

THE UTAH VETERANS



VOICE

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MULTI-DAY EVENT MARKS OPENING OF NEW VETERANS HOME

By Dennis McFall, Deputy Director

A combination of events recently held marked the anticipated opening of the new George E. Wahlen Veterans Home in Ogden, Utah. This 85,000 square foot, five building complex will house 120 veterans with admissions scheduled to begin in January 2010. Completed with state funds at a cost of \$19.7 million, the federal VA will reimburse the State of Utah for approximately \$12.8 million under the VA's State Home Construction Program, a sharing program that provides 65% of the construction cost to states that agree to build new veterans facilities.

The original grant request to build this veteran's facility was filed and approved in 2003, but lack of funds at the federal level prevented construction from commencing until 2008 when Utah's legislature said "it's time to build this nursing home for our veterans." The legislature funded the entire project, with a promise from the VA that when funds were available the state would be reimbursed the federal share as previously noted. Qualifying under the recent American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs has been notified that federal reimbursement may be received as early as February or March of 2010.

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held at the site of the new nursing home on November 19, attended by some 400 veterans, family members, state legislators, community and civic leaders and friends of veterans. Mrs. George E. (Melba) Wahlen wielded the 5 pound scissors and, along with other distinguished guests, officially opened this state of the art facility. Tours were available following the ceremony and visitors were impressed with the beauty and workmanship of the buildings and the individual rooms. There are sixteen large, totally private rooms with bath and 104 private rooms where two rooms share a bathroom, with locks to prevent intrusion of privacy. A spacious chapel/multipurpose room will allow for many and varied activities, religious services, programs, meetings, and dinner events. Each resident



From Left to Right Frank Maughn, Vietnam Veteran; Dave Clark, Speaker of the House; Charlie Pharr, Korean War Veteran; Casey Kunimara, WWII Veteran; Melba Wahlen; Dennis McFall, Deputy Director UTDVA; Jason Schow, OEF Veteran; Frank Layden; Clarence Hill, National Commander American Legion; and Bob Ramos, WWII Veteran cut the ribbon marking the opening of the George E Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home.

building also has its' own dining area, large patio space for bar-b-que and outside events, kitchen and snack areas, and quiet area. The grounds are precisely landscaped and offer pathways, grass areas, rest areas and an assortment of plants and trees that will add beauty to the entire complex. All skilled and rehabilitation services will be available to the residents and outside activities such as attendance at ball games, fishing trips, and sight seeing events will be scheduled.

Preceding the ribbon cutting by a week was the casting of a 250-pound memorial tower bell at the site. The two-day event was coordinated by the Verdin Company of Ohio. A portable foundry was driven from Ohio to Utah, set up on site, and fired up

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“Wreaths Across America” Ceremony shares Dedication with the Awarding of a Purple Heart

By Larry Dawson

Pearl Harbor Day was selected by Veterans Groups as the date to dedicate a wreath in the Rotunda of the State Capital. Sharing in the dedication was the awarding of a “Purple Heart Metal” to Allen Malo for wounds he received on November 10, 1967.

“Wreaths Across America” is a yearly event that is 17 years old. A private company, Worchester Wreath Company of Harrington, Maine began a tradition of placing wreaths on the headstones of service members at Arlington National Cemetery. Over the years the program has grown to providing wreaths to veterans cemeteries across the country and even to 24 veterans' cemeteries on foreign soil and aboard U.S. ships. The mission isn't just to place wreaths but is about remembering, honoring and most of all teaching people about the sacrifices given this country by veterans and their families.

At the beginning of the program Mr. Malo, a Navy veteran was given his Purple Heart by Doug Larson who is a retired Navy Veteran. Mr. Malo got his medal 42 years late thru the efforts of his son Sgt Jeff Malo

who is a 21 year member of the Utah National Guard and the office of Congressman Rob Bishop. 27 family member and friends came to support Mr. Malo and celebrate the awarding of his medal.

Dennis Howland, Senior Vice Commander of the Utah Veterans of Foreign Wars, who coordinated the event, was also the main speaker. Mr. Howland asked that people remember to “thank” a veteran for their service. He admonished attendees to create an environment where “In Utah, Veterans are remembered every day”.

Mr. Terry Schow, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Veteran Affairs, also spoke of the responsibility to assist family members of our community members who are serving in the current conflict. He asked that

we give them the help they need and deserve. The wreath was dedicated my Norm Nelson, State Chaplain of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, in a prayer asking for God to watch over those who are serving, have served and the family members who supported our military members.

The wreath was then placed at the Capital where it will remain thru the December holiday season.



Above, Dennis Howland speaks at the Wreaths Across America Ceremony at the State Capitol Rotunda

Thank You Utah

Letter

As I woke up early this day before Thanksgiving my thoughts were of our Veterans and the countless individuals who helped in so many ways to help make the George E Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home a reality. From young men like Darian Hester who was among the very first to donate and Issac McIntosh who participated in the Veterans Tribute Tower Bell Casting whose grandfather Mel McIntosh was a WWII Veteran and not so young folk folks like WWII Marine Raider Darrel Sarge Loveland who was the first to start the campaign to put military themed blankets on every bed and also help sponsor a room. So many great individuals and groups organized to make lap quilts, and so many offers of books, and donations of equipment. In the near future we will do an ad in the Standard Examiner (our biggest cheer leader) thanking our donors who helped us raise over \$300,000.00

As I looked over the crowd on dedication day I was touched by the fact that I saw former enlisted service members and Admirals and Generals, from WWII Veterans to current conflict Veterans and their families.

Thank you to our elected officials led by Representative Brad Dee who had the vision to fully fund the project. My only hope is that we have not offended any who have helped in any way, because we owe so much to so many, for that we are so deeply grateful.

We are still on the finishing touches on our facility, with the help of our contractor Big D and our operator Avalon Healthcare I am optimistic we can start admitting our Veterans in January (watch for our grand opening).

As you go about this Holiday season please remember our Veterans, our service members and especially their families who may need a little help while dad or mom are away defending us. Please consider helping shovel their sidewalks or offer to help with their children to give mom a break. Thank you seems like not enough.

Terry Schow

Executive Director, Utah Department of Veterans Affairs

Utah's Vietnam Memorial Rededicated

'Nam Vets Gather To Pay Respects

By Craig Morgan

Salt Lake City – The Utah Department of Veterans Affairs has again been the first to recognize Vietnam veterans by holding a rededication ceremony at the State's Vietnam Memorial. The ceremony marked the 20th anniversary of the memorial's 1989 completion and was held at the memorial site on the west side of the State Capitol grounds on Veterans Day, November 11th.

During the recent capitol renovation the memorial was closed to the public. Once the renovations on the Capitol building were completed, landscaping contractors redesigned and sculpted the grounds adjoining the memorial. Today beautiful lawns, shrubs and a quiet, shaded pathway surround the memorial. Visitors to the memorial can see how it is now nestled in a beautiful, peaceful and appropriate setting on the west lawn of the Capitol.

