

DECEMBER 2007



# VETERANS

# POST

SERVING VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN RETURN FOR THEIR SERVICE TO US

Volume 17, Number 12

Member Florida Press Association

## Now This Is A Really Big Car Flag!



On November 10<sup>th</sup>, the Veterans Post News took its Van and Float-Trailer all the way to Washington, DC to participate in the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial activities and Parade. The event was organized by the Vietnam Veterans of America, who pulled out all the stops to make this a great event. Riding Shotgun for the trip was Paul Branesky, who helped drive, construct the float, handed out thousands of papers and provided directions when we got lost. There are many more photos on the website, including the following day, November 11<sup>th</sup>, in New York City for their Annual Veterans Day Parade.

## Jan Scruggs, Founder Of The Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Reflects, 25 Years Later.



This is the man with the vision and the YEARS of Blood, Sweat & Tears to convince people, business and the congress to do something for the Vietnam Veterans.

Once he convinced them, all he had to do after that was to raise over \$8 million dollars, from private individuals as our government does not spend our hard earned tax dollars this way. They build things for other nations, friend and foe alike...

But this is about Scruggs and the tireless efforts he had to endure to complete his mission in life, which was to leave something positive for his fellow Vietnam Veterans and have them all remembered generations from now.

Scruggs has accomplished that and more. In fact the Smithsonian Institute has made a one hour video about this, the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wall, you can watch for free online at their new site; [www.smithsonianchannel.com/](http://www.smithsonianchannel.com/) They have even broken it down into ten minute segments so if you don't have enough time to sit through it in one sitting. It aired on their channel November 11<sup>th</sup>.

You can also watch the Smithsonian Channel if you have DirecTV channel 267. If you have local cable, you can contact them and request it be added to the regular lineup.

If you can get involved in your own community with an organization, please do so.

## So Proudly She Waves



The American Legion Auxiliary paid tribute to Veterans as they set up their "Healing Field" near the Washington Monument. 1,000 3x5' American Flags each attached to an 8' pole and set into the ground by volunteers. Pictured above is Ken Knight and Marcia Wheatley. For more information about the Healing Field, go to; [www.healingfield.org](http://www.healingfield.org). For more info on the largest women's patriotic service organization in the world, founded in 1920 go to [www.legion-aux.org](http://www.legion-aux.org). The original Field of Flags came from a simple community project in Sandy, Utah to remember those lost on September 11, 2001, with a field displaying more than 3,000 flags in military precision.

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## VETERANS POST NEWSPAPER

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### Veterans Post News Objectives:

**Increase awareness of Veterans activities**  
**Educate and inform Veterans and citizens**  
**Increase membership of Veterans organizations**  
**Ensure that Veterans are not forgotten**

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### Dear Company Clerk,

Each year, our nation sets aside November 11 as a day to honor the heroism and sacrifice of America's soldiers, past and present.

In the 232 years since the Army's establishment, American soldiers have answered the call to duty with honor and dauntless courage. From the snows of Valley Forge to the slopes of Little Round Top, from the forests of Meuse-Argonne to the beaches of Normandy, from the frozen hills of the Chosun Reservoir to the burning sands of Iraq, the men and women of the U.S. Army have demonstrated their invincible spirit and their love of freedom.

And today, they are on point all over the world protecting that freedom.

In his speech at West Point, Gen. Douglas MacArthur spoke of the courage of the American soldier. "I do not know the dignity of their birth," he said, "but I do know the glory of their death. They died unquestioning, uncomplaining, with faith in their hearts, and on their lips the hope that we would go on to victory. Always for them — Duty, Honor, Country, always their blood and sweat and tears as they sought the way and the light and the truth."

May we never let the memories of the American soldier die. Take a moment to remember and pray for those who are on point today valiantly protecting our country's freedom.

The American soldier -- forever a symbol of heroism, sacrifice, loyalty and freedom.

Lt. Col. Bohn E. Wanamaker, CAP,  
Arizona Wing

### Dear Company Clerk,

I'm writing today to ask you to please take a minute to help us out on an important issue that is affecting wounded servicemembers.

When Jordan Fox was serving as a Private First Class in Iraq in May of this year, he was injured by a roadside bomb. The attack left him with a back injury and blind in his right eye, and as a result, the Army sent him home. A few weeks later, to his surprise, they sent him a bill for nearly \$3,000.

The Army demanded that he return part of his enlistment bonus because he had been injured and medically discharged before completing his enlistment. Jordan had signed up to serve his country and was injured in the line of duty, and now the Army was asking for its money back.

Fortunately, there's a new bill gaining momentum in Congress that would ensure this doesn't happen to others in his situation. Pennsylvania Congressman Jason Altmire has introduced the "Veterans Guaranteed Bonus Act"



T h e S m a l l P r i n t

## And The Money Flows... Not

By Phillip Meskin

Only 12 months till the 2008 presidential election and just look at that... democrats are actually working with republicans with an appropriations bill to pass with \$43.1 Billion for Veterans programs and facilities.

While all the pats on the backs are going around, let us go over some notes of past years and what really happens to that money.

First, the funds have been appropriated but not yet released for use. Just like the concurrent receipt from 4 years ago during the last presidential election. The funds were appropriated, but could not be accessed, so they planned to start out with 10% to the guys with 100% comp and each year add more people and more percentages.

Do you remember that Veterans are dying at the rate of 1,500 a day? So during that first one year waiting period, of the more than half million Veterans who died, how many never saw a dime?

Anyway the program got a bumpy start and just when almost 2,000 were getting a smaller than expected extra check, congress says we are going to start a new program with less red tape... So they scrap the first program, all funds stop flowing and we wait for the next program to come down the pike. While we waited, another one million Veterans died!

Well the new funds are here and destined for programs and facilities... You should watch carefully as these true masters of scam spend over \$20 Billion on the "New" facility they will build to replace Walter Reed. After all, our poor overworked congress and senate have to get there free health care somewhere while they are in DC!

The remaining funds will get jammed up, out of any Veteran reach... While our politicians proudly walk around telling us how they got the money for us and look how great Walter Reed is doing now.

We listened when they told us they fixed the system and an appeal can be heard in only 177 days, just shy of 6 months. We have a staff member in our office whose file was received by the Board of Veterans Appeals in Jan. 2004. 44 months later in Aug 2007 comes the response, and it is all in his favor, including the original appeal that started in 1982! So why is this not a happy time for him?

(H.R. 3793), and IAVA is making a major push to ensure it gets passed as soon as possible.

Throughout this fight, Jordan has maintained that he is proud of his military service, and would serve again if asked. But this is a loophole that needs to be fixed immediately. The men and women in uniform in Iraq and Afghanistan have served our nation proudly, and this is a terrible way to welcome them home.

So please take a minute now to send your Representatives a message, and tell them to support the Veterans Guaranteed Bonus Act.

On behalf of Jordan, and future wounded veterans, thank you.

Paul Rieckhoff  
Iraq Veteran, Executive Director  
Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America

### Dear Company Clerk,

For all of you who read this that continue to say; "I'm sorry, I just can't help". Or, I don't have enough time to do that. Or, I just cannot afford to assist you at this time...

Well, if you will use your computer and go to the Xerox site; [www.LetsSayThanks.com](http://www.LetsSayThanks.com) you can pick out a Thank You card and Xerox will print it and it will be sent to a soldier that is currently serving in Iraq.

You can't pick out who gets it, but it will go to some member of the Armed Services. It is Free and only takes a few moments of your time.

Wouldn't it be great if each and every member of our military received a bunch of these? Getting mail when you are a half a world away from your home... I guess it cannot be explained unless you have been there.

Please take the time to do this and pass it along to your friends and family.

David Hoover  
Saint Petersburg, FL

### Dear Company Clerk,

VA's self-congratulatory press release (in response to a CBS TV investigation on what the VA does for suicide) speaks of all they have done in the area of suicide prevention. Truth be told, VA has virtually ignored the problem of veterans and suicide until this year.

In the wake of the Walter Reed scandal and the ensuing stories about problems in VA healthcare, the VA added more suicide counselors.

Their suicide hotline did not get started until late July of this year. Their claim that CBS did not do an academic study, they didn't, they merely reviewed statistical data.

It turns out that there is no requirement or legal rule for the local regional office to actually obey the 'Order' or the 'Remand'.

There is no punishment if they just ignore the Veteran and they can wait until he goes away or dies. Now four months after the 26 page report came back from the Board of Veterans Appeals, nothing has changed, not the increased compensation that was 'Ordered', not the percentage change on his paperwork and not the 'Remand' to discover the true extent of the medical damage.

The only thing for sure is, the regional office in Bay Pines, Florida, has not yet received the file back from DC, so the service officers say they cannot begin to straighten out the problem.

And lastly, a new commission has just completed their findings and its more bad news for Veterans... They have learned that the returning Iraqi war Veteran, do not like to be bombarded with red tape.

These new younger Vets just want to be fixed so they can get on with their lives. But before they can talk to their doctor about their blood work, they have to go down to ROI (Release Of Information) so their primary care physician is allowed to discuss it with them. This of course confuses them to no end and makes some of them want to leave the VA system even before they are into it.

The commission has recommended that these newly returning Veterans be expedited through some of the normal waiting periods, which we all believe to be a wonderful idea.

The commission of course was solely to focus on the current batch of returning Veterans and could not make any recommendations about prior era Veterans.

Look, it has been said before, and as it now deeply set in the minds of all the people of New Orleans... If you are waiting for someone else to act on your behalf, don't!

If your situation is such that it becomes Life and Death and you see No One coming to your aid but you are still willing to just sit there, putting your own life and your family's lives at stake... We are truly sorry for your loss.

We won't lose any sleep over it, because if you won't make the effort to save yourself during a flood or political storm, you might not be worth saving.

