

The Ranger Way

June 2026



Commanders Corner

Commander's Corner

Greetings Fellow Legionnaires,

I hope that everyone was able to enjoy family and honor our fallen during Memorial Day Weekend . We are celebrating The Army Birthday and National Flag Day on the 14th, and Father's Day this month. The History Officer also records the commissioning of the first US Navy officers in 1794, The First Naval Aeronautical Detachment lands at Brest, France in 1917 and of course Operation Overlord and D-Day as well as other military stories of note and some YouTube videos. The Service Officer has information on **VA National Cemetery burial and memorial benefits, VA Disability Compensation, Travel Pay and Kidney Health along with VA apps to navigate your benefits.** There are also some California Legion Department stories on PROPOSED COLA BILL WOULD INCREASE VA DISABILITY AND SURVIVOR BENEFITS, GYPSUM CANYON VETERANS CEMETERY MOVES FORWARD, JUNE 1 DUE DATE APPROACHING FOR MANDATORY POST, DISTRICT, AND AREA FORMS

All are invited to our Post meeting which is on June 1st where we have a social hour prior to the meeting with meals served, so please plan on attending. There are also the usual District-wide events like Monday chess at Post 858, Vet to Vet Café at Post 419 on Thursdays. Post 419 is also hosts a First Sunday Breakfast. We are hosting a BBQ for the VA Patients on the 20th. [Check the District 13 Calendar](#) and [Post 642 Calendar](#) for information.

Remember that we generally meet at [the Odd Fellows Lodge #70 on Homestead Road](#) on the first Monday of the Month at 1800 for socializing and a light meal and refreshments then check out the meeting at 1900.

We really want to get more people attending the Post meetings and events and to be more social, so let us know your ideas by coming to our meetings. **I would like the current attending members/officers to use the roster to call and invite members to our meeting which is also a form of Buddy Check.** Newly attending members do give us a heads-up, so that we can requisition extra rations versus our regular contingent. The next person on the meals roster ([on the Adjutant's Corner](#)) will take the cooler with drinks, etc for the next meeting. If additional drinks are required, it will be reimbursed above the normal meal amount. I have the cooler and will bring it to the meeting for the meal.

We need a Finance Officer to step up as our long time Finance Officer Mike O'Meara needed to step down for personal reasons and Arturo is temporarily holding that position as well as Adjutant. If you have questions about the position, please reach out to either Mike O'Meara at (408) 691-8277 or momeara47@yahoo.com or Arturo (Adjutant and Temporary Finance Officer). In our Post ByLaws Section 5. Duties of the Finance Officer. The Finance Officer shall be charged with custody of the funds of the Post. He shall keep its accounts and report thereon at regular meeting of the Post. They shall receive all funds of the Post and pay all bills approved by the Post. The office of Finance Officer and any other officers and/or positions charged by the Post Constitution and/or Bylaws, with the responsibility of handling Post funds, should be bonded and must pass a credit check. This position is very important for maintaining the Post Charter and eligibility in the District.

Please remember that if you have Post or Veterans events that you would like on the calendar get them to Arturo. Please include pertinent information like event information, contacts, address, where to meet, etc.

<https://www.americanlegionpost642.com/site/eventscalendar.php?y=2023&m=3>

If you know of deceased members during the past few months either bring their name and share with our District Chaplain, (currently vacant) so contact the Adjutant at wheimsoth@aol.com with information or if you would like to volunteer for the District 13 Chaplain position.

To Comradeship!

