
From: Cathy Haynes [chaynes11629@yahoo.com@ccsend.com]

Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2016 22:58

Subject: September Central FL veteran, military and patriotic events

SEPTEMBER 2016 – veterans, military and patriotic events in Central Florida

*Send me your events – people cannot attend an event if they don't know about it!

*Please share this information and events with your friends and interested others and attend. Post where appropriate.

*Event information is concentrated mostly on the Central Florida counties served by the new VA Hospital at Lake Nona – Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Brevard, Lake and Volusia. Other events elsewhere are considered based upon uniqueness and groups best served.

*Every effort is made to put a space into email addresses and websites – firewalls and spam filters don't like direct links, website and email addresses. If you use 'Copy and Paste' to make contact or get additional information, please keep this in mind.

*If you wish to be removed from the email list, just let me know.

September is Suicide Prevention Month. Keep the following information handy...
Veterans in crisis – For you or someone you know - Confidential Hotline: 1-800-273-8255, #1.

Or: Website at [veteranscrisisline](http://veteranscrisisline.com) provides 24/7 confidential chat online assistance;

Or: text 838255 for 24/7 confidential assistance.

They are there because they care.... It Takes the Strength of a Warrior to Ask for Help... The journey after military service can be a difficult one.

If you are Veteran in crisis or know of one who is, please call the VA's 24/7 Suicide Prevention Line at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) to speak with a trained counselor, or find a Crisis Center near you.

There were two recent lose incidents with Central Florida connections. IT MUST STOP.....

September 2, 1945 – V-J Day. Thank a Pacific Theater veteran for his/her service! And ask a senior if he/she celebrated the day, and how it was celebrated.

Paralympics in Rio – Wed. Sept 7 – 18 - Opening ceremony in Rio on Wed. at 5:30pm The Paralympic US team includes 30 military veterans and active duty personnel. Some of them did not compete in the Invictus Games held in Orlando in May. The Summer US Olympic team had 17 military members who competed in shooting events, pole vaulting, and track and field. We are rooting for them all!

Greeters needed! Honor Flight Welcome Home – WED. Sept 7 - Orlando Int'l Airport –After a day spent in Washington DC, 35 veterans of WWII and the Korean War return home thru Orlando Int'l Airport. This Honor Flight hub is a part of the nation-wide organization that takes veterans on a single day trip to our nation's capital where they visit the WWII, Korea, and Vietnam War Memorials, Marine Corps Iwo Jima and the Air Force Monuments, and witness the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. This particular group will return just about **8:30pm** and enter the terminal area at (+/-) 9:00pm. Come welcome these former warriors home! "Welcome Home" receptions at the airports makes a difference! Bring your flags, banners and signs! –**Southwest Airlines # 1232 from Baltimore-Washington (BWI)**, Terminal A, Airside 2 (hotel area in front of Starbucks.) Before leaving home, check online to see if the flight is on time because there may be delays due to weather, mechanical or medical issues. Free parking has been arranged at an off airport property – FastPark and Relax – who has been very generous to Honor Flights with free parking and shuttles to the airport (tips welcomed by drivers!) - 7870 N Frontage Rd, Orlando, 32812. Contact Cathy Haynes for those

details NLT 7pm 407-239-8468 chaynes11629 @yahoo .com

New: Vouchers are available for airport garage parking from a GOAA rep. in the terminal for this event – maximum of 3 hours – **BUT you have to take a paper ticket upon entering the airport garage.** The vouchers will **NOT** work if you use the SunPass transponders – we cannot credit the charge back. For the Early Birds - you can wave these veterans off in the morning **no later than 5am** – same location. They process thru Security early and quickly. Wave them off for a wonderful day! (NOTE: The next Honor Flights will be, Sept 10, Oct 15, Nov 2. Then nor more before next year! Don't miss them!) (Honor Flight Central Florida has a mission with 50 veterans on October 22 but has not shared information.)

Every Day is Veterans Day event – Fri Sept 9 - Information on resources to the Veteran's community. 10am – 1pm at One Senior Place, 715 Douglas Avenue Altamonte Springs, 32714. Special guest speaker is Army Col. Danny McKnight, (ret.) of “Black Hawk Down” recognition and author of “Streets of Mogadishu.” Vietnam War pin presentations will be made. Vendors, door prizes and lunch will be served. Organized by VITAS Healthcare and One Senior Place. ***Does your organization want to have a table to reach others? For more information, please call 407.949.6733

Joggin for Frogmen - Sat Sept 10 – A fitness event to benefit Navy Seals Foundation. A bit away from Central Florida in Fernandina Beach, FL (just north of Jacksonville) begins at 8am. [http:// www.jogginforfrogmen.com/ ameliaislandfl](http://www.jogginforfrogmen.com/ameliaislandfl)

Tunnel to Towers 5K Run/Walk – Sat. Sept 10 – Hosted by Tunnel 2 Towers Foundation at Cranes Roost Park, 274 Cranes Roost Blvd., Altamonte Springs, 32701. This 5K (3.1 miles) starts at 6:30am – 12noon. Register online preferred; \$10 add'l day of event. Info: www.tunnel2towers.org and t2torlando.eventbrite.com (Thank you, Dave Matthews of Never Forgotten Memorial Events!) Numerous events across the country in this series created to honor the heroic life and death of Stephen Siller, a New York City firefighter (FDNY) who lost his life on September 11, 2001 after strapping on his gear and running through the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel to the Twin Towers. Also honor our military and first responders who continue to make the supreme sacrifice of life and limb for our country.

