different and values vary; backgrounds and aspirations, too.

A unique education outside any classroom that will provide perspective and pride in America.

A sense of belonging to America; the satisfaction of contributing to the future of the country.

The country benefits because our young people bring to the service their energy, new ideas, idealism, and perspectives. They leave with a new appreciation of our multi-cultural society and the challenges that lie before us.

Just as important, the program provides a military with draftees, not just volunteers. My own feeling is that an army filled with draftees, as well as volunteers and career troops, is a far better armed force. Draftees add educations and experiences to the armed forces, and keep the military closer to us. With draftees, we pay closer attention to what the armed forces are doing.

In both the armed forces and the national service, training will be provided. Reasonable paycheck, too, along with health care, and educational benefits.

What, No Uplift?

The Army must be serious about women in combat. Body armor is being tailored to better fit the female form. Using Xena, the Warrior Princess' outfit for a model, the new threads will accentuate the positive: more curves in the chest and hips along with more narrow shoulders.



Women soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division are testing new models, but the Army says it will take a few years to finish the design and manufacture. In the meantime, women warriors will continue to be subjected to ill-fitting gear.

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Tri-C Veterans' Education Connection Center Going Strong Partners Renew Financial Commitments

Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) has announced that its highly successful Tri-C Veterans Education Connection Center (VECC) at The Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center will continue to operate "all ahead full" thanks to renewed financial commitments from the Center's two original supporters AT&T and retired Tri-C associate professor and veteran, Ms. Bettie Baker. AT&T renewed its commitment with a \$60,000 donation while Ms. Baker committed her continuing support with a \$50,000 donation.

The VECC learning lab meets the needs of veteran students not quite ready for the campus environment with access to distance learning degree program opportunities, and support services from Tri-C. The Center, which opened December 7, 2010, has now seen approximately 1,500 veterans come through its doors. Of that number, 250 have been identified as

"core users", coming back two-to-three times per week. Open five days a week the Center includes; six Tri-C eLearning workstations, and two high-resolution ONYX visual acuity monitors. The Center is staffed by U. S. Army veteran and Tri-C Veterans'

Coordinator Matthew Miller who assists veterans with Tri-C eLearning registration and enrollment support; benefits acquisition support, as well as access to both College and community resources.

"The ongoing operation of this Center is a continuation of Tri-C's long standing commitment to providing access and opportunity to



Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton

the veterans of Northeast Ohio," said Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton, President of Tri-C. "Tri-C is where futures have begun for more than 24,000 veterans since the College opened in the late 60's. We are excited to have this opportunity to bring our educational

programs and services directly to those who have served so proudly." The College's efforts in operating the Center were recently recognized by U.S. Secretary of Veterans' Affairs, General Eric Shinseki (USA, ret) in a speech to a national audience of college educators in Washington, D.C. this past February.

As the major caregivers to our ser-

vice men and women those at The Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center are also critically aware of the role that education plays in the healing process of our wounded warriors. The accomplishment of educational goals is critical in the transition home process for veterans. The location of the Tri-C Veterans Education Connection Center at Wade Park helps to assure the success of that transition for those not yet ready to be in a campus environment.

Through the College's Veterans Initiative, Tri-C continues its commitment to veterans and their families. That commitment has earned the College the designation as a "Military Friendly Campus" from GI Jobs Magazine for the last four years, placing it in the top 15 percent of all institutions of higher learning across the country. For further information about the Initiative call 216-987-3193 or visit: www.tri-c.edu/veterans/

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Semper Fi: Corporal Palfy Had the Time of Her Life in Uniform

By Calvin Ball

When Rose Palfy graduated from Parma High School, she was unsure which tack to take. A number of classmates were joining the military and a friend who was a Marine encouraged her.

At the recruitment office, she watched a film of women recruits making their ways through boot camp. She was sold.

When she finished boot camp, she was temporarily assigned to the recruiting office where she saw the film. When the recruiter played the video, Palfy noted it was a new video.

Not at all, the recruiter said; it's the same one you watched. Hmmm. Somehow the film didn't correspond with her experience.

That's because of the many differences between watching and doing. The women in the video climbed

ropes as if they grew up in circuses. Not so with Palfy, who couldn't climb the rope if a tiger were chasing her.

"Physically, boot camp is hard," she said, "but it's harder mentally. In boot camp, I have no idea what time we got up. There were no clocks. No radios.

We didn't wear watches. The food was edible but there were no desserts or soft drinks."

She didn't give up and on graduation day, her parents, along with her brother and two friends, came to the ceremony. She earned two additional stripes in boot camp and graduated



a private first class.

After boot camp, a good interview landed her in Defense Information School where she studied journalism. Two years later, she would return to study broadcast journalism. In between assignments, she added another

stripe to her uniform.

Although she could now wear a watch and enjoy desserts, the Corps kept her busier than a one-eyed cat watching two mouse holes. She wrote for the Camp Lejeune newspaper, *The Globe*. In addition to news, feature stories, and sports, she hit the road to

cover artillery training in Cuba, relief efforts after Hurricane Andrew, and former President George Bush on the campaign trail. She worked on a daily military report for the local ABC affiliate in New Bern, North Carolina. "Sometimes I covered the story, sometimes I did the voice over and sometimes I wrote the script." Resourceful troops, those Marines.

