

**From:** [Wayne Gatewood, Jr](#)  
**To:** [Wayne Gatewood, Jr](#)  
**Subject:** Veterans News For Monday, March 10, 2014  
**Date:** Monday, March 10, 2014 7:05:56 PM

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Happy Monday all. Hope everyone enjoyed a great weekend. Spring is right around the corner. Let's hope the snow storms are history!

**For Today:** *Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same.*

*Ronald Reagan*

**DOD Contracts Awarded for Monday, March 10, 2014.**

<http://www.defense.gov/contracts/contract.aspx?contractid=5238>

**Reserve Officers Association (ROA) SmartBrief for Monday, March 10, 2014.**

<http://www2.smartbrief.com/servlet/encodeServlet?issueid=6DAE7C9C-83DB-4E60-90A8-28FBDEFA6576C&sid=22cbe9eb-3ef0-4eca-8105-ef9f466dc32d>

**Southwest Veterans' Business Resource Center** – Presents an Open Forum - “How to pass the VA Certification Process.” Thursday, March 20, 2014, Perris, CA.

<http://wheremunitiesserveveterans.org/Events?eventId=866015&EventViewMode=EventDetails>

**Young Military Vets Show Strong Interest in Business Ownership.** Washington Business Journal Article.

<http://www.bizjournals.com/washington/how-to/buy-a-business/2014/03/young-military-vets-want-to-own-businesses.html>

**California Disabled Veteran Business Alliance (CADVBA) for Today.**

<http://track.namastelight.com/v/443/bb78f36a078aaa8877a9bdc6b869123db33dfad1903dcf53>

Prayers and Blessings for you and your loved ones and for our great Troops and their loved ones everywhere.

Best.....Wayne

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**VA HQ Veterans News for Monday, March 10, 2014. From Kevin Secor, VA VSO Liaison.**

1. **Senate staffers took secret CIA papers years before agency realized.**
2. **Putin doesn't see America as weak, former US ambassador to Moscow says.**
3. **US military presence in Africa growing in small ways.**
4. **Newport News Shipbuilding: Carrier funding prompts head scratching.**
5. **Drones now doing business in the skies above you.**
6. **Frustration in Afghan women's rights struggle.**
7. **Sinclair's sex assault accuser was ambitious soldier too.**
8. **Veterans covered under VA care meet requirements.**
9. **Group: Medicaid expansion would cover some vets.**
10. **Walz speaks to his supporters.**
11. **When Veterans Enter the Job Market.**
12. **Palmetto partnership will streamline process for veterans seeking employment.**
13. **Groups show vets how to market their abilities.**
14. **N.C. lawmakers questioning proposed changes to the military's Tricare [health system](#).**
15. **Pioneering heart surgeon dedicated to care of veterans.**
16. **Military Suicides Not Caused By Pharma [Drugs Say](#) Pharma-funded Military Consultants.**
17. **Suicide awareness hike a personal journey for Army reservist, mother.**
18. **When memories fade; living with a traumatic brain injury.**
19. **VA is offering TeleHealth [Services](#).**
20. **Women veterans honored at the University of Redlands.**

21. **'We have to learn how to come home,' veteran says at conference.**
  22. **More vets suffer from ALS, but the VA moves effectively to help.**
  23. **Post-Vietnam exposure.**
  24. **Great help from Temple VA hospital.**
  25. **Veteran settling into new home after Bryan facility couldn't afford to keep him.**
  26. **Navajo military veterans struggle with housing.**
  27. **Homeward bound.**
  28. **Apartment complex for homeless veterans underway at Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center.**
  29. **Indiana native Paralympian Joel Hunt continues to defy the odds.**
  30. **VVC student veterans get a helping hand.**
  31. **Advocates seek memorial for female veterans.**
  32. **Re-enactors remember soldiers killed during Battle of Hampton Roads.**
  33. **Kansas family to accept honor for WWII hero.**
  34. **Rediscovered trenches bring WWI to life in England.**
  35. **VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as March 10, 2014:**
  36. **Today in History:**
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1. **Senate staffers took secret CIA papers years before agency realized.** Democratic staffers of the Senate Intelligence Committee obtained classified documents at the center of a bitter struggle with the CIA some three years before the agency determined that the materials had been spirited out of a secret facility and demanded their return, according to U.S. officials.
  2. **Putin doesn't see America as weak, former US ambassador to Moscow says.** Plotting a U.S. response to Vladimir Putin's land grab in Ukraine requires an understanding that the Russian leader operates without a clear-cut foreign policy and out of "dual impulses" of asserting Moscow's power while courting Western approval, according to an American diplomat who observed him up close for five years.
  3. **US military presence in Africa growing in small ways.** Amid a surge of Islamic militancy in North Africa, a team of fewer than 50 U.S. special operations troops with a single helicopter arrived at a remote base in western Tunisia last month.
  4. **Newport News Shipbuilding: Carrier funding prompts head scratching.** This week's rollout of the Defense Department budget prompted as many questions as answers about the U.S. aircraft carrier fleet and the status of future big-ticket jobs at Newport News Shipbuilding.
  5. **Drones now doing business in the skies above you.** Drones, once known as weapons of war, are undergoing a dramatic makeover as a hot new business tool in the sky. But, as with unmanned military craft, domestic drones are prompting concerns over safety and privacy.
  6. **Frustration in Afghan women's rights struggle.** In 2009, the United States gave Wazhma Frogh the International Woman of Courage award for her women's rights activism in Afghanistan. In Frogh's office is a picture of then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton granting her the award as First Lady Michelle Obama smiles, clapping by her side. Four years later, trying to get away from an Afghan militia commander, she was denied a U.S. visa.
  7. **Sinclair's sex assault accuser was ambitious soldier too.** The Army captain who has accused Brig. Gen. Jeffrey A. Sinclair of sexually assaulting her during their three-year relationship was an ambitious soldier with plans to make the military her career, much like the boss she loved and admired.
  8. **Veterans covered under VA care meet requirements.** [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Clovis News Journal:** Veterans who already have Veteran Affairs health care are covered under the new American Care Act requirements.