Terry Schow, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs said "This memorial is one way our State can show appreciation for the sacrifices of our Vietnam Vets. It is only fitting that we recognize and honor those sacrifices."

The memorial prominently features an eight-foot-high statue of a soldier returning from battle with his buddy's rifle, flanked by a curved, gray granite wall with polished black granite panels on which are inscribed the names of the 388 men and one woman who died or were listed as missing in action in Vietnam between 13 August 1963 and 4 April 1975. The cost for the monument back in 1989 was \$447,128.27.

The ceremony program included remarks from Staff Sgt. Jonnie Janes and CSM James E. Slade, both former Vietnam vets and both heavily involved in the creation and funding the memorial.

As part of the ceremony, Senator Orrin G. Hatch made a special presentation honoring one of Utah's heroes. The Bronze Star Medal was presented to Captain (now Major, retired) Russell G. Cottrell – 37 years after he was nominated for the award. During the war in Vietnam, Maj. Cottrell was an intel officer directly responsible for much of the photo interpretation and target identification information used to plan air and ground tactical operations. It was an emotional moment for Major Cottrell as Senator Hatch and Brig. Gen. Jefferson S. Burton, Joint Forces Commander, Utah, presented the long-deserved medal.

The event also became a reunion of sorts where Vietnam era vets gathered to pay their respects and to renew old acquaintances. Veterans from other wars were also there. One veteran present was Samuel Tsosie, one of the original United States Marine Corps Navaho Code Talkers that played such an important role in Pacific theater during WWII. When Mr. Tsosie was introduced, the entire audience stood in spontaneous applause. The Patriot Guard Riders, all of whom are vets, were also present with their motorcycles proudly waving our Nation's colors.

The program concluded with what was perhaps the most touching part of the ceremony – the placing of the *Wreath of Honor* while the haunting melody of *Taps* played in the background.

There are many who helped make the Utah Vietnam Memorial a reality – perhaps more than can be counted. All are important. To them, and veterans everywhere, The Utah Department of Veterans Affairs wishes to extend a heartfelt thank you. Your efforts and sacrifices will not be forgotten.

The Utah Veterans Voice

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Today, USAA is stronger than any time in history. We have the financial strength and technology to



Medical Center Marchers Pay Tribute to the Late, Great George E. Wahlen Working our fingers to the bone in the basement of the VA it all came together...The VASLCHCS's first float in many years. Our namesake was the inspiration; a true American hero. We lost George last June but on Veterans Day he was larger than life once again. His grandchildren by his side and his widow waving out the window of a vintage 1962 corvette. We marched bigger than life through the streets of West Jordan showing off our new logo and representing our medical

maintain our high standards for exemplary service, competitive pricing and value. USAA is uniquely positioned to help military families meet their financial needs in a challenging economic environment.

If you or someone you know honorably served but hasn't become a USAA member, please share this news with them so that they may know the value of USAA and, by joining, enable their spouse, children and grandchildren to join USAA as well. USAA.com

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Courts Urged to Rethink Sentencing for Traumatized Vets

By William H. McMichael, bmc michael@militarytimes.com
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A loose coalition of activist veterans, private foundations, government health care workers and justice system officials is forming to create or lobby for initiatives aimed at taking war-related trauma into account during the sentencing of veterans who commit nonviolent crimes.

There are no national statistics on the prevalence of crimes committed by troubled war veterans. And no one is arguing for going easy on those who commit violent crimes.

But the punishment for crimes committed by war vets in which no others are physically harmed - such as drug possession and driving while intoxicated - should be leavened with the knowledge of what the vets have gone through and the treatment they still could lack, argues Army veteran and former social worker Guy Gambill, a Minnesota-based consultant on veterans issues.

Such mitigating factors are taken into account in a growing school of legal thought known as therapeutic jurisprudence, in which judges get more discretion in sentencing and options to place offenders in treatment rather than behind bars.

The Afghanistan and Iraq wars have produced hundreds of thousands of combat troops who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder or major depression. According to a joint Veterans Affairs Department-University of San Francisco study published in July, 418,000 of the roughly 1.9 million service members who have fought in or supported the wars suffer from PTSD.

As of August 2008, the latest data available, about a quarter-million veterans were imprisoned on any given day - about 9.4 percent of the total daily imprisoned population, according to the National GAINS Center Forum on Combat Veterans, Trauma and the Justice System.

While not all those vets have PTSD, studies show a greater risk of anti-social or criminal behavior in vets diagnosed with the disorder, especially when it is exacerbated, as experts say it often is, by alcohol and drugs.

Gambill's interest was piqued a few years ago by a California law mandating that veterans with a mental health condition arising from combat who commit

nonviolent crimes can be diverted out of the justice system and into treatment. He decided to try to push for the same thing in Minnesota, which passed a law last year giving judges more discretion.

So-called "veterans courts," which hear only cases involving veterans and allow discretionary sentencing, have been established in Buffalo and Rochester, N.Y.; Orange, Santa Clara and San Bernardino counties, Calif.; Tulsa, Okla.; Anchorage, Alaska; and Madison County, Ill. The collective efforts of the veterans coalition and others also have led to federal funding of pilot discretionary sentencing programs in Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Georgia, Massachusetts and Vermont. The programs have been running for a year and are funded for another four, Gambill said.

Concern over veterans and crime has risen despite studies showing that the number of incarcerated vets stayed roughly flat from 2004 through 2008, despite the ongoing wars and repeated deployments, which have produced levels of stress resulting in high rates of suicide and domestic violence, among other issues.

"You don't get this uptick that a lot of people are expecting to happen," said Chris Mumola, an analyst with the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

In fact, he said, "we've seen a decline over the past year in inmates who say they have a military background."

Still, with 223,000 veterans in jail or prison on any given day - and an unknown number among the 4 million Americans on probation - advocates say it's more than likely the problem will grow.

Finding a way forward
Veterans consultant Guy Gambill held a phone conference Sept. 8 with 46 members of his coalition, including a Buffalo district court judge, a Chicago police lieutenant, representatives from Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, the Department of Health and Human Services, relatives of jailed vets, and other veterans advocates. They discussed three issues:

- * Convincing veterans courts that some crimes automatically labeled as "violent" are not always so, with domestic violence complaints being a prime example, Gambill said.
- * The collateral consequences of "sanctions," or barriers to certain jobs that automatically kick in upon certain convictions.
- * Making better use of veterans, especially those with combat service, for "peer-led" interventions in veterans courts.

The group expects to draft a statement within two weeks.

Secretary Shinseki Announces Expansion of Counseling for Combat Veterans: Additional 28 New Community Vet Centers

From the VA Office of Media Relations

WASHINGTON – Today, Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki announced that combat Veterans will receive readjustment counseling and other assistance in 28 additional communities across the country where the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will establish Vet Centers in 2010.

"VA is committed to providing high-quality outreach and readjustment counseling to all combat Veterans," Secretary Shinseki said. "These 28 new Vet Centers will address the growing need for those services."

The community-based Vet Centers — already in all 50 states — are a key component of VA's mental health program, providing Veterans with mental health screening and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) counseling.

