



Manuel Schneidmiller Post 154, Inc.

Rathdrum Idaho

Newsletter

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Meeting at: Lions Club 16114 N. Meyer Rd Rathdrum

Editor: Jean Bledsoe



2019 Election Results

The following officers were elected at the membership meeting on April 25th. They will serve a one-year term. If you have any questions, concerns, or request, you can contact any of these officers. If you'd like to see their duties. click here and go to Article IV of the Bvlaws.

Commander Dee Sasse
1st Vice-Commander Bob Bill Kinder
2nd Vice-Commander Flowers
Adjutant Bryan Bledsoe
Service Officer Ruth Aresvik
Finance Officer Len Crosby
Historian Lonnie Morse

Chaplain Helen Kinder
Judge Advocate Leo Calhoun
Sergeant-At-Arms Todd Halvorson
3-Year Committeeperson Angie Hannah
2-Year Committeeperson Rich Hannah
1-Year Committeeperson Craig King



The American Legion 100th Anniversary mantra is "Legacy and Vision" - both a celebration of past accomplishments and a renewal of the organization's resolve to serve communities, states and the nation for a second century.

Commanders Comments

Good day Legion Family. First off, I want to say thank you for the vote of confidence allowing me to continue as your commander. I will try my best for you and the Post. Also, I want to thank each officer for stepping up for the past year and for all the new officers that will be sworn in at the end of the month. I have said it many times, but I just want to say it again. We have the BEST POST in Idaho thanks to all of you! Keep up the great work. We have lots of events happening in May. Please help where you can! There are many events that are ALL HANDS ON DECK! For God and Country, - Dee Sasse, Commander

Help, Help, Help!

We need volunteers for the Poppy Program in May. Please call me at 208-771-0122 if you can help your legion. This is our biggest fund raiser. Please help if you can. Mike Warren, Judge Advocate



The American Legion is celebrating it's100-Year Anniversary.

You are cordially invited to join us in a short ceremony at the Evergreen Cemetery on Saturday, May 4th, 2019, 11a.m.

The cemetery is located at 2700 N Spokane Street, Post Falls, Idaho.

This ceremony will feature Post and community guest speakers. We will also pay special tribute to Col. Manuel Schneidmiller. Col. Schneidmiller, a Marine Corps WWII veteran, is the namesake for our Rathdrum American Legion, Post 154. He was a long time resident of this area and was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and other military honors for his wartime service. Col. Schnidmiller, his wife and family have been continuous supporters of North Idaho and the Communities of Post Falls, Rathdrum and Coeur d'Alene.

Please join us in this 100 Year Anniversary event. Questions: Please call Len Crosby at 208-651-0697.



Finance Officer:

Our finances are doing well. We have renewed one of our two CD's at a higher interest rate and will renew the second once it matures. Funds received from our gun auction have enabled us to increase our money market account, and we will be looking at our cash reserves once we have the proceeds from the Poppy Distribution Program in hand at the end of May to consider opening a third CD.

Please remember to reserve most of the Fridays and Saturdays in May to help our Post with its in annual Poppy Distribution Program. We need all hands on deck to make this major fundraiser a continued success. Again, this is something that the public looks forward to – receiving a Poppy for Memorial Day. It also improves our visibility in the Community and reminds folks about the service and sacrifice of all our active duty military and our Veterans.

Thank you for your support. We have an AMAZING POST, but it takes YOU doing YOUR part to help it stay that way! - Len Crosby, Finance Officer



Legislative Chairman:

Bill Introduced to Stop Veterans from Being Punished for VA's Miscalculations: Senators Tester (D-Mont.), Boozman (R-Ark.), and Brown (D-Ohio), introduced the VFW-supported Veterans Debt Fairness Act, which would reduce VA overpayment errors and require VA to hold itself — not veterans — accountable for its mistakes.

McConville Picked to Lead Army: The president this week nominated Army Gen. James McConville to become the service's next chief of staff.

Once confirmed by the Senate, he will replace Army Gen. Mark Milley, who President Trump announced was his choice to become the next chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff when Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford retires sometime this year. McConville has served as the Army vice chief of staff since June 2017. The 59-year-old from Quincy, Mass., is a 1981 graduate of West Point, who spent much of his career in Army aviation flying the AH-64 Apache, OH-58 Kiowa Warrior and the AH-1 Cobra.

The general has commanded troops in both Iraq and Afghanistan, to include the 101st Airborne Division in Afghanistan, and earlier, the 4th Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, in Iraq. Prior to his current assignment he was the Army deputy chief of staff for personnel.