9. [Group: Medicaid expansion would cover some vets.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The Virginian-Pilot:** About 21,100 veterans in Virginia and 4,100 of their spouses could qualify for health coverage under Medicaid if lawmakers decide to expand eligibility under the Affordable Care Act, according to estimates... Some are signed up for VA health care but could use Medicaid as supplemental coverage to more easily see doctors and other providers outside the VA system.
10. [Walz speaks to his supporters.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The Journal:** First District Congressman Tim Walz stopped in New Ulm on Sunday to speak to supporters at the American Legion club rooms... Asked about the backlog in Veteran Affairs Claims, Walz cited a lack of communication between the Veterans Health and Veterans Benefits Administration branch, as the major reason for the slow down.
11. [When Veterans Enter the Job Market.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The Wall Street Journal:** Fortunately, there are many resources available to help veterans adapt to the corporate world, offered by private companies, nonprofits and government. The Transition Assistance Program, for example, is offered jointly by the Defense Department, the Labor Department and the Department of Veterans Affairs. The program provides career counseling and classes to soldiers and their families.
12. [Palmetto partnership will streamline process for veterans seeking employment.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **SCNow.com:** One day after Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel's proposed spending reductions to shrink the U.S. military to pre-World War II levels, South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley unveiled her own plan to help the expected large influx of new veterans seeking employment.
13. [Groups show vets how to market their abilities.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Killeen Daily Herald:** The Texas Veterans Commission and the Army Career and Alumni Program are just two institutions that focus on teaching soldiers and veterans how to market those transferable skills.
14. [N.C. lawmakers questioning proposed changes to the military's Tricare health system.](#) Members of Congress who represent Fort Bragg are pressing defense officials for answers about changes to a military healthcare program.
15. [Pioneering heart surgeon dedicated to care of veterans.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Richmond Times-Dispatch:** Szentpetery, 75, has handed over leadership of the heart transplant program at McGuire Veterans Affairs Medical Center to surgical director Dr. Gundars Katlaps... But you will still find Szentpetery at the veterans hospital in South Richmond at least three days a week. He takes care of heart and lung patients and does two to three surgeries a week, usually of the lungs or esophagus.
16. [Military Suicides Not Caused By Pharma Drugs Say Pharma-funded Military Consultants.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **OpEdNews.com:** It took academic, government

and military researchers five years to say they don't really know what is causing military suicides but whatever it is--it isn't the psychoactive drugs they are prescribing and pushing.

17. [Suicide awareness hike a personal journey for Army reservist, mother.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Fayetteville Observer:** Come Saturday, Henderson and her mother, Inge, plan to embark on a 2,180-mile hike of the Appalachian Trail to raise awareness of the rising suicide rate among veterans and to undergo some emotional rehabilitation.
18. [When memories fade; living with a traumatic brain injury.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The Daily News:** With roughly 400,000 or 23 percent of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans having suffered a traumatic brain injury, according to the Institute of Medicine, the extent of TBI must not be ignored.
19. [VA is offering TeleHealth Services.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Knoxville Journal-Express:** Medical services offered by the VA Central Iowa Health Care System (VACIHCS) have expanded to include the use of telemedicine. Benefits include home access to medical services and less time on the road for veterans to meet with care providers.
20. [Women veterans honored at the University of Redlands.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Redlands Daily Facts:** Melissa Sparks of San Bernardino had never been to a luncheon that focused on women military veterans before... So when she received an invitation to attend Saturday's Women Veterans Appreciation Luncheon at the University of Redlands, the retired Coast Guardsman made plans to be there.
21. ['We have to learn how to come home,' veteran says at conference.](#) A well-timed bear hug from a Vietnam veteran persuaded Jonathan Wicks to put down the gun he'd raised to his head and start seeking therapy for the post-traumatic stress he developed after serving in Iraq.
22. [More vets suffer from ALS, but the VA moves effectively to help.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **News & Observer:** In fact, no one knows why U.S. military veterans are twice as likely to develop ALS than the general population... it is so devastating to its victims and their families that the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs have made a mission out of trying to reduce their suffering.
23. [Post-Vietnam exposure.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Daily Advertiser:** Months after the U.S. Government tucked tail and ran from the Vietnam War instead of finishing the mission, service members who worked on the C-123 transport planes and other aircraft used to spray the toxic chemical defoliant known as Agent Orange may have been sickened, according to a new study authored by health-policy professor Jeanne Mager Stellman at Columbia University.
24. [Great help from Temple VA hospital.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Temple Daily**

