



November / December 2006

www.oregon.gov/odva

Jim Willis, Director

Salem Hosts "Healing Field" Event at Riverfront Park

While the events of September 11, 2001 brought shock and horror into the lives of all Americans, five years later that experience was turned into a spirit of determination, resolve and solidarity during a four-day event held in Salem. The tragedy of 9-11 was commemorated with a 'Healing Field', held at Riverfront Park September 8-11.

This event provided the opportunity to visit the 22-acre park and walk amongst 4,000 commemorative flag banners that were unfurled to honor those who lost their lives on 9-11. The commemorative flags of honor created a sea of red, white and blue. One section in the field of flags honored U.S. military members who have lost their lives during the past five years in Iraq and Afghanistan.

ODVA Director Jim Willis participated in a ceremony on September 8, that was designated to recognize military members. The names of more than 100 Northwest servicemembers killed while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan were read. At the same time, a dozen uniformed military members, from four service branches, marched slowly through the crowd. Each was bearing a flag, which they placed into the field behind a placard with the name of the deceased.

Mary Hart of Salem, a Vietnam veteran's wife and a member of the Gold Star Wives Association, had tears in her eyes following the ceremony.

"As a group we're helping to comfort the widows of those who have fallen and inform them about their rights and benefits. Most of these ladies are so young," Hart added.

Several hundred veterans, families of veterans and military members gathered for the ceremony. This was just one of ten Healing Field events to be hosted in U.S. cities on September 11. Vietnam veteran Bill Isabel of Salem said that the 9-11 attacks changed everyone.

"Even if we didn't lose a friend or loved one in those attacks, we still felt the pain," Isabel said. "This field of honor shows respect

to the innocent people who died that day and it transcends much of the past surrounding that date."



Clockwise from above: Healing Field flags were accompanied by special wooden plaques displaying the names of fallen Oregon servicemembers. (World War II veteran Bill Wingett built the plaques and Jerry Reigers of Landmark Awards & Engraving, Salem, engraved them); A passer-by walks amongst the thousands of flags that were displayed at Salem's Riverfront Park; Young and old alike could appreciate the Healing Field in their own way.

A veteran and a member of the Northwest-based Patriot Guard Riders motorcycle group, Cal Manning, said he and his group were proud to take part in the Healing Field event because they care and want to stand behind all veterans and their families.

"It's hard to believe that each of those flags out there represents one person who died on that day," Manning said.

The event and flag sales have raised more than \$60,000 dollars for local charities with \$30,000 going to the Oregon National Guard's Relief Fund.

The commemorative flags that were displayed are available to purchase for \$25 each. To purchase a flag contact Jerry Thompson at 503-364-9468.



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Director's Message



Value Veterans As Our Forefathers Did

As we celebrate another Veterans Day, we do so with members of our all-volunteer U.S. Armed Forces serving in harm's way in hot spots all around the world while others serve in support roles to make sure that these front line personnel have the equipment and technical support they need to carry out their mission.

These men and women do their duty in spite of conditions, criticisms and arguments over national policies pertaining to their deployment. These veterans of tomorrow also do their duty at a time when the very term "veteran" seems to be open to debate.

Such was not the case when the father of our country George Washington said, "The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional as to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation." Clearly, George Washington knew

the need to value our nation's veterans and to continue to honor and care for them long after their active service.

On March 4, 1865, during his second inaugural address, Abraham Lincoln said that in order to bind the wounds of our nation following the Civil War that it was our nation's duty "to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan." Again, this was a clear statement of public policy on a national level by the President of the United States.

It was President Calvin Coolidge who said, "The Nation that forgets its defenders will itself be forgotten." And it was our own Governor Ted Kulongoski who said, "Ultimately, what I believe is a nation is judged by how it treats those who have heard the call of their country and answered it. We need to think about how we can better serve those who served us during time of great conflict. This government is going to recognize veterans' service to this country and this State." This is a quote from the Governor's remarks at the State Capitol Veterans' Muster on February 12, 2003. I can only hope that others will take to heart these statements made by leaders that echo down throughout our history as a nation.

These statements leave no doubt as to the importance of our veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Their legacy is one of courage, honor and determination in the preservation of liberty and as a matter of national and state public policy, they deserve the benefits that have been accorded to them as a result of their honorable service to our nation. I wish each of them good health and success as we celebrate Veterans Day 2006.

In Memory



Ronald Leslie Anderson
7/2/36 - 9/23/06

Sadly, this Director's Message must record the loss of one of our very best. On September 23, 2006, Ronald Leslie Anderson passed away following a valiant battle with cancer. Ron Anderson wore the uniform of his country for over 40 years before retiring at the rank of Command Sergeant Major. Making his home in Wilsonville, Ron was active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Korean War Veterans Association, the American Legion, and many other veteran and community based organizations.

Ron's last activation occurred during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm having already served during the Korean War and the Vietnam War. Never one to ask others to do what he was not willing to do, Ron was a strong supporter of the Oregon Korean War Memorial in Wilsonville, testified at the State Legislature in support

See Director's Message, Pg. 11

Looking For A Few Good Women

The Women Marines Association, an active national association of female Marine veterans from around the country, is looking for members in Oregon. If you are a female veteran of the United States Marine Corps (USMC) and would like to continue serving your country, this is your chance.

The Women Marines Association is looking for members to help support our troops as well as local communities. The local chapter of the organization is known as OR-1

or the Lady Marine Rose Chapter. Current members range in service periods with members from World War II, Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm.

If you are interested or want more information on the Women Marines Association, please contact the official membership committee at 503-253-2776 or write to D. Schultz at 2225 NE 130th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97230.



Important News For December Loan Payments

For those who drop off their state Veteran Home Loan mortgage payments directly in the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) drop box, there is important information that you should know.

Due to the fact that December 31 falls on a weekend this year, any payments made to the drop box **after 5:00 p.m.** on December 29

(Friday) or over the following weekend will be posted on the first working day of January 2007.

This is important in order to credit your account in a timely manner. Signs will be posted on the ODVA office windows stating the posting procedures. Those concerned about late payments can make their payments in advance to ensure they are not assessed with a late payment.



VETS NEWS
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Published every other month for Oregon veterans and others interested in news affecting veterans and their dependents.

If you wish to receive the *VETS NEWS* regularly, send your name and address to the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, Attention Communications Unit, 700 Summer Street, NE, Salem, OR 97301-1285. If you are a veteran, please include your era of military service.

When credit is given to the source, *VETS NEWS* articles may be reprinted. However, please call the editor to assure accuracy and timeliness of the articles. Reunions printed upon space availability. Input for the next issue should be received by December 4, 2006.

New Criteria Announced For Combat Action Ribbon

The issuance of the Combat Action Ribbon (CAR) began in 1969 as a way to provide recognition to Navy and Marine Corps personnel who have actively participated in ground and surface combat. The criteria used for the issuance of this medal have changed recently in accord with the evolution and realities of the modern battlefield and are retroactive to December 7, 1941.

The principal eligibility criterion is that the individual must have rendered satisfactory performance under enemy fire while actively participating in a ground or surface engagement. Service in a combat area does not automatically entitle a servicemember to the CAR.

Under the new criteria, the CAR can be awarded to Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard (when under the control of the Navy) in

the grade of Captain/Colonel and junior thereto, who actively participated in ground or surface combat.

Upon submission of evidence to their commanding officer, personnel who earned the combat infantryman badge or the combat medical badge while a member of the U.S. Army may be authorized to wear the CAR.

Also added to the criteria in an attempt to keep up with the changing times is language dealing with Improvised Explosive Devices (IED). Under the new criteria, direct exposure to the detonation of an IED used by an enemy with or without the immediate presence of enemy forces, constitutes active participation in ground or surface engagement.

Another area included in the new criteria includes personnel who served in clandestine or special operations, who by the nature of

their missions, were restricted in the ability to return fire and who were operating in conditions where the risk of enemy fire was great and expected to be encountered.