The existing 232 centers conduct community outreach to offer counseling on employment, family issues and education to combat Veterans and family members, as well as bereavement counseling for families of service members killed on active duty and counseling for Veterans who were sexually harassed on active duty.

Vet Center services are earned through service in a combat zone or area of hostility and are provided at no cost to Veterans or their families. They are staffed by small multi-disciplinary teams, which may include social workers, psychologists, psychiatric nurses, master's-level counselors and outreach specialists. Over 70 percent of Vet Center employees are Veterans themselves, a majority of whom served in combat zones.

Congress, recognizing that many Vietnam Veterans were still having readjustment problems, established the Vet Center program in 1979. In 2008, the Vet Center program provided over 1.1 million visits to over 167,000 Veterans, including over 53,000 visits by more than 14,500 Veteran families. More information about Vet Centers can be found at www.vetcenter.va.gov/index.asp.

Washington County, Utah is one of the areas that will be receiving a Vet Center. Having a Veteran's population of over 14,000, this is a long anticipated addition for the Southern Utah Veterans Community.



Marine Corps League Bountiful Detachment Donates to Utah Veterans Nursing Home, SLC. The L/Cpl. Dion J. Stephenson Detachment #1014 donated \$500 to the Utah Veterans Nursing Home, Salt Lake City, Utah. Left to Right, Ed Klint, Robert Bruhn, James Stephenson, Geri Stephenson, State Officer Jeff Hanson, Tommy Bailey and Richard Wheelock. This detachment also took 1st place nationally for the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service for Detachments under 50 members.

VETERANS EMPOWERMENT EXPO HELD

On November 10th, an event hosted by the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs was held at South Towne Exposition Center in Sandy. The Veterans Empowerment Expo was an all day veterans employment, benefits and business seminar that brought all types of services, resources and information to veterans along the Wasatch Front.

Attended by over 250 veterans, the event was successful in introducing "Pro-Veteran" hiring employers with the population they wished to employ, along with educating those in attendance with the benefits and privileges they've earned through their honorable service to this country. An ongoing, annual event hosted by the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Workforce Services every November, this year's event was enhanced by a new feature, the Veterans Entrepreneurship Workshop. Experts in government contracting, business financing and veteran owned business preference gave a full day presentation to over 60 veteran business owners interested in procurement opportunities with the federal government.

Medical Center Breaks Ground On New Mental Health Clinic

The construction cones mean progress and our continued commitment to better serving our veterans. You'll notice a new building going up in the not so distant future. The George E. Wahlen VA Medical Center has just broken ground on the new outpatient mental health clinic. While others might see bricks and mortar, one of our OIF veterans said in a recent ground breaking ceremony that he sees something much different: "sanctuary."

In 2009, there were 100,000 mental health visits completed. This was a 19% increase over 2008. These staggering numbers have prompted The VA Salt Lake City Health Care System to launch an extraordinary initiative in the area of mental health treatment out of concern for our veterans. We provide comprehensive mental health treatment in a variety of specialties including post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), substance abuse, mental health intensive case



Tim Willard, Corp of Engineers; David Smeraldo, Big D Construction; Steve Young, VA Medical Center Director; Rob Moore, Pres. Big D Construction; Scott Hill, Chief of Mental Health Services; Andy Figorski, OIF Veteran; Matthew Stuart, VFW; Terry Schow, Executive Director UTDVA; and Dr. Ronald Gebhart, Chief of Staff VAMC

management, military sexual trauma, as well as general mental health treatments such as psychotherapy and medication management. Over the last few years dozens of new mental health professionals have been hired. The new facility will be a gorgeous 32,000 square foot building with 3 floors and 95 consultation rooms. The first appointment in the new building should be some time in January of 2011.

VA Medical Center Offers Unique Services for OEF/OIF Veterans

By Maria Fruin, RN MS Program Manager

Check us out! The OEF (Operation Enduring Freedom)/OIF (Operation Iraqi Freedom) Program at the George E Wahlen VA Health Care System is happy to announce the opening of the PDICC (Post Deployment Integrated Care Clinic) in its own space. Located on the ground floor of the main building (14—just across from outpatient pharmacy) the OEF/OIF Program Team is seeing newly returned combat Veterans for Readjustment Counseling, Primary Care, Behavioral Health and screenings for TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury) and PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). The PDICC appointments are on Monday mornings and Thursday evenings and will expand as needed. The OEF/OIF area welcomes walk ins for questions, counseling or assistance with work, school or home life. The team can assist new combat veterans with navigating the VA system, enrollment, adjustment back into civilian life, filing claims and a host of other things. Our team includes 2 Combat Veteran Case Managers, Andrew Wittwer and Jeff Hunter; Polytrauma Case Manager Danica Richins; Transition Patient Advocate Daniel Murchie; Program Support Assistant David Porter and Program Manager Maria Fruin. Our physician is Roma deShazo. In addition we can do counseling and have contact with our more rural combat Veterans via Telehealth.

OEF/OIF Combat Veterans are eligible for 5 years (from their date of separation) of health care for anything related to their deployment, including yearly wellness physicals. An initial dental visit is available for the first 6 months from date of separation for those not seen by Dental while active.

Readjustment back into civilian life is a process that can be stressful. Normal feelings of frustration, irritation and isolation can be present. We can help you work through those issues and ease your transition as well as

educate you and your friends and family about resources that can help.

Come check out your new OEF/OIF space at the George E Wahlen VA Medical Center or any of our CBOC's located in Ogden, Orem, St. George, Western Salt Lake and Pocatello, ID. We also have clinics in Fountain Green, Nephi and Roosevelt, and Elko and Ely, NV. We can set up Telehealth in these more rural areas for you to chat with one of our Combat Veteran Case Managers.

Call us or stop in and we'll give you the 411. We look forward to serving you.

Maria Fruin RN MS Program Manager

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Combat vets having tough time in job market:

Unemployment up considerably from one year ago

By Rick Maze, Reprinted with permission. Copyright © 2009 Army Times Publishing Company

The unemployment rate for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans is 21 percent higher than the rate for all Americans, a sign of trouble for newly separated or retired service members looking for work in a tight job market.

A Labor Department report shows an unemployment rate of 11.3 percent for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans in July, up from 5.9 percent one year ago and well above the 9.7 percent overall U.S. unemployment rate - itself the highest in 26 years.

To put that in another perspective, the number of out-of-work but job-seeking Iraq and Afghanistan veterans is at 185,000 - just 9,000 fewer than the number of troops deployed to those two combat operations, said Justin Brown of Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Brown is unsure why the jobless rate has jumped for recent combat veterans, but he said separating service members may find it especially difficult to get work in a job market that has few openings and a lot of competition.

"A 22-year-old getting out of the service right now has networks of friends and family who are not employment networks," Brown said. "The primary way they are finding jobs are those listed in the paper or on the Web, and those are the hardest jobs to get because that's where there is the most competition."