The Splendid Splinter, USMC

"It's a funny thing, but, as years go by, I think you appreciate more and more what a great thing it was to be a United States Marine. People will tell me what a shame it was I had to go back into the service a second time, but I'm kinda glad I did. Besides, I am a U.S. Marine and I'll be one till I die."

- Ted Williams



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THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' MONUMENT WELCOMES NAVY WEEK TO CLEVELAND

Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Upcoming Events

Aug. 27 - Sept. 3 Navy Week Hours

9am to 4pm - Mon. Aug. 27th and Tue. Aug. 28th
9am to 7pm - Wen. Aug. 29th thru Mon. Sept. 3rd

Aug. 27 – Oct. 31 Special Exhibit at the Monument

"Naval Valor Throughout the Years: The 20 Naval Recipient of the Medal of Honor accredited to the State of Ohio" which spans the period of the Civil War to Vietnam.

Aug. 28

Historical Talk at the Old Stone Church – 7pm

Presentation by Ms. Margherita Desy, the Naval History & Heritage Command Detachment Boston historian for USS Constitution. Ms. Desy will present a program entitled "The time to try the stoutest heart": Ocean and lake battles in the War of 1812.

Aug. 30

Memorial Service for the 95th Bomber Group Reunion – 11am

Join these WW II Veterans of the European Theater as they honor the memory of their departed comrades.

Sept. 7

Monument's Clambake Fundraiser at Pura Vida – 5pm

Help raise funds for our Educational Outreach Programs.
Visit www.soldiersandsailors.com for all the details.
Deadline for reservations is Aug. 31, 2012.

Sept. 8

Descendant's Day at the Monument – 10am

Come hear the stories of those commemorated at the Monument and bring a story to share. All are invited to meet descendants of Civil War Veterans and to join us as we honor our ancestors.

Oct. 27

Tunnel Tours – 9am to 4pm (Must be in line by 3pm.)

Have a Spooktacular time as you tour the Inside and Underneath of the Monument.
No reservations required.

Nov. 24

Holiday Lighting and Santa at the Monument – 12 Noon to 6pm

Enjoy some old fashioned Victorian hospitality and learn about Christmas during the Civil War. Bring the kids and the camera and visit the jolly old elf himself.

**For further information please call 216-621-3746 or 216-621-3710
www.soldiersandsailors.com**

Sgt. Catherine Hofer: Mother, Student, Soldier

by Ann Marie Stasko, managing editor

Despite good grades and a passion for her nursing program, Catherine Hofer won't be graduating this spring at Kent State University.

She'll be in Afghanistan, a buck sergeant working on a rocker in the MPs.

Eager as she is to accept her degree and get started on a career as a trauma nurse, there are loose ends to be tied up in the war zone, and she is among the troops with the mission.

The military seed was planted when she attended her father's graduation ceremony at Fort Benning. He is a veteran of Desert Storm and a troop in the 10th Mountain Division.

Military service held a special place in her heart, but her reason for joining wasn't typical. She joined after a relationship imploded.

She thought long and hard about her future and the future of her two children, now 5 and eleven.

The military offered her fun, travel, and adventure, along with G.I.

Bill benefits. More important it offered a new career, a new lifestyle, and the opportunity to expand her education and horizons. She joined the National Guard for a six-year tour of duty but has decided she will stay for 20 years.

The National Guard and the military service have become her family. "I love everything about it, especially the camaraderie I found. My own family isn't the tightest knit, but my military family is always there."

Hofer, once confused and frustrated with life, has been reborn in the military and at Kent State. "It allows me to offer a better life to my children."

If she wasn't 30 years old, and had the time for it, she would make an excellent cheerleader for Kent State University. "I love Kent," she said. "I've



Sergeant Cat

finished my electives and have a minor in psychology and sociology."

When she talks about her education and instructors at Kent State, her voice rises. She is proud of Kent and its programs because she

was able to see excellent teachers dedicated to education. "They are the best," she said. "The nursing teachers are incredibly knowledgeable and truly committed to making sure you excel in the program. The instructors seem to think working one-on-one with students is part of their jobs, and I guess it is, but the commitment to making me a successful nurse is what I'm most grateful for."

The Kent State campus is filled with young people in their late teens and early 20s. They arrive fresh from

high school graduation parties. (New students have been arriving at Kent State since 1910.)

The gap, then, between young students and student veterans is formidable. For many young students, Mom and Dad are generously paying room, board, and tuition. In the case of veterans, the differences are substantial. In addition to her schoolwork and rearing two boys, Hofer works more than one job.

She's not complaining, not at all. In fact, she seems driven to succeed and delighted with the opportunity. It is just that veteran students are different. So, in addition to parenting, studying, and working, Hofer was instrumental in the creation of the Kent State Veterans Club. The club provides space and time for like-minded veterans to gather and encourage each other. Hofer said, "Vets felt out of place." Not any more.

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The Student Veterans Services office at LCCC assists all veterans, guardsmen, reservists and their spouses with making the transition to a successful educational career. You've done your duty, now let us help you prepare for your future.

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or visit www.lorainccc.edu/veterans

or email our office at veterans@lorainccc.edu.

 Lorain County Community College

“What a Marvelous Gift for Generations to Come”

By Diane Snyder Cowan

At Hospice of the Western Reserve, some of our best work is life closure activities. We provide art and music therapy, reminiscence, life review, spiritual care, and legacy work such as ethical wills. It wasn't until my daughter was in high school and had an assignment to interview someone who served in World War II that we talked about this with my dad.