Although personnel involved in aerial combat are not eligible because they already have the Strike/Flight Air Medal, it is important to note that a pilot or crewmember forced to escape or evade after being forced down, can be eligible for the CAR.

Also important to note is that regardless of the new eligibility requirements, all previously awarded CARs will remain valid. If you are unsure if you qualify for the CAR, send an eligibility inquiry via email to: hqmcawards@usmc.mil, or call (703) 784-9340.



Veterans' and Survivors' Educational Access Made Easier

Leaders are moving forward with unique programs, services, and legislation to make access to education easier for wounded servicemembers, surviving spouses and dependants. As the war on terror continues into a fifth year, servicemembers are surviving attacks that in years past would have taken their lives. Family members are transitioning into head of households or what is commonly referred to as breadwinners. Many times, this transition occurs while their loved ones recover in hospitals across the nation.

For some families their loved ones pay the ultimate sacrifice. These survivors and dependents must be made aware of every benefit possible, including education. Innovative programs are being created and bipartisan federal legislation is moving forward to address the most serious issues in the veteran community.

The Cost of Freedom

As a result of modern medicine, battlefield readiness, and technological advancements, more active duty military members are surviving devastating attacks. However, the injuries they sustain do not heal quickly and the time to medically discharge from the military can be lengthy. This can create a burden for family members that become the sole care provider for the family.

Access to educational benefits can be extremely important for family stability or for a smooth transition to civilian life. In late September, a bipartisan bill S.3421 authorized more than \$2 billion in funding for construction of VA facilities. If signed by the President, the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance program will speed up the educational benefit process for these families at no additional cost to taxpayers.

Innovative Thinking and Programs

A nationwide program through the Veterans' Business Training Center of the Purple Heart Service Foundation is educating and providing new careers for combat wounded, homebound, and service-connected disabled veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. The program offered through Northern Virginia Community College provides distance learning via the Internet. This unique program creates an opportunity for injured veterans to study from home while developing skills in Internet and software-related technologies.

Qualifications for entry into the program are simple, however the program is full-time. Interested veterans must have a VA assigned service-connected disability and a copy of his or her Form DD-214. The Purple Heart Medal is not required for participation in the program. Interested veterans should call the Purple Heart Service Foundation at 1-800-953-9924 or go online to enroll at www.purpleheartfoundation.org.

The age range of veterans in the program is from 19 to those in their seventies. War veterans from almost every conflict since World War II are represented in the virtual cohorts. The focus of the 15-week training program is the Five9, web based, predictive dialing, contact center system.

During the 600-hour educational program the veteran earns \$11 an hour. Program Manager Ken Smith, states, "The average full-time salary for these graduates is \$17.50 per hour, including benefits." Graduates of the program are then connected with companies nationwide to work from home. Major

companies across the nation have hired veteran graduates of the program, including HomeDepot, FedEx, JetBlue, and Dell Computer.

To make a tax-deductible donation to the Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation call 1-800-935-9924. Companies interested in hiring veteran graduates from this program are also urged to call.

Answering the Call

Salem-based Chemeketa Community College has a new program that offers service-connected disabled veterans with at least a 50 percent rating, a tuition waiver for up to 100 credits, or an associate degree. The new program also offers free tuition at the two-year community college for dependents of Oregon military personnel who have died while on duty since September 11, 2001. Oregon residency at the time of service-member discharge or death is a requirement for participation in this program.

Prospective students seeking more information about veterans' programs at Chemeketa Community College should call 503-399-5004. The Veterans' Services Office is located in Building 2, Room 200, on the Salem Campus. Open window hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Chemeketa also has campuses in Dallas, McMinnville, Santiam and Woodburn. Courses can also be taken online at www.chemeketa.edu. A full listing of approved Veterans' Affairs educational programs for Federal and State Educational Aid can be found online at www.oregon.gov/odva then click on Veterans' Education.



State Fair Booth Draws a Crowd

Once again, Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) employees and veterans' service organization volunteers hosted a booth at the Oregon State Fair to provide an outreach for veterans, their families and survivors with benefit information. Nearly 2,000 people were assisted during the 11-day fair.

ODVA representatives answered questions and offered assistance about benefits that are available to veterans and their families. Additionally, veterans' organizations collected approximately 3,100 signatures at the Fair to help retain the charitable check-off option for the Oregon Veterans' Home on the state individual income tax return form.

The coordinator for the ODVA booth, Wes Graham, said there are usually a few veterans or family members who stop by and discover a benefit for which they are eligible.

"That makes our presence there even more important to us because we're able to help someone new," said Graham. He also stated "Many of the regular visitors and former clients who stopped by expressed their thanks that we still had a booth at the State Fair to assist veterans."

State Fair officials reported that nearly 3,000 veterans took advantage of a two-day promotion that offered free fair admittance for veterans.

Graham said that over 3,000 ODVA veteran buttons, 1,000 benefit guides and hundreds of other items were given away during the Fair. Visitors also paused to view the photo display of Oregon's fallen military members who have been killed while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

During the year ODVA continually maintains a presence at community events statewide including senior expos, county fairs, stand-downs, mobilizations and demobilizations, womens veterans conferences, workshops, family reintegration and events held by Confederated Tribes. ODVA outreach also includes in-home visits to housebound individuals, and correctional facilities.



Friends of the Home

Donations to the Oregon Veterans' Home Trust Fund continue to be received. We deeply appreciate the thoughtfulness and generosity of an ever-growing number of Friends of the Home. To become a friend of the home, use the gift form on page 5, and make a donation today. Those who contributed during the months of August and September 2006 are listed below:

VETERAN License Plates
Irv Fletcher
Henry Ehleringer
Larry and Sarah Keil
Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America
Mel and Norma Peterson
Charitable Checkoff Donations
Oregon Veterans' Home Gift Shop
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Crews
David and Ruth Draper
Margaret Clayton-Bacon
Melody Doyle
Ed and Rose Chaddic
Donald and Frances Brostrom
Gloria Schultens
Robert and Jane Cosgrave
Gretchen Johnson
Mrs. Aiko Briles
Douglas W. Smith
Sharon Hoblit
Donald McDaniel
Florence McCulley
Geraldine Lukos
Paul and Barbara Adkison
Bruce Desautelle
Tony Giordano
Carey Melcher
Jack and Dorothy Culbertson
Helen Wilson
Curry A. Garvin
Robert and Sharon Brown
Paul E. Burger
Walter and Caroline Haniuk
James Hardie
American Legion Washington Post 2
R.D. Wiley
Korean War Veterans Association,
Iron Triangle Chapter
VFW Auxiliary, Ponderosa Pine
Susie and David Gregory
Farmers Group, Inc.

