



Two Utah Veterans Discover Massacre and Endure Lifelong Friendship

By Milo Quiroz

During the 1930's and 40's there was virtually no place unaffected by the escalating second world war. Millions of young men took up arms to fulfill their duty to protect their country, and Allen Tibbitts and Thomas Kerr were no exception. On February 13, 1943, Tibbitts and Kerr were drafted into the United States Army. Their military service during World War II began a three year venture, a lifelong friendship, and the unearthing of one of WWII's horrific massacres.

Before being drafted in 1943, Tibbitts and Kerr were perfect strangers. Though they lived only a few miles from each other in the state of Utah, they would not meet until they began their basic training at Camp Walters, Texas. From the get-go they hit it off and vowed to watch out for one another. After the completion of their basic training, they joined the paratroopers and received their wings in June of 1943 at Fort Benning, Georgia. Tibbitts and Kerr were assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division and two short weeks later deployed to North Africa, the first of many destinations.

During February 1944, the battle for Anzio, Italy as part of Operation Shingle was in full swing. The number of casualties were mounting on both the German and the Allied sides. Tibbitts and Kerr were among the many sent to support the effort. During the battle, Kerr was wounded in his back by a large piece of shrapnel and Tibbitts by smaller shrapnel on his neck for which they would later receive purple hearts. They remained in Italy after the Allied victory in the battle and were then given an assignment to guard a large supply train. Tibbitts and Kerr were the only ones assigned this task. They were in route for roughly a month before reaching Rome, where they finally had a few days to relax.

While in Italy, Kerr met a young lady from Elizabeth, New Jersey. The young lady had been visiting her aunt and became stuck behind enemy lines. Tibbitts and Kerr were invited to the young lady's aunt's house for meals several times. Their trek consisted of a one mile walk

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Social Security Expedites Applications for Newly Discharged Disabled Vets

Servicemembers who become disabled while on active duty will receive "expedited processing" of disability claims from Social Security. The expedited process is for military servicemembers who were disabled on or after Oct. 1, 2001, regardless of where the disability occurs. People in the military can apply for and receive



Above, artist rendering of the Veterans Nursing Home in Ogden. The Home is currently under construction and is expected to be complete by November of 2009.

Northern Utah Veterans Nursing Home Update

By Berni Davis and Dennis McFall

The Veterans Nursing Home in Ogden is under construction with a target completion date of November 2009.

This 120 bed Skilled Nursing Facility, located at 1102 North 1200 West in Ogden, will provide much needed long term care for veterans statewide, but particularly for those in the northern counties. Feel free to drive by and track the construction progress. Additional facilities are scheduled for both Utah County and for the St. George area but a great deal of work is yet to be done in those locations to secure land and funding. Grants for construction of all facilities have been approved by the VA but not funded. Fortunately our Utah Legislature stepped up last year and provided funds to construct the Ogden nursing home on the premise that once the VA grant is funded the state will be repaid 65% of the cost, most likely in 3-5 years because of our priority ranking on the VA project list, and depending on the budget situation in Washington DC.

The Ogden facility will provide 90 beds for long-term health care and 30 beds for specialized care such as dementia, most notably Alzheimer's disease. The facility will incorporate much of what the VA has termed Culture Change. Instead of a single large building with long hallways and a somewhat "medical" environment, the plan includes four separate units, each with 30 beds, and each with its' own dining and social area. The intent is to provide as much of a homelike atmosphere as possible, with freedom to move about various areas or "neighborhoods". Large garden areas are also planned. A total of 16 private rooms will be available with the

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Upcoming Events

May 14th: Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament, Hill Air Force Base

May 22nd: Women Veterans Memorial Luncheon

May 25th: Memorial Day Program, Veterans Cemetery 10am

June 4-6: DAV State Convention

June 12-14: VFW State Convention

June 20-22: American Legion State Convention

June 25th: Veterans Benefit and Information Fair, Ogden Marriott 4-7pm

July 1-3: Hogle Zoo Military Appreciation Days- Free entrance for Military and Veterans.

Visit www.veterans.utah.gov for more details on these events.

benefits even while receiving military pay. Social Security also developed a new website all about benefits for wounded warriors that includes a link to apply for disability benefits online. Disability applicants can also call 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) to schedule an appointment at their local Social Security office. Or visit <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/woundedwarriors>

Thoughts from the Editor . . . Share Your Story

By Berni Jo Davis, Editor

At least twice a week I receive a phone call from a grieving family member calling to find out about burial benefits for their loved one and Veteran who has just passed away. Of the questions that always come up: What kind of benefits are there? Will the VA pay for anything? Where do I get a burial flag? What about military honors? How can we find out where he served, he never told us anything? The one question that I must ask in all situations: Do you have the military discharge paper?

The real tragedy often comes from the family members who not only lack the documentation that is necessary to get all of these benefits, but also lack the information needed to obtain them, such as where and when the Veteran served.

On the flip side, I also talk to at least two Veterans a week who have no interest in using or accessing VA benefits, do not want their medals, and do not want to share their story. Often it is because they just don't think it's very interested, or worth sharing.

What I do know is this: for every Veteran who does not care about preserving their service documents, medals and memories, there is at least one family member who does care about it, who is proud of the service of their family and wants to know more.

I urge all Veterans to share their stories with their families. To save their medals, certificates and documents because even if you don't want them, your child or grand child or spouse or mother might want them.

Though it is possible to get replacement documents and medals, when the family is planning the funeral for the Veterans and they have to have those documents, is the worst time to go looking for them.

Make sure your family knows what you want, make sure they (and you) know where your discharge papers are and share your stories.

WWII are dying at an alarming rate and every one that is lost, takes their story with them and therefore a piece of history. In just a few more decades, Korea and Vietnam Veterans will follow. Don't let your piece of history die. Don't leave your family members in the dark searching for any information they can find on your military service. Share your story.

To get replacement medals, or documents visit the National Personnel Records Center website at vetrecs.archives.gov to make a request.

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It's your Voice, let it be heard

USE YOUR VOICE!!!
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Did You Know... Disabled Veterans Can Receive Free Entrance to State and National Parks

By Ashley Gober

America the Beautiful Pass

Eligible veterans can qualify for an America the Beautiful Pass, a program offered by the VA in all states. This passport is a lifetime pass to most national parks, recreational areas, historic sites, and wildlife refuges that charge an entrance fee. It **may** also provide a 50 percent discount on additional fees for activities such as boat launching and cave tours. If the pass holder is entering with a private vehicle, the pass holder and accompanying passengers will be allowed entry. If not, only the spouse and children of the pass holder will be allowed to accompany the pass holder.