Vincent Guinnane
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Cell: +1 (408) 219-0191

First Vice Commanders Notes

None

2026 Membership Report (As of 26 April 2026)

2026 Membership Goal: 65
Paid Up for Life (PUFL): 13
Online Annual Renewals: 16
Multi-Annual Renewals: 4
Mail Renewals: 15
Post 1000 Transfers: 0

Total Members: 48/73.9%
Newly renewed Members: 1
New Members: 0
Renewals Pending Submittal: 0
Members not yet renewed: 18
District Rank: 11th out of 11

Renewed Members Since Last Report: Jack Taylor USN Vietnam War, 17 years

[Membership Report URL](#)

Adjutant Update

Greetings Legionnaires,

I am currently in Japan with my wife Carmen and we are enjoying the sights and cuisine that Japan has to offer. We decided to use one of our military benefits as a military retiree which is flying via Space Available (Military Hop). As retirees we are category 6 (which is the lowest category) for these flights. We flew out of Travis AFB on a C-5

which was headed to Hickham AFB in Honolulu, then Andersen AFB in Guam and finally Yokota AB near Tokyo Japan. The C-5's which can hold 73 passengers in the cabin above the cargo area are prone to breaking down due to their age (some are over 40 years old). We had no problem on the first leg arriving at Hickham. We spent the night there as the crew needed their rest. The next day we were at the airfield at O'dark hundred, boarded the aircraft and after about 40 minutes waiting on the ground, they told us to disembark as there were some mechanical issues. We spent the next 6 hours in the terminal with two other retired couples and were finally told that the aircraft was not able to fly and maybe the next day the status could change. We spent another night there and in the morning decided to take a C-17 that was flying to Kadena AB in Okinawa. The 6 of us were the only passengers on the flight, and the plane was 2/3 full of cargo. I was fortunate enough to be able to sit in the cockpit during takeoff, a little over 10 hours we finally landed in Okinawa. I was very impressed with the Airmen who I interacted with both on the ground and in the air, they were very professional and it's great to see the men and women performing in an exemplary manner.

We were able to do a drive by on our way to the commercial airport the next day of some of the battles sites that took place during the allied invasion which occurred from 1 April 1945-22 June 1945, the USMC, USN and USA suffered more than 48,000 casualties while defeating the Japanese forces who sustained over 95,000 casualties. We spent a week in Tokyo and visited Kyoto which was not damaged during the war and are now in Osaka which was bombed during the end of the war. Having been at the USS Arizona Memorial several years ago, it is strange being in a country that we were at war with only 81 years ago. It's not too hard to imagine the views of the Japanese when Doolittle's bombers flew over Tokyo in 1942! Unless anything significant takes place I should be back home prior to the upcoming June meeting scheduled for 1 June.

Just a reminder that we have a CA state primary elections on 2 June, where 41 persons are on the ballot for Governor. If you haven't yet voted please consider that we as Veterans have fought to preserve your right to vote in these elections.

We had our nominations for the upcoming 2026-27 Legion Year.

The following persons were nominated:

As a reminder here are the current elected positions that we will be accepting nominations for:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Current Officer</u>
Commander	Vince Guinnane
1 st Vice Commander	Cassius Willamson
2 nd Vice Commander	David Han
3 rd Vice Commander	NONE

Three Additional Executive Committee Members (can be any of the appointed officers below or any other Post member not holding an elected Post officer position).

2. Arturo Thiele-Sardina
- 2 Bill Reichard
3. Ken Klinkowski

These positions below are appointed by the Commander:

Adjutant	Arturo Thiele-Sardina
Finance Officer	Arturo Thiele-Sardina (Acting/Temporary)
Seargent of Arms	Ken Klinkowski
Judge Advocate	Bob Devlin
Historian	Dennis Whittaker
Chaplain	Bill Reichard

“Duty First”

Arturo

Upcoming events for June-August 2026

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|--|
| 1 June | 1900 hrs. | Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows.
Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA |
| 20 June | 1000 hrs. | VA BBQ Palo Alto VA Site, 3801 Miranda Ave, Palo Alto |
| 6 July | 1900 hrs. | Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows.
Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA |
| 25 July | 1100 hrs. | Post 642 Picnic, Stevens Creek County Park (Sycamore Site) |
| 3 August | 1900 hrs. | Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows.
Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA |

For more events and detailed event information please visit our [website events page](#).