**Telegram:** The purpose of this letter is to heap praise upon the coronary unit where I have been treated like a king and I have now outlived my father and his father and mother. All three died at ages lower than 73 that I have now attained.

25. [Veteran settling into new home after Bryan facility couldn't afford to keep him.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The Bryan-College Station Eagle:** The 68-year-old's move came a week after he was told that the contract between Sherwood and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs under which his care fell was not being renewed and he would need to leave.
26. [Navajo military veterans struggle with housing.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Los Angeles Times:** Nearly 9,000 military veterans live on the reservation that straddles the New Mexico-Arizona border, more than half of them in what the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs says is substandard housing.
27. [Homeward bound.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Houston Chronicle:** In 2009, when President Barack Obama and Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric K. Shinseki announced the goal of ending Veteran homelessness, Mayor Parker accepted the challenge... The city believes that by 2015, no homeless veteran in Houston should have to wait longer than 30 days to find temporary or permanent housing.
28. [Apartment complex for homeless veterans underway at Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center.](#) Tuscaloosa News Michelle Lepianka Carter | The Tuscaloosa News ... from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and a \$210,000 grant from the City of Tuscaloosa.
29. [Indiana native Paralympian Joel Hunt continues to defy the odds.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The Indianapolis Star:** Now Hunt, who battled bureaucracy in his country long after he fought for it, is representing the United States in the Sochi Winter Paralympics. He is believed to be the first to do so with traumatic brain injury.
30. [VVC student veterans get a helping hand.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Victorville Daily Press:** Military veterans at Victor Valley College will now have the opportunity to gain \$250 annually in a scholarship set up by the school's Veterans Club.
31. [Advocates seek memorial for female veterans.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Albuquerque Journal:** The sculpture, designed and desired by Corrales sculptor and Air Force veteran Jennifer Northup, was meant to honor female handlers of military working dogs. More than that, it would be the first monument in the park to feature the image of a female veteran.
32. [Re-enactors remember soldiers killed during Battle of Hampton Roads.](#) A hymn rang out over the grounds of the Mariners' Museum Saturday afternoon. Civil War-era guns were fired in salute and a blue-clad bugler played taps. The grieving wife of a Union soldier killed 152 years ago laid a rose on the water in remembrance.

33. [Kansas family to accept honor for WWII hero](#). When Savannah Schwab was a young child in Fort Scott, she knew of her grandfather only as a mail carrier from Nebraska, not a World War II hero.
34. [Rediscovered trenches bring WWI to life in England](#). Two lines of trenches face off across No Man's Land. A soldier marches, rifle in hand, along a ditch. These are instantly familiar images of World War I — but this is Britain, a century on and an English Channel away from the battlefields of the Western Front.

### **35.VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as March 10, 2014:**

- **March 12, 2014.** House Veterans' Affairs Committee and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee will hold a joint hearing to receive the legislative presentations of Veterans Organizations: PVA, IAVA, GSW, WWP, FRA, AFSA, NCAO, AXPOW.
- **March 12, 2014.** SVAC, Full Committee, "U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2015."
- **March 13, 2014.** HVAC, Full Committee, "U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2015."
- **March 25, 2014.** SAC-MILCON-VA FY15 Budget Hearing.
- **March 25, 2014.** SVAC, Full Committee, "U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2015."
- **March 26, 2014.** House Veterans' Affairs Committee and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee will hold a joint hearing to receive the legislative presentations of The American Legion.
- **March 27, 2014.** HAC-MILCON-VA FY15 Budget Hearing.