Discrimination against veterans does not appear to be an issue, Brown said. "I have seen nothing or heard nothing that would indicate employers are unwilling to hire veterans."

The government can and should be doing more to help, Brown said, by strengthening transition classes for separating and retiring service members to give them better job-hunting skills and by ensuring veterans have a fighting chance to get new jobs created by federal tax dollars.

Because the stimulus package granted money directly to states, some rules for federally funded projects that would have helped veterans do not apply, such as certain preferential hiring rules and requirements to ensure veterans employment services are notified of openings.

Brown noted that Sen. Bernard Sanders, I-Vt., tried without success to get veterans preferences added to the stimulus package.

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Veterans Courts Touted as Better Way to Rehab Offenders

By William H. McMichael, bmc michael@militarytimes.com
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For effectiveness and cost savings, it's hard to find fault with the concept of special courts for nonviolent military veteran offenders - but it's also the right thing to do for those who have been scarred by their military experiences, a panel of jurists and experts told the House Veterans' Affairs Committee on Sept. 16.

"These people are not bad," said Patrick Welch, director of the Erie County Veterans Service Agency in Buffalo, N.Y., and a combat-wounded Vietnam War veteran. "They just got hooked up with the wrong people, the wrong places and the wrong things."

To date, 10 "veterans treatment courts" are operating in the U.S., in Anchorage, Alaska; Orange County, Riverside and Santa Clara, Calif.; Madison and Cook counties, Ill.; Buffalo and Rochester, N.Y.; Tulsa, Okla.; and Olympia, Wash.

Illinois, Nevada and Texas have passed legislation authorizing veterans treatment courts, and four other states are looking at legislation to support such courts.

The concept is essentially an 18-month to two-year intervention involving judges, prosecutors, therapists, counselors, mentors, Veterans Affairs Department specialists and, the courts hope, family members to get nonviolent-offender military veterans with substance abuse or mental health diagnoses back on track.

Officials work to find the vets jobs and housing, and those who successfully complete the programs do not serve jail time.

Most consider the model to be the Buffalo Veterans Treatment Court established by Judge Robert Russell, which is working with more than 120 vets, all with a diagnosis of substance dependency, mental health issues or brain injury, Russell said.

The program has a 90 percent completion rate; at least 18 vets have completed it, with a zero percent recidivism rate, he said.

Key to the program are 35 volunteer veterans who serve as mentors, a concept launched by Russell. The group includes 15 combat veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Welch acknowledged that some critics view the concept as "just another reason to treat veterans special. [But] they have earned the right to be treated special."

And, he emphasized, "it is not a fluff court." Those who slip up on meeting the court's requirements can find themselves marched off to jail to think it over, he said.

Rep. Bob Filner, D-Calif., the committee chairman, praised the programs and said he hopes "that we could spread the concept."

Rep. Patrick Kennedy, D-R.I., has introduced legislation that would fund state grants to expand existing veterans courts and create new ones.

Phones Ring off the Hook as "One VA" does first of its kind Benefits Phone Bank!!

One thing is for sure...TV does work. Our informational telethon on Veterans Day at KUTV was a huge success. VA representatives from all areas received all day programming

on channel 2 in order to educate veterans, the military, their families and the community about the services, programs and benefits available to them. During the 12 hour broadcast we manned 15 phones and answered over 400 calls concerning medical care, disability claims, GI Bill, job training and a whole host of other benefits questions. We heard personally from many of our veterans willing to put themselves out there in order to draw others in for much needed help and services. We also did live radio interviews simultaneously. Senator Orrin Hatch, and Congressman Jim Matheson even answered phones for a time. We were also joined by Salt Lake County Mayor Peter Corroon also as well as General Brian Tarbet, Commander of the Utah National Guard, and the mayor of the city of Layton. This was all part of the VA's continued effort to reach out to our veterans young and old and urge them to take advantage of the benefits they have earned; benefits many veterans may not be aware of. We also wanted to expose the changing face of the VA and the compassion that we the employees have for our nation's heroes, but we know we can't do it alone. Our mission takes an entire community who is educated on the resources and committed to the same goal. Thank you to everyone who worked tirelessly that day and thanks to all of you who will now take care of the veterans we reached.



New Elko DAV Van (SUV) in Service!

Elko to Salt Lake City Non Stop, courtesy the new Elko DAV Van! The van was donated by the Disabled American Veterans Department of Nevada and the State of Nevada Office of Veterans Services. It was officially road ready as of November 30th. Elko Veterans will be riding to the medical center in style in a 2009 Ford Explorer. That's right our first SUV! In fact, it's probably on the road transporting our Vets as we speak. The van leaves the Stockman Casino every other day from Elko bright and early at 4 a.m. It leaves the medical center right around 3 o'clock for the return trip. To book your spot on this brand new SUV give us a call at (801)582-1565 Ext. 2003.

Salt Lake Community College Veterans Honored

By Darlene Goldman

SLCC Veterans Center, in partnership with the College Disability Resource Center and Multicultural Initiatives Program, hosted an evening of fine food and friendship for all SLCC Veterans, their guests and children. Wednesday, October 28, 2009 was a day set aside for our 1st Annual Veteran's Appreciation Night. This was an opportunity to acknowledge our veterans and their families and let them know we honor them.

The veterans also had an opportunity to meet the Directors from many areas of the College who came to share the services their department can provide for veterans while they are in school. We had presentations from Student Employment Services, Health and Wellness Services, Child Day Care, Disability Resource Center, Student Support Services, Veterans Center and more.

"We felt it was important to have our veterans know that we care about their success in school and while here, they have a wide variety of services for their

benefit. Now they can make the connection with some of the areas designed to assist them. If their car breaks down and they need it fixed, or if they need their hair cut before going to the tutor, they now know where they can get that support."

The SLCC Veterans Center and Student Life and Leadership also continued the tradition of honoring our Veterans and Veterans around the world for their service and commitment to our Country and the freedom we enjoy on Veterans Day. SLCC student veterans in partnership with the University of Utah ROTC honored each branch of the service and the Service Members as their flag was presented.

Dan Clark, one of the top ten world-class professional speakers with strong ties to Utah and the military, addressed veterans, students, staff and faculty at Salt Lake Community College. Dan delivers motivational speeches to veterans and active-duty service-members worldwide and many other groups. He is an actor, author, and humanitarian.

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

Did You Know . . . VA Extends “Agent Orange” Benefits to More Veterans: *Parkinson’s Disease, Two Other Illnesses Recognized*

From the VA Office of Media Relations

WASHINGTON –Relying on an independent study by the Institute of Medicine (IOM), Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki decided to establish a service-connection for Vietnam Veterans with three specific illnesses based on the latest evidence of an association with the herbicides referred to Agent Orange.

The illnesses affected by the recent decision are B cell leukemias, such as hairy cell leukemia; Parkinson’s disease; and ischemic heart disease.

Used in Vietnam to defoliate trees and remove concealment for the enemy, Agent Orange left a legacy of suffering and disability that continues to the present. Between January 1965 and April 1970, an estimated 2.6 million military personnel who served in Vietnam were potentially exposed to sprayed Agent Orange.

