

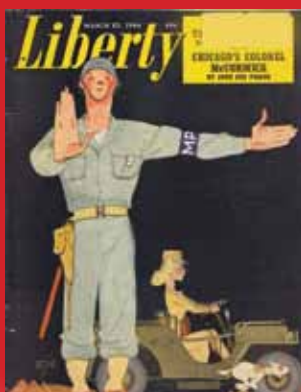


CHRONICLE

The Newspaper for Veterans and All Who Love Them.

VOLUME 6 NUMBER 6

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2016



GROWING STRONGER COMMUNITIES.



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



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

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



dom.com  

UNIFORM OF THE DAY

- 4** Stand at Ease
- 5** Use your VA benefit and Buy your House
- 6** The Wall That Heals
VA Conducts Nation's Largest Analysis of Veteran Suicide
- 7** We Didn't Read the Stories: The Headlines Were Enough for Us
- 8** The Seagoing Years: Memories of a Boy at War
Soldiers of History
- 12** World War II Enlistee Recalls the Bulge, Prisoners and German Orphans
- 14** Cliff has become the book I can't put down
- 15** Let Us Pray: For those who never came home
- 16** Rand Corporation Study VA Health Care is Pretty Darn Good
- 17** Baldwin Wallace University Student Veterans
Intern at Republican Convention
- 19** Serving Her: Cuyahoga Community College Reaches Out to Female Veterans

GUEST COLUMN

Vietnam: A Lesson Not Learned, Now Taught Again in the Mideast

By Louis Pumphrey

Many of you may have caught the belligerent, braying speech that retired four-star Marine General John Allen gave at the Democratic National Convention during which he proclaimed "America will defeat ISIS!"

What a bunch of pure unadulterated bullshit — excuse my French.

The United States military will never, ever defeat ISIS, the Islamic State al-Qaeda, the Taliban, Boko Haram or any terrorist group wearing civilian clothes and living among civilians, which was the winning strategy used by the Viet Cong and NVA in Vietnam.

As I mentioned to at least one reporter interviewing me during the Republican National Convention last month when I wore my 1968 U.S. Army dress uniform while carrying a peace flag, "What we are doing in the Middle East fits Albert Einstein's definition of insanity: 'Doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results.'"

Have the results in the Middle East over the past 14 years been

any different from the results in Vietnam?

Since we invaded Afghanistan in 2002?

Of course not.

As I told Katie Couric last month during the RNC, what we are doing in the Middle East is like "trying to put out a fire with gasoline." When we kill people and destroy property with our Predator drone strikes and air strikes, we are our own worst enemy, producing angry survivors of our attacks and new recruits for terrorist leaders.

The wisest course of action would be simply to leave the region. The Islamic State and al-Qaeda hate each other. Let them kill each other off. We don't have to worry about terrorists seven thousand miles away.

We have to focus our resources on neutralizing terrorist plots in this country, which can be foiled only by sophisticated espionage and plainclothes infiltration of terrorist cells. Here are two examples of non-military law enforcement

authorities thwarting terrorist attacks.

In the first example, I told reporters about a terrorist plot several years ago to kill as many soldiers as possible at Ft. Dix, New Jersey.

An informant tipped off New Jersey state and local police, the FBI and the CIA, which foiled the plot. Our vaunted military played no role in that successful effort.

In the second example, a terrorist cell planned to blow up jet fuel pipelines running under densely-populated neighborhoods in New York City, with their terminus at JFK Airport.

An informant in that cell tipped off local law enforcement officials and the plot was foiled. Again, our military had nothing to do with that successful endeavor.

Will we leave the Middle East? Of course not. As I mentioned to several reporters, fear is perhaps the most powerful emotion and politicians on both sides of the aisle exploit that fear with their fear-mongering and war mongering.

I told reporters that one of the "benefits" of our combat operations in the Middle East is it mollifies millions of fearful, gullible, naive Americans with a false sense of security and fattens the bottom lines of war profiteers, euphemistically called "defense contractors," such as Halliburton, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Boeing, Raytheon, BAE Systems, General Dynamics and United Technologies.

General Allen and others of like mind who are convinced there is a military solution to defeating ISIS need to extricate their heads from that place where the sun is known to shine very little, if at all. And once they do that, they need to take off their rose-colored glasses and accept the reality that there is no military solution to eradicating ISIS — or any other terrorist group wearing civilian clothes and living among civilians.

Pumphrey was drafted in 1966 and served as reporter, then editor, of the U.S. Army's First Infantry Division newspaper in Vietnam, 1967-68.

When the Entire Country Went to War

My neighbor, Rob Mendenhall, had the sad duty of arranging the funeral of his widowed father. Equally sad was clearing his Dad's home of furniture, pictures, books ... all that a man collects and enjoys.

And magazines. Rob loaned me the box with the magazines because he thought I might enjoy them. The box was filled with copies of Liberty.

Liberty was the WWII magazine for the home front. Between the covers are stories about life here while our troopers fought the Axis powers. The artwork and editorial are fascinating. Covers include very attractive troops, children, and women.

Each edition has two or three pieces of fiction — remember, television was a rare commodity. Plenty of ads about cigarettes and whiskey, and sacrificing products and material for the war effort: Nylons, tires, copper, gasoline, food and drink.

It was a time of ration books, buying bonds, Victory gardens, books and movies supporting the war effort, USO programs, plenty of cartoons that are still funny today.



The cigaret and whiskey ads are especially interesting.

On one back cover is a drawing of two members of the U.S. Marine Raiders. Both are in jungle fatigues and have submachine guns in their hands and Ches-

terfields in their mouths. "For mildness and taste," the ad copy reads.

Booze advertisers included Old Crow, Old Overholt, Old Grand Dad, and Old Taylor. Being old must have been a virtue. Some distillers noted they were not going to be in the booze business during the war, but had some pre-war bottles to sell.

Films supported the war effort with Casablanca, Yankee Doodle Dandy, and The Road to Morocco. My favorites are the Andy Hardy movies, starring Mickey Rooney. He played opposite Esther Williams, Donna Reed, Lana Turner, and Judy Garland. Good work if you can get it.

Very good piece on Andrew Higgins, the inventor who created the Higgins landing vessel which carried troops and equipment to shore.

Another piece is especially fun to read, this one by writer and author Paul Gallico. He wrote that by 1963, a mere couple of decades in his future, sports would drastically change.

The contact sports would dominate the sports pages: Boxing, wrestling, and football. The skill games? Many would drastically change or die slow deaths. Bye-bye, he wrote, to golf, tennis, and track. Even baseball would be played by amateurs.

Did he write tongue-in-cheek? Even if he did, it's a fortune teller's dream.

Some political pro-and-con pieces are still debated today: *Should the U.S. Police the World and Is our Constitution Obsolete?*

It was a different world when Liberty was published.

Thank you, Rob — and your Dad, too — you two put me in a time machine and sent me to 1942.

Census Bureau Counts Us: DD214 Chronicle serves area with 200,000 veterans

Nearly 200,000 of us live in the DD214 Chronicle service area. That's one of the major reasons we created The Chronicle six years ago. The brains behind The Chronicle believed veterans were largely ignored by the media.

