



VFW Post 5864 Newsletter

1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood, IN 46143 – Phone 317-888-2488

Greenwood Memorial VFW Post 5864 – May 2023 Newsletter

"It's not the dues you pay to be a member, it's the price you paid to be eligible!"

"Like us" on [Facebook -- Greenwood VFW 5864](#) and visit our [Website--greenwoodvfw.com](#)

2017 and 2018 VFW First Place Award winner in the District / Post level for "Large Frequency" Publications. 2019, 2021, and 2022 Silver Award winner at the District / Post level

VFW to be closed on Saturday, May 13

Friends of NRA to hold event at VFW Post 5864

Greenwood VFW Post 5864 will be closed on Saturday, May 13 to accommodate the Friends of the National Rifle Association's (FNRA) annual event. The FNRA has rented the entire building due to their growth over the last couple of years and the need for more space for their fund-raising event.

The group has been great customers and a number of them are members of our Post. When we moved to this location, the idea was that having a banquet room which was twice as large as the previous Post, we would have plenty of room for everything.



Unfortunately, in theory, things like that do not always work. It was a great idea; however, their growth has been phenomenal, and they need all of the extra room they can secure for the day.

Anyone is of course welcome to attend that day if they purchase a ticket for the event. The cost is \$100 per person. The Friends of the NRA will be collecting money at each of the doors into the building. The Post will close on Friday, May 12 at 1 a.m. and reopen on Monday, May 15 at 2 p.m.

We appreciate your understanding. Sometimes it is necessary to modify our day-to-day activities to do something like this. In the end, it will help the Post.

Greenwood VFW's Honor Guard

Your black military trench coat is needed

The Greenwood VFW Honor Guard team needs your help. The black overcoat the team depends on to keep warm all winter is no longer available for purchase since the military discontinued issuing the coat a few years ago. The team no longer have sizes 46, 48 and 50 to issue.



According to Honor Guard Commander Bob Tuttle, "This has restricted outfitting new members wanting to join the team. If you still have your "military issued" "black" overcoat (sizes 46,48 or 50) stored somewhere in reusable condition, please consider donating it to this worthy cause".

This will help this team to continue providing Military Funeral Honors for our veterans well into the future. If you can help, please call Bob Tuttle at 317-888-5617. Thank you!

**The VFW will hold a Silent Auction on Friday night
May 12 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Day Room**

Banquet Rentals



Are you or one of your relatives or friends looking for a place to host a wedding reception, high school class reunion, meeting, birthday party, a Home-Owners Association meeting, training class or any get-together, please stop by and see our Banquet facilities.

OUR AMENTITIES INCLUDE

- | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| ■ Catering available | ■ 41 – 6 ft. tables | ■ 170 parking spaces |
| ■ Air conditioned & heated | ■ 16 – 8 ft. tables | ■ 4 restrooms |
| ■ On-site management | ■ 13 – 5 ft. round tables | ■ Very inexpensive |
| ■ Kitchen not available due to liability | ■ No alcohol allowed to be brought into VFW | ■ Seating for 140 to 280 individuals |

See our Rental Agreement and pricing on our website – greenwoodvfw.com. Be sure to stop by and look at our facility – you will be glad you did. Discounts are provided for veterans, members, and 501-C-3 organizations.

Please call

Cindy Reinert – Bar and Banquet Manager at 317-966-9582

or e-mail her at latitudesbelize@icloud.com for an appointment



Greenwood Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5864

1842 Veterans Way ■ Greenwood, Indiana 46143 ■ 317-888-2488



A Message from the Commander . . .

Indiana Gaming rules must always be followed

The Indiana Gaming Commission (IGC) sets the rules for all gaming. All organizations who have a license are required to follow their rules. There may be times when rules are misunderstood or not as clear to one individual as another. In this case, the organization who holds the license should be the only organization who calls to IGC to verify the correct information.

If you are a player in any game, you are welcome to call the IGC with your specific complaint. If there is any other issue, all calls, e-mails or contact to the IGC should come from the organization who holds the permit and in this case that would be VFW Post 5864. Currently there are only two individuals on the permit that was provided to Greenwood VFW Post 5864. That is the Commander and the Quartermaster.

No one else is authorized to call the IGC on behalf of or as a representative of Greenwood VFW Post 5864. And here is why we follow these rules – if any individual calls the IGC and provides their name and the name of the organization they are discussing, it could cause the IGC to send someone out to audit us or stop by to see if we know what we are doing. If you have a specific complaint as a player, go ahead and call them about your specific complaint .

Over the past 7 or 8 years, I have spoken to basically one individual at the IGC. I normally send an e-mail to her, and she responds within two to three days. Then I have it in writing and I make a PDF and save it to a file.

Our organizations are all “military-like” and therefore we follow a chain of command. We do this to make sure our license is protected and that individuals are not calling the IGC to be a nuisance.

Recently, a raffle was held at the VFW. I was not present. But as I understand it, an individual started to draw the ticket or did draw the ticket, and someone said “hey. There are more people who would like to purchase a ticket.” From a legal standpoint, as long as the number was not called out, it was ok. However, it was the perception of what those who were present saw that could damage our name, our reputation, and our integrity. As such those purchasing tickets could be leery about purchasing a ticket the next time.

The next time you have an issue similar to this, please call us and we will help you sort out your issue quickly. We have to protect our license and we could go as far as barring an individual who acts on behalf of the VFW without authority. I am sure that it will never go this far, however our gaming license is extremely important to our VFW.

We all need to get along and work together to make things work out. Sometime in June we will hold a Gaming Meeting so we can provide any updates to gaming rules. All organizations will be notified.

Thanks.
Steve Milbourn
Commander



U.S. Army Recruiters meet at VFW

Captain Molly Walters, on the left, is the Company Commander of the Metro South Recruiters. They have roughly 40 soldiers in the company. Here she presents a plaque to VFW Post 5864 Commander Steve Milbourn for the VFW's effort in allowing the group to host a meeting at the Post.

The Washington Post Editorial Board wants Veterans to forfeit earned benefits

VFW Executive Director Ryan Gallucci: 'If the editorial board is so worried about moral responsibility, maybe they should pick up a weapon and stand a post'

Yesterday (April 4, 2023), The Washington Post Editorial Board suggested America balance its budget on the backs of veterans. The VFW has heard these tired arguments before but was shocked to see them endorsed by an institution like the Washington Post.

According to their public bios, none of the 10 members of The Washington Post Editorial Board have spent a single minute serving this country in uniform unlike those who have earned the benefits the Board quickly dismisses as charity and essentially a waste of public money.

The impudence with which these individuals enthusiastically signed their names to criticize the care and benefits our service members earn, while enjoying the very freedoms our service members defend, should bring shame upon them as both journalists for a once-revered institution like

The Washington Post and as fellow Americans. This lazy opinion piece from The Washington Post



Editorial Board is a recycled compilation of anti-veteran talking points against which the VFW has fought for years.

The VFW would have welcomed the opportunity to refute these unjustifiable points if approached to do so. Yet, those of us who represent millions of veterans are now forced to react to hatchet journalism.

Had the elitist Editorial Board chosen to reach out to anyone who assists veterans in navigating these hard-

earned benefits, they may have learned about the true hidden costs of more than 20 years of war, and why our nation's commitment to care for both the visible and invisible wounds of war is crucial to our long-term national interest.

If The Post's esteemed Editorial Board wants to take a shot at veteran benefits, they should at least provide original thoughts and ideas, and not the scraps of other writers or proposals that the VFW dismantles on a regular basis. Veterans' benefits cost more than they did in years past. That is the price of war. It is also the price of peace and the price of defending misguided free speech – such a paradox for those of us who swore to defend the very Constitution that protects such vitriol.

However, this cost is not only a reflection of more Americans surviving the battlefield, but it is also our country recognizing the inherent danger of military service. Last year, the Honoring Our PACT Act rightfully expanded toxic exposure benefits to veterans who have suffered debilitating illnesses, some dating all the way back to the 1950s. Does The Washington Post Editorial Board prefer these veterans, their families and survivors continue to suffer in silence as they have for years? Should those who defend the very institution and profession that printed these words continue to suffer and die because it might be too expensive?

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The Washington Post Editorial Board wants Veterans to forfeit earned benefits

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It is laughable that the employees of one of the richest individuals in the world have the audacity to suggest disabled veterans should be the persons responsible for balancing the federal budget – instead of their wealthy billionaire benefactors who notoriously skirt their tax liabilities.

You would think with all the collective Ivy League degrees held by The Washington Post Editorial Board they would understand basic economics. Instead, they recommend that veterans be subjected to means tests or outright forfeit their earned benefits if they manage to constructively cope with these life-altering disabilities.

Sadly, it seems those degrees only served to inspire the Editorial Board to take the “easy way out” and renege on promises made to veterans, their family members, and survivors. If the Editorial Board is so worried about moral responsibility, maybe they should pick up a weapon and stand a post.



Ryan Gallucci is the executive director of the VFW Washington Office where he is responsible for the organization's legislative advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill and the VFW's global network of benefits representatives who are accredited by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to assist veterans, eligible family members, and survivors in the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of benefit claims before the agency.

Meeting changed to Thursday due to July 4 holiday

VFW, VFW Auxiliary to move July meeting to July 6

The VFW voted at their Tuesday, January 3 meeting to change the meeting date for their regular meeting from Tuesday, July 4 to Thursday, July 6. This was done due to Independence Day being on the night of the regular meeting.

The VFW Auxiliary will hold their meeting on the same day and time.

The Post is closed every July 4 to allow members and their families to enjoy the day.



The Fourth of July -- also known as Independence Day or July 4 -- has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution.

On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas

Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues. The Fourth of July 2023 is on Tuesday, July 4, 2023.

Silent Auction – Friday, May 12 from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Day Room

VFW Post 5864 Auxiliary hosts Bar Bingo throughout the year!

Monday Night Bar



at 6 p.m. – Kitchen is open until 7 p.m.

♦ No tables reserved ♦ Limited seating

Bar Bingo continues to be a success. Those working must be listed with the Indiana Gaming Commission as a registered "Operator" or "Worker." A list of individuals who are eligible to work in Gaming is posted behind the bar in the Canteen area. The Annual Bingo License, Annual Raffle License, and the Annual Charity Game Night License # is 002855. If you need help, please let Sherri Jones, 253-278-1980 or Steve Milbourn, 317-525-7291 know so they can get the information that is needed to place you on VFW Post 5864's gaming license.

■ Public Welcome ■ Please sign the book at the door

■ No outside food or drinks – No exceptions

■ IGC Reference No. is 156963 / ■ License No. 002855

Named after Ralph D. Napier

Scholarship program applications now available

The Greenwood VFW's annual Scholarships are named for former Greenwood VFW Post Commander, District and State Commander, Ralph D. Napier. Ralph served in Korea and became eligible for the VFW when he was awarded the Korean Service Medal with five bronze stars.

The bronze stars were for military campaigns he participated in while there.

Napier, now deceased, was born in 1932 in Three Point, Harlan County, Kentucky. He was the 10th of 12 children. He was urged to quit school at age 17, joined the Army and spent 17 months in Korea. When he returned home, he married Ponciana "Ponci" (Garcia) Napier. They were parents of a son, Bradley; and two daughters, Teresa, and Rita.

Ralph was the first Cub Scoutmaster of Troop 260 in 1960 and in 1965 was the Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 266 earning numerous awards for his efforts. Also, in the early 1960's he was one of the founding fathers of the Greenwood Little League. He and other founding members cleared the raw land, put in ball diamonds, fences, building dugouts and he also coached. Mr. Napier stayed with the Little League long after his own children moved on and then he became President of that organization.

Ralph was a continually active veteran. He was a member of American Legion Post 355; Indianapolis Masonic Lodge 514 and the Scottish Rite of Indianapolis. A long-time member of VFW Post 5864, he was Post Quartermaster for 7 years; Post Commander; District 7 Commander; and finally, State Commander.

According to his son Bradley, "He had that 'never give up attitude' and the foresight to always give back to the people that meant the most – God, family, and the youth of the community."

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Being a volunteer, -- they live to serve . . .

The concept of giving one's time and energy to help or walk alongside other volunteers is a special and unique thing for many people. Some don't grasp how meaningful and important it can actually be, not just for those being helped, but also for those who volunteer.

Live to serve individually or as a team of dedicated volunteers. Collectively as a Post, we can help a veteran, a family, or even members of our community.

If you would like to feel wanted, inspired, and empowered, consider spending some of your time and energy volunteering at your Post. It may be just a few minutes that will change everything for someone or for you as a volunteer.

We promise you an experience filled with fun, encouragement, laughter, camaraderie, and excitement with important and meaningful pride in yourself and your Post.

Consider joining us. Have a belief in something bigger than yourself.

– Anonymous



VFW dues are \$35 per year, or 9-1/2 cents a day

It is important to follow the gaming rules –

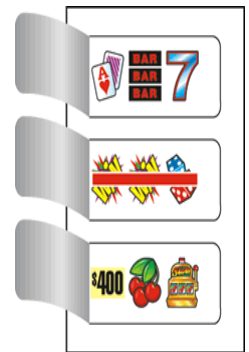
Gaming workers cannot buy pull-tabs the same day

According to Kim Barnett -- Director of Operations of the Charity Gaming Division of the Indiana Gaming Commission, if you are working behind the bar and selling pull-tabs, a 50-50, or any other games of chance to customers, you cannot purchase tickets to any of the games the day that you worked. Operators may not receive remuneration (pay) for conducting or assisting in conducting any allowable event/activity. The only exception is the remunerated (paid) bartender(s) on an annual activity license.



An operator may never participate in charity gaming on the same day that they served as an operator. Indiana Code (IC) 4-32.3-5-11 (a) -- Example: Susie called bingo for ABC organization earlier in the day, she cannot go to the bar area and purchase pull tabs later that evening.

An individual may only serve as an operator on no more than three (3) qualified organization's licenses during a calendar month IC 4-32.3-5-10 (b) -- That includes a Bingo worker (volunteer). The VFW can be fined, having the Indiana Gaming Commission shut us down for a specific time, and/or our license can be taken away from us.



Bartenders and others who are volunteers with gaming of any kind or sort cannot become involved in gaming during the times and days mentioned above.

Regular card games can be played at the VFW

According to Kim Barnett, Director of Operations of the Indiana Gaming Commission, based on information provided to them indicates that a card game being played with no payment or wager and no prizes or payouts would not require a charity gaming approval.

If at any time, card games were being played beyond the information provided above, charity gaming approval would be necessary.

Also, anytime that anything is used in place of money, that in itself would also be illegal and require a permit. In other words, if toothpicks, buttons, marbles, or if the card players are marking something down – that is illegal. If you are planning to play cards, you must notify the bartender and they can notify a member of the House Committee.

If the Indiana Gaming Commission were to visit the VFW and find that any individual or group was in violation of the rules, the VFW could be fined substantially.