In practical terms, Veterans who served in Vietnam during the war and who have a “presumed” illness don’t have to prove an association between their illnesses and their military service. This “presumption” simplifies and speeds up the application process for benefits.

The Secretary’s decision brings to 15 the number of presumed illnesses recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

“We must do better reviews of illnesses that may be connected to service, and we will,” Shinseki added. “Veterans who endure health problems deserve timely decisions based on solid evidence.”

Other illnesses previously recognized under VA’s “presumption” rule as being caused by exposure to herbicides during the Vietnam War are:

- Acute and Subacute Transient Peripheral Neuropathy
- AL Amyloidosis · Chloracne · Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia
- Diabetes Mellitus (Type 2) · Hodgkin’s Disease · Multiple Myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma · Porphyria Cutanea Tarda
- Prostate Cancer · Respiratory Cancers, ·Soft Tissue Sarcoma (other than Osteosarcoma, Chondrosarcoma, Kaposi’s sarcoma, or Mesothelioma)

Additional information about Agent Orange and VA’s services and programs for Veterans exposed to the chemical are available at www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange.

So what does this mean. . .

In general, for a Veteran to receive VA disability compensation, they must be able to prove to the VA first, that they have a current disability; second, that the disability was incurred or aggravated while on military duty; and 3, a connection or nexus, between number 1 and 2.

However, the VA recognizes, in certain circumstances, that a condition is *presumptive* therefore the Veteran no longer has to show that the current condition occurred while in service. This is very important as these conditions are not developing until several years after discharge.

For Vietnam Veterans with in country service, all of the conditions listed in part one of this story are considered presumptive. Therefore, all the Veteran has to prove to the VA is one that they have the condition and two that they served in country in Vietnam during the time that Agent Orange was being used (Feb 28th 1961 through May 7th, 1975). Also, to meet the third criteria, they need a medical statement showing that the exposure contributed to the diagnosis.

The VA recognizes other presumptive conditions, many illness are included in if they are diagnosed within one year of separation from service, this applies to all Veterans.

If you have more questions regarding this, or would like to file a claim for one of these conditions, contact a local service officer. For a listing please visit veterans.utah.gov or call us at 1-800-894-9497. Don’t wait to file your claim, you may not only get potential monthly compensation, but the VA will take care of the medical needs associated with the service connected condition.

Ban Law office P.C.
people + planet



- Need Aggressive Attorney Representation for your Veterans Service Connection and/or Social Security Disability Claim?
- You Pay Nothing Unless You Win !

Joel Ban V.A. Accredited Attorney
801-532-2447 joel.ban@gmail.com

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
Our Services are ALWAYS FREE
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/outreach



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Emergency (435) 592-0554
FAX (435) 477-8570

jmcfresh1@gmail.com
M-F 8am-8pm/ Sat-Sun Emergencies only



Above, from left to right: Ben Webster; Matthew Stuart; Rubina Williams; Tyson Mortensen; Andy Figorski; Milo Quiroz, and Jeff Hunter, all of whom are OEF/OIF Veterans, cut the ribbon in celebration of the new OEF/OIF clinic at the VA Medical Center. This opening marks the beginning of this new clinic. The same services had been previously available, however there was no specific space for the OEF/OIF team. Now they are all located in the same area and this offers Veterans the opportunity to see them more easily. In addition, the team offers walk in clinics on Monday mornings and Thursday evenings.

UTAHNS IN IRAQ

Submitted by Robert Voyles, Director, FDM

The Fort Douglas Military Museum announces the completion of a photography exhibit that tells the story of a Utah National Guard unit deployed to Iraq in 2005. The unit, 2nd Battalion, 222nd Field Artillery, completed a one-year tour of duty in Ramadi, Iraq. Embedded

with them for three months was a Salt Lake Tribune photographer, Rick Egan. Rick took a series of photographs that depict conditions of service and events in the soldier's lives. Photos also show the culture, the people and the landscape of Iraq. The photos are on display at the museum through December 2009. Admittance is free and the museum is open Tuesday thru Saturday, from noon to 5:00 pm. For further information call 801-581-1251.

Support and Education Group for Women Veterans

- **When:** Thursday evenings 6:00-7:30 pm
- **Where:** VA Medical Center, Women's Clinic, Building 1 (1st floor, near radiology) 500 Foothill Drive SLC, Utah 84148
- **Who:** Women Veterans
Facilitators:
 - Leader-Jeri Lambourne, Chaplain
 - Co Leader -Maxine Lindsay, Peer Support
 - Assistant-Gina Painter, Women Veterans Program Manager
- **How:** please come the Women's Clinic
- **Purpose:** To provide a safe, positive and supportive non-therapeutic place for women to gather. Topics may include;
 - Holiday Blues
 - Grief and loss
 - What is perception?
 - Hope
 - Employment strategies
 - Understanding trauma
 - Dealing with fear

Light refreshments will be served

If you have questions, call Jeri at (801) 582-1565 (x4280)

WOMEN VETERANS HEALTH CARE

You served, you deserve
★ the best care anywhere.



Secretary Shinseki Announces Study of Vietnam-Era Women Veterans: Comprehensive Study Will Help VA Provide High-Quality Care

From the VA Office of Media Relations

WASHINGTON — Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki announced the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is launching a comprehensive study of women Veterans who served in the military during the Vietnam War to explore the effects of their military service upon their mental and physical health.

“One of my top priorities is to meet the needs of women Veterans,” said Secretary Shinseki. “Our Veterans have earned the very best care. VA realizes that women Veterans require specialized programs, and this study will help VA provide high-quality care for women Veterans of the Vietnam era.”

The study, which began in November and will last more than four years, will contact approximately 10,000 women in a mailed survey, telephone interview and a review of their medical records.

As women Vietnam Veterans approach their mid-sixties, it is important to understand the impact of wartime deployment on health and mental outcomes nearly 40 years later. The study will assess the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other mental and physical health conditions for women Vietnam Veterans, and explore the relationship between PTSD and other conditions.

VA will study women Vietnam Veterans who may have had direct exposure to traumatic events, and for the first time, study those who served in facilities near Vietnam. These women may have had similar, but less direct exposures. Both women Veterans who receive their health care from VA and those who receive health care from other providers will be contacted to determine the prevalence of a variety of health conditions.

About 250,000 women Veterans served in the military during the Vietnam War and about 7,000 were in or near Vietnam. Those who were in Vietnam, those who served elsewhere in Southeast Asia and those who served in the United States are potential study participants.

The study represents to date the most comprehensive examination of a group of women Vietnam Veterans, and will be used to shape future research on women Veterans in future wars. Such an understanding will lay the groundwork for planning and providing appropriate services for women Veterans, as well as for the aging Veteran population today.

Women Veterans are one of the fastest growing segments of the Veteran population. There are approximately 1.8 million women Veterans among the nation's total of 23 million living Veterans. Women comprise 7.8 percent of the total Veteran population and nearly 5.5 percent of all Veterans who use VA health care services. VA estimates women Veterans will constitute 10.5 percent of the Veteran population by 2020 and 9.5 percent of all VA patients.

