October 2022 Newsletter

ON POINT

North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

In This Issue

- ICYMI: In Case You Missed It
- DMVA Making a Difference
- At Work
- PSAs
- Leaderboard
- Save the Date
- Community Calendar



Turn your Lights Green for Veterans #NCgreen4Vets

Raleigh, N.C. – The North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (NCDMVA) is taking part in a statewide initiative for the week of November 7th - 13th - including Veterans Day. NCDMVA is urging residents,

businesses, and government facilities to turn their exterior lights green in honor of our servicemen and women.

NCDMVA and the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners who represent all 100 counties in the state, are asking everyone to participate in *"Operation Greenlight"*. This united effort will show recognition and support for veterans inclusive of all military branches.

It is part of NCDMVA's full-time mission and vision to create a state that fully accepts and supports active duty military, veterans, and their families to live where their full potential is realized and valued. It is our daily responsibility to educate the public about the challenges servicemen and women face, and bring forth available resources to assist veterans and their families.

> Please use: #NCgreen4Vets @ncdmva @nc.dmva

Show your support via social media!

#ICYMI



Eastern Band Cherokee Veterans Honored at the 110th Cherokee Indian Fair

October 7th marked a special date when men and women veterans of the armed forces, Principal Chief Richard Sneed, NCDMVA secretary Lt. Gen. Walter Gaskin, and Eastern Band Cherokee citizens, gathered to offer honor, respect, and show gratitude for our military heroes, and heroines, at *Veteran's Honor Day* during the 110th Cherokee Indian fair week.

North Carolina Defense Summit 2022

2022 NORTH CAROLINA DEFENSE SUMMIT | RALEIGH, NC | SEPTEMBER 27



The 2022 and inaugural North Carolina Defense Summit was well attended and measured as a very successful event for our defense community, active duty personnel, veterans, all NC military installations and their surrounding communities.

Stakeholders from across North Carolina and the greater mid-

Atlantic region converged at the Crabtree Valley Marriott in Raleigh, to discuss our Installations, community advocacy, quality of life, military contracting, energy resilience, and legislative initiatives.

The popular NC4ME military hiring event took place concurrent with the summit where attendees were hired on the spot. Many North Carolina agencies including the North Carolina Departments of Public Safety, Information Technology, and the Office of State Human Resources participated in the day long activities. Other well-known agencies, companies and organizations that engaged included Pike Co., Smithfield Foods, Paloalto Networks, Dominion Energy, and MetLife.



Vets to Vets United "5K9 Dog Jog"

NCDMVA Secretary, Lt. Gen. Walter Gaskin, gave remarks at the Vets To Vets United's 5 - K - 9 Dog Jog at the WakeMed Soccer Park in Cary. Vets To Vets is a nonprofit organization that provides; service, therapeutic, and emotional support animals, as well as free and/or discounted veterinary care for our veterans' service animals.

These specially trained service animals are given to veterans who are struggling with loneliness, depression, Post Traumatic Stress, Traumatic Brain Injury, and physical disabilities. This organization's efforts also significantly reduce the number of animals euthanized at the local animal shelters as North Carolina has one of the highest euthanasia rates in the country.





See more photos <u>here</u>

NCDMVA Making a Difference!

I'd been trying for over 11 years to get my VA benefits. My VSO helped me receive my benefits in about 3 months.

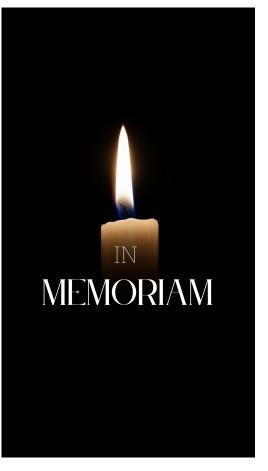
The money was *lifechanging* for me and my family!

I can't thank him enough!

James S. Davidson County, NC

NCDMVA At Work

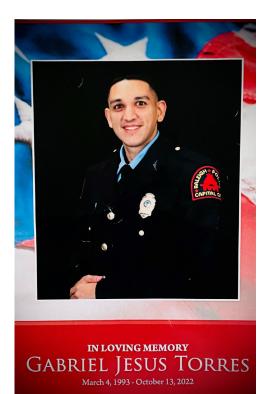
Salute To Officer Gabriel Torres



Today and every day, we honor fallen Raleigh Police Department Officer Gabriel Torres, who was also a U.S. Marine Corps veteran killed in the Raleigh mass shooting. At the memorial service on October 22nd, Retired Lt. General, USMC and NCDMVA Secretary Walter Gaskin paid tribute to Torres and offered support for his family. Seargeant Torres will be remembered for his legacy of service to the City of Raleigh, our state, and nation.

Semper Fi

NCDMVA Staff would like to thank Officer Torres for his service!



