

DMVA Digest

A publication of Pennsylvania's Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
September 20, 2017

DMVA News

Veterans' Trust Fund Grant Recipients Acknowledged For Improving The Lives Of Pennsylvania's Veterans And their Families:

Maj. Gen. Tony Carrelli, Pennsylvania's adjutant general for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA), at an event in Pittsburgh personally thanked Veterans' Trust Fund (VTF) grant recipients for their work in support of the commonwealth's nearly 900,000 veterans. [Read more.](#)

Tell Us About Events Or Jobs For Veterans:

As a service to Pennsylvania's veteran community, DMVA is committed to sharing notices from employers who are interested in hiring veterans as well as sharing information about veteran or military-oriented events being held in Pennsylvania, via the DMVA DIGEST. We encourage you to submit your event or employment opportunity for consideration to be included in the weekly Digest. To submit an employment opportunity, please email RA-VA-Newsletter@pa.gov. To submit an upcoming veteran or military-oriented event being held in Pennsylvania, please email RA-VA-Newsletter@pa.gov with the following details: 1. Name of event; 2. Date of event; 3. Time of event; 4. Address of event; 5. County of event; 6. Event website; 7. Point of contact name; 8. POC phone number; 9. POC email address; and 10. Additional details/coordinating instructions (required fee to attend, pre-registration, etc.).

Around the State

Fallen Soldiers Honored At Fort Indiantown Gap In Lebanon County:

Hundreds of men and women at Fort Indiantown Gap paid their respect to fallen soldiers in Lebanon County on Saturday. It was all for the 6th Annual 'March for the Fallen' event in Union Township. The family-friendly event honors fallen soldiers and challenges individuals' endurance skills. [Read more.](#)

Flu Shots For Veterans:

The seasonal flu vaccine is available at the Coatesville VA Medical Center and the Spring City and Springfield community based outpatient clinics (CBOCs). All eligible military veterans are encouraged to get a free influenza vaccination. The Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that you get the seasonal flu vaccine as soon as the vaccine becomes available in your community. [Read more.](#)

Helping Veterans With Mental Illness:

Veterans organizations and military leaders discussed mental health issues facing veterans during the James E. Van Zandt VAMC Veterans Health and Wellness Community Summit. Substance abuse, PTSD and depression are mental health issues facing military members returning from war and contribute to the growing suicide rate among U.S. veterans. [Read more.](#)

PA Hero Walk To Donate Trafford House To Penn Hills Veteran:

There's an unmistakable tone of disbelief when Eric Seitz of Penn Hills talks about the PA Hero Walk. The 35-year-old Marine Corps veteran who served in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom and in Iraq is the latest to be helped by this charitable organization. This year, the annual walk will raise money to put Seitz in his own home in Trafford. [Read more.](#)

Pennsylvania Veteran Suicide Rate Lower Than National:

The suicide rate for Pennsylvania military veterans in 2014 was slightly below the national rate but more than twice the state's overall suicide rate, according to a Department of Veterans Affairs study. The figures represent the first-ever data on veteran suicides by state. [Read more.](#)

PTSD Researcher Offers Advice To Vietnam Veterans On How To Watch New Documentary About The War:

"The Vietnam War," the PBS documentary series by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick will likely spark emotions among veterans of that war. A Geisinger researcher on PTSD, and a U.S. Army Vietnam combat veteran himself believes vets should watch with caution. [Read more.](#)

World War II Veteran To Receive French Medal Of Honor In Philadelphia:

U.S. Army veteran Master Sgt. Frank J. Horvath will be awarded France's highest award for valor during a ceremony to be held Sept. 21 at 4 p.m. at the Consul of France in Philadelphia. [Read more.](#)

Across the Nation

Free Course To Help Caregivers And Families Navigate The VA:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is the largest integrated healthcare system in the country, and it can seem overwhelming. This free course from the PsychArmor Institute was specifically designed to break down the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) so that caregivers and veterans can better utilize its services. [Website.](#)

In Aftermath Of Hurricane Irma, Tampa VA Reaches Out To Veterans, Community:

A collaboration between the VA and the community has a big effect on who are recovering from Hurricane Irma. [Watch.](#)

Quadriplegic Veteran Travels Through Hurricane Irma To Serve Medications To His Fellow Veterans:

James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital pharmacy technician Tim Myers traveled seven miles on his motorized wheelchair along the streets of Tampa, FL from his home to the hospital as Hurricane Irma approached. He then rode out the storm all night, all to make sure hospital patients would get their medications without delay. [Read more.](#)

VA Releases Suicide Data By State:

Data on veteran suicide rates by state and region are now available. These state data sheets are a follow-up to VA's August 2016 release of a national suicide data report, "Suicide Among Veterans and Other Americans, 2001–2014." [Read more.](#)

Veterans Crisis Line To Open Third Call Center In Topeka, KS:

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced it is opening a veterans crisis line call center in Topeka, KS, the third such center nationwide, and expects to hire 100 employees to staff the center. [Read more.](#)

Veterans Find Healing Through Music And Art:

Veterans living with PTSD are discovering the healing powers of creative arts therapy. In 2016 Congress provided nearly \$2 million in funding to support the Military Healing Arts Network—a partnership between the National Endowment for the Arts and the departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs. [Read more.](#)

Veterans, Firefighters Remember 9/11:

A group of Vietnam War era veterans and firefighters banded together on Sept. 11 and held U.S. flags as they stood post on the Main Street Bridge over Highway 10 in Coon Rapids, MN from sunrise to sunset. [Read more.](#)

Ways To Prevent Suicide In Your Community:

Across the country, groups are engaging in discussions about mental health and veteran suicide prevention in their communities. The first step in helping someone through a crisis is identifying when and how to intervene. [Read more.](#)

Employment Opportunities

This listing is offered as a resource to both Pennsylvania's veterans and businesses that seek to employ veterans. The DMVA has not investigated the positions being offered or the businesses listed, and does not warrant or guarantee either the availability or the terms and conditions of the positions listed. Please contact the employers represented in this listing directly. To have an employment opportunity listed please email: RA-VA-Newsletter@pa.gov

Wolf Administration Celebrates Aerzen USA Expansion, Commitment To Pennsylvania Jobs And Workforce:

A \$7.5 million project will expand Aerzen USA's current facility in Coatesville, PA (Chester County) to better meet current and projected demand. This expansion will enable Aerzen USA to add 16 new jobs and grow its workforce to more than 110 employees at this location by the end of the year. [Read more.](#)

Chief Executive Officer Of Operation Gratitude:

Operation Gratitude seeks a charismatic and motivated leader with military experience or a strong affiliation to the military to be its next chief executive officer. [Apply.](#)

Harold Warner Construction Hiring:

Call 717-697-6281

Harold Warner Construction (Cumberland County), a veteran owned general contractor serving both commercial businesses and government organizations, is looking for tradesmen or subcontractors with the following skills: masonry, carpentry, electric, plumbing and HVAC. Experienced veterans please apply.

[Website.](#)

Help Meet Nursing Needs For Our Veterans:

As nursing roles continue to be in high demand, VA proudly offers unique opportunities for registered nurses to advance their careers and experience the joy of serving those who have served our country. [Read more.](#)

Inspector Level 1 Fluid Conditioning Products, Inc.:

Inspector level 1 first shift

Point of contact: Susan Niggel 717-627-1550 or email sniggel@fcp-filters.com

A qualified candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent, be able to read blueprints, and understand basic dimensional Inspection methods.

Junk Removal Company A Treasure For Veterans:

JDog Junk Removal gives vets chance to own a business and work with their hands. On a late summer morning in a gated, golf-course community, a man loads a garage-full of trash, old furniture and electronics into a hulking green trailer, leaving space for his next job at 10 a.m. and then he sweeps the floor clean. He bids the customer a pleasant goodbye and then he's on to the next one. [Read more.](#)

Program Aims To Put Vets To Work:

Two years after 9/11, Christopher Reichard answered the call to arms. He was 19 and knew college was not for him. The Marine Corps offered opportunities to grow personally and professionally while serving his nation at war. [Read more.](#)

VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System Veteran Recruitment Appointment:

Veteran Recruitment Appointment allows VA Pittsburgh to hire eligible veterans without competition to positions at any grade level through GS-11. [Read more.](#)

Veterans On Broad Street Free Hiring Fair:

Sept. 25, 2017, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Union League Building, 140 South Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19102 (Philadelphia County)

Veterans must register for free at: [Register](#).

Contact Breanna Pleis at the Union League at 215-587-5565 with questions.

Over 50 employers hiring for immediate open positions. Meet with HR professionals to review your resume and council you on your search.

Veteran Events

This listing is offered as a service to individuals and organizations to promote their veteran and military-oriented events being held in Pennsylvania. The information is taken directly from emailed submissions from requestors. DMVA is not responsible for incorrect information submitted. Please send details on events to RA-VA-Newsletter@pa.gov and include the following key pieces of information: 1. Name of event, 2. Date of event, 3. Time of event, 4. Address of event, 5. County of event, 6. Event website, 7. Point of contact name, 8. POC phone number, 9. POC email address, and 10. Additional details/coordinating instructions (fees, pre-registration, etc.)

Trap And Pistol Shoot:

Sept. 22-24, 2017

Clairton Sportsmen's Club, 412 Coal Valley Rd., Clairton, PA (Allegheny County)

Sept. 22, 2017: pistol shoot, 9:45 a.m.; registration for trap, noon-4:30 p.m.; picnic reception, 4:30 p.m.

Sept. 23, 2017: trap shoot, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; "top the top shot", 3:30 p.m.