12th Annual Jason Burnett Memorial USO Benefit Ride – Sat. Sept. 10 - Orlando Harley Davidson South, 7786 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy (aka US 192), Kissimmee, 34747 (abt 3 miles west of I-4) Central Florida's largest motorcycle fundraising event in support of our military personnel and the USO Care Package Program in association with the Greater Jacksonville Area USO. 70 Mile police escorted ride. Registration 8:30 am to 10am/ Ride departs 1030am. Motorcycles NOT required. After party 12 - 3 pm. Silent auction, raffles, live music, continental breakfast, delicious lunch, vendors. \$25 per person - each registration covers the cost of a USO Care Package to be sent to a deployed member of the US Military. **Marine LCP Jason Burnett**, of St. Cloud in Osceola County, died in service while in Iraq, 2006. He served in the 2nd Tank Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force out of Camp Lejeune, NC; son of Shelley and Ron Burnett, a Major with the Osceola County Sheriff Dept. For more information on these events

and early registrations see www.usobenefitride.com

Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) – Sat. Sept 10 –Central Florida Chapter meeting of one of the patriotic groups that honors the first veterans of our country. Its members are lineal descendants of people who served in the Revolutionary War, or who contributed to establishing the independence of the United States. SAR is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization that is dedicated to assisting members, schools, teachers and the general public in efforts to sustain and preserve our history and constitutional principles. Events include Color Guards, assistance to veterans, recognizing community citizens and services, and more. Central Florida Chapter meets in Orange Co. – contact Don at donaldg100@aol.com for info. (Members can assist you with tracing your family tree back to an American Revolutionary Patriot – if they don't, contact me and I'll help! chaynes11629@yahoo.com) (Other SAR chapters in the Central FL area include Brevard (meeting in Cocoa Beach); Daytona Beach (meeting in Volusia Co.); and Lake-Sumpter (meeting in Leesburg).

Rebuilding for Veterans – Sat. Sept 10 – Homebuyer Education Workshop provides information about your military benefits regarding purchasing a home, mortgage assistance, down payments, eligibility, etc. 9am-4pm at 1001 Armstrong Dr., Kissimmee. Sponsored by Rebuilding Together Orlando. Registration required at 407-599-0057.

Home Made Italian Dinner – Sat. Sept 10 - FY17 Chief Petty Officer Selects from Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Orlando are hosting an Italian Dinner at Mokanna Masonic Lodge, 4925 Clarcona Ocoee Rd, Orlando 32810. \$10 for Homemade sauces for spaghetti and lasagna, salad, garlic bread, coffee, tea and lemonade, served by the newest CPO's in a great atmosphere of Navy Pride, music and friends! (4:00 Early Bird) 5pm - 7pm or until the last person is served. RSVP's kindly requested for headcount by Fri. Sept 9, whether staying for dinner or carry-out (to-go boxes available!) to rdc1121@gmail.com or text the number of dinners to (352) 223-8718. YUM!

American Patriot Gala – Sat, Sept 10 - 3rd Annual Lockheed Martin American Patriot Gala - Camaraderie Foundation's premier black-tie event. The one-of-a-kind evening will feature a cocktail reception, silent and live auctions, and entertainment. The keynote speaker is the 14th Sergeant Major of the Army of the United States Raymond Chandler, III. The evening includes tribute to military service members since 9/11. Table Sponsorships and Tickets are available for purchase. Seating is limited. See the Camaraderie Foundation event website at camaraderiefoundation.ejoinme.org/AmericanPatriotGala2016 or call 407-841-0071.

Dancing for Heroes – Sat. Sept 10 – Villagers for Veterans holds this free fun event at the Eisenhower Recreation Center in The Villages. Come dance and see a showcase by Champion Dancers. Music provided by “Sounds by Bubba”, bring your own drinks and snacks. 50/50 raffle. Contact Marie Bogdonoff at 516-220-5068, www.villagersforveterans.org This active group has provided monies for Villages Honor Flights, mobilized recreation wheelchairs for wounded warriors, sponsoring

service dogs, and much more.