The VA's further statement about reviewing the limited information that CBS has made available to us...

Let's make something clear. VA could have had this same data had they gone out to the individual states and asked for it.

VA did NOT do that because they didn't want to know about the suicide problem because then they would have had to address it...as they have been forced to do now.

Once again, the VA is trying to back away from their mistakes. They should be ashamed of using the old "kill the messenger" tactic instead of taking this damning information to heart and doing something about it.

Dan Cedusky  
Champaign, IL

### Dear Company Clerk,

General Giap (famous General in the North Vietnamese Army) has published his memoirs and confirmed what most Americans knew. The Vietnam War was not lost in Vietnam -- it was lost at home. The exact same slippery slope, sponsored by the Dems and the US media, is currently well underway. It exposes the enormous power of a biased media (the Dems could never do it alone) to cut out the heart and will of the American public.

"What we still don't understand is why you Americans stopped the bombing of Hanoi. You had us on the ropes. If you had pressed us a little harder, just for another day or two, we were ready to surrender! It was the same at the battles of TET. You defeated us! We knew it, and we thought you knew it. But we were elated to notice your media was definitely helping us. They were causing more disruption in America than we could in the battlefields. We were ready to surrender. You had won!"

Frank Marino  
Tampa, FL

### Quotes:

**"Do not fear the enemy, for they can take only your life. Fear the media far more, for they will destroy your honor."**

**"And so, my fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."**

John F. Kennedy

[www.VeteransPostNews.com](http://www.VeteransPostNews.com)

## Shades of Green AFRC Salutes Veterans

By Margaret McKenzie, FMWRC Public Affairs

Shades of Green, an Armed Forces Recreation Center on Walt Disney World, is offering all military Veterans an opportunity to vacation on the resort during the months of January and September as part of a "Salute to our Veterans" program.

"I am really impressed and proud to be eligible to use this vacation resort," said Nancy Dreussi, unit administrative technician for United States Army Reserves, A Company 256th Combat Support Hospital in Blacklick, Ohio. "As a Veteran of active duty regular Army and someone who has been deployed overseas to a hostile area as an Army Reservist, this is an awesome 'thank you.' It is great to be able to get away with the family, especially after having been gone from them for such a long time."

Located on Walt Disney World Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., the Shades of Green is one of five Armed Forces Recreation Centers in the world. The AFRC's are self-supporting, and provide luxury accommodations at a fraction of the cost of similar facilities. Room rates are on a sliding scale based on rank or grade, and reservations are normally restricted to active-duty or retired DoD employees.

Shades of Green sits between the Palm and Magnolia golf courses, two of Disney's PGA-certified courses, and provides Soldiers and families all the comforts and benefits of a resort vacation. Situated on 30 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds with cascading waterfalls and lush tropical gardens, the resort boasts 586 guest rooms with 11 family and junior suites, two heated swimming pools, a hot tub and a children's pool.

Guests are provided transportation to all Walt Disney World attractions and early entry into select venues inside the Magic Kingdom. Epcot, Disney-MGM Studios, and Disney's Animal Kingdom Theme Park are just minutes away. Discount tickets are available to all area attractions.

"We owe our Soldiers and Veterans the opportunity to enjoy the same quality of life they've pledged to defend," said Rich Gorman, chief

operating officer of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command, which runs the resorts. "These AFRC's are one of the many ways we show our Soldiers we're here for them and their families."

While Shades of Green can assist honorably discharged Veterans year-round in acquiring discounted accommodations in neighboring resorts and hotels, the "Salute to Our Veterans" program allows Veterans to book rooms at Shades of Green Resort for the first time. Space is limited; early reservations are recommended.

For more information or to make room reservations, call Shades of Green at 1-407-827-8387 or go online at [www.shadesofgreenVets.org](http://www.shadesofgreenVets.org).

### Homeless In America: 1 In 4 Are Veterans

Veterans make up one in four homeless people in the United States, though they are only 11 percent of the general adult population, according to a report released.

And homelessness is not just a problem among middle-age and elderly Veterans. Younger Veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan are trickling into shelters and soup kitchens seeking services, treatment or help with finding a job.

The Veterans Affairs Department has identified 1,500 homeless Veterans from the current wars and says 400 of them have participated in its programs specifically targeting homelessness.

The Alliance to End Homelessness, a public education non-profit, based the findings of its report on numbers from Veterans Affairs and the Census Bureau. 2005 data estimated that 194,254 homeless people out of 744,313 on any given night were Veterans.

In comparison, the VA says that 20 years ago, the estimated number of Veterans who were homeless on any given night was 250,000.

Some advocates say such an early presence of Veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan at shelters does not bode well for the future. It took roughly a decade for the lives of Vietnam Veterans to unravel to the point that they started showing up among the homeless. Advocates worry that intense and repeated

deployments leave newer Veterans particularly vulnerable.

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American Legion	5	3810 West Kennedy Boulevard	Tampa	1st Thur. - 6:00 PM	813-870-0505	Bill Hamblin	
American Legion	26	2207 West Baker Street	Plant City <sup>0208</sup>	2nd & 4th Tue. - 7:30 PM	813-752-8608	Alvin McGary	
American Legion	111	6918 Florida Avenue	Tampa	1st Thur. - 7:00 PM	813-236-2281	Steve Cole	
American Legion	119	130 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue Southwest	Largo <sup>0607</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue. - 8:00 PM	727-584-2038	Mel O'Baugh	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119.htm</a>
American Legion	125	6440 5th Avenue South	Saint Petersburg	3rd Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-347-6085	George Brierley	
American Legion	147	17413 Gunn Highway	Odessa	1st Thur. - 7:30 PM	813-920-4512	Sal Poliandro	
American Legion	252	11433 Park Boulevard	Seminole	2nd & 4th Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-398-2463	Richard McAllister	
American Legion	273	600 American Legion Drive	Madeira Beach	1st Tue. - 7:00 PM	727-391-3670	Bob Cissell	
American Legion	347	699 W Lady Lake Boulevard	Lady Lake	2nd Weds. - 7:30 PM	352-750-2099	Bob Johnson	
American Legion Auxiliary	5	3810 West Kennedy Boulevard	Tampa	1st Thur. - 6:00 PM	813-870-0505	Mary Hoover	
American Legion Auxiliary	111	6918 Florida Avenue	Tampa	1st Thur. - 7:00 PM	813-236-2281	Louise Wilt	
American Legion Auxiliary	119	130 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue Southwest	Largo <sup>0607</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tue. - 7:30 PM	727-584-2038	Beverley Bohall	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119a.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119a.htm</a>
American Legion Auxiliary	125	6440 5th Avenue South	Saint Petersburg	2nd Tues. - 7:30 PM	727-347-6085	Cindy Adams	
American Legion Auxiliary	147	17413 Gunn Highway	Odessa	1st Thur. - 7:30 PM	813-920-4512	Dawn Poscich	
Sons of the American Legion	119	130 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue Southwest	Largo <sup>0607</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-584-2038	Mike 'Doc' Bowen	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119s.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119s.htm</a>
AmVets	98	4629 Bartelt Road	Holiday	2nd Sun. - 10:00 AM	727-943-5863	Rudy Drouin	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmVets98.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmVets98.htm</a>
AmVets Auxiliary	98	4629 Bartelt Road	Holiday	2nd Sun. - 10:00 AM	727-271-1902	Joyce Chadwell	
AmVets	698	5864 Park Boulevard	Pinellas Park <sup>1108</sup>				<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmVets698.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmVets698.htm</a>
Army Navy Union	3697	11904 Seminole Boulevard	Seminole	2nd Sun. - 10:30 AM	727-585-1592	Mike Daviduc	
Army Navy Union Auxiliary	3697	11904 Seminole Boulevard	Seminole	1st Sun. - 10:30 AM	727-585-1592	Judy Payne	
Disabled American Veterans	004	2612 North Tampa Street	Tampa	2nd Tue. - 1:00 PM	813-223-4059	Angel Rivera	
Disabled American Veterans	067	16314 Cortez Boulevard	Brooksville	1st Wed. - 7:00 PM	352-796-1679	John Demas	
Disabled American Veterans	078	6711 Jefferson Street	New Port Richey	1st Thur. - 7:00 PM	727-845-3886	Al Bedor	
Disabled American Veterans	083	115 West Clay	Brandon	1st Mon-Din 3rd Mon 6:30	813-571-1490	Reuben Perez	
Disabled American Veterans	103	360 Douglas Avenue	Dunedin	2nd Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-733-5108	Carl Kingsley	
Disabled American Veterans Aux	067	16314 Cortez Boulevard	Brooksville	1st Wed. - 7:00 PM	352-796-1679	Gail Pannell	
Disabled American Veterans Aux	078	6711 Jefferson Street	New Port Richey	1st Thur. - 7:00 PM	727-845-3886	Cheryl Gilliland	
Jewish War Veterans	373	Cong. Kol Ami, 3919 Moran Road	Tampa	3rd Sun. - 9:30 AM	813-963-3495	Ron LeBov	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/JWV373.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/JWV373.htm</a>
Jewish War Veterans	409	Mier/Kent Jewish Ctr 1955 Virginia St	Clearwater	1st Sun. - 10:00 AM	727-712-3717	Jess Krug	
Jewish War Veterans	505	9841 Scenic Drive	Port Richey	4th Sun. - 9:45 AM	727-847-3814	Harvey Siegel	
Jewish War Veterans Auxiliary	409	Mier/Kent Jewish Ctr 1955 Virginia St	Clearwater	1st Sun. - 10:00 AM	727-796-0950	Charlotte Michaels	
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	014	VFW 4364@ 5773 62nd Street North	Saint Petersburg	3rd Thur. - 7:00 PM	727-522-6496	Clarence Dadswell	
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	169	1211 Penn Street	Leesburg	4th Wed. - 2:00 PM	352-323-1896	John Yohn	
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	188	Womans Club Bldg. 450 So Lake Ave	Groveland	3rd Wed. - 1:00 PM	863-424-5212	Carl Hogue	
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	174	15166 Spring Hill Drive	Spring Hill	1st Thur. - 7:30 PM	352-688-7196	Rich Mellinger	
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	199	@AmLeg 24 - 2000 75th Street West	Bradenton	4th Thur. - 7:00 PM	941-746-4440	Gene Gillette	
Marine Corp League	1002	@VFW 9236 - 3435 Shoal Line Blvd	Hernando Beach	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon. - 7:00 PM	352-686-2186	Les Homan	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/MCL1002a.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/MCL1002a.htm</a>
Military Order of the Purple Heart	1980	@DAV Hall, Ohio & Jefferson Street	New Port Richey	2nd Weds. - 1:00 PM	727-845-5877	George Shred	
Military Order Purple Heart Aux	1980	@DAV Hall, Ohio & Jefferson Street	New Port Richey	2nd Weds. - 1:00 PM	727-845-5877	Susan Collade	
National Order of Trench Rats	446	4801 37th Street North	Saint Petersburg	4th Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-526-9870	John Golden	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/NOTR446.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/NOTR446.htm</a>
Veterans Council Hillsborough Co		Veterans Museum, 3602 US 301	Tampa	Last Mon. - 6:30 PM	813-744-5502	David Braun	
Veterans Memorial Park & Museum		3602 US Hwy. 301 North	Tampa	9:30 AM - 5:30 PM	813-744-5502	David Braun	
Veterans of Foreign Wars	2550	360 Douglas Avenue	Dunedin	3rd Tue. - 7:00 PM	727-733-6107	Joseph DiSalvo	
Veterans of Foreign Wars	10209	15166 Spring Hill Drive	Spring Hill	4th Wed. - 7:30 PM	352-796-0398	Jesse Sanchez	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/VFW10209.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/VFW10209.htm</a>
Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary	10209	15166 Spring Hill Drive	Spring Hill	2nd Mon. - 7:00 PM	352-686-8657	Elena Cannizzaro	
Vietnam Veterans of America	787	1511 West Clay Street	Brandon	4th Thur. - 7:00 PM	813-758-4547	Jim 'Rambo' LaGarde	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/VVA78701.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/VVA78701.htm</a>
WAC Army Corp Veteran's Assoc	97	@AmLeg 186 - 12091 Cortez Blvd	Brooksville <sup>0108</sup>	2nd Sat. - 10:30 AM	352-684-1968	Debra Gould-Avery	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/WAC9701.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/WAC9701.htm</a>