I don't know if this was the trigger for my dad to start talking about his war experience, but he talked about it ever since — until his death last year. He had some pretty remarkable stories. He volunteered when he was 17, lying about his age because he wanted to serve his country. He worked on a train shoveling coal. When he volunteered to go to the front line, he had to have another physical. According to dad, the doctor turned



over his dog tag and noticed that there was an H on the back and said to dad, “Enough of your peo-

ple have been killed. No, you can't go back to the front.” An H on the back of the dog tag meant Hebrew.

So my dad went back to working on the train. He did go to a concentration camp at the end of the war, not as a prisoner, but as part of his tour of service. He sent home photographs he'd found but his father destroyed them. He did not want to disturb my grandmother whose other son was still in a hospital in Europe. We ultimately had Dad interviewed for the National Archives Project and now each of us has a digital recording of his voice telling his story. What a marvelous gift for generations to come!

About Hospice of the Western Reserve

Hospice of the Western Reserve is a community-based, non-profit agency providing comfort and emotional support to patients and their families in Northeastern Ohio. The agency cares for people in a variety of settings, including the home, hospital, long-term care facility, at David Simpson Hospice House overlooking Lake Erie and at the new Ames Family Hospice House in Westlake. For more information, visit hospicewr.org or call 800-707-8922.

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Odes to Joy, Middlemarchers, and The Last Tycoons: Taxpayers All

By Carol Grady

Odd the way the many joys of Christmas, Hanukah, and New Year's can be stomped on by the IRS. We no sooner wrap up one year and begin a new one but the revenuers begin popping up in our thoughts and conversations.

One of local television's annual staples is the line of cars at the Main Post Office, drivers dropping off tax returns just hours (and often just minutes) before the deadline. While it is amusing, the story doesn't change from one year to the next. Moreover, procrastination can be costly.

Taxes, like death and Friday night perch fries, will always be with us. I suggest to my clients that preparing taxes in a timely fashion puts the chore right between death (paying taxes means you made money, after all,) and Friday night perch fries

(you're spending money, but enjoying the purchase).

Filing taxes is not unlike going to the dentist: You don't look forward to the trip, but, boy, do you feel good walking out of the office.

in tax law, which are published in December. Middlemarchers make appointments in late February and March. The Last Tycoons call with just a few days left before the filing deadline.

all manner of deductions. They believe wrong.

Using the trip-to-the-dentist analogy, the Odes walk out of my office with a satisfied look on their faces. Middlemarchers are fond of patting themselves on the back for a job done well and done on time. The Last Tycoons barely have time to say goodbye, still grumbling that their unrecorded gambling losses are not deductions.

Can you change from a Last Tycoon to a Middlemarcher or even an Ode to Joy? Of course you can. However, like going to the dentist, only you can do it. In addition, once you've done your taxes early, you'll always do them early.

Carol Grady has been preparing tax returns for more than 30 years. Her column will appear in editions leading to April 15.

Odes to Joy and Middlemarchers usually arrive on time with folders filled with important and tax-saving documents.

My tax clients generally fall into one of three categories: 1.) Odes to Joy, 2.) Middlemarchers, and 3.) The Last Tycoons.

Odes to Joy show up in January, having waited for me to collect and interpret the IRS' annual changes

Odes to Joy and Middlemarchers usually arrive on time with folders filled with important and tax-saving documents. The Last Tycoons have been known to show up with a plastic grocery bag or two jammed with what they believe will provide



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A Brutal War, A Tender Heart, A Poet's Voice: Meet Professor Bruce Weigl

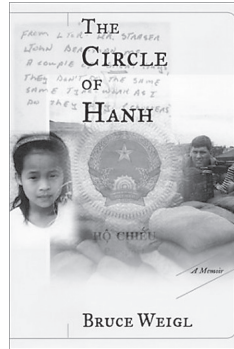
By J. Clark West

Bruce Weigl, the Distinguished Professor at Lorain Community College, brings with him an extraordinary curricula vitae: a bachelor's degree from Oberlin College, a master's degree from the University of New Hampshire, and a Ph.D. from the University of Utah.

He was the first in his family to attend college.

For many years, he taught at Penn State University, and then, in an unusual move, returned to his first college, Lorain Community College. It is there he teaches today.

He is a decorated combat veteran from the Vietnam War and the father of a Vietnamese orphan, Hanh Nguyen Weigl, whom he adopted in 1996. He told orphanage officials, "Today I receive from you a Vietnamese child. I promise that in the future I will return a Vietnamese lady to you. I will never change her into an American." Weigl's adopted daughter speaks Vietnamese, enjoys the cuisine of her



native country, and socializes with Weigl's Vietnamese friends.

In his memoir, *The Circle of Hanh* (2000), he wrote, "The paradox of my life as a writer is that the war ruined my life and in return gave me my voice."

He is the Phoenix, the mythical bird of many cultures that, after a long life, self-immolates and is then recreated from ashes.

Weigl was reared as a Catholic,

but today finds better answers and greater challenge in Buddhism. He told an interviewer, "What my Buddhist practice has taught me, among other things, is that I really know nothing. Once I can reach that point, real understanding and insight can happen."