Historian Report

[Historian's Report](#)

<https://americanlegionpost642.com/index.php?id=102>

National Days and Months:

There is a neat description of June here with regard to the National Days and also where the rest of these links can be found. <https://www.nationaldaycalendar.com/June>
Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, and Alaska were all admitted to the Union in June. There are also quite a few culinary days like National Strawberry Rhubarb Pie Day (a personal favorite as we grew Rhubarb in backyard in Detroit) and Martini Day.

NATIONAL HEIMLICH MANEUVER DAY – June 1

<https://youtu.be/GFCYB4vMw9E?si=6QwdQpNzeAolyDPj>

D-Day | June 6 https://youtu.be/Abk0mhu4a-g?si=7Hgvwp_RqeMle7P

NATIONAL EYEWEAR DAY | JUNE 6

VA cover eyewear? https://youtu.be/zPcCJfl_38M?si=6M1vFGzdpFQGsabX

Types of Lenses: https://youtu.be/ggsz3B3lo7E?si=n-0uktoswOS_aa-N

ARMY BIRTHDAY – June 14 <https://youtu.be/Bcfk1WHC33o?si=qWOc-zQsQzpGhKIL>

NATIONAL FLAG DAY – June 14

<https://youtu.be/qy6jTFkEbA8?si=HqWfBszKXmChZ5tB>

NATIONAL AMERICAN EAGLE DAY – June 20

<https://youtu.be/FaS515ZkFQU?si=F3sfQMdJv4R5xgB7>

FATHER'S DAY – Third Sunday in June https://youtu.be/WVGo0m_DoxY?si=e5-vwxa2-iKLhyy6

NATIONAL PTSD AWARENESS DAY-June 27

https://youtu.be/YMC2jt_QVEE?si=LHRNPSv_klmV6mHI

Military History: D-Day

June 5

ft 1794: The first six officers of the new United States Navy receive their commissions: Captain John Barry (the first captain in the Continental Navy and considered the “father of the American Navy), Samuel Nicholson, Silas Talbot, Joshua Barney, Richard Dale, and Thomas Truxtun.

1917: The First Naval Aeronautical Detachment lands at Brest, France, becoming the first American military unit deployed for World War I. The Naval aviators, commanded by Lt. Kenneth Whiting, will conduct anti-submarine patrols throughout the war. The service collier USS *Jupiter* that carried the detachment across the Atlantic will be converted to the United States’ first aircraft carrier, USS *Langley* (CV-1) in 1920.

1944: As the sun sets on airfields across England, 13,328 American paratroopers with the 82d and 101st Airborne Divisions (along with nearly 8,000 British and Canadian paratroopers) board the C-47 transports and gliders that will carry them behind Nazi lines on “the Great Crusade.” 1,000 British bombers pound German defenses at the beaches of Normandy while thousands of ships carrying some 130,000 Allied soldiers steam towards France After months of planning, Operation Overlord is finally underway. Earlier in the day, Lt. Col. Leon R. Vance led a diversionary bombing mission over Wimereaux, France. Anti-aircraft fire cripples his plane, killing the pilot and wounding Vance and several crew members. Despite only one engine still functioning, he regains control of the aircraft and continues to lead the formation as they successfully bomb the target. With the assistance of another airman, he applies a tourniquet to his leg and orders the crew to bail out of the

fatally wounded bomber. When he learns that one of the airmen is too injured to bail, he ditches the aircraft in the English Channel to help give his comrade a fighting chance of survival. Vance is pinned in the cockpit as the bomber slips under the waves, but is blown clear of the bird by an explosion. Vance is awarded the Medal of Honor after being recovered by search-and-rescue crews.

Meanwhile, the B-29 "Superfortress" flies its first combat mission. Bombers flying out of airfields in India attack Japanese rail lines and other targets in Bangkok, Thailand.