**Link-Up Lets U.S. Marine See Birth Of His First Child**

Far from home while stationed in Iraq, Marine Corps Sgt. Chad Mortenson didn't have to miss the birth of his first child.

Through a live video conference link set up by the charity, Freedom Calls Foundation, the 25-year-old Mortenson watched his wife, Denae Mortenson, deliver the couple's first child at Oklahoma City's Integris Southwest Medical Center.

"It was wonderful. The whole time he was talking to me," said Denae Mortenson, 20. "He could see me and I could hear him. It was like he was there, but he was just on a screen."

Jayden Faith Mortenson was born at 8:11 a.m. on Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, weighing 6 pounds, 13 ounces. "She's doing great -- 100 percent healthy," Denae said.

The New Jersey-based foundation was founded by attorney and venture capitalist John Harlow. He said he initially founded the charity to provide phone calls for troops after learning of a soldier who rang up a \$7,000 cell phone bill talking to his family from Iraq. "I just didn't think it was right to have these families commercially exploited when they're making sacrifices on behalf of this country," Harlow said.

The group conducts about 2,000 video conferences a month, allowing soldiers to visit with dying relatives, watch their children graduate from high school and even "attend" funerals and memorial services.

"I had a first birthday where the guy came up on the screen and sang happy birthday to his daughter over the computer," Harlow said. "After he sang the song, she ran across the room saying 'Dada,' and kissed the screen. It was very touching."

**Unclaimed Veterans' Ashes Interred**

The ashes of 13 Veterans and three Veterans' spouses have been interred as part of an ongoing effort to provide final resting places for the unclaimed remains of American Veterans.

The ceremony at the Idaho State Veterans' Cemetery is the second in Idaho for ashes recovered through the "Missing in America Project," a non-

profit group whose mission is to find, identify and inter the unclaimed, cremated remains of American Veterans.

The 16 urns were placed in the cemetery's wall by representatives from different branches of the military.

"Now they're surrounded by comrades and compassion," Zach Rodriguez, the cemetery director, told the *Idaho Statesman*.

The ashes included those of Dorothy S. Fisher, whose husband, Guy, served in the Army in World War I. Rodriguez said her ashes had been sitting in a nursing home since her death in 1990.

He said there are likely hundreds of unclaimed remains of Veterans and their spouses in facilities around the state.

**U.S. Military Says It's Finding More Iranian Arms In Iraq**

The quantity of Iranian bomb-making components being found in Iraq is increasing despite a fall in attacks -- and 20 Iranian-trained agents are still operating south of Baghdad, a top U.S. general said.

**New Controversy Surrounds Vietnam Memorial**

Jan Scruggs stretches his arms toward the Vietnam Veterans Memorial he imagined and made real 25 years ago.

As the names on the wall are read aloud in the distance, he stands on the spot where he plans an underground visitors center as one last tribute to the war's dead.

"This is where the entrance will be," says Scruggs, his back to the nearby Lincoln Memorial. Pointing to a gift shop kiosk nearby, he says, "This is not a historic vista."

That's not how preservationists see it. Like the divisive Vietnam War and the unconventional design of the monument to it, the center is opposed by critics who fear it will mar the already crowded National Mall and overshadow the memorial itself.

**Warning Issued On Islamic Goal of Imposing Shria Law In The U.S. By 2050**

An Egyptian-born Christian author who immigrated to the United

States to escape Islam says Americans must understand that radical Islam wants to impose its repressive Sharia law on the United States by the middle of the 21st century.

**U.S. Army Vehicles Get The Boot Over Parking Tickets**

Several U.S. Army recruiters found out yesterday that they can't fight Dallas' City Hall.

After five of their vehicles were immobilized with metal boots by Dallas city parking services workers, they went to offices of Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert and City Manager Mary Suhm. Several city employees told *The Dallas Morning News* that the soldiers requested the meetings, demanded answers and argued they had important places to go.

The city's response was simple: Pay your parking fines and you'll get your vehicles.

City records show that the Army owes more than \$2,635 in unpaid parking tickets and associated fines on the vehicles.

"I'm sorry they were inconvenienced, but everybody's got to pay their tickets. If one of our city employees gets a ticket, they pay it, too," Suhm said.

The parking ticket scofflaws were caught by using a sport utility vehicle-mounted system that identifies the license plates of vehicles with numerous outstanding parking fines. Using the system, the city yesterday also booted a vehicle belonging to the Marines -- the \$1,065 fine was promptly paid -- and two other unidentified government cars, said Zena Fernino, Dallas' parking management and enforcement division manager.

Soldiers are required by the Army to follow all municipal laws while on official business and are responsible for any parking tickets they incur while driving Army vehicles, said Kim Hanson, a public affairs officer for the Army recruiting battalion in Dallas.

While the Army paid off fines on three of the cars, they were unable to clear the others, which Dallas officials towed to the city auto pound, Fernino said last night.

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**Your Guide to VA Loans** by David Reed. This book has all the information you need to get your loan through the first time. It also gives you insight on how the process works and all the things to expect during the normal VA loan proces. While the book gives you what you need in just one publication, all of this information is free in several other places. Banks, VA, Real Estate offices, etc. Soft 240pp, charts, forms, rate tables, \$17.95, AMACOM Publishing. Printed in USA.

**U.S. Military History For Dummies** by John C. McManus. From the publishers that brought us all the other Dummy books, this one is pretty straight forward. If you can remember back to public schools in the 1950's where they actually taught American History including the wars... This is it! Since our current political environment no longer speaks or teaches Military History, copies of this book may be banned in the future. You might want to hide one for your great-grandchildren. Soft 384pp, \$21.99 Wiley, John & Sons Publishing. Printed in the USA

**Black Sailor, White Navy** by John Darrell Sherwood. The author shows us a Navy rife with racial problems, the Good, Bad & Ugly, but the outcome became tolerance and acceptance that any American could perform the duties they train for in the US Military. Of course being on a ship for 6 months or longer does tend to bring problems to a boil faster than it would at land based installations. It is mostly events during the Vietnam Era but other eras are mentioned. Hard, 384pp, photos, \$35 New York University Press. Printed in USA

**Obama Says His Years In High School Were 'Wasted'**  
Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama candidly discussed his youthful drinking and drug use with high school students, prompting at least one teen to conclude that such experimentation will not automatically ruin a young person's future.

**Clerk's Note:** What a wonderful example this man sets for our youth, your grandchildren... The leaders in the democratic party must be so proud.

**American Jews demand Abbas change Fatah's charter**  
The founding document of Abbas' party still openly calls for the destruction of Israel, and rejects any long-term political settlement.

**Teacher Held Over Teddy Bear Name**  
The Sudanese police arrested a Briton teacher, after she allowed her 7-year-olds to name a class teddy bear "Muhammad," she was charged with insulting Islam.

**Terrorists View A Hillary Victory As The Ticket To Palestinians' Victory, Author Says**  
If Islamic terrorists had their way, Hillary Clinton would be the next president of the United States. That's according to a Jerusalem-based author who has talked to a number of terrorist leaders in the Middle East.

**Kids Watch As Parents Beheaded For Wrong Trousers**  
An Iraqi couple were beheaded in front of their children by their cousins today because the man wore Western-style trousers.