Eligibility:

The veteran must be a United States citizen or permanent resident who has medically been determined to be blind or permanently disabled. Proof of permanent disability or eligibility for receiving benefits under federal law must be provided to obtain the passport. A letter from the VA that states the veteran's disability rating is sufficient proof.

How to Apply:

Obtain the pass in person at either the federal area where an entrance fee is charged or at an agency that can administer the pass.

- 1- Bureau of Land Management-
- 2- Fish and Wildlife Service
- 3- Bureau of Reclamation
- 4- Army Corps of Engineers
- 5- National Park Service: Such as Arches, Bryce Canyon, Mormon Pioneer National Trail
- 6- Forest Service: Examples: Dixie, Manti LaSal, Uinta, and Fishlake

Utah Special Fun Tags

The State of Utah offers a program that provides free admission to most of Utah's 41 state parks, campgrounds, and recreational areas. The Utah Special Fun Tags also includes a two dollar camping fee discount when used Monday through Thursday, not including holidays.

The pass is available to disabled veterans. Veterans can apply for the Special Fun Tags with the Utah Division of Parks and Recreation. A letter from the VA must be included with the application that states the veteran's service-connected disability rating to be at 10 percent or higher.

To have an application mailed to you, call the States Parks and Recreation office at (801) 538-7220 or 1-877-UTPARKS (887-2757). You can also download an application at www.stateparks.utah.gov.

Utah Department of Veterans Affairs hosts a PTSD Awareness Seminar in St. George

By Darin C. Farr

On April 3rd the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs hosted a seminar for law enforcement and community leaders from Southern Utah.

As part of their outreach efforts to address the mental health needs of returning OEF/ OIF veterans, the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs organized a workshop event for city, county and state elected leadership and the executive leadership of the major law enforcement agencies from Iron and Washington counties. The seminar focused on a training video produced by the department to educate law enforcement about the factors associated with combat-related Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

The video, titled "The Walking Wounded Are Coming Home," aims to reduce the stigma of P.T.S.D. and show law enforcement officers they can reduce the volatility of encounters with combat veterans, especially if they better understand the vet's experience and use that in a calm approach. Originally the training video was intended for distribution within the state, but with the collaboration of the Federal

Department of Veterans Affairs, the video is already being utilized by law enforcement agencies in nine states other than Utah.

After screening the video attendees were presented with the unique opportunity to have an open dialogue with an organized Q&A panel made up of PTSD Counselors, clinicians and actual combat veterans from Vietnam and Operation Iraqi Freedom who were willing to discuss their own PTSD and its effect on their lives.

In conjunction with the day long Veterans Benefits and Information Fair held on April 3rd at the Wingate by Wyndham hotel, the seminar was received as welcome information by those who attended. Prominent officials who attended included State Senators Dennis Stowell (District 28) and Stephen H. Urquhart (District 29).

Similar workshops are planned for other areas of Utah in the coming months. For more information about upcoming workshops and Veterans Benefits please contact the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs at 1(800) 894-9497 or visit us on our website at www.veterans.utah.gov

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

Utah Dept of Veterans Affairs:	(801) 326-2372
Toll Free:	1-800-894-9497
VA Regional Office:	1-800-827-1000
VA Medical Center:	1-800-613-4012
Local:	(801) 582-1565
Veterans Cemetery:	(801) 254-9036
Veterans Nursing Home:	(801) 584-1900
Transition Assistance:	(801) 523-4937

An Open Letter From The Secretary of The Department of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki

Fellow Veterans,

My name is Eric Shinseki, and I am a Veteran. For me, serving as Secretary of Veterans Affairs is a noble calling. It provides me the opportunity to give back to those who served with and for me during my 38 years in uniform and those on whose shoulders we all stood as we grew up in the profession of arms.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has a solemn responsibility to all of you, today and in the future, as more Veterans join our ranks and enroll to secure the benefits and services they have earned. I am fully committed to fulfilling President Obama's vision for transforming our department so that it will be well-positioned to perform this duty even better during the 21st Century. We welcome the assistance and advice of our Veterans Service Organizations, other government departments and agencies, Congress, and all VA stakeholders as we move forward, ethically and transparently, so that Veterans and citizens can understand our efforts.

Creating that vision for transforming the VA into a 21st Century organization requires a comprehensive review of our department. We approach that review understanding that Veterans are central to everything VA does. We know that results count, that the department will be measured by what we do, not what we promise, and that our best days as an organization supporting Veterans are ahead of us. We will fulfill

President Lincoln's charge to care for "... him, who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan" by redesigning and reengineering ourselves for the future.

Transforming any institution is supremely challenging; I know this from my own experience in leading large, proud, complex, and high-performing organizations through change. But the best organizations must be prepared to meet the challenging times, evolving technology and, most importantly, evolving needs of clients. Historically, organizations that are unwilling or unable to change soon find themselves irrelevant. You and your needs are not irrelevant.

Veterans are our clients, and delivering the highest quality care and services in a timely, consistent and fair manner is a VA responsibility. I take that responsibility seriously and have charged all of the department's employees for their best efforts and support every day to meet our obligations to you. Our path forward is challenging, but the President and Congress support us. They have asked us to do this well—for you. Veterans are our sole reason for existence and our number one priority—bar none. I look forward to working together with all VA employees to transform our department into an organization that reflects the change and commitment our country expects and our Veterans deserve.

Thank you and God bless our military, our Veterans, and our Nation.

Lioness the Film, second National Broadcast Letter

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Greetings. Since our national broadcast on Independent Lens, LIONESS has continued to impact audiences and raise awareness of women veteran's issues with audiences around the country. We've had screenings at colleges and universities, veteran conferences, film festivals as well as select theatrical venues.

We are thrilled to announce that on Tuesday, March 31st, we will be presenting excerpts from the film to members of the House Veterans Affairs Committee and four of the women from the film will answer questions. They will also discuss their experiences in Iraq in a press conference in support of a women veterans bill sponsored by Sen. Patty Murray and Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin. These events are co-sponsored by Independent Television Service (ITVS), Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA).

In addition, Independent Lens/PBS has decided to rebroadcast the film on Tuesday June 2, 2009. Check local listings for exact time in your area.

Please continue to check our website <http://www.lionesthefilm.com> for more detailed information and updates from our Capitol Hill presentation.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

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Duckworth Tapped for VA Assistant Secretary

From the VA Office of Media Relations, Washington

WASHINGTON – President Barack Obama has announced his intent to nominate L. Tammy Duckworth, director of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, to be the Assistant Secretary of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

“Effective communications with Veterans and VA’s stakeholders is key to improving our services and ensuring Veterans receive the benefits they deserve,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “Tammy Duckworth brings significant talent, leadership and personal experience to this important work.”

