



# THE CENTURION

## DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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*Jack A Markell, Governor*

*Jeffrey W. Bullock, Secretary of State*

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*Paul Lardizzone, Chairman*

*Antonio Davila, Executive Director*

Apr-Jun 2010

## CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

It has been a very busy and eventful first quarter of the year. The Commission and the Secretary of State are pleased to welcome our new Administrator of the Delaware Veterans Home, Mr. Bill Peterson. We look forward to working side by side with Bill, who began his responsibilities on March 8, 2010. I would like to thank our staff at the Bear and Millsboro Veterans Memorial Cemeteries for their outstanding work during the past snow storms and in caring for our departed veterans and family members. Our entire staff remains committed to serving your needs, as well as those of your dependents. The Disabled American Veterans and the other coauthors of the Independent Budget (IB); AMVETS, Paralyzed Veterans of America and Veterans of Foreign Wars, who collectively represent millions of veterans, are applauding the administration's recently released budget request for FY 2011. The IB has always been an important road map for the administration and Congress of the United States. The coauthors are very pleased that the President's FY 2011 budget represents real continuing progress on delivering quality care for women veterans, as well as all veterans.

Sincerely,  
Paul V. Lardizzone  
Chairman

✿ THOUGHT FOR THE QUARTER ✿

*“If the dollar bill shrinks much more, George Washington will be forced to get a haircut.”*

## **MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES**

The Jewish War Veterans, Department of Delaware and the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs will host a Memorial Day Service on Sunday, May 30, 2010. The service will be held at the Memorial Bridge Plaza, Delaware Memorial Bridge, New Castle, Delaware, beginning at 10:30 AM. Following the services at the Memorial Bridge Plaza, the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs and the WAVES National, First State Unit 10, will conduct a service at the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Bear, Delaware, at 2:00 PM. For further information, please call (800) 344-9900 (in state only) or (302) 739-2792.

## **75<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NEWARK ARMED FORCES PARADE AND STATE MEMORIAL CEREMONIES**

For the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Council of the City of Newark and the Newark Memorial Day Committee would like to especially honor WWII veterans, their families and Gold Star Families. On Sunday, May 16, 2010, at 1 PM, our guests are welcome to participate as they wish; ride in the parade, sit on the reviewing stand, or view the event from the sidewalk. Come and help us celebrate 75 years of honoring our veterans.

## **KOREAN WAR VETERANS**

The Friends of American Veterans of Korean War (FAVKW) are extending an invitation to their annual 'Appreciation Dinner, Ceremony, Concert and Dancing, Symposium and Prayer' in honor of American Veterans of Korean War. More than 800 veterans and their spouses attended the 2009 Appreciation Event held in Las Vegas. This year's event will be held 13-14 JUN 2010 at The Orleans Hotel, 4500 W. Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas (1-800-675-3267, or [www.orleanscasino.com](http://www.orleanscasino.com)). Attendees do not have to be a member of the KWVA. All vets who served in Korea from 1945 to present are eligible to participate. FAVKW will be inviting as

many 1000-1200 American Korean War veterans from across the USA. They plan to provide a full accommodation for one night and two days (June 13: lunch, dinner and room/ June 14: breakfast and lunch) to veterans and their spouses if they come to the venue by their own expense for transportation. If you are interested in attending you should directly inform FAVKW via one of the below means. In early MAY they plan to send the formal invitation to all of those who informed their participation. To read the letter announcing this event and a complete a complete itinerary of events refer to the FAVKW Invitation Letter attached to this Bulletin:

- Mail to: FAVKW, 9636 Garden Grove Blvd. Suite 17, Garden Grove, CA 92844
  - Phone Call to: Mrs. Sunny Lee (1-562-922-3656) or Mr. Do-young Kim (1-714-452-3006)
  - E-mail to: [gasiri0112@yahoo.com](mailto:gasiri0112@yahoo.com)
- (KWVA Secretary Frank E. Coheel, letter dated January 15, 2010)*

## **VA EMERGENCY CARE UPDATE**

At some time in your life, you may need emergency care. For veterans enrolled in the VA Health Care system when it is not possible for you to go to a VA medical center, you should go to the nearest hospital that has an emergency room. If you are in an ambulance, the paramedics will usually take you to the closest emergency room. A medical emergency is when you have an injury or illness that is so severe that without immediate treatment, the injury or illness threatens your health or life. Use your best judgment in deciding whether or not it is a medical emergency. If you believe it is, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room. You do not need to call the VA before you obtain emergency care. However, if you are admitted, your family, friends or hospital staff should contact the nearest VA medical center as soon as possible to provide information about your emergency room visit. If the doctor wants to admit you to the hospital, and it is not an emergency you must obtain approval from the VA. You, a friend, a family member, or someone from the non-VA hospital must call the closest VA medical center and speak

to the patient transfer or patient administration representative. This must be done within 72 hours of your arrival at the emergency room. If a VA bed is available and if you can be safely transferred, you must be moved. If you refuse to be transferred, the VA will not pay for any further care. VA will not pay for emergency care if you are in jail. Usually the jail has responsibility for providing you with medical care. VA will only pay for emergency care outside the US if your emergency is related to a service-connected condition. Contact the VA Health Administration Center at (877) 345-8179. You can find more information on the Foreign Medical Program at <http://www.va.gov/hac/hacmain.asp>. All claims should be filed with the nearest VA medical center as quickly as possible. Time limits usually apply. You may have to pay for a portion of your emergency care dependent on several factors which vary according to the care you received. Your local VA medical center's patient benefits counselor can explain these and other factors and their impact on your particular circumstance. You can also get answers to your questions on the Health Administration Center Internet website at <http://www.va.gov/hac/hacmain.asp> under Non-VA Care. (<http://www.nonvacare.va.gov/emergencycare.asp>16, December 2009)

