

Your monthly news & updates

In this edition of On Point, the department brings to light up and coming events, information on the North Carolina 2020 Census initiative, free tax return preparation for current military service members, and information on North Carolina scholarships for Children of Wartime Veterans.

Visit our Website

Military Spouse & Family Expo

The NC DMVA, along with other state cabinet agencies, partnered with the USO of NC and the Fort Bragg Family Welfare and Recreation Center to host the first ever Military Spouse and Family Expo on January 30th. The expo was held at the Fort Bragg Soldier Support Center, located on Fort Bragg. This event is just one example of Governor Roy Cooper's commitment to supporting North Carolina's military families.

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NC First Lady Kristin Copper talks with military spouses at the Military Spouse and Family Expo. Photo by Barry Morris

FEATURED EVENT

2020 African American Veteran Lineage Day

The NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (NC DMVA) will conduct its 2nd North Carolina African American Veterans Lineage Day Ceremony and Documentary to honor and salute living African American service members who broke the Marines, Air force, and Army color barrier and rose above a rank higher than cooks or stewards.

The Department would like to extend an invitation to all to join us on Thursday, February 13th, 12-2pm. More details on the event can be found on our website Please take a moment to review the 1st NC DMVA African American Veterans Lineage Day Veteran Chronicles Trailer of 2019 Inductees.

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NC DMVA North Carolina Scholarship for Children of Wartime Veterans

NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs administers the North Carolina Scholarship for Children of Wartime Veterans Program which was created to show its appreciation for the services and sacrifices of its war veterans. The scholarship program applies to North Carolina colleges and universities. Over 20,000 scholarships have been awarded to children of North Carolina veterans. The approaching deadline to apply is this month. Click the link below to find out more details.



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Making Sure Our Veterans Count

Every 10 years, the federal government gets a chance to count the number of people who make up the population of



the United States. The census aims to count the entire population of the country, and at the location where each person usually lives.

The census asks questions of people in homes and group living situations, including; how many people live or stay in each home, and the sex, age and race of each person. The goal is to count everyone once, only once, and in the right place. The Census is important because when you respond to the census, you help your community gets its fair share of the more than \$675 billion per year in federal funds spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs. Every benefits when you participate in the census. To learn more about the census and why you should participate, visit https://census.nc.gov/



For Your Information

Free Tax Filing and Tax Preparation For Military Members

One of the little-known benefits of being in the military is access to free tax filing and preparation services. There are several options for military personnel to file their taxes, including free tax preparation assistance on base, and free tax prep software you can use to prepare your own taxes and file your taxes online. Some local communities may also offer free tax preparation.



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Disabled Veterans and Caregivers to Gain Access to Exchanges, Commissaries, and Recreation Facilities in 2020

The Military Wallet has an depth website with information on extended benefits for veterans starting in 2020. The article also points out that a large group of veterans and military caregivers will now have access to military facilities, including the Commissary, Exchanges, and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) locations. Read more on who is eligible, what access is covered, and which forms of required ID are required for base access.



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Events



February NC Governor's Working Group

Registration is now open for the February NCGWG meeting. Please register before February 24th to secure your spot. The Meeting will start at 2pm, with networking and coffee available starting at 1:30pm.

Meeting Topic: Veterans Employment

The Granville County Veterans Affairs Committee 6th Annual Veterans Appreciation

The Granville County Veterans Affairs Commitee is inviting all Veterans to its 6th Annual Veterans Appreciation event, held at the Granville County Expo and Convention Center. There will be guest speakers with presentations. The event is free to Veterans.



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Coastal Carolina participating in community outreach. Veterans Stand Down Feb 4, 2020 American Legion Post 265, Jacksonville, NC

Veterans Stand Down

The coastal region of human services agency NCServes, held it's Annual Veterans Stand Down community

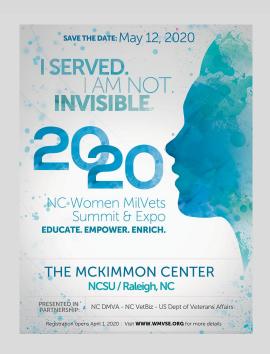


outreach at American Legion Post 265 in Jacksonville this week. The Stand down exposed veterans and families to community resources, employment opportunities, as well as provided food and clothing to those in need. The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs participated and assisted veterans with benefits and other resources.

NC Women MilVets Summit & Expo

The N.C. Department of Military & Veterans Affairs and other partners, will sponsor a special event designed to Empower, Educate and Enrich the lives of North Carolina's women who served or are serving in our military. More information will be places on our website in the coming weeks.

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Remembrance

Commemorating the 75th Anniversary of Iwo Jima



The Battle of Iwo Jima took place between February 19th and March 26,1945 and was a major battle where the American invasion captured the island of Iwo Jima from the Imperial Japaneses Army during World War II. This was a five-week battle comprised of some of the fiercest and bloodies fighting of the Pacific War of World War II. Read more about this battle and its importance to world history.

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www.Milvets.nc.gov