



Chattanooga Area Veterans Council

Serving veterans and their organizations of East Tennessee, North Georgia and North Alabama

Free Dental Care for Veterans

Aspen Dental dentists and teams are pleased to bring free dental care to veterans nationwide once again on June 25.

Some 400 Aspen Dental offices in 33 states will open their doors to serve veterans in their local communities as part of the Healthy Mouth Movement, a community giving initiative.

Interested veterans should call **1-844-ASPEN-HMM (844-277-3646)** to find a participating Aspen Dental office and schedule an appointment in advance. During appointments on June 25, volunteer dentists and teams will focus on treating the most urgent need of each veteran by providing free services – including fillings, extractions and basic denture repair – to help get them out of dental pain.

In 2015, nearly 300 Aspen Dental practices were honored to treat more than 3,500 veterans in one single day of care in June, resulting in nearly \$2 million in donated dentistry.

<https://www.aspendental.com/about/healthy-mouth-movement>

Colbie Errico, (202) 835-8810, Ketchum on behalf of Aspen Dental

06.25.16



ASPEN NATION

Post 14 Needs Volunteers for Fund Raiser

American Legion Post 14 will be parking cars at the Bessie Smith "Strut" on Monday evening, June 13th at the post 14 parking lot, Patten Parkway at Lindsey St. Volunteers are needed! Please arrive there around 5:00 pm. Plan to stay to around 8:30 pm. For more information contact Carl Levi at carlewi@epbfi.com.

Patten Parkway Renovation to Include War Memorials

At the CAVC meeting on Friday, 10 June, Linda Mines, City / County Historian, reported on the planned renovation of Patten Parkway. New apartments and commercial spaces will be bring new life to the area but the proposed veteran memorials will be the real jewel for Chattanooga area veterans. A new WW2 memorial at one end, a Vietnam War memorial at the other end, and possibly a Korean War memorial in the middle will provide places to reflect, respect and honor those who served and sacrificed.

DD-214s are NOW Online

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214s online:

<http://vetrecs.archives.gov/> or try [http://](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/)

www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/

This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files.

Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online web site.

Michael Henshaw Named Director of Chattanooga National Cemetery

Michael Henshaw was named Director of Chattanooga National Cemetery, effective April 3, 2016. He is responsible for all administrative, burial and maintenance operations at Chattanooga, Nashville and Knoxville National Cemeteries. He was previously assigned to the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) Office of Field Programs in Washington, D.C., from July 2015, as director of Dayton National Cemetery from February 2014 and director of Camp Butler National Cemetery from August 2013.



Before joining the Department of Veterans Affairs, he served as the Operations Officer for the Joint Mortuary Affairs Center at Ft. Lee, VA, where he deployed to Haiti as the DOD liaison to the Departments of State and Health and Human Services, where he led the search, recovery, identification and repatriation effort for all American citizens killed during the January 2010 earthquake. He subsequently served as the Emergency Management Officer for the Navy in Naples, Italy.

Mr. Henshaw retired from the U.S. Army in 2009 after 25 years of service, where he served as a mortuary affairs non-commissioned officer in charge of missing in action (MIA) search and recovery teams responsible for locating, recovering and repatriating the remains of U.S. Service Members missing overseas from World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam War. He also served as the operations officer for the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command detachments in Vientiane, Laos and Hanoi, Vietnam, and as the logistics advisor and senior team sergeant in the Chosin Reservoir area in North Korea. Mr. Henshaw led one of only two U.S. forensics teams deployed to recover and identify the remains of all American citizens killed during the 2004 South Asia Tsunami. He is a Veteran of both Operations Iraqi Freedom and Desert Storm. His last combat assignment was 2007-2008 as a military advisor on a specialized 11-man team embedded with an Iraqi Army Infantry Battalion at Combat Outpost Scorpion in Mosul, Iraq. Mr. Henshaw was awarded two Bronze Star Medals for combat operations during Operation Iraqi Freedom. His other awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, the Air Assault Badge, Combat Action Badge and numerous other awards and campaign medals.

Pops On The River Features Veteran Songwriters and Performers

The Chattanooga.com / Sunday, June 12, 2016

ArtsBuild announces that Pops on the River will take place on Independence Day, Saturday, July 4, in Coolidge Park, thanks to the support of the city of Chattanooga, along with sponsorship from Integrity Buick GMC Cadillac and Integrity Chevrolet. This community celebration will feature a free outdoor patriotic concert by the Chattanooga Symphony & Opera, as well as a fireworks finale over the Tennessee River.