By creating and publishing a newspaper, web site, and Facebook page for veterans, we believed we would be in service to veterans.

The veterans served by The Chronicle are moms and dads, brothers and sisters, friends and neighbors. Some

veterans will never escape the crippling pains incurred in the service of our country. Others will offer to industry and commerce the skills and experience taught them by the military. Still more will join and participate in groups such as the VFW and Legion, proud of their service and eager to continue serving their communities and country.

Our editorial guidelines are simple: "Before writing and publishing, ask, 'Is this story going to educate, inform, entertain, or provide our history?' If the answer is 'yes,' we write and publish."

The Newspaper for Veterans and All Who Love Them.

PUBLISHER EMERITUS
Terence J. Uhl

PUBLISHER AND EDITOR
John H. Tidyman
(216) 789-3502
forgedirons@yahoo.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Ann Marie Stasko
(216) 704-5227

ART DIRECTOR
Laura Chadwick

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS
JC Sullivan
Eli Beachy
Jerrri Donohue

CHAPLAIN
Rev. James R. Mason

ADVERTISING MANAGER
David Alan
(440) 415-2139
d.alan@dd214chronicle.com

DD 214 CHRONICLE IS PUBLISHED BY
John H. Tidyman
2041 Morrison Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

For subscription information
call (216) 789-3502

Editorial Statement

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

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

John H. Tidyman, editor
198th Light Infantry Brigade
Americal Division
(216) 789-3502
forgedirons@yahoo.com

Want a House Party? Garden? Lower Taxes? Neighbors? Sense of Community?

Use your VA benefit and buy your house.

By Regan Longstreet

We buy homes for lots of different reasons. Some clients seek the permanence of a house. They say they want to belong to a neighborhood, send their children to good schools, where they can meet and enjoy their neighbors.

Others say they want to have good city services, and amenities such as libraries, health care facilities, parks, Little League, safety forces, and plenty more.

Others added an investment in a home provides valuable tax benefits and building equity. Many want to enjoy their own gardens, whether flowers or tomatoes. A few men told me, "I want my own garage!"

All good reasons.

More than a few veterans have added three reasons. "I grew up in a house, not a condo or an apartment. I just want the comfort of a house." Others say, "Privacy. In the service, there was little privacy." One added, "When I watched a ball game in the day room, I had to hear comments from a dozen other guys. With a house, I can watch with my daughters."

Since I've been offering homes, never once has a client told me, "Boy, wish I didn't buy a house."

In my business, I smile a lot,



because I see the anticipation in clients' eyes and hear it in their voices. In addition, we have an invisible bond: We're veterans.

My military background is infantry, 11C, and was later chosen for The Old Guard at Fort Myer, Virginia. Like a lot of veterans, I'm glad I joined up. Like them, I'm proud of my service to my country.

I chose real estate as a career because it is a business that depends on developing and maintaining relationships. With conversations, questions and answers, and matching objectives with homes, we get to know each other. Together, we can narrow down the choices.

With a new house, there are new chores. Maintaining the lawn. Making sure the snow is shoveled. Putting in the storm windows, and plenty more. When I was talking with one home buyer and brought up the new responsibilities, he said, "So what? It's

my lawn. It's my sidewalk, and those are my storm windows."

I always ask home buyers, "How are you going to celebrate?" Some say they want to barbecue steaks in the back yard. Others say they are going to knock on the doors of neighbors and introduce themselves. One vet told me, "I'm going to

sit in the back yard and solve all the problems of the world."

When buying a home, you assume lots of responsibility. Veterans are experienced with assuming responsibility.

In the next edition, let's talk about the process of buying a home. With a VA mortgage loan, you'll be surprised with the benefits. It would be unprofessional if I didn't make clear the details. We have to jump through some hoops and I want you to know exactly what we're doing together, as well as the tall pile of paperwork we have to complete.

But as a veteran, you've completed missions far more demanding, but none more rewarding.

Regan Longstreet
ERA Rath Realtors
Rocky River, Ohio 44126
Cell: (216)205-9973
Office: 440-331-0900 Ext 256
reganlongstreet@yahoo.com

Why The Chronicle doesn't endorse politicians

By John H. Tidyman, editor

- Our editorial mission is to serve veterans. Nothing more, nothing less.
- Among our readers, there are more points of view than points of interest at the Smithsonian.
- Chronicle readers fought for the right to vote their consciences and preferences. In a private voting booth.
- The percentage of veterans who vote is high. Very high. Veterans have a vested interest in the person who assumes the rank Commander-in-Chief.

(216) 521-5775
Fax (216) 521-5880
currycopykwd@aol.com

CURRY

COPY CENTER OF LAKEWOOD

DIGITAL COLOR & B/W COPIES
OFFSET PRINTING
BROCHURES • NEWSLETTERS
FLYERS • BUSINESS FORMS
BUSINESS CARDS • LETTERHEAD
ENVELOPES • LABELS
CUSTOM T-SHIRTS
WEDDING INVITATIONS
LAMINATING • RAFFLE TICKETS
BOOKLETS • POSTCARDS

Dennis Little | 14528 Detroit Avenue
President | Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Lillie & Holderman

Richard G. Lillie, Ph.D.
Lawyer

Specializing in the following:

- Grand Jury Defense and Investigations
- Criminal Defense
- White Collar Criminal Defense
- Commercial Litigation

216-861-1313

Email: rlillie@lillieholderman.com
75 Public Square, Suite 213
Cleveland, Ohio 44113-2011
www.lillieholderman.com

Elmwood Home Bakery

We Specialize in Wedding,
Anniversary, Birthday
and Party Cakes
216-221-4338

15204 Madison Ave., Lakewood OH 44107
elmwoodhomebakery@gmail.com



Buy 10 cups of coffee
and get your 11th cup

FREE!

Good for one medium coffee or \$1
OFF Any Specialty Beverage

★ COOL
BEANS
CAFÉ

103 W. Liberty St.
Medina, Ohio 44256

330.723.7174
www.coolbeansmedina.com
www.facebook.com/coolbeanscafe

The Wall That Heals

Thursday-Sunday, September 8-11

Geauga County Fairgrounds
4373 N Cheshire St., Burton, OH 44021



Geauga Park District and Geauga Veterans' Service Commission are pleased to announce that a national touring exhibition called The Wall That Heals will visit Geauga County Fairgrounds September 8 through 11.

The Wall That Heals was created by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) to travel to communities across the United States. The exhibit features a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C., approximately 250 feet in length, chevron-shaped and complete with the 58,249 names of those killed or missing in action from the conflict. Accompanying the wall is also a mobile Education Center telling the story of the Vietnam War era and the Memorial.

This being the first time in its 20-season existence that The Wall That Heals will have visited Geauga County; organizers expect it to draw thousands of people over its four-day stay at 14373 North Cheshire Street in Burton.

Visitors will be welcome at The Wall That Heals free of charge 24-7 during the exhibition. Additionally, groups are invited to schedule a visit to The Wall That Heals to gain a heightened awareness of the impact and legacy of the war, as well as leadership, citizenship and character.