1951: Benjamin F. Wilson served as an infantry officer during World War II before resigning his commission. He re-enlists as a private shortly after leaving the service volunteers for combat in Korea. When Master Sgt. Wilson's company is ordered to take the well-fortified Hell Hill, Wilson leads a bayonet charge that nets 27 dead Chinese soldiers. The enemy mounts a counterattack and Wilson makes a one-man charge that drives off the communists. The battlefield is littered with dead and wounded soldiers taken out by Wilson's rifle, bayonet, grenades, and entrenching tool. Just four days after the actions that would earn him the Medal of Honor, Wilson ignores his wounds and conducts another valiant one-man charge when his unit is forced to seek cover during another assault on an enemy-held hill near Nodong-ni, Korea. Wilson is again recommended for the Medal of Honor, but since Army policy forbids awarding the prestigious honor to the same soldier more than once, he is awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

1971: Special Forces Staff Sgt. Jon R. Cavaiani's platoon is attacked by a numerically superior enemy force at a camp in Vietnam. Cavaiani, acting as the platoon leader, delivers heavy fire on the enemy using a variety of weapons and when the decision is made to evacuate the camp, he organizes the withdrawal by helicopter. The next morning, the enemy attacks again before helicopters can lift out the remaining defenders. Cavaiani mans a machine gun and orders his fellow soldiers to escape. After inflicting severe losses on the enemy soldiers, he is captured and spends the next two years in captivity. Upon his return to the States, the Irish-born Cavaiani is awarded the Medal of Honor.

June 6

1918: Two battalions of Marines, led by Brig. Gen. James Harbord, advance against four German divisions in Belleau Wood, the site of an old French hunting preserve near Chateau-Thierry. The Marines face withering fire, with over 1,000 casualties in the first day of battle alone. In three weeks, the Marines drive out the Germans, but at a high cost; Enemy machine guns, artillery, and gas attacks inflict 10,000 American casualties. But the tenacity of the "Devil Dogs" at Belleau Wood becomes legend.

During the battle, Lt. (j.g.) Weedon E. Osborne – a medical officer attached to the 6th Marines – is killed by an enemy shell while carrying the wounded to safety. He is posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. Meanwhile, a wounded Gunnery Sgt. Ernest A. Janson (serving under the name of Charles Hoffman) and his fellow Marines are consolidating the ground they recently gained at Hill 142. The Germans attempt a counterattack, and when Janson spots 12 enemy soldiers making their way towards the Americans, he rushes forward, killing the leaders with his bayonet and scattering the remaining men. The Army and Navy both award Janson with the Medal of Honor.

1942: Commander-in-chief of the Combined Fleet Admiral Yamamoto Isoroku orders his fleet to withdraw from the Battle of Midway. Although the Americans have lost the carrier

Yorktown and a destroyer, Japanese losses are staggering: all four of the fleet's aircraft carriers (whose aircraft attacked Pearl Harbor six months ago) and a heavy cruiser are sent to the bottom. After a long string of defeats, the United States Navy has dealt Japan "the most stunning and decisive blow in the history of naval warfare."

1944: Just after 2 a.m., some 13,000 American and British paratroopers and glider troops begin landing behind enemy lines in France. 2,000 Allied aircraft bombard German positions in preparation of the invasion. And five hours later, nearly 150,000 American, British, and Canadian troops hit the beaches at Normandy. 1,200 warships and over 4,000 landing ships from eight different navies support the invasion. "Utah" Beach (VII Corps) and "Omaha" Beach (V Corps) are on the right flank. To the left are Gold, Juno, and Sword Beaches, which fall under British command. Losses are heavy for both sides and 4,414 American and Allied soldiers die on "D-Day" – the first day of the largest amphibious operation in history. On Utah Beach, Pvt. Carlton W. Barrett, 1st Lt. Jimmie W. Montieth Jr., and Technician 5th Grade John J. Pinder Jr. are each awarded the Medal of Honor for valor. On Omaha Beach, World War I veteran and son of former president Theodore Roosevelt, Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt Jr. also earns the Medal of Honor.