This year the entertainment will start early with a tribute to veterans, featuring veteran songwriters from Operation Song and two other local and Nashville bands. Taking the stage at 5 p.m. will be the all-veteran hard rock band from Nashville called Ironslide. Following their set at 5:40 p.m., a few veteran songwriters



participating in the pilot music therapy program called Operation Song will take the stage along with Grammy-winning songwriter Bob Regan. Then from 6-6:40 p.m. Chattanooga-based Mitch Rossell and his band will perform a country music set in honor of veterans. The veterans' portion of the Pops on the River schedule is sponsored by SunTrust Bank. For more information about the innovative therapeutic mission of Operation Song for veterans and its pilot program in Chattanooga visit operationsong.org.

At 8 p.m., following an introduction by Mayor Andy Berke, the CSO will begin their patriotic program featuring Sousa Marches, the "Armed Forces Salute," and "Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture," as well as "Raiders March" from Raiders of the Lost Ark. The symphony will be directed by guest conductor Jacob Harrison, and the guest soloist will be local baritone, Brett Hyberger.

The fireworks display, shot from the neighboring Renaissance Park, will begin immediately upon the conclusion of the symphony's performance at approximately 9:45 p.m.

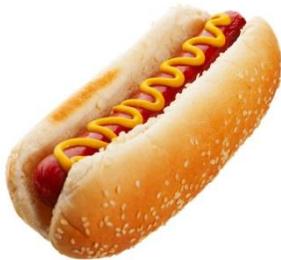
Individuals may offer financial support for Pops on the River by going to www.causeway.org/causes/pops-on-the-river-2015.

For more information on the event, visit www.chattanooga.com or call 265-0771.

Chattanooga VA Outpatient Clinic Cookout

Thursday, June 16, 2016, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Location: POINTE CENTER VA OPC
1208 Pointe Center Dr.
Chattanooga, TN, 37421



COOKOUT SPONSORED BY:
VFW - POST 3679
NATIONAL SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN
REVOLUTION - ALL CHAPTERS
COLONIAL DAMES
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION - JOHN SEVIER

Vietnam Veterans - HONORING THEIR SERVICE, SACRIFICE, AND VALOR – FIFTY YEARS AGO IN VIETNAM

The Buddhist Struggle Movement, as it came to be called, was gaining strength particularly in the northern part of the country. Premier Ky told GEN Westmoreland that the Struggle Movement virtually controlled the northern three provinces of the country and Buddhist leaders were suspected of being in contact with the Viet Cong. On May 15th a pro-government military force was sent to DaNang to take control of the city. American forces came into conflict several times defending bridges and the Hue airport. An ARVA officer was killed by an American and following his funeral in Hue a large mob burned the U. S. Information Service Library in Hue. Several monks immolated themselves in protest to the actions of the government and the Americans. This drew wide press coverage in the States.

On May 2nd the Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara privately reported to the President that the North Vietnamese were infiltrating approximately 4,500 men per month into the south. This was far greater than previous reports and in apparent response to the continued buildup of American and allied forces. American forces now numbered over 300,000 personnel with division level strengths in every Corp area.



Allied forces launched coordinated major operations throughout the country. They involved almost every combat unit in country. There was a total of 37 named operations in the month. These ranged from Marine units in search and destroy missions in I Corps south of the DMZ and around Hue to area denial missions in the central coast and highlands to clearance missions near Saigon and in the Delta. The military consensus was the operations by themselves were successful in routing out some enemy strongholds. But many of the tactics

utilized in clearance operations (burning houses and in some cases whole villages, napalm use, and indiscriminate fire along the rivers) did not succeed in winning any hearts and minds of the people and at that time probably strengthened the Viet Cong. This was particularly true in the Mekong Delta.



On May 23rd the cruiser USS Long Beach on patrol in the South China Sea scored the first shoot down of a MIG fighter with a surface to air Talos Missile.

During May two Medals of Honor were awarded to men serving in the 1st Cavalry Division. (Airmobile). Staff Sergeant Jimmy G. Stewart from Ashland, KY serving with Company B, 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry, was in a defensive position on the morning of May 12th with his squad when they were ambushed by a reinforced North Vietnamese Company. Every man in SSgt Stewart's squad was wounded but him. He became a one man defense force for four harrowing hours. When a reserve platoon arrived he joined them in a counterattack and was killed in that action.