For more information as it becomes available, visit www.geaugaparkdistrict.org, then Things to Do and click Special Events.

For general planning information, contact Teresa Runion at 440-279-0882 or trunion@geaugaparkdistrict.org. To schedule a group, or participate in a scheduled event, contact Holly Sauder at 440-279-0802 or hsauder@geaugaparkdistrict.org. To volunteer, contact Michele Pemberton at 440-279-1862 or mpemberton@co.geauga.oh.us.

VA Conducts Nation's Largest Analysis of Veteran Suicide

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has undertaken the most comprehensive analysis of Veteran suicide rates in the U.S., examining over 55 million Veteran records from 1979 to 2014 from every state in the nation. The effort extends VA's knowledge from the previous report issued in 2010, which examined three million Veteran records from 20 states were available. Based on the data from 2010, VA estimated the number of Veteran deaths by suicide averaged 22 per day. The current analysis indicates that in 2014, an average of 20 Veterans a day died from suicide. "One Veteran suicide is one too many, and this collaborative effort provides both updated and comprehensive data that allows us to make better informed decisions on how to prevent this national tragedy," said VA Under Secretary for Health, Dr. David J. Shulkin. "We as a nation must focus on bringing the number of Veteran suicides to zero."

Key findings of the analysis will include:

- 65% of all Veterans who died from suicide in 2014 were 50 years of age or older.
- Veterans accounted for 18% of all deaths from suicide among U.S. adults. This is a decrease from 22% in 2010.
- Since 2001, U.S. adult civilian suicides increased 23%, while Veteran suicides increased 32% in the same time period. After controlling for age and gender, this makes the risk of suicide 21% greater for Veterans.
- Since 2001, the rate of suicide among US Veterans who use VA services increased by 8.8%, while the rate of suicide among Veterans who do not use VA services increased by 38.6%.
- In the same time period, the rate of suicide among male Veterans who use VA services increased 11%, while the rate of suicide increased 35% among male Veterans who do not use

VA services.

- In the same time period, the rate of suicide among female Veterans who use VA services increased 4.6%, while the rate of suicide increased 98% among female Veterans who do not use VA services.

Please also see our Suicide Prevention Fact Sheet at the following link: http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/factsheets/Suicide_Prevention_FactSheet_New_VA_Stats_070616_1400.pdf

VA is aggressively undertaking a number of new measures to prevent suicide, including:

- Ensuring same-day access for Veterans with urgent mental health needs at over 1,000 points of care by the end of calendar year 2016. In fiscal year 2015, more than 1.6 million Veterans received mental health treatment from VA, including at over 150 medical centers, 820 community-based outpatient clinics and 300 Vet Centers that provide re-adjustment counseling. Veterans also enter VA health care through the Veterans Crisis Line, VA staff on college and university campuses, or other outreach points.

Using predictive modeling to determine which Veterans may be at highest risk of suicide, so providers can intervene early. Veterans in the top 0.1% of risk, who have a 43-fold increased risk of death from suicide within a month, can be identified before clinical signs of suicide are evident in order to save lives before a crisis occurs.

- Expanding telemental health care by establishing four new regional telemental health hubs across the VA healthcare system.
- Hiring over 60 new crisis intervention responders for the Veterans Crisis Line. Each responder receives intensive training on a wide variety of topics in crisis intervention, substance use disorders,

screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment.

- Building new collaborations between Veteran programs in VA and those working in community settings, such as Give an Hour, Psych Armor Institute, University of Michigan's Peer Advisors for Veterans Education Program (PAVE), and the Cohen Veterans Network.
- Creating stronger inter-agency (e.g. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Department of Defense, National Institutes of Health) and new public-private partnerships (e.g., Johnson & Johnson Healthcare System, Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation, Walgreen's, and many more) focused on preventing suicide among Veterans.

Many of these efforts were catalyzed by VA's February 2016 Preventing Veteran Suicide—A Call to Action summit, which focused on improving mental health care access for Veterans across the nation and increasing resources for the VA Suicide Prevention Program.

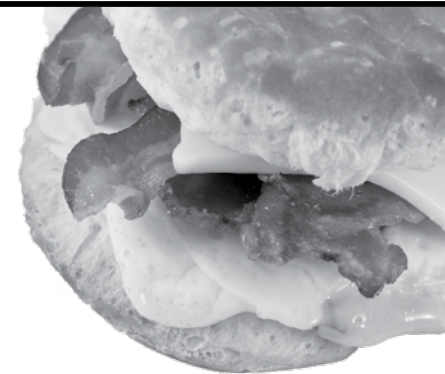
Suicide is an issue that affects all Americans. Recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) data reported in April 2016 that from 1999 through 2014 (the most recent year with data available from CDC), suicide rates increased 24% in the general population for both males and females.

VA has implemented comprehensive, broad ranging suicide prevention initiatives, including a toll-free Veterans Crisis Line, placement of Suicide Prevention Coordinators at all VA Medical Centers and large outpatient facilities, and improvements in case management and tracking. Immediate help is available at www.VeteransCrisisLine.net or by calling the Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 (press 1) or texting 838255.

For guidance on safe ways to communicate, please visit www.ReportingOnSuicide.Org

We Didn't Read the Stories: The Headlines Were Enough for Us

By The Chronicle Editorial Board



"McDonald's new burger is their most epic one yet"

'Most' being superlative, means there first was an 'epic' burger, and then a 'more epic burger.' Now the 'most epic?'

"If We're Going to Get to Mars, These Rockets Need to Work"

Gee, ya think?

"Woman Arrested After Allegedly Striking Elderly Man, Driving Nearly a Mile with Body Wedged in Windshield"

What some women won't do for a date.

"NTSB says Delta plane landed at wrong airport"

Could'a been worse. At least it was an airport.

"Ben Affleck-Jennifer Garner Divorce Update: Why the Couple Hasn't Ended Their Marriage A Year after Split"

Still fighting over Tupperware collection.

"We tried biscuit breakfast sandwiches from major fast-food chains — and the winner is surprising"

Either Pepto-Bismol or Kaopectate?

A PROUD SUPPORTER OF OUR VETERANS...

The Mission of the Community West Foundation is to advance the health and well being of our community.

JOIN US.



216-476-7060

www.communitywestfoundation.org

The Seagoing Years

MEMORIES OF A BOY AT WAR

By John H. Tidyman, editor

Walter S. Nicholes is old. His odometer has rolled over more than once.

Me, I ain't far behind. His war was The Good War; mine was Vietnam. Every so often, we sit on my front porch and chew the fat. Over the last few years of porch-sitting and conversation, I thought I knew Walter well.

I was wrong.

Walter wrote his memoirs.

He didn't write it and send it off to a publisher. He wrote it for his family and generations not yet born.

His wife, Nina, suggested he write it. When he sloughed off the suggestion, she told him to write it. She volunteered to help.

It's a fascinating memoir, and the part I enjoyed the most was, "The Seagoing Years: Memories of a Boy at War." On the cover of this section is a picture of Walter as a young Merchant Mariner.