1957: Two Navy F-8U "Crusaders" and two A-3D "Skywarriors" launch from the deck of USS *Bon Homme Richard* (CVA 31) off the coast of California and fly to USS *Saratoga* (CVA 60), operating off Florida in the first transcontinental, carrier-to-carrier flight. The Crusaders land after three hours and 28 minutes, while the Skywarriors make the trip in four hours and one minute.

1964: Navy Lt. Charles F. Klusmann's RF-8A Crusader was hit for the second time in two days by communist anti-aircraft fire while flying an armed reconnaissance mission in Laos' Plain of Jars. Klusman was hit the day before and as his damaged plane burned for 20 minutes during the return trip to the deck of USS *Kitty Hawk*. On this day, however, he is forced to eject and is captured by enemy forces. Rescue Combat Air Patrol aircraft launch as soon as the first fixed-wing aircraft lost in Southeast Asia goes down and nearby "Air America" helicopters stand by for the order to launch, but all assets are ordered to stand down. Klusman has been abandoned by his government. As word of the betrayal passes up the military's chain of command, Adm. Harry D. Felt phones Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, who confirms that Klusman is on his own. Felt demands to be put through to the President Lyndon Johnson, and finally gets authorization for the rescue mission. By then, it is too late; two helicopters are turned around by heavy enemy fire, critically wounding the would-be rescuers. Klusman incredibly manages to escape in August – one of only a handful of downed airmen to slip out of captivity during what will become the Vietnam War.

June 7

1830: Following nearly four years at sea, the sloop of war USS *Vincennes* arrives at New York, becoming the first United States warship to circumnavigate the globe.

1942: Japan lands an invasion force and occupies the Alaskan islands of Attu and Kiska. 25 American soldiers are killed on Attu and the inhabitants of both islands are relocated and placed in internment. The attack was originally intended to be a diversion for the U.S. Navy during the Battle of Midway, which by this time has been cancelled.

Less than a year later, U.S. and Canadian troops will wipe out the Japanese occupying force nearly to a man.

1944: (D-Day Plus 1) Allied warplanes pound enemy armor and vehicles moving towards the beaches of Normandy. The 1st and 29th Infantry Divisions make slow progress expanding the beachhead at Omaha Beach, where casualties are heavier than all other sectors combined. On Utah Beach, the 4th Infantry Division begins linking up with the heavily scattered paratroopers (only ten percent landed in their drop zones) of the 82d and 101st Airborne Divisions. Three companies of 2d Battalion Rangers, which famously scaled the 100-ft. cliffs at Pointe du Hoc under fire the day before, have taken 50 percent casualties, with their commander Lt. Col. James Rudder having been shot twice. The isolated Rangers will endure numerous counterattacks by Germany's 914th Grenadier Regiment throughout the day and won't be relieved until D-Day Plus 2.

Meanwhile, construction begins on harbors that will deliver soldiers, vehicles, and materiel to the new Western Front.

Service Officer Report

[Service Officer Report](#)

<https://americanlegionpost642.com/index.php?id=119>

California Veterans

You're invited to attend a Memorial Day ceremony at a VA National Cemetery

- Attend a remembrance ceremony.
- Learn about VA burial and memorial benefits.
- Find out what resources you may be eligible for.

This event is open to Veterans, their families, and the community. Come out and honor those who laid down their lives for our freedom on **Sun, May 24, 2026, from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM.**

Event Location:

[San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery](#)

[32053 West McCabe Rd.](#)

[Santa Nella, CA 95322](#)



Scheduled events will begin promptly; early arrival is encouraged.

[Click here to learn more about the San Joaquin Valley VA National Cemetery](#)

Unable to attend?

