DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission

American Legion Posts 66, 99, 181, 337, 598, 654, 772, 1010
AmVets Post 90
DeKalb County VietNow
Marine Corps League Detachment 847
Veterans of Foreign Wars Posts 1486, 2287, 5768 and 8387
40 et 8 Voiture 207

President - Bob Bend, Vice-President Celeste Latham, Secretary Luz Maria Gilkey, Treasurer John Davis

DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission
Meeting Agenda for
September 10, 2018
Meetings start at 7:00 pm

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

III. Roll Call of Delegates & Alternates

IV. Public Comment

V. Reading & Approval of the August 2018 Meeting Minutes

VI. Treasurers' Report

VII. Superintendent's Report
a. Approval of Expenses

VIII. Committee Reports

IX. Old Business

X. New Business

XI. For the Good of the Commission

XII. Adjournment

2500 N. Annie Glidden Road
Suite A
DeKalb IL 60115
Phone 815-756-8129 Fax 815-748-2142

DEKALB COUNTY VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

August 13, 2018

COMMUNITY OUTREACH BUILDING

Meeting started at 7:00 pm with President Bob Bend presiding. John Davis led us in the pledge of allegiance.

Board Members Present: President Bob Bend, Vice-President Celeste Latham, Secretary Luz Maria Gilkey, and Treasurer John Davis.

Employees Present: Tammy Anderson, Luz Maria Gilkey, Tim Stubinger, Cindy Childress and Jill Peacock.

New In Attendance: Ashley Heithoff

Public Comment: None

Meeting Minutes: July 9, 2018 minutes were reviewed. Motion was made by Don Jones to accept, and seconded by Mike Boorsma - Motion passed unanimously. Don Anderson asked about 100yr old Vet if Celebration was still on Tammy Anderson replied still working on.

Treasurers Report: There is a Balance of $5,168.30. 40 et 8 Voiture 207 check was received. Motion by Mike Boorsma accept Treasurers report subject to audit, seconded by Don Jones - Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendents' Report: Last month the Commission helped 16 Veterans and their families with shelter total of $6,295.00. There were 35 Veterans transported on 24 trips to the VA facilities. Drivers Per Diem $450.00. Year to Date total Retro about $494,494.00 and collected $183,831.00 of monthly payments for Veterans. Total Employee Activity approximately 1,195 contacts. The July Expenses totaled $52,601.01. Review report for more details. Motion was made by Mike Boorsma to pay monthly bills - seconded by Don Jones. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. Gene Ege asked about the vehicle conditions – Tammy reported vehicles were good but would like in near future to purchase a van for ease of Veterans in and out of vehicle. No in reply to wheelchair access - drivers would have to have training, CPR training & be responsible for Veterans. That is why we refer people to TransVac & MedicVac, they have the ability to transport wheelchair bound Veterans.

Holiday Schedule for 2019 was approved with date Change of Meeting Oct 7 & Nov 4 Motion was made by Gene Ege and 2nd by Don Jones. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Report: Frank Beierlotzer mentioned in early September there will be a Motorcycle Motorcade for cars, 4 Wheelers, etc. This event will occur before the 12th of Sept.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

For the Good of the Commission: Jim Cox mentioned Veterans with Purple Heart, POW, Congressional Medal of Honor, Disability recipients are able to use the Commissary. Tammy will get information on this and on HB 299 for Blue Water Veterans.

Luz mentioned that we will have training on Thursday Aug 16 and will need Cindy Childress to return to the office for this training at 12:30pm. We need someone to be there to close up the VFW/AL Post for the HCOT (Hines Community Outreach Team), Chuck Fish volunteered to be there.

Tim mentioned the Sandwich & DeKalb radio stations were being bought out. Will work on getting more information.

Post #2287 Checking into see if still an organization. Need an officer. Luz will check with Laurie Emmer.

Tammy mentioned that Linda Drake will be retiring on Aug 30th 2018. A Retirement party for Linda will be held on August 29th from 1:00 – 4:00 at the Community Outreach Building (COB). Gary Hanson, the DeKalb County Administrator will be presenting Linda with a 12yr plaque for her service to the County and Bob Bend, President of DCVAC, will also be acknowledging her service to the Veterans. All are invited to attend.