Paul Daudet
American Legion Baird-Heaton Post 152
Gary Van Orman
William Fox
Helen Wilson
Rickreall Grange
Bend Senior Center
Mark and Dorothy Sullivan
Anna Markman
Laurence and Elizabeth Beck
Pauline E. Scott
Jean Bryant
Aurora Colony Historical Society
Donna-Mae Smith
Oregon County Veterans' Service
Officer's Association
American Legion Umpqua Post 16
Gale and Donna Sickler
Earnestine Heaton
Military Officers Association of America
(MOAA), Central Oregon Chapter
Perkins and Company, P.C.
Darrell and Winifred Mitchell
Delores Barkley
VFW Post 4015
Robert and Doris Norton
Military Officers Association of America
(MOAA), Willamette Chapter
Jackson County Veteran Allied Council
Jeff Barker
James B. Trent, Jr.
Leo Chance
Ray Nelke
American Legion Post 20
George Fortin
Bill Moskaluk
Penelope White
Julie Nix
Valerie Johnson
Barbara Dietz
Hood River Elks Lodge

Fraternal Order of Eagles,
Willamette Aerie #2081
Harold and Eileen McKittrick
Richard Chambers
Michael and Lillian Patil
Kenneth Kangas
Joanne Verger
James R. Martin
Lester Hubinsky
Sharon Stephens
George and Virginia Wood
John W. Jepsen
DUV, Oregon Department
Military Order of the Purple Heart,
South Coast Chapter
N. Umphress, Jr.
DAV Auxiliary, Yamhill County
Jim and Polly Ann Krantz
Owen and Becky Larkin
William Kurtz
Fred Liddell
JoAnna Sering
VFW Post 3182
Lois Curtner
Larry and Gudrun Fry
Bernhard Baer, Jr.
Vadah Dunn
G.H. Arscott
Steven and Sharon Crabb
Jennie Mathews
Air Force Association, Columbia Gorge Chapter
Phil Szymkowicz
American Legion Auxiliary #180
VFW Post 4750
Gresham Elks Lodge
One Stop Pet Shop
Louis Kingman
Wilva Trent
Roy and Velda Cameron
Paul and Ramona Finley
Patricia Pollihan

F-14 Tomcat Finds New Home in McMinnville

The United States Navy recently retired the F-14 Tomcat fighter jet from carrier-based fleet service. However, Navy veterans and fans of the “Top Gun” style fighter jet can visit McMinnville to get an up close view. A Grumman F-14 Super Tomcat fighter jet now resides at the Evergreen Aviation Museum and arrived in Oregon in September. The F-14 Tomcat is widely known for tactical reconnaissance and air superiority.

The Tomcat fighter jet was unveiled on October 14 during Navy Day activities at the air museum. Although the Tomcat was made famous in the movie Top Gun, female veterans of the U.S. Navy see the F-14 Tomcat as a turning point in fighter-pilot history. Lieutenant Kara Hultgreen was the first female U.S. Navy F-14 carrier-based fighter pilot who became qualified on the USS Constellation (CV-64) in July 1994. Hultgreen died on October 25 that same year in an



attempt to land the F-14 on the pitching deck of the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72) off the coast of San Diego, California.

Entering into service in 1972, the F-14 Tomcat has seen service in almost every major conflict. The aircraft was most recently assigned to Fighter Squadron Three One, VF-31 Tomcatters, a forward deployed squadron

onboard the USS Roosevelt. It is reported that the squadron last saw combat action in February during Operation Iraqi Freedom. VF-31 was the last official F-14 Tomcat fighter squadron of carrier-based Naval Aviation .

VF-31 is in the process of transitioning to the FA-18 E/F Super Hornet and upon completion will become Strike Fighter Squadron Three One, VFA-31.

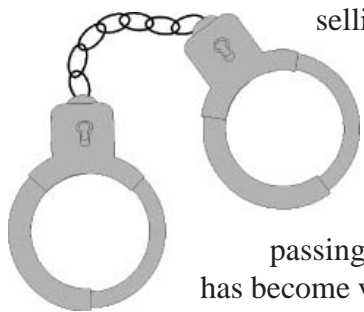
Evergreen Aviation Museum provides veterans and active duty military with reduced admission and has Veterans Day activities planned (see pages 6-8). Veterans interested in Naval aviation can go online to visit the squadron website at www.vf31.navy.mil. The Museum is located at 500 NE Captain Michael King Smith Way in McMinnville. Call 503-434-4180 or go online to www.sprucegoose.org for more information.



Congress to Fine, Jail Fake Heroes

A bill in Congress to expand current criminal penalties and make it illegal for those who falsely claim to be decorated war veterans, has been approved by the U.S. Senate.

The proposed Stolen Valor Act (S.1998) amends the federal criminal code to prohibit wearing, manufacturing or selling military decorations or medals without legal authorization. One reason for passing the bill is that it has become very easy to make a fake certificate indicating the receipt of an award even if the person does not possess the medal.



Rep. John Salazar of Colorado is a veteran and a member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee. Salazar says the passage of the bill is huge for veterans and those who are fighting to protect the honor and integrity of veterans while at the same time ensuring their heroism is not tarnished.

“The medals earned by genuine American veterans recognize their courage, honor and sacrifice,” Salazar said. “I will not let imposters diminish the honor of America’s veterans.”

The bipartisan bill was passed in the Senate on September 7, and was referred to the House Judiciary Committee where a similar bill (H.R.3352) has been sitting since July 2005. Supporters hope Senate passage will spur the House Committee to act.



Oregon Veterans' Home Gift Form

“Give to those who have already given of themselves”

Charitable donations made to the Oregon Veterans' Home in any monetary amount are welcome and greatly appreciated. All donors receive a special letter of thanks from the Director of Veterans' Affairs and have their name included in the donor registry located in the lobby of the Home. If your gift to the Oregon Veterans' Home is:

- \$35 - \$64, you will receive one Oregon Veterans' Home remembrance pin. Remembrance pins are designed especially for our valued donors. The distinctive emblems can be worn on a lapel, vest, jacket, blouse, hat or tie.
- \$65 - \$99, you will receive two remembrance pins.
- \$100 or more, you will receive two remembrance pins and for one year your name will appear on the “Wall of Gratitude”, the Home's donor recognition display, which is prominently located in the lobby area of the Home (updated annually).

Here is my gift in the amount of: _____

I prefer not to receive a Remembrance Pin.

Check is enclosed (Please make checks payable to the “Oregon Veterans' Home”.)

Credit Card: VISA MasterCard

Account #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

I am making my donation to the Oregon Veterans' Home

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Please send my “Remembrance Pin(s)” to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Send acknowledgements to: Name & Address: _____

Your gift qualifies for a charitable contribution tax deduction.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE OREGON VETERANS' HOME
The Place Where Honor Lives!

Please clip this form and mail with your donation to:

Oregon Veterans' Home, c/o ODVA, 700 Summer Street NE, Salem, OR 97301-1285

2006 Veteran Events in Ore

Albany

Nov. 5-12 – The Heritage Mall Hall of Honor, located at 1895 14th Avenue S.E., will pay tribute all day to all Oregon servicemembers who have died while serving in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Nov. 10 - 6 p.m. – Veterans of the Year Banquet recognizes veterans who have been nominated by various organizations. The public is welcome, by reservation only, to a Prime Rib dinner at American Legion Post 10, 1215 Pacific Blvd. S.E. Social hour at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. Cost: \$16 each. To make a reservation call 541-258-2873.

Nov. 11 - 8 a.m. – Memorial Service at Eleanor Hackleman Park located at 654 Pine Street. Guest speaker: Jim Willis, Director, Oregon Dept. of Veterans' Affairs.

10 a.m. – 87th annual Veterans Day Parade. Grand Marshals: Members of the 101st Airborne's *Band of Brothers*. Parade theme: *Uncommon Valor, Still a Common Virtue*. The Patriot Guard Riders from across the state will lead the parade.

Contact: Pat Moritz, 541-974-1619
or 503-342-6572

Aloha

Nov. 11 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. – American Legion Post 104, located at 20325 S.W. Alexander Street, will be serving a ham dinner. Cost: \$7.

Contact: Marty, 503-649-1226

Astoria

Nov. 11 - 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. – American Legion Post 12 will serve a free breakfast, lunch, and dinner to veterans and their spouses. Donations are welcome. There will be multiple raffles during the day and live music beginning at 7 p.m. Post 12 is located at 1132 Exchange Street.

Contact: Betsy at Post 12, 503-325-5771

Beaverton

Nov. 11 - 11 a.m. – A ceremony will be held at Memorial Park, between the southwest corner of Watson and Hall Streets. Guest speakers: Beaverton Mayor Rob Drake and Dick Shouten, Washington County Commissioner. The Community Band will perform. Vintage WWII planes will fly over. A military flyover has been requested.