Among the many honors bestowed upon him are a Yaddo Foundation Fellowship (1976), the Academy of American Poets Prize (1978), the Breadloaf Fellowship in Poetry (1982), and the Pushcart Prize, which he was awarded twice.

"The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is greatly disappointed in today's Supreme Court decision that overturns the Stolen Valor Act of 2005. Despite the ruling, the VFW will continue to challenge far-fetched stories, and to publicize these false heroes to the broadest extent possible as a deterrent to others."

— Richard L. Denoyer, Commander-in-Chief, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Welcome home to where futures beginSM

Tri-C's commitment to veterans

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Other resources include:

Veterans Upward Bound program
Assessment and Counseling
Distance Learning Opportunities
Access to Community Resources

Veterans Club
Career Planning
Scholarship Opportunities



**To learn more contact:
Veteran Services & Programs, Cuyahoga Community College
216-987-3193 www.tri-c.edu/veterans/**

DD 214 Chronicle is available at these locations:

Location	Address	City	State	Zip	County	Location	Address	City	State	Zip	County
Cleveland Vet Center-Parma	5700 Pearl Road #206	Parma	OH	44129	Cuyahoga	Army Recruiters	7537 Mentor Avenue	Mentor	OH	44060	Lake
Veterans Administration Hospital	10701 East Blvd	Cleveland	OH	44106	Cuyahoga	AMVETS Post 40	9141 Jordan Drive	Mentor	OH	44060	Lake
Cleveland Vet Center-Cleveland Heights	2022 Lee Road #205	Cleveland Heights	OH	44118	Cuyahoga	Betty Sutton	205 West 20th Street	Lorain	OH	44052	Lorain
American Legion	19944 Sheldon Road	Brookpark	OH	44142	Cuyahoga	Army Recruiting Office	300 Broadway Avenue	Lorain	OH	44052	Lorain
Atlantic Gun & Tackle	5425 Northfield Road	Maple Heights	OH	44146	Cuyahoga	Elyria Library	1005 North Abbe Road	Elyria	OH	44035	Lorain
Ohio National Guard	6225 Engle Road	Brookpark	OH	44142	Cuyahoga	Lorain Community College	1005 North Abbe Road	Elyria	OH	44035	Lorain
Strongsville Library	18700 Westwood Drive	Strongsville	OH	44136	Cuyahoga	Veterans Service Commission	42495 North Ridge Road	Elyria	OH	44035	Lorain
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3345	17900 Strongsville Boulevard	Strongsville	OH	44149	Cuyahoga	Lorain City Hall	200 West Erie Avenue	Lorain	OH	44052	Lorain
Cleveland Public Library (30 branches)	325 Superior Avenue East	Cleveland	OH	44114	Cuyahoga	Italian American Hall	4567 Oberlin Avenue	Lorain	OH	44053	Lorain
Cleveland Heights Library	2345 Lee Road	Cleveland Heights	OH	44148	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars/Amvets Post 55	4562 Oberlin Avenue	Lorain	OH	44053	Lorain
Cleveland Heights Library	1925 Coventry Road	Cleveland Heights	OH	44148	Cuyahoga	American Legion	1112 W. Erie Avenue	Lorain	OH	44052	Lorain
Cleveland Heights Library	2800 Noble Road	Cleveland Heights	OH	44121	Cuyahoga	AMVETS Career Center	11087 Middle Avenue	Elyria	OH	44035	Lorain
Cleveland Heights Library	13866 Cedar Road	Cleveland Heights	OH	44148	Cuyahoga	Elyria Public Library	1215 Middle Avenue	Elyria	OH	44035	Lorain
Shaker Heights Library	20600 Fayette Road	Shaker Heights	OH	44120	Cuyahoga	Elyria Public Library	1194 West River Road	Elyria	OH	44035	Lorain
Shaker Heights Library	16500 Van Aken Boulevard	Shaker Heights	OH	44120	Cuyahoga	Elyria Public Library	320 Washington Avenue	Elyria	OH	44035	Lorain
Cuyahoga Community College East	4250 Richmond Road	Highland Hills	OH	44122	Cuyahoga	Lorain Public Library	351 Sixth Street	Lorain	OH	44035	Lorain
B & T Shooting Supplies	7489 Pearl Road	Middleburgh Heights	OH	44130	Cuyahoga	Elyria City Hall	131 Court Street	Elyria	OH	44035	Lorain
5 Star Fire Arms	7529 Broadview Road	Seven Hills	OH	44131	Cuyahoga	American Legion	393 Ohio Street	Elyria	OH	44035	Lorain
Cuyahoga Community College West	11100 Pleasant Valley Road	Parma	OH	44130	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars	500 South Abbe Road	Elyria	OH	44035	Lorain
Brooklyn City Hall	7619 Memphis Avenue	Brooklyn	OH	44144	Cuyahoga	Kendall at Oberlin	600 Kendall Drive	Oberlin	OH	44074	Lorain
Jewish War Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, etc. (Federal Building)	1240 East 9th Street	Cleveland	OH	44199	Cuyahoga	Avon Library	37485 Harvest Drive	Avon	OH	44011	Lorain
Cuyahoga Community College	2900 Community College Avenue	Cleveland	OH	44115	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars 7035	36950 Mills Road	Avon	OH	44011	Lorain
Cuyahoga Community College Westlake	31001 Clemens Road	Westlake	OH	44145	Cuyahoga	American Legion	31972 Walker Road	Avon Lake	OH	44012	Lorain