Berger Picked to Lead Marine Corps: The president this week also nominated Lt. Gen. David Berger to be the next commandant of the Marine Corps, as well as promotion to the rank of general. If confirmed, he will replace Gen. Robert Neller, who is set to retire after leading the Corps since 2015. Berger, 59, of Woodbine, Md., was commissioned in 1981 as an infantry officer after graduating from Tulane University in New Orleans. He was a battalion operations officer with 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion during Operation Desert Storm, commanded Regimental Combat Team 8 during Operation Iraqi Freedom, and was the commanding general of 1st Marine Division during Operation Enduring Freedom. Berger has been the commanding general of Marine Corps Combat Development Command and the Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration since August. Prior to his current assignment, Berger commanded I Marine Expeditionary Force and U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific. (cont. below)

Senate Bill 514 providing greater access to care for Women introduced: Senator Jon Tester (MT), Ranking Member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, introduced S. 514, the Deborah Sampson Act. This legislation, a comprehensive measure addressing gender disparities, aims to improve and expand Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) programs and services for women veterans. The bill would permanently authorize counseling for veterans recently separated from military service and accompanying family members in group retreat settings, including in women-exclusive settings. It would extend the number of days, from seven to 14, VA may cover the cost of care for newborns of women veterans. It would also provide adoption assistance to veterans who have infertility conditions incurred or aggravated in the line of duty.

S. 514 aims to eliminate barriers to care by:

- Adding \$20 million to retrofit VA medical facilities to comply with environment of care deficiencies;
- Requiring every VA medical facility to have at least one full-time or part-time designated women’s health provider on staff;
- Studying the staffing needs of Women Veteran Program Managers in addition to determining the need for a Women Veterans Ombudsman;
- Conducting mini-residency training for women’s health providers;
- Requiring VA to create a training module for community providers specific to women veterans’ unique medical needs;
- Providing support services for women veterans seeking legal assistance;
- Authorizing grants for organizations supporting women veterans and their families;
- Requiring VA to report on its use of various primary care models serving women veterans;
- Requiring VA to provide information on staffing levels of women’s health providers including PACT team members and gynecologists;
- Requiring data collection and reporting on all VA programs serving veterans, by gender and minority status;
- Requiring VA to report on the availability of prosthetics for women veterans; and
- Centralizing all information for women veterans in one easily accessible place on VA’s website.

Idaho Legislature Adjourns: You can get your wallet back out of the safe and let your daughters out of the house!

The Legislature in Boise has adjourned after a lengthy session that extended well beyond their planned SINE DIE date. The session was highlighted by lots of political shenanigans and intrigue that even had seasoned Legislators using four letter words to describe their colleagues. The shenanigans included a bill to make it practically impossible for citizens to pass an initiative (as guaranteed by the Idaho Constitution) – fortunately this bill was vetoed by the Governor who pointed out that passage would insure a lengthy court battle that the State would lose. The initiative restrictions were passed after the Legislature got its nose out of kilter when the 64% of the Citizens passed a bill to expand Medicaid. Implementing the will of the People on Medicaid also proved to be a major bone of contention and debate. – Len Crosby, Legislative Chairman



Post 154's Namesake – Marine Col. Manuel Schneidmiller



Manual “Manny” Schneidmiller was born on March 5, 1918 in Calgary Alberta and was the ninth of twelve children. The family moved to eastern Washington in 1920 and settled in St. John Washington. He was a graduate of Washington State University, along with his brother, Elmer, and both received degrees in agronomy. With the advent of World War II, Col. Manuel Schneidmiller was commissioned as a Marine officer and served our Country in World War II. His service included amphibious combat invasions launched against the Japanese Army in Saipan, Tinian, Tarawa and Okinawa while serving as an officer in the Second Marine Amphibian Tractor Battalion. The “Second Amphibian Tractor Battalion” was activated on March 18, 1942, at Marine Barracks San Diego, California. The Tractor Battalion was an Organic unit of the 2nd Marine Division, composed of four companies, all equipped with the Landing Vehicle Tracked-1 (LVT-1).

In 1942, the Battalion set sail from San Diego, CA with the 2nd Marine Division to meet the Japanese tide sweeping across the South Pacific. The 2nd Amphibian Tractor Battalion participated in assaults on Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Tinian and Okinawa.

The Second Marine Division, commanded by Marine Major General Vogel, consisted of the 2nd, 6th, 8th and 10th Marine Battalions, an artillery regiment; engineer, medical, service, and tank battalions; and transport, signal, chemical, and anti-aircraft companies.

During World War II, the 2nd Marine Tractor Battalion participated in combat operations against the Japanese Army including:

- The Guadalcanal Campaign, in the Solomon Islands campaign – 4 January to 8 February 1943.
- The Battle of Tarawa, in the Gilbert Islands campaign – 20 November to 4 December 1943.
- The Battle of Saipan, in the Mariana Islands campaign – 15 June to 24 July 1944.
- The Battle of Tinian – 24 July to 10 August 1944.
- The Battle of Okinawa – 1 April to 10 April 1945.