### **LOWE'S EXPANDS MILITARY DISCOUNTS**

Lowe's Companies, Inc. recently announced that it is expanding its support of the military by offering a 10% discount 24/7 to all military personnel who are active, reserve, retired or disabled veterans and their family members, with a valid, government-issued military ID card. All other military veterans will receive the 10% discount only on Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Veterans Day weekends. The discount is available on in-stock and Special Order purchases up to \$5,000. Excluded from the discount are sales via Lowes.com, previous sales, and purchases of services or gift cards. In addition, Lowe's has also extended benefits for its employees serving in the military and offers employment opportunities to military personnel after their military service has ended. Currently, more than 12,000 Lowe's employees are military veterans or

reservists. (EANGUS *Minuteman*, February 26, 2010)

### **IRS REFUND**

Are you expecting a tax refund from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) this year? If so, here are seven things you should know about checking the status of your refund once you have filed your federal tax return.

**1. Online Access to Refund Information.** Where's My Refund? are interactive tools on <http://www.irs.gov> and the fastest, easiest way to get information about your federal income tax refund. Whether you split your refund among several accounts, opted for direct deposit into one account, used part of your refund to buy U.S. savings bonds or asked the IRS to mail you a check.

**2. When to Check Refund Status.** If you e-file, you can get refund information 72 hours after the IRS acknowledges receipt of your return. If you file a paper return, refund information will generally be available three to four weeks after mailing your return.

**3. What You Need to Check Refund Status.** When checking the status of your refund, have your federal tax return handy. To get your personalized refund information you must enter:

- Your Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number.
- Your filing status which will be Single, Married Filing Joint Return, Married Filing Separate Return, Head of Household, or Qualifying Widow(er).
- Exact whole dollar refund amount shown on your tax return.

**4. What the Online Tool Will Tell You.** Once you enter your personal information, you could get several responses, including:

- Acknowledgement that your return was received and is in processing.
- The mailing date or direct deposit date of your refund.
- Notice that the IRS could not deliver your refund due to an incorrect address. In this instance, you may be able to change or correct your address online using Where's My Refund?.

**5. Customized Information.** Where's My Refund? also includes links to customized information based on your specific situation. The links guide you through the steps to resolve any issues affecting your refund. For example, if you do not get the refund within 28 days from the original IRS mailing date shown on Where's My Refund?, you may be able to start a refund trace.

**6. Visually Impaired Taxpayers.** Where's My Refund? is also accessible to visually impaired taxpayers who use the Job Access with Speech screen reader used with a Braille display and is compatible with different JAWS modes.

**7. Numbers to Call.** If you do not have internet access, you can check the status of your refund in English or Spanish by calling the IRS Refund Hotline at (800) 829-1954 or the IRS TeleTax System at (800) 829-4477. When calling, you must provide you or your spouse's Social Security number, filing status and the exact whole dollar refund amount shown on your return. Refund checks are normally sent out weekly on Fridays. If you check the status of your refund and are not given the date it will be issued, wait until the next week before checking back. (*My Federal Retirement Newsletter, March 1, 10*)

### **SSN AND DOD ID CARDS**

Phase Two of the process to remove printed Social Security numbers from retiree identification cards set to begin early this year has been delayed until further notice. When a new plan is made available to the Services, information will be advertised through Air Force retiree news outlets and other public affairs media. There are more than 1,500 ID card centers worldwide. To find the nearest center, refer to the RAPIDS site locator at [www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/owa/home](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/owa/home). Officials urge cardholders to call first to ensure duty hours and determine what documents are required. People must present two forms of identification and one must be an unexpired federal- or state-issued photo ID. (Afterburner article, February 2010)