Writing his memoir was not an easy project. In his memory, his war stories were adrift. Some were easily recalled, but many were distant.

Nina poked and prodded Walter's memory. They wanted to put in order this vital

part of his life.

My guess is the project was a shared labor of love.

"My sea career began officially on July 3, 1942, when I entered King's Point – officially the United States Merchant Marine Academy."

So begins Walter's memoir. The memoir is personal and provides an up-close-and-personal look at war on the high and dangerous seas.

Thank you, Walter, you old salt, you.

What about the rest of us? Walter's memoir is a wake-up call for the rest of us, isn't it?

I think so, because I wish my late father wrote his. My Mom and all seven of his kids would have seen him as a young man, dropped into the maelstrom of The Good War.

All troops knew, setting off on the greatest adventure of their lives, not all would return. They had no idea where they were going or the demands war would place on their shoulders.

Some were sent to sea, others to the skies, still others to school where they would learn weapons and tactics.

I often think of the support troops: The guys who

trained us, maintained records, bound our wounds, maintained everything from trucks to jets, kept mail flowing, sent home fallen soldiers. Young boys filling bomb bays and the pilots who flew them. The list is a long one.

When I was far from home and in jungle boots, I sometimes thought of those guys. Hueys coming in and tossing off red bags filled with mail from home, or ammo, or fresh troops. The visiting bands and Bob Hope. The air support that kept alive so many troops.

When I think of our memoirs, doubt seeps in. Writing our own stories is no easy project. Some memories are deeply buried; others fill us with shame. But there are also stories of great good fortune, the friends we made and treasure, outrageous stories we tell only other veterans.

Will writing memoirs be worthwhile? I think they will be, and I know those who follow us will agree. Our memoirs tell, from our intimate perspective, about a certain time and place.

The challenge is a huge one, but you've charged into more difficult challenges. And won.



Soldiers of History

Portray America's Fighting Men, Women

By Jerri Donohue

To the haunting strains of Sergeant Mac Kenzie's Ode, the Soldiers of History solemnly mounted the stage in the auditorium of Elyria's Northwood Middle School.

Dressed in authentic uniforms or exact replicas, the men represented American soldiers from the French and Indian War to the Global War on Terror. One by one, they stepped forward while narrator Sue Lescher provided details about each conflict, including dates, weapons, uniforms, and estimated casualties.

Approximately 50 minutes later, students gave the troupe a standing ovation.

"After we marched out into the hallway, the kids came up to shake our hands and thank us," said Steven Bacskay, who served in the Army from 1990 to 2013 and often wears his own uniform and gear for the presentations.

John Lescher, one of the founders of Soldiers of History at Grafton VFW Post 3341, said most participants once served in the U.S. armed forces. A few are re-enactors or history buffs.

"You don't have to be a veteran," Lescher said. "You have to be a patriot."

The group's goal is to preserve the story of America's fighting men and women. At its inception in 1988, the men simply marched in parades. World War II GI Lenny Bescan wore a Civil War uniform and his son dressed in Revolutionary War garb. Lescher, a 101st Airborne Division veteran, donned the uniform he wore in Vietnam in 1971.

People began to give Post 3341 uniforms and equipment from many eras. Bob Gray, who had enlisted in the Army

Above: At Grafton's VFW Post 3341, home of Soldiers of History, Steve Bacskay, Bob Gray and John Lescher stand among military memorabilia

Rim of the Pacific exercise includes Cleveland Alexander S. Haavisto

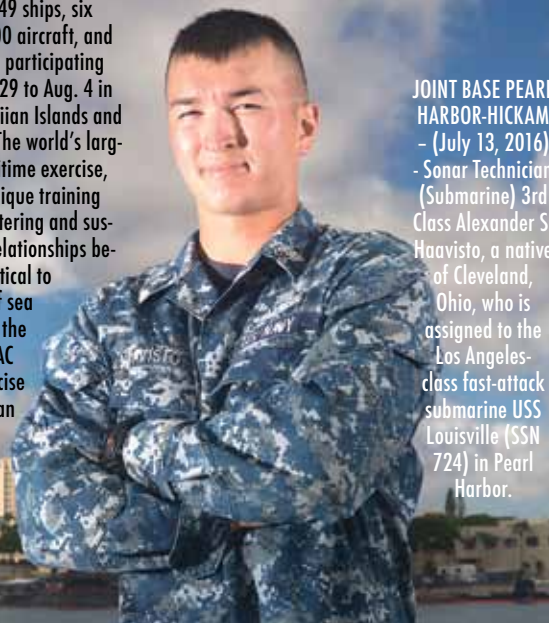
"This is my second consecutive RIMPAC while stationed here in Pearl Harbor," Haavisto said. "The partnerships are important so we can understand how each country operates together."

"It's always an awesome opportunity to observe the ships from other countries and see how they do things."

Haavisto said seeing all the different service members from the other partner nations gives him a sense of pride.

"To be able to operate with and host so many different countries is pretty amazing."

Twenty-six nations, 49 ships, six submarines, about 200 aircraft, and 25,000 personnel are participating in RIMPAC from June 29 to Aug. 4 in and around the Hawaiian Islands and Southern California. The world's largest international maritime exercise, RIMPAC provides a unique training opportunity while fostering and sustaining cooperative relationships between participants critical to ensuring the safety of sea lanes and security on the world's oceans. RIMPAC 2016 is the 25th exercise in the series that began in 1971.



JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM - (July 13, 2016) - Sonar Technician (Submarine) 3rd Class Alexander S. Haavisto, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, who is assigned to the Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Louisville (SSN 724) in Pearl Harbor.

(U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 2ND CLASS MICHAEL H. LEE/RELEASED)

in 1956, joined the group and lent his massive collection of uniforms, bayonets and paraphernalia dating from the Spanish American War.

Soldiers of History exhibited unloaded weapons and artifacts at such events as county fairs. Lescher recruited their lone female member when a woman visiting the display announced that she still had her uniform from deployment to Iraq.

Lescher eventually expanded the group's efforts.

"I decided it would be cool to put a message to each war," he said.

After hours of research, Lescher wrote the script for their program. He persuaded his wife, a retired teacher, to serve as narrator.

The Soldiers of History take their mission seriously. Members kneel before every event while Lescher prays aloud, asking that they "honorably represent those that gave us the freedoms we enjoy" and that they also honor those who died in service to the United States.

In addition, the troupe only does its program if it will be of military, educational or historical value to the audience. The Soldiers of History appear for veterans' gatherings, schools and the dedication of memorials, for example. They decline invitations to community festivals.

The group has traveled as far as Pennsylvania. It charges up to \$350 for organizations with budgets, while small nonprofits pay nothing.

Participants, meanwhile, gain

enduring memories. Bob Gray described a program at the Veterans Home in Sandusky several years ago. One man short, they drafted a resident, a World War II veteran, to portray a World War I soldier.

"It was so funny," Gray said. "Here was this old dogface dressed up in a doughboy's wool uniform. His buddies were all needling him."