**988 Veterans
Crisis Hotline --
Veterans now have
the option to Dial 988 then
Press 1**



to connect with caring, qualified responders for 24/7 crisis assistance. "During a crisis, every second counts," said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. "This new, shorter number makes it easier for veterans and those who care about them to reach lifesaving support without having to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care." While Dial 988 then Press 1 is a new option for contacting the Veterans Crisis Line, the original number, 1.800.273.8255 and press 1, remains available, and individuals can make contact via chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat or by texting 838255.

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Greenwood Memorial

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5864

1842 Veterans Way -- Greenwood, IN 46143

Phone 317-888-2488

2023 Ralph D. Napier Scholarship Application

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5864, Greenwood, in order to assist a deserving young man or woman pursue their education after high school, will award a graduate of the class of 2023 from an accredited high school the sum of \$1,000, to be applied as the recipient wishes to the costs associated with the education at an undergraduate degree granting college or university within the United States. The scholarship will be paid in two equal amounts, one payment per semester. The applicant must be a full-time student attending consecutive semesters. No exceptions to this attendance requirement are permitted.

Eligibility

Applicant must be a resident of Indiana who is currently a senior in high school in the class of 2023 or enrolled in an accredited university or college. Post Graduate education or other advanced degrees are not included in this scholarship fund.

The applicant must be the child, stepchild, grandchild, or step-grandchild sponsored by a member in good standing of VFW Post 5864. If the sponsor is deceased, he or she must have been a member in good standing in VFW Post 5864 at the time of death. The VFW membership number of the sponsor and the relationship must be provided on the application for verification.

Selection Criteria

- Academic achievement (e.g., GPA, official academic transcript requires)
- Leadership and participation in school and/or community activities
- Honors (e.g., academic, church, community, Scouting, etc.)
- Community Service
- Patriotic Involvement

A biographical essay including the above selection criteria (i.e., leadership, participation, and service in school, church, or community; honors received), the responsibilities of citizenship in a democratic society, and the personal goals for the future. The essay shall be the original work of the applicant. Any other material must be footnoted. The essay shall not be less than one page or longer than three typed pages, and will be formatted with one-inch margins, 1.5 line spacing and 12-point font. This essay will be reviewed and graded based on grammar, spelling, originality, context, and content at a level consistent with exceptional academic work. Please include a passport sized photo with the application.

A grade report and course registration for the second consecutive must be submitted in order to receive the second payment of the scholarship if the applicant is selected. Send all required material and supporting documentation to:

Greenwood VFW Post 5864

1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood, IN 46143

Attention: Scholarship Committee

Please include your name, address and phone number and email address for contact information. Applications must be delivered to the VFW Post 5864 by Wednesday, May 31, 2023. The decision of the Scholarship Committee Judges will be final, and all applicants will receive written notification that a decision has been reached. The winner will be notified by U.S. Mail. Presentation of this award will take place on August 1, 2023, at the VFW Post 5864 meeting.

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Greenwood Memorial
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5864

1842 Veterans Way -- Greenwood, IN 46143
Phone 317-888-2488

2023 Ralph D. Napier Scholarship Application
(Attach all Supporting Documentation)

Applicant Information:

Name: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

First M.I. Last

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Tel: _____ Mobile Tel: _____ Email: _____

Employed: ☐ Y ☐ N Employer Name: _____ City: _____

Position: _____ Volunteer: _____

Educational Institution Currently Being Attended:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Major or Type of Training: _____

Grade Point Average (GPA): _____ Expected Completion Date: _____

Educational Institution Planning to Attend:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Course of Study: _____ Degree Sought: _____

Expected Completion Date: _____ Semester Tuition/Books/Fees: _____

Semester Start Date: _____

Applicant Sponsor: _____ Relationship to Applicant: _____

Sponsor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sponsor VFW Membership No. _____ (Required)

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Greenwood VFW Post 5864



Bingo Every Wednesday

\$1,000

Cover-All Pot 50 Numbers or Less *

\$500 or more!

Cover-All Guaranteed Pot *

Early-birds (Warm-ups) start at 6:30 p.m.

All games end around 10 p.m.

PUBLIC WELCOME!

BASIC STARTING PACKAGE -- \$17

- ◆ Large New Playing Room
- ◆ Social Distancing Is Practiced
- ◆ 2-3 Players Per 8 Foot Table!



Masks & Hand Sanitizer Available

Food and Beverages Available! -- Join the Fun!!!

Go east on Main St. in Greenwood past Interstate 65. Continue east past Road Ranger Truck Stop approximately 100 yards. Turn right on Commerce Parkway West Drive. If you go to the traffic light (Graham Rd.) you have gone too far. Follow the road to Veterans Way (about 300 yards). Phone 317-888-2488.

*** ABOVE COVER-ALLS PAID WITH 90 OR MORE PLAYERS**

■ **Absolutely no outside food or drinks**

■ IGC Reference No. 156963

■ Bingo License 002855

Beretta Model A-12

12-gauge Shotgun



80 Tickets -- \$10.00 each

Drawing will be held soon after the last ticket is sold

Proceeds to benefit Veterans – See Bartender for tickets



Greenwood VFW Post 5864

1842 Veterans Way ■ Greenwood, Indiana 46143
Phone 317-888-2488

■ IGC Reference No. 156963 / ■ IGC License No. 002855

VA to award \$52.5 million in grants to local organizations working to prevent Veteran suicide

The VA has announced the availability of \$52.5 million in grants to community-based organizations that provide or coordinate suicide prevention services for Veterans and their families – including conducting Veteran mental health screenings, providing case management and peer support services, delivering emergency clinical services, reaching out to Veterans at risk of suicide and more.

These grants will be awarded through VA's Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program. The Notice of Funding Opportunity provides information about the program, eligibility, and award process. Applications are due by 11:59 pm ET on May 19, 2023, and awards will be granted to eligible entities by Sept. 30, 2023. The funds will be used by the selected organizations in Fiscal Year 2024.

Preventing Veteran suicide is VA's top clinical priority and a top priority of the Biden-Harris Administration. This effort is a key part of VA's 10-year National Strategy for Preventing Veteran Suicide and the Biden-Harris Administration's plan for Reducing Military and Veteran Suicide.

In September, VA released the 2022 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report, which showed that Veteran suicides decreased in 2020 for the second year in a row, and that fewer Veterans died by suicide in 2020 than in any year since 2006.

"Veterans at risk of suicide deserve quick and easy access to mental health screenings, peer support, emergency services, and more – both from VA and community-based organizations," said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. "There are countless great organizations across America that are providing Veterans with this type of local, on-the-ground support, and we at VA are proud to support their efforts."

This will be the second round of grants awarded as part of VA's Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program. In September 2022, VA awarded grants for the program's first year, totaling \$52.5 million to 80 awardees in 43 states, Washington, D.C., and American Samoa. The grant program is named after Parker Gordon Fox, a sniper instructor who died by suicide at the age of 25.

Grant funding will be divided into two priorities. Under Priority 1, VA will provide opportunities for funding to those entities with existing SSG Fox SPGP awards. Under Priority 2, new organizations can apply for grants worth up to \$750,000. Following the selection of Priority 1 grantee applicants, any remaining funds will be awarded according to Priority 2.

VA may prioritize the distribution of suicide prevention services grants under this priority to: (i) Rural communities; (ii) Tribal lands; (iii) Territories of the United States; (iv) Medically underserved areas; (v) Areas with a high number or percentage of minority Veterans or women Veterans; and (vi) Areas with a high number or percentage of calls to the Veterans Crisis Line.

Over the past two years, VA has announced or continued several additional efforts to end Veteran suicide. In January, VA announced that Veterans in acute suicidal crisis can go to any VA or non-VA health care facility for emergency health care at no cost — including inpatient or crisis residential care for up to 30 days and outpatient care for up to 90 days.

VA has also established 988 (then press 1) as a way for Veterans to quickly connect with caring, qualified crisis support 24/7; launched Mission Daybreak, a \$20 million grand challenge aimed at developing innovations to reduce Veteran suicides; conducted an ongoing public outreach effort on firearm suicide prevention and lethal means safety; and leveraged a national Veteran suicide prevention awareness campaign, "Don't Wait. Reach Out."

#

If you're a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one, contact the Veterans Crisis Line to receive 24/7 confidential support. You don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care to connect. To reach responders, dial 988 then Press 1, chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat, or text 838255.

22% Budget cut proposals would hurt Veterans

While the President's Budget details a plan to honor our country's sacred obligation to care for America's Veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors, the proposal to cut a broad range of critical programs by 22% would threaten critical services for Veterans – both at VA and across the federal government. **The proposed 22% budget cut to VA would:**

■ **Threaten Medical Care for Veterans.** The proposal would mean 30 million fewer Veteran outpatient visits, and 81,000 jobs lost across the Veterans Health Administration, leaving Veterans unable to get appointments for care including wellness visits, cancer screenings, mental health services, and substance use disorder treatment.

■ **Undermine Access to Telehealth.** Access to remote care through telehealth is essential for Veterans, particularly in rural areas. By reducing funding for necessary IT infrastructure and support, the proposal would impair VA's ability to expand video-to-home telehealth services and limit the availability of medical equipment that can be provided to Veterans so they can attend important telehealth appointments from home.

■ **Worsen Wait Times for Benefits.** Under the proposal, the Veterans Benefits Administration would eliminate more than 6,000 staff, increasing the disability claims backlog by nearly 134,000 claims and forcing Veterans and their surviving loved ones to wait longer for the benefits they have earned, including pensions, life insurance, GI Bill educational supports, and employment services.

■ **Prevent Construction on the Health Care Facilities that Veterans need.** Veterans deserve to receive care in state-of-the-art facilities, but the median VA hospital was built nearly 60 years ago – compared to just 13 years ago in the private sector. This proposal would cut up to \$565 million for major construction projects, including critical clinical upgrades to hospitals and clinics. These cuts would negatively impact Veteran health care across America.

■ **Fail to Honor the Memory of All Veterans.** The proposal would require VA's National Cemetery Administration to eliminate approximately 500 staff, jeopardize NCA's ability to maintain the final resting place of Veterans to national shrine standards, and delay the opening of 5 new national cemeteries that will serve nearly 1.6 million Veterans and eligible family members.

Beyond the direct impact on Veterans who use VA, these proposed cuts would negatively impact Veterans who access critical services across the federal government.

Specifically, these proposed cuts would:

■ **Cut Housing for Veterans.** Every Veteran deserves a good, safe home in this country they fought to defend. The proposal would eliminate funding for Housing Choice Vouchers for as many as 50,000 Veterans, putting them at greater risk of homelessness.

■ **Increase Food Insecurity for Veterans.** About 1.3 million Veterans rely on SNAP. This proposal would take food assistance away from Veterans who are older by adding burdensome, bureaucratic requirements, and it would limit states' flexibility to protect especially vulnerable people currently subject to work requirements. That would increase the likelihood that Veterans and their families will go hungry.

■ **Deprive Veterans of mental health, substance use, and other health services.** This proposal would mean deep cuts to Department of Health and Human Services community mental health centers, mental health and substance use prevention grants, and other public health programs. Supporting Veterans and their families in the community, especially those not enrolled in VA health care, has been a priority for HHS and these cuts could reduce access to timely care and services.

■ **Eliminate Job Training and Other Supports to Homeless Veterans.** The proposal would mean that 4,200 fewer Veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness would receive job training, counseling, and job readiness services provided through the Department of Labor's Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program.

This analysis assumes an across-the-board reduction of roughly 22% compared to currently enacted FY 2023 levels for non-defense discretionary accounts. That aligns with proposals to return discretionary spending to FY 2022 levels on an ongoing basis while exempting defense spending

40 et 8 Voiture Locale 145 Chef de Gare's Corner . . .

Fellow Voyageurs: It is time to consider running for an office in our Locale. We cannot conduct business properly without a full slate of Officers. We have a Nominating Committee that I appointed several months ago. The Committee consists of Joe Vidales, Jerry Logan, and Dean Logan. Please contact one of them to get your name on the nominations list. Or you can be nominated from the floor at both May and June Promenades.

Up-Coming Elections/To All V-145 Voyageurs: It is only 30 days until we start accepting nominations for the 2023-2024 Voyageur Year. Nominations start in May; second nominations and voting take place in June. The outgoing Officers open the June Promenade, and the incoming Officers close the June Promenade. Installation of new Officers takes place in July. Please consider your obligation and offer to support Voiture Locale 145 by running for one of the officer positions.



Mark Your Calendars: Our next Promenade is *May 29, 2023, at 7 p.m.*

Youth Sports Activities: Voiture 145 has again donated \$500 dollars to the go-cart racetrack in Whiteland as part of the Youth Sports Program.

Nurses Training / Endowment at University of Indianapolis: I attended the U o I's annual meeting in April to meet / greet the recipients of various endowments, including our own.

In March I attended a similar event at Marion University and met several student nurses who received financial assistance from V-145's endowment. This shows our Nurses Training Program does work. I still have a few 2023 nurses training pins for sale for \$3.00 per pin. If interested see me at the next Promenade.

Voiture Membership: Our membership, according to Nationale, stands at 94.06%. We still need 6 more memberships to reach 100%. We still have several members who have not yet paid their 2023 dues. Voiture Dexter Albright signed up as a new member at the April Promenade. Thanks Dexter. We still need 5 more members. There are plenty of eligible veterans out there. Let's get them on board.

Life Membership: Have you thought about purchasing a Life Membership in the 40 et 8? Voiture 145 currently has a total of 13 Life Members. V-145 would like to work with you in obtaining that Life Membership. If you desire to become a Life Member, contact Mike Delaney or myself. Voiture Locale 145 will base your Life Membership on the \$18.50 per capita tax. This reduces the total cost for a Life Membership considerably.

Jay Collars -- Chef de Gare

Damaged and retired U.S. Flag disposal ceremony

1. The flag should be folded in its customary manner.
2. It is important that the fire be large and of sufficient intensity to ensure complete burning of the flag.
3. Place the flag on the fire.
4. The individual(s) can come to attention, salute the flag, recite the Pledge of Allegiance and have a brief period of silent reflection.
5. After the flag is completely consumed, the fire should then be safely extinguished, and the ashes buried.
6. Please make sure you are conforming to local/state fire codes or ordinances.



Please call VFW Post 5864 at 317-888-2488 if you would like assistance with proper flag disposal.

Dexter Albright wins “Horse Soldier” basket

American Legion 1st Vice Commander Dexter Albright was the winner of the “Horse Soldier” basket that bartender “Kat” Cathcart made up a few weeks ago.

The basket contained 3 bottles of Horse Soldier Bourbon Whiskey – Barrel Strength, Small Batch, and Straight Bourbon.

In addition to the bourbon, there were 2 DVD’s – 12 Strong -- the true story of a U.S. Army A-team (12 members who are cross trained) of Green Berets, who became known as the Horse Soldiers, and were inserted into Afghanistan shortly after 9-11.

There was also a DVD called 13 Hours -- the true story about Benghazi.