Specialist 4th Class David Charles Dolby with Company B, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry, from Morristown, PA was on patrol on May 21st when they suddenly came under attack from a ridge immediately in front of them. Six members of the platoon were instantly killed and many wounded included the platoon leader. Sp4c Dolby moved wounded to safer positions and went back to the platoon leader. He took personal charge of counterattacking. He charged and eliminated machine gun nests, carried other wounded to safety, and directed a reserve platoon to flank and defeat the enemy force. He was awarded his medal at the traditional White House ceremony.

Compiled by RADM Noah Long, CEC, USN (ret) from information in

1. Web Site of the Vietnam War Commemoration
2. *Vietnam, the Naval Story* by Frank Uhlig, Jr.
3. *The Pictorial History of the Vietnam War* by Jeremy Barnes
4. Web Site: en:Wikipedia.org/wiki/1966-in-the-Vietnam-War#May
5. Web Site: historyplace.com/unitedstates.vietnam

Some unusual facts about the Vietnam War and Wall

Interesting Veterans Statistics of the Vietnam Memorial Wall:

- There are 58,267 names now listed on the polished black wall, including those added in 2010.
- The names are arranged in the order in which they were taken from us by date and within each date the names are alphabetized. It is hard to believe it is 36 years since the last casualties.
- The first known casualty was Richard B. Fitzgibbon, of North Weymouth, Mass. Listed by the U.S. Department of Defense as having been killed on June 8, 1956. His name is listed on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, who was killed on Sept. 7, 1965.
- There are three sets of fathers and sons on the Wall.
- 39,996 on the Wall were just 22 or younger.
- 8,283 were just 19 years old.
- The largest age group, 33,103 were 18 years old.
- 12 soldiers on the Wall were 17 years old.
- 5 soldiers on the Wall were 16 years old.
- One soldier, PFC Dan Bullock was 15 years old.
- 997 soldiers were killed on their first day in Vietnam.
- 1,448 soldiers were killed on their last day in Vietnam.
- 31 sets of brothers are on the Wall.
- Thirty one sets of parents lost two of their sons.
- 54 soldiers attended Thomas Edison High School in Philadelphia.
- 8 Women are on the Wall. They nursed the wounded.
- 244 soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War; 153 of them are on the Wall.
- Beallsville, Ohio with a population of 475 lost 6 of her sons.
- West Virginia had the highest casualty rate per capita in the nation. There are 711 West Virginians on the Wall.

- The Marines of Morenci - They led some of the scrappiest high school football and basketball teams that the little Arizona copper town of Morenci (pop. 5,058) had ever known and cheered. They enjoyed roaring beer busts. In quieter moments, they rode horses along the Coronado Trail, stalked deer in the Apache National Forest. And in the patriotic camaraderie typical of Morenci's mining families, the nine graduates of Morenci High enlisted as a group in the Marine Corps. Their service began on Independence Day, 1966. Only 3 returned home.

- The Buddies of Midvale - LeRoy Tafoya, Jimmy Martinez, Tom Gonzales were all boyhood friends and lived on three consecutive streets in Midvale, Utah on Fifth, Sixth and Seventh avenues. They lived only a few yards apart. They played ball at the adjacent sandlot ball field. And they all went to Vietnam. In a span of 16 dark days in late 1967, all three would be killed. LeRoy was killed on Wednesday, Nov. 22, the fourth anniversary of John F. Kennedy's assassination. Jimmy died less than 24 hours later on Thanksgiving Day. Tom was shot dead assaulting the enemy on Dec. 7, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

- The most casualty deaths for a single day was on January 31, 1968 ~ 245 deaths.

- The most casualty deaths for a single month was May 1968 - 2,415 casualties were incurred.



“Smart Home” Can Help Veterans Who Have Traumatic Brain Injury

The “Smart Home” uses advanced technology to help patients with traumatic brain injury (TBI) independently plan, organize and complete everyday activities. Some Veterans with TBI have lost the ability to manage basic tasks like doing the laundry or taking out the trash. VA’s Smart Home helps them relearn those skills by tracking their movements around their house and then sending them text or video prompts when they get off track. The remarkable indoor tracking technology can pinpoint the Veterans’ location to within six inches.