Contact: Bill Goodwin,

American Legion Post 124, 503-203-1794

Bend

Nov. 10 - 12 p.m. – Annual Veterans Chili Cook-Off Challenge at VFW Post 1643, located at 1503 N.E. 4th. Judging is at 2 p.m. The event will benefit local veterans' organizations.

5 p.m. – Marine Corps Birthday Ball, at Bend Golf and Country Club located at 61045 Country Club Drive. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.

Contact: Lucy at Bend Golf and Country Club,
541-382-3261

Nov. 11 - 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. – Bend Parade of Flags Group will display 170 American Flags that were flown over the U.S. Capitol, along the parade route downtown. Installed by the Central Oregon Chapter, Military Officers Association of America and the Boy Scouts of America Troop 25.

Contact: Dick Tobiason, 541-388-5591

9 a.m. – The Veterans Day/Marine Corps Birthday 5K run / 1 mile walk in downtown Bend. Register online at: www.vetsdayrun.homestead.com.

Contact: Eric Chandler, 541-383-8061

11 a.m. – Parade to start downtown at City Hall, at the corner of Louisiana and Bond. Grand Marshals: LTC (ret.) Bob Jeffrey, a former Vietnam POW, and all Vietnam veterans.

Contact: Mike Ward, 541-330-4677,
or Bill Dolf, 541-389-8487

7 p.m. – 1940s USO Show, *Soldiers in Greasepaint*, will be presented as a benefit for the Central Oregon Veterans Outreach at the Tower Theater, downtown.

Tickets: \$50 and \$25 each.

Contact: 541-317-0700 or
www.towertheater.org

Canyonville

Nov. 11 - 11:30 a.m. – Veterans' Remembrance Ceremony at City Hall. Guest speakers: State Rep. Susan Morgan and Sue Shaffer, Chairperson, Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe. Refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

Contact: Mary Newman or Michele Nelson,
541-440-4219

Coos Bay

Nov. 6 - 5 p.m. – Eagles Lodge 538 and American Legion Bay Area Post 34 will host a free dinner for all veterans and their families. The Lodge is located at 568 S. 2nd Avenue.

Contact: Kevin Owens, 541-756-2390

Corvallis

Nov. 11 - 10 a.m. – On the OSU campus, at the Memorial Union steps, the names of Oregon servicemembers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan will be read. A 24-hour candlelight vigil begins at 12 p.m. on Nov. 10. A flyover has been requested.

Contact: Ashley-Anne Millward, 503-908-0611

Eagle Point

Nov. 11 - 10 a.m. – Parade starts at the bridge and is sponsored by the Jackson County Veterans Allied Council. Entries will include valley veteran organizations, Young Marines, National Guard and Reserve units from the area, and others.

Contact: William N. Walker, 541-535-6013

Forest Grove

Nov. 9 - 9:30 a.m. – An annual commemorative assembly will be held at Forest Grove High School's gymnasium to honor local area veterans. Keynote speaker: Lt. Col. Sven Erichsen, Forest Grove High School alumni. Guest of Honor: Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Robert Maxwell of Bend. The public is welcome to attend.

Contact: Bob Wismer, Forest Grove High School,
503-359-8137, ext.329

Nov. 12 - 11:45 a.m. – American Legion Post 2 and Elks Lodge 2440, located at 2610 Pacific Avenue, will co-host ceremonies, entertainment and a free dinner for veterans, current armed forces personnel and their families. The dinner begins at 1 p.m.

Contact: American Legion Post 2, 503-357-3660 or
Elks Lodge 2440, 503-357-2440

Grants Pass

Nov. 9 - 1 p.m. – Students will provide patriotic music and presentations at the Riverside School gymnasium located at 1200 S.E. Harvey Drive. A student assembly will honor all veterans with student-read poems, essays, and a special choral presentation. *Taps* will be played by a local brass duo. Veterans are encouraged to stay for refreshments and to view a memorabilia display.

Nov. 10 - 1 p.m. – A Veterans Parade will begin at the Riverside School.

Contact: Marianne, 541-474-5780, ext. 137

Hillsboro

Nov. 11 - 11 a.m. – VFW Post 2666 will hold a Veterans Day program at Fir Lawn Cemetery located at 1070 S.W. Main Street.

Contact: George Anderson, 971-404-7905

Hood River

Nov. 11 - 9 a.m. – American Legion Post 22 and Auxiliary will sponsor a breakfast at the Elks Lodge, located at 304 Cascade Avenue.

11 a.m. – Ceremony at Overlook Park located at 2nd Avenue and State Streets. Guest speaker: State Rep. Patty Smith. A flyover has been requested.

Contact: Patrick Scranton, 541-386-1080

Klamath Falls

Nov. 10-11 – VFW Post 1383 presents an Avenue of Flags at Klamath Veterans Memorial Park, at the intersection of Main Street and Highway 97 South.

Nov. 11 – 7 to 9 a.m. – Free breakfast for all veterans at the National Guard Armory on Shasta Way, sponsored by the Vietnam Veterans of America.

11 a.m. – Veterans Day Parade at Main and Spring Streets, ending at Veterans Memorial Park. A ceremony will be held at the Courthouse Memorial Shaft, located at 300 Main Street, followed by the activities listed below:

– Stew Lunch American Legion Post 8, 228 N. 8th Street, 541-882-0475

– Marine Corps League Spaghetti Feed, 1019 Main Street, 541-882-1775

– VFW Chili Feed, 515 Klamath Avenue, 541-882-0057

Contact: Joe Collins, 541-884-0074

La Grande

Nov. 11 - 11 a.m. – American Legion Post 43 Veterans Parade along Adams Avenue. A spaghetti feed will be held following the parade at the Post 43 Legion Hall, located at 301 Fir Street. Cost: Free to Post members and \$3.50 for non-members.

Contact: John Marsh, 541-963-5141

La Pine

Nov. 11 - 11 a.m. – Veterans Day Ceremony at the La Pine Community Cemetery. Following the ceremony, there will be an open house at the American Legion Post 45, located at 52532 Drafter Road.

Contact: Pat Cotton, 541-536-1402

Lincoln City

Nov. 11 - 6:30 to 9 pm. – The public is invited to a free Veterans Day concert in the showroom at the Chinook Winds Casino. Guest speaker: A Navajo Code Talker. A Color Guard will post the colors. The Portland Brass will perform and the event will close with the playing of *Taps*. The Casino is located at 1777 N.W. 44th Street.

Contact: Heather Hilton, 1-888-244-6665

McMinnville

Nov. 11 – The Evergreen Aviation Museum, located at 500 N.E. Captain Michael King Smith Way, off Highway 18, will be providing these events:

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Spruce Goose cargo deck tours, SR-71 cockpit viewing, children's interactive area will be open.

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. – B-17 aircraft tours, \$3 per person.



11 a.m. – Dedication of the new Wake Island Memorial Exhibit featuring propeller blades from an F4-F “Wildcat” and a Japanese “Nell.” The Willamette Master Chorus will provide a patriotic choral presentation.

12 p.m. – Briefing: B-17 Pilot Lt. Col. Russell Barney.
1 p.m. – Guided museum tour.

Contact: Nicole Wahlberg, 503-434-4006;
Website: www.sprucegoose.org

Medford

Nov. 11 - 2:30 p.m. – A ceremony at Medford Veterans Memorial Park. A guest speaker will be announced.

Contact: Herb Robb, Chairman, JCVAC,
541-535-1899

Milton-Freewater

Nov. 11 - 7 to 8:30 a.m. – Breakfast at American Legion Post 24, located on 8th Avenue.

11 a.m. – Parade: all participants, floats, horses, etc... must be at the Zip-Trip Store to lineup before 10:30 a.m.

12 p.m. – Spaghetti lunch at the National Guard Armory, located at 149 S. Main Street. Cost: \$2; Veterans are free.

2:30 p.m. – Post 24, located on 8th Avenue, will honor local area veterans who have lost their lives this year with a ceremony and a memorial balloon release.