### **SENIORS HEALTHCARE COSTS**

Seniors received no annual cost of living adjustment (COLA) for 2010, but drug costs and the premiums of prescription drug and Medicare Advantage plans are making some of the biggest jumps in years. Among those coping with the worst cost increases are nearly 11 million people enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans. Premiums of those plans have increased from 25%-32% on average, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. But 667,000 people with Medicare Advantage plans had to find a new plan altogether for 2010. Insurers cancelled some plans in response to new government spending cuts and requirements. The average monthly premium of Part D drug plans also rose 12%, and many enrollees of those plans are paying higher co-payments or co-insurance costs. According to a study released in May 09 by The Senior Citizens League (TSC), seniors' buying power has shrunk by 20% since 2000. If the Social Security COLA were based on the CPI-E, however, retirees with an average benefit of \$460 in 1984 would have received about \$12,856 more through the end of 2010. TSC is highly concerned that seniors are getting put through the wringer and the situation will continue next year. Government economists predict that there may be no COLA again in 2011. Healthcare reform legislation would require even deeper cuts to Medicare Advantage and changes to Part D that would raise premiums for high-income seniors under pending healthcare reform legislation. Unlike other senior advocacy organizations, TSC is strongly opposed to healthcare reform provisions that raise premiums, and out-of-pocket costs of beneficiaries. TSC believes that the steep increase in healthcare costs over the past year while the CPI went down and was minus (-1.7) through September 2009 vs. September 2008 is proof that the annual method of calculating the COLA is broken and must be replaced. TSC strongly supports new legislation that would more fairly and accurately base the annual COLA on a "seniors" CPI and guarantee that beneficiaries receive a minimum COLA of 3% every year. U.S. Representative Eliot Engel (D-NY-17) introduced the "Guaranteed 3% COLA for Seniors Act of 2009" (H.R.4193) in Congress on 3 DEC 09. It has since been referred to the House

Committee on Ways and Means, and the Committee on Education and Labor, where it is pending further action. The bill, if signed into law, would amend the Social Security Act with regard to the annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) Social Security beneficiaries receive. Currently, the COLA is based upon the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners (CPI-W), which tracks the spending patterns of young, urban workers. This legislation would calculate the COLA based upon the Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers (CPI-E), which tracks the spending patterns of seniors. Also, the bill would guarantee that the Social Security COLA is never less than 3%. (*TSCL Social Security and Medicare Advisor, Vol. 15, No. 2, January 25, 2010*)

### **AFTERDEPLOYMENT.ORG LAUNCHES ENHANCED WEBSITE**

*Site delivers “wide-ranging content”*

March 5th marked a major refresh of [Afterdeployment.org](http://www.afterdeployment.org). While the site’s essential mission to offer Web-based tools targeting behavioral health issues remains the same, the site’s re-engineered architecture and content management technologies deliver wide-ranging content from diverse sources, all within a common user experience. The new site, which is focused on the needs of the entire military community, showcases expanded content, easily accessed connections to real-time support, quick health tips and a “geo-locator” to find local providers. You can visit the site at: <http://www.afterdeployment.org>. (*NCHV Newsletter, March 2010*)

### **AN INTRODUCTION TO THE 2010 CENSUS**

*Counting Everyone Once — and Only Once — and In the Right Place*

The foundation of our American democracy is dependent on fair and equitable representation in Congress. In order to achieve an accurate assessment of the number and location of the people living within the nation’s borders, the U.S. Constitution mandates a census of the population every 10 years. The census population totals determine which states gain or lose representation

in Congress. It also determines the amount of state and federal funding communities receive over the course of the decade. 2010 Census data will directly affect how more than \$4 trillion is allocated to local, state and tribal governments over the next 10 years. In order for this funding allocation to be accomplished fairly and accurately, the goal of the decennial census is to count everybody, count them only once, and count them in the right place. The facts gathered in the census also help shape decisions for the rest of the decade about public health, neighborhood improvements, transportation, education, senior services and much more.

### **Reaching an Increasingly Diverse Population**

The goal of the 2010 Census is to count all residents living in the United States on April 1, 2010. The U.S. Census Bureau does not ask about the legal status of respondents in any of its surveys and census programs. To help ensure the nation’s increasingly diverse population can answer the questionnaire accurately and completely, about 13 million bilingual Spanish/English forms will be mailed to housing units in neighborhoods identified as requiring high levels of Spanish assistance. Additionally, questionnaires in Spanish, Chinese (Simplified), Korean, Vietnamese and Russian – as well as language guides in 59 languages – will be available on request.

### **10 Questions, 10 Minutes to Complete**

With one of the shortest questionnaires in history, the 2010 Census asks for name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship, and whether you own or rent your home. It takes only about 10 minutes for the average household to complete. Questions about how we live as a nation – our diversity, education, housing, jobs and more – are now covered in the American Community Survey, which is conducted every year throughout the decade and replaces the Census 2000 long-form questionnaire. Responses to the 2010 Census questionnaire are required by law. All responses are used for statistical purposes only, and all are strictly confidential. For more information, visit the 2010 Census Web site at <http://www.2010census.gov>.

### **RETIREE VOLUNTARY RECALL**

All the services have created programs for military retirees who want to return to duty. And many retirees are jumping at the chance. At the present time 974 Army enlisted members and officers volunteered to return to active duty after retirement. Since 9/11, 3,077 Army retirees have voluntarily returned to some period of active duty. Any Army retiree who has served at least 20 years of service and is under the age of 70 can apply for recall. Of course there is a rigorous fitness, security and need analysis before they are accepted. The other services have much smaller and more specialized recall programs. The Air Force established a voluntary program in JAN-DEC 09 for officers only and had 386 retirees return. Last year the Navy had 378 retired personnel and officers return to duty. The Navy says that most of them had very specialized skills- examples Doctors and Chaplains. The Marines had a small recall program for 300 senior non-commissioned officer positions FEB 08 to FEB 09 which were all filled. (*TREA, February 19, 2010*)