Greeters needed! Honor Flight Welcome Home –Sat. Sept. 10 - Orlando Int'l Airport –After a day spent in Washington DC, 25 veterans (8 beginning their service in WWII, 16 in Korean War, and 1 in Vietnam) return home thru Orlando Int'l Airport. This Honor Flight hub is a part of the nation-wide organization that takes veterans on a single day trip to our nation's capital where they visit the WWII, Korea, and Vietnam War Memorials, Marine Corps Iwo Jima and the Air Force Monuments, and witness the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. This particular group will return just about **9:30pm** and enter the terminal area at (+/-) 10:00pm. Come welcome these former warriors home! “Welcome Home” receptions at the airports makes a difference! Bring your flags, banners and signs! –**Southwest Airlines # 3575 from Baltimore-Washington (BWI)**, Terminal A, Airside 2 (hotel area in front of Starbucks.) Before leaving home, check online to see if the flight is on time because there may be delays due to weather, mechanical or medical issues. Free parking has been arranged at an off airport property – FastPark and Relax – who has been very generous to Honor Flights with free parking and shuttles to the airport (tips welcomed by drivers!) - 7870 N Frontage Rd, Orlando, FL 32812. Contact Cathy Haynes for those details NLT 7pm 407-239-8468 chaynes11629 @yahoo .com

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(There may be other 9/11 events than those listed here...But I'm not telepathic! Just ask my husband - I can't read his mind either!)

9/11 Commemorative Flag Planting & Ceremony – Sun. Sept 11 - Join Camaraderie Foundation in partnership with the OFD and OPD as we honor Military Service Members, Veterans, Firefighters and Law Enforcement at 15th Anniversary of 9/11 Events. Beginning at **6am**, 25,000 American flags will be placed in the lawn of the Dr. Phillips Performing Arts Center in downtown Orlando. Parking on the street - it's Sunday. Ceremonies to be held Sunday at 8:30am by the Fire Department, and at 9am on **MONDAY** at this site. *Persons are welcome to return to the site on Tuesday morning at 6am to gather the flags until next year! Remember those who served and continue to serve...

Apopka City Hall – Sun. Sept 11 - 9/11 Memorial ceremony by Eagle Scout candidate Christian Lamphere and Boy Scout Troop 211 in Apopka. The new monument, an Eagle Scout project, will be unveiled that incorporates an actual piece of one of the towers in the north lawn of City Hall. 8am at 120 E Main St, Apopka, 32703.

Never Forget Patriot Day Brunch – Sun. Sept 11 – Fundraiser hosted by AVET Project at Cocoa Beach Country Club, 5000 Tom Warriner Blvd, Cocoa Beach, 32931. All-You-Can-Eat Sunday Brunch from 10am – 1pm with a program from 12n-1pm of guest speakers, music and door prizes. Adults - \$20pp, 13-17yrs \$10, 5-12 yrs \$5pp, Kids 4 and under FREE. Opportunity to sponsor a military family (2 adults & 2kids) for \$70; or sponsor a table of 10 for \$300 with your Logo. AVET Project is a strong veterans' advocate and trouble-shooting/empowerment organization based on the Central East coast. Contact: kim@avetproject.org 321-373-7046
www.avetproject.org

9/11 Tribute – Sun. Sept 11 - Game Plan Media Events coordinates this 5th Annual event in honor of the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attack on America. This year we will be honoring the victims, and first responders of the attacks in Orlando at PULSE as “We Stand With Orlando.” 1pm – 5pm at Avalon Park at Town Park, 3680 Avalon Park E Blvd #300, Orlando, 32828. Sponsors and vendors are still welcomed to sign up! Contact Trish at trish@gameplanmediaevents.com 863-899-3703; or Laura at Laura@Gameplanmediaevents.com 808-725-7749.

Remember Our Fallen – Sun. Sept 11 - The Never Forgotten Memorials Organization and Rock and Brews, Oviedo combine with local businesses to show support while raising public awareness for our local First Responders. Unveiling of the memorial to the Seminole County Sheriff Deputies and Seminole County Firefighters who died in the line of duty. This Memorial is at the front entrance of Rock & Brews, Oviedo. Our "Can-Do" attitude and service to the community will inspire Americans to come together to meet the historic challenges of our era. 3:30 – 4pm at 7131 Red Bug Lake Rd, Oviedo, 32765. Info: 407-535-1728 www.neverforgottenmemorials.com (Thank you, Dave Matthews!)

Candlelight Remembrance - Sun. Sept 11 – Join Orlando Fire Department in a candlelight vigil at 7pm.

9/11 Remembrance Ceremony –Mon. Sept 12 - Join Camaraderie Foundation and others at 9am at Dr Philips Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Orlando. About 85,000 military personnel deployed out of Central Florida since September 11, 2001. About 17,000 return with various wounds, including invisible wounds of war and approx. 20% need assistance when returning home. First Responders also experience PTS from exposures during their service. Help raise this awareness in our community. Persons are welcome to return to the site on Tuesday morning at 6am to gather the flags until next year! Remember those who served and continue to serve...