Elements of the Second Marine Division were also part of the occupation of Nagasaki, arriving twenty-five days after the United States dropped the first atomic bomb on that City.

The 2nd Marine Division was awarded the Presidential Unit Citations for the Guadalcanal and Tarawa combat operations. I want to read that Citation for Tarawa;

“For outstanding performance in combat during the seizure and occupation of the Japanese-held Atoll of Tarawa, Gilbert Islands, November 20 to 24, 1943.

Forced by the treacherous coral reefs to disembark from their landing craft hundreds of yards off the beach, the Second Marine Division (Reinforced) became a highly vulnerable target for devastating Japanese fire. Dauntlessly advancing in spite of rapidly mounting losses, the Marines fought a gallant battle against crushing odds, clearing the limited beachheads of snipers and machine guns, reducing powerfully fortified enemy positions and completely annihilating the fanatically determined and strongly entrenched Japanese forces. By the successful occupation of Tarawa, the Second Marine Division provided our forces with highly strategic and important air and land bases from which to continue future operations against the enemy; by the valiant fighting spirit of these men, their heroic fortitude under punishing fire and their relentless perseverance in waging this epic battle in the Central Pacific, they have upheld the finest traditions of the United States Naval Service.”

Col. Schneidmiller was awarded the Bronze Star for Heroism, the Purple Heart medal for wounds received in combat, the Navy and Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citations, the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Metal with three devices denoting participation in combat amphibious landing

and the World War II Victory Medal. He was discharged at Farragut Idaho in 1946, but continued to serve in the Marine Corps Reserve retiring as a Lt. Colonel (cont. below)

In 1943, Col. Schneidmiller was working at the Farm Security Administration where he met his wife and life partner, Gladys who described him as “polite, gentlemanly and interesting - with a good sense of humor”. They were married for 54 years.

In 1949, following his service, Manny and Gladys started acquiring land on the Rathdrum prairie, drilling wells and planting grass seed. That initial operation eventually grew into a number of successful businesses in partnership with Manny’s brother Elmer, in Post Falls, Coeur d’Alene and Liberty Lake encompassing over 3,000 acres of land.

Throughout their lives Manny and Gladys Schneidmiller were generous and active supporters of their Communities. They donated land for parks, schools, businesses and hospitals in Northern Idaho. They both served on the Board of Kootenai Medical and were founders of the Kootenai Health Foundation. They also both served on numerous local Boards and Commissions including the Post Falls School Board, the Post Falls Highway District and the Post Falls Irrigation District.

Their family continues this tradition of Community Service and philanthropy.

We are proud to honor Col. Schneidmiller’s legacy as part of the 100th Anniversary of the American Legion.

Join us at 11:00 on Saturday, May 4 at the Evergreen Cemetery on Spokane Street in Post Falls for our celebration of the American Legion’s 100th Anniversary and our recognition of Col. Schneidmiller. – Submitted by Len Crosby, Finance Officer

Post Everlasting

Chaplain’s Pew:

A Post Everlasting Ceremony was held and the bell was tolled for the following three members who have passed away.

1. Bobby Lee Johnston Feb 1, 2017
US Army Vietnam 2 Purple Hearts
2. Thomas E Anding March 7, 2019
US Army Panama
3. Donald L Latuseck April 4, 2019
US Army Vietnam



Service Officer:

Happy May to everyone. The year is nearly half over and we finally have the fresh breath of spring in the air. Many of us veterans have seen worse days, so we are grateful for this new season. Spring is always a good reminder of new beginnings - taking care of ourselves and being aware of our personal health. May is for "T" - viewing your lab and TEST results. May you have a healthy spring!



With our Labs + Tests tool, you can view your VA lab and test results online through your My HealtheVet personal health record. Find out if you're eligible to use this tool and how to sign in.

How can this tool help me manage my health care?

The Labs + Tests tool is part of the My HealtheVet personal health record. It can help you view and keep a record of your lab and test results.

You can use the Labs + Tests tool to:

- View some of your VA lab and test results (like blood tests)
- Add results from non-VA health care providers and labs

Am I eligible to use this tool?

You can use this tool to view your VA lab and test results and information you enter yourself if you meet all the requirements listed below. **Both of these must be true. You're:**

- Enrolled in VA health care, **and**
- Registered as a patient at a VA health facility - [Find out how to apply for VA health care](#)

And you must have one of these free accounts:

- A Premium **My HealtheVet** account, **or**
- A Premium **DS Logon** account (used for eBenefits and milConnect), **or**
- A verified **ID.me** account that you can create here on VA.gov

Note: If you sign in with a Basic or Advanced account, you'll see only the results you've entered yourself.

[Learn about the 3 different My HealtheVet account types](#)

Can I view all my VA lab and test information using this tool?