4:30 to 6:30 p.m. – Veterans Day Chili Feed at the Elks Lodge 2146, located at 611 N. Main Street. Cost: \$4; Veterans are free.

7 to 9 p.m. – *Tribute to Veterans and Troops* hosted and sponsored by the Elks at the Lodge.

Contact: Alice Thomsen, 541-938-6889,
Email: alicethomsen@charter.net

Milwaukie

Nov. 6 - 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Milwaukie High School will host their 11th annual Living History Days. American military veterans will be sharing their stories with students in classrooms. All veterans from any era are invited to attend. After a free lunch, a recreated USO Show will honor all veterans. The school is located at 11300 S.E. 23rd Avenue.

Nov. 11 - 1 p.m. – Open House at American Legion Post 180, located at 2146 S.E. Monroe Street.

2 p.m. – Free potluck for all veterans and their families will be hosted at Post 180 with food provided by the Post Auxiliary.

2 p.m. to 4 p.m. – Live music provided by Portland American Legion Post 185. All veterans and their families are welcome.

Contact: Dee Sharpes, 503-557-7125

North Bend

Nov. 11 - 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. – American Legion Bay Area Post 34, located at 1421 Airport Way, will host the annual breakfast. Cost: \$5 and \$2.50 for children. The ceremony will commemorate the history of Veterans Day. A military guest speaker will be announced.

Contact: John Martin, 541-756-5314

Ontario

Nov. 11 - 10 a.m. (MST) – Annual Veterans Day parade sponsored by American Legion Post 67. The parade forms up in the 400-block of North Oregon Street and proceeds downtown to the Evergreen Cemetery located at 1155 South Park Blvd.

11 a.m. (MST) – Ceremony to honor all veterans will take place at the American Legion Memorial at the cemetery. Post 67 will conduct memorial services.

Contact: Steve Furrow, 541-881-1389,
or Bill Thomson,
541-889-6649 or 541-889-6344 (home)

Portland

Nov. 11 - 10 a.m. – Hollywood District Community Parade. Veterans, guests and local high school bands march from N.E. 40th Street and Tillamook to N.E. 40th and Sandy Blvd. Grand Marshals: WWII veterans and Medal of Honor recipient Robert Maxwell of Bend. Guest speaker: Larry Deibert, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, Vietnam veteran and Distinguished Service Cross recipient. A flyover has been requested.

Contact: Lynn Porter, 503-281-1800

1:30 p.m. – Hollywood Dignity Memorial and Oregon Health Care Foundation will honor veterans at Lincoln Memorial Park, located at 11801 S.E. Mt. Scott Blvd. Presentation: Warrior’s Medal of Valor and Mother’s Medal of Honor to older Veterans and other recipients. Monument dedication for Medal of Honor recipient, Jacob Volz. Ceremonial burial of Vietnam-era vault containing memorabilia left at the Dignity Memorial Traveling Vietnam Wall.

Contact: Daniel Serres, 503-771-1117

Prineville

Nov. 8 - 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Veterans will display their military memorabilia and speak with students in classrooms at Crook County High School, located at 1100 S.E. Lynn Blvd.

Nov. 10. – *A Salute to Veterans* presentation in the high school Commons during school hours. A public ceremony at 7 p.m. will include Oregon Army National Guard static displays, information booths, brief comments from local officials and a rifle light show from the Crook County Navy Junior ROTC.

Nov. 11 - 11 a.m. – Veterans Day Parade will start behind the Crook County Courthouse, 300 N.E. 3rd Street, and continue to the POW/MIA Memorial in Ochoco Creek Park.

2 to 4 p.m. – The American Legion and Auxiliary will prepare and serve a traditional ham dinner to all veterans, their families, and Blue Star families at the Veterans’ Club, 405 N. Main Street. No charge for the dinner; donations will be accepted.

Contacts: Sid Carter, 541-447-5304, or Donny,
donny.jackson@crookcounty.k12.or.us

Redmond

Nov. 11 - 11 a.m. – Veterans Day Parade in downtown Redmond. VFW Post 4108 will host a Chili Feed after the parade at the Post, located at 1636 S.W. Veterans’ Way. The event is co-sponsored by Post 4108, American Legion Post 44, and the Redmond Chamber of Commerce.

Contact: Lon Parker, VFW Post 4108, 541-548-1553

Roseburg

Nov. 11 - 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. – A pancake breakfast will be served at American Legion Post 45, located at 406 S.E. Oak Avenue.

11 a.m. – Douglas County Veterans Day Parade—the second largest in Oregon—will honor *The Greatest Americans Who Served*. Grand Marshals: Merchant Marine Veterans with several Merchant Marine chapters marching.

Contact: Mary Newman or Michele Nelson,
541-440-4219

Salem

Nov. 9 - 10:30 a.m. – Salem Senior Center joins with the Coalition of Troop Support in creating the care packages to send to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. Military memorabilia will be displayed all week. The community is encouraged to donate comfort items

Contact: Holli Crown, Salem Senior Center,
503-588-6303

Nov. 10 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. – The Marion County Historical Society and Mission Mill Museum will host guest speaker Dr. John Baker at 12 p.m. Baker will present the story of Camp Adair, the former WWII Army training center near Corvallis. Cost: Free to veterans and museum members; Adults \$6; Seniors \$5; Youth (ages 6-18) \$3. The museum is located at 1313 Mill Street S.E.

Contact: Kylie Pine, 503-585-7012, ext. 225
Email: kyliep@missionmill.org

Nov. 11 - 11:30 a.m. – The Salem Senior Center, located at the corner of Capitol and Erixon St. N.E., will host a ceremony. Guest speaker: Col. (ret) John Mistry. The Greater Salem Area Veterans will post the Colors. Entertainment: A live band performing music from various eras. A noon meal is provided: \$3 per person.

Contact: Holli Crown, Salem Senior Center,
503-588-6303

7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. – American Legion Post 9 is hosting a free breakfast for veterans and their families, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, located 725 Shipping Street N.E. (Priority service will be given to on-duty law enforcement officers, emergency medical crews and firefighters.)

Contact: Mike Robberstad, Post 9 Adjutant,
503-364-0261

7 p.m. – Salem Towne Community will honor all veterans in a ceremony for residents, families and guests. Patriotic music sing-along, special honors will be presented to all veterans, Taps to be played. Guest speaker: Paula Brown, Deputy Director, ODVA. Refreshments will follow. The Center is located at 2900 Oakcrest Drive, N.W., off Wallace Road.

Contact: Lew Crites, 503-507-3268

7 p.m. – Coalition of Troop Support is hosting their annual Troop Support Benefit at the Red Lion Hotel located on Market Street near I-5. Tickets: \$10, which includes food, dancing to live classic rock music and a silent auction. All funds raised will be used to purchase Christmas packages for Oregon/Southwest Washington military members serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Contact: Dustin Caldwell, 503-881-1420

Nov. 11 - 7 p.m. and Nov. 12 - 3 p.m. – *Honoring and Remembering Our Veterans*. The Willamette Master Chorus will honor and remember those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for freedom. A full professional orchestra will accompany the chorus and soloists. Performances: At Hudson Hall in the Mary Stuart Rogers Music Center at Willamette University. All veterans will be admitted for a reduced price of \$8.

Contact: For tickets;
www.WillametteMasterChorus.org,
or Jackson’s Books at 320 Liberty Street, S.E.

Sandy

Nov. 11 - 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. – Ceremonial tribute hosted by VFW Post 4273 and Auxiliary at the Sandy Veterans Memorial Statue located at Highway 26 and State Highway 211. Patriotic music will be played. The Post 4273 Color Guard and Rifle Team will participate.

12 p.m. – Community potluck at VFW Post 4273, located at 38452 Proctor Blvd.