Sept. 24, 2017: trap shoot, 9 a.m.; awards lunch, 1 p.m.

Trap and Pistol Shoot is sponsored and organized by the Paralyzed Veterans of America and benefits programs for paralyzed veterans. Open to everyone.

Point of contact: Joe Dornbrock at 1-800-775-9323 or 412-781-2474 or by email keystonepva@comcast.net

PA Veteran Farming Project:

Sept. 22, 2017, 1-4:30 p.m.

Chester County Economic Development Center, 737 Constitution Dr., Exton, PA (Chester County)

The PA Veteran Farming project is co-sponsoring a workshop for those interested in leasing land to farm. Cost is \$10 and attendees will learn about: farm leasing from a legal perspective; farmland leasing options through land trusts; protecting your farmland through land trusts; farmer panel and networking opportunities. Visit the [website](#) for more information.

Veterans' Cafe:

Sept. 23, 2017, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1480 Jerusalem Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA (Cumberland County)

Please R.S.V.P. to 717-258-1102 or by email eddirector@armyheritage.org

Veterans' Café is a time for veterans of all services to meet and share their stories.

[Website.](#)

The Pottstown Veterans' Community Day:

Sept. 23, 2017, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Memorial Park, 75 W. King St., Pottstown, PA (Montgomery County)

Point of contact: Cathy Paretti at 610-327-4331 or email

PottstownVeteransCommunityDAY@gmail.com

The Pottstown Veterans' Community Day is a day of community togetherness and entertainment for the Greater Pottstown area. Proceeds from this event support the event and are used to serve the veterans' community and improve and to maintain the WWII and Vietnam Veterans Memorials in the park.

Connect on Facebook to learn more. [Facebook.](#)

Veterans Town Hall And Resource Fair:

Sept. 26, 2017, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

University Drive Campus, Pittsburgh, PA 15240 (Allegheny County)

[Website.](#)

Veterans, their families and the public are welcome to attend. Front line employees, including experts from the Veterans Benefits Administration, will be available to offer on-the-spot assistance with individual questions and concerns. Attendees can park for free in the medical center garage.

Annual Summit Supporting Veteran Entrepreneurs:

Sept. 27, 2017, noon-8:30 p.m.

Pennovation Center, 3401 Grays Ferry Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19146 (Philadelphia County)

Point of contact: Joe Witte, 215-359-8898 or email Joe.Witte@bunkerlabs.org

[Register.](#)

Bunker Labs Philadelphia, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is focused on helping veterans achieve their entrepreneurial ambitions through education, mentoring, and connections. Veterans, entrepreneurs and business leaders will share their stories.

Wilkes-Barre VA Medical Center Community Town Hall Meeting in Montrose, PA:

Sept. 27, 2017, 5 p.m.

VFW Post 5642, 16972 State Route 706, Montrose, PA 18801 (Susquehanna County)

Media interested in attending should R.S.V.P. to William.Klaips@va.gov

Veterans, families, community stakeholders and the general public are invited to attend the open forum discussion to share their experiences with the leadership of the VAMC Wilkes-Barre. Veterans Affairs Employees will be on-hand to assist with information on available services. Media have been invited to attend and may be present.

PA ABLE Community Event Including Enrollment And Resource Fair:

Sept. 28, 2017, 4:30-8 p.m.

The Circuit Center, IBEW #5, Five Hot Metal St., Pittsburgh, PA (Allegheny County)

[Register.](#)

Attend this free community event to gain valuable information on the PA Treasury Department's PA ABLE program, a savings program for people with disabilities.

Butler County Stand Down:

Sept. 29, 2017, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

American Legion Post 778, 150 Legion Memorial Lane, Butler, PA (Butler County)

Point of contact: Dhana LeFevre at 724-287-6797 or Allyson Rose at 724-284-5114

A day of free services, supports and resources for homeless veterans, veterans at risk of homelessness, service members, community members, and families in need.

[Website.](#)

Heroes On The Water Susquehanna River Float:

Sept. 30, 2017, 8 a.m.-noon

Susquehanna Outfitters, 333 S. Front St., Wormleysburg, PA (Cumberland County)

Float from West Fairview Township Park to Susquehanna Outfitters in Wormleysburg.

Heroes On The Water events are open to veterans, active duty service members, disabled vets, and first responders.

[Facebook Event.](#)

Out Of The Darkness Community Walk:

Sept. 30, 2017, registration at 10 a.m., walk at 11 a.m.

Presque Isle State Park, Rotary Pavilion, Erie, PA (Erie County)

Point of Contact: Trevor Pearson, 814-323-5049 or email stagefire@hotmail.com

When you walk in the Out of the Darkness Walks, you join the effort with hundreds of thousands of people to raise awareness and funds that allow AFSP to invest in new research, create educational programs, advocate for public policy, and support survivors of suicide loss.

[Register.](#)

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