Being no further business Steve Walz made a motion to adjourn - seconded by Mike Boorsma 7:23pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Secretary Luz Maria Gilkey

DEKALB COUNTY VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2018
STATE OF THE BUDGET

VA COUNSELING

Communication	Quantity	YTD
Phone	284	2202
Office	162	1111
Outreach/Home Visits	1	33
Email/Mail	75	584
Fax	21	249
Other/Forms	113	795
Total Employee Communications	656	4974
Total Employee Activity	1283	9178

VA AWARDANCE

	Monthly	YTD
Monthly Award	$37,988.00	$263,165.00
Retro	$12,139.00	$507,079.00
Total	$50,127.00	$770,244.00

EXPENDITURES

		Monthly	YTD
Salaries & Benefits		$26,206.31	$235,080.95
Training & Meetings	Credit from NACVSO	-$115.91	$16,988.34
Office Expenses		$1,148.10	$8,102.37
Building Space/Maintenance		$0.00	$23,000.00
Direct Assistance to Veteran	**Number Assisted**		
Shelter	16	$6,295.00	$48,310.00
Other		$0.00	$0.00
Drivers Per Diem		$360.00	$3,070.00
Vehicle Expenses			
Fuel Cost		$401.98	$2,798.19
Maintenance		$261.61	$5,191.55
	Totals	$34,557.09	$342,541.40

Expense Description:

TRANSPORTATION LOGS

	Quantity	YTD
Trips	23	182
Hours Donated	166.5	1241
Transported	32	238
Miles	4200	33107
Fuel (gallon)	168.90	1243.20

SUMMARY

	Percentage of Budget	Amount
BUDGET	**100%**	**$489,000.00**
PREVIOUS EXPENDITURES (Jan to Present)	**-63%**	**-$307,984.31**
EXPEDITURES	**-7%**	**-$34,557.09**
BALANCE	**30%**	**$146,458.60**

Restricted Fund Balance **$681,624.09**

DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission
Report for the month of August 2018
Veterans Assistance / Transportation

	Shelter		Transportation
Towns	Amount	# of Vets	# of Vets
Cortland			1
DeKalb	$ 3,495.00	9	11
Fairdale			
Genoa	$ 400.00	1	4
Hinckley	$ 400.00	1	
Kingston			2
Kirkland			1
Lee			
Malta			1
Sandwich			5
Shabbona	$ 400.00	1	
Somonauk	$ 400.00	1	
Sycamore	$ 1,200.00	3	6
Waterman			1
Total	$ 6,295.00	16	32

Hines Community Outreach

September

Come join the Hines Community Outreach team at one of our locations (see next page for details) for help with eligibility and enrollment, immunizations, minor health screenings, and medication reconciliation.

Veterans Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

For September, the Outreach team will have information regarding National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.