### **36.Today in History:**

- [1762](#) – French [Huguenot Jean Calas](#), who had been wrongly convicted of killing his son, dies after being tortured by authorities; the event inspired [Voltaire](#) to begin a campaign for religious tolerance and legal reform.
- [1804](#) – [Louisiana Purchase](#): In [St. Louis, Missouri](#), a formal ceremony is conducted to transfer ownership of the [Louisiana Territory](#) from France to the United States.
- [1814](#) – [Napoleon I of France](#) is defeated at the [Battle of Laon](#) in France.
- [1816](#) – [Crossing of the Andes](#): A group of royalist scouts is captured during the [Action of Juncalito](#).
- [1830](#) – The [KNIL](#) also known as the Royal Netherlands East Indies Army is created.
- [1831](#) – The [French Foreign Legion](#) is established by King [Louis Philippe](#) to support his [war in Algeria](#).
- [1848](#) – The [Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo](#) is ratified by the [United States Senate](#), ending the [Mexican–American War](#).
- [1861](#) – El Hadj [Umar Tall](#) seizes the city of [Ségou](#), destroying the [Bambara Empire](#) of [Mali](#).
- [1876](#) – [Alexander Graham Bell](#) makes the first successful [telephone](#) call by saying "Mr.

Watson, come here, I want to see you."

- [1891](#) – [Almon Strowger](#), an undertaker in [Topeka, Kansas](#), patents the [Strowger switch](#), a device which led to the automation of telephone circuit switching.
- [1906](#) – The [Courrières mine disaster](#), Europe's worst ever, kills 1099 miners in Northern France.
- [1909](#) – By signing the [Anglo-Siamese Treaty of 1909](#), [Thailand](#) relinquishes its [sovereignty](#) over the [Malay states](#) of [Kedah](#), [Kelantan](#), [Perlis](#) and [Terengganu](#), which become [British protectorates](#).
- [1922](#) – [Mahatma Gandhi](#) is arrested in India, tried for [sedition](#), and sentenced to six years in prison, only to be released after nearly two years for an [appendicitis](#) operation.
- [1933](#) – An [earthquake](#) in [Long Beach, California](#) kills 115 people and causes an estimated \$40 million in damage.
- [1944](#) – [Greek Civil War](#): The [Political Committee of National Liberation](#) is established in Greece by the [National Liberation Front](#).
- [1945](#) – The [U.S. Army Air Force](#) firebombs [Tokyo](#), and the resulting [conflagration](#) kills more than 100,000 people, mostly civilians.
- [1952](#) – [Fulgencio Batista](#) leads a successful [coup](#) in [Cuba](#) and appoints himself as the "provisional president".
- [1959](#) – [Tibetan uprising](#): Fearing an abduction attempt by China, 300,000 [Tibetans](#) surround the [Dalai Lama](#)'s palace to prevent his removal.
- [1966](#) – Military Prime Minister of [South Vietnam](#) [Nguyen Cao Ky](#) sacked rival General [Nguyen Chanh Thi](#), precipitating [large-scale civil and military dissension](#) in parts of the nation.
- [1968](#) – [Vietnam War](#): [Battle of Lima Site 85](#), concluding the 11th with largest single ground combat loss of United States Air Force members (12) during that war.
- [1969](#) – In [Memphis, Tennessee](#), [James Earl Ray](#) pleads guilty to assassinating [Martin Luther King Jr.](#) He later unsuccessfully attempts to retract his plea.
- [1970](#) – Vietnam War: Captain [Ernest Medina](#) is charged by the U.S. Military with [My Lai](#) war crimes.
- [1975](#) – Vietnam War: [North Vietnamese](#) troops attack [Ban Me Thuot](#), [South Vietnam](#), on their way to capturing [Saigon](#).
- [1977](#) – [Rings of Uranus](#): Astronomers discover [rings](#) around [Uranus](#).
- [1980](#) – [Madeira School](#) headmistress [Jean Harris](#) shoots and kills Scarsdale diet doctor [Herman Tarnower](#)
- 1980 – Formation of the Irish [Army Ranger Wing](#).
- 1989 – The Second Red nose day was held on Friday 10 March 1989 with the Slogan: "Red Nose Day 2", and Raised £27million.
- [1990](#) – In [Haiti](#), [Prosper Avril](#) is ousted 18 months after seizing power in a [coup](#).
- [2000](#) – The [NASDAQ Composite stock market index](#) peaks at 5132.52, signaling the beginning of the end of the [dot-com boom](#).
- [2005](#) – [Tung Chee Hwa](#) resigns from his post as the first [chief executive of Hong Kong](#) after widespread public dissatisfaction of his tenure.
- [2006](#) – The [Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter](#) arrives at [Mars](#).

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VA HQ Veterans News for Saturday, March 8, 2014. From Kevin Secor, VA VSO Liaison.