At this time, you can view only your VA chemistry/hematology results. These include tests for blood sugar, liver function, or blood cell counts.

Can I view results from non-VA providers or labs?

No. But you can enter this information yourself to keep all your results in one place.

Once I'm signed in within My HealtheVet, how do I view my results?

On your Welcome page dashboard, you'll see a module for "Health Records." Within that module, click on "Labs and Tests." This will take you to a new page with links to view test results.

If you're signed in with a Premium account, you'll see:

- **VA chemistry/hematology results:** Your tests will be listed by date and specimen. A specimen is the sample studied by the test (like blood, urine, a tissue biopsy, or a throat swab). You can click on each to view details from your VA medical record.
- **Test results you've entered yourself:** You can add and view results from non-VA providers and labs. **Note:** If you're signed in with a Basic or Advanced account, you'll see only the test results you've entered yourself.

[Learn about the 3 different My HealtheVet account types](#) (cont. below)

Will my personal health information be protected?

Yes. This is a secure website. We follow strict security policies and practices to protect your personal health information.

If you print or download anything from the website (like lab results), you'll need to take responsibility for protecting that information.

[Get tips for protecting your personal health information](#)

What if I have more questions?

You can get answers to your questions about this tool within our My HealtheVet web portal.

[Read the Labs + Tests FAQs](#)

You can also contact the My HealtheVet help desk.

[Find out how to contact us online](#)

Or call us at [877-327-0022](tel:877-327-0022) (TTY: [800-877-8339](tel:800-877-8339)). We're here Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. CT. - Ruth Aresvik, Service Officer

Disabled Veterans May Be Eligible To Claim A Federal Tax Refund based on:

- an increase in the veteran's percentage of disability from the Department of Veterans Affairs (which may include a retroactive determination) **or**
- the combat-disabled veteran applying for, and being granted, Combat-Related Special Compensation, after an award for Concurrent Retirement and Disability.

To do so, the disabled veteran will need to file the amended return, Form 1040X, Amended U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, to correct a previously filed Form 1040, 1040A or 1040EZ. An amended return cannot be e-filed. It must be filed as a paper return. Disabled veterans should include all documents from the Department of Veterans Affairs and any information received from Defense Finance and Accounting Services explaining proper tax treatment for the current year.

Please note: It is only in the year of the Department of Veterans Affairs reassessment of disability percentage (including any impacted retroactive year) or the year that the CRSC is initially granted or adjusted that the veteran may need to file amended returns.

Under normal circumstances, the Form 1099-R issued to the veteran by Defense Finance and Accounting Services correctly reflects the taxable portion of compensation received. No amended returns would be required, since it has already been adjusted for any non-taxable awards.

If needed, veterans should seek assistance from a competent tax professional before filing amended returns based on a disability determination. Refund claims based on an incorrect interpretation of the tax law could subject the veteran to interest and/or penalty charges.

Other Resources:

- [Information for Veterans With Disabilities](#)
- [Publication 525](#), Taxable and Non-Taxable Income
- [Publication 907](#), Tax Highlights for Persons with Disabilities
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Department of Veterans Affairs](#) – Benefits & Services
- [Proper Reporting Military Disability Retirement Income](#)

– Ruth Aresvik, Service Officer



Every May 1 Americans honor the sacrifices of the combat wounded, ill and dying service members on Silver Star Service Banner Day.

Across all branches of The United States military, Silver Star families are honored for their services with the symbol of the Silver Star Service Banner and Flag. We are encouraged on May 1 to take the opportunity to do the same.

HISTORY

The history of the service banner dates back to 1917 or 1918, following the suggestions of Women's Committee of the Council of National Defenses. The use of Blue and Gold Star Service Banners was formally adopted into the United States Code and made official, leaving the Silver Star Service Flag overlooked. A new Silver Star Service Flag and Banner were designed and were quickly accepted widely used throughout the United States. The United States House of Representatives passed **H Res. 855**, a stand-alone resolution on April 21, 2010, making the SSFOA Silver Star Service Banner official and making May 1 Silver Star Service Banner Day.

Mark Your Calendar:

May Every weekend Post 154 member's will be at stores with Poppy's available. Please volunteer to help

May 1st - National Loyalty Day. This day is set aside for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States and the recognition of the heritage of American freedom.

May 4th - 100th Anniversary and recognition of Manuel Schneidmiller at Evergreen Cemetery at 11 am

May 6th - Melanoma Monday & National Nurses Day

May 8th - VE Day (Victory in Europe)

May 9th - Post 154 Executive Committee Meeting at Rathdrum Lions Club @ 6 pm

May 11th - Stand Down at NIC 8 am to 2 pm

May 12th - Mother's Day

May 12th - 19th National Law Enforcement Week

May 15th - National Peace Officers Memorial Day

May 18th - Armed Forces Day

May 22nd - National Maritime Day

May 23rd - Post 154 monthly potluck at 5:30 and Membership Meeting at 6 pm at Rathdrum Lions Club

May 24th - National Poppy Day

May 27th - Memorial Day observance at Pinegrove Cemetery in Rathdrum at noon

May 31st - National Smile Day. Share yours!