To sign up for healthcare benefits please bring a copy of your DD214

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1 Joliet Slammers Military and Veteran Night (6P-9P)- 1 Mayor Art Schultz Dr. Joliet, IL
2	3 Labor Day-Holiday	4 DuPage County Outreach (9A-2P)-VFW Post #3873 908 Jackson Ave Naperville, IL	5 Morris Outreach (9A-2P)-Morris American Legion 212 W Washington St. Morris, IL	6	7	8 Operation Firm Handshake (11A-5P)-1500 N Broadway Road Coal City, IL
9	10 DeKalb County Outreach (9:30A-1:30P)-DeKalb County VAC 2500 N Annie Glidden Rd Joliet Town Hall (6P-7P)-1201 Eagle St. Joliet, IL	11	12 Channahon Outreach (9Ap-2P)-Village of Channahon 24555 Navajo Dr Channahon, IL	13	14	15
16	17 Coal City Outreach (9A-2P)-1752 E Division St Diamond, IL	18 Bolingbrook Outreach (9A-2P)-Levy Center 251 Canterbury Lane Bolingbrook, IL	19 Kankakee Outreach (9A-2P)-Kankakee Community College 100 College Dr Kankakee, IL	20 Veteran Employment and Services Workshop (9A-12P)-workNet DuPage Career Center 2525 Cabot Drive, Suite 302 Lisle, IL Sandwich Outreach (9:30A-1:30P)-VFW Post # 713 S Main St Sandwich, IL	21 Wheaton/Carol Stream Outreach (9A-2P)-American Legion Post #76 570 S Gary Ave Carol Stream, IL	22 Combined Veterans of Berwyn Welcome Home (12P-4P)-Proksa Park 3001 Wisconsin Ave Berwyn, IL
23	24 Dwight Outreach (10A-1P)- Heritage Woods of Dwight 701 E Mazon Ave Dwight, IL	25 Gilman Outreach (10A-1P)-The Prospect Bank 209 S Crescent St Gilman, IL	26 Ottawa Outreach (10A-1P)-Ottawa American Legion 901 N LaSalle St Ottawa, IL	27	28 Elgin Outreach (9A-2P)-American Legion Post #57 820 N. Liberty St. Elgin, IL	29 Welcome Home All Veterans 8th Annual Veteran Benefits Event & Job Fair (9A-4P)-39 E St. Charles Rd Villa Park, IL
30						

Hines VA Suicide Prevention Team Wants You to Know...

The risk of suicide is up to ***10 times greater*** in homes with guns.

For someone in crisis, **a locked firearm** can mean the difference between a tragic outcome and **a life saved**.

If you do have a gun, consider these safety tips:

Store guns ***UNLOADED, LOCKED,*** with ammunition stored ***SEPARATELY***.

NO ONE CAN UN-FIRE A FIREARM.

If you are thinking about harming yourself,

consider temporarily removing any guns from the home.

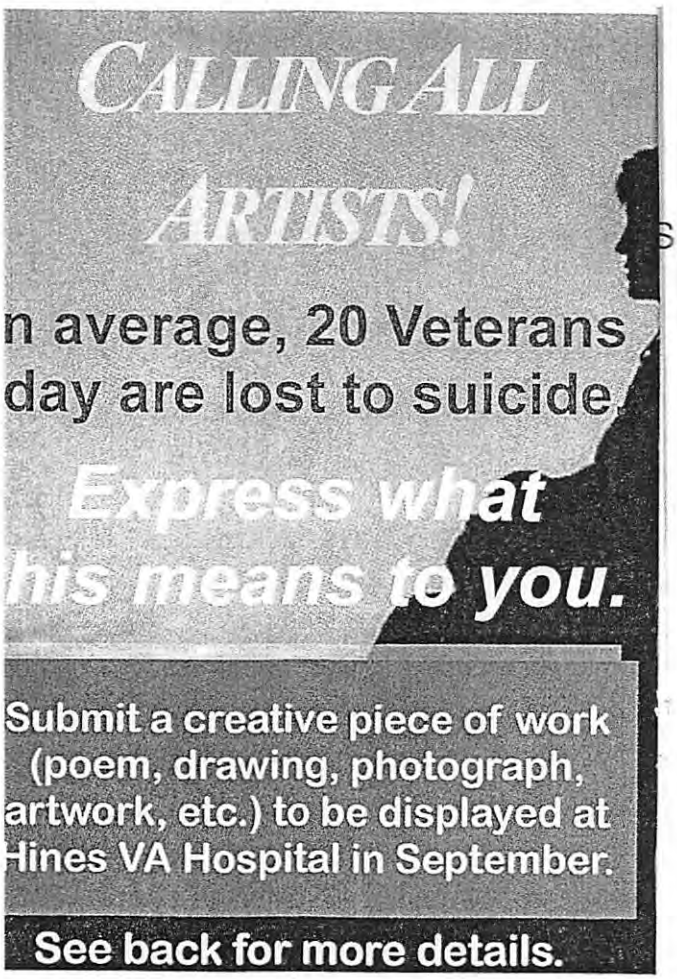
FREE GUN LOCKS available from:

Suicide Prevention Team:
Bldg. 228, Admin. Suite

Mental Health Consumer Advocacy Council:
Ext. 21021, Bldg. 13, Room 225

Veterans Crisis Line

1-800-273-8255
PRESS 1



Submit a piece of work expressing what losing 20 Veterans a day to suicide means to you.