1. [Pentagon outlines ideas for hybrid retirement system.](#)
2. [Commissaries to be run as a business, not a benefit.](#)
3. [Navy opens 267 Coastal Riverine Force jobs to women.](#)
4. [The last casualties: As a long war ends, risks still prove real.](#)

5. [Lawmakers seek extension of vets' unemployment benefits.](#)
  6. [Post-9/11 vet unemployment rate jumps to 9.2 percent.](#)
  7. [VA didn't pay some veterans' health costs, report says.](#)
  8. [Researchers link Iraq dust with some vets' lung problems.](#)
  9. [Preop PET Cuts Lung Cancer Surgery.](#)
  10. [Study ties troubled sleep to lower brain volume.](#)
  11. [Current Mental-Health Resources Fail Our Heroes.](#)
  12. ['We have to learn how to come home,' says veteran at conference.](#)
  13. [Heinrich Continues To Tackle Veterans Claims Backlog.](#)
  14. [Benefit sessions planned for women veterans.](#)
  15. [In-state tuition veteran bill stuck in Legislature.](#)
  16. [Building Bridges Between the Military and Universities.](#)
  17. [Glendale group assists homeless women veterans.](#)
  18. [Veterans to get help standing down.](#)
  19. [American Legion seeking comment on Cleveland VA medical center.](#)
  20. [VA Accountability: a Project of Concerned Veterans for America.](#)
  21. [VA2Vets Tour rolls through Georgia.](#)
  22. [Whistle-Blower Gets \\$63.9 Million as a Result of JPMorgan Settlement.](#)
  23. [Milwaukee VA center co-workers charged with trading prescription drugs.](#)
  24. [Bidders vie for a piece of aviation history.](#)
  25. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as March 8, 2014:
  26. Today in History:
1. [Pentagon outlines ideas for hybrid retirement system.](#) Amid attempts to reduce military personnel spending, the Pentagon on Thursday presented its official thinking on the politically touchy issue of how remake the military retirement system.
  2. [Commissaries to be run as a business, not a benefit.](#) Behind the plan to slash taxpayer support of commissaries is a concept Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and his senior advisors have embraced that base grocery stores should operate as a business and not a benefit.
  3. [Navy opens 267 Coastal Riverine Force jobs to women.](#) Women can now be assigned to the 267 combat positions in the Coastal Riverine Force that were previously closed to them, the Navy announced Friday.
  4. [The last casualties: As a long war ends, risks still prove real.](#) These days, 12 years after the start of America's longest war, far fewer U.S. troops are being killed or wounded in Afghanistan. The military's drawdown has picked up pace, and Afghans have begun to shoulder the brunt of the fighting. But the war continues to churn out American casualties by the dozen each week. Their injuries rarely make headlines.
  5. [Lawmakers seek extension of vets' unemployment benefits.](#) The Help Hire Our Heroes Act, which would continue training assistance for unemployed veterans, has been introduced in the House.
  6. [Post-9/11 vet unemployment rate jumps to 9.2 percent.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#)  
**Military Times:** The unemployment rate for post-9/11 veterans jumped in February, nearly erasing the gains of a few months ago, Bureau of Labor Statistics data show.



7. [VA didn't pay some veterans' health costs, report says. \*\*Hyperlink to Article USA Today:\*\*](#) Even as the Obama administration works to provide health coverage to millions of uninsured Americans, government investigators uncovered dozens of cases where the VA failed to cover emergency hospital costs for uninsured disabled veterans.
8. [Researchers link Iraq dust with some vets' lung problems. \*\*Hyperlink to Article Military Times:\*\*](#) Researchers at Stony Brook University in New York have coined the term “Iraq-Afghanistan war lung injury” to describe respiratory symptoms developed by some veterans — and they have duplicated the problem in mice, using dust from Camp Victory in Baghdad
9. [Preop PET Cuts Lung Cancer Surgery. \*\*Hyperlink to Article MedPage Today:\*\*](#) Routine preoperative PET imaging led to a significant reduction in unnecessary surgery for non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), a review of almost 1,000 cases showed.
10. [Study ties troubled sleep to lower brain volume. \*\*Hyperlink to Article Reuters:\*\*](#) People who have trouble sleeping tend to have less volume in certain regions of the brain than those without sleep problems, a new study of Persian Gulf War veterans suggests.
11. [Current Mental-Health Resources Fail Our Heroes. \*\*Hyperlink to Article Roll Call:\*\*](#) In January, the Department of Veterans Affairs reported that suicide rates for younger veterans, ages 18 to 29, had increased significantly from 2009 to 2011. The suicide rate for male veterans increased by 44 percent, while the rate among female veterans increased by 11 percent.
12. [‘We have to learn how to come home,’ says veteran at conference. \*\*Hyperlink to Article The News Tribune:\*\*](#) Wicks shared his story Friday with an audience of nearly 200 at the University of Washington Tacoma, urging them to show compassionate, nonjudgmental care for veterans leaving the military after the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan... His testimony was part of a conference on veterans and military families that was targeted at professionals in social work, counseling and human resources.
13. [Heinrich Continues To Tackle Veterans Claims Backlog. \*\*Hyperlink to Article KRWG-FM:\*\*](#) U.S. Senator Marin Heinrich (D-N.M.) joined his colleagues on the VA Backlog Working Group... to unveil the 21st Century Veterans Benefits Reform Act, a comprehensive bill designed to reduce the backlog of veterans' disability claims.
14. [Benefit sessions planned for women veterans. \*\*Hyperlink to Article The Stokes News:\*\*](#) “March is the month the Department of Veteran’s Affairs recognizes female veterans,” said Veterans Service Officer Larry Hunsucker. He said there are approximately 4,200 veterans in Stokes County. “From looking at recent data it is obvious that the female veteran population in Stokes County has increased. It is safe to assume that 15 percent of the population may be women who have served in active

duty.”

