



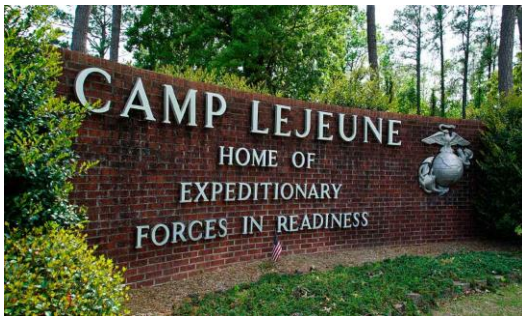
ACTION CORPUS WEEKLY



November 14, 2022



VFW Participates in Veterans Day Events: VFW National Commander Tim Borland took part in two ceremonies in the Washington, D.C., area on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2022. He represented the VFW at Arlington National Cemetery where he laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Borland and VFW Auxiliary National President Jane Reape laid a wreath at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial during an afternoon ceremony.



VFW, Bergmann & Moore Collaborate to Assist with Camp Lejeune Lawsuit: Section 804 of the VFW-championed *Honoring our PACT Act of 2022* authorizes veterans and military families who were exposed to toxic water at Camp Lejeune from August 1953 to December 1987 to file a federal tort claim for harm caused by such exposure. “Since the PACT Act added another recourse for veterans and their families suffering the effects of toxic exposure at Camp Lejeune, getting the right legal advice is crucial,” said VFW National Commander Tim Borland. “That’s why we turned to our long-trusted relationship with Bergmann & Moore to provide counsel for those we assist.” The VFW encourages anyone who wishes to join the Camp Lejeune Justice Act lawsuit to visit vfw.org/CampLejeuneHelp or call 800.898.9450.



TRICARE Open Season Begins Today: TRICARE Open Season will run from Nov. 14 to Dec. 13, 2022. This is your chance to enroll or change your health care plan for the next year. If you are satisfied with your current plan then your coverage will continue automatically for 2023, as long as you remain eligible. It is important to note that new retirees have only one year to enroll for TRICARE Prime. Enrollment in TRICARE Prime or Select is not automatic for retirees. [Learn more.](#)



National Park Service Lifetime Passes Now Available: With the passage of the VFW-supported *Alexander Lofgren Veterans in Parks (VIP) Act* that passed into law last December as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, service members, veterans, and Gold Star Families are now eligible for the National Park Service Lifetime Pass. The passes provide access to U.S. national parks and other federal recreation areas, include access for up to three guests, and may cover some parking fees. [Learn more.](#)



The PACT Act and VA Benefits: Following the recent passage of the *Honoring our PACT Act*, VA is providing responses to commonly asked questions. What is the PACT Act and how will it affect my benefits? What does it mean to have a presumptive condition for toxic exposure? What is the eligibility for veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras? [Read more](#) from VA regarding both veteran and survivor benefits. For more information or assistance filing a claim, please contact a [VFW Service Officer](#).



VA Caregiver Phase II Expansion: Caregivers of veterans who served after May 7, 1975, and before Sept. 11, 2001, can apply for VA's Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC). This program offers education and training, access to health care insurance, mental health counseling, financial stipends, and respite care among other benefits for caregivers of eligible veterans. As part of the *VA MISSION Act of 2018*, PCAFC will expand in two phases. The first phase launched in 2020 is for caregivers of veterans injured in the line of duty on or before May 7, 1975. The

second phase is for those injured in the line of duty between May 7, 1975, and Sept. 11, 2001. [Read more.](#)



MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced three burial updates and two new identifications 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 Air Force Staff Sgt. David E. Holeman, 39**, of Le Harpe, Kansas, was assigned to the 17th Pursuit Squadron, 24th Pursuit Group, when Japanese forces invaded the Philippine Islands in December 1941. Intense fighting continued until the surrender of the Bataan peninsula in April 1942. He was among those captured and held at the Cabanatuan POW Camp, where he reportedly died on July 19, 1942, and was buried. He will be buried on April 23, 2023, in Independence, Kansas. [Read about Holeman.](#)

-- **Army Pvt. James R. Tash, 20**, of St. Louis, Missouri, was assigned to Company F, 2nd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, when Japanese forces invaded the Philippine Islands in December 1941. Intense fighting continued until the surrender of the Bataan peninsula in April 1942. Tash was among those captured and held at the Cabanatuan POW Camp where he reportedly died on July 19, 1942, and was buried. He will be buried in St. Louis, Missouri on a date yet to be determined. [Read about Tash.](#)

-- **Army Sgt. Alfred H. Sidney, 23**, of Littleton, New Hampshire, was assigned to Company H, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on May 18, 1951, after his unit was attacked near Hangye, South Korea. A repatriated POW reported Sidney had been captured and held as a prisoner of war at Camp #1 where he died in July 1951. He will be buried in his hometown on a date yet to be determined. [Read about Sidney.](#)

-- **Army Air Force Cpl. Charles W. Eeds, 23**, was assigned to the 48th Material Squadron, in the Philippines, when Japanese forces invaded the Philippine Islands in December 1941. Intense fighting continued until the surrender of the Bataan peninsula in April 1942. Eeds was among those captured and held at the Cabanatuan POW Camp where he

reportedly died on July 19, 1942, and was buried. Interment services are pending. [Read about Eeds.](#)
-- **Army Reserve Chief Warrant Officer 3 Larry A. Zich, 24**, was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 37th Signal Battalion, 1st Signal Brigade. On April 3, 1972, the UH-1H Iroquois helicopter on which Zich was co-pilot departed on a combat support mission to Quang Tri City. During the flight, the pilot reported to a ground controller that he was lost. The team was reported missing when the helicopter failed to return to any air bases in South Vietnam, and aerial search was initiated but found nothing. Interment services are pending. [Read about Zich.](#)

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