Also, there were 2 rock glasses, 1 ABATE 2-XL Long Sleeve Shirt, 6-Pack of Mini Cokes, 3-Pack of Popcorn, Reese’s Cups candy, Kit Kat candy, Beef Jerky, and Werther’s and Starburst Gummies.

The 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) added to its combat history during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. In August



1990 the group was called upon to conduct operations in Southwest Asia in response to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

During this crisis, the U.S. Army's First Special Operations Task Force consisting of elements of the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), comprising 106 special operations teams, performed a wide variety of missions.

These spanned a wide scope of operations, including support to coalition warfare; conducting foreign internal defense missions with the Saudi Arabian Army; performing special reconnaissance, border surveillance, direct action, combat search and rescue missions; and advising and assisting a pan-Arab equivalent force larger than six U.S. divisions; as well as conducting civil-military operations training and liaison with the Kuwaitis.

The border surveillance mission assigned the 5th Special Forces and was the key to providing actionable intelligence to the U.S. and Pan-Arab Forces. New military relationships were forged between the U.S. and the Arab states.

General Norman Schwarzkopf described the Special Forces as "the eyes and ears" of the conventional forces and the "glue that held the coalition together."

Mitch Nelson (Mark Nutsch), a U.S. Army captain with Green Berets Operational Detachment Alpha (ODA) 595, was moving into a new home with his wife and daughter on September 11, 2001, after receiving an assignment to staff duty under Lieutenant Colonel Bowers. As news of the devastating terrorist attacks that day, Nelson volunteered to lead ODA 595 into Afghanistan.

Bowers initially refused, but veteran soldier CW-5 Hal Spencer (Bob Pennington), previously



Dexter Albright, winner of the Horse Soldier basket

“Horse Soldier” goes to former soldier . . .

■ *Continued from page 16*

scheduled to retire, persuaded Bowers to give Nelson command of ODA 595 again, as well as volunteering himself for the deployment. After leaving their families, ODA 595 traveled to Uzbekistan on October 7, 2001. After being briefed and evaluated by Col. Mulholland, Commander of 5th Special Forces Group, Nelson and ODA 595 were picked to fight alongside Northern Alliance leader Abdul Rashid Dostum.

ODA 595 was then inserted covertly in Afghanistan aboard Boeing CH-47 Chinook flown by 160th SOAR on October 19, 2001. They landed 40 miles south of Mazar-i-Sharif, the country's fourth-largest city and a longtime stronghold of the Taliban, where they met with Dostum. Six of the 12 members, led by Nelson, leave with Dostum for the mountains, while the other six remain in a fortified camp nicknamed "The Alamo" under Spencer's command.

Dostum attempted to capture the northern Afghanistan city, while battling Taliban leader Mullah Razzan, who ruled local communities brutally under strict law of Sharia, and had murdered several people, including Dostum's family. Although the warlord was initially skeptical of Nelson's abilities, Nelson gradually earns Dostum's respect.

In one battle, however, Dostum made a tactical error, costing several casualties. Nelson accused Dostum of acting carelessly with the lives of his men and of withholding valuable information, while Dostum retorts that he still felt that Nelson, and the U.S. was not willing to pay the potential price of the conflict. He told Nelson to use his heart and mind to "be a warrior" instead of a soldier.

The two eventually reconciled, and, after splitting off a three-man element under SFC Sam Diller to strike a Taliban supply route, and being joined by Spencer's half of ODA 595, continue to work together. They won several victories with Dostum's leadership and manpower and American airpower, making considerable progress towards Mazar-i Sharif.

When Nelson informed Dostum that another ODA, 555, had been dispatched to support Atta Muhammad, another Northern Alliance leader, who is Dostum's political rival, Dostum was furious, and his men promptly abandoned ODA 595.

Following Dostum's departure, Nelson planned to continue operating against the Taliban with his Americans and the few Afghan fighters remaining with them. Encountering a large force of Al-Qaeda and Taliban fighters and armored vehicles, ODA 595, rejoined by Diller and his element, used air support to eliminate many of the fighters and most of the armor, but were discovered and attacked.

Spencer was critically injured by a suicide bomber, and the team was about to be overrun under heavy Taliban and Al-Qaeda pressure when Dostum returned with his forces. Carrying out the U.S. Army's first cavalry charge of the 21st century, the American and Northern Alliance forces disperse the Taliban and al-Qaeda, and Dostum tracked down and kills Razzan.

After Spencer was medivaced, Nelson and Dostum continued to Mazar-i-Sharif but find that Atta Muhammad has beaten them there. Against expectations, Dostum leaves any differences with Muhammad to be settled the next day. Impressed by Nelson and the Americans' efforts, Dostum gives Nelson his prized riding crop and told him that he will always consider Nelson a brother and fellow fighter, at the same time bidding him to remember that Afghanistan is the graveyard of empires. Spencer ultimately survives, and all 12 soldiers of ODA 595 return home after 23 days of almost continuous fighting in Afghanistan.

The film's penultimate moment shows a photo of the Horse Soldier Statue at the World Trade Center in New York City, based on the soldiers of ODA 595 and their victory in the early stages of the response to the September 11 attacks, dedicated to all United States Special Forces.

The film then ended with a photo of the actual members of ODA 595, in combat fatigues, upon whom the movie 12 Strong was based.

“Horse Soldier” goes to former soldier . . .

■ **Continued from page 17**

The New York City Port Authority has donated to the Horse Soldier team steel recovered from the World Trade Center after 9/11.

Each bottle of Horse Soldier is formed in molds of this steel to honor the spirit of resilience and service that arose after the attack on our nation.

Members of Green Berets Operational Detachment Alpha (ODA) 595 included -- Colonel John F. Mulholland, Commander of 5th Special Forces Group; Lt. Colonel Max Bowers, Commander of 3rd Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group; Mark Nutsch, Captain; Sam Diller, Intelligence Sergeant First Class; Ben Milo, Sergeant First Class; Sean Coffers, member of ODA 595; Vern Michaels, member of ODA 595; Scott Black, member of ODA 595; Bill Bennett, a Sergeant First Class in ODA 595; Fred Falls, a Staff Sergeant in ODA 595; Pat Essex, Master Sergeant; Charles Jones, member of ODA 595; Kevin Jackson, member of ODA 595;

Also, Brian, a paramilitary field officer with the CIA's Special Activities Division.

Post Relief Fund used for specific items only

The Post Relief Fund was established by the National Veterans of Foreign Wars to aid those in need; sick and so forth. The information below concerning the Relief Fund is contained in the 2022 Podium Edition of the Manual of Procedures, Article II – Posts, Section 219 – Relief Fund, pages 76 and 77.

The Quartermaster of the Post will be the custodian of the Relief Fund and will expend monies as directed by the Post for the eight purposes only:



1. Aid, assistance, relief, and comfort of needy or disabled veterans or members of the Armed Forces and their dependents, and the surviving spouses and orphans of deceased veterans.

2. Maintenance and expansion of the VFW National Home for Children and other facilities devoted exclusively to the benefit and welfare of the dependents, surviving spouses, and orphans of disabled, needy, or deceased veterans or members of the Armed Forces.

3. Necessary expenses in providing entertainment, care, and assistance to hospitalized veterans or members of the Armed Forces.

4. Veterans rehabilitation, welfare, and service work.

5. To perpetuate the memory of deceased veterans and members of the Armed Forces, and to comfort their survivors.

6. To foster true patriotism through historical and educational programs.

7. Remission of dues of sick, needy, or disabled veterans.

8. Necessary expenses to support the Relief Fund such as the purchase of Buddy Poppies.

Relief Funds may be invested in approved securities but shall not be loaned to the Post or other units or transferred from the Relief Fund in any manner or under any guise.

Most of the income for the Relief Fund comes directly from the offering of Buddy Poppies on or near Memorial Day and, also on or near Veterans Day. One hundred percent (100%) of all money donated to the Relief Fund is used to help veterans and/or their families.

**Free Notary Service to Veterans and Auxiliary Members of
VFW Post 5864 – Contact Doree Boger -- 317-286--8892**

This includes all military-related non-renters, groups, and individuals

Use of facilities in the VFW must be requested

The use of any room in the VFW must be requested prior to its use. Generally, there is no charge to military-related organizations. There is, however, a charge for those individuals and companies who make a profit from what they are doing. We do not allow anyone to use our kitchen due to insurance liability.

Recently we had some folks show up and went into the Day Room to use it as a meeting room. On the surface that is not a problem. However, we keep a book for all groups or individuals who wish to rent or use our facilities so that we can maintain some type of order.

There are times when the Day Room and both Banquet Rooms are booked. If you showed up and did not have a reservation, you might be sitting in the bar room. On a Friday night, it is at times exceedingly difficult to hear anything with karaoke and music in the air.

We have a form – **Use of Facilities**, which has to be completed and the Banquet Manager and / or the Commander will review it to make sure nothing else is already booked for the day you need. After that we will sign the form, call you and let you know everything is fine or you need to provide us with an alternate date for your meeting, etc.

Please do not advertise or promote your event at our location without having this signed document in your hands. The form is at the bar. Ask one of the bartenders and they will make sure you get a copy, and they will also let you know if the date you have selected is available or not.

Donations are needed for

VFW Post 5864's

Walk-In Cooler

A Walk-In Cooler would save the VFW **a minimum of \$2.88 on each case of beer that we purchase**. We could then store 4 times the amount of beer that we are currently purchasing. The Walk-In would provide more space for large food orders.

The purchase cost and installation cost for the Walk-In Cooler could be \$10,000. When we built our new facility, the electrician installed all of the necessary electrical wiring for a Walk-In Cooler.

Thanks much for your help! We appreciate you.

You are welcome to place money in the “jug” near the front door, write a check, or donate on a credit card. We will provide you with a receipt for use at tax time.

TISAS 1911-A1 U.S. Army 45-ACP 5" 7+1 Pistol

Walnut / Matte Black

*Plus -- a reproduction G.I. holster
and 50 rounds of ammunition*



120 Tickets -- \$10.00 each

Drawing will be held soon after the last ticket is sold

Proceeds to benefit Veterans – See Bartender for tickets



Greenwood VFW Post 5864

■ IGC Reference No. 156963 / ■ IGC License No. 002855

News and photo submission policy is announced

Members of the VFW and the Auxiliary are encouraged to submit news articles and photos to be published in the Post's monthly newsletter. Auxiliary members (formerly Ladies Auxiliary) should contact Carol Puckett via e-mail at carolbulpuck@yahoo.com, or by dropping off the information at the Post addressed to her.



All other news and photos can be e-mailed to Steve Milbourn. Information can also be dropped off at the VFW and given to the bartender on duty. It is important that you place your name and phone number on the item in case there are any questions. Ensure that names are legible. Your article may be edited for clarity.

All photos must have the following information with them: who, what, when, where, why, and how the photo was taken, and who is in the photo. Please submit all articles by the date shown below for next month's publication.

The Editor is Steve Milbourn, and his phone number is 317-525-7291 or steve.milbourn@aol.com. The deadline for the June newsletter is Friday, May 19 at 5 p.m.

Community service event could start again

Weekly Euchre games could be in the near future

The weekly Euchre games were previously put on hold when we moved to our new location in March 2020. Auxiliary members oversaw the event for a number of years with VFW members occasionally helping with the games.



Recently there was some discussion concerning restarting the card game. In order to play Euchre, we would need one helper for every 24 individuals who plays Euchre. We are asking those individuals who may be interested in working and / or playing to let us know your thoughts.

Because we have weekly Texas Hold-em games which begin at 1 p.m., the Euchre games would not start until around 5 p.m. and hopefully be through by no later than 8 p.m.

The Euchre Committee will go over the rules with everyone and answer any questions that may be presented.

There will be four places with cash prizes. Prize money will be paid out based on the number of individuals who play the game. There is also a cash prize for the high game score.

Members interested in working the Euchre games, should call Steve Milbourn, 317-525-7291 or e-mail him at steve.milbourn@aol.com. Let us know as soon as possible.

It will take approximately two weeks to get our current license modified to allow Euchre. To be a worker or an operator, we would need some basic information and your name would be submitted to the Indiana Gaming Commission. It takes about three to four weeks for them to process that information and update our Gaming License.

The cost for adding individuals onto our license is a fee of \$25 for as many individuals as we can put on the addendum. The VFW will pay this fee.

You would need to be a member of the VFW or the VFW Auxiliary to be placed on the license. To be a member of the VFW, you would have to have served in a designated combat zone yourself. Men and women can join the VFW Auxiliary.

To join the Auxiliary, you must be a husband, wife, mother, father, brother, sister, son, daughter, grandfather, grandmother, grandson, granddaughter, step and / or adopted parents, children, siblings, and half-siblings are considered the same as biological parents to the veteran. The initial cost to join the VFW Auxiliary is \$25 the first year, after that it is \$20 per year.

It is also possible that we could open the kitchen for a couple of hours and have some food like wings and pulled pork sandwiches. We also have potato chips, candy bars, soft drinks, water and beer and liquor at the bar.

16th annual VFW Golf Tournament set for June 10

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5864 in Greenwood, Indiana will host their 16th Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, June 10, 2023, at Valle Vista Golf Course.

The net proceeds of the tournament will be used to fund programs for homeless veterans and many local charitable programs which include the Patriot's Pen for junior high school students; Voice of Democracy for high school students; Boy and Girl Scouts of the Year; Teacher of the Year in elementary, junior, and senior high school categories; and three college scholarships.

VFW Post 5864 awards plaques annually to the Outstanding Citizen of the Year; Policeman of the Year; Firefighter of the Year and EMT of the Year in the City of Greenwood. We help homeless veterans in the community; and assist local veterans and their families in financial need. VFW Post 5864 acts as a resource to veterans by locating other organizations as needed to help the veteran confront the issues they may be facing today.



You can join with VFW Post 5864 to achieve the mission of helping veterans by becoming a sponsor of our 16th Annual Golf Tournament. If you are unable to provide sponsorship with a cash donation, please consider donating merchandise to be awarded as prizes to our players. Each player will be provided with a "Ditty Bag" which will include coupons and business gratuities.

Contributions and Sponsorships are 100% tax deductible as VFW Post 5864 is a non-profit organization. Sponsors will receive a letter acknowledging the contribution or donation provided.

There are seven levels of sponsorship available to both businesses and individuals: Presenting and Co-Sponsor - \$2,500; Diamond - \$1,000; Platinum - \$750; Gold - \$500; Silver - \$250; Bronze - \$100; and Individual Sponsors - \$50.

Sponsors will receive a complimentary meal at the VFW after the golf tournament concludes.

We thank you in advance for your support of VFW Post 5864 and the veterans of this area.

By the way, the VFW is now located at 1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood. You can Google 578 Commerce Parkway West Dr., Greenwood to locate us. That was the former address.

Thank you very much for your participation in this event and we also welcome you to sign up to play golf for our tournament.

If you have any questions, please call Steve Milbourn, 317-525-7291 or e-mail him at steve.milbourn@aol.com.