Deadline to submit an entry:
Friday, August 24th, 2018

The Art Event will be held on
Wednesday, September 5th, 2018

For submission details contact:
Susan Zacharia, LCSW
at 708-202-5844

September is
Suicide Prevention Month.

VA Suicide Prevention Program

Every Veteran suicide is a tragic outcome and regardless of the numbers or rates, one Veteran is too many. Even though we understand why some may be at increased risk, we are continuing to investigate and taking proactive steps based on information we already know, with the ultimate goal of eliminating suicides among Veterans.

Veterans Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

Individuals who have survived serious suicide attempts have clearly stated that they wished someone had shown interest.

Today may be the hardest day of your life...

Where there is HELP, there is HOPE — just a phone call away.

Hines VA Hospital
708.202.VETS (8387)

Veterans Crisis Line
1.800.273.8255
Press 1 for Veterans

Hines VA Hospital

Suicide Prevention Program

HINES VA
serving with pride

"Suicide Prevention is Everyone's Business"

"Suicide Prevention is Everyone's Business"

Suicide Prevention Coordinators

Each VA Medical Center has a Suicide Prevention Coordinator (SPC) or Team. The coordinators and their teams ensure that the Veteran receives the appropriate services. Calls from the Veterans Crisis Line are referred to the coordinators, who follow up with Veterans and coordinate their care.

24/7 Veterans Crisis Line

Veterans, Active Duty Members or their concerned family members and friends may reach the national Veterans Crisis Line by dialing 1.800.273.8255 and pressing "1" at the prompt. By pressing "1", the call is routed to a facility where trained VA staff answer the call. The professionals can deal with any immediate crisis and can place referrals to a local SPC when indicated.

Veterans Crisis Line: 1.800.273.8255
"Press 1" for Veterans

Text:838255 Confidential
Chat: VeteransCrisisLine.net

Veterans Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255
PRESS 1

High Risk for Suicide Flags

Screening & Assessment processes have been set up throughout the VA system to assist in the identification of Veterans at risk for suicide. A chart "flagging" system has been developed to assure continuity of care and provide awareness among providers. The Suicide Prevention Coordinators monitor patients with these flags and place on the facility's High Risk for Suicide List.

Veterans with a High Risk for Suicide Flag are closely followed by the Suicide Prevention Team for a minimum of 90 days and provided with an *enhanced* level of care:

- Case Management by Suicide Prevention Team
- Missed appointment follow up
- Safety Planning
- Weekly Mental Health appointments
- Treatment planning that specifically addresses their suicidality

Hines VA Hospital Suicide Prevention Team

Anita Carmona Caravelli, LCSW
708.202.4096 / cell 708.221.3038
Lauren Johnson, LCSW
708.202.2050/cell 312.859.3910
Jordon Wolf, LCSW
708.202.2805/cell 708.646.8736
Morgan Woolley, LCSW
708.202.3519/cell 224.775.1130
Susan Zacharia, LCSW, CADC

Education & Outreach

Suicide Prevention Coordinators are required to do outreach activities in all of their local communities. They are able to educate returning Veterans, families, Veterans Service Organizations, and other community groups on suicide awareness & prevention.

The VA sponsors a month long campaign every September for Suicide Prevention Month to increase awareness of suicide.

The VA has developed various materials including brochures, wallet cards and magnets that promote awareness of the hotline number and educate employees, Veterans, and their community about how to identify someone who may be at risk.

S.A.V.E

SPCs educate & train all staff at their facility with Operative S.A.V.E.– a VA specific suicide awareness program.

Signs of Suicidal Thinking

Ask the questions

Validate the Veteran's experience

Encourage & **E**xpedite the Veteran to help

Veterans Crisis Line

1-800-273-8255
PRESS 1

Are you concerned about the safety and wellbeing of a Veteran?

Contact the Veterans Crisis Line to initiate a free and confidential conversation with an experienced and caring VA responder.