Three suspected al-Qaida militants, including two sisters, beheaded their uncle and his wife, forcing the couple's children to watch, Iraqi police said. The killing came because school guard Youssef al-Hayali was considered an "infidel" because he did not pray and wore Western-style trousers.

**"Taxpayers... Good Sports!"**  
Three aldermen in Dover, N.J., seem exceptionally apprehensive that the town's gum ball machines are easy targets for terrorists to poison their community and have been studying the issue fervently.

The aldermen have checked all 800 gum ball machines in the town of 18,000, gotten rid of the 100 that were unlicensed, and will report to the mayor by January 1st on the town's vulnerability.

The mayor has been mildly supportive of the project, as contrasted with the police chief, who said, "You'd probably win the lottery first" before being victimized by terrorists' gum balls.

**"Taxpayers... Good Sports!"**  
Trial lawyer Gary Baise is also the "lower taxes, limited government, less spending" candidate for chairman of the Fairfax County (Va.) Board of Supervisors, but a *Washington Post* investigation reveals that he has collected nearly \$300,000 in federal subsidies between 1995 and 2005 on an already-profitable farm he owns in Illinois.

At first, he appeared outraged at himself: "There's no way you can justify this for guys like me. This is what's wrong with government." Nonetheless, he said, he'll continue to take the subsidies.

**"Taxpayers... Good Sports!"**  
It costs \$275, and that's non-refundable, to appeal a \$100 traffic ticket in Massachusetts.

**Billionaire tells Canada the time for the 'Amero' is near**  
Stephen Jarislowsky, a Canadian billionaire money manager and investor, billed as the Canadian Warren Buffet, has told a parliamentary committee Canada and the United States both should abandon their national dollar currencies and move to a regional North American currency as soon as possible.

**U.N.: Myanmar must free all child soldiers**  
Myanmar should release all its child soldiers and allow U.N. officials to verify government claims that officers have been punished for recruiting minors into the army, the U.N.'s chief says in a new report.

**Clerk's Note:** The problem with this... Most of the current officers were recruited 4 years ago when they were 11 years old.

**Take That!**  
A federal judge has OK'd the possibility of a raid on the New Orleans district attorney's office, for cars, furniture and office equipment, if DA Eddie Jordan doesn't come up soon with that \$3.5 million he owes the white ex-employees whom he fired on a whim to racially re-balance his work force.

**New Orleans' DA Quits**  
New Orleans' embattled District Attorney Eddie Jordan has quit, ending a controversial four-year tenure that saw him become the symbol of the hurricane-ravaged city's inability to combat violent crime.

**Iraq's Christians Face Extinction, Advocacy Group Says**  
An international organization supporting Christian minorities in Islamic societies has launched a new campaign to draw attention to the plight of Iraq's Christians; a community which it says "faces extinction."

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**Home sought for Veteran's grave stone, found in trash**

A Veterans group in Carrollton, Ga., is trying to find the final resting place of a World War II soldier whose grave marker was found in a Dumpster.

H. A. Whitman, a member of the Carrollton chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), says he and other Veterans have checked county cemetery records and called the Department of Veterans Affairs, but the group hasn't turned up any answers to where the body of James Shackelford is buried.

The paint-splattered grave marker shows Shackelford lived from 1919 to 1979 and served as a private in the U.S. Army. It was turned over to the Carroll County Sheriff's Department, which asked area Veterans to track down where the marker belongs.

**A Very Elite School Gets Protested**

Fort Benning is the site of the internationally-notorious U.S. Army training school for Latin American military and security personnel. For decades it was called the School of the Americas (SOA) -- it is now called the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC).

The school has graduated hundreds of military officers who have lead or participated in nearly every human rights atrocity in the hemisphere.

**Store To Provide Fuel For Soldiers' Trip Home**

An Oklahoma-based convenience store chain will provide the fuel needed to bring members of Oklahoma's 45th Infantry Brigade home for the holidays.

Love's Travel Stops and Country Stores chairman Tom Love said yesterday his company will donate the gasoline needed to ferry more than 2,600 soldiers training at Ft. Bliss, Texas, to Oklahoma. The soldiers are set to deploy from the post in January, but have 10 days of leave from Dec. 23 to Jan. 2.

"Love's is an Oklahoma company and proud of it," Love said. We're delighted to be able to do this."

Gov. Brad Henry earlier this month announced "Operation Holiday Homecoming" and asked Oklahomans to donate the \$600,000 needed to pay for 60 buses and meals for a round trip of less than 2,000 miles.

DoD regulations don't allow the Army to pay for the soldiers' trip home while on leave.

Maj. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt, III, Oklahoma's adjutant general, said the gift from Love's would "make 2,600 Oklahoma soldiers, and a lot more Oklahoma citizens, very happy. It is a huge expense to get back home," he said, adding that the program

is likely the only way many soldiers can come home for the holidays.

Wyatt said the buses would take the soldiers to Oklahoma City, Tulsa or McAlester. The buses will also return the soldiers to Texas.

About \$100,000 has been raised, and several buses have been supplied for the trip, said Michael Taylor, state commander of the American Legion.

Phil Bacharach, a spokesman for Gov. Henry, said the governor was "very grateful" for Love's donation. "It's a generous gift, and it's going to go a long way toward ensuring members of the 45th are going to be able to spend the holidays with their loved ones," Bacharach said.

**Officer Faces Jail Over Phony Medals**

The awards and badges Maj. Anthony Angelo Calderone wore turned his Class A uniform into a colorful billboard of combat heroism and professional achievement.

The U.S. Army Reserve major, who served in Iraq in 2005, wore a Silver Star, the Special Forces and Ranger tabs and other insignia. The problem is Calderone didn't earn any of those awards. Moreover, he used the illegitimate awards to nail down his promotion to major.

On Sept. 20, Calderone pleaded guilty in federal court to charges of lying about his awards and qualifications in order to gain a promotion. Sentencing is pending in U.S. District Court in Salt Lake City, Utah. He faces a maximum sentence of five years and six months in prison and fines of up to \$255,000.

The bogus awards include the Silver Star, the U.S. military's third-highest award for valor; the Special Forces and Ranger tabs; the Senior Parachutist Badge; the Military Freefall Parachutist Badge; the Special Operations Diver Badge; the Pathfinder Badge; the Combat Infantryman Badge; the Humanitarian Service Medal; the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal; the United Nations Medal; the Army Good Conduct Medal; and the Southwest Asia Service Medal.

"It's completely offensive for this soldier to claim all these things," said Robert Lund, the assistant U.S. attorney prosecuting the case.

**Getting High At Home**

They were prepared for war. They were prepared to die for their country. But Fort Carson, Colo., soldiers say they weren't prepared to come home and fight a different battle -- addiction to illegal drugs.

Many of this country's bravest men and women who volunteered to defend America in a time of war have come home wounded -- physically and mentally -- and are turning to illicit drugs as they adjust to normal life, according to soldiers, health experts and advocates.

business volunteers and join them in distributing toys, clothing, books, school supplies and holiday spirit to local residents. They'll also help serve up a feast of turkey, mashed potatoes and green beans, as well as ice cream sundaes donated by the Taste-Freez company.

Alaska National Guard airmen have conducted "Operation Santa Claus" since 1956 to bring holiday cheer to children and families in remote villages across the state. That year, Spring floods devastated the fishing season, and a drought wiped out much of the wildlife hunters and trappers would normally have gathered, Ms. Brooks said.

Nuns at a mission in St. Mary's, Alaska, worried that as they used all the money they had to ship in food for their orphanage, nothing would be left to buy gifts for the children. A letter from one of the nuns found its way to the Alaska Air National Guard's 144th Airlift Squadron in Anchorage, and gave birth to "Operation Santa Claus." Since then, the effort has branched out to reach different remote villages every year.

Last year, the Guard observed the program's 50th anniversary by returning to St. Mary's, among other villages.

The Alaska Guard and its elves kicked off this season's "Operation Santa Claus" Nov. 3 by flying two C-130s loaded with volunteer elves and goodies to Wainwright. The town, about 70 miles southwest of Barrow, has fewer than 600 residents. They flew another "Operation Santa Claus" flight Nov. 13 to Togiak, a village of approximately 800 people at the head of Togiak Bay.

**Bush Pardons Turkey for Thanksgiving.**



On Nov 20 the President with all due pomp did honor the tradition of giving pardon to a turkey... However, another couple of turkeys protested the event when Rev Jackson and Al Sharpton wanted to know why the President was pardoning a "white" turkey instead of a black one.

A representative of CAIR (council of arabic interrupting relations) shouted out and wanted to know if the turkey was muslim? And if not would the president pardon a muslim turkey?

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**Alaska Guard Conducts 'Operation Santa Claus'**  
By Donna Miles, American Forces Press Service

Alaska National Guard members are bringing Christmas early to children in remote Alaskan villages, some whom might otherwise not get to see Santa Claus or receive a holiday gift.

The Guardsmen from the 144th Airlift Squadron are slated to fly a C-130 Hercules from Kulis Air National Guard Base to Kotlik, Alaska, Nov. 27 for the third and last major "Operation Santa Claus" flight of the season, said Kalei Brooks, a spokeswoman for Alaska's Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

The airmen will carry Santa and Mrs. Claus and other community and

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### Secret History Revealed

KKK's 1st targets were Republicans. Dems credited with starting group that attacked both blacks, whites

The original targets of the Ku Klux Klan were Republicans, both black and white, according to a new television program and book, which describe how the Democrats started the KKK and for decades harassed the GOP with lynchings and threats.

An estimated 3,446 blacks and 1,297 whites died at the end of KKK ropes from 1882 to 1964.