As assistant secretary, Duckworth will direct VA’s public affairs, internal communications and intergovernmental relations. She also will oversee programs for homeless Veterans, consumer affairs and special rehabilitative events.

Duckworth was appointed director of the state Veterans office in Illinois in 2006. In previous testimony before Congress, she expressed her commitment to Veterans and the need for transformation of the Department. “The VA system faces new challenges as a result of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.” She also noted “the patient profile is changing. More wounded soldiers are surviving very serious injuries.”

She is serving as a major in the Illinois National Guard and was previously deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom where, as a captain, she was assistant operations officer for a 500-soldier aviation task force. She also served as a logistics officer and company commander. As a helicopter pilot flying combat missions in 2004, she suffered grave injuries when her helicopter was struck by a rocket-propelled grenade, losing both legs and partial use of one arm.

Her previous managerial experience includes coordinating the Center for Nursing Research at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, and working for Rotary International’s Asia-Pacific region from 2002 to 2004.

Duckworth earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Hawaii and a master’s degree from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Born in Thailand, she is the daughter of a U.S. Marine who fought in Vietnam. She is married to Iraq war Veteran and National Guard officer, Major Bryan Bowlsbey.

President Obama Announces the Creation of a Joint Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record: *Taking Care of America’s Greatest Strategic Asset and Improving the Health Care System for America’s Veterans*

From The White House, Office of the Press Secretary

WASHINGTON – Today, the President, along with Secretary Gates and Secretary Shinseki, announced that the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs have taken the first step in creating a Joint Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record. Currently, there is no comprehensive system in place that allows for a streamlined transition of health care records between DoD and the VA. Both Departments will work together to define and build a system that will ultimately contain administrative and medical information from the day an individual enters military service throughout their military career, and after they leave the military.

Access to electronic records is essential to modern health care delivery and the paperless administration of benefits. It provides a framework to ensure that all health care providers have all the information they need to deliver high-quality health care while reducing medical errors. The creation of this Joint Virtual Lifetime Record by the two organizations would take the next leap to delivering seamless, high-quality care, and serve as a model for the nation.

The President understands that those who serve and have served our country in uniform are America’s greatest strategic asset. The President’s commitment to the sacred trust we have with those who serve is clear in both the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs budgets and in the strong leadership of Secretaries Gates and Shinseki.

The President believes that the quality of care that our veterans receive should never be hindered by budget delays. He has shared this concern with Secretary Shinseki, and they have worked together to support advanced funding of veterans medical care. What that means is a timely and predictable flow of funding from year

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VA Announces Recovery Spending: *Includes \$250 Payment to Eligible Veterans*

From the VA Office of Media Relations, Washington

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will spend more than \$1.4 billion as part of President Obama’s economic recovery plan to improve services to America’s Veterans. VA’s Internet site – www.va.gov/recovery – provides current information about VA’s work to deliver its portion of Recovery Act funds into the economy to benefit Veterans.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) enables the VA to improve medical facilities and national cemeteries, provide grants to assist states in acquiring or constructing state nursing homes and extended care facilities, and to modify or alter existing facilities to care for Veterans.

VA will dedicate ARRA funds to hire and train 1,500 temporary claims processors to speed benefits delivery to Veterans and pursue needed information technology initiatives for improved benefits and services. Funds will also be used to oversee and audit programs, grants, and projects funded under ARRA.

As part of the President’s Recovery plan, VA will also make one-time payments of \$250 to eligible Veterans and survivors to mitigate the effects of the current economy. These payments will be issued as early as June 2009. VA estimates \$700 million in payments will be made to eligible beneficiaries as part of this measure.

To be eligible for the \$250 payment, VA beneficiaries must have received compensation, pension, dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC), or spina bifida benefits at any time between November 2008 and January 2009. Also, beneficiaries must reside within the United States or Puerto Rico, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, or the U.S. Virgin Islands. No application is necessary. VA will use its existing payment records to determine eligibility for the \$250 payment.

Beneficiaries will receive their payments the same way they receive their monthly VA benefits (either by direct deposit or mail). VA will inform beneficiaries and the public when releasing the payments. This payment is not countable in determining eligibility for VA pension or Parents’ DIC. The law allows one \$250 payment per individual. The payment is tax-free. VA beneficiaries who also receive benefits from the Social Security Administration or Railroad Retirement Board will be paid through those agencies, and will therefore not receive the payment from VA. More details, including VA stimulus project timelines, will be available May 1, 2009.

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Psychological Health, Traumatic Brain Injury Outreach Center Opens

The Department of Defense today announced the opening of a 24-hour outreach center to provide information and referrals to military service members, veterans, their families and others with questions about psychological health and traumatic brain injury.

The new center, which is operated by the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE), can be contacted around the clock, 365 days a year, by phone at (866) 966-1020 and by e-mail at resources@dcoeoutreach.org.

"We're providing 24/7 support to assist callers with questions regarding psychological health and traumatic brain injury," said Brig. Gen. Loree K. Sutton, M.D., director of DCoE. "Getting the best possible information and tools, hassle-free, will empower and strengthen warriors and their families to successfully manage what can be confusing and disturbing circumstances."

The center can address everything from routine requests for information about psychological health and traumatic brain injury, to questions about symptoms a caller is having, to helping callers find appropriate health care resources.

DCoE promotes resilience, recovery and reintegration of service members facing psychological health and traumatic brain injury issues, and works to advance research, education, diagnosis and treatment of these conditions.

"If we need to research a question, we'll do the legwork and quickly reconnect with callers," Sutton said. "We welcome feedback on how we can better meet the needs of those we are so privileged to serve."

The DCoE outreach center is staffed by behavioral health consultants and nurses, most with master's degrees. In addition to answering questions, staffers refer callers to contact centers in other parts of the Department of Defense, other federal agencies, and outside organizations when appropriate. Other contact centers also refer callers to the DCoE outreach center.

The center serves members, leaders and healthcare providers of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard, Reserve and all uniformed services, along with veterans of all the services. The families of service members and of veterans are also served by the new center.

More information is available at <http://www.dcoe.health.mil>.

VA Homeless Program Update

More than 21,000 homeless veterans received rehabilitative care services in VA residential programs last year. More than \$334 million was spent on these specialized programs and nearly \$2 billion on overall health care costs for homeless veterans. The number of homeless veterans declined to a 10-year low in 2008 as a result of the combined efforts of VA, nonprofit and faith-based groups in communities, state programs, other federal agencies and Indian tribal governments.

Each November the VA Medical Center, VA Regional Office and Utah Department of Veterans Affairs host a Homeless Veterans Stand Down. Last year, nearly 300 Veterans were assisted.



Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, General Eric K. Shinseki (center) with the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs at their mid winter conference held in Washington DC this February.

Free Education for Wounded Warriors and Spouses

The Computer Technology Industry Association (CompTIA) is an association of all the major computer manufacturers, software developers and companies that install and maintain computer systems for large and small companies all over the country.

CompTIA has an Educational Foundation that runs a program called "Creating Futures". The Creating Futures program was developed to provide veterans with the opportunity to obtain employable skills to achieve rewarding careers. Participants in the Creating Futures program have the opportunity to train towards four IT certifications, which, if you had to pay for, would cost up to \$10,000. In addition, the training is online and accessible via the internet 24/7 and can be accessed throughout the world.

The program provides instructor-led training and online training depending upon geographical location. Participants enrolled in the online training have access to: 24x7 Online Training, Mentoring Services, Practice Exams, and Certification Vouchers.

The Program is made possible through affiliations with member companies and not-for-profit partners

to help individuals gain the skills for permanent employment.

In November, NAUS joined the Washington branch of the Foundation, which was just starting up. Veterans Benefits Advisor Mike Plumer has attended two meetings and is enthusiastic about the opportunities the program offers, free of cost, to veterans and their family members.

The program costs nothing for those wounded warriors or their spouses who are chosen to participate. If chosen, you may have the opportunity to gain certification in up to four areas, which, if you had to pay for, would cost up to \$10,000.

If you are a veteran or spouse and have an interest in the IT field, please check the information on the NAUS website on the Veterans page.

Also to read more about the program Click Here or to link to the CompTIA Creating Futures website.

We also encourage our members and supporters to please contact members of their families or other veterans that you know and let them know about this great opportunity. Just ask them to say they heard about the program from the Washington CompTIA group. We are trying to track how many people apply and hear about it from us.

Kaplan University to Offer Discounts for Military

Kaplan University now provides a 53 percent reduced tuition rate for active-duty (AD, ACTIVE Drilling Status) military students; veterans are eligible for a 34 percent reduced tuition rate. As a proud employer of many veterans, reservists, and National Guard members, we join Kaplan University's efforts in their support of those who have served their country in this capacity.

Through our partnership with Kaplan University, Kaplan University offers more than 100 programs and

degrees, including associates, bachelors, and master's degrees. They also offer diagnostic tools to assist students in determining their learning style and fine-tuning their educational goals. The online format also provides the flexibility for working adults to pursue their education while balancing career, family, and studies.

If you would like to learn more about earning your degree at Kaplan University, and the special tuition rates provided to SALT LAKE CHAMBER MEMBERS employees, please visit www.saltlakechamber.kaplan.edu or Jose Revera at (312) 777-6523 or 866-527-5268.

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Massacre: Continued from page 1

up a hill and Tibbitts recalls that "every time in a certain place, we could smell rotting flesh". Their curiosity and concern led them to stray from their usual path and venture northward to pinpoint the cause of the unusual smell. Not far from their path they found the remarkable stench coming from two deep holes. Having little idea of what was in the darkness of the mysterious holes, they called the police. The police quickly responded with heavy machinery and opened a huge entrance to a very large cave. There they discovered the aftermath of an atrocity the Italians were long searching for. A priest assisting in the matter asked Tibbitts and Kerr to enter the cave with him. Tibbitts remembers witnessing hundreds of decaying bodies. "All of their clothes were stacked on the north side of the cave and they had been machine gunned and then stacked all around the wall about five feet deep". Unlike many highly publicized massacres that occurred during WWII, this massacre claimed 335 lives and was never highly publicized and remains controversial.

On March 23, 1944, sixteen Italian partisans targeted a German police unit that was marching through central Rome. They planted and detonated a bomb that resulted in the death of 32 German soldiers. Adolf Hitler quickly issued orders for the execution of ten Italians for every one German soldier killed in the attack. The victims were comprised of 75 Jews who were chosen randomly, others were Italians who were simply near the attack, and the rest were Italians who were accused of antifascist activity

and had already been imprisoned. The bodies of the victims were secretly hidden. This ordeal was later known as the Ardeatine Massacre.

Tibbitts and Kerr were unaware the Italians had long been searching for the grave site. They were both thanked for their discovery and did not hear anything further on the matter until Tibbitts came across an article in the local paper in 1996 that read "Nazi Acquitted in Massacre". This article covered forovemer Hauptsturmführer (equivalent to Captain in the German Army) in the Waffen SS Erich Priebke's participation in the Adreantine Massacre and his many sentencing appeals. Because of old age, Priekbe was eventually sentenced to house arrest and later allowed to leave his home for work purposes. The story of this massacre was dramatized in the 1962 film *Dieci italiani per un Tedesco* by Filippo Walter Ratti and starring Gino Cervi, and in 1973 in the film *Massacre in Rome* by George Pan Cosmatos, starring Marcello Mastroianni and Richard Burton.

The discovery of the Adreantine caves was just a small chapter during Tibbitts and Kerr's service during WWII. The broader picture of their experiences is one of a strong bond that perhaps only a veteran might understand.

Since they met at Camp Walter in 1943, they have remained close friends, like brother, until Kerr's death in February of 2009.



Allen Tibbitts, left, and Tom Kerr, right, began their lifelong friendship in basic training in 1943

Governor Jon Huntsman Signs Helmets to Hardhats Declaration declaring March 30, 2009 as Helmets to Hardhats Program Day: Senator Gene Davis and Senator Karen Mayne Host News Conference Following Signing

Monday afternoon, March 30, 2009, Governor Jon Huntsman, Jr., signed a declaration recognizing Helmets to Hardhats, a nonprofit organization hosted by the Center for Military Recruitment, Assessment and Veterans' Employment (CMRAVE), which connects veterans to promising careers in the construction industry.

Utah is the 27th state to recognize the vital role of Helmets to Hardhats. In attendance was Terry Schow, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs; General Brian Tarbet of the Utah National Guard; Steve Hadley of the Veterans Outreach Program, Department of Workforce Services; Darrell Roberts, Executive Director of Helmets to Hardhats; and numerous others representing the construction industry, military, and the apprenticeship program along with graduates of the program.

Helmets to Hardhats provides training and support to veterans returning from military service to facilitate a smooth transition to civilian life. Veterans log in to <http://helmetstohardhats.org>, establish an account, and begin their search for a productive career. The Helmets to Hardhats staff of construction industry and military professionals help guide veterans through their career search, connecting them with apprenticeship programs and providing career advice. Many Utah veterans have received this training.

The Helmets to Hardhats is a program places Veterans into apprenticeship programs in the construction industry to begin the path towards a career in that field. These programs are often paid on-the-job training programs that can be supplemented by the GI Bill.