Veterans Administration Outpatient Clinic	8787 Brookpark Road	Parma	OH	44129	Cuyahoga	American Legion 118	921 North Lake Street	Amherst	OH	44001	Lorain
American Legion 627	3935 East 42nd Street	Newburgh Heights	OH	44105	Cuyahoga	Amherst Library	221 Spring Street	Amherst	OH	44001	Lorain
Manakiki Golf Course	35501 Eddy Road	Willoughby Hills	OH	44094	Cuyahoga	American Legion 197	204 Erie Street	Amherst	OH	44001	Lorain
Sleepy Hollow Golf Course	9445 Brecksville Road	Brecksville	OH	44141	Cuyahoga	American Legion 12	393 Ohio Street	Elyria	OH	44035	Lorain
Atlantic Gun & Tackle	7594 Chippewa Road	Brecksville	OH	44141	Cuyahoga	North Ridgeville Library	35700 Bainbridge Road	N. Ridgeville	OH	44035	Lorain
Stonewall Limited Gun Shop	100 Ken Mar Industrial Parkway	Broadview Heights	OH	44147	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars	6805 Lear Nangle Road	N. Ridgeville	OH	44039	Lorain
Seneca Golf Course	975 Valley Parkway.	Broadview Heights	OH	44147	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars	42369 Oberlin Elyria Road	Elyria	OH	44035	Lorain
Shawnee Hills Golf Course	18753 Egbert Road	Bedford	OH	44146	Cuyahoga	AMVETS Post 32	11087 Middle Ave	Elyria	OH	44035	Lorain
Big Met Golf Course	4811 Valley Parkway	Fairview Park	OH	44126	Cuyahoga	Bulls Eye Firearms & Supplies	788 Main Street	Grafton	OH	44044	Lorain
House of La Rose	6745 Southpointe Parkway	Brecksville	OH	44141	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars	781 Huron Street	Grafton	OH	44044	Lorain
American Legion 572	6483 State Road	Parma	OH	44134	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars	36950 Mills Road	Avon	OH	44011	Lorain
National Guard	6247 Engle Road	Brookpark	OH	44017	Cuyahoga	North Eaton American Legion Post	9510 Island Road	Grafton	OH	44044	Lorain
Veterans of Foreign Wars 6676	590 North Rocky River Drive	Brookpark	OH	44017	Cuyahoga	South Lorain Library	2121 Homewood Drive	Lorain	OH	44055	Lorain
Veterans of Foreign Wars Polish Veterans	850 East 200th Street	Euclid	OH	44119	Cuyahoga	National Guard	3520 Grove Avenue	Lorain	OH	44055	Lorain
Veterans of Foreign Wars	580 East 200th Street	Euclid	OH	44119	Cuyahoga	Barans Shooting Supplies	2515 Colorado Avenue	Lorain	OH	44052	Lorain
Veterans of Foreign Wars	16847 Broadway Avenue	Maple Heights	OH	44137	Cuyahoga	B & T Shooting Supplies	3030 Grove Avenue	Lorain	OH	44055	Lorain
American Legion	22001 Brookpark Road	Cleveland	OH	44026	Cuyahoga	George's Bait & Gun	5150 West Erie Avenue	Lorain	OH	44052	Lorain
American Legion	4910 Memphis Avenue	Cleveland	OH	44144	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars	4562 Oberlin Avenue	Lorain	OH	44053	Lorain
Veterans of Foreign Wars	3791 West 150th Street	Cleveland	OH	44111	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars	25742 Royalton Road	Columbia Station	OH	44028	Lorain
Navy Recruiting Office	7123 Pearl Road	Parma Heights	OH	44111	Cuyahoga	Sheffield Library	4125 East Lake Road	Sheffield Lake	OH	44054	Lorain
Army Recruiting Office	6287 Pearl Road #113	Parma Heights	OH	44130	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars	577 Harris Road	Sheffield Lake	OH	44054	Lorain
American Legion	7667 York Road	Parma	OH	44130	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars 4563	6731 Center Road	Valley City	OH	44280	Lorain
Fairview Hospital	18200 Lorain Avenue	Cleveland	OH	44111	Cuyahoga	Cool Beans Coffee Shop	103 West Liberty Street	Medina	OH	44256	Medina
Fairview Park City Hall	20777 Lorain Road	Fairview Park	OH	44126	Cuyahoga	Medina County Library (seven branches)	210 South Broadway Street	Medina	OH	44256	Medina
American Legion	19311 Lorain Road	Fairview Park	OH	44126	Cuyahoga	Hickory Ridge Firearms	2323 Pearl Road	Medina	OH	44256	Medina
Veterans of Foreign Wars 7647	30036 Lorain Road	North Olmsted	OH	44070	Cuyahoga	Hospice of Medina County	5075 Windfall Road	Medina	OH	44256	Medina
American Legion	91 American Legion Parkway	Berea	OH	44017	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars 5137	620 North Broadway	Medina	OH	44256	Medina
Army, Navy, Marines Recruiting Office	15608 Detroit Avenue	Lakewood	OH	44107	Cuyahoga	Cuyahoga Community College Brunswick	3605 Center Road	Brunswick	OH	44212	Medina
Lakewood Hospital	14519 Detroit Avenue	Lakewood	OH	44107	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars	1439 South Carpenter Road	Brunswick	OH	44212	Medina
Lakewood Library	15425 Detroit Avenue	Lakewood	OH	44017	Cuyahoga	Brunswick City Hall	4095 Center Road	Brunswick	OH	44212	Medina
Beachwood Library	25501 Shaker Boulevard	Beachwood	OH	44122	Cuyahoga	Kent Library	312 West Main Street	Kent	OH	44240	Portage