Public Service Announcements



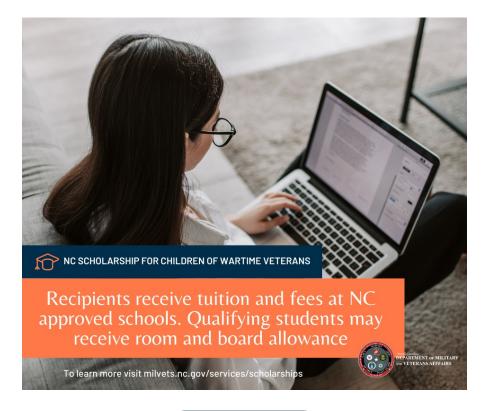
Camp Lejeune Water Contamination

From at least 1953 through 1985, Marines and personnel of any branch of the armed forces and their families stationed at Camp Lejeune's main base, barracks, family, temporary housing, Tarawa Terrace and Hadnot Point may have consumed, and bathed in, water contaminated with toxins at concentrations from 240 to 3400 times levels permitted by safety standards.

Monetary relief may be provided for those injured by exposure to the Camp Lejeune base and its toxic water by^[45] 30 days of "living" or "working" or "otherwise" being exposed between 1953 and 1987 is the prerequisite for compensation. For more information contact your local veteran service office or click below to learn more from the U.S Department of Veterans Affairs.

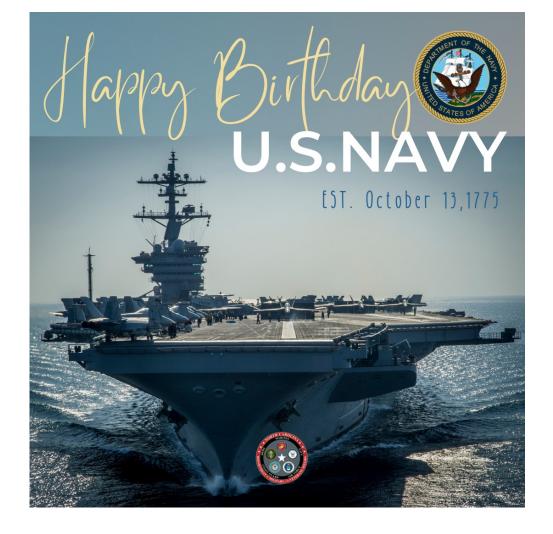
Learn More Here

Apply: NC Scholarship for Children of Wartime Veterans



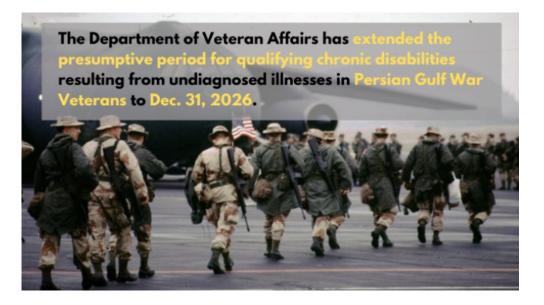
More information

Happy Birthday U.S. Navy



Extension of Gulf War Presumptive Period

The Department of Veterans Affairs has extended the presumptive period for qualifying chronic disabilities resulting from undiagnosed illnesses in Persian Gulf War Veterans to December 31, 2026. To learn more about VA and Gulf War Veterans, <u>click here</u>.



To learn more about VA and Gulf War Veterans, click the button below.

More information



Join VA's Education Network

Join VA's GI Bill® network by applying for education benefits! You'll gain access to tools and funding that help you pursue your educational and career goals, no toggling or troubleshooting needed.

Connect with your benefits by clicking the button below.

More Information

You are not alone! Connect with Care Now.



VA's top clinical priority is preventing suicide among all Veterans — including those who do not, and may never, seek care within the VA health care system. As a Veteran, you can play a role in fulfilling this mission, and VA can equip you with tools to do your part. You can explore <u>suicide prevention resources</u> to build networks of support among community-based organizations, Veterans Service Organizations, health care providers, and other members of your community that strengthen protective factors for Veterans.

Leaderboard



Veteran Service Officer Mr. Alex Sepez.

NCDMVA Welcomes to the Team Alex Sepez

NCDMVA is pleased to welcome aboard Alex Sepez. Alex is the newest Veteran Service Officer in his hometown of Morganton, North Carolina. He joined the military immediately after high school and served 12 years with the Army Reserve as a Human Intelligence Collector.

VSO Sepez deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan while serving. Alex has a bachelor's degree in Psychology and is currently pursuing a master's in Clinical and Mental Health Psychology. He hopes to use his education to serve veterans dealing with PTSD. Alex enjoys hiking and photography.

Welcome to the DMVA Family!

Save the Date



Veterans Benefits Live

VA in My Town | WILMINGTON | NORTH CAROLINA

Hosted by Winston-Salem VA Regional Office

November 17, 18, 19, 2022

Location:

American Legion Post 10 702 Pine Grove Dr. Wilmington, NC

Hours: Thursday, Nov. 17th and Friday, Nov. 18th: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19th: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.