Contact: Bert Key, 503-668-8418

**Events Continued
Next Page...**

Scappoose

Nov. 11 - 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. – VFW Post 4362 is sponsoring a Veterans Day service at the VFW Memorial located in Heritage Park. Keynote speaker: Roger Ege, past Dept. VFW Commander. A flyover has been requested.

Contact: Ron Urban, 503-543-7482

Seaside

Nov. 11 - 4 p.m. – American Legion Post 99 will be open for complete dinner and patriotic music sung by the *Sweet Adelines*. Open to the public. Cost: Free to Post 99 members; \$7.50 to all others. Post 99 is located at 1315 Broadway, east of Highway 101.

Contact: Roger Lowe, Post 99, 503-738-5111

Silverton

Nov. 11 - 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Boy Scout Troop 485 is co-sponsoring a ceremony at the new Silverton High School campus, located at 1456 Pine Street. Patriotic band music will be played. Guest speaker: State Rep. Jeff Kropf. Troop 485 will conduct a flag ceremony in honor of veterans who have died while serving their country. The community is encouraged to be involved in the Troop Care Package distribution by contacting the Silverton Roth's IGA or Safeway stores.

Contact: James Little, 503-873-6081

Springfield

Nov. 11 - 1:30 p.m. – Lane County Veterans Day Parade begins on Mohawk and Centennial and proceeds west to Pioneer and north to B and C Streets. The parade theme: *Guardians of Freedom*. Grand Marshals: U.S. Marine Corps Reserve members.

Contact: Dan Rupe, 541-345-5395,
or www.vetsdayparade.org

The Dalles

Nov. 11 - 11 a.m. – Mid-Columbia Veterans Day Parade begins at the National Guard Armory, located at 713 Webber Street, and will proceed downtown on 3rd Street and returns on 2nd Street.

12:30 p.m. – VFW Post 2471 will host a potluck dinner and program at the National Guard Armory.

Contacts: Olivia Hall, Pres., Post 2471
Auxiliary, 541-298-5670, Pat Lucas, Post 2471
Auxiliary, Sec., 541-298-2377

Tillamook

Nov. 11 - 8 to 11 a.m. – Volunteers at the Tillamook Air Museum will serve a traditional S.O.S. Breakfast. All donations will be presented to the Oregon Veterans' Home.

9:45 a.m. to Noon – Ceremony with guest speaker: Gary Herscher. Participants include: Tillamook Community Band, Bagpipers and the Civil Air Patrol. A flyover has been requested. The public is invited with free admission for all veterans.

Contact: Tillamook Air Museum, 503-842-1130

White City

Nov. 11 - 10 a.m. – Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center and Clinics, located at 8495 Crater Lake Highway, will host a ceremony in the Theatre. Guest speaker: Ashland Mayor John W. Morrison. Rogue Valley Symphony Band will offer a patriotic musical tribute. The Young Marines of Southern Oregon will present the Colors.

Contact: Tom Marshall, 541-826-2111, ext. 3585;
or James Cunningham, ext. 3796

Wilsonville

Nov. 11 and 12 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Korean War Veterans Association Oregon Trail Chapter will be on site, at the Korean War Memorial, to answer questions and be of service during daylight hours. The Memorial is located off Interstate 5 at exit 283, about 10 miles south of Portland, follow the signs to Town Center Park.

Contact: Howard Myers, 503-684-2846

Convention Notice:

*American Defenders
of Bataan Corregidor
62nd National Convention*

April 12-16, 2007
Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport
2200 Centreville Road
Herndon, VA 20170
For reservations call: 703-471-6700

Observance of Veterans Day Convoy

In 2003 the first annual Convoy was conducted the Sunday before Veterans Day to kick off the holiday observance and raise awareness of the highway named in honor of all veterans. Sunday November 5, 2006 the Convoy to observe this Veterans Day will travel The Veterans Memorial Highway (I-205). Starting at the Clark County Fairgrounds in Vancouver it will travel the full length of I-205 and end at the Korean War Memorial in Wilsonville where a free Salmon Bake will be provided.

The Grand Marshals of the event will be the families of Iraq and Afghanistan servicemembers deployed from Oregon and Washington followed by those who have already returned. All citizens and Veterans groups are encouraged to participate in this history-making event.

Vehicles in the Convoy will be entered into line on a first come first served basis which will accommodate up to 700 cars, trucks, vans, RV's or any individual-organization-motorcycle and/or civic clubs who are invited to participate. It is requested that participants fly the American Flag and drive with headlights on during the journey. There is no cost to participate. All citizens not able to join

the Convoy are encouraged to line the overpasses along I-205 in both states to show support.

Gates open to the fairgrounds at 7 a.m. and activities begin at 8 a.m. with entertainment from various bands and Native American flutes/drums. There will be a ceremony at 11 a.m. speakers include Jim Willis, Director of Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, and Iraqi veteran Luke Wilson. Clay Kesterson will speak representing families of the fallen soldiers. Master of Ceremonies is Portland's Chris Dudley. Multi organizational Honor Guards will present their Colors and the playing of Taps will follow a 21-gun salute. The radio voice of the Convoy will be The Wolf 99.5 FM.

The Convoy will depart at noon from the Clark County Fairgrounds. To reserve a spot in the sponsor parking area, you may donate a new un-wrapped toy to families of those deployed. This parking will be the first to leave, and will begin the Convoy. Contact the Coalition of Troop Support at 503-777-1701 or Vietnam Veterans of Oregon at 503-622-6084. Or visit the web site www.vvoamc.com for further information.



High Schools to Host Living History Days

Two high schools will be hosting an annual Living History Day in November to learn from, honor and highlight veterans and their military service.

For the eleventh consecutive year, veterans will be sharing their stories at Milwaukie High School on Monday, November 6. This year students will be giving special recognition to Korean War veterans. Any U.S. military veteran is invited to come and talk about their military experience to students and visitors alike in a classroom session.

After the veterans are served lunch and then introduced, a recreated USO Show will

be provided to honor current and former military members. Milwaukie High School is located at 11300 S.E. 23rd Avenue. For more information or to volunteer, call 503-659-5157.

McNary High School, located at 595 Chemawa Road in Keizer, will also be hosting a Living History Day on Friday, November 17, between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. Veterans will visit classrooms to share their stories and answer student's questions. The veterans will also join the students for lunch.

For more information or to volunteer call Jason at 503-399-3233.



NEWS -N- NOTES from the VA

VA 'Retro Pay' Began in September

Officials with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) said a small group of disabled military retirees in September became the first of 133,000 to receive lump-sum back payments. These refunds are tied to start-up challenges for two "concurrent receipt" programs enacted since 2003.

By October the trickle of back payments was expected to increase as another 40,000 retirees will have their catch-up payments deposited electronically in their bank accounts by either the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), DFAS or by both.

Back payments will vary in size from several hundred dollars up to \$10,000 or more. The average payment, by one estimate, will be \$3,700. Some retirees will receive two checks, one from the VA and another from DFAS. Before payments are deposited, affected retirees will get letters explaining reasons for the back pay and how the amounts were calculated.

Retirees can be eligible for both Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) and Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay (CRDP), but can receive only one. Almost all retirees in line for back pay have served 20 or more years in the military and all have disabilities that qualify them for CRDP or CRSC.

Pat Shine, DFAS' deputy director for operations, said that a majority of the back payments will be made within the next six months, with DFAS focusing first on older cases. Shine said it could take up to six more months to calculate and pay the most complex files which involve multiple VA rating adjustments. Since CRSC and CRDP began, shifts by retirees between these two types of payments, ex-spouse pay entitlements and other issues could require lengthy record searches and additional adjustments.

DFAS officials are calling the \$500 million back pay effort the "VA Retro Pay Project." Retirees don't need to apply. Until CRSC began on June 1, 2003, and CRDP began on January 1, 2004, all military retirees with service-related disabilities had to accept a dollar-for-dollar reduction in taxable retired pay in order to receive tax-free VA compensation.