Call:

1-800-273-8255 press 1

Chat online:

VeteransCrisisLine.net

Text: 838255

Hines VA Contact Information

Main number: 708-202-8387

Suicide Prevention Team

Anita Carmona Caravelli, LCSW x24096

Lauren Johnson, LCSW x22050

Jordon Wolf, LCSW x22805

Morgan Woolley, LCSW x23519

Susan Zacharia, LCSW x25844

Mental Health Intake Center

Building 228, 1st fl x23446

Emergency Department

x22187

Hines Police

Emergency 911

Non-Emergency x22013

HINES VA
serving with pride

Operation S.A.V.E

Signs of suicidality
Ask important questions
Validate their experience
Encourage / Expedite treatment and referral

Remembering these four steps can save a life!

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

RECOGNIZING THE WARNING SIGNS OF SUICIDE

- Threatening to hurt or kill self
- Seeking access to pills, weapons or other means of self-harm
- Talking about death or dying
- Hopelessness, feeling there is "no way out"
- Rage or anger
- Reckless, risky behavior
- Withdrawing from friends and family
- Anxiety, agitation, mood swings, feeling "down"
- Difficulty sleeping (sleeping too much or not enough)
- Feeling there is no reason for living, no sense of purpose in life
- Giving away possessions
- Feeling like a burden to friends or family members
- Chronic pain

ASKING THE QUESTIONS

Are you feeling hopeless abot the present/future?

If yes ask…

Have you had thoughts about taking your life?

If yes ask…

When did you have these thoughts and do you have a plan to take your life?

Have you ever had a suicide attempt?

Tips for asking about suicide

- Remain calm
- Listen more than you speak
- Maintain eye contact
- Act with confidence
- Do not argue
- Use open body language
- Limit questions-let the Veteran do the talking
- Use supportive-encouraging comments
- Be honest-there are no quick solutions but help is available

VALIDATE THE VETERANS EXPERIENCE

Validation means:

- Not passing judgment
- Recognizing that the situation is serious
- Acknowledging the Veteran's feelings
- Reassuring him or her that you are here to help

ENCOURAGE TREATMENT & EXPIDITE REFERRAL

Reassure the Veteran that:

- Treatment is available
- Getting help for suicide is like getting help for any medical problem
- Every Veteran has the right to care
- Even if they had treatment before, it's worth it to try again
- Involve other treatment team members

NEVER LEAVE A SUICIDAL VETERAN ALONE!!

Outpatient Community Care

Mental Health Intensive Case Management (MHICM) Outpatient Community-based program based upon the Assertive Community Treatment Model for Veterans with serious mental illnesses.

Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) Interdisciplinary treatment team that provides screening; psychological, cognitive, and capacity assessments; individual and family interventions; consultation; case management; and medication management to homebound Veterans.

Inpatient Programs

Acute Inpatient Program Acute psychiatric hospitalization on a 29 bed locked unit for Veterans with psychiatric and/or chemical dependency related diagnoses.

Psychiatric Consultation/Liaison Provides psychiatric services for Veterans hospitalized on medical or surgical units.

Other MHSL Services

- Local Recovery Coordinator
- Military Sexual Trauma Coordinator
- Neuropsychological Testing
- OEF/OIF Post Deployment Services
- Patient Advocates
- Peer Support Services
- Suicide Prevention Program
- Total Health, Resilience, & Improved Vitality (THRIV) Program
- Veteran's Justice Outreach (for justice system-involved Veterans)
- Women's Mental Health

To Get Connected

Mental Health Intake Center

for an appointment

(708) 202-8387 ext. 23446

Helpful Information

New Patient Line for Enrollment and Benefits: (708) 202-8838

Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255 (TALK)
Press 1 for the Veterans Crisis Line

Community Provider Toolkit:
www.mentalhealth.va.gov/communityproviders

Hines VA Hospital

MENTAL HEALTH

SERVICES GUIDE

Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital
5000 S. 5th Avenue
Hines, IL 60141
(708) 202-8387

VA HEALTH CARE | Defining EXCELLENCE in the 21st Century

Outpatient Programs

Mental Health Intake Center (MHIC)
The Intake Center is the first point of contact for Veterans receiving mental health services. The MHIC also serves as a walk-in center for emergency mental health needs. (708) 202-8387 ext. 23446

Mental Health Clinic (MHC)
Treatments include individual, group, and couple/family therapies as well as medication management.

Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) Six (Aurora, Hoffman Estates, Joliet, LaSalle, Kankakee, Oak Lawn) affiliated Community Based Outpatient Clinics provide outpatient medical and mental health services to Veterans in the community (including telehealth).

Trauma Services Program (TSP)
Outpatient psychotherapy for Veterans who have experienced trauma and who continue to experience related symptoms.

Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Outreach to homeless Veterans providing them with access to VA medical and mental health services.

Acute Recovery Center (ARC) For Veterans with acute mental health symptoms or acute worsening of chronic symptoms.

Veterans Industries/Compensated Work Therapy (CWT) A vocational rehabilitation program that promotes the reintegration of the Veteran into the employment community.

Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center (PRRC) Recovery oriented services within a supportive learning environment for Veterans with chronic psychiatric illnesses.

Primary Care Behavioral Health (PCBH)
Provides behavioral medicine services via consultation with primary care providers as well as evaluations and brief treatments for Veterans.

Other Clinical Programs with embedded Mental Health staff:

- Blind Rehabilitation Center
- Spinal Cord Injury Center
- Rehab/Polytrauma
- Subacute Geriatrics Unit
- Community Living Center
- Outpatient Medicine Clinics
- MOVE! (weight loss program)
- Health Promotion/Disease Prevention

Outpatient Substance Abuse Programs

Addictions Treatment Program (ATP)
Outpatient substance abuse treatment that is time-limited and evidence based.

Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (SARRTP) An independent, outpatient, living environment for Veterans in the early phase of recovery from alcohol and/or other drug dependence.

Opioid Treatment Program (OTP)
Counseling, education, and supportive services with the aid of methadone for Veterans whose primary diagnosis is opiate dependence.

Smoking Cessation Clinic Utilizes medication as well as a support groups to assist the Veteran who wishes to stop smoking cigarettes.

Significance to Veterans

Veterans use firearms more frequently than the general population in acts of suicide.

The risk of suicide is up to ***10 times greater*** in homes with guns.

Suicidal feelings often pass quickly. Easy access to firearms can turn a temporary situation into a permanent tragedy.

Hines VA Contact Information

5000 South 5th Avenue
Hines, IL 60141

Main Number:
708-202-8387 (VETS)

Suicide Prevention Coordinators:
Anita Carmona, LCSW x24096
Lauren Johnson, LCSW x22050
Jordon Wolf, LCSW x22805
Morgan Woolley, LCSW x23519
Susan Zacharia, LCSW x25844

Mental Health Intake Center
Building 228, 1st Floor
x23446

Emergency Department
x22187

Hines Police
Emergency 911
Non-Emergency x22013

HINES VA
serving with pride

Adapted from the Veterans Crisis Line Gun Safety Video (2014).

References:
1. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Web-Based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS) Leading Causes of Death Reports, National and Regional, 1999-2010,* at http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/leadcaus10_us.html (last updated Feb. 19, 2013).

Hines VA Hospital

No one can un-fire a firearm.

For someone in crisis,
a locked firearm
can mean the difference
between a tragic outcome
and a life saved.

Importance of Firearm Safety

Many Veterans are well versed in gun safety. But that does not mean their families are.

Owning a firearm is both a Right and a Responsibility.

Firearm deaths were one of the ***top 5*** leading causes of injury-related deaths nationwide in 2010.[1]

What You Can Do to Help

Keep guns secure, especially when:

- times are chaotic, stressful, or emotional
- someone is impaired by drugs or alcohol
- a family member is depressed or feeling hopeless

Veterans Crisis Line

1-800-273-8255
PRESS 1

Tips for Securing Firearms

- Guns should be stored:
  - ◊ ***UNLOADED***
  - ◊ ***LOCKED***—Use a gun lock, a lock box, or a gun safe or cabinet.
  - ◊ Ammunition should be stored ***SEPARATELY*** when not in use.
- ***FREE GUN LOCKS available from:***

  - Suicide Prevention Team: Bldg. 228, Admin. Suite

  - Mental Health Consumer Advocacy Council: Ext. 21021, Bldg. 13, Room 225

- If you are thinking about harming yourself, consider temporarily removing any guns from the home.