In recent years, VA has undertaken a number of initiatives to create or enhance services for women Veterans, including the implementation of comprehensive primary care throughout the nation, staffing every VA medical center with a women Veterans program manager, supporting a multifaceted research program on women's health, improving communication and outreach to women Veterans, and continuing the operation of organizations like the Center for Women Veterans and the Women Veterans Health Strategic Healthcare Group.

The study, to be managed by VA's Cooperative Studies Program, is projected to cost \$5.6 million.



George E Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home Offers “Home Like” Atmosphere

The photos above from the new Veterans Home in Ogden that will begin occupation in January of 2010. Top right is a resident room, each room is semiprivate, as in a private room but a shared bath. The next photo is from a common room, there are four separate pods in this facility and each has it’s own common room as well as a kitchen area, left, so the residents can stay in their pod for meals and not need to go to a large, common, dining room. For more information on this facility please visit our website at www.veterans.utah.gov and see additional articles in this special edition newspaper.

NAMI Utah Offers free services for Veterans and families suffering from PTSD

You or someone you love lives with depression, anxiety, bipolar or schizophrenia. That is why there is NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness).



NAMI Utah
450 South 900 East
Suite 160
Salt Lake City, UT 84102
877-230-6267
www.namiut.org
education@namiut.org

What you will find at NAMI Utah:

- A network of friends who care and understand
- Free education, support and advocacy
- Ideas that help you take care of yourself and your family
- A chance to share your experience and learn from others who have been there
- Information about brain disorders, treatment, and services
- Help. Hope. Healing.

Contact NAMI Utah today by calling (801) 323-9900 or toll-free (877) 230-6264.

BRIDGES – A 10-week class for those living with mental illness. Courses cover brain biology, symptoms, communication, building support, crisis planning, and recovery. This course is taught by trained individuals who can speak from personal experience.

Progression – A 6-week education/support group for youth ages 15-21 who are living with mental health issues. It is a safe place to learn about illness, recovery, roadblocks, and valuable skills. Youth can talk to others who are dealing with similar issues.

Connection – A weekly recovery support group for adults with mental illness of any diagnosis, one that is expanding in cities throughout the country.

Family-To-Family – A 12-week course for family members of people who have mental illnesses. Classes cover symptoms, medications, coping skills, recovery, advocacy and more. Classes are offered in English & Spanish and are taught by trained family members.

NAMI Basics – A 6-week course for parents and caregivers of children/adolescents with mental health issues. Classes cover symptoms, treatment, problem solving, crisis preparation, challenging behavior, record keeping and more.

Family Support Groups are available across the state for family members and friends looking for support from those who understand.

Mentoring Program provides those living with mental illness and their families a peer who can listen, empathize, and connect them to valuable education/support programs and other community resources.

Hope for Tomorrow – An education program offered to secondary schools with components for students, teachers, and parents. The goals are to raise awareness of mental illness, erase stigma, and foster hope.

Parents & Teachers as Allies is a free 2-hour faculty in-service offered to all schools as a part of Hope for Tomorrow.

Clergy and Provider Training provides training to clergy members and professionals on mental illness from those who are living with it. Information includes suggestions on offering support, and resources available in the community.

Artists’ Project encourages recovery and empowerment through self-expression, allowing artists with mental illness to display and market their art in the community.

Hearts and Minds is intended to raise awareness and provide information on: diabetes, diet, exercise, and smoking and includes a 13-minute, inspirational video and a 26-page booklet. This course is for everyone.

Veterans Home

Continued from page 1

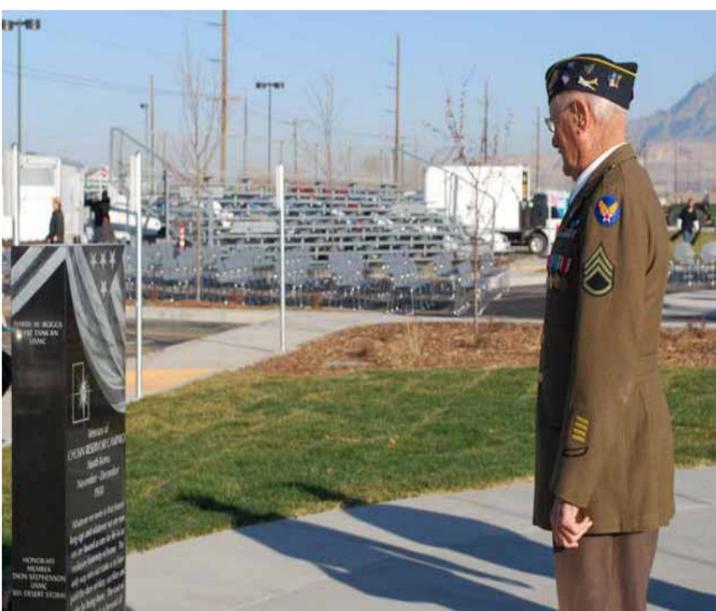
in preparation of receiving hundreds of pounds of copper/tin ingots that would become a beautiful bell. On day one of this event dozens of local school students participated in a "passing" of the ingots to the furnace, and will have this as a memory forever, that they were part of this great event honoring Utah's veterans. The bell was forged at 2200 degrees Fahrenheit for nearly 5 hours, cooled overnight, and on day two a ceremony was held to break the mold. Again students, veterans and all in attendance had an opportunity to take a "swing" at the mold to break free the bell. Fun was had by all and eventually the mold did crumble, the bell was freed, and was then polished and prepared for presentation later in the day. This bell will hang in a 30 foot memorial tower, to be constructed in the summer of 2010, and will reside at the front entrance to the veterans' home.

At the "bell ceremony" Melba Wahlen had the honor of ringing the bell for the first time, and its' clear resonance sounded throughout the area, honoring not only George E. Wahlen, but all veterans who have served and sacrificed for this nation. The entire Wahlen family then came forward to ring the bell, followed by nearly everyone present. It was a very emotional and heart warming event.

Now that the Ogden facility is completed, veterans are turning their attention to two additional veterans' homes planned for southern and central Utah. VA Grants have been filed and approved, but not yet funded. Discussions have been held with some legislators regarding the possible use of the VA money that will be received on the Ogden project being directed to the other facilities planned. This could cover the 35% state share, and would accelerate the time frame for moving ahead with these much needed facilities. In a state owned veterans' home, the VA will pay for nearly one half the

cost of care for the resident. In certain instances the amount paid is 100% of the cost of care. This is only available to the veteran if he or she is residing in a state owned facility. Site location for these two facilities has not been determined. Land is needed, approximately 6-8 acres for each one, and they will be constructed utilizing the same basic model as the Ogden nursing home, incorporating the VA's Culture Change concept in both. One significant change in these two facilities is that each room will be private and each room will have its' own bathroom.