The Tampa VA Medical Center has installed the high tech equipment in five apartments housing 10 Veterans. It has a system that not only tracks their locations but has sensors that monitor the use of appliances. For example, the washing machine sensors determine when the Veteran puts soap in the machine and also shows when he or she empties the machine after the load is completed. If the user forgets to do either, a nearby screen prompts them to complete those steps. The Smart Home can also notify a caregiver if an activity is not completed. Other sensors in the bathroom determine how long a patient has been shaving and if they are taking too long, they are prompted to finish that task and move on. The technology promotes Veterans’ independence by providing reminders for the management of other daily activities such as medication, meal planning, and other necessary tasks.

Smart Home has been described as a “cognitive prosthetic” with the goal of rehabilitating Veterans with TBI so they can function normally in society. A powerful feature of the Tampa Smart Home is the precision of the customized therapeutic information that can be provided to the recovering Veteran. Data for every interaction with clinical and medical staff are recorded continuously and analyzed, helping the staff visualize subtle but therapeutically significant behavioral changes. Reports are sent back to the clinical team on a weekly basis. This helps to better inform treatment plans and potentially prevent problematic medication effects on Veterans’ memory, as well as gait and balance. The Veteran patients and VA staff wear wrist tags linked to a real-time location system that tracks the tags using wall sensors. It’s ultra-wideband technology. The wrist tags broadcast their ID on a 6-to-8 gigahertz channel and uses time-delay-of-arrival and angle-of-arrival methods to determine position in three dimensions.

For more than 90 years, the VA’s Research and Development program has been improving the lives of Veterans and all Americans through health care discovery and innovation. [Source: VHA Update | Hans Petersen Web Weekly | May 17, 2016 ++]

VA Hepatitis C Care

VA encourages Veterans to get tested and get treatment for viral hepatitis. If left untreated, hepatitis is life threatening, because it can lead to liver disease. Effective screening and treatment for hepatitis is available at your VA medical center. Testing for hepatitis C infection is recommended for all Veterans born between 1945 and 1965, regardless of perceived risk. May 19 was National Hepatitis Testing Day. Hepatitis C infections can go unnoticed for years, even decades. Effective treatment is available. Don’t let hepatitis C surprise you. Get the facts. Get tested. Get treatment. Learn more at www.hepatitis.va.gov/patient/hcv/testing/index.asp.

“Hepatitis” means inflammation of the liver. It can be caused by one of several viruses, which is why it is often called “viral hepatitis.” The most common types of viral hepatitis within the U.S. are hepatitis A, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C. Hepatitis B and hepatitis C can become chronic, life-long infections that can cause serious health problems including liver damage, cirrhosis, liver cancer, and even death. Veterans have unusually high rates of hepatitis C, especially those born between 1945 and 1965. Hepatitis C is generally spread through blood-to-blood contact. The disease begins with the swelling of the liver and can progress to liver damage such as cirrhosis and liver cancer if untreated.

Many are unaware they have Hepatitis C. Hepatitis C can persist for 10 to 30 years before there are any clear symptoms, which is why most people with chronic hepatitis C are unaware they are infected. Effective treatments are now available. A blood test is the only way to diagnose a hepatitis C infection. Veterans with any of the following risks should be tested:

- Anyone born from 1945-1965,
- Anyone with liver disease or who has had abnormal liver tests,
- Anyone who has ever injected illegal drugs,
- Anyone who had a blood transfusion or organ transplant before 1992,
- Anyone who received a tattoo or body piercing in a non-regulated setting
- Anyone with HIV or a weakened immune system.

Talk to your VA health care provider about testing and treatment. For more information about hepatitis, please visit www.hepatitis.va.gov. According to the Hepatitis Foundation International, an estimated 4.4 million Americans are living with chronic hepatitis and about 80,000 new infections occur each year. [Source: Virage Point Blog | Vantage Point Blog | May19, 2016 ++]

Chattanooga Area Veterans Council
PO Box 24984, Chattanooga, TN 37422

Check out our website at www.chattareaveterans.com

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Alan Syler, Chairman-Elect	423-855-6876
Chris Dooley, Vice-Chairman	702-701-2858
Billy Hewitt, Immed. Past Chair.	423-894-3568
Mark Parks, Treasurer	423-326-0839
Carol Laing, Secretary	423-309-1457

CAVC is a 501(c)19 non-profit veteran organization.