Veterans of Foreign Wars	6340 Melbury Avenue	Solon	OH	44139	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars	500 VFW Parkway	Kent	OH	44240	Portage
Mayfield Heights Library	6080 Wilson Mills Road	Mayfield Heights	OH	44143	Cuyahoga	Army Recruiting Office	1695 East Main Street	Kent	OH	44240	Portage
Veterans Service Commission	1849 Prospect Avenue	Cleveland	OH	44115	Cuyahoga	Kent State University Veterans Services	181 Michael Schwartz Center	Kent	OH	44242	Portage
Veterans Administration Outpatient	4242 Lorain Avenue	Cleveland	OH	44113	Cuyahoga	Kent State University ROTC	106 Terrace Hall	Kent	OH	44242	Portage
Veterans of Foreign Wars 2133	4435 West 131st Street	Cleveland	OH	44135	Cuyahoga	American Legion 685	10001 Hudson Aurora Road	Streetsboro	OH	44241	Portage
Veterans of Foreign Wars 3445	4727 Turney Road	Cleveland	OH	44125	Cuyahoga	Streetsboro Library	8990 Kirby Road	Streetsboro	OH	44241	Portage
Veterans of Foreign Wars	4116 Rockside Road	Independence	OH	44131	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars	9434 Ohio State Route 43	Streetsboro	OH	44241	Portage
Veterans of Foreign Wars 1974	4305 Woodrow Ave	Parma	OH	44134	Cuyahoga	American Legion	109 Elm Street	Ravenna	OH	44266	Portage
American Legion 196	7400 Chippewa Road	Brecksville	OH	44141	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars 1055	6000 New Milford Road	Ravenna	OH	44266	Portage
American Legion 304	13107 Broadway Avenue	Garfield Heights	OH	44125	Cuyahoga	Betty Sutton	2 South Main Street	Akron	OH	44308	Summit
Concealed Carry	6308 Brookpark Road	Cleveland	OH	44129	Cuyahoga	Akron City Hospital	525 East Market Street	Akron	OH	44309	Summit
Navy Recruiting Office	20540 Southgate Park Boulevard	Maple Heights	OH	44137	Cuyahoga	St. Thomas Hospital	444 Main Street	Akron	OH	44310	Summit
American Legion 309	15521 Broadway Avenue	Maple Heights	OH	44137	Cuyahoga	Dick's Gun Room	3010 State Road	Cuyahoga Falls	OH	44310	Summit
Navy Recruiter	3522 Mayfield Road	Cleveland Heights	OH	44118	Cuyahoga	Summa-Cuyahoga Falls	1900 23rd Street	Cuyahoga Falls	OH	44223	Summit
American Legion 315	769 East 105th Street	Cleveland	OH	44108	Cuyahoga	Veterans of Foreign Wars 4738	3733 Fishcreek Road	Stow	OH	44224	Summit
American Legion 343	20750 Arbor Avenue	Euclid	OH	44123	Cuyahoga	American Legion	783 West Market Street	Akron	OH	44303	Summit
Hospice of the Western Reserve	300 East 185th Street	Cleveland	OH	44119	Cuyahoga	Veterans Administration Outpatient	55 West Waterloo	Akron	OH	44319	Summit
American Legion	570 East 328th Street	Willowick	OH	44095	Lake	Summit County Library (18 branches)	60 South High Street	Akron	OH	44326	Summit
American Legion	4304 Center Street	Willoughby	OH	44094	Lake	Summit County Veterans Services	1060 East Waterloo Road	Akron	OH	44306	Summit
Veterans of Foreign Wars	38295 Pelton Road	Willoughby	OH	44094	Lake	Gun Emporium	1144 Portage Lakes Drive	Akron	OH	44319	Summit
Veterans of Foreign Wars	8682 Mentor Avenue	Mentor	OH	44060	Lake	Triad Gun	3333 Manchester Road	Akron	OH	44319	Summit
Veterans of Foreign Wars	33641 Vine Street	Eastlake	OH	44095	Lake	American Legion 449	1090 Kenmore Boulevard	Akron	OH	44314	Summit
American Legion	29919 Euclid Ave	Wickliffe	OH	44092	Lake	American Legion 566	2974 Cormandy Road	Akron	OH	44319	Summit
Wickliffe Library	1713 Lincoln Road	Wickliffe	OH	44092	Lake	Veterans of Foreign Wars 3383	690 West Waterloo Road	Akron	OH	44319	Summit
Willoughby-Eastlake Library	36706 Lake Shore Blvd.	Eastlake	OH	44095	Lake	National Guard	414 North Hawkins Avenue	Akron	OH	44313	Summit
Willoughby Library	30 Public Square	Willoughby	OH	44094	Lake	Veterans of Foreign Wars 1070	641 East Tallmadge Street	Akron	OH	44310	Summit
Willoughby Hills Library	35400 Chardon Road	Willoughby Hills	OH	44094	Lake	Polish Legion of American Veterans	383 Dayton Street	Akron	OH	44310	Summit
Willowick Library	263 East 305th Street	Willowick	OH	44095	Lake	Veterans of Foreign Wars 7971	1278 Sunset Drive	Copley	OH	44321	Summit
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4358	29412 White Road	Willoughby Hills	OH	44094	Lake	American Legion 281	1601 Front Street	Cuyahoga Falls	OH	44221	Summit
Veterans Services	29024 Euclid Avenue	Wickliffe	OH	44092	Lake	Veterans of Foreign Wars 8975	1649 Krumroy Road	Akron	OH	44306	Summit
Veterans of Foreign Wars	12827 Painesville Warren Road	Painesville	OH	44077	Lake	Veterans of Foreign Wars 1662	165 Cleveland Avenue	Amherst	OH	44001	Summit
Veterans of Foreign Wars 336	60 Chester Street	Painesville	OH	44077	Lake	Cuyahoga Falls Library	2015 Third Street	Cuyahoga Falls	OH	44223	Summit
						Veterans of Foreign Wars Rhine River	1474 Copley Road	Akron	OH	44320	Summit