We invite you to come visit the new Ogden veterans' home, tour the grounds, the buildings, and feel free to ask questions about any aspect of the building or the care that will be provided. If you are interested in employment, volunteer service, learning more about contributing to the Ogden, or any other veterans, facility please call the Utah Department of Veterans' Affairs at 801-326-2372 and we will be happy to provide additional information suited to your specific request.



Top right to left: students from Walquest Jr. High, located across the street from the George W Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home, release red, white and blue balloons as a part of the ribbon cutting ceremonies. Frank Layden, Melba Wahlen and Casey Kunimara at the ribbon cutting ceremony. Members of the Ben Lomond Bagpipe Corp preforme "Amazing Grace", Veterans of Northern Utah carry the flag for the presentation og the colors. The youngest member of the Utah Patriot Guard Riders celebrates the festivities at the ribbon cutting ceremony. Bob Christofferson looks upon the Korean War Monument in front of the new facility, Residents from the Salt Lake Veterans Nursing Home Delbert Boyington, Howard Thomas and William Brim.

“We’ve Rung the Bell...Now It’s Time To Raise The Tower!” *Utah’s Veterans Tribute Tower Is One Step Closer To Reality*

By Ralph Lowell Coleman, Jr., *Special Correspondent*

During a two-day special event, held November 10-11 at the new George E. Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home, a 250-pound commemorative bronze bell was cast onsite. School children, veterans and their families, and dignitaries took part in this historic event. The bell was cast from bronze ingots which were heated to 2200 degrees Fahrenheit in the world’s only “Bell Foundry on Wheels,” a complete mobile foundry which is owned by The Verdin Company, Cincinnati, Ohio. The two tractor-trailer rig was driven from its home base in Cincinnati to take part in the onsite bell casting.

Mrs. Melba Wahlen, widow of George E. Wahlen, and other members of the family, were given the honor of ringing the impressively polished and completed bell during ceremonies on the second day. The bell now hangs in a temporary display at the George E. Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home.

Plans are to erect an imposing thirty-foot Veterans Tribute Tower on the circular plaza, which is adjacent to the entrance to the home. This steel tower, to be fabricated in Cincinnati, Ohio, and transported across the country for its erection and dedication, will be black with ornate gold trim. Four huge three-foot diameter clocks will face each of the primary points of the compass, and remind all viewers to “Take Time To Remember.” A chamber carillon will provide chimes and patriotic/commemorative music, specially programmed to play on the hour and during special events and holidays. The commemorative bronze bell will eventually be hung in this Veterans Tribute Tower. Only three other Veterans Tribute

Towers currently exist in the United States: Rising Sun, Indiana; North Miami Beach, Florida; and Green Township, Cincinnati, Ohio.

At the base of the Tower, the plaza will be paved with laser-inscribed bricks, which honor the names of Utah’s veterans. These special bricks, in two sizes, 4 inch by 8 inch, and 8 inch by 8 inch,



The Wahlen family around the newly cast bell.



project and issued a challenge to other individuals, clubs, veteran’s organizations, civic groups, schools, businesses, corporations, foundations, and local/regional governments to do likewise.

A conscientious fund-raising program is currently underway, with a goal of erecting and dedicating the Veterans Tribute Tower in Spring 2010.

Those who have an interest in this project are encouraged to contact the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs, 550 Foothill Drive, Suite 202, PO Box 58897, Salt Lake City, Utah 84158-0897. The phone number is 800-894-9497. Additional information is available on the department’s website, veterans.utah.gov.

can be inscribed with three to six lines of text. The bricks are available for donations of \$100 and \$200 respectively. Special order forms to purchase one or more of these bricks are available from the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs. An order form is available on page 10.

The cost of the Veterans Tribute Tower, approximately \$250,000, must be raised by private and public contributions; no state or federal money has been allocated for this project. The generous folks at Big D Construction recently donated \$20,000 toward this



Top then clockwise: Elementary students from Evergreen Montessori Academy in Ogden, pass bronze ingots that were placed in a kiln and melted down to be pored into the mold to cast the bell; The melted ingots being poured into the bell mold. Casey Kunimara takes a shot at the mold around the cast bell. The finished bell. Representatives from The Verdin Company works on the bell freshly broken from the mold. Ralph Coleman and Dennis McFall at the Bell casting event for the Veterans Tribute Tower.

Challenge Coins Available in Commemoration of the George E. Wahlen Veterans Home

By Jose Lopez

As a token of our appreciation the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs is offering a challenge coin commemorating the dedication of the George E. Wahlen Veterans Home on November 19, 2009 to all donations of \$200 or more.

A challenge coin is a small coin or medallion (usually military), bearing an organization's insignia or emblem and is carried by the organization's members. They are given to prove membership when challenged and to enhance morale.

Like so many other aspects of military tradition, the origins of the challenge coin are a matter of much debate with little supporting evidence. While many organizations and services claim to have been the originators of the challenge coin, the most commonly held view is that the tradition began in the United States Army Air Service (a forerunner of the current United States Air Force).

Air warfare was a new phenomenon during World War I. When the army created flying squadrons they were manned with volunteer pilots from every walk of civilian life. While some of the early pilots came from working class or rural backgrounds, many were wealthy college students who withdrew from classes in the middle of the year, drawn by the adventure and romance of the new form of warfare.

As the legend goes, one such student, a wealthy lieutenant, ordered small, solid-bronze medallions (or coins) struck, which he then presented to the other pilots in his squadron as mementos of their service together.

The coin was gold-plated, bore the squadron's insignia, and was quite valuable. One of the pilots in the squadron, who had never owned anything like the coin, placed it in a leather pouch he wore around his neck for safekeeping. A short while later, this pilot's aircraft was heavily damaged by ground fire (other sources claim it was an aerial dogfight), forcing him to land behind enemy lines and allowing him to be captured by the Germans. The Germans confiscated the personal belongings from his pockets, but they didn't catch the leather pouch around his neck. On his way to a permanent prisoner of war facility, he was held overnight in a small German-held French village near the front. During the night, the town was bombarded by the British, creating enough confusion to allow the pilot to escape.

The pilot avoided German patrols by donning civilian attire, but all of his identification had been confiscated so he had no way to prove his identity. With great difficulty, he crept across no-man's land and made contact with a French patrol. Unfortunately for him, the French had been on the lookout for German saboteurs dressed as civilians. The French mistook the American pilot for a German saboteur and immediately prepared to execute him.

Desperate to prove his allegiance and without any identification, the pilot pulled out the coin from his leather pouch and showed it to his French captors. One of the Frenchmen recognized the unit insignia on the coin and delayed the execution long enough to confirm the pilot's identity.



Front and Back side of the Challenge coin. Coins are on sale for \$10.00 plus \$1.00 shipping charge.

©2009 SymbolArts



Once the pilot safely returned to his squadron, it became a tradition for all members to carry their coin at all times. To ensure compliance, the pilots would challenge each other to produce the coin. If the challenged couldn't produce the coin, he was required to buy a drink of choice for the challenger; if the challenged could produce the coin, the challenger would purchase the drink.