Greenwood Memorial VFW Post 5864

1842 Veterans Way ■ Greenwood, IN 46143

317-888-2488

At Valle Vista Golf Course

Saturday, June 10, 2023





Greenwood VFW Post 5864

16th Annual Golf Tournament

Saturday, June 10, 2023

Valle Vista Golf Course



Check In – 7:30 a.m. – Shotgun Start – 8:30 a.m.

Team Registration (First 25 Teams to pay will play)

Prizes:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 01. -- Putting contest prior to start of event – <u>Starts at 7:30 a.m.</u> – Winner gets \$40 | |
| 02. -- 4 – 1st Place -- \$50 in Cash to each golfer | -- Fantastic Door Prizes after the Golf Tournament |
| 03. -- 4 – 2nd Place -- \$35 in Cash to each golfer | |
| 04. -- 4 – 3rd Place -- \$25 in Cash to each golfer | |
| 05. -- 1st Place team gets their team's name proudly displayed on our Winner's Plaque. | |
| 06. -- Closest to pin on Holes 3, 8, 11 and 17 | 4 -- \$25 Gift Certificates (4 Holes) |
| 07. -- Longest Drive – Men and Women – Hole 2 | 2 -- \$25 Gift Certificates (2 People) |
| 08. -- Longest Drive – 65 and Over – Hole 1 | 1 -- \$25 Gift Certificate |
| 09. -- Longest Putt – Hole 9 | 1 -- \$25 Gift Certificate |

Funds raised support military, local veteran relief funds and other local charity programs.

Cost is \$280 per foursome or \$70 per person. The price includes green fees, cart, unlimited beverages on the course, a buffet with hamburgers / bratwurst, baked beans, potato salad, chips, and of course various beverages at the VFW after the tournament.

Please mail or drop off this entry form with payment to VFW Post 5864, 1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood Indiana 46143. Make checks payable to VFW Post 5864 and write Golf in the memo area. **Please print** the team information below.

This form must accompany your payment. No exceptions!

Name	Phone	E-mail
Team Captain		
Player 2 Name		
Player 3 Name		
Player 4 Name		

Stop by VFW Post 5864 at 1842 Veterans Way in Greenwood if you need an additional registration form or go to our website – greenwoodvfw.com and go to Events / Events Calendar and print. For additional information call Steve Milbourn at 317-525-7291.



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary to VFW Post 5864

1842 Veterans Way ♦ Greenwood, IN 46143
317-888-2488

THE AUXILIARY IN PROGRESS

At the April 4 meeting, the members discussed the possibility of holding a kid's festival during the summer. The discussion was tabled until the May 2 meeting. The Auxiliary members approved a \$500 donation for the Whiteland tornado victims. President Linda Kessinger presided over the election of officers for 2023-2024. Officers for 2023-2024 are: President -- Linda Kessinger; Senior Vice-President -- Trudy Umphrey; Junior Vice-President -- William Hart; Secretary -- Carol Bullock-Puckett; Treasurer -- Brenda Lippert; Chaplain -- Flo Fricke; Conductor -- Mary Canner, Guard -- Pam Bush; 1st Year Trustee -- Trudy Umphrey; 2nd Year Trustee -- Pam Bush; and 3rd Year Trustee -- Flo Fricke. Installation of officers will take place at the May 2 meeting. On May 27, the Auxiliary, the American Legion 252, and the Whiteland VFW Post will place decorated wreaths at 5 local cemeteries in Greenwood as part of their Memorial Day services in honor of our deceased veterans.

May 18, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Rain date May 19) The Auxiliary members will be helping clean up the Veterans portion of the Forest Lawn Cemetery on State Road 135. Volunteers from the Post, Auxiliary and others are needed for this project. Bring gloves, rakes, cordless leaf blower, etc. Contact Carol Bullock-Puckett, 317-714-7062 to volunteer for this much needed service.

The Auxiliary's Mega Prize Bingo will be held August 6 in the Post banquet rooms. Tickets will go on sale in May and are \$30 per ticket. You may reserve a table for an additional \$20 flat fee. Doors will open at 1 p.m. and bingo starts at 2 p.m. Raffle baskets, a 50/50 and pull tabs can be purchased.

Bring an unexpired can of food and receive a free raffle ticket for door prizes. Canned goods will be donated to a local pantry. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. The bar will be open for beer and cocktails. Mega prizes available to win are genuine jewelry, 42-inch TV, laptop, Coach purses, Cuisinart cookware, portable vacuum sweeper, earbuds, Kroger \$150 gift card, Apple watch, toaster oven-air fryer combo and several \$150 cash prizes.



Tickets may be purchased from an auxiliary member, or you can contact Trudy Umphrey at 317-702-3290, Carol Bullock-Puckett 317-714-7062 or Brenda Lippert 317-432-5146.

The Auxiliary is raffling off a patriotic bench. The drawing will be held the week prior to Memorial Day. Raffle tickets are \$5.00 each or one arm's length for \$20.00. Tickets can be purchased at Bar Bingo on Monday nights or Friday night. You can also contact Trudy Umphrey at 317-702-3290, Brenda Lippert 317-432-5146, Carol Bullock-Puckett 317-714-7062 to purchase tickets. All raffles held by the Auxiliary help support our veterans.

Bar Bingo at the Post: May 1, May 8, May 15, May 22, **May 29 -- Memorial Day -- No Bingo.** Food is available for ordering as long as the kitchen is open until 7 p.m. Patrons can bring their own food in as long as the kitchen is not open. Drinks at the bar are available until closing.

Bingo starts at 6 pm.

■ **Continued to page 25**

VFW Auxiliary in Progress . . . ■ *Continued from page 24*

Bingo consists of 8 regular games at \$2 per sheet, two coverall games at \$5 per sheet and one M game at \$5 per sheet. Come and join us for a fun night out.

The Auxiliary welcomes the following new member: Kathryn Cathcart. Members can pick up their new membership packets at the next monthly Auxiliary meeting. This is a good time to meet fellow members.

May 2 – Auxiliary Meeting – Social meeting starts at 6 p.m. Official meeting starts at 7 p.m. Please come and be involved. We need your help. Volunteer to be a chairperson of an event or be on a planning event committee. New members come and pickup your membership packet and get acquainted with others.

Scheduled Events for 2023:

- May 10 – Mega Prize Bingo Committee Meeting – 5:30 p.m.**
- Aug. 6 – Mega Cash Prize Bingo**
- Sept. 7 -- 911 Luncheon for Greenwood City Employees and First Responders -- 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**
- Oct. 29 -- Childrens' Halloween Party 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**
- Dec. 12 -- Auxiliary Members Night Out- Place/Time Undecided**
- Dec. 17 -- Childrens' Christmas Party 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Help support your veterans by wearing a patriotic bracelet. The Auxiliary sells small (women) and large (men and women) bracelets for \$5 each. If you are interested in purchasing, contact Carol Bullock-Puckett, 317-714-7062, or Trudy Umphrey, 317-702-3290. These make nice gifts for friends and family, especially birthdays.

Any member that did not pay their membership dues by December 31, 2022, your membership is now not in good standing. Membership dues are \$20 and can still be remitted until June 30, 2023. Make your check payable to VFW Auxiliary 5864 and mail to Brenda Lippert, 3111 Eastpointe Drive, Franklin, Indiana 46131. Please notify the Auxiliary if your address, email address, phone number change so we can keep accurate information in Malta. Thank you for your prompt attention in paying your dues and avoiding your membership lapsing.

Happy Birthday to all members who are celebrating birthdays in May.

For those members who are currently not well, please know you are always in our thoughts and prayers. We extend our sympathy to the families of any Auxiliary or Post member that has passed away recently.



***To the loved ones we have lost:
You are forever in our hearts and minds.
Your service and sacrifice to our
country will never be forgotten.***

*The Auxiliary's common purpose is to improve the lives of veterans,
service members and their families, and our communities.*

Officers of the Auxiliary: Linda Kessinger, President; Trudy Umphrey, Senior Vice-President; Bill Hart, Junior Vice-President; Carol Bullock-Puckett, Secretary; Brenda Lippert, Treasurer

VFW Rider's group elect officers for 2023-2024

The Greenwood VFW Post 5864 Rider's held nominations and elections on Monday, April 17 at the regular monthly meeting. Those in attendance at the meeting included -- Rodney Davis, Kenneth Seal, Josie Seal, Mark Quinn, Tom Morton, Steve Emery, Steve Milbourn, John Kemp, Joe Vidales, Larry Snyder, Tabor Siedel, and Tim Morris.

The Riders meeting was moved from the fourth Monday to the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Day Room to accommodate more members.

The annual election was held with Ken Seal being nominated for President. He accepted and there were no other nominations. Ken was acclaimed the 2023-2024 President by the current President, Rodney Davis. Mark Quinn was nominated for Vice-President. He accepted and there were no other nominations. Mark was acclaimed the 2023-2024 Vice-President by the current President, Rodney Davis. The Rider Group is accepting volunteers for Sgt. at Arms and Tim Morris will serve as Treasurer for the group. (See their bios at the end of this article.)

Under new business, preliminary discussions regarding this year's IABO (Indiana Association of Building Officials) ride on Saturday, July 8. Registration will begin at Greenwood VFW Post located at 1842 Veterans Way at 10:30 a.m. Enjoy brunch from our full menu while you meet new friends.

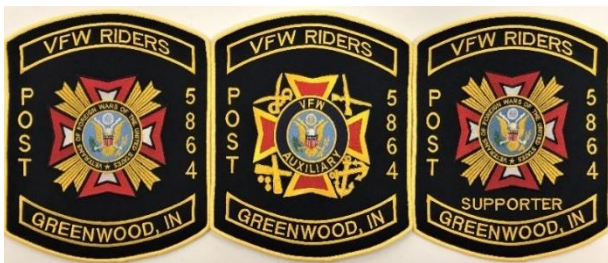
Road Captain Tom Morton will work on the route.

Ken Seal will work on venues and all of the members will work on possible sponsors. The final T-shirt design is due by May 1. Possible stops being considered include the American Legion in Franklin and likely Whitt's Inn. Ken is awaiting final confirmation of the Exit 99 Band availability. Steve Milbourn has arranged a food truck from 3 p.m. to around 6:30 p.m. with arrival back at the Greenwood VFW.

Join the Greenwood VFW Riders as they team up with IABO on Saturday, July 8 to raise money for this year's college / trade school scholarship.

The VFW Rider's patches are shown below. There are three VFW Rider's patches -- from left to right, you can see the VFW Rider's patch, the VFW Auxiliary Rider's patch and a VFW Supporter's Rider's patch. The patches will cost \$60 each.

That is what the VFW Store charges. As you can see, the patches are almost all the same.



The Post and Supporter patches have the same information with the exception that the Supporter patch has that designation. The Auxiliary patch has their logo.

Annual dues to the group are \$25 or a Life Membership is \$150 and can be paid all at once or in six (6) monthly payments of \$25 each.

If you are interested in joining, contact Ken Seal at kenneth.seal@comcast.net or call him at 317-498-3127 or call Steve Milbourn at 317-525-7291 or e-mail him at steve.milbourn@aol.com.

Any individual desiring to join this group will need to pay their annual dues or the first payment of their Life Member dues on or prior to Monday, June 5, 2023. All members of the VFW Rider's Group are entitled to attend any of the meetings held.



Kenneth (Ken) G. Seal was elected as the second President of the Greenwood VFW Rider's Group. The Rider's Group started a few years ago. Rodney Davis, who helped put the group together with Steve Milbourn, served as the first President for two years. Ken is also the Building

■ Continued to page 27

Ken Seal, Mark Quinn to lead VFW Rider's group

■ *Continued from page 26*

Commissioner for the City of Greenwood and is a U.S. Army Staff Sergeant in the Army Reserve. He is also a member of Greenwood VFW Post 5864.

He has worked in the construction industry since 1994, on and off due to his military obligations. He has served in the military since 1999, and he looks forward to retirement of 25 years in early 2024. Ken has a combination of active-duty time and reserve time, including 7 deployments in support of the Global War on Terrorism. He is currently the Platoon Sergeant and Detachment NCOIC for the 377th MP Co. Bloomington Det-1.

Ken became a building inspector for the City of Indianapolis in 2015 and moved to the City of Greenwood in 2019 and was selected as the Building Commissioner in early 2021. He also serves as District 5 Director for IABO (Indiana Association of Building Officials), and he chairs the scholarship committee for that organization.

He has attended American Military University, Vincennes University and graduated from Fitch Senior High School.

Ken is married to Josie Seal. They have two children, Jonathan 16-years old, and Madelyn 14-years old. His hometown is Groton-Mystic, CT.

He has been a motorcycle enthusiast for the better part of his life and he and his wife enjoy riding and supporting charities in our free time.



Mark Quinn is a Charter member of the VFW Rider's Group and was elected as the Vice-President for two years along with Rodney Davis. Mark was recently re-elected to a third term as the Vice-President. Mark retired from the power line construction industry. He is a motorcycle enthusiast, a military vehicle collector and restorer, and a lover of all things mechanical. He is married to Barb.

March 2, 1967

Bobby Kennedy proposes plan to end Vietnam war

Senator Robert Kennedy (D-New York) proposes a three-point plan to help end the war. The plan included suspension of the U.S. bombing of North Vietnam and the gradual withdrawal of U.S. and North Vietnamese troops from South Vietnam with replacement by an international force. Secretary of State Dean Rusk rejected Kennedy's proposal because he believed that the North Vietnamese would never agree to withdraw their troops.



Robert Kennedy

Kennedy had been Attorney General under his brother, President John F. Kennedy. When the elder Kennedy was assassinated, Robert stayed on to serve his successor, Lyndon B. Johnson, but resigned his post in 1964 to run for the Senate.

In the Senate, Kennedy initially continued to support U.S. efforts in Vietnam despite his growing apprehension about the war, especially the massive bombing of North Vietnam, because he was reluctant to disagree with the Johnson administration and its handling of the war.

The presidential campaign of 1968 opened the door for him to act on his concern. Kennedy announced his intention to run on March 16. When President Johnson announced that he would not seek re-election. On June 4, 1968, he won the all-important California primary, thereby becoming his party's front-runner. That night, after addressing his supporters at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, he was shot by Sirhan Sirhan. He died the following day at the age of 42.

Johnson County Firefighters

Cindy Reinert elected as a member of Merit Board

Greenwood VFW Post 5864's Bar and Banquet Manager has been elected as a member of the Johnson County Firefighters Merit Board. She replaces Mike Watkins whose term had ended.

The other four members of the board include: Steve Dhondt, Don Fouts, Matt Holmes, and Mike Tapp. The terms are three years, however some of the positions overlap, which enables a few of the members to continue as others end their terms, thus providing the board with a few individuals who understand how things are done.



Cindy Reinert

Kim Hamilton, the Administrative Assistant for the Greenwood Fire Dept., is also the secretary for the Merit Board.