Veterans Business Initiative Kick Off –Mon Sept 12 – Program series of veteran job matching, entrepreneurship education and training, federal employment navigation and financial training FREE for all military veterans and/or their spouses. Many large local employers are participating to provide a one-to-one, face-to-face effort that gets the best potential employees into great jobs. Dates are: Fri Sept 9; Mon Sept 12 – Kick Off; Tues Sept 20 – Session #1; Thurs Sept 29 – Session #2; Mon Oct 3 –

Session #3; Tues Oct 18 – Session #4; Mon Oct 24 – Session #5; Mon Oct 31 – Session #6; Tues Nov 8 – Graduation. Veterans need to register: https://cscfit.formstack.com/forms/vbi_fall_2016 Sponsored by Central Florida Disability Chamber of Commerce (CFDCC), National Entrepreneur Center, 3201 E. Colonial Dr., Orlando, 32803. Info: Rogue Gallart 407-420-4875 rogue@nationalec.org

HBI (Home Builders Institute) – Mon Sep 12 – Three Certifications in 4 Weeks and Job Placement with classes beginning Sept 12 – Oct 7. HBI will also be hosting an OSHA 10, First Aid/CPR/AED, Pre-Apprenticeship Certificate Training, and Job Placement Promotion Class. No cost to military members – past or present. Classes: 9am – 2:30pm on Mondays thru Thursdays. 9200 Southpark Center Loop, Orlando 32819 (Inside Everest University off John Young Parkway). Info: Jamacan Penney-Vassey 407- 259-5069 jvassey@hbi.org

Veteran Infused Employment Workshop (VIEW) – Mon – Thurs Sept 12 – 15 – Workshops to provide veterans with updated job skills and information to obtain gainful employment. Lake Nona VA Medical Center, 13800 Veterans Way, Rm 4F106 A/B, Orlando, 32827. Shuttles are available from the Lake Baldwin facility and run every hour on the hour for those veterans with some transportation issues.
 Mon Sept 12: 10am – 2pm “Creating your Job Search Plan”;
 Tues Sept 13: 10am – 2pm “Creating a Marketable Resume”;
 Wed Sept 14: 10am – 2pm “Define Your Veteran Resources”;
 Thurs Sept 15: 10am - 2pm “Mock Interviews”.
 (Lunch is NOT provided). Info: Ellamay “Annie” Artis, Veteran Community Employment Coordinator, Phone: 407-646-5500 x28846, ellamay.artis@va.gov

Marine Corps League (MCL) mtg – Tues. Sept 13 – The Cpl. Larry Smedley Detachment #64 meets at 7pm -8:30pm at The American Legion Department of Florida bldg., 1912 Lee Rd, Orlando, 32810. This Detachment meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. All interested persons are welcomed. Contact mclcf@gmail.com or Sam McCloud 407-595-9508
 (Cpl. Larry Smedley was an Orange County resident and enlisted in the Marine Corps. He was killed in Vietnam on December 21, 1967 after heroic actions were seen in battle. He earned the Medal of Honor, awarded posthumously; he was 18 yrs old.)

Central Florida Navy League mtg – Wed. Sept 14 - Guest speaker this month is Dr. Adam Ware of the Orange County Regional History Center and Historian for the Historical Society of Central Florida. He is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and his current interests involve Orlando’s Naval Training Center / Recruit Training Command and the memorials associated with the recovery of the USS R-12, which sank off Key West in June 1943. The local CFNL is one of the largest in Florida with fun and educational monthly meetings with a very diverse membership of civilians, military and veterans supporting the sea services. Lunch meeting at Holiday Inn, UCF, 1724 Alafaya Trail, Orlando, 32826, at 11:30 and luncheon ends promptly at 13:00. Luncheons are \$20 prepaid by 10am Mon. Sept 12; or \$25 at the door for space available attendance. Prepay by credit card online at www.cfnavyleague.org
 Membership inquiries: Bob Karas navleaguenfl@juno.com 407-977-7575

POW-MIA Recognition Ceremony – Fri. Sept 16 - Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer and his Veterans Advisory Council will host a POW-MIA ceremony to honor United States Military prisoners of war and those still missing in action. **11am** at Orlando City Hall Rotunda, 400 South Orange Ave, Orlando, 32801. Cadets from University of Central Florida AFROTC Detachment 159 will perform the “Missing Man” table ceremony. Captain Steve Nakagawa , USN (ret.) will be the featured guest speaker. His father was a POW in Vietnam. Event has sponsorship from VITAS Healthcare. Parking will be available in the City Commons parking garage at 460 Boone Ave. Handicapped parking is available on every level of the garage. **Bring your parking ticket for validation** after the event. Info: 407.246.3104.