### **INFORMATION ON VIETNAM NAVAL OPERATIONS**

Compensation and Pension (C&P) Service has initiated a program to collect data on Vietnam naval operations for the purpose of providing regional offices with information to assist with development in *Haas* related disability claims based on herbicide exposure from Navy Veterans. To date, we have received verification from various sources showing that a number of offshore “blue water” naval vessels conducted operations on the inland “brown water” rivers and delta areas of Vietnam. We have also identified certain vessel types that operated primarily or exclusively on the inland waterways. The ships and dates of inland waterway service are listed below. If a Veteran’s service aboard one of these ships can be confirmed through military records during the time frames specified, then exposure to herbicide agents can be presumed without further development. All vessels of Inshore Fire Support [IFS] Division 93 during their entire Vietnam tour USS Carronade (IFS 1) USS Clarion River (LSMR 409) [Landing Ship, Medium,

Rocket] USS Francis River (LSMR 525) USS White River (LSMR 536). All vessels with the designation LST [Landing Ship, Tank] during their entire tour [WWII ships converted to transport supplies on rivers and serve as barracks for brown water Mobile Riverine Forces]. All vessels with the designation LCVP [Landing Craft, Vehicle, Personnel] during their entire tour. All vessels with the designation PCF [Patrol Craft, Fast] during their entire tour [Also called Swift Boats, operating for enemy interdiction on close coastal waters] All vessels with the designation PBR [Patrol Boat, River] during their entire tour [Also called River Patrol Boats as part of the Mobile Riverine Forces operating on inland waterways and featured in the Vietnam film “Apocalypse Now”] USS Ingersoll (DD-652) [Destroyer] [Operated on Saigon River, October 24-25, 1965] USS Mansfield (DD-728) [Destroyer] [Operated on Saigon River August 8-19, 1967 and December 21-24, 1968] USS Richard E. Kraus (DD-849) [Destroyer] [Operated on coastal inlet north of Da Nang, June 2-5, 1966, protecting Marines holding a bridge] USS Basilone (DD-824) [Destroyer] [Operated on Saigon River, May 24-25, 1966] USS Hamner (DD-718) [Destroyer] [Operated on Song Lon Tao and Long Song Tao Rivers, August 15-September 1, 1966] USS Conway (DD-507) [Destroyer] [Operated on Saigon River, early August 1966] USS Fiske (DD-842) [Destroyer] [Operated on Mekong River, June 16-21, 1966] USS Black (DD-666) [Destroyer] [Operated on Saigon River, July 13-19, 1966] USS Providence (CLG-6) [Cruiser, Light, Guided Missile] [Operated on Saigon River 3 days during January 1964] USS Mahan (DLG-11) [Guided Missile Frigate] [Operated on Saigon River October 24 28, 1964] USS Okanogan (APA-220) [Attack Transport] [Operated on Saigon River July 22-23, 29-30, 1968 and August 5-6, 1968] USS Niagara Falls (AFS-3) [Combat Stores Ship] [Unloaded supplies on Saigon River and Cam Rahn Bay, April 22-25, 1968] (*VA Newsletter, January 2010*)

### **VA TARGETS \$39 MILLION FOR HOMELESS VETERANS**

*Women, Tribal Services Are Special Priorities*

The Department of Veterans Affairs is allocating \$39 million to fund about 2,200 new transitional housing beds through grants to local providers. “VA is committed to ending the cycle of homelessness among Veterans,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “We will use every tool at our disposal – health care, education, jobs, safe housing – to ensure our Veterans are restored to lives with dignity, purpose and safety.” About \$24 million in grants are available to provide 1,000 transitional housing beds. These grants are designated for the renovation or rehabilitation of space to create transitional housing for Veterans. The grants focus a priority on housing for homeless women and housing on tribal lands. A second group of grants, valued at about \$15 million, is expected to fund about 1,200 new beds in transitional housing. These grants will be awarded to homeless providers who already have suitable transitional housing. The grants will provide per diem based on the number of homeless Veterans being served in transitional housing. VA is the largest federal provider of direct assistance to the homeless, with 14,000 transitional beds in operation or development. About 107,000 Veterans are homeless on a typical night. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki has committed the department to ending homelessness among Veterans within five years. For more information and applications can be found on VA’s Web page for the grant and per diem program at [www.va.gov/homeless](http://www.va.gov/homeless) or contact VA’s program office at 1-877-332-0334, or e-mail VA at [homelessvets@va.gov](mailto:homelessvets@va.gov). (VA Newsletter, January 2010)