Ms. Reinert graduated from Southport High School and attended Indiana University's Robert H. McKinney School of Law where she graduated with a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree. She practiced law in Indianapolis for a number of years, sold her firm, and purchased a Bed & Breakfast in Belize. She spent 10 years there as the owner and sold the business. Cindy returned two years later when her granddaughter gave birth to her great-grandson, Jay, in 2015.

She is also a Life Member of Greenwood VFW Auxiliary Post 5864. Cindy and other bartenders and members help with and participate in a number of events held at the Post monthly.

The Greenwood VFW has been in business for 47 years.



Displaying Military Service Symbols

Military service flags, insignias, etc., should be displayed in the following order above (left to right as you face the flags): Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and then Space Force.

POW / MIA Flag -- Official Display Days

Public Law 105-85 (Nov. 16, 1997) indicates the days that federal agencies, military installations and U.S. Post Offices are required to display the POW/MIA flag. The days are: Armed Forces Day, May 15, 2021 (third Saturday in May); Memorial Day, May 31, 2021 (last Monday in May); Flag Day, June 14; Independence Day, July 4; National POW/MIA Day, Sept. 18, 2020 (third Friday in Sept.); and Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

Link to VA Benefits for Disabled Veterans

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gWTa2IW9Qc4>

Desert Storm Veteran James David Colvard passes

James David Colvard, 70, passed away on January 23, 2023. He was born on December 13, 1952, in Gadsden, Alabama, the son of Claude and Marie Colvard.



Growing up in Gadsden, his love of sports and Alabama football began. Roll tide! James, proudly serving in the United States Air Force for 23 years, and he served in Desert Storm. He retired as a Master Sergeant in 1992. James was a member of Greenwood VFW Post 5864.

He raised two daughters while serving on active duty. He coached baseball and softball teams, competing in racquetball tournaments and playing sports with his children. He had various hobbies he shared with his children and grandchildren, including traveling to support his team and their teams. He became a member of LifePoint Church. He loved the fellowship of those who had the shared faith that he had in the Lord. He became a deacon of the church, volunteering with various charities, and attending his grandchildren's games. He often took his grandchildren volunteering to hand out food and turkey's during the holidays.

He loved playing golf and spending time with family and friends. He is survived by his loving wife, Sandra; daughters, Lisa, and Mindy; son in law, Anthony; stepdaughters, Darlene (Chris) and Jennifer (Craig); stepson, Jeff (Tabby); grandchildren, Ashley, Melinda, Jasmine, Mackenzie, Demetic, Kailey, Bree, Channing, Nolan, Hayden, Cooper, and Sarah; sisters, Lynn, and Shirley.

He was preceded in death by parents Claude and Marie, his brother Charles, and sister Peggy.

Funeral service was held at LifePoint Church, January 30, 2023, with burial immediately afterwards at Memorial Park Cemetery. Memorial contributions in his name may be made to Servants Heart, Wounded Warriors, and Missions at LifePoint Church.



All Gave Some, Some Gave All

**AIR FORCE
VETERAN**

It is time for your 2023-2024 membership dues.

VFW Post 5864 -- \$35 per year

VFW Post 5864 Auxiliary -- \$20 per year

VFW Post 5864 Riders Group -- \$25 per year

40 & 8 Voiture (Post) Locale 145 -- \$25 per year

American Legion Centennial Post 1919 -- \$45 per year

American Legion Centennial Post 1919 Auxiliary -- \$35 per year

You can mail a check to the Post, or you can stop in the Post and pay by Check, Cash or Credit Card. The bartender will give you a receipt and you will get a card in about two weeks. Anyone who served one day of honorable service may join the American Legion or the 40 & 8.

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was the start of a plan to remove the U.S. and its allies from the South Pacific. A few hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Japanese began bombing air bases in the Philippines.



The U.S. Asiatic Fleet was quickly withdrawn, as were the remaining aircraft. Without landing a single soldier, the Japanese had destroyed General Douglas MacArthur's ability to defend the

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan established National Prisoner of War Recognition Day, calling for it to be held on April 9 in honor of the thousands of Americans taken prisoner at Bataan.

New Identification and Privilege cards available

[illegible]

The ID Card Office (DEERS / RAPIDS) is located in Building 338 off Fairbanks and 5th North St. at Camp Atterbury. Enter the building through the door at the East end. You can reach them by phone at 812-526-1499, Ext. 61278.



Vietnam Veterans at the 50th Anniversary of GI's returning from Vietnam

Fifteen members of VFW Post 5864 representing the four of the five branches of the services. Front row, left to right include – Ron McCoy, U.S. Navy; David Craggs, U.S. Army; Bill Clark, U.S. Navy; Mike Tomes, U.S. Army; Butch Umphrey, U.S. Marine Corps; Steve Milbourn, U.S. Army; Jerry Jordan, U.S. Army. Second row, left to right include – Bobby Pemberton, U.S. Marine Corps; William Wood, U.S. Army; Gary Totty, U.S. Army; Larry Reynolds, U.S. Army; Tony Kirk, U.S. Army; Al Kessinger, U.S. Marine Corps; Phil McGuire, U.S. Army; and G.K. Puckett, U.S. Army.

It's been 50 years since the end of the Vietnam War

On April 1, 2023, Vietnam veterans from Greenwood VFW Post 5864 celebrated the end of the Vietnam War. Although there were only 15 Vietnam veterans at the event, there were also nearly 50 more other veterans and supporters. VFW Post 5864 has celebrated this event for the past 8 or 9 years. We plan to continue to celebrate the date in remembrance of those who were or are prisoners of war, missing in action, killed, wounded, or otherwise lost because of the war. The date, March 29, 1973, was when the last American troops left South Vietnam.

U.S. Advisors, CIA operatives, and Green Berets had been “in country” as we called it, since just after the French were overrun at Dien Bien Phu in May 1954.

March 8, 1965 -- The first major group of soldiers were sent to Vietnam. A total of 3,500 Marines of the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade arrived in Da Nang to protect the U.S. airbase there from Viet Cong attacks. Despite advance warning they were about to be deployed, many of the Marines were surprised when their deployment orders came down on Sunday, March 7.

May 5, 1965 -- Soldiers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade arrived in South Vietnam. The brigade would be responsible for providing security to Bien Hoa Air Base and the port of Vung Tau, both near Saigon. This was the first combat unit from the U.S. Army to arrive in South Vietnam.

July 12, 1965 -- The 2nd Brigade of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division arrived in South Vietnam. The brigade was initially responsible for providing security for Bien Hoa Air Base.

July 29, 1965 -- The 1st Brigade of the U.S. 101st Airborne Division arrived at Cam Ranh Bay and set up its base camp there.

■ **Continued to page 32**

Vietnam War ended March 29, 1973 . . .

■ *Continued from page 31*

September 11, 1965 -- The U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) began to arrive in South Vietnam at Qui Nhon. The division was the first full U.S. Army division to be deployed to South Vietnam and relied on helicopters to transport its combat units to and from operational areas.

November 14-18, 1965 -- In the Battle of Ia Drang for the first time, the U.S. Army and PAVN met head-on in a major engagement, with the ARVN playing only a minor role. Casualties were heavy on both sides: in the fighting at Landing Zone (LZ) X-Ray (14-6 November) the PAVN lost 634 killed and six captured with a further 1,215 estimated killed, for U.S. losses of 79 killed; in the ambush at LZ Albany (November 17) the U.S. lost 151 killed while claiming 403 PAVN killed. For Westmoreland, the battle was a victory for U.S. firepower and mobility in a war of attrition in which the U.S. attempted to kill more communist troops than could be replaced. However, in the words of Joe Galloway, a journalist awarded a Bronze Star for his participation in the battle, the Ia Drang was "the battle that convinced Ho Chi Minh he could win." The communists would "grind down the Americans" as they had the French in the 1940s and early '50s in the Indochina War.

French Union lose decisively

Battle of Dien Bien Phu fought in North Vietnam

The Battle of Điện Biên Phủ was a climactic confrontation of the First Indochina War that took place between March 13 and May 7, 1954. It was fought between the French Union's colonial Far East Expeditionary Corps and Viet Minh communist revolutionaries. The United States was officially not a party to the war, but it was secretly involved by providing financial and material aid to the French Union, which included CIA contracted American personnel participating in the battle. The People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union similarly provided vital support to the Viet Minh, including most of their artillery and ammunition.

The French began an operation to insert, and support, their soldiers at Điện Biên Phủ, deep in the autonomous Tai Federation up in the hills northwest of Tonkin. The operation's purpose was to cut off



French Union Flag



Viet Minh supply lines into the neighboring Kingdom of Laos (a French ally), and draw the Viet Minh into a major confrontation in order to cripple them. The plan was to resupply the French position by air, a strategy adopted based on the belief that the Viet Minh had no anti-aircraft capability.

The Viet Minh, however, under General Võ Nguyên Giáp, surrounded and besieged the French. They brought in vast amounts of heavy artillery (including anti-aircraft guns) and managed to move these bulky weapons through difficult terrain by men and women up the rear slopes of the mountains.

They dug tunnels through the mountains and arranged the guns to target the French position.

In March, the Viet Minh began a massive artillery bombardment of the French defenses. The strategic positioning of their artillery made it nearly impervious to French counter-battery fire. Tenacious fighting on the ground ensued, reminiscent of the trench warfare of World War I. At times, the French repulsed Viet Minh assaults on their positions while supplies and reinforcements were delivered by air.

As key positions were overrun, the perimeter contracted, and the air resupply on which the French



Viet Minh Flag

■ *Continued to page 33*

Vietnam War ended March 29, 1973 . . .

■ Continued from page 32

had placed their hopes became impossible. As the Viet Minh anti-aircraft fire took its toll and artillery bombarded the airstrip, effectively preventing takeoffs and landings, fewer and fewer of those supplies reached the French.

The garrison was overrun in May after a two-month siege, and most of the French forces surrendered. A few men escaped to Laos. Of the 11,000 French troops captured, only 3,300 survived imprisonment. The French government in Paris resigned. The new Prime Minister, the left-of-center Pierre Mendès France, supported French withdrawal from Indochina.

The Battle of Điện Biên Phủ was decisive; the war ended shortly afterward and the 1954 Geneva Accords were signed. France agreed to withdraw its forces from all its colonies in French Indochina, while stipulating that Vietnam would be temporarily divided at the 17th parallel, with control of the north given to the Viet Minh as the Democratic Republic of Vietnam under Ho Chi Minh, and the south becoming the State of Vietnam, nominally under Emperor Bảo Đại, preventing Ho Chi Minh from gaining control of the entire country

New Veterans crisis phone number is 988 -- 24/7

Veterans now have the option to **Dial 988 then Press 1** to connect with caring, qualified responders for 24/7 crisis support.

In response to the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act designating the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, the Department of Veterans Affairs has made it more user friendly.



“During a crisis, every second counts,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “This new, shorter number makes it easier for Veterans and those who care about them to reach lifesaving support without having to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care.”

Reducing Veteran suicide is the top clinical priority for the Department of Veterans. Enhancing suicide prevention crisis services is a key component of the White House strategy on reducing Veteran suicide.

VA operates the Veterans Crisis Line through the 988 Lifeline’s national network and thus collaborated to accomplish the successful transition. During two years of preparation, the department has added hundreds of crisis line employees and responder staff, with still more hiring underway, and has strengthened the call center infrastructure.

The Veterans Crisis Line is a critical component of the nation’s largest integrated suicide prevention network. It links to more than 500 suicide prevention coordinators across the VA health care system, ensuring coordination into follow-up services as part of a full continuum of care.

Individuals who call the Veterans Crisis Line are five times more likely to have less distress and less suicidal ideation from the beginning to end of the call.

While Dial 988 then Press 1 is a new option for contacting the Veterans Crisis Line, the original number: 1-800-273-8255 and press 1, remains available, and Veterans can continue to reach out via chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat or by text to 838255.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
*If you or someone you know is having thoughts of suicide,
contact the Veterans Crisis Line to receive free,
confidential support and crisis intervention available
24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.*

Dial 988 then Press 1, text to 838255 or chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat.

VA and NIH launch study of Gulf War Illness

The Department of Veterans Affairs and National Institutes of Health (NIH) began a joint, five-year study that aims to explain the chronic symptoms of Gulf War Illness. The study may lead to more definitive diagnostic criteria for Gulf War Illness, development of new diagnostic testing, and potential treatments.

Gulf War Illness affects multiple systems in the body and includes chronic symptoms such as fatigue, headache, memory and cognitive difficulties, joint and muscle pain, poor sleep, and problems with gastrointestinal and respiratory function. This disease affects about a third of the nearly 700,000 men and women who served in the Persian Gulf during operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. This week, the first Veteran arrived at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, to participate in the study. Veterans who served in the Gulf War and meet the enrollment criteria can inquire about participating in the study by emailing vhawas.indepth@va.gov.

*“Effective treatments for Gulf War Illness have remained elusive, forcing health care providers to mostly focus on easing patient symptoms,” said **VA Chief Research and Development Officer Rachel Ramoni, DMD, ScD**. “VA and NIH’s collaboration will bring together experts who will meticulously investigate the underlying causes of Gulf War Illness symptoms. With the help of the Veterans who volunteer for the study, researchers will lay the groundwork for care that will meaningfully improve the lives of the hundreds of thousands of Veterans living with this disease.”*

*“This is an important collaboration that we hope will lead to many answers to those suffering from Gulf War Illness,” said **Director of National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke Walter Koroshetz, M.D**. “Taking advantage of the resources available only at NIH, this study will take a new look at this illness and uncover biological mechanisms that may pave the way to treatments.”*

VA researchers will screen 1990-91 era Gulf War Veterans through the Miami VA Medical Center and the California and Washington, D.C., sites of VA’s War Related Illness and Injury Study Center. Veterans will then be referred to NIH to gain more insight into Gulf War Illness. NIH researchers will identify how the illness presents itself — in ways that can be measured or observed — in each participant. The research will focus on the immune and autonomic nervous systems, as well as the body’s energy-production pathways.

Eligible Veterans will visit the NIH Clinical Center for up to two weeks, with most Veterans staying at the Clinical Center. Travel arrangements to and from the Clinical Center will be coordinated with the patient and the study team. Comprehensive testing will be done during the 14 days to look at multiple body systems affected by Gulf War Illness and how these systems operate functionally and structurally at rest as well as when the body is placed under stressors. Among other tests, researchers will administer a peak exercise challenge to trigger symptom flares.

The procedure has been used to explore the mechanisms of other chronic illnesses, such as myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome.

Individuals selling any product at VFW is not allowed

No food or drinks can be brought into the Post

Just a note to remind members and guests that **you are not allowed to bring food or drinks into the Post**. Our business is like many other businesses – we wish to make money by selling food, beer, liquor, and wine so that we can continue in business and help veterans who are down on their



luck or who simply need a helping hand for a brief period of time.