Constitution Day– Fri September 16 - In September of 1787, the Founding Fathers signed the most influential document in American history: the United States Constitution. Constitution Day and Citizenship Day is observed each year on September 17 to commemorate the signing of the Constitution on September 17, 1787, and “recognize all who, by coming of age or by naturalization, have become citizens.” **Sept. 17 – 23 is recognized as Constitution Week**, and the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) frequently known as “America’s Cheerleaders,” call for ringing of church bells, handbells, etc. at **4pm on Saturday** across the nation to commemorate the occasion.

Happy Hour After Hours – Fri. Sept 16 - Enjoy some good times with the Central Florida Marine Corps Foundation at the Miller's Oveido Ale House, 312 W Mitchell Hammock Rd, Oviedo, 32765. 4:30pm starts your weekend with some friends, networking, and learning how you can serve in the community to make Central Florida a better place! USMC membership not required. Happy Hour Info: sean.c.osmond @ gmail. com

Front Line Golf Tournament – Sat. Sept 17 – Proceeds from this tournament will benefit J.O.S.H. – Just Our Soldiers Helpers – to provide care packages to deployed US troops. 4-person scramble with prizes, Italian buffet lunch, and more. \$80/pp or \$300/4. Starts at 7:30am at Stoneybrook East Golf Club, 2900 Northampton Ave, Orlando. Info: 407-314-1607.

Military History Books Signing – Sat. Sept 17 - The Museum of Military History will be hosting several local military themed authors. Beginning at 10am until 2pm. The authors committed to the event so far include David Iamiceli Sr., Syd Jones, Irene Dumas, Bob Grenier, and Frank Laumer. More authors are scheduled and will be added at a later date. All authors will be signing books as well as discussing their experiences while writing them. Several books focus on Florida’s rich military history and one, “Before and Beyond the Niihau Zero,” details a little known event that unfolded the first day of America’s war with Imperial Japan. Tours will be available for visitors throughout the day with admission only \$5. Museum: 5210 West Irlo Bronson Hwy, Kissimmee, 34746. Office: 407-507-3894 militarymuseum2@ gmail .com

Rockin’ For Awareness II in Daytona Beach – Sat. Sept 17 - Not all wounds of war

are visible and is experienced not only by warriors but also ER doctors and medical staff, First Responders, and victims of rape and bullying. One Team One Fight for PTSD sponsors this event. A full day of events to bring awareness that help is available. The day starts 12:30 at The Bank & Blues, 701 Main St, Daytona Beach, 32118. Enjoy a full day of live music starting at 1pm to 10pm with 7 bands playing thru the day. Bike Show from 1-6pm. There will be a bike auction, raffles, BBQ and various guest speakers. The organizer lost his veteran best friend to suicide and this is a way to fight back and help others. info@oneteamonefightptsd.org 352-409-7428 See website at www.oneteamonefightptsd.org

Florida Association of Veteran Owned Businesses mtg (FAVOB) – Tues Sept 20 - Meeting at 10am, a “Chamber of Commerce” of sorts open to all veteran owned businesses, at American Legion Florida Department bldg., 1912A Lee Road, Orlando, FL 32810. 19 states offer contract preferences to veteran owned businesses. Florida is NOT one of them. Our goal is to change that in big business, and with our state, our cities, and counties too. See FAVOB Facebook site. Info: Chairman Michael Waldrop mwaldrop@blue-cord.com

Agent Orange Town Hall mtg - Tues. Sept 20 – Vietnam Veterans of America Florida State Council and Daytona Beach Chapter #1048 host this educational event. All veterans and public are invited. The topic is “The Legacy of Exposure to Agent Orange and Other Toxic Substances on Veterans and Their Offspring.” 6pm at the Willie Miller Educational Center located at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, 600 South Clyde Morris Blvd., Daytona Beach, 32114. Info: Rod Phillips 386.690.9553 2vp@vvafsc.org

Orange County Mayors’ Veterans Advisory Council –Wed.Sept 21 – 1:30pm monthly meeting of numerous organizations and individuals for the benefit of Central FL veterans and active duty personnel. Planning of events and awareness is shared. Designated representatives allow groups to coordinate efforts and unite for the common cause. If your Orange County /Central FL vet/military associated group isn’t attending, it should plan to get involved. Mayor Teresa Jacobs is very supportive of a veteran-friendly community. Contact Chairman Col. Edwin Marrero for attendance and location information. emarrero81@cfl.rr.com

Greeters needed! FLIGHTLESS Honor Flight Welcome Home – Sat. Sept 24 – Flightless Honor Flight by the Villages hub. If you cannot attend the evening “Welcome Home” events at OIA, come to this event! There are 20 veterans (8 WW2, 10 Korean War, and 2 Vietnam War vets) who, for various reasons, cannot make the flight trip to Washington DC to see their memorial - (hence the term “Kiwi” – a flightless bird). They will receive a virtual trip in 5 hours – everything except for leaving the ground. You can participate in the “Welcome Home” at 2:30pm at the American Legion Post Post #347 (Rolling Acres), 699 W Lady Lake Blvd, Lady Lake, 32159. An Honor Flight with everything except leaving the ground. Villages Honor Flight was recognized by the national Honor Flight Network for this unique concept! Info: Village Honor Flight website or Liza at 860-235-7718 lizadiana@aol.com