### **NEW MEMBERS APPOINTED TO COMMITTEE ON WOMEN VETERANS**

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki has appointed six new members to the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans, an expert panel that advises the Department of Veterans Affairs on a wide array of issues affecting women Veterans. “VA remains committed to providing quality, timely care for women Veterans, and improving their access to benefits and services,” said Secretary Shinseki. “This committee shapes VA’s efforts to

address the diverse and ever changing needs of women Veterans.” The new committee members are Matrice W. Browne from Olney, Md; Valerie Cortazzo from Pittsburgh, Penn.; Karen S. Etzler from Amazonia, Mo; Lindsay M. Long from Knoxville, Tenn.; Gundel M. E. Metz from Madison, Wis.; and Kayla Williams from Ashburn, Va. Established in 1983, the advisory committee makes recommendations to the Secretary for administrative and legislative changes. The committee members are appointed to one-, two-, or three-year terms. Women Veterans are one of the fastest growing segments of the Veterans population. There are 23 million Veterans; approximately 1.8 million are women Veterans. They comprise nearly 8 percent of the total Veterans population and nearly 5 percent of all Veterans who use VA health care services. VA estimates that by 2020 women Veterans will comprise 10 percent of the Veteran population. VA has women Veterans program managers at VA medical centers and women Veterans coordinators at VA regional offices to assist women Veterans with health and benefits issues.

#### **VA Advisory Committee on Women Veterans**

Dr. Matrice Browne, Olney, Md. -- A retired Army colonel; currently in private practice, specializing in women’s health and gynecology. She also serves as adjunct assistant professor of obstetrics/gynecology at two universities.

Valerie Cortazzo, Pittsburgh, Penn. -- A former Navy third class petty officer, a former VA employee, currently an advocate for Veterans in southwestern Pennsylvania, specializing in mental health and women’s issues.

Karen S. Etzler, Amazonia, Mo. -- A former U.S. Air Force staff sergeant, currently serves as a Veterans service officer and the women Veteran coordinator for the Missouri Veterans Commission.

Lindsay M. Long, Knoxville, Tenn. -- A former Marine lance corporal, currently works as a chemical operator for a private contractor, and serves as the American Indian representative for the Department of Energy’s Native American Committee.

Gundel M. E. Metz, Madison, Wis. -- A retired Army sergeant first class; currently serves as a

Women Veterans Coordinator for the State of Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs.

Kayla Williams, Ashburn, Va. -- A former Army sergeant with service in Iraq, currently a project associate in a private research organization, conducting research and analysis on intelligence, defense, military and Veterans issues. (VA Newsletter, March 16, 2010)

## TAPS

It's a song burned into the American consciousness, a tune that wafts over both sleep and death. And it's a piece that some believe hasn't been given the recognition it deserves. What has come to be known as 'Taps' --- 24 notes that floated from a Civil War encampment at nightfall to become the tune that sends to their final rests fallen troops, policemen and firefighters, departed veterans and even presidents of the United States --- may soon be given a more official place in the roster of national melodies. "My idea is to have [Taps] recognized as our National Song of Remembrance," said Jari Villanueva, a retired trumpet and bugle player for the U.S. Air Force Band who may very well be the country's leading authority on Taps. A veteran of more than 5,000 ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, Villanueva was an adviser on bugle calls for the movie 'Gods and Generals.' He has researched Taps, written about it, debunked myths about it (it was not found by a Union officer on the body of his son, a Confederate soldier) and offers what is probably the best history yet of the tune on a West Point Web site. Now, along with fellow bugler Les Hampton, a Navy vet, Villanueva is working with a New York lawmaker to get Congress to officially recognize "Taps" as a song of remembrance. They hope to have this done in time for the 150th anniversary of "Taps" in 2012. As far as who would be officially eligible to have Taps played at their funeral if it does become the National Song of Remembrance, Villanueva takes a broad view. Besides troops and veterans, he said, police officers, firefighters, first responders, public health service workers --- even the Boy Scouts. "My feeling is if you rate a flag on your coffin you rate Taps." According to Villanueva, the music of

Taps had its origins in "Extinguish Lights," an end-of-day bugle call adapted from a French tune. But in 1862, while encamped at Harrison's Landing, Va., Union Army Gen. Daniel Butterfield revised the tune - holding certain notes longer, etc. Taps was quickly picked up by other buglers in other units, and after the Civil War, became an official Army bugle call. Villanueva and Hampton met several years ago through playing memorial services and began thinking of ways to bring attention to the need for Taps players. The rising numbers of World War II and Korea vets passing away, as well as troop losses in Iraq and Afghanistan, has resulted in greater demand for buglers. Several years ago the military began making a bugle insert that played Taps available to veterans groups. The discrete device plays the notes while the "bugler" --- standing away from the grave site --- holds the instrument to his lips and pretends to play. "It's something that's used a lot now. It is disappointing, but sometimes no one bothers to look for a live bugler. It's a matter of convenience." Villanueva said. While brainstorming the fake bugler problem they hit on the idea of elevating Taps to an official national song. Hampton said Rep. John Hall (D-NY), has been working with them to frame legislation. According to Villanueva, the earliest official reference to Taps for a military funeral is found in Army regulations from 1891. But he says it was doubtlessly used unofficially long before then, though still called 'Extinguish Lights'. Later still officials from other countries came up with their own versions of Taps, some sounding very much like the Army's. A French general wrote 'Aux Morts' ('To the Dead') --- after hearing Taps, Villanueva said; it sounds much like Taps and has the same number of notes. The Germans came up with a solo trumpet call later, as did the Italians. The British wrote and adopted "The Last Post" after "Taps" became known, and that song is now played by all Commonwealth countries for its fallen troops and veterans, Villanueva said. As part of their efforts to raise awareness of "Taps," the two have set up an online petition and hope to get as many names in support as possible. They're also producing a CD that will include 'Extinguish

Lights,' Taps, and other tunes that were inspired by Taps. (*Military.com, Feb 2010*)

**VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS**

**Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs**

(New Castle County) - Mr. John K. Williams - located in Bear, DE, may be reached Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM, (302) 834-8046. Please call for an appointment.