For more information about Soldiers of History, contact John Lescher (440-213-5176) or Steven Bacskay (440-225-7759).



We Support Our Veterans!

It is our honor to help guide you through the buying or selling process of your home.

We will make a \$100 donation with every list or purchase to the Cleveland American Veterans Association

Call Mark Snyder/Owner
440-772-0006
 cleveland4veterans.com



Honoring Our Veterans

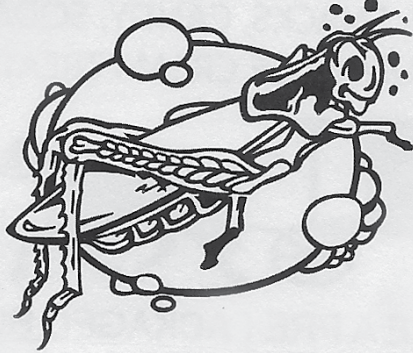
At Hospice of the Western Reserve, we honor our veterans every day. Through our Peaceful & Proud initiative, hospice veterans can receive care from staff members trained on how the unique life experiences of veterans shape end-of-life preferences. Through specialized, quality care, we can help patients 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

URBAN BULK FOODS

14021 MADISON AVE.
LAKEWOOD, OHIO 44107



MON. TUE. THURS. FRI
10 - 6

WED. 10 - 8, SAT. 10 - 4

CAGE FREE EGGS, HAND ROLLED BUTTER,
AMISH CHEESE, LOCAL MAPLE SYRUP
LOCAL HONEY
216 - 644 - 6911



BUSAN, Republic of Korea (July 13, 2016) The Ohio-class guided-missile submarine USS Ohio (SSGN 726) arrives at the Republic of Korea (ROK) Fleet base in Busan for a regular port visit during a routine deployment to the Western Pacific. Ohio is stationed out of Bangor, Wash. and is currently forward deployed to Guam.

U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 3RD CLASS WESLEY J. BREEDLOVE



AFFINITY ADVISORY NETWORK, LLC

Joe Pronio

Insurance Producer & Retirement Planner
jpronio@affinityadvisorynetwork.com

Affinity Insurance & Financial Services

Belden Village Glass Tower
4450 Belden Village St. NW
Suite 704
Canton, OH 44718
Toll Free 888.720.0360
c. 330.730.5486
f. 330.639.4959



LORAIN COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Temporary financial assistance may be available to Veterans or their widow who show a need and meet eligibility requirements.

Assistance is based on household income and may be given for rent or mortgage, property tax, utilities, car payment, car/home/life/medical insurances, and food or personal items.

The commission considers household income, living expenses, available assets, medical expenses, and the special needs of each applicant when determining eligibility.

The Veteran must have been discharged under honorable conditions and must have served on active duty for purposes other than training. Applicant must be a resident of Lorain County for 90 days prior to application.



TRANSPORTATION

Transportation is provided to and from the VA Medical Facilities in Wade Park & Parma and the VA Clinic in Lorain. Availability is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

A morning shuttle is available to Wade Park & Parma. The wheelchair accessible van and home pick-ups are provided for appointments at the VA Clinic in Lorain ONLY. **CALL 440.284.4624**

VETERAN ID CARD

THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS • 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

• REQUIREMENTS •

HONORABLE DISCHARGE or
UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS
RESIDENT OF LORAIN COUNTY
DD214 • VALID STATE PHOTO ID

440.284.4625

VA CLAIMS ASSISTANCE

Our Veterans Service Officer's hold accreditation through the Ohio Department of Veterans Services and the National Association of Veterans Service Officers. They are the duty experts on the claims process and serve as your liaison to the Department of Veteran's Affairs.

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

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

www.LorainCountyVeterans.com

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED



Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) is committed to veterans.

Whether you're a discharged veteran, a member of the Guard or Reserve or on active duty, you and your family are welcomed home at Tri-C.

tri-c.edu/veterans
216-987-3193



Where futures beginSM

World War II Enlistee Recalls the Bulge, Prisoners and German Orphans

By Jerri Donohue

En route to France in the autumn of 1944, Charles Harry Pritt's ship collided with another vessel in the English Channel. When Pritt transferred to a small British boat, an American still on the damaged ship tossed down GI duffel bags. An occasional splash in the dark indicated the man had missed.

A spotlight later illuminated the scene. The former private first class still laughs at the memory of officers' uniforms floating in the water.

Few other incidents lightened Pritt's life as an infantryman. At age 93, the Grafton resident does not sugar coat his experience as a replacement in the 26th Regiment.

"I couldn't get used to being a killer," Pritt said.

The enlistee suffered shrapnel

wounds to his right eye as soon as he arrived at the front. When the pain subsided a few days later, he was back in action. (Cleveland Clinic surgeons removed the shrapnel after the war.)

Deaths caused by artillery or mortars bothered Pritt the most.

"The guy beside you would get blown apart," he said. "A lot of times, it would be four or five [men] together."

One GI sustained internal injuries from concussion during a shelling.



Harry Pritt's decorations include a Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

The man apologized for moaning so much, and died later that day.

The unrelenting stress wore on Pritt.

"I lost my nerves for a long time," he said.

After a while, he resigned himself to death. His fear subsided and he endured whatever came his way. Sick with flu, he fought in sub-zero temperatures during the Battle of the Bulge and ate partially frozen rations. For added

warmth, he wore a dead GI's cap, as well as his own, beneath his helmet.

He learned about the enemy.

"You could smell Germans, even in combat," Pritt said. "It was on account of what they ate. They stunk. We stunk, too, but differently."

An officer once told Pritt to take some prisoners to the rear, a mile or more away, and to be back in five minutes.

"I knew he meant for me to kill them," the veteran said.

Pritt turned them over to another American. He does not know what happened after that.

Situations changed from day to day. Two wounded enemy soldiers, including an amputee, later surrendered to Pritt. Their comrades had assured them the Americans would treat their wounds. Pritt watched as medics helped them.

The Germans, too, killed prisoners.

Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary — Helping People Connect With Animals

Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary is celebrating 15 years as a non-profit organization providing support services to humane societies and law enforcement agencies regarding farm animal abuse. Located in Ravenna, Ohio, Happy Trails serves not only Ohio but any state that requests their animal rescue services.

While many counties in Ohio address abuse and neglect of pets, they often do not have the facilities, the resources or the knowledge to care for and rehabilitate other types of animals.

The same mental defect that causes people to be cruel to dogs and cats can cause these same individuals to be cruel to other animals as well.



Animal abuse of any type of animal is often a red flag, alerting us to the capacity for violence in that individual. Many cruelty cases presented to Happy Trails include other violent crimes. Addressing animal abuse of all animals helps to create safer communities.

Want to get involved? At Happy Trails you can volunteer in a wide variety of ways, adopt or foster rescued animals, take a tour, or support their work with a tax-deductible donation.

Helping people connect with animals in our world

empowers us all to make kinder, more compassionate choices in our daily lives.

Visit the sanctuary and experience the animals up close. Personal. Give a pig a belly rub. Hug a mini



horse. Play with the goats. Hear their stories and learn how you can make a difference.