Gold Star Mothers and Families Event - Sun. Sept 25 – Are you a family who lost a loved one while in military service or know someone else who did? Please share this information with them and contact Jean Balderson at 407-691-4548 before Sept. 15. This day was originally established in 1936 as Gold Star Mother's Day and many communities have included all family members. A remembrance ceremony will be held from 3pm – 5pm in the Orlando City Hall Rotunda, 400 S. Orange Ave., Downtown Orlando, 32802. Bring a photo of your loved one. Caring public is invited. Event coordination is being done by VITAS. Info: Eva at 407-691-4579 eva.paganhill@vitas.com

Gold Star Families Monument dedication – Sun. Sept 25 – A formal dedication ceremony at 3pm with US Marine Hershel "Woody" Williams, the last living Medal of Honor recipient from the Battle for Iwo Jima in WW2. Veterans Memorial Park, in Port Saint Lucie, 2100 SE Veterans Memorial Pkwy, Port St Lucie, FL 34952. This is the result of the 'Hershel Woody Williams Medal Of Honor Foundation' to honor and recognize the families of fallen warriors.

Veterans of Influence Awards Luncheon – Fri. Sept 30 – 2016 Recognition for 25 military veterans who have made a significant achievement in their careers in the past year, have a strong record of innovation or outstanding performance in their work and are actively involved in our community. Orlando Business Journal took nominations and will honor these men and women. Open to the public at Hilton Orlando, 6001 Destination Parkway, Orlando, 32819 (located southeast of the North Concourse of the Orange County Convention Center on International Drive.) Networking: 11am – 12noon, Awards Luncheon: 12noon - 1:30pm. Corporate table sponsorships available, and individual tickets - \$65. www.bizjournals.com 407.241.2914 fbernstein@bizjournals.com

ON THE HORIZON

PFT Challenge – Sat. Oct 1 - Central Florida Marine Corps Foundation hosts this inaugural PFT Challenge! Crunches, pull-ups, and a three mile run. See how you compete against the Marine Corps physical fitness standard! 7am – 10am at Blanchard Park, 2451 N Dean Rd, Orlando, 32817. Three ways to participate:

1. Traditional Participant - Come out and join the rest of the crew to take on the challenge in person. \$40, includes custom race t-shirt.
2. Virtual Participant - In any climb and place, use your favorite mobile device to track your run and tag us with #CFMCF and #PFTChallenge. Watch your mailbox and soon your medal and race shirt will arrive! \$40.
3. Snooze Button - The ultimate option for those that want to help but feel like the whole working out thing is not on par with another hour in bed. Register for this and receive an official "Snooze Button Certificate" for your support! \$20.

Info: Sean at pftchallenge@gmail.com

City of Orlando Mayors' Veterans Advisory Council – Thurs. Oct 6 – 1:30pm monthly meeting of numerous organizations and individuals for the benefit of local veterans and active duty personnel. Planning of functions (ie: Veterans Day parade) and awareness of events is shared. Designated representatives allow groups to

coordinate efforts. If your Orlando area vet/military associated group isn't attending, it should plan to get involved. Networking before and after the meeting. See website at cityoforlando.net, Office of the Mayor, Mayor's Committees, Veterans. Contact Chairman Michael Waldrop for attendance and location information. mwaldrop@blue-cord.com

The U.S. Marine Corps Band in Central FL – Wed. Oct 12 – This unique band tour hits Florida once every four or five years and known as “The President’s Own”, the 2016 Tour brings it to Winter Park for one show. Winter Park High School, (Ann Derflinger/Performing Arts Auditorium) 2100 Summerfield Rd, Winter Park, 32792. 7:30-9pm. The concert is FREE but Tickets are required due to limited space after Sept 12 at <https://marineband.ticketleap.com/usmbtourwinterpark/> Founded in 1798, the band has performed for every U.S. President since John Adams and their show is certainly worth seeing. The Marine Band’s primary mission is to provide music for the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. In the style of the band’s 17th Director John Philip Sousa, who initiated the concert tour tradition in 1891, Marine Band Director Lt. Col. Jason K. Fetting has chosen a diverse mix of programs, from traditional band repertoire and marches to instrumental solos. Other Florida sites are Jacksonville, Palm Coast, West Palm Beach, Davie, Miami, Punta Gorda, Tampa, and Panama City. www.marineband.marines.mil/Calendar/

Orlando Navy Recruit Training Center Reunion – Wed –Sun Oct 12-16 – Former Orlando Navy boot-camp recruits and personnel are invited to come back to Orlando. Reunite with other former recruits, celebrate your service, recognize the company commanders who shaped recruits into Navy sailors. Tour the city park named after the former training ship. Yearbooks no longer wanted are welcomed. Over 600,000 lives were changed on this site. From 1968 until October 1994, NTC Orlando was also the sole location for providing recruit training for female enlisted personnel. Info: Tracey Tillman or Renata Cannon at rtcotlandoreunion@gmail.com Check info online.