Once more we would kindly like to express our gratitude for your donation and support of the completion of the George E. Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home. Coins may be also be purchased through our office for \$10.00 each, all proceeds will help fund the Veterans Tribute Tower, which will be placed in front of the Veterans Home. Visit us at Veterans.utah.gov or call 1-800-894-9497 for more information.

Veterans Tribute Tower Northern Utah Veterans Nursing Home

Use this form to order a personalized memorial brick which will be included in the paved plaza beneath or adjacent to the Veterans Tribute Tower at the Northern Utah Veterans Nursing Home, 1102 North 1200 West, Ogden, Utah.

Each Inscribed Brick Must Be Ordered On An Individual Form For multiple orders, first copy this blank form or acquire additional blank forms.

Print **EXACTLY** the way you want the brick to be inscribed. If you print in all **UPPER CASE**, the brick will be inscribed in **UPPER CASE**. If you print in lower case, the brick will be inscribed in lower case. You can combine **UPPER** and lower case letters, not to exceed 20 characters/spaces per line. Please check your spelling for accuracy!

Donor/Buyer's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ E-mail: _____

- Regular Brick (approximately 4 in x 8 in) \$100 each 3-Lines of Text, 20 characters/spaces
- Large Brick (approximately 8 in x 8 in) \$200 each Up to 6-Lines of Text, 20 characters/spaces

Line 1																				
Line 2																				
Line 3																				
Line 4																				
Line 5																				
Line 6																				

Mail your order to Utah Department of Veterans Affairs
550 Foothill Drive, Suite 202
Salt Lake City, Utah 84113

Make sure you include your personal/business check, or money order made out for the total amount of your order.

Make Check or Money Order Payable To "Donations Account—Northern Utah Veterans Nursing Home"

Brick Examples

Representative—Not Drawn To Scale

Benjamin R Middleton
PFC Infantry Army
1950-1953

4 inch x 8 inch size

THREE Lines of Text—20 Characters and Spaces

Thomas W Appleby
Captain Army
4th Army Division
European Theater
World War II
Purple Heart

8 inch x 8 inch size

Up To SIX Lines of Text—20 Characters and Spaces

The Utah Department of Veterans Affairs would like to recognize all those who have contributed to the George E Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home. Every contribution has helped to make a wonderful facility.

Medal of Honor Donors (\$25,000 or more)

As a result of multiple fund raising projects and efforts, more than \$46,000 has been raised by Unity Lodge #18 and Golden Spike Lodge #6 F&A Masons

Distiguated Service Award Donors, (\$15,000 - \$24,999)

Ed Kenley Investments, LLC

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No Utah Chapter #995 MOPH
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VFW, Post 10900, Moab
VFW, Post 1481, Ladies Aux
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Weber Co Fed of Republican Women & Bob Bennett
Weber Co Federation of Republican Women
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Wood Family Trust, Judith Wood TTE

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\$1- \$999

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Brian & Donelle Clements
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C.E. & Donna Rae Persinger
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Caring Citizens of Morgan County
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Carrie Fletcher
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Chareya Club
Charles & Dorothy Hunt
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Cindy K Harris
Clarence & Norma Knight
Clifford & Susanne Benoit
CMSGT David L. Hon, USAF, Ret
CNR, Certified National Recruiters of Utah
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Col Audrey & Fred Worff (USAF, Ret)
Col Dennis & Mary Jo Montgomery, Ret
Coleen S Davis
Collette & Dale Scow
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Cory Mjaatvedt & Christene Jensen
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Curt & Carol Knight
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Dallan & Kathy Buckley
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DAV Auxiliary Unit 14
DAV Auxiliary, James R. Thomas Jr. Unit 6
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Delmar & Nina Coleman
Delores Messersmith
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Dennis & Elaine Bateman
Dennis & Joann McClune
Dennis & Joanne McClune, Ret, USAF
Dennis & Judy Parizek
Deon M. & Harold C. Anthon
Dieter & Hannelore Poehler
Dina K Wells
Dixie & Curtis Madsen
Don & Dona Johnson as a Memorial to
Colonel James Riley
Donald & Betty Harshbarger
Donald & Lezlie Cazel
Donald & Susan Crampton
Donna Fernelius & Debra Fox
Donna Ruiz
Donna Wade
Donna Weyburn
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V.M. & Flora Sevy
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Vern Weatherston

Vernon & Lola Parker
VFW Ladies Aux, #1481 Honor of Jeff Clontz
VFW Post 12076
VFW Post 1695, Brigham City
VFW, Dept of Utah
VFW District 3
VFW Post 5560
VFW, Posts 1481, 9803, 12076
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We still your help and support. If you would like to contribute to the George E Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home please fill out the form below and mail it to us.

George E Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home Donation Form

Amount you would like to donate: \$ _____

Where you would like your donation to go:

Tribute Tower Furnishings Library Unspecified

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Make checks payable to: Utah Department of Veterans Affairs Donation Account

Please send this form and your donation to:

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ATTN: Ogden Veterans Home
PO Box 58897
Salt Lake City, UT 84158-0897**

Your Contact Information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

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Phone: _____

*****A receipt will be mailed to you for your tax deductible donation*****

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

2010 VAN SCHEDULE FOR IDAHO, PRICE and ST. GEORGE

FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL:

IDAHO: (208) 221-0362

PRICE, ST. GEORGE : 1-800-613-4012 x. 2003

JANUARY 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 20, 22, 26, 28
 FEBRUARY 1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 17, 19, 23, 25
 MARCH 1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 15, 19, 21, 23, 25, 29, 31
 APRIL 2, 6, 8, 12, 14, 16, 20, 22, 26, 28, 30
 MAY 4, 6, 10, 12, 14, 18, 20, 24, 26, 28
 JUNE 1, 3, 7, 9, 11, 15, 21, 23, 25, 29
 JULY 1, 7, 9, 13, 15, 19, 21, 23, 27, 29
 AUG 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 16, 18, 20, 24, 26, 30

2010 VAN SCHEDULE FOR LOGAN, VERNAL, ELKO, ELY, AFTON, ROCK SPRINGS

FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL:

WY AND NV: (307) 886-5293

LOGAN AND VERNAL: 1-800-613-4012 x2003

JANUARY 5, 7, 11, 13, 15, 19, 21, 25, 27, 29
 FEB 2, 4, 8, 10, 12, 16, 18, 22, 24, 26,
 MARCH 2, 4, 8, 10, 12, 16, 18, 22, 24, 26, 30
 APRIL 1, 5, 7, 9, 13, 15, 19, 21, 23, 27, 29
 MAY 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 21, 25, 27
 JUNE 2, 4, 8, 10, 14, 16, 18, 22, 24, 28, 30
 JULY 2, 6, 8, 12, 14, 16, 20, 22, 26, 28, 30
 AUG 3, 5, 9, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 25, 27, 31

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 WILL 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 UPTO DATE SCHEDULE, OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL WORKFORCE SERVICES OFFICE FOR A DATE AND TIME A SERVICE OFFICER WILL BE AVAILABLE.