♦ *Confidential support is only a call, click, or text away.* ♦ *Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 Press 1* ♦ *VeteransCrisisLine.net* ♦ *Text to 838255* ♦

Mil Money

(/pay-benefits/mil-money/)

Here's why more veterans, caregivers may get commissary, exchange privileges by 2020

By: Karen Jowers (/author/karen-jowers) July 26

Former prisoners of war, Purple Heart recipients, certain disabled veterans and caregivers for veterans are a step closer to being allowed to shop at commissaries and exchanges (https://www.militarytimes.com/pay-benefits/2018/06/22/heres-why-dod-wants-to-make-millions-more-eligible-to-shop-commissaries-exchanges/), and other retail facilities on military bases, such as military lodging.

House lawmakers voted Thursday (https://www.militarytimes.com/congress/2018/07/26/us-defense-policy-bill-clears-house-rockets-to-senate/) to agree to the conference report for the fiscal 2019 defense authorization bill. A provision in that bill would give shopping and some other privileges to veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart, those who are former prisoners of war and those with service-connected disabilities, as well as to caregivers of veterans. They would be allowed to use these facilities on the same basis as a service member entitled to retired or retainer pay.

It also authorizes access for Medal of Honor recipients, although they have long been authorized to use commissaries, exchanges (https://www.militarytimes.com/pay-benefits/military-benefits/2018/05/01/benefits-basics-commissaries-and-exchanges/)and MWR facilities.

If it becomes law, the new privileges would be in effect on Jan. 1, 2020.

Under the proposal, Defense Department officials will set a user fee for this population, to offset any increase in expenses at commissaries (https://www.militarytimes.com/pay-benefits/mil-money/2018/06/06/heres-how-your-commissary-plans-to-get-back-lost-customers/)that would be paid by the Treasury Department associated with the use of credit or debit cards. That user fee would be in addition to the current surcharge of 5 percent of the commissary purchase, added at the cash register. Because Medal of Honor recipients already have commissary shopping privileges, the fee would presumably not apply to them.

The Senate will vote at a later date on the conference agreement, and then the bill will go to President Trump to be signed into law. If it becomes law, DoD is required to submit a plan to the House and Senate armed services committees by Oct. 1, 2019, on its plan to implement the provision by Jan. 1, 2020.

While the House plan would have required the privileges to take effect 90 days after the bill becomes law, the Senate bill moves that date back to the beginning of 2020, reportedly to give defense officials more time to determine the user fee, and the credentials that would be accepted.

Here's why DoD wants to make millions more eligible to shop commissaries, exchanges (https://www.militarytimes.com/pay-benefits/2018/06/22/heres-why-dod-wants-to-make-millions-more-eligible-to-shop-commissaries-exchanges/)

(https://www.militarytimes.com/pay-benefits/2018/06/22/heres-why-dod-wants-to-make-millions-more-eligible-to-shop-commissaries-exchanges/)

Some new shoppers would pay a fee to earn the privilege.

By: Karen Jowers

For years, advocates have asked that shopping privileges be extended to more disabled veterans. Veterans who are 100 percent disabled already are allowed to shop in exchanges and commissaries, as well as at morale, welfare and recreation facilities.

The provision refers to commissaries and "MWR facilities." As defined by law, an MWR facility means exchange stores and other facilities that generate revenue, operated as a nonappropriated fund activity for MWR.

"All of these people who fall into these categories are heroes, have given so much for our country above and beyond even what other service members have given. It's important to recognize that," said Rep. Daniel Lipinski, D-Ill., who spoke at a recent forum of the American Logistics Association. He and Rep. Walter Jones, R-N.C., introduced the proposal.