Not Forgotten

by Tina Mathis

Seventy nine year old Richard Huff, a Korean War veteran and his youngest brother, Robert, a Viet Nam veteran, joined family, friends, several veteran organizations, numerous motorcycle clubs, and the local fire department to pay their final respects to a recently identified Marine. While it is not unusual for veterans to attend a funeral service for a fellow

veteran, for the Huff brothers, this funeral was extraordinary. Their brother, Cpl. Clarence "Bud" Huff, Jr., the oldest of nine children, was killed December 2, 1950 near the Chosin Reservoir. Huff was identified in July

and after more than sixty years, his five surviving siblings had the opportunity to say their good byes. Richard explained a feeling of

relief, just knowing their brother was finally home. That feeling echoed throughout the day and was shared by countless people who never knew Cpl. Huff.

As the motorcycle escort lined up at Waite and Sons Funeral Home, a mother and her young son, quietly stood by waving a small American flag as their personal tribute to

the fallen Marine. The procession made its way through Brunswick, Medina, and Seville while dozens of bystanders saluted, waved flags, held their hands over their hearts or watched in silence as the motorcade made its way to Western Reserve National Cemetery.



While I have been a bystander on numerous occasions, nothing has compared to being a small part of the memorial escort for Cpl. Huff. Seeing the number of people who came to honor this young man, sixty years

after he gave his life, reaffirmed that we have not forgotten. I rode with Mike Hoofman, a member of Rolling Thunder and a veteran. I asked if he still gets goose bumps during these escorts. He simply answered, "Every time."

Cpl. Huff was buried Wednesday, August 15 with full military honors. The long over due twenty-one gun salute was followed by the release of white doves. When the service concluded, a Marine veteran, quietly placed a POW/MIA bracelet on top of the casket. He spent a solemn moment, turned on his heels and quietly walked away. Never forgotten.

The GI Bill: Getting Better With Age...

By Matthew Miller

On June 22, 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, known commonly as the GI Bill. The Bill has since reached iconic status for its successful academic support of returning veterans from World War II.

The academic upheaval of the traditional educated elite at universities throughout America was a direct result of the reconstruction of the campus student body after World War II. While European and Pacific nations lay in complete destruction, paralyzed from years of war, the United States flourished and began an era of enormous academic expansion at a breakneck pace.

The GI Bill after WWII radically changed the role of education in the United States and fueled a complete overhaul of America's approach to higher education.

Although updated versions of the education component of the benefit follow every major United States military conflict, none has impacted American social structures, economics and academics so fiercely as the original GI Bill of 1944. The original education initiative surpassed even the most exuberant anticipations and forever changed

the academic landscape of American institutions. Many sociologists, historians and political scientists consider the Act to be the most powerful and effective social legislation ever conceived.

While the benefits associated with the GI Bill of 1944 range from unemployment compensation to government insured home loans, the academic component was the catalyst to a new era of higher education inclusion previously unheard of. In 1955, it was estimated by the Veterans Administration that there were close to 16 million World War II veterans in civilian life, and of that number, 7.8 million used the education benefit. It is estimated further that enrollment in all institutions of higher education in the United States increased 75 percent between



FDR: For Veterans, His Legacy is Education

1940 and 1948. This influx represents a swift revolution in academics that diversified the campus student body, forced institutions to reassess curriculum and created tens of thousands of jobs in higher education. This

unique opportunity is once again upon the United States.

With the adoption of the post 9/11 GI Bill in 2008, the United States has pledged a new commitment to veterans. Although plagued with an enormous backlog during the initial phases of implementation, amendments, updated technology and emergency measures have improved registration and certification. Currently, veterans are swelling enrollment figures at universities, community colleges, technical colleges and occupational training programs.

Amendments to the original Post 9/11 GI Bill make it more inclusive, expand eligibility to include National Guardsmen on Active Guard Reserve duty (AGR), and increase approved curricula to include non-college degree programs, on the job training and apprenticeships, flight programs and correspondence training.