A "VA Retro Award Hotline" has been set up to field questions from CRSC and CRDP recipients who believe they might qualify. That toll free number is 1-877-327-4457. A detailed explanation of the back pay program is on the DFAS website at www.dod.mil/dfas.

Court Expands Coverage For Vietnam Vets

In a landmark ruling, the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veteran Claims has decided that the previous U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' definition of "boots on the ground" for service in the Republic of Vietnam is unreasonable, and does not align with Congress' intent.

Additionally, the presumption of service connection for herbicide exposure should not be limited to those who set foot on Vietnam soil. The court cited that the law defines "service in the Republic of Vietnam" as including "service in the waters offshore, or service in other locations if the conditions of service involved duty or visitation in Vietnam."

The court cited that the definition of having set foot on land was ambiguous and "inconsistent with longstanding agency views, plainly erroneous in light of legislative and regulatory history, and unreasonable, and must be set aside."

The elimination of the "boots on the ground" definition opens the door to Blue Water Navy Vietnam veterans to file claims

based on the premise of "service in the waters offshore." These new standards present an opportunity for many Navy Vietnam veterans to file claims. These veterans are encouraged to contact their local Service Officer (see list on page 12), or the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) at 1-800-828-8801.

New VA Identification Cards Issued

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has announced that VA health care facilities are beginning an aggressive campaign to assure that enrolled veterans with old versions of its ID card are issued the new Veterans Identification Card (VIC).

VA decided to initiate the mass replacement to reduce veteran vulnerability to identity theft and to demonstrate VA's commitment to securing the confidential personal information of all enrolled veterans.

VA indicates that prior versions of its identification card display sensitive information (such as social security number and date of birth) on the front of the card. The new VIC, which was introduced in 2004, removed this sensitive information from the face of the card. VA hopes to complete the massive replacement program within the next 12 months. For more information on VA ID cards, contact the VA at 1-800-827-1000.

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs
Veterans' Home Loans - Veterans' Benefits - Conservatorship
Oregon Veterans' Home (skilled nursing & rehabilitative care)
503-373-2000 or 1-800-828-8801
ODVA Website: www.oregon.gov/odva

ODVA complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA provides that no qualified person with a disability shall be kept from participation in, or be denied a benefit of the services, programs, or activities of ODVA because of that disability. This publication is available in alternate formats. For this service, or concerns regarding ADA, contact the ADA Coordinator at 503-373-2380.

HIPAA Statement

The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) complies with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, known as HIPAA. You may obtain a copy of the ODVA Notice of Privacy Practices anytime by way of the following:

- * Access ODVA's website at www.oregon.gov/odva
- * Call ODVA at 1-800-828-8801 ext. 2141 or 503-373-2141
- * Write to ODVA's Privacy Officer to have a copy mailed to you; or
- * Ask for a copy the next time you visit ODVA.

Magazine Subscription Program

Thanks to the generosity of donors to the Magazine Subscription Program, veterans residing at the Oregon Veterans' Home enjoy reading current magazines.

The individuals listed below have recently joined dozens of previous donors in supporting this meaningful program. Their generosity is greatly appreciated by our veteran residents.

Dale Albee

Sgt Dick Wiley, USMC

Earl D. Reed

Al & Kris Panacy

Ron Lake

For information concerning the Magazine Subscription Program, please contact Linda Adams at the Oregon Veterans' Home by calling 1-800-846-8460 or 541-296-7152 or by e-mailing adamsl@odva.state.or.us.

Troops & Veterans Appreciation Day Recognized

The fourth annual Troops & Veterans Appreciation Day was held on September 23rd in McMinnville, Oregon. The annual event was attended by U.S. Armed Forces active duty servicemembers, veterans and their families. Many citizens brought personal care items to send to deployed troops.

ODVA Director Jim Willis served as the Master of Ceremonies for the event filled with citizen soldiers' first hand accounts of past and current war experiences. Event speakers included: World War II veteran Don Malarkey, E Company, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the U.S. Army 101st Airborne; Captain Kurt Storey, Annapolis Naval Academy graduate and Iraq war veteran; and Command Sergeant Major Thomas Moe, Joint Forces Headquarters, Oregon National Guard; First Lieutenant Peter Woods who was wounded and evacuated from Iraq and now heads up the Oregon Army National Guard Reintegration Program; and U.S. Army



reserve Captain and Iraq war veteran Carl Bronson.

Keynote speaker Major Ladd Shepard of the United States Marine Corps deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003, 2004, and 2005. Major Shepard also has served in the Western Pacific and Arabian Gulf with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit and Ethiopia and Eritrea on a United Nations

mission. He currently serves as the Commanding Officer of Marine Corps Recruiting Station Portland, which geographically covers Oregon, southwest Washington, and Alaska.

Entertainment for the event was provided in all fashions including musical tributes. Patriotic songs filled the air as a 21-Gun Salute of Cannons by Bravo Battery 2-218 Field Artillery Unit and "The Governor's Own" rang the bells of freedom and liberty. A rock-climbing wall was set up along with military uniform displays and other informational tables. The short-film "Reveille" was shown during an informal social/lunch hour.

Lunch sales and patriotic artwork, such as quilt wall-hangings, helped to raise funds for shipping packages to deployed servicemembers. This effort also makes funds available for military families in need while their loved ones are deployed.



Vets Comprise Large Percentage of Homelessness In U.S.

According to the most reliable federal data on homelessness, 23 percent of all homeless people in the United States, and 33 percent of all homeless men, are veterans.

In Oregon, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) reports a 2005 homeless veteran population of 6,940 while at the same time only 159 beds were available through the VA's Homeless Providers Grant.

Among the military servicemembers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, the VA is already reporting that approximately 20percent need treatment for mental health issues, which is one of the leading precursors to homelessness.

In April 2006, by Executive Order, Oregon Governor Kulongoski established the Ending Homelessness Advisory Council (EHAC). This Council will serve as the designated planning body for ending homelessness in Oregon. Because of this state's large homeless veteran population, a representative from the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) was selected to serve on this Council.

Many Oregonians already volunteer and do what they can to help in the fight against homelessness and aid these struggling veterans, but presently it is not enough. Here are some ways that citizens can make a difference.

• **Support emergency shelters** – Donate personal care items, clothing (new underwear, socks and T-shirts are always needed) and food. Or make a cash contribution.

• **Volunteer as mentors, counselors or legal aides** – Homeless veterans in transitional or supportive permanent housing often need assistance with things such as developing their basic life and social skills, employment training and placement, mental health or substance abuse counseling, and assistance with legal problems.



• **Raise funds for programs** – By working with churches, civic or business groups, schools, and veterans service organizations, community events can be planned and contributions collected. Ask that a share of proceeds from an established community event be donated to programs assisting the

homeless. Involve the local media to ensure benefactors are recognized for their support of America's veterans.

• **Volunteer at Stand Down programs** – These are two or three day events that give homeless veterans a secure, community-like retreat to receive healthcare and personal hygiene services, food, clothing, housing and employment referrals, and VA benefits counseling – all in one location.

• **Develop Homeless Veteran Burial Programs** – Several programs have been developed over the last few years to ensure that deceased homeless veterans receive the burial they are entitled to including military honors. These programs are the result of collaborative efforts involving funeral service providers, medical examiners, hospitals, VA regional offices and veterans service organizations.

The Council's membership includes representatives of both the public and private sector and will help the Governor in developing a ten-year plan as well as collaborating with communities to develop their local plans to improve programs and services for homeless individuals.

For more information about the council, visit the Governor's website at www.oregon.gov/Gov and view his press release dated August 30, 2006 or contact Roberto Franco at 503-986-6732 or e-mail at roberto.franco@hcs.state.or.us.




Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day



Surprise attacks on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941, by the air and naval forces of Imperial Japan, took more than 2,400 American lives. As a result, millions of American citizens were prompted to join U.S. military forces and defend our freedom. The United States would soon thereafter enter into World War II and fight the armies of militaristic tyrants. This generation, often referred to as America's greatest generation, would fight against the most ruthless regimes ever known.

National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day was set into motion in 1994 with Public Law 103-308, and provides an opportunity to reflect upon and recognize the selfless sacrifice of those Americans on that fateful day.

This year marks the 65th Anniversary since the attack on Pearl Harbor. Many Americans will fly the American Flag at half-staff on December 7, until sunset, to honor those killed at Pearl Harbor.

For information as to proper flying of the American Flag and the dates commonly recognized as appropriate dates to fly the flag at half staff, you can visit the ODVA website at www.oregon.gov/odva and follow the link titled 'Flag Status' or call the ODVA office at 1-800-828-8801 ext. 2284. 

Upcoming 2006 Military Reunions


98th Bomb Group will be holding their reunion on October 31 - November 6, 2006. The event will take place at the Holiday Inn & Resort in Orlando, Florida. For more information, contact Kenneth Laninga at 269-751-8231.

Western States Veterans of Underage Military Service will be holding their 6th annual reunion on November 10 and 11, 2006 at the Ramada Express Casino & Hotel in Laughlin, Nevada. For more information, contact Jack Lutz, Oregon Commander, VUMS at 503-569-0335.

Afghan-Iraqi Freedom Memorial Nears Veterans' Day Completion Date

The Afghan-Iraqi Freedom Memorial is currently under construction on the grounds of the Oregon Veterans' Building located at 700 Summer Street NE, in Salem. The Memorial will honor the sacrifices of all Oregon servicemembers who have served in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. The names of those who have paid the ultimate price while serving in these operations will be etched into the Memorial.

The actual construction of the Memorial began in early September and is on schedule to be completed the first week of November. Crews and volunteers have been working around the clock, seven days a week to ensure the project is completed on time.

The Memorial dedication ceremony will be held on Veterans Day, November 11, 2006, beginning at 2 p.m. at the site on the Veterans' Building grounds in Salem. The public is welcome to attend. 



Family members of those lost in the war, who were present on October 19, were given an opportunity to sandblast the names of their loved ones into the marble slab.



Director's Message from pg. 2

of veterans' issues and in 2002 was named First Citizen for the City of Wilsonville. Very proud of his Scottish heritage, Ron served as a guide for the Portland Police Highland Guard and at the time of his passing was in training as a Drum Major.


Space simply does not allow me the ability to express Ron's many contributions. Suffice it to say that when something needed to be done for veterans, active duty personnel or their families, Ron was first in line to help and to guide others. Ron's service will live on each time one of his many friends or family pause to remember him and his service to his community, our state and this nation. The motto of the Highland Guard may be the best

way to remember Ron's many contributions. Nunquam Obliviscar – Latin for "We Shall never Forget!"

On November 10th, we will celebrate the 231st birthday of the U.S. Marine Corps. Semper Fi Marines and Happy Birthday! Enjoy your day and thank you for your service to our State and Nation and the freedom you have provided and are providing to peoples around the world.

On December 7th, we will remember the attack on Pearl Harbor 65 years ago. Sadly, there are too few survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor with whom to remember this signature event in American history. It seems little to say thank you to them for their service

and sacrifice along with their brothers and sisters who served on Wake Island and the Philippines. Perhaps they will be satisfied in knowing that their courage and valor will never be forgotten in a period in our history when our very liberty was at risk from forces that intended to rule the world.

This Veterans Day we would do well to remember a slogan from World War II. "Remember Pearl Harbor" as we remember veterans of all wars in which our forces have served. May those who were lost in these wars rest in peace and those who live enjoy the gifts of freedom that they ensured for this generation and the ones that will follow in a nation bright with promise. 

VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICERS

County	Telephone Number	Service Officer
Baker	541-523-8223	..... Arda Johnson
Benton	541-758-1595	..... Don Johnson
Clackamas	503-650-5631	..... Janice Raisl
Clatsop	503-325-2429	..... Kenneth H. Rislow
Columbia	503-366-6580	..... Joseph Pyle
Coos	541-396-3121 Ext. 362	..... Mary Ann Sackett
Crook	541-447-5304	..... Sid Carter
Curry	541-247-3205 Ext. 205	..... Frank Van Meter
Deschutes	541-385-3214	..... Keith Macnamara
Douglas	541-440-4219	..... Mary Newman
Gilliam	1-888-804-1817	..... Vacant
Grant	541-575-1631	..... Bruce B. Makela
Harney	541-573-6024	..... Selina Westlake
Hood River	541-386-1080	..... Patrick Scranton
Jackson	541-774-7837	..... Marty Kimmel
Jefferson	541-475-5228	..... Tom Weiss
Josephine	541-474-1316	..... Lisa Shipley
Klamath	541-883-4274	..... Isabel Rodriguez
Lake	541-947-6043	..... G. Don Boone
Lane	541-682-4191	..... Joseph Reiley
Lincoln	541-574-6955	..... John Reed
Linn	541-967-3882	..... Pat Brillon
Malheur	541-889-6649	..... Bill Thomson
Marion	503-373-2085	..... ODVA
Morrow	541-676-5667	..... Juanita Cox
Multnomah	503-988-3620 Ext. 26123	..... Frank Freyer
Polk	503-373-2085	..... ODVA
Sherman	541-442-5248	..... Daryl V. Melzer
Tillamook	503-377-0294	..... Steve Weld
Umatilla	541-278-5482	..... Peggy Raines
Union	541-962-8802	..... Timothy H. Jederberg
Wallowa	541-426-3155 Ext. 241	..... Rene Beaudoin
Wasco	541-506-2502	..... Patrick Scranton
Washington	503-640-3489	..... Doug McEllven
Wheeler	1-888-804-1817	..... Vacant
Yamhill	503-434-7503	..... Debbie Gill

Service Organizations	Telephone Number	Service Officer
The American Legion	503-412-4771	..... Vacant
Veterans of Foreign Wars	503-412-4757	..... Jack Zule
Paralyzed Veterans of America	503-412-4762	..... Ken Fink
American Veterans (AMVETS)	503-412-4767	..... James Chubinsky
Military Order of the Purple Heart	503-412-4770	..... David Saylor
Disabled American Veterans	503-412-4750	..... Jay E. Woodbury

State Offices-ODVA	Telephone Number	Service Officer
Salem	1-800-692-9666 or 503-373-2085	..... Kelly Breshears Ron Jarchow Lacey Carter Tom Mann Gus Bedwell
Portland	503-412-4777	..... Deanna Barnes Ron Kincaid Linda McMillan Laura Henrichs Doug Yerke

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Evelyn F. Anderson 156 W Killdeer Roseburg, OR 97470 541-440-8445	Staryl C. Austin, Jr. 236 Kevin Way SE Salem, OR 97306 503-363-2508	Furlton M. Burns 8300 SW Brookridge Street Portland, OR 97225 503-236-7700
Walter R. Crews 11561 Blue Heron Ln NE Aurora, OR 97002 503-678-5592	Irv Fletcher 1272 Mayanna Drive Woodburn, OR 97071 503-981-4356	David Fairclo, Chair 20751 Amber Way Bend, OR 97701-8510 541-382-8281
Robert Haltiner 19138 Bedford Drive Oregon City, OR 97045 503-657-7085	Tino E. Ornelas 228 SW Meadow Drive Beaverton, OR 97006 503-844-9000	Charles E. Schmidt PO Box 1394 Hines, OR 97738 541-573-3130

Meetings of the Advisory Committee are held in the Director's Conference Room, Oregon Veterans' Building, 700 Summer Street NE, Salem, Oregon.

Special needs will be met for those who have a disability. For arrangements and meeting dates, please call 503-373-2383.

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