Recommended for you

Naked British Army captain destroys toilet in harrowing bathroom escape

(http://www.militarytimes.com/off-duty/military-culture/2018/08/07/naked-british-army-captain-destroys-toilet-in-harrowing-bathroom-escape/?utm_source=clavis)

Secretary promises VA will be more 'welcoming' to women veterans

(http://www.militarytimes.com/veterans/2018/09/07/secretary-promises-va-will-be-more-welcoming-to-women/?utm_source=clavis)

*On **Tuesday, September 25th at 1:00pm**, a **Surprise Welcome Home** for 100 year old WWII veteran Tony Berg of DeKalb, Illinois. The **surprise** will take place at 330 Grove Street in DeKalb.*

If you would like to join a motorcade to the **surprise**, contact Rob Halvax at nottwoshabby1@aol.com or 630-745-7895.

Otherwise contact Diana King, dking@fsadekalbcounty.org, phone 815-758-8616 ext1500, fax 815-758-7569 or mail to Diana King, 330 Grove St., DeKalb, IL 60115 for more information on the event.

2019

Motorcycle/Motorcade

Please join us for the 12th Annual Veterans Weekend in 2019. Currently it is being planned for Saturday, June 23, 2019. Again it will include Honoring Our Senior Veterans and motorcycles, cars and trucks are invited.

For more information contact Frank Beierlotzer at ffb66@juno.com.

Saturday	09/08/18	HyVee Food Store		2700 DeKalb Ave., Sycamore, IL	
		Safety			
Breakfast	Staging & Registrtation	Briefing	KSU	Leave	ffb66@juno.com
(8:00am to 9:00am)	(8:30am to 9:30am)	(9:35am)	(9:40am)	(9:45am)	815-901-3834

Route	HONORING OUR SENIOR VETERANS	Program Starts	Leave Time
	Oakland Dr, Dosen Dr, Wirsing Pkwy, Peace Rd, Fairview Dr, 4th St(Rte 23),Barb Blvd, 2nd St		
Pine Acres Rehab & Living Center	1212 S. 2nd St., DeKalb	**10:00am**	**10:25am**
	2nd St, Taylor St, Haish Blvd		
Barb City Manor	680 Haish Blvd, DeKalb	**10:30am**	**10:55am**
	Haish Blvd, Taylor St, Annie Glidden Rd		
DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center	2600 N. Annie Glidden Rd., DeKalb	**11:05am**	**11:30am**
	Just west of DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center		
Heritage Woods	2626 N. Annie Glidden Rd., DeKalb	**11:35am**	**Noon**
	Annie Glidden Rd, Bethany Rd, Greenwood Acres		
Oak Crest DeKalb Area Retirement Center	2944 Greenwood Acres, DeKalb	**12:10pm**	**12:35pm**
	Just north of Oak Crest DeKalb Area Retirement Center		
Bethany Healthcare & Rehab Center	3298 Resource Pkwy, DeKalb	**12:40pm**	**1:05pm**
	Bethany Rd, Somonauk St		
Grand Victorian of Sycamore	1440 Somonauk St., Sycamore	**1:15pm**	**1:40pm**
	Somonauk St, Route 23, Peace Rd, Frantum Rd, Stonegate Dr		
Lincolnshire Place	710 Vellagio Place, Sycamore	**1:55pm**	**2:20pm**
DeKalb American Legion Post 66, 1204 South 4th Street (Route 23)		3:30pm	

DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission

American Legion Posts 66, 99, 181, 337, 598, 654, 772, 1010
AmVets Post 90
DeKalb County VietNow
Marine Corps League Detachment 847
Veterans of Foreign Wars Posts 1486, 2287, 5768 and 8387
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2019 DCVAC Meeting Schedule

2500 N. Annie Glidden Rd., DeKalb, IL

January 14th
February 11th
March 11th
April 8th
May 13th
June 10th
July 8th
August 12th
September 9th
*October 7th
*November 4th
December 9th

Approved: 08/13/18
Robert Bend, DCVAC President Robert Bend

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Phone 815-756-8129 Fax 815-748-2142