Veterans Employment Services

By Berni Davis, Editor

Across the state of Utah, each Department of Workforce Services (DWS) has a Veterans Representative that is responsible for assisting all the Veterans in the area in finding suitable employment.

These DVOP's (Disabled Veterans Outreach Person) are one of the Veterans most useful tools as they provide intensive employment related services for service members and veterans. Services like referral to job opportunities, resume writing, referral letters, Veterans preferences, employment counseling and much more.

Here is a list of the DVOP's with their contact information:

Cedar City:	Jake Huntsman (435) 865-6531
Clearfield:	David Maxfield (801) 776-7805 / Sam Sanchez (801) 776-7826
Logan:	Scott Clark (435) 792-0309
Midvale:	Garth Anderson (801) 567-3976
Moab:	Nathan Wilcox (435) 719-2623
Ogden:	Steve Hadley (801) 626-0338 / Robert Ferreira (801) 626-0373
Price:	Steve Wilkinson (435) 636-2348
Provo:	Al Yardley (801) 344-1254 Theon Laney (801) 342-2665
Richfield:	Jerry Winget (435) 893-0008
SLC Dwntrwn:	Carl Moore (801) 524-9121
SLC Metro:	Jeremy Hanson (801) 536-7051
SLC South:	Paul Williams (801) 269-4837
St. George:	Sam Williams (435) 986-3575
Tooele:	Lynn Gehring (435) 833-7384
Vernal:	John Kijek (435) 781-4124
West Valley:	Sharon Welsh (801) 840-4422

These offices are also where the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs Outreach program operates. Service officers are sent across the state multiple times per months to assist Veterans with VA benefits and claims. See www.veterans.utah.gov/outreach for a schedule and page 12 for a list of cities visited.

Volunteers Needed

- Drivers
- Honor Guards
- VA Medical Center
- Ft. Douglas Museum
- Special Events
- Workshops

Call 1-800-894-9497 to find out about opportunities in your area

HEALING FIELD WILL REMEMBER OUR FALLEN MILITARY MEMBERS

By Bob Lehmler

OGDEN, UTAH (APRIL 7, 2009) - Mikes Guardian Eagle Foundation and the Gold Star Families of Utah are excited to announce plans to present the largest Healing Field in history honoring our country's fallen military members. This event will include nearly 5,000 flags, displayed in the shape of the United States of America, in perfect rows spread across five acres of lawn. Each flag represents a military service man or woman killed during the current conflict in Iraq or Afghanistan and will bear the name and rank of the serviceman or woman, branch of service, and country of incident.

Because patriotism is learned, these organizations are planning events to teach our young people elements of flag history and etiquette, complete with proper flag display protocol and flag retirement ceremonies.

Though corporate and private sponsorship of flags and donations, event organizers will donate proceeds from this event to the Patriot Guard Riders, a national organization providing honor and respect for fallen military members and the families left behind. Funds raised will be used to support the Patriot Guard Riders Help on the Homefront (HOTH) program and local veterans organizations.

The Healing Field will be on display at the Weber County Fairgrounds, Ogden Utah from July 23 to August 3, 2009. To sponsor a flag or make a tax deductible donation, please visit www.healingfield.org/remember. Those wishing to own a piece of history can sponsor a flag for \$25.00 each. Flags can be picked up during the event, shipped to an address of your choosing or donated to a deployed military service member or wounded warrior, through "OPERATION THANK YOU".

"Please plan to join us from July 23- August 3 at the Weber County Fairgrounds, as we show our respect to those who have paid the ultimate price for our freedom, states Bob Lehmler, chairman of the event.



Above from left to right: Ray Ross, Team Leader of the Salt Lake Vet Center; Dennis McFall, Deputy Director of the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs and Bart Davis, State Transition Assistance Advisor show off the new Mobile Vet Center on its maiden voyage to St. George. This RV is designed to provide Vet Center counseling services across the state of Utah and also acts as an emergency response vehicle in case of natural disaster or other emergency situation.

Veterans Benefit and Information Fair Brings VA Services to St. George

April 3rd, 2009- The Utah Department of Veterans Affairs hosted the 3rd annual Benefit and Information fair in St. George at the Wingate by Wyndham Hotel. This year's event was the largest yet bringing in over 25 service providers to the open house style event.

Not only did this year provide the greatest amount of vendors but it also produced the largest turnout, over 450 Veterans, spouses and family members attending the event. While it may have been the free gifts that

attracted them, each Veteran got their choice of a water bottle or on-the-go coffee mug, the variety of services that are usually based out of the Salt Lake City area gave the Veterans in the southern corner of the state the same access to information that the Wasatch front enjoys.

The idea of the event was to make all Veterans aware of the services and benefits available to them.

On June 25th, there will be a similar event in Ogden. Visit www.veterans.utah.gov for more information.

VA WEB FRIENDLIER THAN EVER

Catch the VA Web on the Road

The VA Web has gone mobile. Veterans, employees and other readers of mobile devices like the iPhone, Blackberry or Treo that use a special Web browser can now reach information on the VA Web. The new VA mobile site uses existing content and tailors it for display on mobile devices, such as a blackberry or phone that is capable of rendering Web content. So, while you're on the go, visit m.va.gov to read and share featured VA news stories, watch videos, or find a VA facility. For more information, click on "VA Mobile" at www.va.gov.

New OEF/OIF Returning Vets Web Site

Returning OEF/OIF service members have a newly enhanced VA Web site just for them. Launched the week of the Presidential inauguration at <http://www.oefoif.va.gov>, the Returning Service members site offers tailored information on VA services and programs, as well as Internet-savvy video features, stories... even a blog. Hello, Web 2.0!

Be a VA Web Subscriber

VA now has a library of Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feeds. By subscribing to the feeds, you can check for new content without having to repeatedly visit the VA Web site to check for new content. The feeds include information such as press releases, announcements, and benefits updates on the GI Bill. For more information or to subscribe to the feeds, visit <http://www.va.gov/rss/> or click on "RSS Library" on the VA home page at www.va.gov.

Contact the VA

Veterans can reach the VA through an electronic inquiry system called IRIS. This system provides an alternative method to reaching the VA. Since the phone system can be difficult to get through, IRIS allows individuals to post a question to the VA on-line and select if they want a call back, an email or a letter sent to them. They can also select the local Regional Office they would like their inquiry sent to. <https://iris.va.gov>

VA Seeks Designs for Veterans Day Poster

Interested in designing a national poster to honor veterans? The Veterans Day National Committee is seeking submissions for the 2009 national Veterans Day poster. The poster is distributed to more than 110,000 schools nationwide, military installations around the world, and to federal agencies in the nation's capital. It also graces the cover of the official program booklet for the Veterans Day ceremony at Arlington Cemetery.