You can also take a pause during the National Moment of Remembrance, an annual event that asks Americans, wherever they are at 3:00 p.m. local time on Memorial Day, to stop for one minute to remember those who have died in service to our country.

To learn more about VA National Cemetery burial and memorial benefits, please visit [CEM.VA.GOV](https://www.va.gov)

Additional VA Resources



Enroll in VA health care.

- **Apply online:** [VA.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction](https://www.va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction)
- **Apply over the phone:** Call VA toll-free at **1-800-MyVA411** (1-800-698-2411), Option 2.
- **Apply in-person:** Visit your nearest VA medical center (<https://www.VA.gov/find-locations>).

Submit a VA disability compensation \$\$\$ claim.

- [Schedule a virtual or in-person appointment with a VA benefits specialist.](#)
- [Submit your VA disability claim online.](#)
- [Get help from a VA accredited representative or Veteran Service Organization.](#)



with everyone you know who may benefit, including Veterans, caregivers, service members and survivors.

We're making millions of Veterans eligible for [VA health care](#) under the [PACT Act](#). Here's what YOU need to know.

- If you served in **Vietnam**, the **Gulf War**, **Iraq**, or **Afghanistan**, you can enroll.
- If you deployed to **any combat zone after 9/11**, you can enroll.
- If you **deployed in support of the Global War on Terror**, you can enroll.
- And **even if you never deployed but were exposed to toxins** or hazards while training or serving on active duty here at home—by working with chemicals, pesticides, lead, asbestos, certain paints, nuclear weapons, x-rays, and more—you can enroll, too.

Bottom line: all Veterans who meet the minimum service requirements and were exposed to toxins and other hazards—at home or abroad—are eligible to enroll in VA care.

VA provides the best and most affordable health care for Veterans in America – and *this* is your chance to apply. Veterans who are enrolled in VA health care are proven to have better health outcomes than those who get their care elsewhere. And copays can be as low as \$0 for prescriptions, urgent care, outpatient care, and more.

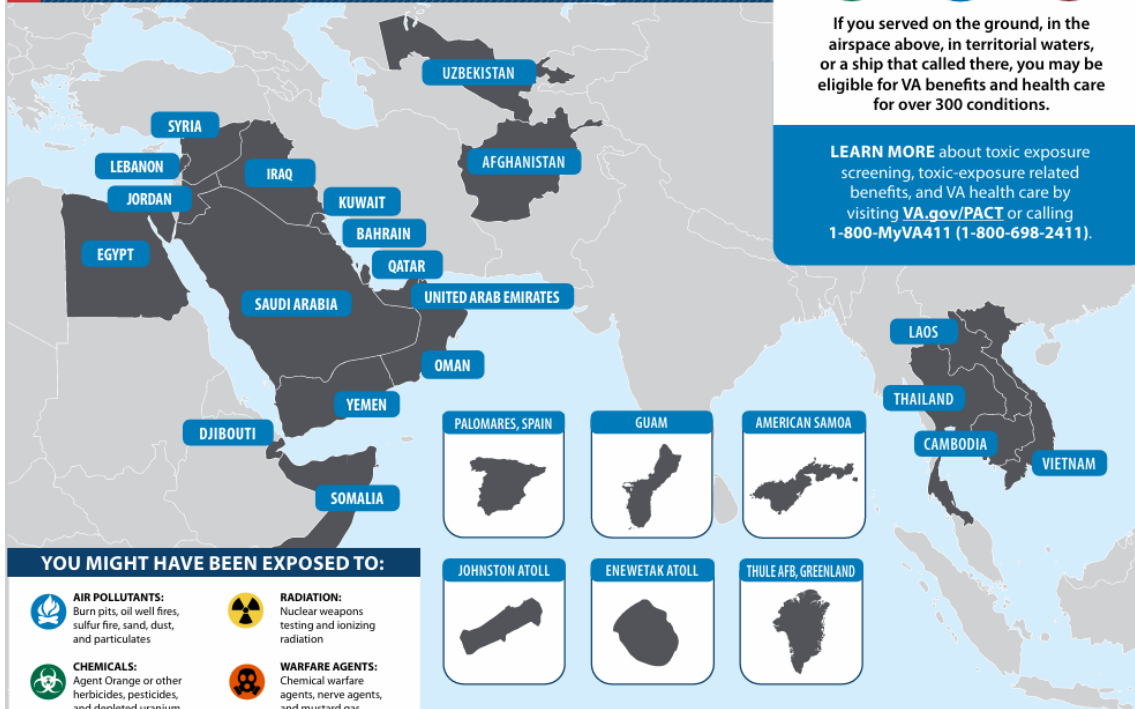
Choosing VA means getting everything you need in one spot. Come see why 90% of patients said they trust VA for their health care. Even if you don't need this care today, you may need it tomorrow, or the next day, or 30 years from now. And once you're in, you have access for life.