- VA Disability Compensation and Pension claims filing and assistance for Veteran and Widow benefits
- · Veteran Readiness and Employment benefits
- VA Life Insurance, Home Loan, and Education information
- VHA Health Care benefits and on-site enrollment
- VA National Cemetery Administration Memorial Benefits
- Social services, including caregiver support and home health care
- · Mental health counseling resources
- Homeless, low-income housing and vocational support services
- Volunteer and employment opportunities
- VA Mobile Vet Center
- Vendors and services from community partners
- And much more!

For more information: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/veterans-benefits-live-vain-my-town-wilmington-2022-tickets-429249776637



*COVID safety measures will be enforced in accordance with current State or Federal guidelines

JOIN US FOR CARY'S ANNUAL

Friday, November 4 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Prestonwood Country Club

eterans LUNCHEON

"Lunch for the Brave: Serving & Honoring our Veterans"



November 11th

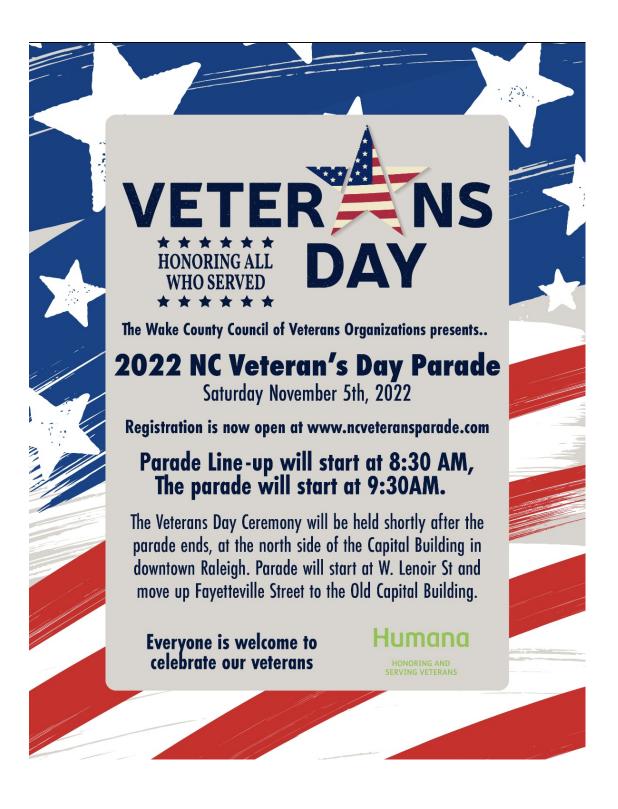


2022 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Makes a Stop at NC State Veterans Home in Kinston

November 11, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. North Carolina Veterans Home 2150 Hull Rd. Kinston, NC 28504

The U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree and staff will honor and recognize our veterans with a special stop at the North Carolina Veterans Home in Kinston on Veterans Day, November 11th.

Kinston is located in the Coastal Plains region of Eastern North Carolina. It is home to the CSS Neuse Civil War Interpretive Center, an educational museum that tells the story of the Civil War in the United States, and the CSS Neuse, one of 26 ironclad ships commissioned by the Confederate navy.



October 2022

<u>Oct 24-28 Patriots Path Post-Military Career Transition Program for Women Vets and</u> <u>Service Members only, Virtual</u> Oct 26 National Day of the Deployed <u>Oct 26 JOB NC State University - Veterans Bridge Home Vet2VetCareer Fair, Raleigh</u> Oct 27 UNC-Charlotte - Veterans Bridge Home Vet2Vet Career Networking, Charlotte November 2022 Nov 5 Salute to Veterans Parade, Charlotte Nov 5 2022 NC Veterans Day Parade & Ceremony Nov 5 Patriot Gala, Charlotte Nov 10 US Marine Corps Birthday Nov 10 PAT Annual Freedom Breakfast, Charlotte Nov 11 Veterans Day Nov 11 Veterans for Hope Breakfast, Dur Nov 11 Carolinas Veterans Day Festival, Charlotte Nov 13 Vietnam Memorial Dedicated Nov 19 Hero Run 5K & 1K Fun Run, Charlotte Nov 19 Combat Logistics Battalion 451's Official 247th Marine Corps Birthday Ball, Charlotte

Want to be included in a future issue?

To recommend content, news, and resources for future issues or to find more information, please connect with us at <u>publisher@milvets.nc.gov</u>. You can view previous issues <u>here</u>.

Share your news



North Carolina DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

The North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (NCDMVA) supports both active and reserve uniformed military personnel and their families; military installations and communities; and military veterans and their families in North Carolina. The Department seeks to provide timely and responsive engagement to enhance North Carolina's current military and veteran friendly environment. In addition, the department also seeks to foster and promote business, technology, transportation, education, economic development, and healthcare for the above communities. Lastly, the Department works to accomplish these services by providing assistance and coordination between the Federal Government, the State of North Carolina, its political subdivisions, and collaborative and supporting agencies.

Let's Get Social!

Connect with us on social media for more news, updates, issue reports, action calls, and time sensitive items of note.



NC DMVA | www.milvets.nc.gov

NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs | 413 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27603

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