(Kent County) – Mrs. Melanie E. Bronov - Dover office - may be reached Monday –Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM, (302) 739-2792 or (800) 344-9900 (in State). Please call for an appointment.

(Sussex County) - Ms. Laurie A. White - Pyle State Service Center located in Roxanna, DE, may be reached Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, (302) 732-9560. Please call for an appointment.

**MOBILE VETERANS SERVICE CENTER**

You may contact Ms. White at the Pyle State Service Center on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at (302) 732-9560. She will be at the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery (Millsboro) on Tuesdays and Thursdays, (302) 934-5653. Ms. White also provides services for veterans from the mobile Service Center at the following locations:

- APR 14 Home of the Brave
- APR 21 Nanticoke Senior Center
- FEB 24 Delaware Veterans Home
- MAY 05 Georgetown Cheer Center
- MAY 12 Home of the Brave
- MAY 19 Delaware Veterans Home
- MAY 26 Delaware Veterans Home
- JUN 02 Georgetown Cheer Center
- JUN 09 Home of the Brave
- JUN 16 Nanticoke Senior Center
- JUN 23 Delaware Veterans Home

**American Legion**

Robert McBride, Dept. Service Officer, (302) 993-7256, will visit the following posts between 9:00 AM and 12:00 NOON on the following dates:

- APR 16 Laurel Post #19 875-9948

- APR 23 David Harrison, Post 14 633-1711
- APR 30 Nanticoke Post 6 Seaford 629-9915
- MAY 07 Oak Orchard/Riverdale, 945-1673  
Post 28 (8:00-12:00)
- MAY 14 Walter L Fox, Post 2 674-3922
- MAY 21 Laurel Post #19 875-9948
- MAY 28 David Harrison, Post 14 633-1711
- JUN 04 Oak Orchard/Riverdale, 945-1673  
Post 28 (8:00-12:00)
- JUN 11 Walter L Fox, Post 2 674-3922
- JUN 18 Laurel Post #19 875-9948
- JUN 25 David Harrison, Post 14 633-1711

**Disabled American Veterans (DAV)**

DAV Dept. Service Officers: 302-697-9061

Paul Lardizzone: 302-382-3448

H. Mark Wischman: 302-382-3449

**Kent County Schedule:**

DAV Headquarters Building, 183 South Street, Camden, DE 19934

Monday thru Thursday 8:00-12:00 PM (Walk-ins)  
1:00-3:00 PM (Appt only)

**Sussex County Schedule:**

Department of Labor (Div of Employment & Trng)  
20093 Office Circle, Georgetown, DE 19947  
Thursday 8:00-12:00 PM (Walk-ins) 302-856-5230  
Kent & Sussex evening appointments prescheduled by request only.

**USN Veterans Association**

CDR Jim Anderson.....(302) 295-7051

**Paralyzed Veterans of America (DE/MD PVA)**

Darrell Johnson, Sr., National Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Room 26, Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 993-7252 or (302) 993-7253. Mr. Johnson will make home visits upon request for Vets who do not have transportation to the VA. He will be in the Oak Orchard area the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, Dover the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, and Frederica the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month.

**Purple Heart NSO (MOPH)**

National Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 993-7263 M-F 8:30 to 4:30 by appt only.

**Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)**

Terry Baker, National Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 993-7250 or (302) 993-7251.

**Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)**

James Withrow, Dept. Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Room 21, Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 993-7260 .

**1<sup>ST</sup> Thursday**

Delaware DOL (993-7260) 8:00-11:00 AM  
Milford VFW (422-4412) 1:30-4:00 PM

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday**

Delaware DOL (993-7260) 8:00-11:00 AM  
Milton VFW (684-4975) 1:30-4:00 PM

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday**

Delaware DOL (993-7260) 8:00-11:00 AM  
Rehoboth VFW (227-3469) 1:30-4:00 PM

**4<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

Delaware DOL (993-7260) 8:00-11:00 AM  
Seaford VFW (629-3092) 1:30-4:00 PM

**5<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

Delaware DOL (993-7260) 8:00-11:00 AM

NOTE: All persons interested in Outreach Services should first call our office so that some advance information may be obtained to accelerate the application process. Kent & Sussex County residents may call 1-302-993-7260. NOTE: persons desiring assistance at the Thursday-downstate locations should be at the Delaware DOL no later than 9:00 AM or at the afternoon locations by 2:00 PM. The VFW provides services to veterans and their dependents without respect to veteran service organization affiliation; membership in the VFW is NOT required for service.