The documentation has been assembled by David Barton of Wallbuilders and published in his book "Setting the Record Straight: American History in Black & White," which reveals that not only did the Democrats work hand-in-glove with the Ku Klux Klan for generations, they started the KKK and endorsed its mayhem.

"Of all forms of violent intimidation, lynchings were by far the most effective," Barton said in his book. "Republicans often led the efforts to pass federal anti-lynching laws and their platforms consistently called for a ban on lynching. Democrats successfully blocked those bills and their platforms never did condemn lynchings."

Further, the first grand wizard of the KKK was honored at the 1868 Democratic National Convention, no Democrats voted for the 14th Amendment to grant citizenship to former slaves and, to this day, the party website ignores those decades of racism, he said.

"Although it is relatively unreported today, historical documents are unequivocal that the Klan was established by Democrats and that the Klan played a prominent role in the Democratic Party," Barton writes in his book. "In fact, a 13-volume set of congressional investigations from 1872 conclusively and irrefutably documents that fact."

**Clerk's Note:** Both blacks and whites within the democratic party used the klan to create chaos so others, including the republicans could be blamed. Now it is so much clearer why the Reverend Jackson and the not so honorable Shapton act the way they do. Of course the clinton's from Arkansas being in power as long as they have would have a bit of knowledge on this subject... Wouldn't they?

### In Myanmar, Child Soldiers Bought And Sold, Report Says

Myanmar is filling the ranks of its depleted armed forces with children as young as 10 and may try to capture even more boys after the recent crackdown on pro-democracy protests, Human Rights Watch said yesterday.

The former Burma is so desperate to replenish its army after desertions and attrition that children are bought and sold by military recruiters. They are beaten and held as virtual prisoners while the government denies it is happening, the report said.

Myanmar's military government, under international scrutiny for its brutal suppression of the biggest pro-democracy protests in 20 years, insists that its armed forces are made up of volunteers over 18, the 132-page report said. However, out of 20 former soldiers interviewed by Human Rights Watch, all but one estimated that at least 30 percent of their fellow trainees were under 18, the report said.

### Giuliani resembles Bush on terror war

Rudy Giuliani, to quote a Democratic rival, would be "like President Bush on steroids" in the way he would go about protecting the U.S. from terrorists.

### WW-II Ace, Medal of Honor Recipient Dies

Retired Col. Jefferson J. DeBlanc, Sr., 86, a retired Marine Corps fighter pilot who received the Medal of

Honor after shooting down five Japanese warplanes during a World War II mission over the Pacific, died on Nov. 22 of complications from pneumonia at Lafayette General Medical Center in Lafayette, La.

A resident of St. Martinville, La., he was the state's last World War II Medal of Honor recipient.

On Jan. 31, 1943, then-Lt. DeBlanc took off from Henderson Field on Guadalcanal, leading a six-plane escort for a strike force of dive bombers that was to attack Japanese ships off Kolombangara Island in the Solomons. Two of the F4F-3 Wildcat fighters were crippled by mechanical problems shortly after take-off, and the 21-year-old lieutenant, who already had three kills to his credit, was in trouble because of a malfunctioning auxiliary fuel tank. Although he knew he was too low on fuel to complete the mission and get back to Henderson Field, Lt. DeBlanc radioed his fellow pilots that he wasn't turning back.

As the American planes reached their rendezvous point, Japanese Zeros swarmed to intercept. The American pilots drove them away, but when Lt. DeBlanc saw that Japanese float planes had intercepted U.S. dive bombers beginning their attack, he descended and shot down two of them.

As the four remaining Wildcats headed home, a dozen Zeros emerged from the sun's glare. Lt. DeBlanc shot down one and destroyed another; he watched it explode directly in front of his plane. Flying through the debris, he shot down yet another, his fifth of the day, seconds before bullets shattered his cockpit.

He said in a 1998 interview that he had just glanced at his watch when his instrument panel exploded in his face and the watch flew off his wrist.

Lt. DeBlanc bailed out into shark-infested waters and then had to decide whether to swim to Plum Island or try to make it to the larger Kolombangara Island. Supported by his life jacket but with salt water burning shrapnel wounds in his back, arms and legs, he swam to the larger island eight miles away. It took him all night.

For three days, he subsisted on coconuts until a group of LIPs (local indigenous personnel) found him and bartered him to another tribe for a sack of rice.

"Most people live their entire lives without knowing exactly what they're worth. I know exactly what I'm worth -- a 10-pound sack of rice," he said in a History Channel documentary that aired this year.

The second tribe hid him, cared for his wounds and then took him by outrigger canoe to the home of an Anglican missionary. The missionary contacted Allied authorities, who arranged for a Navy patrol bomber to land just off the island; tribal members paddled Lt. DeBlanc to the plane in a canoe. He made it back to the hospital at Henderson Field three days before his 22nd birthday.

Lt. DeBlanc saw action in several other campaigns. He shot down another enemy plane, a kamikaze, during the Battle of Okinawa, giving him a total of nine Japanese aircraft in two tours of duty.

President Harry S. Truman awarded then-Capt. DeBlanc the Medal of Honor at a White House ceremony on Dec. 6, 1946. He also received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Purple Heart and numerous other citations.

Jefferson Joseph DeBlanc, Sr., was born in Lockport, La., on Feb. 15, 1921, and grew up in St. Martinville. As a boy, he became fascinated by aviation when a pilot made a forced landing near his home and allowed him to climb into the cockpit. While a student at Southwestern Louisiana Institute (now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette), he signed up for the Civilian Pilot Training program and learned to fly Piper Cubs. Entering the Naval Aviation Cadet Reserve program, he became a Marine fighter pilot and was sent to the Pacific in the fall of 1942.

After the war, Col. DeBlanc received his undergraduate degree from the Southwestern

Louisiana Institute in 1947, two master's degrees, in physics education in 1951 and mathematics education in 1963, from Louisiana State University, and a doctorate in education from McNeese State University in 1973. He was a math and science teacher in the St. Martinville schools, where he also served as supervisor of math and school transportation.

After his retirement from full-time teaching, he taught physics in New Iberia, La., and was employed for several years by South Central Bell.

After serving six years as commander of Marine Air Reserve Group 18 at Belle Chasse Naval Air Station, he retired from the Marine Corps Reserve in 1972.

Col. DeBlanc's wife, Louise B. DeBlanc, died in 2005. Survivors include four sons, the Rev. Jefferson DeBlanc, Jr., of Church Point, La.; Richard DeBlanc, of Coteau Holmes, La.; Frank DeBlanc, of St. Martinville; and Michael DeBlanc, of Parks, La.; a daughter, Barbara DeBlanc Romero, of St. Martinville; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Rev. DeBlanc recalled accompanying his father to the Solomon Islands in 2002 for the Battle of Guadalcanal's 60th anniversary, which both American and Japanese veterans attended. "It was quite a moving experience," he recalled. "It was obvious that they were all acutely aware of the sacrifice that their comrades in arms had made."

### A Wagon With A Message



While in DC on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>, we ran into someone from the Lakeland, FL area towing this custom trailer and saying Welcome Home. See more photos on our website.



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### Marine Corps League Honors Hero By Taking Her Name

On the anniversary of the Marine Corps and the eve of Veterans Day, Massachusetts Marines will do their part to ensure Jennifer Harris will never be forgotten.

The Swampscott-based North Shore Detachment of the Marine Corps League has become the Capt. Jennifer J. Harris Detachment in a ceremony Nov 10<sup>th</sup>, an event that organizer Jim Schultz thinks would have overwhelmed the humble Harris.

Schultz said family members, Harris' fiancé and Marines who served with her were present for the ceremony.

Detachment Commandant Jay Stinson said it is a fitting way to honor Harris, who would have celebrated her 29th birthday on Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>. Harris, a pilot with Medium Helicopter Squadron 364, had finished her third tour in Iraq, but volunteered for one last mission with her crew, picking up wounded Marines. She'd gotten them safely to a casualty station, but took off again to fetch a supply of blood. That's when she was shot down, Stinson said. She died on Feb. 7. "It's a very heroic thing that she did, but that's the type of extraordinary person she was," Stinson said.

Schultz said the name change will give Harris, an honors student who graduated fifth in the Class of 1996 at Swampscott High School, well-deserved recognition. "It'll be there forever, and it'll be something that Marines in the future who may not have known her will research her history," said Schultz, Swampscott's Veterans' agent. "It's a way of keeping the memory alive."

The ceremony included an unveiling of the detachment's new flag, which features the Marine Corps emblem and Harris' name. An article on Harris and the ceremony will be published in the Marine Corps League's national magazine, *Semper Fi*, Stinson said.

Schultz said about 160 people had bought the \$50 tickets to the Marine Corps' 7:30 p.m. birthday ball,

which sold out.

### Ohio House Votes To Cease Taxing Of Military Pensions

"It's about time," said Glenn Levy of Oregon, a retired 20-year Veteran of the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard, after the Ohio House voted 96-1 to stop taxing military pensions.

With one of its members now on military duty and another about to return to Iraq, the chamber suddenly fast-tracked a proposal -- just in time for Veteran's Day -- affecting nearly 39,000 military retirees that has languished in the chamber for months.

Ohio is one of just five states imposing income taxes on pensions earned from military service. The bill now heads to the Senate.

While Gov. Ted Strickland supports the tax relief, he has questioned where the state would find the \$23 million a year in its budget to pay for it. The money was not included in the current \$52 billion, two-year budget that took effect July 1.

Levy, now 82, served three years as an electrician with the Navy when drafted as a high school senior for World War II. He later joined the Coast Guard and stayed there for 17 years.

"You have the guts to give 20 years of service, but we get nothing," said his wife, Doris, who has followed the bill's progress. "You're penalized for serving your country for 20 years," she said. "Why do they tax our military pension when it's not earned in the state?"