Educational tours are available on weekends from May through October. The \$20 per person tour fee is

donated to the medical expenses and daily care costs of the rescued animals.

For more information, call Happy Trails at 330-296-5914 or visit the website at www.happytrailsfarm.org



"They would hang our officers, paratroopers in particular," Pritt said. "You'd find one in a tree. They would shoot him and cut him open."

The GI grew wise to enemy tricks. When he spotted a German in sunglasses manning a machine gun, Pritt slowly approached. The soldier was dead. Pritt stole the man's mirror, peered into it, and didn't recognize the bearded, grubby face as his own reflection.

During a battle in Germany, shrapnel riddled Pritt's legs and he was taken to a tent hospital where a pretty nurse demanded he undress. His pants were filthy and urine stained but Pritt balked at standing naked before her.

"Take your damn clothes off!" the nurse snapped. "I've seen fifteen million of them."

After surgery, Pritt was evacuated to France for rehabilitation. Then the war in Europe ended, and the infantryman learned the Army planned to send him to the Pacific theater.

"I thought, 'The Germans didn't kill me,'" Pritt said. "The Japanese

will get the privilege of doing that."

Instead, he went to Nuremberg, Germany with the Occupation Army.

"I hated this more than anything - little kids would be running around with no family," Pritt recalled.

His primary job was guarding prisoners of war. He humiliated those who misbehaved by shaving their heads. The Allies gradually released these men, and Pritt drove truckloads of them to their hometowns.

Quartered in an adjacent building, he observed war criminals like Hermann Goering exercising in an enclosed yard, but Pritt sailed for home before any executions took place.

A returning GI had smuggled aboard ship a German orphan wearing a tiny Army uniform. The American wanted to adopt him but Pritt doesn't know if the man succeeded.

"I hope he got to," Pritt said. "I've thought about him a hundred thousand times."

OBAMA ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES NEARLY 50 PERCENT DECLINE IN VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) today announced the number of veterans experiencing homelessness in the United States has been cut nearly in half since 2010.

The data revealed a 17 percent decrease in veteran homelessness between January 2015 and January 2016 --- quadruple the previous year's annual decline, and a 47 percent decrease since 2010.



**I Understand
Your Benefits.
Let's Get You A
New Home!**



Regan Longstreet
Army Veteran
Mobile: 216-205-9973
Fax: 440-331-2840
reganlongstreet@yahoo.com

FIREFISH FESTIVAL

RETURNS TO LORAIN

Sunday, September 17, 2-11pm

A unique FREE celebration of arts and fire that will engage your senses and IGNITE your IMAGINATION! Ritual percussion parade, fire performances & firefish burning on the Black River.

WWW.FIREFISHFESTIVAL.COM

SEPT
11
HOMECOMING
SUNDAY



COME HOME TO PILGRIM CHURCH

Sunday, September 11 at 10:30am

Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ (UCC) welcomes you home, whether you have attended in the past or never before. No matter who you are or where on life's journey, you are welcome here. Our service is about an hour, followed by refreshments & conversation in Fellowship Hall.

**2592 W14TH ST IN TREMONT
INFO@PILGRIMALIVE.ORG**

★
WALSH UNIVERSITY

FREE Tuition For Veterans*

Serving those that Served our Country



For Six Straight Years, Walsh Has Been Recognized as a Military Friendly School



Yellow Ribbon Program Partner



Military Tuition Discounts



Early Registration Options for Veterans



Book Vouchers
(to help defray the cost of texts)



**For those that qualify*

For more information, contact Zachary Burkey at 330.490.7650 or zburkey@walsh.edu.

★
FIND US ON FACEBOOK

[facebook.com/DD214Chronicle](https://www.facebook.com/DD214Chronicle)

Cliff has become the book I can't put down

By Kathy Watts

I first met Cliff at a neighborhood yard sale a few weekends ago. He and his daughter, Heather, were hauling out items from his house, which had just sold the day before.

I offered to help them carry out a few things and then hung around on the front porch in the shade to sip iced coffee and see what the day would bring.

Heather busied herself marking prices while Cliff and I exchanged formalities. I noticed that he was wearing a ball cap with a Navy insignia so I asked him about it.

His face lit up and his pride was almost tangible. Cliff is 91 and a veteran of WWII. I'm ashamed to say that, given his age, I wasn't expecting the conversation that followed as he shared stories with such sharp detail; it was as if they happened yesterday.

Cliff was working in retail and fresh out of high school when the war broke out. At 17, he decided to enlist, and while I thought that would be the focus

of our conversation, it quickly turned to the reason for the move. His wife died a year ago from Alzheimer's and he is moving in with Heather in September. He told me he was happy that a young couple with little kids bought the place. "They'll make memories just like we did. The house will be alive again. That makes me happy." And he smiled. And I fell in love.

Since that day, when I'm out for a walk and Cliff is on the front porch, he waves me up the steps, always to ask how I'm doing and if I have time to talk. I always do. Cliff has become the book I can't put down. When I come home, I write down notes so I won't forget. He is a gift.

I hope to keep in touch with him through Heather when he moves in September, but I will surely miss him. Until then, I've got a lot more walks and a lot more stories to listen to. Thanks, Cliff.

Kathy Watts is a Pittsburgh-based writer

DD 214 SUBSCRIPTION FORM

IF YOU LOVE A VETERAN, GIVE HIM THE GIFT HE DESERVES

1 year (6 issues) \$12.00
2 year (12 issues) \$20.00

Lifetime
\$55.00

Send DD 214 Chronicle to:

Name _____

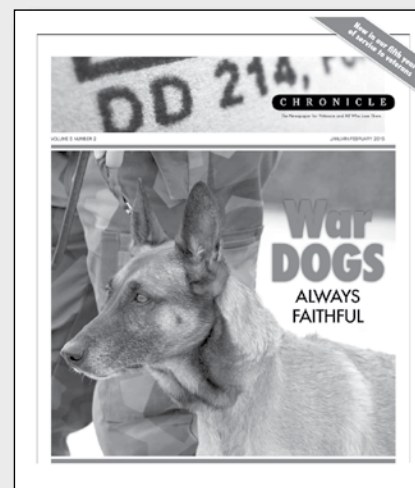
Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Send check made out to:

J.H Tidyman
2041 Morrison Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107



Let Us Pray: For those who never came home

By Rev. James R. Mason, Chaplain, DD214 Chronicle



When I think about the men and women who take up arms, my mind often settles on POWs and MIAs. I say a prayer and ask that each was treated well. That each was repatriated. That each suffered as little as possible.

POWs and MIAs are usually young. All step into the smoking cauldron of war. They were trained, but until the battle begins, there is no understanding of men trying to kill other men.

Troops in combat are fast learners. They are taught by those with experience.

The education and experience is unique to each. Every troop reacts differently. For all, the experience is life-altering, and for others, the wounds, seen or unseen, refuse to heal.

For POWs and MIAs, the experience goes beyond their suffering. Family and friends are often devastated.