DID YOU SERVE HERE?



If you served on the ground, in the airspace above, in territorial waters, or a ship that called there, you may be eligible for VA benefits and health care for over 300 conditions.

LEARN MORE about toxic exposure screening, toxic-exposure related benefits, and VA health care by visiting [VA.gov/PACT](https://www.va.gov/PACT) or calling 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411).



YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO:



AIR POLLUTANTS:
Burn pits, oil well fires, sulfur fire, sand, dust, and particulates



RADIATION:
Nuclear weapons testing and ionizing radiation



CHEMICALS:
Agent Orange or other herbicides, pesticides, and depleted uranium



WARFARE AGENTS:
Chemical warfare agents, nerve agents, and mustard gas



OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS:
Asbestos, lead, fuels, and industrial solvents

Service members may have been subjected to any of these exposures in any of these areas.

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

VA is here for you.

1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411) is always the right number

Veterans Crisis Line: 988 and press 1, Chat, or Text 838255

Vet Centers: 1-877-927-8387

Homeless Veteran Resources: 1-877-424-3838 or Chat

HELLO.


Welcome to VA.
Let's get started.

Download the VA Welcome Kit

VA WELCOME KIT

Find a VA facility near you.

FACILITY LOCATOR



**Download the VA Health and Benefits app
and get access to the resources you need
wherever you are and whenever you want them.**

Manage travel claims on your phone, get recipes and tips for kidney health, ease your stressful mind, and more



[**Travel pay: apply now on your phone**](#)

[**Manage travel reimbursements with VA: Health and Benefits app**](#)

With the VA: Health and Benefits mobile app, you can submit mileage-only travel claims directly from your smartphone or mobile device. Find out if you're eligible for travel reimbursement and how to get started.

[**Learn more**](#)



[**Eating for kidney health**](#)

If you live with kidney disease, you know getting the right nutrition is key. VA dietitians have tips and recipes to help you care for your kidneys. [**Get help with eating for kidney health**](#)



[Calm your mind in stressful times](#)

If you're looking for ways to reduce stress, the Mindfulness Coach app is a great place to start. Begin your mindfulness practice today with this self-guided program. [Learn more about the mindfulness coach app](#)



[An easy guide to your VA benefits](#)

The VA Resource Navigator is a simple, go-to guide for trusted web links, phone numbers, and QR codes to VA services and benefits. Download your copy to keep close by. [View the Navigator to learn more about VA benefits](#)

[Sign in or create an account](#) to manage your VA health care and benefits online.



Our top Veterans news beats over the last week, starting with... a slurry of positive news! CalVet completed a cost study on the proposed Orange County Veterans Cemetery at Gypsum Canyon near Anaheim and found that developing the site will cost \$45 million less than initial estimates. Additionally, phase 1's burial capacity is now expected to be 50% higher. These findings, coupled with promised federal and state funding, appear to be fast tracking the site's official status and development.