**DELAWARE VETERANS HOME**

100 Delaware Veterans Blvd.....302-424-6000  
Milford, DE 19963

**DELAWARE VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY**

New Castle Co. Section (Bear, DE)...302-834-8046  
Sussex Co. Section (Millsboro, DE)...302-934-5653

**EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**

Al Barclift (Wilmington).....302-761-8093  
Allen Jones (Wilmington).....302-761-8141  
Toney Fragier (Newark).....302-368-6622  
Cliff Rumph (Dover).....302-857-5870  
Kevin Gunning (Dover).....302-857-5870  
Dawn Smith (Georgetown).....302-856-5230

**VETERANS ADMINISTRATION**

**VA Regional Office** (Claims & Benefits)  
1601 Kirkwood Hwy  
Wilmington, DE 19805.....1-800-827-1000

**VA Medical Center** (Healthcare)  
1601 Kirkwood Hwy  
Wilmington, DE 19805.....1-800-461-8262  
.....302-994-2511

Dover VA Outpatient Clinic  
1198 S. Governors Ave  
Dover, DE 19904.....1-800-461-8262 x2400

Georgetown VA Outpatient Clinic  
15 Georgetown Plaza  
Georgetown, DE 19947.....1-800-461-8262  
x2300

Readjustment Counseling  
Vet Center (New Castle Co.)1-800-461-8262 x5434  
Vet Center (Kent Co.).....1-800-461-8262 x2430

Veterans Outreach Program  
Listening Post – Lower Delaware.....302-424-1682

**RETIREE ACTIVITIES**

**Retired Activities Office**

MSgt (R) Bill Oldham ([woldham10@gmail.com](mailto:woldham10@gmail.com)),  
Bldg 520, Room 105, Dover AFB, DE 19902,  
(302) 677-4612.

**Retired Navy Activities Affairs Office**

Naval & Marine Corps Reserve Center, 3920  
Kirkwood Hwy, Wilmington, DE 19808, (302)  
998-5194.

**VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS POC**

Air Force Sergeants Association

Bill McMullen.....(302) 697-9750

American Legion

Richard "Ric" Santos.....(302) 628-5221

AMVETS

Albert Weir.....(302) 629-4141

Colonial Paralyzed Veterans of America

Ron Hoskins.....(302) 365-5670

Phyllis Palabrica.....(302) 365-5670

Delaware Gold Star Chair

Judy Campbell.....(302) 593-5991

DELVETS

Robert Wasson.....(302) 798-2951

Disabled American Veterans

Paul Lardizzone.....(302) 697-9061

40 & 8

Eugene "Chip" Rosan.....(302) 678-8077

Jewish War Veterans

Len Markovitz.....(302) 234-4785

Korean War Veterans Association

George Goss.....(302) 424-0461

Marine Corps League

James Thompson.....(302) 284-2708

Military Officers Association of America

Tom Kelly (New Castle Co.).....(302) 834-9659

Ron Sarg (Kent Co.).....(302) 678-1603

Dick Cecil (Sussex Co.).....(302) 645-0432

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Military Order of the Purple Heart

Cornelius "Bill" Carroll.....(302) 655-3820

Military Order of the World Wars

COL (Ret) Eugene A. Hebert.....(302) 335-0110

E-mail: [gene@hebert.net](mailto:gene@hebert.net)

The Reserve Officers Association

CWO John V. Hawkins, Sr. (Ret)...(302) 328-8115

U.S. Navy Veterans Association

Jim Anderson.....(302) 295-7051

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Paul Phillips Jr.....(302) 656-5022