From the moment they learn their child is in enemy hands, or lost in the mists of war, their lives change. They live in a world of hope and despair. Who knows how many pillows are stained with tears or how many prayers are prayed?

Thinking and praying for the families of these troops is not easy. It requires quiet time and a clear mind. I consider thinking about these men and women to be a prayer.

Praying often takes unfamiliar paths. We don't seek relief for ourselves, but for others, and in this example, we bring up our last memories of those who didn't come home. Perhaps we see them in tuxedos, about to go to the high school proms. Or slicing the first piece of their wedding cakes. Maybe a group picture of their softball teams. Those pictures and memories are as close as we can get.

We don't see them in battle. We can't imagine our boys being captured or killed. That part of remembering is too difficult.

Let us pray for our sons and daughters who sacrificed on the battleground. Praying is not reciting prayers. It is not singing in the choir,

though both are valuable forms of worship.

Praying is allowing the mind to clear, to be free from everyday

concerns. Only then can we connect with the Spirit greater than ourselves. Praying isn't begging or asking for a favor. When we pray,

we ask the Spirit to join us, to listen to us as we listen to the Spirit.

We have questions. The Spirit has answers.

ATTENTION

VETERANS & DEPENDENTS OF VETERANS

You May Be Eligible For ASSISTANCE with...

- VA Claims • Disability/Widow Pensions
- Military Records • Memorial Affairs
- Social Work • Rent/Mortgage
- Utility Bills • Food • Clothing and Hygiene
- VA Medical Transportation



**CUYAHOGA COUNTY
VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION**

1849 Prospect Ave., Ste 150 | Cleveland, OH 44115

CALL TOLL FREE: 1-866-915-8387

1291 PROOF

Rand Corporation Study

VA HEALTH CARE IS PRETTY DARN GOOD

A new study from the Rand Corporation examining the Department of Veterans Affairs health care system has found that the health care provided by the agency is equal to or better than its private sector counterparts.

The study focused on the VA's supply and demand capacity in the wake of the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014, which provides veterans the opportunity to seek health care through private providers.

In examining the VA's performance in health care procedures versus its private sector counterparts, the report found that "in a tally of 83 different measures covering a variety of types of care, including safety and effectiveness of treatment, the quality of VA health care exceeded that of non-VA care."

VA did best in outpatient procedures, with the report noting that the agency outperformed the private

sector on 45 of those measures, with both providers scoring equally on two of the measures.

The field was more mixed when it came to inpatient procedures. VA was equal to the private sector when it came to 17 measures, but scored worse on 11 measures. The agency was only better than the private sector on eight inpatient measures recorded. The report added that there was a wide variation in the level of care across VA facilities.

But while VA facilities can provide quality care to veterans, its ability to meet the level of demand over time may be another question entirely.

The report predicted that veteran populations would decline 19 percent between 2014 and 2024, but the health care of those veterans would continue to become more complex and, in turn, more demanding.

VA health care needs are projected to grow through 2019 before leveling off

in 2020, but the range of those needs could put resource strains on the system, the report found.

"In particular, demand for specific types of care — including pain medicine, neurology, dermatology and many others — is expected to grow," the report said. "Overall, the near-term increase in demand for care may outpace VA's capacity to provide timely care to all veterans."

One way to meet that demand is by using more of the purchased care options made available by the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act.

But the report also noted that while VA's use of purchased care is growing, it's often acquired through complex means and without a clear strategy for its use.

"Our analysis identified a number of inconsistencies in how purchased care was administered, how referrals were made and how claims and payments to providers were handled. It

also uncovered inconsistent procedures for purchased care decisions at the local level."

The report offered a number of recommendations, including more strategic use and oversight of how purchased care is procured and administered in the VA system.

Purchased care could also be of benefit after 2019, when the veteran population is set to decline, to provide coverage without having to overextend VA resources.

VA health care could also be improved with more veteran data, the report said, recommending that the 2020 Census include questions about veteran status that were not in the 2010 Census.

Overall, the report calls for more systematic improvement standards to reduce the variations in the quality of VA health care, while also providing more clear goals for purchased care to complement the agency.

It's Your Future. Get Started Now!

Veterans Service Center

at Lorain County Community College

The Student Veterans and Military Members Center at LCCC assists all veterans, guardsmen, reservists and their dependents transitioning to a successful educational career. You've done your duty, now let us help you prepare for your future.

LCCC's Veterans Service Center is a one-stop shop where you can:

- Learn how to maximize your veteran's benefits
- Learn about other scholarships available
- Talk with a Veterans Certifying Official
- Meet with a Counselor
- Explore all that LCCC has to offer

Call LCCC's Veterans Service Center at 440-366-7685

or visit www.lorainccc.edu/veterans

or email our office at veterans@lorainccc.edu.



"LCCC was my best choice because I knew there was a military and veterans presence here."

Anna Lupson, Navy veteran and LCCC psychology student who is using her veterans benefits to attend school. She plans to continue her education through LCCC's University Partnership program.



**Lorain County
Community College**

Baldwin Wallace University Student Veterans Intern at Republican Convention

By Jerri Donohue

At an evening reception for Kentucky delegates to the Republican Convention, D. Eric Milligan asked if anyone was from Owensboro. People responded warmly when they learned he spent four years there with the Coast Guard. “Getting to talk to people and learn what their views are, it was exciting,” Milligan said of his RNC internship.

Currently enrolled in the Executive MBA program at Baldwin Wallace, he plans a career in politics.

After the Republican Party chose Cleveland for the site of its 2016 convention, The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars (TWC) asked Baldwin Wallace University to help design a convention-based learning opportunity for college students. The Cleveland Foundation donated funds so that

24 local students from under-served groups could attend. Much older than the average student, veterans Eric Milligan and Robert Quayle qualified as non-traditional students.

The week before their internships, they attended lectures on subjects relevant to the election, including polling and the history of conventions.

The following week, Milligan worked with GOP Convention Strategies, a group that organizes events in the host city for delegates from around the country. As a result, he connected with out-of-state poli-



At the RNC, D. Eric Milligan holds a sign directing Florida and Arizona delegates to their bus.

ticians, lawyers and businessmen.

“They can help me learn little tricks of the trade to market myself better,” Milligan said.

His discovered his time with the Coast Guard on Staten Island was an icebreaker for New Yorkers. For Floridians, it was his assignment in Clearwater.

Milligan checked credentials and accompanied out-of-towners to a luncheon at Progressive Field, a barbecue at FirstEnergy Stadium and other events. He attended evening speeches at the Q, but usually left before they ended. He had to lead delegates to buses

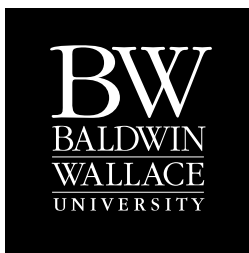
transporting them to receptions or other affairs. He also found time for an interview on WKYC-Channel 3 in which he praised his convention experience.

Milligan was always downtown by 8:30 a.m. and often returned home at 2 o'clock in the morning – which is when Quayle began his day.

