



ACTION CORPS WEEKLY



June 7, 2021



VFW & Humana Team Up with Feeding America:

The VFW and Humana have teamed up with Feeding America to kick off the 2021 “Uniting to Combat Hunger” campaign. The campaign was created in 2018 to raise awareness of food insecurity that affects 1 in 8 people in America, and 1 in 4 Iraq and Afghanistan War veterans. The goal is to provide at least 1 million meals to communities in need. “The past year has been increasingly difficult for our military and veteran families, and even more desperate for those already fighting to put food on the table,” said VFW National Commander Hal Roesch. “It is unbearable to think our brave servicemen and women who have sacrificed so much already in service to their nation, would struggle to find their next meal. Together with Humana and Feeding America, I know we can make a tremendous difference in their lives, and others like them.” Learn how to [join the fight](#) against hunger in America.



Recommendation to Consider New Presumptive Conditions:

Based on recent studies related to particulate matter exposures, VA Secretary McDonough is initiating rulemaking to **consider** adding new presumptive regulations for respiratory conditions. The new presumptive conditions would be for veterans who served in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War and/or after Sept. 11, 2001, or in Afghanistan and Uzbekistan during the Persian Gulf War. Please note, VA has NOT created new presumptive conditions, however, we encourage affected veterans to [contact their VFW Department Service Officer](#) with any questions or concerns they may have or if they may be interested in filing a claim.



June is LGBT+ Pride Month: Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and related identities (LGBT+) veterans comprise approximately one million individuals of the veteran populations. These individuals are less likely to seek health care, which could lead to long-term health issues. LGBT+ veterans are twice as likely to experience depression and suicidal ideations than heterosexual veterans. In addition to VA health care services, VA offers hormone treatment, Intimate Partner Violence reduction and treatment, and infertility or family planning. Each VA facility should have an [LGBT+ veteran care coordinator](#) and a women veterans program manager to assist. [Read more.](#)



Schedule Overdue Preventive Care Services: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many people postponed or canceled annual preventive care appointments. As more and more individuals receive the COVID-19 vaccine and restrictions are lifted, veterans who are overdue for preventive care need to schedule as soon as possible. Preventive services include primary and specialty care appointments, pneumonia and shingles vaccines, and screenings such as a colonoscopy, mammogram, or pap smear. [Read more.](#)



MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced three burial updates for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from World War II and Korea. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

-- **Army Pfc. Bill F. Hobbs, 20**, of South Coffeyville, Oklahoma, was a member of Heavy Mortar Company, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Nov. 30, 1950, when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered. Hobbs will be buried June 26, 2021, in Coffeyville, Kansas. [Read about Hobbs.](#)

-- **Navy Electrician's Mate 3rd Class Leslie P. Delles, 21**, of St. Charles, Illinois, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship

resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Delles. He will be buried on Oct. 23, 2021, in Sutter Creek, California. [Read about Delles.](#)

-- **Navy Seaman 1st Class Wilbur F. Ballance, 20**, of Paw Paw, Michigan, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Ballance. He will be buried on Dec. 3, 2021, at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. [Read about Ballance.](#)

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