If you go to a public restaurant, they will not allow you to bring in your own food and drinks nor will they allow you to walk around and “bug” their customers selling them an item you may have. Whether you are a member or a guest, you cannot sell any items for another organization or yourself to make money. Depending on the circumstances, we may give you permission in case of health issues. Those requests must go through the House Committee.

Access to the pond in the rear of the VFW is illegal

If you are on VFW property without being invited by way of official written and signed authorization from VFW Post 5864, you are trespassing. If you have been invited by a member of one of the groups who have an office in the building, or are meeting at least once a month, you are good.

If you have been invited to come to the VFW for a party, a meeting, or for any other by an individual in one of the above groups, we welcome you.

If you wish to come onto our property to fish, we may take a photo of your vehicle and license plate and provide it to the Greenwood Police Dept. You could be arrested and charged with a Class A Misdemeanor or a Class D Felony. We do not condone anyone fishing. The pond does not belong to the VFW and if you enter from our property, there could be a certain amount of liability.

The VFW Post 5864 House Committee voted to post the above information on our property. Also, parking in the VFW's parking lot is not allowed unless you let us know what is going on.

March 13, 1942

U.S. Army launches War Dog Program -- K-9 Corps

On March 13, 1942, the Quartermaster Corps (QMC) of the United States Army begins training dogs for the newly established War Dog Program, or "K-9 Corps."

Well over a million dogs served on both sides during World War I, carrying messages along the complex network of trenches and providing some measure of psychological comfort to the soldiers. The most famous dog to emerge from the war was Rin Tin Tin, an abandoned puppy of German war dogs found in France in 1918 and taken to the United States, where he made his film debut in the



1922 silent film *The Man from Hell's River*. As the first bona fide animal movie star, Rin Tin Tin made the little-known German Shepherd breed famous across the country.

In the United States, the practice of training dogs for military purposes was largely abandoned after World War I. When the country entered World War II in December 1941, the American Kennel Association and a group called Dogs for Defense began a movement to mobilize dog owners to donate healthy and capable animals to the Quartermaster Corps of the U.S. Army. Training began in March 1942, and that fall the QMC was given the task of

training dogs for the U.S. Navy, Marines and Coast Guard as well.

The K-9 Corps initially accepted over 30 breeds of dogs, but the list was soon narrowed to seven: German Shepherds, Belgian sheep dogs, Doberman Pinschers, Collies, Siberian Huskies, Malamutes, and Eskimo dogs.

Members of the K-9 Corps were trained for a total of 8 to 12 weeks. After basic obedience training, they were sent through one of four specialized programs to prepare them for work as sentry dogs, scout or patrol dogs, messenger dogs or mine-detection dogs. In active combat duty, scout dogs proved essential by alerting patrols to the approach of the enemy and preventing surprise attacks.

The top canine hero of World War II was Chips, a German Shepherd who served with the Army's 3rd Infantry Division. Trained as a sentry dog, Chips broke away from his handlers and attacked an enemy machine gun nest in Italy, forcing the entire crew to surrender. The wounded Chips was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, and the Purple Heart -- all of which were later revoked due to an Army policy preventing official commendation of animals.

The VFW will be closed on Memorial Day, May 29

9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade

U.S. Marines land at Da Nang on March 8, 1965

The USS Henrico, Union, and Vancouver, carrying the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade under Brig. Gen. Frederick J. Karch, take up stations 4,000 yards off Red Beach Two, north of Da Nang.

First ashore was the Battalion Landing Team 3/9, which arrived on the beach at 8:15 a.m. Wearing full battle gear and carrying M-14s, the Marines were met by sightseers, South Vietnamese officers, Vietnamese girls with leis, and four American soldiers with a large sign stating: "Welcome, Gallant Marines."

Gen. William Westmoreland, senior U.S. military commander in Saigon, was reportedly "appalled" at the spectacle because he had hoped that the Marines could land without any fanfare. Within two hours, Battalion Landing Team 1/3 began landing at Da Nang air base.

The 3,500 Marines were deployed to secure the U.S. airbase, freeing South Vietnamese troops up for combat. On March 1, Ambassador Maxwell Taylor had informed South Vietnamese Premier Phan Huy Quat that the United States was preparing to send the Marines to Vietnam. Three days later, a formal request was submitted by the U.S. Embassy, asking the South Vietnamese government to "invite" the United States to send the Marines.

Premier Quat, a mere figurehead, had to obtain approval from the real power, Gen. Nguyen Van Thieu, chief of the Armed Forces Council. Thieu approved, but, like Westmoreland, asked that the Marines be "brought ashore in the most inconspicuous way feasible." These wishes were ignored and the Marines were given a hearty, conspicuous welcome when they arrived.

Author -- History.com Editors / Publisher -- A&E Television Network

March 3, 1931

"The Star-Spangled Banner" is U.S. national anthem

President Herbert Hoover signs a congressional act making "The Star-Spangled Banner" the official national anthem of the United States.

On September 14, 1814, Francis Scott Key composed the lyrics to "The Star-Spangled Banner" after witnessing the massive overnight British bombardment of Fort McHenry in Maryland during the War of 1812. Key, an American lawyer, watched the siege while under detainment on a British ship and penned the famous words after observing with awe that Fort McHenry's flag survived the 1,800-bomb assault.



After circulating as a handbill, the patriotic lyrics were published in a Baltimore newspaper on September 20, 1814. Key's words were later set to the tune of "To Anacreon in Heaven," a popular English song. Throughout the 19th century, "The Star-Spangled Banner" was regarded as the national anthem by most branches of the U.S. armed forces and other groups, but it was not until 1916, and the signing of an executive order by President Woodrow Wilson, that it was formally designated as such.

In March 1931, Congress passed an act confirming Wilson's presidential order, and on March 3 President Hoover signed it into law.

March 7, 1966

U.S. jets launch heaviest air raids of the war

In the heaviest air raids since the bombing began in February 1965, U.S. Air Force and Navy planes fly an estimated 200 sorties against North Vietnam.

The objectives of the raids included an oil storage area 60 miles southeast of Dien Bien Phu and a staging area 60 miles northwest of Vinh.

February 28, 1994

First NATO military action in Bosnia for 45 years

In the first military action in the 45-year history of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), U.S. fighter planes shoot down four Serbian warplanes engaged in a bombing mission in violation of Bosnia's no-fly zone.

The United States, 10 European countries, and Canada founded NATO in 1949 as a safeguard against Soviet aggression. With the end of the Cold War, NATO members approved the use of its military forces for peacekeeping missions in countries outside the alliance and in 1994 agreed to enforce U.N. resolutions enacted to bring an end to the bloody conflict in the former Yugoslavia.

On December 20, 1995, NATO began the mass deployment of 60,000 troops to enforce the Dayton peace accords, signed in Paris by the leaders of the former Yugoslavia on December 14. The NATO troops took over from a U.N. peacekeeping force that had failed to end the fighting since its deployment in 1992, although the U.N. troops had proved crucial in the distribution of humanitarian aid to the population of Bosnia. The NATO force, with its U.S. support and focused aim of enforcing the Dayton agreement, proved more successful in maintaining the peace in the war-torn region.

During 'Memorial May'

VA encourages volunteers to join cross-country march honoring Veterans, service members

Between April 27 and May 29, the Department of Veterans Affairs will support a 20,000-mile march with more than 214,000 volunteers in honor of Veterans and service members.

The annual collaboration between VA's National Cemetery Administration and Carry The Load will host rallies at 38 national cemeteries along five separate routes covering 48 states. All five routes converge on Memorial Day weekend for a final rally in Dallas, Texas — the culminating event for "Memorial May."

The list of national cemeteries, along with the dates and times Carry The Load marchers will visit the cemeteries, can be found [here](#).

"I can't think of a better way to prepare for Memorial Day than to spend time walking with fellow patriots, remembering those who sacrificed on our behalf," said VA Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs Matt Quinn. "We encourage volunteers across America to join us in honoring our nation's Veterans and service members."

Those who wish to participate in a march are asked to register with Carry The Load in advance. No donation is required to participate. Carry The Load is a non-profit organization providing active ways to connect Americans to the sacrifices of the nation's military, Veterans, first responders, and their families. NCA will share video and photographs of the cemetery visits from April 27-May 27 on NCA's Facebook and Twitter.

Global War on Terrorism Memorial site selected

The VFW-championed [Global War on Terrorism Memorial Location Act](#) that became law in 2021 authorized its construction on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

The National Capital Planning Commission has now authorized the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation to begin designing the memorial for the Site A location, which is situated north of the Lincoln Memorial between the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the site of the future National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial.

The Foundation is now able to proceed to steps 13-19 of the 24-step memorial construction process after being in steps 9-12 since August 2017.



American Legion Centennial Post 1919 enjoys their Anniversary

Front row from left to right – Stephanie Keys; Gina Owens – Dept. of Indiana – Southern Vice Commander; Karen Emmett; Pam Smith; Mary Blake, Dexter Albright, 1st Vice Commander; Jennifer Albright; Legion Auxiliary President; Babette Harris and Michael Harris, Adjutant. Second row from left to right – John Campbell; Bret Harrell; Scott Emmett, Post Chaplain; Kip Blake, Post Commander; Butch Umphrey; G. K. Puckett; and Dave Everett.

National American Legion birthday is celebrated

American Legion Centennial Post 1919 celebrated the 104th birthday of the National American Legion on Saturday, March 25 at the VFW. There were around 25 to 30 members and visitors who attended the event. The food was excellent, and the company was great.

American Legion Post 1919 started in 2018 as Post 586 and then when the Legion celebrated 100 years, the Post was renamed Centennial Post 1919. The Post now has 175 members. The American Legion meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at their office located at 1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood, Indiana. The National American Legion was 104 years old.

Dave Everett served the first two years as Commander; Sarah Savick served as Commander during the third year; and Kip Blake is the current Commander with elections within the next month.

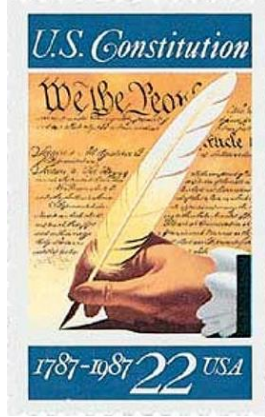


**Did you serve 1 day in the military and
receive an Honorable Discharge?
You can be a member of
American Legion Post 1919. Please ask us.**

United States Constitution takes effect in 1789

U.S. # 2360 stamp was issued for the 200th anniversary of the Constitution. On March 4, 1789, the U.S. Congress met for the first time under the terms of the recently ratified U.S. Constitution.

In the spring of 1787, delegates from 12 of the 13 states (Rhode Island didn't participate, as they opposed a national government) met at Independence Hall in Philadelphia to amend the Articles of Confederation. The Constitutional Convention opened on May 4.



The members of the convention ultimately drafted the new constitution based largely on the ideas of James Madison and signed it on September 17. In order for the proposed constitution to take effect, at least nine out of 13 states needed to ratify it.

Five states ratified it that December, but some states, particularly Massachusetts, were unhappy with it. They felt the Constitution didn't provide enough protection for freedom of speech, religion, the press, and the right to bear arms.

In February 1788, they reached a compromise – those states would ratify the Constitution on the promise that amendments would be adopted to address their concerns. On June 21, 1788, New Hampshire became the ninth state to ratify the Constitution, making it legally binding.

On March 4, 1789, the Confederation Congress passed the power of the government over to the new U.S. Congress operating under the Constitution. That day, the new Congress met for the first time at Federal Hall in New York City. During that session, James Madison also introduced the first draft of the Bill of Rights for consideration. But neither the House nor the Senate had enough members present to vote, and it would be a month before they all arrived.

Finally, that September they agreed on the Bill of Rights and sent it to the states for ratification, which would take two years.

After this initial March 4 meeting, Congress moved the first day of business to December 1. However, March 4 would still hold special significance – it would be the last day of Congress' two-year sessions. It would also be the day a new president was inaugurated. But as it turned out, this created some issues. Following an election in November, members of Congress that may have lost an election would have to continue to serve in a long "lame duck" session.

On two occasions, lame-duck House sessions elected presidents (Thomas Jefferson in 1800 and John Quincy Adams in 1824). And in 1860, lame duck president James Buchanan and a divided Congress saw seven states secede from the Union after Abraham Lincoln was elected.

Eventually, the government realized the issue with the March 4 date. In 1933, they passed the 20th Amendment. This amendment set January 3 as the first day of a new Congress and January 20 as inauguration day for the president. It also stated the previous congressional and presidential terms would end just before the new ones began.

Panama Canal turned over to Panama in 1999

On December 31, 1999, the United States, in accordance with the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, officially handed over control of the Panama Canal, putting the strategic waterway into Panamanian hands for the first time. Crowds of Panamanians celebrated the transfer of the 50-mile canal, which links the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and officially opened when the SS Arcon sailed through on August 15, 1914. Since then, over one million ships have used the canal.

Interest in finding a shortcut from the Atlantic to the Pacific originated with explorers in Central America in the early 1500s. In 1523, Holy Roman Emperor Charles V commissioned a survey of the Isthmus of Panama and several plans for a canal were produced, but none ever implemented. U.S. interest in building a canal was sparked with the expansion of the American West and the California gold rush in 1848. (Today, a ship heading from New York to San Francisco can save about 7,800 miles by taking the Panama Canal rather than sailing around South America.)

Battle of Chosin Reservoir – November 27, 1950

U.S. # 2152 was based on a photo of U.S. troops retreating from Chosin Reservoir. On Nov. 27, 1950, the Korean War Battle of Chosin Reservoir began, a fighting withdrawal in the bitter cold.

By November 1950, the United Nations forces had driven the North Korean army back into its own territory. The Yalu River, the northern border of the peninsula was within reach, and many believed the war would be over by Christmas. American and UN commanders didn't realize Chinese forces were massing along the border and would soon change the course of the war.



As UN troops advanced, Korea's Taebaek Mountains divided them. While the Eighth Army traveled along the western coast, the U.S. X Corps moved north on the eastern coast. On October 19, the Chinese People's Volunteer Army (PVA)

crossed the border to meet the advancing armies. When the Eighth Army was attacked, General Douglas MacArthur ordered the X Corps to move west in the hopes of getting behind the Chinese and cutting off their supply line. PVA 42nd Corps was sent to stop the action and destroy the X Corps.

The U.S. 1st Marine Division of the X Corps was the first American unit to encounter the PVA. The November 2 battle caused heavy Chinese casualties and they were forced to retreat. This lured the UN forces into the Chosin Reservoir area.

President Carter pardons thousands of draft dodgers

On January 21, 1977, U.S. President Jimmy Carter grants an unconditional pardon to hundreds of thousands of men who evaded the draft during the Vietnam War.

In total, some 100,000 young Americans went abroad in the late 1960s and early '70s to avoid serving in the war. Ninety percent went to Canada, where after some initial controversy they were eventually welcomed as immigrants. Still others hid inside the United States. In addition to those who avoided the draft, a relatively small number -- about 1,000 -- of deserters from the U.S. armed forces also headed to Canada. While the Canadian government technically reserved the right to prosecute deserters, in practice they left them alone.