Because their shift ran from 3 a.m. to 11 a.m., Quayle picked up two of his team members at the dorm at 2:30. This inconvenience didn't bother the Army veteran because he had received his dream assignment – an internship with FOX News.

“They were the nicest group of people I worked with in my life,” Quayle said of the folks at FOX News. “I expected there would be some prima donnas, but there wasn't a single one.”

At Baldwin Wallace, Quayle is



VETERAN + STUDENT



Are you ready to continue your education?

BW offers a great adult learning community and all the resources of one of “America’s Best Colleges.”

- Choose from programs for bachelor degree completion, accelerated BSN, Physician Assistant, MBA, or MAEd.
- Classes are offered in Berea and at Corporate College East. Some courses are available online.
- Your DD214 gives you up to 25 hours of college credit. Other military training and previous college credit may count toward degree requirements.
- **Post 9/11 Veterans:** BW is proud to be part of the Yellow Ribbon program. Your G.I. Bill benefits may make your BW education **tuition free!**

Contact an admission counselor today!

Go to www.bw.edu/military or call 440-826-8012.

Baldwin Wallace does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, age, disability, national origin, gender or sexual orientation in the administration of any policies or programs.



Yeah, they're selfies — but look at whom I'm with!

majoring in business management with a minor in criminal justice.

"It was such a great experience, I actually considered changing my major to media because I had so much fun," Quayle said of his internship.

Because he often escorted VIPs, Quayle took numerous "selfies" with personalities such as Mike Huckabee, Ben Carson and Duck Dynasty's Phil Robertson.

When Quayle arrived at work, he would acquaint himself with the day's schedule to learn when specific FOX News guests would arrive. The first ones appeared around 4 a.m.

After meeting them at their hotel or at the gate, he walked them to the FOX News section of the convention center. Among others, he escorted Milwaukee Sheriff David Clarke and former Navy Seal Marcus Luttrell. Quayle also arranged to rent bicycles for FOX News employees through a University Hospital-sponsored program. Another morning he fetched cupcakes for an on-air celebration of correspondent



Peter Doocy's birthday.

To fulfill an academic requirement, Quayle interviewed Steve Doocy of "FOX and Friends" and State Representative Mike Dovilla, a veteran and Baldwin Wallace graduate.

Both Milligan and Quayle praised security forces.

"They were very smart how they handled the hate groups," Quayle said. "They separated them from the main crowd and from each other. They [protestors] were over there ranting and raving and people weren't paying any attention."

Based in an office on Playhouse Square, Milligan's company offered breakfast, lunch and supper to snipers positioned on the top of their building. Milligan thanked policemen from Georgia, Florida and California for being there.

"The Texas horseback cops were awesome," he said. "Even their horses were great."

Quayle's credentials allowed him to attend all convention events, but his early hours meant a self-imposed bedtime of 6 p.m. Unlike Milligan, he didn't witness the speeches.

"That first night, passion was oozing for the military," Milligan said. "That was the best night for me, mostly because of my military background."

Marcus Luttrell's speech especially impressed him.

"My wife was at home watching it," Milligan said. "She texted me, 'I'm ready to reenlist.'"



Serving Her: Cuyahoga Community College Reaches Out to Female Veterans

By Amanda McCoy

The state of Ohio has over 61,000 female veterans.

On average, it takes these women seven years to adjust to civilian life after returning from deployment. One major adjustment is assimilating into the college setting. Veterans in particular suffer from many issues associated with trauma that can prevent them from returning to school, as well as hinder their performance in the classroom. For example, some veterans report that service-related issues such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) affect their attendance and class behavior.

Along with trauma-related issues, female veterans face gender-specific complications.

One of the primary barriers that prevent women from returning to school is childcare. Women are often the sole caretakers for their children, and due to lack of childcare options, many cannot return to school.

Work also prevents some women from pursuing an education, particularly if they have children.

One in five women experienced Military Sexual Trauma (MST), and mixed-gender settings may be particularly difficult for these individuals.

Once female veterans return to school, they may benefit from forming friendships with other women, as female support may be critical for them to remain enrolled. Veterans Upward Bound, a college preparatory program housed at Cuyahoga Community College's Metropolitan Campus, aims to assist veterans in the difficult transition to post-secondary education.

In my experience as the Academic Coordinator and English instructor, female veterans are more likely to graduate from our VUB program if there are other women in the group.

In this current VUB session, three women are enrolled. Though they have no trouble meshing with the guys, the women do admit they find comfort and security in one another.

One current VUB student Yvette Hooper adds to this notion: "I feel camaraderie with these ladies. They know how hard it was to be in the military in competition and working with men and succeed. Being in the military was the hardest thing I have done."


In order for more female veterans to return to school, a number of things are needed. These include better counseling, childcare and outreach. In order to cope with trauma that may make the school transition difficult, counseling may be needed, but many female veterans do not seek treatment or assistance as frequently as males do. Therefore, they may need more encouragement to obtain help.

Outreach is another area that needs improvement. "There isn't enough publicity on the matter because this is still a man's military organiza-

tion," says Hooper. "Everything is geared toward them. I believe regular information should be emailed or mailed to the female vets on a regular basis."

Once veterans are ready to return to the edu-

cational setting, they often find great reward in the process. Hooper says, "As a female veteran, pursuing an education is a plus. Having a career and being a vet holds a lot of weight. To me, it says that you care about more than just yourself."



Veterans

BEGINNING THE WEEK OF JULY 5TH

the Veterans Service Commission of Cuyahoga County will have a representative in the following Cuyahoga County Public Library branches:

- North Olmsted Branch
- North Royalton Branch
- Solon Branch
- South Euclid-Lyndhurst Branch

The Veterans Service Commission representative will be present from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to assist with the below and many other issues:

- Discuss and/or help file for various VA Benefits and Claims
- Temporary Financial Assistance
- Transportation (bus tickets) for VA medical appointments

For more information, please call 216.698.2600.

JULY

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

AUGUST

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

SEPTEMBER

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

OCTOBER

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


NOVEMBER

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

DECEMBER

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

- South Euclid-Lyndhurst Branch
- North Royalton Branch
- Solon Branch
- North Olmsted Branch



cuyahogalibrary.org



\$3 MILLION RAISED

For the past four years, the Greater Cleveland Fisher House taskforce has worked tirelessly to meet the \$3 million dollar fundraising goal in order to break ground on the very first Greater Cleveland Fisher Houses. At the very heart of our program, Fisher Houses offer a "home away from home," a place where families can stay and support their loved ones – at no cost – while they receive specialized military hospital/VA medical care. These houses allow the patients and families to focus on what's most important, the healing process. In addition to our houses, the Fisher House Foundation has several other initiatives including our Hero Miles program, Hotels for Heroes and providing scholarships to military children and spouses. Through your generosity, we are proud to announce that CLEVELAND, OHIO will be home to the next Fisher Houses, serving the Louis Stokes VA Medical Center. Thank you Cleveland, your generosity means bringing our heroes home.

We encourage you to find out more about the Fisher House program by visiting us online at www.greaterclevelandfisherhouse.org or by calling (440) 377-0067.



THANK YOU
Cleveland