15. [In-state tuition veteran bill stuck in Legislature.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The News Tribune:** Even though there's bipartisan support in the Legislature for the idea that veterans should automatically get in-state tuition at Washington colleges and universities, bills to do just that are stuck because lawmakers can't agree who should get credit for the policy.
16. [Building Bridges Between the Military and Universities.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The New York Times (At War):** As the military downsizes and returns to pre-war force levels or below, many of those leaving the service will take advantage of the post-9/11 GI Bill to obtain a university education. At the same time, senior military leaders of the last decade are seeking post-retirement opportunities, with some turning to universities to take positions as lecturers.
17. [Glendale group assists homeless women veterans.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **YourWestValley.com:** The Retired Enlisted Association Chapter 34 in Glendale made a monetary donation on Feb. 13 to assist homeless women veterans... The goal is to raise awareness to the issue of homelessness among veterans. TREA supports military community outreach events.
18. [Veterans to get help standing down.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Bolivar Commercial:** After serving in the Vietnam War, many soldiers were relieved to hear the words, "Stand down soldier," from their commanding officers... The Gulf Coast Veteran Advocacy Council, Inc. and Taborian Urgent Care Center in Mound Bayou will host Mississippi's first Homeless Veterans Stand-Down.
19. [American Legion seeking comment on Cleveland VA medical center.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The Plain Dealer:** The American Legion will be seeking public input regarding the Louis Stokes Cleveland Veterans Affairs Medical Center in a town hall meeting on March 10.
20. [VA Accountability: a Project of Concerned Veterans for America.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Salem-News.com:** Suffice it to say, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is worried. News stories of persistent backlogs, destruction of records, and preventable deaths are flooding the airwaves -- and VA is in full-panic mode... Yet nothing has changed. Nobody has been fired. There is still no accountability inside VA's calcified bureaucracy.
21. [VA2Vets Tour rolls through Georgia.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **WAGA-TV (Video):** The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is rolling out the VA2Vets Tour to make sure eligible Veterans get the benefits that are available to them. The nationwide tour includes 70 RV's that are set up as mobile vet centers. They will roam the nation to reach as many counties as possible. The goal is to be accessible to Veterans who might otherwise not have access to a VA Center.

22. [Whistle-Blower Gets \\$63.9 Million as a Result of JPMorgan Settlement](#). [Hyperlink to Article The New York Times \(DealBook\)](#): A Louisiana man who helped federal prosecutors make their case against JPMorgan Chase's mortgage lending practices has earned \$63.9 million for his efforts.
23. [Milwaukee VA center co-workers charged with trading prescription drugs](#). [Hyperlink to Article Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#): Four co-workers have been charged with exchanging or selling their own prescription medications while on the job at the Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center.
24. [Bidders vie for a piece of aviation history](#). A rare piece of Pearl Harbor's Dec. 7, 1941, history that even the USS Arizona Memorial museum would like to have in its collection is up for sale on eBay.

## **25.VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as March 8, 2014:**

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## **26.Today in History:**

- **1658** – [Treaty of Roskilde](#): After a devastating defeat in the [Northern Wars](#) (1655–1661), [Frederick III](#), the King of [Denmark-Norway](#) is forced to give up nearly half his territory to [Sweden](#) to save the rest.
- **1702** – [Anne Stuart](#), sister of [Mary II](#), becomes [Queen regnant](#) of [England](#), [Scotland](#), and [Ireland](#).
- **1722** – The [Safavid Empire](#) of [Iran](#) is defeated by an army from [Afghanistan](#) at [The Battle of Gulnabad](#), pushing Iran into anarchy.
- **1736** – [Nader Shah](#), founder of the [Afsharid dynasty](#), is crowned [Shah of Iran](#).
- **1775** – An anonymous writer, thought by some to be [Thomas Paine](#), publishes "African Slavery in America", the first article in the American colonies calling for the