Only Ohio, California, Vermont, Rhode Island and Nebraska still tax at least some portion of military pensions.

### Iraq Vets Slam War Critics

Three Veterans of the Iraq war have said lawmakers who support a quick end to the conflict should be more patient and wait for political reconciliation to grow out of increased stability in the region.

### Post office dedicated to Marine killed in Iraq

Another Hernando County, Fla., post office bears the name of a local fallen serviceman.

Roughly 150 people gathered Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, for a ceremony to dedicate the post office branch on Aviation Loop Drive in Brooksville in honor of Marine Sgt. Lea Robert Mills.

Mills, a 2002 graduate of Hernando High School and member of the 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion, was killed on April 28, 2006, by a roadside bomb while on patrol in Iraq's Al Anbar Province. She was 21 when she died.

Among the crowd who stood among the oak trees during the ceremony were some two dozen employees of the branch who had donned red T-shirts for the occasion that proclaimed Mills as "an American hero."

Sgt. Josh Perdue, a high school buddy of Mills, remembered his friend as "very competitive" and a "jokester" who was almost always smiling.

"Ladies and gentlemen, please understand we are here because of men and women like Lea, who are willing to make these sacrifices," Perdue said.

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### U.S. Government 'Off' In Its Count Of Illegal's In The Country, *Insight* Says

This week's issue of *Insight* magazine is one that should deeply concern all Americans and embarrass (if that's possible) the politicians in Washington: A latest report shows that the federal government has been off in its count of illegal immigrants living in the U.S. by a factor of three.

In other words, it appears there are over 38 million illegal aliens in this country -- as opposed to the figure of 12 million that is often cited in the media.

Why have the feds deliberately under-counted the number of illegal aliens in this country? What are the long-term political and policy ramifications of the immigration crisis? Are Republicans prepared now to address the issue? Go to [www.insightmag.com](http://www.insightmag.com) to read the whole story.

### And The U.K. Mis-Counts, Too

Confusion over the number of foreign workers in Britain deepened after it emerged the govt's chief statistician estimated there are 1.5 million in the country -- 400,000 more than ministers had claimed.

### 212 Chicken-Workers test Positive for TB

Alabama health officials have identified 212 workers who have tested positive for tuberculosis at a single poultry plant owned by one of the largest processors in the U.S.

**Clerk's Note:** Maybe it is time for us to consider some other type of protein?

### Group Files Second Lawsuit To Force Release Of Hillary's Records

Judicial Watch, a public interest group that probes government corruption, said it has filed another lawsuit against the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, this time to force the release of records related to the health care reform task force chaired by former First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton during her husband's first presidential term.

### Fellow Marines Help on Home Make-Over

Even as a bloodied Daniel Gilyeat waited for a medical helicopter to transport him from an Iraqi war zone, the Marine was doing his best to keep his comrades' spirits up.

Gilyeat, who had lost his leg just moments before, asked a buddy to tell the captain he wouldn't be able to make it to a leg weightlifting class that night in 2005.

Although it might seem awkward to some, Marine Sgt. Ben Birnbaum remembers thinking it was just like Gilyeat to inject one of the most intense moments of the men's lives with humor and an upbeat attitude. That spirit is precisely why Birnbaum and other platoon members helped on Monday as *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* camera crews taped the demolition of the two-bedroom Kansas City, Kansas, bungalow that Gilyeat shared with his four children.

Despite what Gilyeat has been through, "I've never seen him down," Birnbaum said. "The guy is amazing."

Similar sentiments about Gilyeat were repeated throughout the day as volunteers happily agreed to tape scenes repeatedly to be sure the popular TV show had captured the perfect moment for its viewers.

Much of the activity on Monday involved crews preparing for the tear-down. Volunteers rehearsed several times for the show's signature "Braveheart" charge. The end result is bound to be a rousing scene when pieced together.

Show host Ty Pennington led the charge atop a Humvee. The group of volunteers marched staunchly behind. Several waved flags and shouted phrases such as "Let's go!" while others hollered with the type of enthusiasm generally reserved for a Larry Johnson touchdown.

After production officials finished shooting pre-demolition footage, a massive machinery claw tore apart the two-bedroom bungalow in about 15 minutes.

Several neighbors and onlookers gathered to watch the process. They cheered each time the machine took a swipe at the house.

The only ones missing were Gilyeat and his children, who were sent away on Saturday for a vacation in California.

Construction crews will work around the clock until the keys to a 2,900-square-foot ranch house are handed over to the family later this week. The process will involve about 1,600 workers. About 125 to 200 workers will be in the house at any one time.

### Federal Liabilities Now Equal \$175,000 For Every American

Deficit spending and promised benefits for federal entitlement programs have put every man, woman and child in the United States on the hook for \$175,000, says a new report by David Walker, the comptroller general of the United States.

### Re-Surfaced P-38 May Be The World's Oldest

Investigators and historians have confirmed that an aircraft wreck that emerged from the sands of a Wales beach over the summer is a P-38 Lightning, not an unmanned drone as first reports indicated.

Ric Gillespie, Exec. Dir. of The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery (TIGHAR), visited the wreck last month and was able to positively identify it from a serial number. He said it may be the oldest P-38 in existence and the oldest surviving 8th Air Force combat aircraft of any type.

"In that respect, it's a major find, of exceptional interest to British and American aviation historians," he said.

The P-38 was built in 1941, reached Britain in early 1942, and flew combat missions along the Dutch-Belgian coast.

2nd Lt. Robert F. "Fred" Elliott, 24, of Rich Square, N.C., ditched in the shallow water near the beach after running out of fuel. Shifting sands covered the wreck, and its location was forgotten until erosion uncovered it this year.

### Oldest Living Border Patrol Agent Is 100

Marion Russell, the nation's oldest living former U.S. Border Patrol agent, turned 100 on Nov. 23.

If you would like to send a birthday greeting, his mailing address is 851 E. Alta Vista, Tucson, AZ 85719-5506. He does not have e-mail.

### She Is One of Nation's Top Shooters

17 year old Lanie Long from Washington competes against her male counterparts in several different events and across many states.

In trap shooting she not only hits the clay pigeon but grabs the spent shell casing while it is still airborne.

Her marksmanship with a .22 caliber is more impressive. Last year she was rated #1 in her state and #7 in the nation. A week later she beat the nations #1 shooter.

Yes, the Army is trying to recruit her.

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### Birthdays December

- 01 Woody Allen
- 02 Charles Ringling
- 03 Andy Williams
- 05 Walt Disney
- 06 Ira Gershwin
- 08 Jennifer Levine
- 08 David Levine
- 12 Mayim Bialik
- 12 Frank Sinatra
- 15 Charlotte Nelson
- 15 Lynn Penny Levine
- 17 Milla Jovovich
- 18 Steven Spielberg
- 21 John Isett
- 22 Brionna Mora
- 24 Deborah Isett
- 25 Rod Serling
- 30 Sandy Koufax

### ANNIVERSARY'S

01 Yamel & Brent Arronte 16 yrs

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### Looking For...

**Navy Men in Bagnoli Bay (1957)** Looking for anyone who can provide information about Ernie Reyes. [dyerlayer@yahoo.com](mailto:dyerlayer@yahoo.com)

**Army Reserve LPN-RN Reserve E-6** 92G30 who were at SPC Saint Petersburg, FL 2001-2004. Call Sandra 727-398-5095

### Members Wanted

**The Thunderbolts** of Tampa Bay are seeking members who would be interested in preserving the history of the 56th Fighter Group. This is an approved organization which will be forming into a mobile fighter squadron reenactment unit. Six half size P47 Fighter planes will be constructed from homebuilder plans. These planes are listed in the FAA Experimental category and are pilot flown Ground support and vehicles will be included also. Meetings are held at Peter O Knight Airport last Sat at 1PM. Call Carl 813-620-0631 or; [WarAircraftReplicas.com](http://WarAircraftReplicas.com)

### Military Items

Looking for **USCG** Active Duty, Reserve, Retired or just served any branch with honorable discharge. Join USCG Enlisted Assoc. New area branch for E-6 or below. Call Ray Sorensen 727-631-5161

Looking for a **Few Good Men.** The Marine Corps League is looking for all former Marines and Navy Corpsman to join our ranks. Please call Jake Anderson 727-421-4196 to find out more about the League and Detachments in Tampa Bay.

### Personals

**CHILD PROTECTION.** New Kid Protection Kit gives your kids, grand-kids, teens maximum protection against abductors and predators. Free Info. Atkinson 6840 12th Street, Saint Pete, FL 33702

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### Restaurants

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### Reunions

Looking For Airmen who were at Stewart AFB Smyrna, TN, 1961 thru

1965. Call James (Jim) Jackson 903-227-5574

**1st Annual 545th MP Co** Jan 25-27, 2008 Branson, MO. Held for all 545th MP's who served in the 1st Cavalry Division from WW-II through the units deactivation at Ft Hood in 2005 Sam Reinert 765-962-4627, web: <http://545thmpassn.org>

**585th Eng Co 5th Annual** Feb 22-24, 2008 Kissimmee, FL The 585th served in Vietnam from 9/66 to 1/72, with over 2000 men accomplishing the unit mission(s). Friday night we have a pizza/mixer party with open bar for Vets and their guests. Saturday is tourist activities; Sunday we have our Meeting from 0900-1130. Come see your bunker buddies while you are able to make the trip. We have lost 180 men since they returned from the Vietnam War. H. Kenneth Seymour 352-527-3200 [www.585thengrco.com](http://www.585thengrco.com)

**1st Annual Seabee** Feb 22-24, 2008 East Coast at Hampton, VA. Normand Dupuis 407-877-2161 Web <http://www.vietnam-era-seabees.org/aallseabee.htm>