More details in the article links below.

(A Lot) More Articles This Week

- This year's annual COLA for Veterans' disability benefits is making its way through Congress, where it's expected to garner bipartisan support. If passed, January's benefits would be increased by just shy of three percent to at least partially address a sharp increase in inflation.

- Looking for Memorial Day events in California? Staff writer Rikki Almanza has gathered a quick list of major commemorations across the state. To include additional events, email Southards.CALegion@gmail.com.
- ICYMI: Our annual Memorial Day and Military Appreciation Month Deal and Discounts hub is still live. If you'd like to share a deal with readers, send info to the address above.

California Veterans News Bites

- On June 21, American Legion Post 295 is hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the dining hall at 5646, Corporate Ave in Cypress. To schedule an appointment, use code *AmericanLegion295* on RedCrossBlood.org.
- The number of four or five star VA hospitals continues to climb year over year, with 78% now earning an Overall Hospital Quality Star Rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. This is up from 67% in 2023.

SHARE YOUR CONTENT

Have a commission or committee report you'd like highlighted?
Did your post or district hold a major event you're proud of?
Would you like to write how-to articles to share your expertise
with other Legion Family members?



We would love to feature your content on the Department website.

[UPLOAD AN ARTICLE](#)

VETERANS NEWS

If you want your veterans news more often, visit caLegion.org



MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS ACROSS CALIFORNIA TO HONOR FALLEN HEROES

by Rikki Almanza | May 20, 2026



PROPOSED COLA BILL WOULD INCREASE VA DISABILITY AND SURVIVOR BENEFITS

by Rikki Almanza | May 19, 2026



GYPSUM CANYON VETERANS CEMETERY MOVES FORWARD AFTER CALVET STUDY FINDS LOWER COST PATH

by Rikki Almanza | May 14, 2026



JUNE 1 DUE DATE APPROACHING FOR MANDATORY POST, DISTRICT, AND AREA FORMS

by caLegion HQ | May 15, 2026



DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS CLEANUP EVENT: MAY 30

by caLegion HQ | May 14, 2026



2026 MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH & MEMORIAL DAY DISCOUNTS FOR VETERANS AND ACTIVE MILITARY

by Rikki Almanza | May 7, 2026



HERE'S WHAT 'MEMORIAL DAY' USED TO BE CALLED

by Christian Southards | May 25, 2022



Two ways to support your Department's content:

2.) As always, if you want to donate to support our news production for the website and the print newsletter, you can do so by clicking the button below.

2.) Traffic to the website also helps, so be sure to click on the articles below and click around caLegion.org to read all the other articles.

[SUPPORT TODAY](#)



ARTICLE LINKS

If you're unable to view the above images, click the "Display Images" link

- [MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS ACROSS CALIFORNIA TO HONOR FALLEN HEROES](#)
- [PROPOSED COLA BILL WOULD INCREASE VA DISABILITY AND SURVIVOR BENEFITS](#)
- [GYPSUM CANYON VETERANS CEMETERY MOVES FORWARD AFTER CALVET STUDY FINDS LOWER COST PATH](#)
- [JUNE 1 DUE DATE APPROACHING FOR MANDATORY POST, DISTRICT, AND AREA FORMS](#)
- [DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS CLEANUP EVENT: MAY 30](#)
- [2026 MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH & MEMORIAL DAY DISCOUNTS FOR VETERANS AND ACTIVE MILITARY](#)
- [HERE'S WHAT 'MEMORIAL DAY' USED TO BE CALLED](#)

[Military Humor](#)

**I SEE YOU BUY PLANE TICKETS
BEFORE GETTING YOUR LEAVE
APPROVED**



**I TOO LIKE TO LIVE
DANGEROUSLY**

memegenerator.net

WHEN YOU FINALLY USE YOUR



GI BILL

When they say "let's go"



right when you open your MRE