Although an unhinged increase of tuition prices, polarized political economy and prolonged recession are disrupting enrollment, the benefits associated with this education initiative remain generous and offer solid financial support for benefactors during uncertain economic times. The final GI Bill that has emerged provides veterans with an excellent education benefit with genuine potential to have a long lasting impact on academics. With a more focused veteran community outreach strategy and increased campus support structure, the modern day GI Bill will indeed live up to its potential. Further information about the new Post 9-11 GI Bill can be found at: www.gibill.va.gov.

Matthew Miller, M.A., serves as the Coordinator of Cuyahoga Community College's (Tri-C) Veterans' Education Connection Center located at The Louis Stokes VA Medical Center.

Commissioner Bob Potts: The Right Guy at The Right Time in the Right Place

by Harry Besharet

When Bob Potts accepted his diploma at St. Edward's High School, in Lakewood, his options were somewhat limited: go to college or be drafted for the Vietnam War. Trained for four high school years by the Brothers of the Holy Cross, he selected another option, the Marine Corps, and signed on for a four-year hitch.

He traveled the world, including a stint in Vietnam, before his DD 214 was cut. No parades when he came home, and nobody buying him drinks in the airport. They were unusual times for a warrior to return from the war.

Potts didn't have time to feel sorry

for himself. He was eager to go to work and marriage was in his near future. He was a lineman in the Marine Corps and enjoyed working outside. His idea of work was either on a pole or working with cable. But the late, great, Ohio Bell Telephone Co. had other ideas, and gave him a desk indoors, working with technical programs. When he got married, Ma Bell put him on the night shift.



Bob Potts

Married and the father of two children, Potts joined Vietnam Veterans of America. When he heard the Veterans Service Commission of Cuyahoga County was seeking to fill a seat, he applied.

While Potts was unsure what he was getting into, the decision proved the right one for both the Commission and the veterans it serves. He was appointed in 2004 and if he has his way, they'll carry him out. Speaking of his work with the Commission, he said, "It took me 60-plus years to decide what I wanted to do. This is it."

The job is neither easy nor simple. Most commissioners need the better part of a year to become proficient. Potts called the process, "flying by the seat of your pants. But we have good people on the Commission, men and women eager to show and teach. They were always available when I had a question or concern."

Fellow commissioners are the

strength of the Commission. "We've had some boisterous meetings, but we listen to each other, learn from each other, and mostly we make the right decisions. We ask ourselves, when working on a veteran's problem, 'What's the best way to handle this?'"

Being a successful commissioner calls for a basketful of talents. Book learning is the start: the Commission is a part of state government, and the Commission has served veterans since the spring of 1886. Experience as a veteran and a citizen are vital. Compassion and empathy are vital, a brace of virtues not taught in any school. The pay isn't much, but as Potts said, "If there wasn't any salary, I'd still do it."

Air Force Training Instructors are Raping Recruits

If Air Force recruiters find women a tough sell, it's the Air Force's own fault. Last month one instructor was convicted of rape and sexual assault of female recruits. The crimes were committed at Lackland Air Force Base, in San Antonio, Texas. It is the only Air Force basic training facility. Staff Sergeant Luis Walker was convicted of numerous counts of rape, aggravated sexual assault and other charges. He was sentenced to 20 years in prison and dishonorably discharged. He may soon have company. The Air Force has charged an additional six instructors with sexual crimes, part of 12 men who are under investigation. At least 31 women trainees have been sexually assaulted.

Conduct Unbecoming an Officer and a Gentleman. You Can Say That Again.

Rodney Lipscomb, a major with the 173rd Airborne Brigade

Combat Team, has been charged with sexually assaulting a female private first class. She was under his command in Heidelberg, Germany. The major was charged with six counts of sexual assault along with sodomy, cruelty and maltreatment, failure to obey an order or regulation, and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.



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Sunday, September 9th: 11th Anniversary of September 11, 2001; Ceremony at Boulevard of Flags; 1,000 Motorcycles Expected

The eleventh anniversary of the murderous attack on the World Trade Center in New York City will be held Sunday, September 9, at the Eastlake Boulevard of the Flags. The ceremony begins at 11 a.m.

Organizer John Kikol is estimating that approximately 1,000 motorcycles are expected, along with residents of northeast Ohio.

Speakers include:

John Murphy, retired FDNY firefighter who was part of the rescue and recovery of the World Trade Center in New York City, who will talk about the 343 firefighters who gave their lives in the line of duty;

Chas Lane, retired Cleveland police officer and president of the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society, who will talk about the 72 police and port authority officers who also lost their lives that morning of 9/11/01;

Robert Gilbert, Gold Star father of Marine Gunnery Sgt. Robert L. Gilbert who was KIA on March 16, 2010, and Becky Blakemore, President of



by the dawn's early light ...

the Rolling Thunder Ohio Chapter 8, who will speak on behalf of all our fallen heroes from past wars, including 6,500 from Iraq and Afghanistan.

The ceremony will last approximately 45 minutes and will take place regardless of the weather. The Willowick Eastlake American Legion

Post 678 and Eastlake VFW Post 3863 will be the Flag Honor Guard and will conclude the ceremony with a 21-gun salute, and *Taps*, followed by *Amazing Grace* by the Cleveland Firefighters Pipes and Drums. The National Anthem will be sung by Martha Swassield.

Following the ceremony will be a processional ride to South East Harley Davidson and the Gears and Cheers restaurant for food and entertainment.

For more information contact John "KIKS" Kikol at 440-263-8121 or email kiksharley@aol.com

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