**USAF 601st & 615th AC&W Sqn.** Germany Apr 20-25, '08 Gatlinburg TN. Francis Gosselin 352-588-9295 10645 Cup Dr. San Antonio, FL 33576. [fgosselin@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:fgosselin@tampabay.rr.com)

**50th Annual 304th Rescue Sqd** Jun 20-22, 2008 Portland OR. Everyone who has ever been associated with the 304th / 939th is invited. This will be a 3-day event starting with a welcome social on Friday night. Many events will be offered so go to the web site listed above and sign up! Don't wait, we have a limit of 350 for the dinner on Sat night which will feature an authentic Scottish Piper. Dottie Colgate-Johnson 503-335-4683 [www.rescuereunion.org](http://www.rescuereunion.org)

**AF Jr. ROTC** Deland High School Junior ROTC classmates for 1982 & 1983. Please contact me for more information at [fekovic@msn.com](mailto:fekovic@msn.com) or Ken Broyles: [flstn@bellsouth.net](mailto:flstn@bellsouth.net)

**Hillsboro Lighthouse** Preservation Society. Coast Guard and others. Looking for all who served, lived, or worked at the Lighthouse. Looking for photos that include grounds, structures, and inlet. Also, very interested in Lighthouse stories. Web: [www.HillsboroLighthouse.org](http://www.HillsboroLighthouse.org) Mr. Hib Casselberry 954-782-3313

**82nd Abn Div.** Chapters of the Assoc. are having their membership drive. For 60 years, the division has been fighting to bring peace to the nation and world, and today is doing so in Iraq and Afghanistan. With 100 chapters and 12,000 members in active deployment overseas, the association is trying to locate all veterans. Contact Shirley Gossett at (937) 898-5977, [srgabn@aol.com](mailto:srgabn@aol.com) or Airborne - 2005, 5459 Northcutt Place, Dayton, OH 45414.

The US Air Force Reserve is forming an alumni association for engineers, administrators, medical technicians, doctors, maintainers, pilots, boom operators and members of the 916th Air Refueling Wing. Call (919) 722-2216 or (919) 722-2297 or e-mail [donna.lea@seymourjohnson.af.mil](mailto:donna.lea@seymourjohnson.af.mil) [linda.flythe@seymourjohnson.af.mil](mailto:linda.flythe@seymourjohnson.af.mil)

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### Veterans Groups

**Amputee Group** Seeking Amputees Meets at the Bay Pines VAMC Nursing Home 2nd Tuesday of each month. The meetings were started 2 years ago by Diane Sosa of the physical medicine rehabilitation department at Bay Pines. All Veterans and their family members are encouraged to participate. Call Ms Sosa 727-398-6661 ext 5410 for details of the meeting.

### Victims Rights

The Center for Victim Rights is a non-profit foundation whose mission is to inform all people of their rights as victims of crime. An independent victim advocate that offers FREE assistance to victims of crime, nationwide, access resources to assist them in their time of crisis. 352-613-3315 [Advocate4Victims@aol.com](mailto:Advocate4Victims@aol.com)

### Volunteers Needed

**James Haley VA in Tampa** needs volunteers, all work areas, your choice of hours. Contact Volunteer Services.

**VA Hospital in Gainesville** seeks enthusiastic individuals to volunteer. Call voluntary service 352-374-6068.

**The Veterans Park** in Ocala is looking for a few good Volunteers. Training is FREE. 352-401-5346.

**Armed Forces Services Center** at Miami International Airport (MIA): The military hospitality center at MIA needs assistance for four (4) hour shifts. Volunteers must be 21 or older. Seniors and Retired Military are welcome. The Armed Forces Services Center at MIA is located at Concourse B, 4th Floor. For more info, 305-968-4399 or 305-378-6773.

**Bay Pines VA** is seeking reliable volunteer shuttle drivers. FDL req. Choice of hours, lunch for volunteers at the noon meal. Call Jim Schaller 727-398-6661, Ext 4686..

**The Hillsborough County Veterans Memorial Museum** Committee, needs help. Please call 813-744-5502 or fax to 813-744-5678. Museum is open Sat & Sun 10am to 3pm, and on patriotic holidays.

"You Can Make A Difference" The St. Petersburg Police Dept is

currently conducting interviews for Volunteer Road Patrol positions. This elite group of nationally recognized volunteer police professionals is looking for a few good men and women to join our team. If you think you have the "right stuff" and want to make a difference in your community, call 893-7141 today to schedule an appointment. See our website: <http://www.stpete.org/police/volunteer-rs-rp.htm> Check out the Veterans Post News website and see if your organization or pictures are there. We take lots of photos at events buy only a few get into the newspaper, the others we post on our website. Need information about the VA? Check the Links Page.

**Personal products** needed for wounded service members at Walter Reed. Officials at Walter Reed Army Medical Center are seeking donations for wounded troops who are forced to leave behind personal belongings when medically evacuated from war zones.

Many of the troops arrive with nothing. Because of the speed with which the most seriously wounded are evacuated from Iraq or Afghanistan, their belongings are often left behind and don't catch up.

The center is looking for everything from shoes, gloves and winter jackets to postage stamps, prepaid phone cards and razors. The Family Assistance Center requests that no cash or used items be donated.

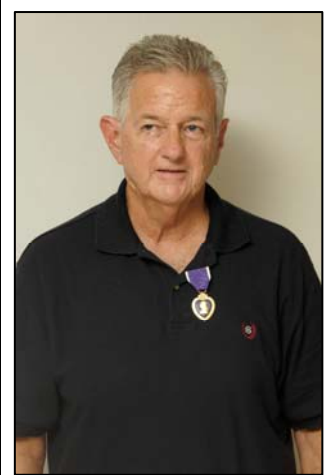
Among some of the more specialized needs are weightlifting gloves (for use by wheelchair patients); trousers with snaps or zips along the legs; umbrellas; and prepaid gas or grocery cards.

Donations can be sent to Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Medical Family Assistance Center, Bldg. 2, 3rd Floor, Room 3E01, 6900 Georgia Ave, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20307-5001.

[www.americasupportsyou.mil/](http://www.americasupportsyou.mil/)

If you can please go to this web site they have a lot going on including direct email to the troops, and letters you can read from the troops. There are many things you can do to help support the morale of those on Active Duty status. There is patriotic music, some videos but most of all, even the smallest gesture by you to help will certainly be appreciated by those who are far from home. You can make a difference.

### 39 Years Later... Purple Heart



Wayne Sufficool, a former crew chief stationed at MacDill Air Force Base more than 39 years before, stands with his Purple Heart Decoration he was awarded Aug. 9, 2007. Mr. Sufficool was awarded the decoration for the wounds he suffered while stationed in Tan Son Nhut Air Force Base, Republic of Vietnam, in February 1968. (Air Force Photo by Senior Airman David Minor)

**The Veterans Post News is looking for Veteran Owned Business' for a Veterans Business Directory.**

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**Bob and his** wife live in Minneapolis. One winter morning while listening to the radio, they hear the announcer say, "We are going to have 4-6 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the even numbered side of the street, so the snowplow can get through" Bob's wife goes out and moves her car. A week later while they are eating breakfast, the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 6-8 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the odd numbered side of the street, so the snowplow can get through. Bob's wife goes out and moves her car again. The next week they are having breakfast again, when the radio announcer says "We are expecting 8-10 inches of snow today. You must park..." then the electric power goes out. Bob's wife is very upset, and with a worried look on her face she says, "Honey, I don't know what to do. Which side of the street do I need to park on so the plow can get through?" With the love and understanding in his voice like all men who are married to blondes, Bob says, "Why don't you just leave it in the garage this time?"

**A young** man named John received a parrot as a gift. The parrot had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary. Every word out of the bird's mouth was rude, obnoxious and laced with profanity. John tried and tried to change the bird's attitude by consistently saying only polite words, playing soft music and anything else he could think of to "clean up" the bird's vocabulary. Finally, John was fed up and he yelled at the parrot. The parrot yelled back. John grabbed the parrot and the parrot got angrier and even ruder. John, in desperation, pushed the bird into the freezer. For a few minutes the parrot squawked and kicked and screamed. Then suddenly there was total quiet. Not a peep was heard for over a minute. Fearing that he'd hurt the parrot, John quickly opened the door to the freezer. The parrot calmly stepped out onto John's outstretched arms and said, "I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I'm sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my rude and unforgivable behavior." John was stunned at the change in the bird's attitude. As he was about to ask the parrot what had made such a dramatic change in his behavior, the bird continued, "May I ask what the turkey did?"

**A man** was sitting on the edge of the bed, observing his wife turning back and forth, looking at herself in the mirror. Since her birthday was not far off, he asked what she'd like to have for her Birthday. I'd like to be six again, she replied, still looking in the mirror. On the morning of her Birthday, he arose early, made her a nice big bowl of Lucky Charms, and then took her to Six Flags theme park. What a day! He put her on every ride in the park; the Death Slide, the Wall of Fear, the Screaming Monster Roller Coaster... Everything there was. Five hours later they staggered out of the theme park. Her head was reeling and her stomach felt upside down. He then took her to a McDonald's where he ordered her a Happy Meal with extra fries and a chocolate shake. Then it was off to a movie, popcorn, a soda pop, and her favorite candy, M&M's. What a fabulous adventure! Finally she wobbled home with her husband and collapsed into bed exhausted. He leaned over his wife with a big smile and lovingly asked, Well Dear, what was it like being six again? Her eyes slowly opened and her expression suddenly changed. I meant my Dress Size, you dumb ass! The moral of the story: Even when a man is listening, he is going to get it wrong.

**It may** come as a surprise to those of you not living in Las Vegas, but there are more catholic churches than casinos. Not surprisingly, some worshippers at Sunday services will give casino chips rather than cash when the basket is passed. Since they get chips from many different casinos, they have devised a method to cash in the offerings. The churches send the collected chips to a nearby Franciscan Monastery for sorting and then the chips are exchanged for cash at the casinos of origin. This is done for a 1% fee, by the chip monks! You didn't even see it coming did you?