Bits & Pieces

- **Code of Support Foundation offers free resources:** [PATRIOTlink](#) enables all Veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors access to vetted, direct, cost-free, Veteran services. PATRIOTlink users can browse and use hundreds of available resources. The [Code of Support Foundation](#) also offers one-on-one assistance to struggling service members, Veterans and their families with the most complex needs. [Discuss on RallyPoint](#) [LEARN MORE](#)
- **See the latest Veterans Chronicle here:** <http://veteranshelpnet.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/April-19-Veterans-Chronicle-Final.pdf>
- **New documentation requirements for vehicle and driver licensing.** Plus, you can now make an appointment! No more waiting! Download the "QLESS" app on your phone. <https://www.kcgov.us/206/Vehicle-Licensing>
- **Important information for children of Vietnam Veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange:** <https://www.wfla.com/8-on-your-side/investigations/birth-defect-numbers-in-children-of-vietnam-veterans-disturbing/1836515991>

A Healthier You: May is a busy health month. Check these out:

- May is designated as **NATIONAL MELANOMA MONTH**. Included in that designation is National Melanoma Monday, which is the first Monday in May (the 6th). The American Academy of Dermatology has set aside this day to raise awareness skin cancer. Melanoma is a type of skin cancer, and it is the deadliest of skin cancers. All are asked to join the American Academy of Dermatology in wearing orange and encouraging others to wear orange for skin cancer awareness.
- **NATIONAL WOMEN'S CHECKUP DAY** - Led by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health and as part of National Women's Health Week, the second Monday (the 13th) in May is National Women's Checkup Day.
- The goal of National Women's Checkup Day 2016 maintaining regular checkups as one of five healthy habits women can do to improve their health. Other habits we can include are physical activity, healthy diets, quit smoking and following general safety rules.
- Put on your sneakers. The last Wednesday in May (the 29th) is **SENIOR HEALTH & FITNESS DAY**. Approximately 100,000 senior adults will participate in activities across the United States to participate in National Senior Health & Fitness Day.

NATIONAL LIMERICK DAY -

Observed annually on May 12. Here is your limerick:

When I'm Old

© Michael Holding

When I'm old and mankey,

I'll never use a hanky.

I'll wee on plants

and soil my pants

and sometimes get quite cranky.



Post Potluck Orange Creamsicle Trifle – by request!



Servings: 24 +

Ingredients: See notes

Pound Cake Base

1 cup unsalted softened butter
3 cups sugar
6 large eggs
1 cup sour cream
1 teaspoon of orange extract
Zest of 1 orange zest
3 cups flour
½ teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon salt

Custard Layer

1 ½ cups whipping cream
2 heaping tbs. powdered sugar
1 tsp. orange extract (for the whipped cream)
1 - 3 oz box instant vanilla pudding mix
1 cup milk or ½ & ½
Zest of 1 orange (save a bit out for garnish)
1 tsp. orange extract (for the pudding mix)
Yellow and red food coloring

Topping

¾ cup whipping cream
1 heaping tbs. powdered sugar
Bit of orange zest for garnish

Directions:

Cake:

Cream butter and sugar, adding eggs one at a time, and beating until light and fluffy. Blend in sour cream, extract, and optional zest and poppyseeds. Combine the flour, baking soda, and salt, then add to wet ingredients and beat well. Turn into greased and floured 12-cup (angel food or Bundt). Bake at 325° for 1 ½ hours. Cool completely. Meanwhile, prepare the custard and topping.

Custard layer:

Whip the cream with powdered sugar and orange extract until stiff, then set aside. In a separate bowl, whisk the pudding mix with the milk, zest, and extract. Add food coloring - 1 drop of red for every 3 drops of yellow – until you have a deep orange color (remember it will lighten when you add the whipped cream). Allow to set. It will be very thick. Once it has thickened, fold in the whipped cream until well combined.

Topping:

Whip the remaining ¾ cup of whipping cream with the powdered sugar until stiff.

To assemble:

Break the cold cake into bite sized pieces. Place 1/3 in the bottom of a clear glass bowl (for show). Spread ½ of the custard mix over cake. Repeat for a second layer. Top with remaining cake then spread with whipped cream topping. Sprinkle with the reserved orange zest. Keep cold until ready to serve.