The committee will convene in May 2009 to review all submissions and select a finalist. The final poster must be 18x24" at 300 dots per inch, but please scale down submissions to 9x12" and submit electronic versions as jpg images or PDF files via e-mail to vetsday@va.gov. Alternatively, send copies of artwork or a CD with artwork files to Department of Veterans Affairs (002C), 810 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, D.C., 20420. Please do not send originals.

The deadline for submissions is May 1, 2009. To view Veterans Day posters from previous years, visit <http://www.va.gov/vetsday> and click on "Poster Gallery". Submissions should include sufficient information to demonstrate that the image is the work of the artist and is not copyrighted material (i.e. photos and concepts). The committee may select a particular submission but ask the artist to make modifications to the original design. Additional changes may be required prior to printing.

Utah Department of Veterans Affairs to Host Annual Golf Tournament

By Tonja Knight

Join us for 18 holes of golf and a free air show at the beautiful Hubbard Golf Course located at Hill Air Force Base on Thursday, May 14, 2009. Check-in, registration, and continental breakfast will be from 0700 to 0800 am followed by tee off at 0800 am. There will be a luncheon, prize award ceremony, and raffle at the completion of the tournament.

Teams will consist of four members, with one member designated as team captain. The team captain will be designated as the primary contact for your team and is responsible for check in, registration, and the purchasing of mulligans for your team on the day of the tournament. Team captains will also collect the necessary information that is needed for HAFB base security to gain access to the golf course (info about this is included on the team registration form along with base entry gate information). Don't worry, singles, twosomes and threesomes will be combined to make full teams. If you don't play golf we are accepting sponsors and/or donations for teams, holes, prizes, and breakfast and lunch. You don't have to be a veteran to participate.

All proceeds from this tournament – our primary fundraising event directly benefit Veterans programs such as the Homeless Veterans Stand Down, Veterans Upward Bound, and hardship assistance to Veterans and their families in need.

We are also looking for sponsors/organizations to sponsor recently returning troops that have served in Iraq and Afghanistan to play in this tournament. To register a team or individual or for more information contact Tonja Knight at (801) 326-2372, or 1-800-894-9497. You may also register via email at, tcknight@utah.gov. Space is limited so sign up now!!!

Marine Corps League & Auxiliary share Scarves with Army Medical Unit Based in Iraq

By Joe Surace

The Departments of Utah, Marine Corps League, and ladies Auxiliary recently mailed 17 boxes of crocheted and knitted camouflage scarves to a detachment of the 328th Combat Support Hospital in Iraq, and a detachment of the 508th MP Battalion, also in Iraq. These two units arrived in Iraq during the fall of 2008, and are scheduled to return late this year. The Detachments are serving two roles; providing health care for soldier and reinforcing the military presence around Baghdad.

Many ladies throughout the state have lent a hand in making the scarves including women from the Mt. Olympus Senior Center and the Unwind Yarn store both of Salt Lake City. Also women from the Latter-Day-Saints, Presbyterian, and Lutheran Churches, MCLA Units and friends and neighbors from around the state participated in this project.

Advertise With Us- Reach 10,000 Veterans throughout the State of Utah. Papers are published quarterly and subscriptions are free. What better way to get your message heard than to use *The Utah Veterans Voice*? See ad rates and contact info on page 2

Bird feeding, Watching at the Utah State Veterans' Nursing Home

By Jeff Hanson

The Utah State Veterans' Nursing Home is fortunate to sit adjacent to the Red Butte Creek. The natural setting of the creek allows Veteran residents the opportunity to enjoy nature year around.

This winter the residents instituted a bird feeding program. The residents received two donations to purchase bird feeders and seed. The first generous donation was made by the VFW Post 4918 Ladies Auxiliary out of Utah County. The second generous donation was made by the family and friends of former Veteran resident Fred Pryanovich.

Hundreds of birds frequent the feeders. During the toughest part of the winter the large feeders would be emptied in a day. The resident's favorite bird is the beautiful Golden Finch that feed on nyjer seed (pictured left). At times there are 20 finches on the feeder at the same time.

A side show to the bird feeding program has been a Paragon Falcon. Every now and again he swoops in to try to catch a bird to satisfy his appetite. When the birds scatter, the residents know that the falcon is near.



From left to right, Salt Lake Nursing Home former residents Vernon Harrison, Bob Darger and his wife Francis. Back row, Albert Kehl at a Dedication ceremony

FROM THE WHITE HOUSE

Statement from Press Secretary Robert Gibbs:

The President has consistently stated that he is committed to working with veterans on the details of the 2010 VA Budget Proposal. The President demonstrated his deep commitment to veterans by proposing the largest increase in the VA budget in 30 years and calling VSO and MSO leaders into the White House for an unprecedented meeting to discuss various aspects of the budget proposal. In considering the third party billing issue, the administration was seeking to maximize the resources available for veterans; however, the President listened to concerns raised by the VSOs that this might, under certain circumstances, affect veterans and their families' ability to access health care. Therefore, the President has instructed that its consideration be dropped. The President wants to continue a constructive partnership with the VSOs and MSOs and is grateful to those VSOs and MSOs who have worked in good faith with him on the budget.



Nursing Home Continued from page 1

balance being semiprivate accommodations. All recognized Therapy Services will be available along with social and recreational activities.

In this state owned facility, veterans are eligible to have up to 50% of the cost of their care paid by the Veterans Administration through the VA Per Diem Program. In addition regulations are now being finalized that will cover the entire cost of care for veterans with a disability rating of 70% or greater. This per diem is available only in a state veterans nursing home such as this, the one in Salt Lake City, and those projected for Utah county and St. George.

Donations are also being sought to furnish the rooms, at the cost of \$3500 each, and to build a Veterans Tribute tower that will serve as a Memorial in front of the new nursing home. Contributions are currently welcome from the community. For more information on how you or your organization might help please contact the Utah Dept. of Veterans Affairs at 801-326-2372 or visit www.veterans.utah.gov.

VETERANS:
Need Help? Have Questions?
Contact a benefits advisor at the
Utah Department of Veterans
Affairs

- 1-800-894-9497
 - (801) 326-2372
- veterans.utah.gov
Not in SALT Lake?

We send representatives all
across the state to assist
Veterans in filing for and
understanding their benefits.
For a schedule visit
www.veterans.utah.gov

Qwest Veterans Sponsor Airborne Day

By Mark Elizondo

Quest Veterans Utah Chapter 2009 kicked off its first event of the season when it sponsored AIRBORNE DAY on Saturday March 21st, 2009. Although the event drew only 3 actual Qwest employees: 2 Qwest Veterans - UT members and 1 Qwest CCT, their extended invitation to family & friends drew in 11 total participants.