October 13 – Happy Birthday, United States Navy! Established in 1775.

Veterans Benefits Information – Thurs. Oct 13 - Retired military and their loved ones can receive information about existing and new benefits. 11am – 1 pm. Hosted at One Senior Place, 715 Douglas Ave. Altamonte Springs, 32714. Guest speaker: Ed Burford, Seminole County Veterans Service Officer. Seating is limited. Please RSVP by October 10 to One Senior Place at 407-949-6733

Second Infantry Division (Indianhead) Association Reunion – Fri – Sun Oct 14-16 – Florida Branch gathering at the Best Western Space Shuttle Inn, 3455 Cheney Hwy, Titusville, 32780. Special room rates. Hospitality room, meetings and fun! Info: (919) 356-5692 or 2ida.mail@charter.net

Central Florida Navy Birthday Ball – Sat. Oct 15 – Join past and present Navy personnel and Navy supporters when we celebrate 241 years of USN service to our country! Guest speaker is MCPON James Herdt, (ret.) the ninth such person sworn in

of this unique rank in US Navy history. Event sponsorships are available. Reception, ceremony, dinner and dancing at Rosen Shingle Creek Resort, 9939 Universal Blvd, Orlando (near I-Drive.) Tickets are available from Central FL Navy League at www.cfnavyleague.org

“Run, Forrest, Run!” 5k Run/Walk/Roll – Sat. Oct 22 – This Villagers for Veterans fundraiser is a benefit for the Gary Sinise Foundation that assists wounded warriors. Gary Sinise is the actor who portrayed Lt. Dan in the movie “Forrest Gump” and he has continued selfless service for others with his real “Lt. Dan Band” and the Foundation. Register to participate in this fundraiser and gain some cardio-exercise at The Villages Polo Field, 703 N. Buena Vista Blvd., The Villages, 32162. Contact Marie Bogdonoff at 516-220-5068, www.villagersforveterans.org This active group has provided monies for Villages Honor Flights, mobilized recreation wheelchairs for wounded warriors, sponsoring service dogs, and much more.

“An Evening with Forrest” – Sat. Oct 22 – Villagers for Veterans sponsors this event where you can dress in 60’s styles for this fundraiser Southern sit-down dinner and entertainment. Benefitting the Gary Sinise Foundation. Gary Sinise is the actor who portrayed Lt. Dan in the movie “Forrest Gump” and he has continued selfless service for wounded warriors with his real “Lt. Dan Band” and the Foundation. \$75/pp at the Eisenhower Recreation Center in The Villages. Contact Marie Bogdonoff at 516-220-5068, www.villagersforveterans.org This active group has provided monies for Villages Honor Flights, mobilized recreation wheelchairs for wounded warriors, sponsoring service dogs, and much more.

5th Annual Ruck Sack March – Sat. Oct 29 – You are challenged to “Walk a Mile in their Boots.” Participants can choose from three different participation levels AND three different course lengths. You can walk for fun or compete as a Runner or Warrior. Warriors must carry at least 35 lbs. in a ruck sack or backpack. Then select a 5k, 10k or 12-mile course length so you can participate or compete at the level you want. First place finishers and top fundraisers receive great prizes. Families are welcome! Lake Nona will be the site and Registration is open; Sponsorship opportunities are available at <http://rucksackmarch2016.kintera.org> or call us at (407) 841-0071.

Participation in this Camaraderie Foundation event provides counseling resources for private and confidential Post Traumatic Stress (PTS) counseling for military, former warriors and their families seeking assistance. **It works. It HAS saved lives, marriages and families.** Contact 407-841-0071

MISCELLANEOUS with Deadlines

Veterans’ Day Parade in Orlando – Sat. Nov 12 – Beginning at 11am, units will march in one of the largest parades in the southeastern United States. Applications/requirements for units is available at <http://www.cityoforlando.net/veteransparade/> Deadline is **Oct 3** for participating units. Supportive advertising by businesses is very welcomed and will appear in the parade program reaching thousands along the parade route. Advertising forms (at above website) with a deadline of **Oct.1**

Volunteers for the parade are very welcomed! Contact De at daila.espeut-jones@zeltech.com for volunteering opportunities.