Notes:

1. When I make this again, I will double the amount of custard layer ingredients for a creamier trifle.
2. You can simplify this recipe by using an orange cake mix instead of making the pound cake. I would still add the orange zest. You can also substitute Cool Whip for the whipped cream in both the custard and the topping.
3. This would also be very good made with lemon in place of orange. Use lemon pudding mix and omit the extract in the custard layer. Still add the zest though, for more intense flavor.
4. you want to make the cake layer moister, try pouring a little fresh orange juice over the cake before spreading the custard layer.
5. Finally, you could add a layer of well drained mandarin oranges on top of each layer of custard. Some well drained and halved maraschino cherries would be nice with the oranges too.



The Idaho Division of Veterans Services produces a directory each year, which contains contact information for all kinds of veterans' services and information. It has been uploaded to our Post 154 website for your convenience. Click [HERE](#) to access the Idaho Veterans Services Directory for 2019. Here is the content list of the directory:

Veterans Affairs Regional Office
Veterans Affairs Medical Centers
Veterans Affairs Community Based
Outpatient Clinics (Cboc)
Veterans Affairs Vet Centers
Tribal Veterans Representatives
To Obtain A Dd214
Va Home Loan Guaranty Services
To Change Direct Deposit Of Va Benefits
Idaho Division Of Veterans Services Chief
Administrator
Idaho State Veterans Homes
Idaho State Veterans Education
Idaho State Veterans Cemetery
Idaho Women Veterans Coordinator
Office Of Veterans Advocacy

Office Of Veterans Advocacy
Veterans Service Organizations
County Service Officers
Social Security Administration
Small Business Administration
U.S. Department Of Labor
Idaho Department Of Labor
Mission 43 From The J.A. & Kathryn
Albertson Family Foundation
Wyakin Warrior Foundation
H2h Hero 2 Hired
Employer Support Of The Guard And
Reserve
Idaho Congressional Delegation
State Directors Of Veterans Affairs
Frequently Called Telephone Numbers

2020 Calendars

On March 28, 2017, President Donald Trump signed legislation to enact the "National Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017," establishing **National Vietnam War Veterans Day** that will, henceforth, be celebrated each year on **March 29**. The US flag is to be flown on this day each year, and commemorations shall continue through 2025.

National Vietnam War Veterans Day is a national day of observance. So are Flag Day, Armed Forces Day, Patriot Day, POW/MIA Recognition Day, and Pearl Harbor Day. These are listed on calendars, but National Vietnam War Veterans Day is included on very few.

Please check your calendars for this important day. If it isn't on your calendars, please take a moment to contact the organizations they are from and ask them to include it. And, please share this with friends and on social media.

KOREAN WAR VETERANS AMBASSADOR FOR PEACE MEDAL

The Embassy of the Republic of Korea seeks Korean War Veterans to honor with the Ambassador for Peace Medal.

[Did you serve in Korea?](#)



The Ambassador for Peace Commemorative Medal is an expression of appreciation from the Korean government to American service men and women who served in the Korean War. The Ambassador for Peace Medal was first presented to veterans as a special memento for those who returned to South Korea through the 'Revisit Program'. The honor has since expanded to veterans who are unable to visit Korea.

Eligibility

To be eligible, the veteran must have served in Korea during the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953 or participated in UN peacekeeping operations until the end of 1955.

Posthumous Awards

The commemorative medals may be awarded posthumously. The next of kin, such as a spouse or descendants may apply for the medal on behalf of a deceased veteran.

Application To Receive Award

Please complete the information on the back and send or email to the address below to receive your Ambassador for Peace Medal. Please include DD214 or service record if accessible.



Embassy of
the Republic of Korea

IDAHO



Idaho Division of Veterans Services
Attn: Mitzi Cheldelin
351 Collins Road
Boise, ID 83702
Mitzi.cheldelin@veterans.idaho.gov

Here is your link to the complete application:

http://www.rathdrumpost154.org/files/Korean_Peace_Medal.pdf

Did You Know?

The American Legion is the largest Veterans service organization.

Working and volunteering in communities, states, and around the world, The American Legion has been dedicated to veterans, troops, national security, youth and patriotism since the founding a century ago.

More than 2.1 million wartime veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces are members of The American Legion. Joining them are nearly 1 million members of the American Legion Auxiliary, the nation's largest patriotic women's association, and more than 360,000 Sons of the American Legion, male descendants of U.S. wartime veterans. They work as one great American Legion Family of shared values, at more than 13,500 local posts worldwide, in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Caribbean, Europe, Latin America and Asia.

As a federally chartered organization, The American Legion upholds a sacred duty to provide free expert assistance for all who have served our country in the U.S. Armed Forces, as well as their families.

The American Legion is at work today in rural towns, urban neighborhoods, military installations and college campuses everywhere.