Vietnam Veterans of America

Tom Daws.....(302) 738-8875

WAVES Nat'l

Ruth Harden.....(302) 998-1373

**COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Commissioners may be reached by calling (800) 344-9900.

Paul Lardizzone (Chairman).....DAV

Jesse Kitson (Vice Chairman) .....VFW

Cornelius "Bill" Carroll.....MOPH

Robert P. Corsa.....VVA

Maurice Evans.....American Legion

George T. Goss.....KWVA

Ruth B. Harden.....WAVES NAT'L

Charles Keithley.....40 & 8

Joseph "Joe" Lank.....MOWW

Barry Newstadt.....JWV

Ronald G. Sarg.....MOAA

David W. Timberman.....CPVA

Jim Thompson.....MCL

Robert E. Wasson.....DELVETS

Albert W. Weir .....AMVETS

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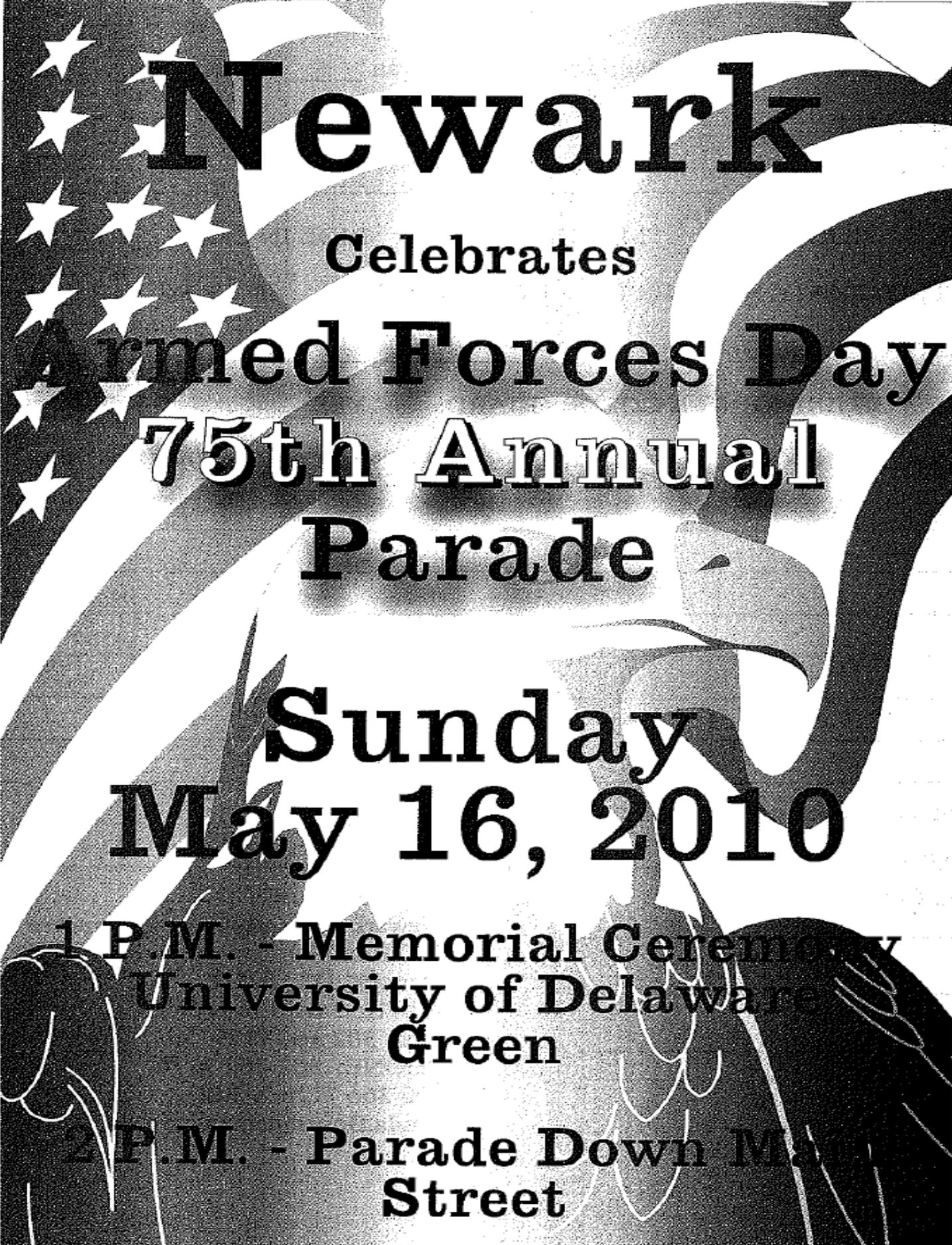
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For additional information contact: Lori Caputo, 951-256-4076, [LoriCaputo@eknowledge.com](mailto:LoriCaputo@eknowledge.com)



# Newark

Celebrates

Armed Forces Day

75th Annual

Parade

Sunday

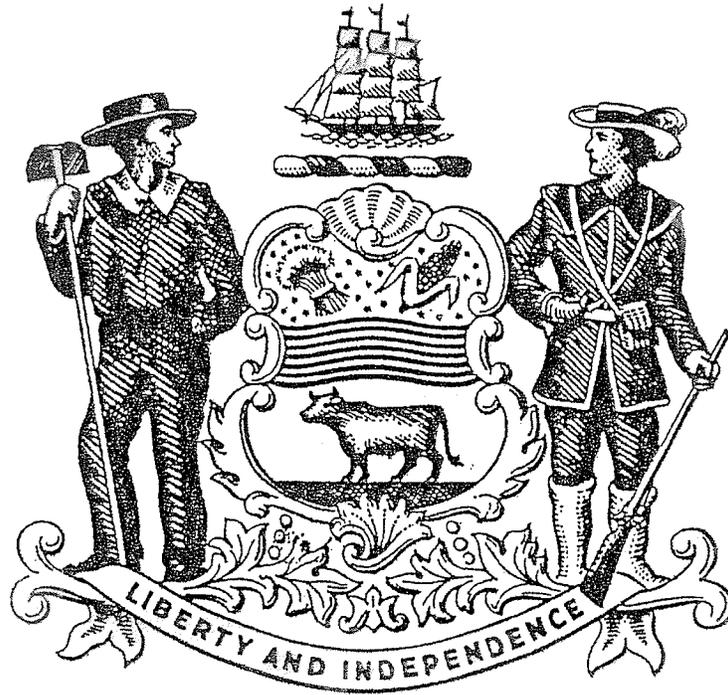
May 16, 2010

1 P.M. - Memorial Ceremony  
University of Delaware  
Green

2 P.M. - Parade Down Main  
Street

# STATE OF DELAWARE

"Serving Delaware's Veterans"



**Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs**  
**Robbins Building**  
**802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100**  
**Dover, Delaware 19904**

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