For its part, the U.S. government continued to prosecute draft evaders after the Vietnam War ended. A total of 209,517 men were formally accused of violating draft laws, while government officials estimate another 360,000 were never formally accused. If they returned home, those living in Canada or elsewhere faced prison sentences or forced military service. During his 1976 presidential campaign, Jimmy Carter promised to pardon draft dodgers as a way of putting the war and the bitter divisions it caused firmly in the past. After winning the election, Carter wasted no time in making good on his word. Though many transplanted Americans returned home, an estimated 50,000 settled permanently in Canada.



President Jimmy Carter

Back in the U.S., Carter's decision generated a good deal of controversy. Heavily criticized by veterans' groups and others for allowing unpatriotic lawbreakers to get off scot-free, the pardon and companion relief plan came under fire from amnesty groups for not addressing deserters, soldiers who were dishonorably discharged or civilian anti-war demonstrators who had been prosecuted for their resistance.

Years later, Vietnam-era draft evasion still carries a powerful stigma. Though no prominent political figures have been found to have broken any draft laws, Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush and Vice Presidents Dan Quayle and Dick Cheney -- none of whom saw combat in Vietnam -- have all been accused of being draft dodgers at one time or another. Although there is not currently a draft in the U.S., desertion and conscientious objection have remained pressing issues among the armed forces during the recent wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Under the PACT Act

Veterans and survivors have filed more than 500,000 toxic exposure-related benefits claims

More than 3 million Veterans have received toxic exposure screenings since President Biden signed PACT into law

The VA has announced that Veterans and their survivors have filed more than 500,000 claims for toxic exposure-related benefits under the PACT Act since President Biden signed it into law Aug. 10, 2022. To date, VA has awarded more than \$1 billion in earned benefits to Veterans and survivors who filed PACT Act-related claims.

VA also announced that more than 3 million Veterans have received VA's new toxic exposure screenings since President Biden signed the PACT Act into law, with approximately 42% reporting a concern of exposure. More than 215,000 Veterans have enrolled in VA health care during that timeframe, a 15% increase from the same timeframe the year before.

In April, VA also processed its millionth disability compensation and pension claim during fiscal year 2023, putting VA on pace to process a record number of Veteran claims for the third year in a row. Thanks to aggressive hiring and modernization efforts, VA processed a record number of Veteran claims in 2021, exceeded that in 2022, and is on track to exceed it again in 2023. In total, VA has delivered more than \$65 billion in earned compensation benefits to Veterans during FY2023.

The PACT Act is the biggest expansion of Veteran health care and benefits in generations. VA encourages all eligible Veterans and survivors to file a claim — or submit their intent to file a claim — for PACT Act-related benefits now. Most Veterans who do so before August 10 will have their benefits, if granted, backdated to Aug. 10, 2022, the day that President Biden signed the bill into law.

*"Thanks to President Biden, the millions of Veterans who fought our wars for the past 30 years — who breathed in debris from sandstorms, fumes from burning trash, and more while overseas — are now taken care of for the conditions that followed them home from war," said **VA Secretary Denis McDonough**. "We're proud that 500,000+ Veterans and survivors have applied for their hard-earned benefits to date, but we won't rest until every Veteran and every survivor gets the VA health care and benefits they deserve."*

VA is delivering health care and benefits at record rates partly due to a dramatic increase in hiring. The Veterans Health Administration welcomed 27,181 new hires in the first six months of the fiscal year, the highest hiring level in the history of VA for that timeframe. The Veterans Benefits Administration's total workforce grew by 2,040 employees in the first six months of the fiscal year — the highest growth rate in the past 15 years.

For more information on VA's implementation of the PACT Act, visit the PACT Act Dashboard. VA is publishing this dashboard every other Friday to document the implementation of this legislation and showcase its impact on Veterans and survivors. The next dashboard, which will reflect the 500,000 PACT Act claim milestone and the 3 million toxic exposure screenings milestone, published April 28.

Veterans and survivors can apply or learn more about the PACT Act by visiting VA.gov/PACT or by calling 1-800-MYVA411.



Margarita's and more . . .

Beginning at 5 p.m., May 5 at the VFW

On June 3

HVAF celebrating 30 years of helping veterans

HVAF is celebrating **30 years** of serving homeless and near-homeless veterans in Central Indiana. To commemorate they are hosting a concert on the front steps of the Indiana War Memorial on Saturday, June 3.

Trey Taylor, a Nashville, TN recording artist, will be the headliner with two local artists before and after him. This is a family-friendly event, with food and drinks available for purchase. Tickets start at \$30. Please pass this along.

We can't wait to see you there for a fun evening benefiting the veterans HVAF serves in our community! Contact Andrea Carlile with questions or for more information at acarile@hvaf.org.

Best,

Andrea Carlile
Community Engagement Coordinator



964 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, IN 46204

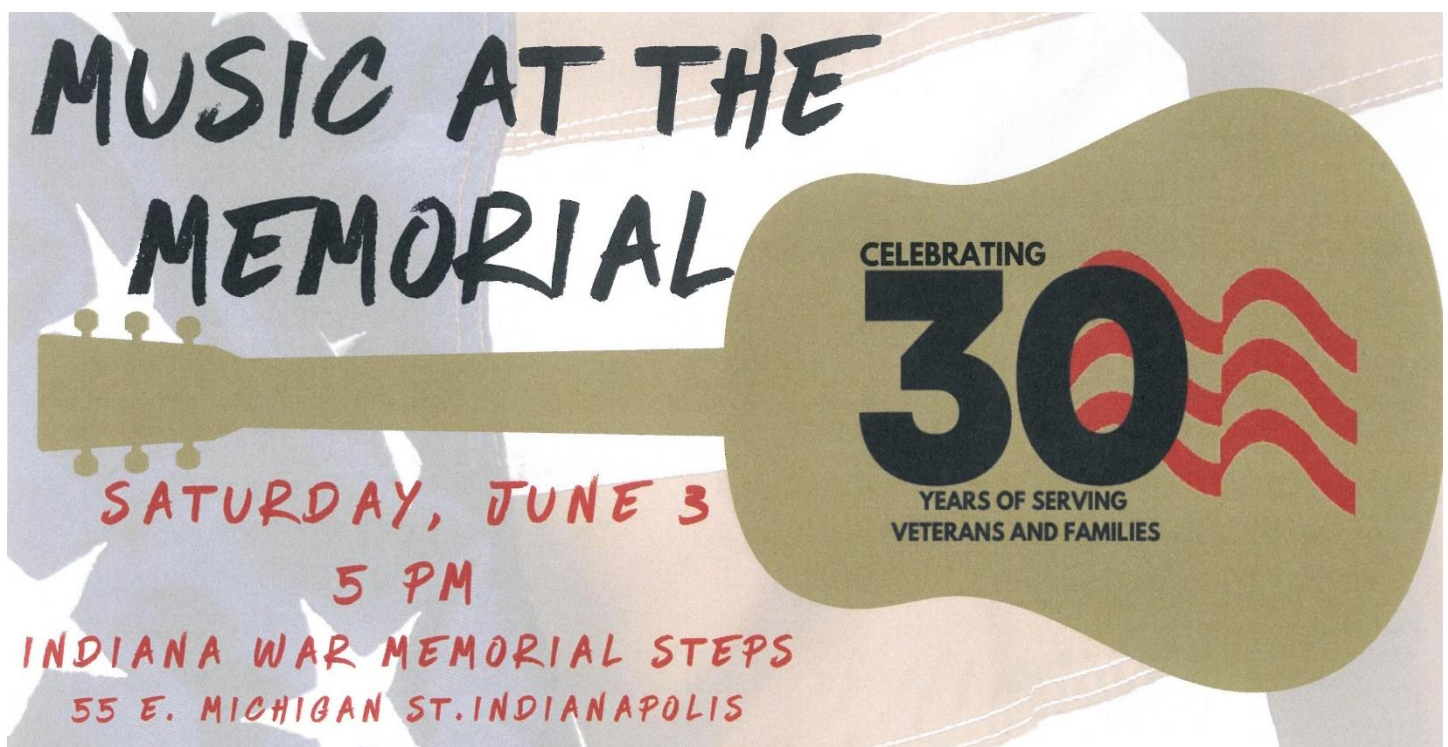
O: 317-951-0688

C: 765-425-3366

E: acarile@hvaf.org

W: www.hvaf.org

Note: Greenwood VFW Post 5864 has been supporting HVAF since 2012. In the beginning, they would send veterans to the Post, and we would help them financially, we helped them move into new housing, and we even went to the grocery store with them to help them shop. It has been and continues to be an amazing experience to work with HVAF.



February 24, 1991

Gulf War ground offensive begins in Kuwait, Iraq

After six weeks of intensive bombing against Iraq and its armed forces, U.S.-led coalition forces launch a ground invasion of Kuwait and Iraq. On August 2, 1990, Iraq invaded Kuwait, its tiny oil-rich neighbor, and within hours had occupied most strategic positions in the country. One week later, Operation Desert Shield, the American defense of Saudi Arabia, began as U.S. forces massed in the Persian Gulf.

Three months later, the United Nations Security Council passed a resolution authorizing the use of force against Iraq if it failed to withdraw from Kuwait by January 15, 1991. At 4:30 p.m. EST on January 16, 1991, Operation Desert Storm, a massive U.S.-led offensive against Iraq, began as the first fighter aircraft were launched from Saudi Arabia and off U.S. and British aircraft carriers in the Persian Gulf.

All evening, aircraft from the U.S.-led military coalition pounded targets in and around Baghdad as the world watched the events transpire in television footage transmitted live via satellite from Baghdad and elsewhere.

Operation Desert Storm was conducted by an international coalition under the command of U.S. General Norman Schwarzkopf and featured forces from 32 nations, including Britain, Egypt, France, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait. During the next six weeks, the allied force engaged in a massive air war against Iraq's military and civil infrastructure, encountering little resistance from the Iraqi air force.

Iraqi ground forces were also helpless during this stage of the war, and Iraqi leader Saddam

Hussein's only significant retaliatory measure was the launching of SCUD missile attacks against Israel and Saudi Arabia.

Saddam hoped that the missile attacks would provoke Israel, and thus other Arab nations, to enter the conflict; however, at the request of the United States, Israel remained out of the war.

On February 24, a massive coalition ground offensive began, and Iraq's outdated and poorly supplied armed forces were rapidly overwhelmed.

By the end of the day, the Iraqi army had effectively folded, 10,000 of its troops were held as prisoners, and a U.S. air base had been established deep inside Iraq.

After less than four days, Kuwait was liberated, and a majority of Iraq's armed forces had either been destroyed or had surrendered or retreated to Iraq.

On February 28, U.S. President George Bush declared a cease-fire, and Iraq pledged to honor future coalition and U.N. peace terms. One hundred and twenty-five American soldiers were killed in the Persian Gulf War, with another 21 regarded as missing in action.

I MISS 9/12

I would never ever want another 9/11, but I miss the America of 9/12.

Stores ran out of flags to sell because they were being flown everywhere.

People were Americans before they were upper or lower class, Jewish or Christian, Republican or Democrat.

We hugged people without caring if they ate at Chick-Fil-A or wore Nikes.

ON 9/12, WHAT MATTERED MORE WAS WHAT UNITED US, THAN WHAT DIVIDED US.

VFW Post 5864 Silent Auction

Friday, May 12, 2023

Starting at 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

We will accept any items. If you have something you are not using, donate it to the VFW – we can use it to go toward a new walk-in cooler, or a number of other items that are badly needed.

Some of the items we have include –

- Donald Trump Gold Dollars (5)
- Steel Folding Knives (2)
- Stiletto Knives (2)
- Sweat Pants – XL (5 pair)
- Derringer Knife (1)
- Other Knives (9)
- Name Brand Purses
- and Much, Much, more . . .

Thank you!

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is established

On March 11, 1779, Congress establishes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to help plan, design and prepare environmental and structural facilities for the U.S. Army. Made up of civilian workers, members of the Continental Army and French officers, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers played an essential role in the critical Revolutionary War battles at Bunker Hill, Saratoga and Yorktown.

The members of the Corps who had joined at the time of its founding in 1779 left the army with their fellow veterans at the end of the War for Independence. In 1794, Congress created a Corps of



Artillerists and Engineers to serve the same purpose under the new federal government.

Upon its re-establishment, the Corps began its chief task of creating and maintaining military fortifications. The Corps' greatest contribution during this era was to the defense of New York Harbor—the fortifications it built not only persuaded British naval commanders to stay away from the city during the War of 1812, but later served as the foundations for the Statue of Liberty.

In subsequent years, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers evolved from providing services for the military to helping map out the uncharted territories that would become the western United States. Beginning in 1824, the Corps also took responsibility for navigation and flood control of the nation's river systems. Today, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is made up of more than 35,000 civilian and enlisted men and women.

Final encampment in Indianapolis in 1949

Grand Army of the Republic founded in 1866

On April 6, 1866, in Springfield, Illinois, Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson founded the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) to bring together Civil War veterans. The GAR provided veterans with support and camaraderie and was influential in the creation of Memorial Day and more.

After the Civil War, state and local organizations were founded throughout the country to help veterans stay in contact with each other. These organizations were created to provide fellowship and aid to those veterans in need.

Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson founded the GAR on the principles of "Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty." Membership was open to honorably discharged Union veterans of the American Civil War who served between April 12, 1861, and April 9, 1865. This included members of the Army, Navy, Marines, and U.S. Revenue Cutter Service.

The GAR was founded to provide fellowship among the men who fought to preserve the Union, to honor those killed in the war, to care for veteran dependents, and to preserve the U.S. Constitution. It established soldiers' homes, was active in relief work, and lobbied for pension legislation.

They also helped to establish Memorial Day. On May 5, 1868, the GAR's commander-in-chief, John A. Logan, issued a proclamation that May 30 would be Decoration Day, to honor those who died "in defense of their country during the late rebellion." There were memorial events in 183 cemeteries in 27 states that year.

The GAR quickly spread across the country. They were the first integrated society of their kind, gladly welcoming Black Union veterans into their midst. They also had significant political power and were a major advocate for the Republican Party, especially during the Reconstruction Era. They were partly responsible for the elections of Presidents Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Harrison, and McKinley. At its peak in 1890, the GAR had over 490,000 members.

The GAR helped preserve the Gettysburg Battlefield, paving the way for it to later become a national park. They also held some of their encampments there. Among these was one held for the 50th anniversary of the battle, which was attended by more than 50,000 Union and Confederate Veterans.

The GAR held encampments all over the country every year since its founding. At the 1889 encampment in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, local letter carriers came together to discuss their issues. At the time, the cries of city postal workers for eight-hour days, increased pay, and better working conditions were ignored by politicians. At the encampment, 60 postal workers met and adopted a resolution to form the National Association of Letter Carriers.

The GAR was a driving force behind the construction of the Arlington Amphitheatre. The Final Encampment of the GAR was held in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1949. Only 16 members were still alive, with six present at the meeting.