Each local post has its own unique identity, but they are all connected by common core values. A post in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, for instance, provides care for children with cerebral palsy, Downs Syndrome and other serious diseases. The American Legion in Wyoming coordinates the state high school rodeo championships. An American Legion post in central California operates a multi-county ambulance service. Another, in Alabama, offers after-school mentorship for students seeking

direction. A post in Connecticut built, owns and operates a housing facility to help homeless veterans restart their lives. Local examples of The American Legion's highest values are found worldwide, where differences are made daily for individuals, communities, states and the nation.

The Legion's fastest growing segment is the post 9/11 generation. More than 100,000 strong and increasing, these young veterans help lead the organization in every way, alongside those who served in Desert Storm/Desert Shield, Grenada, Panama, Lebanon, Vietnam, Korea and WW II. No matter the war era, our members are indelibly connected through love of country, hope for the future, remembrance of the fallen and duty before self.

The Constitution.

Law and order.

Americanism.

Memories of the Great Wars.

Individual obligation.

Peace, good will, prosperity, justice, freedom and devotion to mutual helpfulness.

Such values are embedded in the language of the Preamble to The American Legion Constitution. Generation after generation, one century to the next, the words have come to define a purpose as meaningful today as ever before. (From The American Legion Website)

Submitted by Bill Kinder

Submitted by Bill Kinder



Armed Forces Day Third Saturday in May

www.NationalDayCalendar.com

MGVAMC Office of Community Care (OCC) / Care In The Community (CITC) Update:

“Important Update – Until further notice: Mann-Grandstaff VAMC’s Office of Community Care (OCC) will only be able to authorize community care for specialists if you have a VA provided primary care provider. All specialty care should be coordinated through your VA provided primary care provider. If a Veteran does not have a VA provided primary care provider, please contact OCC to obtain a referral. The VA Choice Program is being replaced by the VA Mission Act. Some changes will be occurring as soon as May 1st with full implementation to take effect in June 2019. In the meantime, Veterans seeking care from a Veterans Choice/VA authorized local provider in the community (non-VA provider), must obtain approval to do so from our OCC. This change means Veterans waiting to see a specialist – which requires an approved Secondary Authorization Request (SAR) from their VA provided Primary Care Provider and MGVAMC’s OCC. Veterans must respond and call (509) 484-7969 or answer/return a call or letter from MGVAMC’s OCC program within 14 days or will lose the authorization for Community Care. Nationally, VA is compiling all the input received back from the recent VA Mission Act public comment period regarding eligibility criteria and access standards. More information is anticipated and will be shared before the June 2019 rollout of the VA Mission Act. In the meantime, Veterans are encouraged to share this important update with fellow Veterans.

Help us to help you: (1) Set up your voice mail. (2) Answer or return phone calls. (3) Program your phone to recognize calls from OCC (509)484-7969. (4) Read your VA mail. (5) Keep your voice mailbox clear so messages can be left. Thank you.”

Other news shared during the recent VSO meeting includes the recent visit (April 12th) by VHA’s Executive in Charge – MGen. Richard Stone MD, (USA Reserves Ret.) who becomes the fourth high-level VA official to visit MGVAMC since the announcement that Spokane’s VA is the first VA facility (among 1200 nationwide) to be selected as the pilot site for Electronic Health Record Modernization (EHRM) with the Cerner Corporation of Kansas City, MO. Other VIP visits in FY-19 have included:

- VA Secretary Robert Wilkie
- Colonel (USMC Ret.) James Gferer, VA Asst. Secretary for OI &T and Chief Information Officer (CIO)
- Captain (US Navy Ret.) John Windham, Exec. Director – VA Office of Electronic Health Record Modernization

Recent Successes/Praises:

- MGVAMC has been named the 2019 Practice Green Health Environmental Excellence Award winner! (for MGVAMC’s stewardship of resources, recycling, environmental management, etc.) Press Release soon!
- MGVAMC named Spokane’s “Pharmacy of the Year” among all public-private pharmacies in the Lilac City – by the Spokane Pharmacy Association. (Press Release attached).
- With our VA Volunteers, VSO’s, and VA Community Partners support, MGVAMC has hosted or played a part in successful events in 2019 including:
 - Suicide Prevention Outreach (w/VA Community Partners):
 - o Lady of our Lourdes Cathedral – Spokane – January 2019
 - o Veterans Suicide Prevention March arrives at MGVAMC – March 2019
 - Black History Month & Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebrations at MGVAMC
 - National Salute to Veteran Patients Week
 - Veterans Town Hall meeting at VFW Post 1435