- [emancipation](#) of slaves and the abolition of slavery.
- [1777](#) – Regiments from [Ansbach and Bayreuth](#), sent to support [Great Britain](#) in the [American Revolutionary War](#), mutiny in the town of [Ochsenfurt](#).
  - [1782](#) – [Gnadenhütten massacre](#): Ninety-six [Native Americans](#) in [Gnadenhutten, Ohio](#), who had converted to [Christianity](#) are killed by [Pennsylvania](#) militiamen in retaliation for raids carried out by other Indians.
  - [1801](#) – [War of the Second Coalition](#): At the [Battle of Abukir](#), a British force under Sir [Ralph Abercromby](#) lands in Egypt with the aim of ending the [French campaign in Egypt and Syria](#).
  - [1817](#) – The [New York Stock Exchange](#) is founded.
  - [1844](#) – [King Oscar I](#) ascends to the thrones of [Sweden and Norway](#).
  - [1862](#) – [American Civil War](#): The iron-clad [CSS Virginia](#) (formerly [USS Merrimack](#)) is launched at [Hampton Roads, Virginia](#).
  - [1868](#) – [Sakai incident](#): Japanese [samurai](#) kill 11 French sailors in the port of [Sakai](#) near [Osaka](#).
  - [1910](#) – [French aviatrix Raymonde de Laroche](#) becomes the first woman to receive a [pilot's license](#).
  - [1911](#) – [International Women's Day](#) is launched in [Copenhagen, Denmark](#), by [Clara Zetkin](#), leader of the Women's Office for the Social Democratic Party in [Germany](#).
  - [1916](#) – [World War I](#): A [British](#) force unsuccessfully attempts to relieve the siege of [Kut](#) (present-day [Iraq](#)) in the [Battle of Dujaila](#).
  - [1917](#) – International Women's Day protests in [St. Petersburg](#) mark the beginning of the [February Revolution](#) (so named because it was February on the [Julian calendar](#)).
  - [1917](#) – The [United States Senate](#) votes to limit [filibusters](#) by adopting the [cloture rule](#).
  - [1920](#) – The [Arab Kingdom of Syria](#), the first modern [Arab](#) state to come into existence, is established.
  - [1921](#) – [Spanish Premier Eduardo Dato Iradier](#) is assassinated while exiting the [parliament](#) building in [Madrid](#).
  - [1924](#) – The [Castle Gate mine disaster](#) kills 172 coal miners near [Castle Gate, Utah](#).
  - [1936](#) – [Daytona Beach Road Course](#) holds its first oval [stock car](#) race.
  - [1937](#) – [Spanish Civil War](#): The [Battle of Guadalajara](#) begins.
  - [1942](#) – [World War II](#): The [Dutch](#) surrender to Japanese forces on [Java](#).
  - [1947](#) – Thirteen thousand troops sent by the [Kuomintang](#) government of [China](#) arrived in [Taiwan](#) after the [228 Incident](#) and launched crackdowns which killed at least thousands of people, including many elites. This turned into a major root of the [Taiwan independence movement](#).
  - [1949](#) – [Mildred Gillars](#) ("Axis Sally") is condemned to prison for treason.
  - [1957](#) – [Egypt](#) re-opens the [Suez Canal](#) after the [Suez Crisis](#).
  - [1957](#) – The [1957 Georgia Memorial to Congress](#), which petitions the [U.S. Congress](#) to declare the ratification of the 14th and 15th Amendments to the [U.S. Constitution](#) null and void, is adopted by the [U.S. state of Georgia](#).
  - [1963](#) – The [Ba'ath Party](#) comes to power in [Syria](#) in a [coup d'état](#) by a clique of quasi-leftist Syrian Army officers calling themselves the National Council of the Revolutionary Command.
  - [1966](#) – A bomb planted by [Irish Republicans](#) destroys [Nelson's Pillar](#) in [Dublin](#).
  - [1974](#) – [Charles de Gaulle Airport](#) opens in [Paris, France](#).
  - [1978](#) – The first radio episode of [The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy](#), by [Douglas Adams](#), is transmitted on [BBC Radio 4](#).
  - [1979](#) – [Philips](#) demonstrates the [Compact Disc](#) publicly for the first time.
  - [1983](#) – U.S. [President Ronald Reagan](#) calls the Soviet Union an "[evil empire](#)".

- [1985](#) – A [failed assassination attempt](#) on [Sayyed Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah](#) in [Beirut, Lebanon](#), kills at least 45 and injures 175 others.
- [2004](#) – A new [constitution](#) is signed by [Iraq's Governing Council](#).

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**From: Curt Cashour, House Committee On Veterans Affairs**  
**Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 5:14 PM**  
**Subj: ADVISORY: Sec. Shinseki to Testify Thursday on VA Budget**

**Media Advisory**

**For Immediate Release**

**Media Contact: Curt Cashour, (202) 225-3527**

**Sec. Shinseki to Testify Thursday on VA Budget**

WASHINGTON, D.C.—On Thursday, March 13, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. in room 334 of the Cannon House Office Building, the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs will hold a hearing examining President Obama's Department of Veterans Affairs fiscal year 2015 budget submission.

The Obama administration has requested \$163.9 billion in its fiscal year 2015 VA budget submission, a nearly 6.5 percent increase above fiscal year 2014 funding levels.

The purpose of this hearing is to determine how VA would use this funding increase to improve the quality, efficiency and timeliness of services to veterans while increasing accountability and transparency across the department.

The following event is open to the press:

**WHO:** House Committee on Veterans' Affairs

**WHAT:** Hearing: ["U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2015"](#)

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 13, 2014, 10:00 a.m.