No jumping out of airplanes for this group, just moving between inches off the deck up to 8 ft high inside the flight chamber. Experienced flyers utilize the full 30 ft vertical column.

The event was held at the iFLY UTAH wind tunnel, where the standby chamber holds up to 11 waiting flyers while the flight chamber holds 2 persons, usually 1 flyer and 1 instructor. Flight Instructor Evan Fitzgerald did a masterful job of keeping the flow of flyers moving thru the column of 108 mph airflow and relaying instructions via hand signals and body gestures. This isn't Hollywood, this is as close to freefall as can be simulated. Talking inside the flight chamber just doesn't happen.

5 First Time Flyers had their 2 minutes of flight time split into 2 one-minute sessions, the Return Flyers chose 4 minutes of flight time and split their minutes into 2 two minute sessions. This allowed the group to alternate between First Time Flyers and Return Flyers smoothly and each person returning from the flight chamber was

greeted with enthusiastic hand clapping and high fives. James Rose, Qwest Customer Communications Tec said, "I had a great time, flying in the wind tunnel is not as easy as it looks. It was definitely a fun experience. I would definitely do it again and would encourage others to experience it for themselves."

Donna Rose commented of the event, "Exhilarating & a blast of an experience ! You are actually flying. How cool is that!"

"Even though I traveled from SLC to Ogden for iFLY, the travel time was hardly noticeable because we were looking forward to a blast! I was not disappointed and as a return flyer the price was better than the 1st time. Four minutes in the wind tunnel was more than enough for me and my body ! I was sore the next day." said Qwest Veterans Member Elsa Elizondo, Qwest Central Office Tec & Marks sister.

iFLY Utah is located at 2261 Kielsel Ave Suite 200, Ogden Utah, (801) 528-5348. It is located in the

Solomon Recreational Center which also offers rock climbing, indoor water surfing, bowling, bumper cars, miniature golf and eateries.

Elizondo said "Qwest Veterans should look tot he Qwest Diversity Events WebPage for the net "AIRBORNE DAY" event because I know we'll be back."



Above, Mark Elizondo of the Quest Veterans, experiences the Airborn simulation chamber.

Hospice Care for Veterans

Compassionate care for the men and women who served our county.

VistaCare

Excellence without exception.

VistaCare is a VA contracted hospice company.



CARE FOR OUR VETERANS!
UNIQUE NEEDS

When America's veterans are faced with a life-limiting, terminal illness, VistaCare is there for them.

VistaCare's hospice professionals provide veterans with:

- * Pain and symptom management and medication
- * Personal care
- * Medical equipment
- * Certified hospice/palliative care physicians
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- * Certified nursing assistants
- * Counseling
- * Grief and bereavement support
- * Spiritual care
- * Volunteer assistance

HOSPICE ELIGIBILITY

Patients are eligible for hospice care if, in the physician's clinical judgement, they have a life expectancy of six months or less.

VistaCare provides care for patients with a wide range of life-limiting illnesses, including but not limited to cancer, heart disease, stroke, lung disease, liver disease, kidney disease, multiple sclerosis, ALS, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and AIDS.

VistaCare embraces a "comprehensive care" philosophy and understands veterans often have unique needs.

As part of the comprehensive care philosophy, VistaCare believes:

- * Everyone deserves access to hospice care.
- * Anyone with a terminal illness should be able to live all the days of their life to the fullest.
- * Anyone who is eligible and desires hospice care should receive it. That's why VistaCare accepts any patient who is eligible and desires hospice care, even if their medical needs are unique or complex.

For more information on VistaCare, call 801-467-7772 (Salt Lake County), all other counties call 1-866-VistaCare (847-8222).

www.VistaCare.com

VistaCare hospice specialists are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Business.gov Launches First Government-Sponsored Online Community for Small Businesses

WASHINGTON – SBA's Business Gateway Program announced today the launch of a new Web initiative – <http://Community.Business.gov> – the first government-sponsored online community built specifically for small businesses.

The objective of the Business.gov Community supports the White House's mission to create a transparent and connected democracy, and aims to provide small business owners, bloggers, and the government with a place to discuss and share information about starting and running a successful business.

An extension of Business.gov, the Business.gov Community combines discussion forums, blogs, an idea exchange, and more, and offers advanced tools for navigating the labyrinth of government resources,

policies, laws, and opportunities that impact the small business owner.

In addition to providing a "home" where users can share expertise and unique experiences, the site also provides a pioneering opportunity for small businesses to provide direct input into Business.gov and voice the ways government and the online community can better serve them.

"Over the past year, we have significantly expanded our efforts to engage with small business owners, by giving them easy access to the information they need to run their business," said Nancy Sternberg, program manager of Business Gateway. "The launch of the Business.gov Community represents a new milestone. Through the application of Web 2.0 technologies, we hope to unite small business owners, industry experts and government, and take the program to a new level of collaborative knowledge

-sharing and insight."

Over the next few months, the Business.gov Community will expand to include additional features and resources that address specific user interests and provide access to the wider pool of government and Business.gov partner resources available to the small business owner.

About Business.gov

Business.gov is managed by the U.S. Small Business Administration in partnership with 21 other federal agencies. This partnership, known as Business Gateway, provides innovative information services to the small business community that save time and money, engage citizens to participate, and enable collaboration across all key levels of government. Launched in 2004, Business.gov provides a single access point to government services and information to help the nation's businesses with their operations.

Electronic Records: Continued from page 4

to year, but more importantly, that means better care for our veterans. The President was pleased to see that the Senate-passed budget supported this concept in a bipartisan manner.

The Department of Defense Budget will:

Fully protect and properly fund the growth in military end strength in the base budget. This means completing the growth in the Army and Marines while halting reductions in the Air Force and the Navy.

Continue the steady growth in medical research and development by requesting \$400 million more than last year.

Recognize the critical and permanent nature of wounded, ill and injured, traumatic brain injury, and psychological health programs. This means institutionalizing and properly funding these efforts in the base budget and increasing overall spending by \$300 million. The department will spend over \$47 billion on healthcare in FY10.

Increase funding by \$200 million for improvements in child care, spousal support, lodging, and education. The Department of Veterans Affairs Budget will:

Increase funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs by \$25 billion above baseline over the next five years.

Dramatically increase funding for veterans health care. Expand eligibility for veterans' health care to over 500,000 veterans who were previously denied care by 2013.

Enhance outreach and services related to mental health care and cognitive injuries, including post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, with a focus on access for veterans in rural areas.