- Welcomed American Legion National Vice Commander and leadership from local WA State American Legion posts
- Veterans Creative Arts Festival
- MGVAMC & 2nd Harvest Foods of Spokane – Food Drop at VA
- Eastern WA Veterans Task Force / VBA Presentation at VFW Post 51
- Vietnam War Veterans Welcome Home event at the Spokane Vet Center
- Annual Women Veterans Recognition event at MGVAMC Important upcoming events:
 - April 25, 2019: “Forgotten Heroes” Veterans Internment ceremony at E. WA Veterans Cemetery, Medical Lake at 1:00pm.
 - May 2, 2019: HUDVASH – Tribal Veterans reception at MGVAMC’s Veterans Healing Garden/CLC at 1:00pm
 - May 5, 2019: Bloomsday Race in Spokane (MGVAMC staff will assist with First Aid station near race finish line – stop by and say hi!)
 - May 9, 2019: MGVAMC’s Special Emphasis Program presents “Asian / Pacific Islanders” Recognition event in CLC at 2:00pm
 - May 11, 2019: Veterans Stand Down in North Idaho (**New this year – event being held at North Idaho College in Coeur d’Alene!)
 - May 15, 2019: VA2K “Walk and Roll” event at VA facilities nationwide. Health and wellness walk with Veterans and staff around MGVAMC campus & Homeless Veterans donation drive! 11:00am-1:00pm
 - May 18, 2019: Armed Forces Day in Spokane! (Veterans BBQ on North Monroe at 3:00pm) Spokane Lilac Festival / Armed Forces Torchlight Parade at 7:45pm in downtown Spokane – MGVAMC is participating with several of our staff marching in the parade!
 - May 19, 2019: Veterans “Last Roll Call” / Service of Remembrance (Semi-Annual event) in our Community Living Center at 2:30pm

And much, much more to come! Bret Bowers, Public Affairs Officer – MGVAMC



2019 Veterans Stand Downs Schedule



May 11th: Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
North Idaho College

June 8th: Kalispell, MT
Flathead Co. Fairgrounds

July 27th: Newport, WA
Community Center

Sept. 14th: Wenatchee, WA
National Guard Armory

Sept. 28th: Moses Lake, WA
Grant County Fairgrounds

Sept. 29th: Colville, WA
Stevens County Fairgrounds

Oct. 5-6th: Libby, MT
Asa Woods Elementary

All Veteran Stand Downs Have Opening Ceremonies at 8:00a.m.



MGVAMC Contact:
Kevin Copelin, Outreach /
Stand Downs Coordinator
(509) 462-2500 ext. 4017



Choose VA

Here are a few special offers for veterans from area businesses submitted by member Rich Hannah:

Veteran get a 10% discount - not just Retirees and Active Duty - from Hometown Rain Gutters & More, LLC. Plus, he is much cheaper than all others that are out there - probably about 30% cheaper than other gutter services.

T-Mobile has a great offer for Veterans. A military plan that is very cheap. Good deal for Veterans. I changed and saved 70 bucks with 4 brand new phones.

Link to the T-Mobile Military Plan Deals:

https://www.t-mobile.com/offers/military-phone-plans?cmpid=ADV_PB_19AFRD2100_43700042513761739&mx_ch=ADV_PB&vsrefdom=431-647-7513&mchxkw=c:1755406721,k:t%20mobile%20military%20plan,m:e,p:1t1,d:c,ai:66119165182,ad:341500623829.s:g&gclid=Cj0KCQjw7sDIBRC9ARIsAD-pDFqjl87igbx8JpiDku1Uilfs5C0dMIuqWfhIt3ALodyS13dlhKQaHkaAo94EALw_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds

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Call or email today for your free estimate!
We have competitive pricing with superior craftsmanship. All our seamless rain gutters are done with hand-mitered corners, a hidden hanger system, and strapless downspouts to give your system a clean look.

208-277-7531 www.hometownraingutters.com
hometownrainguttersandmore@gmail.com

The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen and Ladies



Homes for Heroes



This league is designed especially for you and your schedules, there are no limitations when you can play.

Join us for BBQ, Drinks and preseason trash talk on our opening night Wed, May 1st

Bring a team or sign up individually (Spouses Included)

League play will start Wed May 8th and continue through Sep 4th

Mid season Tournament – Sat, July 20th - Partnering with 'TEE IT UP FOR THE TROOPS'

End of year BBQ will be on Sep 11th. This will be important for all of us for obvious reason's

Each month we will be asking for donation's and raising money for a different local Hero organization.

These collections will be matched by Wagner Homes Realty!

We have a great chance to do something and be something special this year!

LOCATE THE OLE' 7 WIGGLE AND LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!

To sign up or if you have any questions contact:

Bobby Myles IV, Head Professional
Prairie Falls GC 208-457-0210
bobbymyles@hotmail.com -OR-

Kyle Wagner, Wagner Homes Realty,
Inland NW Heroes 509-216-4958
kylewagner@kw.com



**Opening Night
MAY 1ST!
6PM**

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Our way to say Thank You!