“All Hands on Deck!” – Sept 16 - Oct 9 – Performance based on Bob Hope’s 1942 USO tour to the troops, this All Singing, All Dancing musical delivers an electrifying evening of classic songs, dances and laughs. From Road Show to Radio Broadcast, the timeless hits with tight harmonies, on air antics and rousing comedy will delight audiences of all ages! \$40 regular evening tickets and \$30 matinees. Winter Park Playhouse, 711 Orange Avenue Suite C, Winter Park, 32789. Info: 407-645-0145 lisa@winterparkplayhouse.org

JOB EVENTS Career Source Hiring Events in Osceola Co. on Sept 13 & 29 for positions at IHOP; Sept 27 & 28 for positions at UHG/Optum Rx. Veterans can contact Annie Artis, Veteran Community Employment Coordinator, 5201 Raymond Street, Bldg 503, Room C127, Orlando, 32803. 407-646-5500 x28846

GENERAL INFO, PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Military Bases No Longer Accepting IDs from Five States, U.S. military installations are no longer allowing visitors to gain base access using official ID cards from five states -- and other installations may soon follow. State-issued driver's licenses and identification cards from Illinois, New Mexico, Missouri, Washington and Minnesota can no longer be used to obtain a visitor's pass because those cards don't comply with federal standards, officials said. DoD officials did not say whether or not enhanced driver's licenses (EDL) from Minnesota or Washington would still be accepted. (Consider if you need to access the Exchanges on Patrick AFB or McDill AFB.... Thank you, Ed Burford, Seminole County Veterans Service Officer; Military.com)

Veterans should remain on high alert for IRS impersonators - After tax-filing season, Veterans should be aware of people contacting them who claim to be from the Internal Revenue Service and the Treasury. These IRS tax impersonators have been using phone calls and emails to take millions of dollars from taxpayers in every state in the country. The callers tell intended victims they owe taxes and must pay using a pre-paid debit card, money order or a wire transfer. The scammers threaten those who refuse to pay with being charged for a criminal violation, a grand jury indictment, immediate arrest, deportation or loss of a business or driver's license. To prevent taxpayers from falling victim to these scams, the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration has expanded their outreach efforts to make sure people remain on high alert. DON'T FALL PREY! (Thank you, Ed Burford, Seminole County Veterans Service Officer)

Veterans should avoid some VA benefits filers - Persons/businesses are in Central Florida who claim that they can file for your belated benefits and medical claims. Some even “guarantee” the acceptance if you visit their special physicians – of which 2 are on the east coast of Central Florida. The written statements from those physicians are worthless and you have to pay for the office appointments. These filers may require upfront monies, up to and exceeding 40% of your benefit monies. There

are Veterans Service Organization volunteers (ie: American Legion, VFW, DAV, AVET Project, etc.) who will assist you **AT NO COST**. Each county in Florida has a Veterans Service Office with professionals who will assist you **AT NO COST** – and Central Florida is especially fortunate to have some excellent personnel in those offices. Don't fall prey and lose your hard earned monies and time. There may be instances where legal assistance could be an option. The good resources listed above can guide you in that situation...don't waste your money in the meantime. The county Veterans Service Offices can assist in filing consumer complaints against the vultures.

Lake Nona VA and Lake Baldwin Domiciliary's – Residents undergoing various medical and counseling issues need bicycles, bicycle repair equipment, inner tubes, bicycle pumps and tools. Also needed are craft supplies, games and sports equipment. Idle hands need/want to be occupied in constructive ways! Contact: Jenny Danieli at 407-631-7110 jenny.danieli @va. gov

INFO to keep and share - because we care

Veterans in crisis – For you or someone you know - Confidential Hotline: 1-800-273-8255, #1. Or: Website at veteranscrisisline provides 24/7 confidential chat online assistance; Or: text 838255 for 24/7 confidential assistance. They are there because they care....

Camaraderie Foundation in Central Florida provides resources for private and confidential Post Traumatic Stress (PTS) counseling for warriors and their families. **It works. It has saved lives, marriages and families.** Contact 407-841-0071

Caring and sharing,

Cathy Haynes

Member/supporter of numerous veteran and military organizations in Central FL 407-239-8468
chaynes11629@ yahoo .com



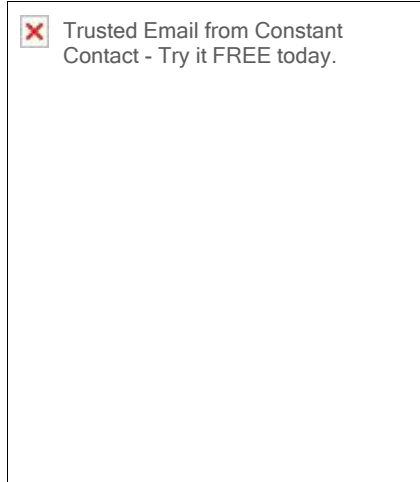
A direct and compelling headline

Central Florida veterans advocate | 11629 Peach Grove Lane, Orlando, FL 32821

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