At the final campfire, the colors (flag) of the GAR were retired for the last time, and a Marine Band bugler played "Taps." Its last member was Albert Woolson, who died in 1956 at the age of 109. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War later succeeded the GAR.



Community Service awards presented March 21

The VFW and VFW Auxiliary's annual Community Service awards were presented on Tuesday, March 21 at the Post.

Elisjsa "Eli" Dicken was named as the Outstanding Citizen of the Year. Below in the first photo Mr. Dicken received a certificate from Deputy Mayor Terry McLaughlin.

On July 17, 2022, a man opened fire in the Greenwood Park Mall food court. The attack killed three people in just moments. Also wounded that day were a 22-year-old woman, and a 12-year-old girl. Greenwood Police said many more would have died if it was not for the actions of Eli Dickens. Just mere seconds after the shooting began, police said Dicken drew his own gun and steadied it at the shooter.

Police said Dicken fired 10 rounds as the shooter tried to retreat into the food court restroom but collapsed and died. This heroic act saved many other people that day.

He had no police training or military background. He did have a license to carry a handgun, which was issued Aug. 4, 2021, but he did not need the license because "constitutional or permitless carry"



Eli Dicken and Deputy Mayor Terry McLaughlin



Police Officer of the Year is Tyler Kintzele, left and Chief of Police James Ison, on the right.

became law in Indiana on July 1.

Police said Dicken learned to shoot from his grandfather and that he had no military or police training. "His actions were nothing short of heroic. He engaged the gunman from quite a distance with a handgun. "Was very proficient in that, was tactically sound and as he moved to close in on the suspect, he was also motioning for people to exit behind him," Greenwood Police Chief James Ison said at the time.



The recipient of the first-place award for the Voice of Democracy award was Zoe N. Lowe, a 9th grader at Greenwood High School.

Community Service . . .

■ *Continued from page 46*

At right, Brad Coy, Assistant Fire Chief announced that Austin King was named Firefighter of the Year. He also announced that Ian Garrison was named EMT of the Year. Both men were not available for the presentation.



Above, Voice of Democracy, the 2nd Place winner was Raelyn L. Smith – an 11th grade student at Iron Rock Preparatory Academy



At right, Honorable Mention was presented to both Levi C. Baugh and brother Ian Baugh, 8th graders home-schooled in Bargserville.



Justin Gick on the left, was named Boy Scout of the Year. Nat Ridge at right presented a check for \$100 and a framed certificate.

Awards presented for the **Voice of Democracy** include -- 1st Place -- Zoe N. Lowe – 9th Grade, Greenwood High School, and a check for \$300.

Voice of Democracy -- 2nd Place -- Raelyn L. Smith – 11th Grade -- Iron Rock Preparatory Academy, and a check for \$200.

Voice of Democracy – 3rd Place – Eden J. Wood – 12th Grade – Homeschool – Muncie, and a check for \$100.

■ *Continued to page 48*

Community Service awards . . .

■ Continued from page 47

Awards presented for the **Patriot's Pen** include -- 1st Place – Kendall G. Adams – 8th Grade, Greenwood Middle School, and a check for \$150.

Patriot's Pen -- 2nd Place – Annalise M. Brinker – 8th Grade – Greenwood Middle School, and a check for \$125.

Patriot's Pen – 3rd Place – Lilah J. Shay – 6th Grade – Greenwood Middle School, and a check for \$100.

Patriot's Pen – Honorable Mention -- Levi C. Baugh – 8th Grade -- Homeschool – Bargersville; and his brother Ian Baugh – 8th Grade -- Homeschool – Bargersville. Both received a check for \$50.

Two **Special Awards** were presented by Commander Steve Milbourn. One was to Al and Linda Kessinger for Continuing Outstanding Service and the other one went to Mike Tomes for his over 12 years of service to VFW Post 5864.



The recipient of the first-place award for the Patriot's Pen award was Kendall G. Adams, an 8th grader at Greenwood Middle School.



At right top is Al and Linda Kessinger receiving their certificate. Bottom right is Mike Tomes receiving his certificate.



Margarita's and more . . .

Beginning at 5 p.m., May 5 at the VFW

Board of Zoning Appeals and Advisory Plan Commission

Mayor appoints Milbourn to two city boards

Greenwood resident Steve Milbourn was appointed to the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) and the Advisory Plan Commission on April 10, 2023, by Mayor Mark Myers. Milbourn has previously served these positions in two other cities.

The BZA determines all zoning appeals and petitions, the Board of Zoning Appeals is charged with upholding the City of Greenwood's zoning ordinance. Following a public hearing, the board evaluates all appeals for permit usage, developmental standards, and the potential for special exceptions. The board meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month, at 6 p.m. at Greenwood City Center.



Steve Milbourn

The five members of the BZA include: Chris Mull, Josh King, Ken Knartzer, Vickie Peters, and Steve Milbourn.

Working with the Planning Division, part of Community Development Services, the Advisory Plan Commission oversees all aspects of Greenwood city planning operations. Areas of focus include zoning, site plans, construction, land annexation, land alteration and city signage. The commission meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month, at 7 p.m. at Greenwood City Center.

The nine members of the Advisory Plan Commission include: Mark St. John, Monica Magna, Sheri Gardner, Brian Walker, John Shell, Ron Bates, Josh King, Michael Probst, and Steve Milbourn. Josh King and Steve Milbourn are the only two dual members service both boards.

During Milbourn's first Advisory Plan Commission meeting, discussion came up by the city and the owner of the Red-Carpet Inn – Fanta Suites to determine whether or not the buildings on the property should be demolished. After nearly two hours, Milbourn made a motion to proceed with the demolition, based on the findings of the Building Commissioner, Johnson County Health Dept., and the Greenwood Fire Dept. The motion passed after being seconded.

Book author donates \$300 to VFW

Road to the A Shau Valley

David Craggs, a U.S. Army draftee entered the service on Nov. 7, 1968, and ended up at Ft. Leonard Wood for 8 weeks of basic training. After that he was sent for Advanced Individual Training (AIT) for 8 more weeks at Ft. Ord, California where he learned how infantry soldiers operated.

When he finished that training, he took a short leave home back to Indiana and then on to Ft. Lewis, Washington to head for South Vietnam.

David served with the famed 327th Infantry of the 101st Airborne Division. He spent 418 days in Vietnam with 156 of those days outside in the open.

On June 11, 1970, he flew into Ft. Lewis, Washington and was released from the U.S. Army and finally went home.

David authored a 100-page book about his exploits in South Vietnam and the camaraderie he experienced while serving in a combat zone. The



At left, VFW Commander Steve Milbourn accepts a \$300 check from David Craggs from the sales of the book that he wrote about his time in South Vietnam and the A Shau Valley.

book sells for \$13 and is available at Greenwood VFW 5864. David made a donation of \$300 from the sale of the first set of books he had printed. Commander Steve Milbourn also served in the 502nd of the 101st Airborne Division in 1966 and 1967.

Jay Collars, a hero himself, rubs elbows with another hero

Sammy L. Davis helps dedicate Vietnam Veterans Park

Sammy Lee Davis is an American soldier who served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War and was awarded the nation's highest military medal for valor, the Medal of Honor. He was born in Dayton, Ohio, on November 1, 1946, Davis was raised in French Camp, California. His family had a long tradition of military service; his grandfather served in the Spanish-American War, his father Robert Davis was in World War II, and his brothers Hubert ("Buddy") and Darrell Davis served in Korea and Vietnam, respectively.

Davis attended Manteca High School in Manteca, California, where he was a member of the football and diving teams. He also participated in Sea Scouting in Stockton. After his junior year of high school, the Davis family moved to Indiana.

He graduated from Mooresville High School in 1966. Davis enlisted in the United States Army from Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1965.

In March 1967, Davis was sent to South Vietnam as a private first class, and was assigned to Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 4th Artillery Regiment, 9th Infantry Division. On November 18, 1967, his unit at Firebase Cudgel (10.4198°N 105.991°E) west of Cai Lay, fell under machine gun fire and heavy mortar attack by an estimated three companies of Viet Cong from the 261st Viet Cong Main Force Battalion, which swarmed the area from the south and then west.

Upon detecting an enemy position, Davis manned a machine gun to give his comrades covering fire so they could fire artillery in response. Davis was wounded, but ignored warnings to take cover, taking over the unit's burning howitzer and firing several shells himself. He also disregarded his inability to swim due to a broken back and crossed a river there on an air mattress to help rescue three wounded American soldiers. He ultimately found his way to another howitzer site to continue fighting the NVA attack until they fled. The battle lasted two hours.

Davis was subsequently promoted to sergeant and received the Medal of Honor the following year from President Lyndon B. Johnson. After he was presented the medal at the White House ceremony, Davis played "Oh Shenandoah" on his harmonica in memory of the men he served with in Vietnam. Davis retired in 1984 due to his war-time injuries.

He was awarded the Medal of Honor, Silver Star, Purple Heart with 1 bronze oak leaf cluster, Vietnam Service Medal with 2 campaign stars, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with "60" clasp, Presidential Unit Citation, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation with palm and frame, National Defense Service Medal, and Good Conduct Medal.

In 1994, footage of his Medal of Honor award ceremony was used in the film *Forrest Gump*, with actor Tom Hanks' head superimposed over that of Davis.



Army Sgt. First Class Sammy L. Davis, left, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient (Vietnam) and Chef de Gare Jay Collars, right (Vietnam Veteran) greeting each other at the Vietnam Memorial.

Vietnam War Memorial dedication in Aurora . . .

■ Continued from page 50

Davis tells his story in the 2002 documentary *A Time for Honor*.

In July 2005, while in Indianapolis, Davis' medal was stolen out of the trunk of his car. It was recovered a few days later in neighboring White River.

On July 4, 2010, Davis helped celebrate the 100th birthday of the Boy Scouts of America at Arlington Park. Davis entered scouting at the age of 9. He has also been honored by the Joe Foss Institute for his dedication to serving America.



Army Sergeant First Class (SFC) Sammy L. Davis (MOH), Voyageur P.G. Gentrup (V145), and Chef de Gare Jay Collars (V145) attended the dedication of the Vietnam War Memorial at the Veteran's Park, Aurora, IN on April 29, 2023.

Voyageur P.G. Gentrup was the host of the event while SFC Sammy Davis was the guest speaker. At the invitation of Voyageur Gentrup, Chef de Gare Jay Collars represented Voiture 145.

The Veteran's Park is located on the banks of the Ohio River and features a Huey Helicopter mounted to the right and above the Memorial. A beautiful memorial to all Vietnam veterans.

This memorial was a dream of a Vietnam veteran who convinced P.G. to become involved with the project. As the project advanced the Mayor of Aurora became involved along with the Commander of the Indiana Army Reserve, Shelbyville. The Mayor and the Army Commander worked through the paperwork while P.G. worked getting donations of money and materiel. Working together with this team made the dream reality.



Voyageur P.G. Gentrup, left, and Chef de Gare Jay Collars (V-145), right, at the Memorial.

Fundraiser – Sunday, June 11

From 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. – at Greenwood VFW Post 5864

**Silent
Auction**



**50 / 50
Drawing**



Light Refreshments



■ IGC Reference No. is 156963 / ■ License No. 002855

My name is **Andi Hernandez**. I am an operating room nurse at a major hospital in Indianapolis. My co-worker and friend, Sherrie McKee, is an anesthesia tech in the operating room. We are both proud to take care of our patients when they come to visit us for their surgical procedures.

Sherrie's 30-year-old daughter Kayla is battling Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia (ALL). It is a type of cancer of the blood and bone marrow — the spongy tissue inside bones where blood cells are made. The word "acute" in acute lymphocytic leukemia comes from the fact that the disease progresses rapidly and creates immature blood cells, rather than mature ones.

The word "lymphocytic" in acute lymphocytic leukemia refers to the white blood cells called lymphocytes, which ALL affects. Acute lymphocytic leukemia is also known as acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

Acute lymphocytic leukemia is the most common type of cancer in children, and treatments result in a good chance for a cure. Acute lymphocytic leukemia can also occur in adults, though the chance of a cure is greatly reduced.

Kayla was diagnosed shortly before Christmas last year and just a month after her wedding. She is the mother to a young daughter, a newlywed, and loving daughter of her parents Sherrie and Jeff McKee. Kayla has been going through different forms of treatments, and the next part of her treatment journey will require her to be hospitalized for around a month. Last year her sister created a **GoFundMe** to help with finances. If you would like to donate, you can do so at

<https://gofund.me/ba066618>.

Being that this journey is ongoing and taking even more resources with an extended hospital admission, **there will be a fundraising event at the VFW in Greenwood on Sunday, June 11 from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. We will have a Silent Auction, 50/50 drawing, and light refreshments.**

Please save the date! Please contact me if you or your company would like to donate a basket or gift cards or certificates, or other items for the auction. We will happily list all the generous donors at the event! 100% of the proceeds from this event will go to Kayla and her family to assist with their financial needs.

Please try to have your donated baskets or supplies together by June 3. If you have any questions, please feel free to **contact Andi at 317-590-3900 or ajdez1@gmail.com**. Thanks for your consideration, and thanks to Steve Milbourn and VFW Post 5864 for helping us with this event.

The VFW's address is 1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood, IN 46143

Watch the Kentucky Derby - May 6

The Kentucky Derby is one of the most iconic sporting events in the world. Every year, millions of fans tune in to NBC to watch top racehorses from around the globe compete in “The Most Exciting Two Minutes In Sports.”

The Kentucky Derby, on the first Saturday in May, is one of the most well-known Grade 1 Thoroughbred stakes races in the world. It is usually the first leg of the American Triple Crown and is only one of the Triple Crown races to have run uninterrupted since its inaugural race in 1875.

The Kentucky Derby is 1-1/4 mile or 10 furlongs. The race has also been dubbed as “The Most Exciting Two Minutes in Sports” due to its approximate duration. Secretariat owns the fastest Kentucky Derby time ever, running a blistering 1:59.40 in 1973.

The 149th running of the Kentucky Derby is on Saturday, May 6, 2023.

The Derby is run on the dirt track at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky, where it has been held since its inaugural running in 1875.



Join the VFW and stop in for Special Drinks, and inexpensive beer.

Food can be set up around 2 p.m.

This is a “Pitch-In”

Donations are accepted.

Dress up if you wish.

Prizes and gift cards

Service dogs are welcome at the VFW, but leashed

Service dogs and other animals (check with us) are welcome in our establishment however the animal must be leashed at all times. The animal cannot walk or run throughout the VFW without having a leash on the animal and the owner must be with the animal at all times.



If you are working at a business or state/local government facility and it is unclear to you whether someone's dog is a service dog, **you may ask for certain information using two questions.**

You may ask: Is the dog a service animal required because of a disability? and What work or task has the dog been trained to perform?

If you have questions, we are willing to answer them. We are a business and as such we must maintain our ability to make sure animals do not interfere with our food and kitchen areas.