**WHERE:** Room 334, Cannon House Office Building and streaming at [veterans.house.gov](#)

**Witness List**

The Honorable Eric Shinseki

Secretary

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

*For more news from the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, please visit:*

[Veterans.House.Gov](#)

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[@HouseVetAffairs](#)

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**From: JS Pentagon OCJCS Mailbox Warrior and Family Support**

**Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 6:43 PM**

**Subj: Warrior & Family Support News: Monday, 10 March 2014**

**CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED**

**LINK OF THE WEEK: [Warrior Care Blog - DoD Office of Warrior Care Policy](#)**

**WELLNESS**

**[George Korda: One military homecoming](#)**

Knoxville News Sentinel

**The soldier** squatted and smiled, as the saying goes, from ear to ear. ... 14 story by WATE-TV's Samantha Manning said, "The Knoxville-area **soldiers** are leaving Saturday morning for a year-long deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom ...

### [Post-traumatic stress disorder to be discussed at Lifetree Cafe' in Slidell](#)

The Times-Picayune

"Wounded Warriors: When War Comes Home" will explore **post-traumatic stress** disorder in the lives of military veterans and provide helpful resources and strategies for coping with **PTSD**. "This program will focus on men and women returning from military ...

### [How Shakespeare Helps These Wisconsin Veterans Suffering From PTSD](#)

WUWM

The Milwaukee-based organization uses the characters and words of Shakespeare to work with veterans suffering from **PTSD** and other mental health and reintegration issues. The goal of the weekend intensives are to give veterans the experience of feeling ...

## COMMUNITIES IN ACTION

### [Augusta Warrior Project plans first national symposium](#)

The Augusta Chronicle

Jim Lorraine, president and CEO of the Augusta Warrior Project, said the focus of the event is to build relationships and identify service gaps among community outreach groups to help veterans transition from the military into civilian life... the two-day conference will feature seven panel discussions on how to improve government collaboration, better reach and integrate veterans into the community, and raise awareness for veteran homelessness, education, employment and behavioral health issues.

### [Restaurant Hosts Wounded Warrior 5K Volunteer Event](#)

Patch.com

Organizers at Operation Welcome You Home are asking kids to help design the children's T-shirt kids will wear this year at the third annual **Wounded Warrior** 5K, slated for May 24 at Settlers' Park in Plainfield. The event, which drew nearly 900 runners...

### [Advocates seek memorial for female veterans](#)

ABQ Journal

Which is to say, he had fielded a few calls besides mine about the dust-up over a sculpture proposed for the **New Mexico Veterans'** Memorial Park, near Louisiana and Gibson SE. The sculpture, designed and desired by Corrales sculptor and Air Force...

### [Navajo military veterans struggle with housing](#)

Los Angeles Times

In February, however, Navajo leaders signed a contract with **Home Depot** in Farmington to purchase building materials for veterans' housing throughout the reservation. It's part of a \$1.9-million project, paid for by the Veterans Trust Fund, which Shelly...

## EMPLOYMENT

### [Pittsfield Police crime analyst helped by military intelligence background](#)

Berkshire Eagle

PITTSFIELD -- With training in **military** intelligence, Amanda O'Connor thought there was little chance she'd find civilian **employment** matching that skill in her native Berkshire County. But that changed for the 25-year-old Sheffield resident when the...

### [Swansboro gunsmiths set up shop](#)

Jacksonville Daily News

Customers have also been driven to the store partly due to a CBS 60 Minutes segment on Lang's involvement with six-month-long training **program Entrepreneurship** Bootcamp for **Veterans** with Disabilities and a full-page article about Stumpies in the March...

[Veterans make up growing share of federal workforce so why is their morale faltering?](#)

Federal News Radio

Nearly three in every 10 new employees hired by the federal government have worked for Uncle Sam before — in uniform. But even as the federal government has found success onboarding veteran employees, new questions have been raised about the workplace environments veterans are encountering...

[Welcome efforts to connect veterans to jobs](#)

TheNewsTribune.com

Senate Bill 6049, sponsored by Steve O'Ban, R-Tacoma, would give business and occupation tax credit to employers that provide full-time **jobs** to **veterans** who have been out of **work** for at least 30 days. The tax credit would be equal to 20 percent of the...

**EDUCATION**

[FAMU To Launch Specialized Department To Serve Military Veterans](#)

WCTV

According to Hudson, these numbers position FAMU to be a top producer of veterans earning degrees and subsequently **employment** opportunities after returning from active **military** duty. According to FAMU Professor of **Military** Science Lt. Col. Joseph D...

Best regards,

Randall E. "Smitty" Smith, Lt Col, USAF  
Deputy Director, Warrior & Family Support  
Office of the Chairman

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**Godspeed all.....Wayne**

**Wayne M. Gatewood, Jr., USMC (Ret)**

Founder/President/CEO

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***"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." - George Washington***