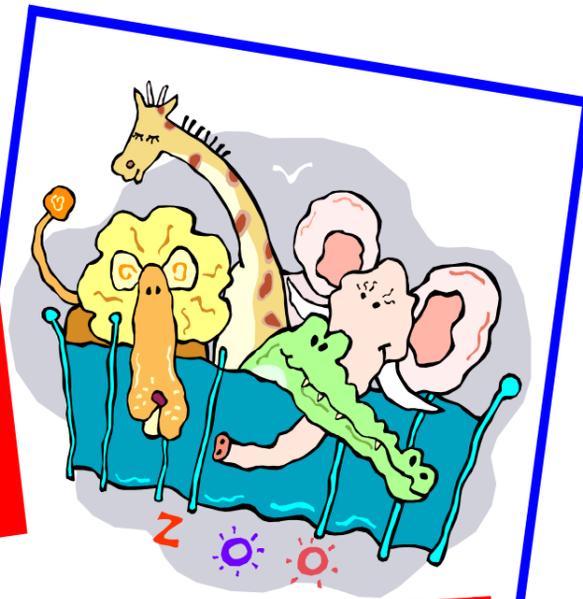
Invest in better technology to deliver services and benefits to veterans with the quality and efficiency they deserve.

Provide greater benefits to veterans who are medically retired from service.

Combat homelessness by safeguarding vulnerable veterans.

Facilitate timely implementation of the comprehensive education benefits that veterans earn through their dedicated military service.

Salute Our
Military
At
Utah's
Hogle Zoo!



July 3rd, 2009
10 to 3 pm

As a "Thank You"
to those who serve our
country we are celebrating
with a special
Salute Our Military event

Details:

- Flag Raising Ceremony
- Animal Presentations
- 23rd Army Rock Band
- Military equipment
- Drill demonstrations
- And much more!

Military Appreciation Days! - July 1st, 2nd and 3rd 2009

Military personnel (including veterans) and their immediate families (spouse and children 18 and under) will receive free admission to the zoo, with a valid military or veteran ID.

Visit www.hoglezoo.org for more information.

**Be Our Messenger:
Volunteer at the George E.
Wahlen VA Medical Center
Call (801) 584-1241**

YOU WERE THERE FOR US NOW LET US SUPPORT YOU

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Utah Department of Commerce, Division of Real Estate License # 680588-MDBA



The Disabled American Veterans sponsors a van that runs throughout the region transporting Veterans to their appointments at the George Wahlen VA Medical Center and then back home. To schedule an appointment with the Van call the following number: 1-800-613-4012 EXT: 2003

VAN TIMES AND LOCATIONS

NORTHERN ROUTE

02:15 AM—**SAGE JUNCTION** (EXIT 33 OFF FREEWAY 1-15)
 02:45 AM—**ASHTON** (DAVE'S JUBILEE GROCERY STORE)
 03:15 AM—**ST. ANTHONY** (MAVERICK STATION) (S. BRIDGE ST. AND 3RD S.)
 03:45 AM—**REXBURG** (MAVERICK STATION) (MAIN ST. AND SECOND WEST)
 04:15 AM—**RIGBY** (MAVERICK STATION MAIN AND CLARK ST.)
 04:45 AM—**IDAHO FALLS** (CHEVRON and McDONALDS) (BROADWAY AND SATURN)
 05:15 AM—**BLACKFOOT** (FLYING J) (228 PARKWAY DR)
 05:30 AM—**FORT HALL** (GAS STATION BY CASINO)

SOUTHERN ROUTE

05:45 AM—**POCATELLO** (VET CENTER 1800 GARRET WAY) (WESTWOOD VILLAGE MALL)
 06:15 AM—**McCAMMON** (FLYING J) (BY FREEWAY 1-15)
 06:30 AM—**DOWNEY** (FLAGS WEST TRUCK STOP) (OFF FREEWAY 1-15)
 06:45 AM—**MALAD** (CHEVRON STATION) (EXIT 13 OFF FREEWAY 1-15)
 07:15 AM—**TREMONTON** (SINCLAIR STATION) (EXIT 40 OFF HIGHWAY 84)
 07:35 AM—**BRIGHAM CITY** (FLYING J EXIT 362 OFF 1-15)

ARRIVAL AT VA HOSPITAL IS BETWEEN 08:30 TO 09:00

APPOINTMENTS MUST BE BETWEEN 09:00 TO 14:00

THE VAN DEPARTS HOSPITAL WHEN THE LAST VETERAN IS DONE

2009 VAN SCHEDULE FOR IDAHO, PRICE and ST. GEORGE

FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL:

IDAHO: (208) 221-0362

PRICE, ST. GEORGE : 1-800-613-4012

x. 2003

April: 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, 15,
17, 21, 23, 27, 29

May: 1, 5, 7, 11, 13, 15,
19, 21, 27, 29

June: 2, 4, 8, 10, 12, 16,
18, 22, 24, 26, 30

2009 VAN SCHEDULE FOR LOGAN, VERNAL, ELKO, ELY, AFTON, ROCK SPRINGS

FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL:

LOGAN AND VERNAL: 1-800-613-4012

x2003

April: 2, 6, 8, 10, 14,
16, 22, 24, 28, 30

May: 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 18,
20, 22, 26, 28

June: 1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 15,
17, 19, 23, 25, 29

YOU CAN ALSO SEE A NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER FROM THE DAV AT THE VA MEDICAL CENTER ON AN APPOINTMENT ONLY BASIS. THESE REPRESENTATIVES ARE AT THE HOSPITAL TO ASSIST VETERANS WITH CLAIMS AND ISSUES RELATED TO THE VA BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING DISABILITY COMPENSATION AND PENSION. PLEASE CALL 1-800-61-4013 EXT 2003 TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT.

OUTREACH REPRESENTATIVES, FROM VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ACROSS THE STATE AT VARIOUS WORKFORCE SERVICES OFFICES. CITIES INCLUDES: BEAVER, BLANDING, BRIGHAM CITY, CEDAR CITY, CLEARFIELD, DELTA, FILLMORE, KANAB, LOGAN, MANTI, MIDVALE, MOAB, NEPHI, OGDEN, PANGUITCH, PRICE, PROVO, RICHFIELD, ROOSEVELT, SALT LAKE METRO, DOWNTOWN, SOUTH, ST. GEORGE, TOOELE AND VERNAL.

PLEASE GO TO VETERANS.UTAH.GOV FOR AN UP TO DATE SCHEDULE, OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL WORKFORCE SERVICES OFFICE FOR A DATE AND TIME A SERVICE OFFICER WILL BE AVAILABLE.