**A cannibal** was walking through the jungle and came upon a restaurant operated by a fellow cannibal. Feeling somewhat hungry, he sat down and looked over the menu...  
Tourist: \$5  
Broiled Missionary: \$10.00  
Fried Explorer: \$15.00  
Baked Democrat or Grilled Republican: \$100.00  
The cannibal called the waiter over and asked, "Why such a price difference for the Politicians? The cook replied, "Have you ever tried to clean one? They're so full of shit, it takes all morning."

**An 86-year-old** man walked into a crowded waiting room and approached the desk. The receptionist said, "Hello, sir. Can you please tell me why you're here to see the doctor today?" "There's something wrong with my dick," he replied. The receptionist became irritated and said, "You shouldn't come into a crowded waiting room and say things like that." "Why not? You asked me what was wrong and I told you," he said. The receptionist replied, "Now you've caused some embarrassment in this room full of people. You should have said there is something wrong with your ear or something and discussed the problem further with the doctor in private." The man replied, "You shouldn't ask people questions in a room full of strangers, if the answer could embarrass anyone." The man walked out, waited several minutes and then re-entered. The receptionist smiled smugly and asked, "Yes?" "There's something

wrong with my ear," he stated. The receptionist nodded approvingly and smiled, knowing he had taken her advice. "And what is wrong with your ear, sir?" "I can't piss out of it," he replied.

**I just** read an article on the dangers of drinking....Scared the hell out of me. That's it! After today, no more reading!

**Seven people** were hanging on a rope under a helicopter, six men and one woman. The rope was not strong enough to carry them all, so they decided that one had to leave, because otherwise they were all going to fall. They were unable to decide who would let go, until the woman gave a spoke out. She said that she would voluntarily let go of the rope, because, as a woman, she was used to giving up everything for her husband and kids and for men in general, and as a mother always willing to make sacrifices with little in return. As soon as she finished her speech, all the men started clapping.

**Bumper Sticker** on pick-up truck in Houston, Texas; "I Wish Hillary Had Married O.J."

**Here's a challenge** for you this morning... You are driving in a car at a constant speed. On your left side is a 'drop off', (The ground is 18-20 inches below the level you are traveling on), and on your right side is a fire engine traveling at the same speed as you. In front of you is a galloping horse, which is the same size as your car and you cannot overtake it. Behind you is a galloping zebra. Both the horse and zebra are also traveling at the same speed as you. What must you do to safely get out of this highly dangerous situation? "Get your drunk-ass off the merry-go-round."

**Little Bruce** and Jenny are only 10 years old, but they just know that they are in love. One day they decide that they want to get married, so Bruce goes to Jenny's father to ask him for her hand. Bruce bravely walks up to him and says, "Mr. Smith, me and Jenny are in love and I want to ask you for her hand in marriage." Thinking that this was just the cutest thing, Mr. Smith replies, "Well Bruce, you are only 10. Where will you two live?" Without even taking a moment to think about it, Bruce replies, "In Jenny's room. It's bigger than mine and we can both fit there nicely." Still thinking this is just adorable, Mr. Smith says with a huge grin, "Okay then how will you live? You're not old enough to get a job. You'll need to support Jenny." Again, Bruce instantly replies, "Our allowance. Jenny makes 5 bucks a week and I make 10 bucks a week. That's about 60 bucks a month and that should do us just fine." By this time Mr. Smith is a little shocked that Bruce has put so much thought into this. He thinks for a moment trying to come up with something that Bruce won't have an answer to. After a second, Mr. Smith says, "Well Bruce, it seems like you have got everything all figured out. I just have one more question for you. What will you do if the two of you should have little ones of your own?" Bruce just shrugs his shoulders and says, "Well, we've been lucky so far."

**Two traffic** patrol officers from North Berwick, UK, were involved in an unusual incident while checking for speeding motorists on the A-1 Great North Road. One of the officers used a hand-held radar device to check the speed of a vehicle approaching over the crest of a hill, and was surprised when the speed was recorded at over 300 mph. Their radar suddenly stopped working and the officers were not able to reset it. Just then a deafening roar over the treetops revealed that the radar had in fact latched on to a NATO Tornado fighter jet which was engaged in a low-flying exercise over the Border district, approaching from the North Sea. Back at police headquarters the chief constable fired off a stiff complaint to the RAF Liaison office. Back came the reply in true laconic RAF style: "Thank you for your message, which allows us to complete the file on this incident. You may be interested to know that the tactical computer in the Tornado had detected the presence of, and subsequently locked onto, your hostile radar equipment and automatically sent a jamming signal back to it. Furthermore, an air-to-ground missile aboard the fully-armed aircraft had also automatically locked onto your equipment. Fortunately the pilot flying the Tornado recognized the situation for what it was, quickly responded to the missile systems alert status, and was able to override the automated defense system before the missile was launched and your hostile radar installation was destroyed."

#### 7 Kinds Of Sex.

**1st** kind of sex is: Smurf Sex. This kind of sex happens when you first meet someone and you both have sex until you are blue in the face.

**2nd** kind of sex is: Kitchen Sex. This is when you have been with your partner for a short time and you are so needy you will have sex anywhere, even in the kitchen.

**3rd** kind of sex is: Bedroom Sex This is when you have been with your partner for a long time. Your sex has gotten routine and you usually have sex only in your bedroom.

**4th** kind of sex is: Hallway Sex. This is when you have been with your partner for too long. When you pass each other in the hallway you both say "screw you."

**5th** kind of sex is: Religious Sex. Which is you get Nun in the morning, Nun in the afternoon and Nun at night.(Very Popular)

**6th** kind is: Courtroom Sex. This is when you cannot stand

your wife any more. She takes you to court and screws you in front of everyone.

**7th** kind of sex is: Social Security Sex. You get a little each month, but not enough to enjoy your self.

**When Bob** turned 50 he noticed that his penis was growing larger and staying erect longer, he was delighted, as was his wife. It continued to lengthen about 3 inches a year and he became concerned as he was having problems dressing and walking, so he and his wife went to see a specialist when Bob Turned 57. After an examination, the doctor explained that though rare, Bob's condition could be fixed through corrective surgery. How long will Bob be on crutches his wife asked? Crutches? Why would he need crutches asked the doctor? "Well," his wife stated; "You are going to lengthen his legs, aren't you?"

#### The 'Why's' of Men (as told by a women)

1. Why do men become smarter during sex?  
(because they are plugged into a genius)
2. Why don't women blink during sex?  
(they don't have enough time)
3. Why does it take 1 million sperm to fertilize one egg?  
(they don't stop to ask directions)
4. Why do men snore when they lie on their backs?  
(because their balls cover their butt and they vapor lock)
5. Why were men given larger brains than dogs?  
(so they won't hump women's legs at cocktails parties)
6. Why did god make men before women?  
(you need a rough draft before you make a final copy)
7. How many men does it take to put a toilet seat down?  
(don't know.....it never happened)
8. Why did god put men on earth?  
(because a vibrator can't mow the lawn)

**An old** man in his 80's got up and put on his coat to go out, when his wife asks, "Where are you going?" "I'm going to the doctor." "Are you sick?" She asks. "No I'm going to get me some of those new Viagra pills." So his wife gets out of her rocker and puts on her coat and says, "I'm going to the doctor too." "Why?" He asks. "If you're going to start using that rusty old thing, I'm going to get a tetanus shot."

**A Christian** couple was having an argument about who should brew the coffee each morning. The wife said, "You should do it because you get up first, and then we don't have to wait as long to get our coffee. The husband said, "You are in charge of cooking around here and you should do it, because that is your job, and I can just wait for my coffee." Wife replies, "No, you should do it, and besides, it is in the Bible that the man should do the coffee." Husband replies, "I can't believe that, show me." So she fetched the Bible, and opened the New Testament and showed him at the top of several pages, that it indeed says... "HEBREWS"

#### You Know You're Old When...

You hear your favorite song in an elevator.  
You watch the weather channel.  
Your houseplants are alive and you can't smoke them.  
A \$4 bottle of wine is no longer "Pretty Good Shit!"  
Your car insurance goes down and your payments go up.  
When your team scores you don't jump up, you take a swig  
Having sex in a twin bed is out of the question.  
You keep more food than beer in the fridge.  
You have an extra 3 month supply of toilet paper.  
You call the police when the neighbors are too noisy.  
Older relatives tell you sex jokes.  
You take naps and don't try to lie about it.  
Dinner and a movie is the date, not the start of one.  
You feed your pets Science Diet instead of leftovers.  
You have no idea when Taco Bell closes anymore.  
You still drink as much, but now its filled with fiber.  
You go to Happy Hour for the food, not the drinks.  
When your date sleeps over, you really do... Sleep.  
Sex takes hours, for what you use to do in 30 minutes.

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**WW-II Vet Auctions Off Hitler's Globe**

A globe that once belonged to Adolf Hitler has sold at auction for \$100,000 -- more than five times the expected amount.

American soldier John Barsamian found the globe in the ruins of Hitler's Eagle's Nest retreat in the Bavarian Alps in May 1945.

Barsamian now 91, of Oakland, CA, just decided to sell it while he is alive so he can personally tell the story behind it, said his son, Barry Barsamian.

The winning bid came from San Francisco entrepreneur Bob Pritikin. Experts had estimated the item would only bring \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Other globes said to have been owned by Hitler have been extensively researched for authenticity, but there is no uncertainty about the origins of Barsamian's wartime trophy, since he had all the military paperwork that allowed him to bring it back to the United States, including a certificate that reads "1 Global Map, German, Hitler's Eagle Nest."

"This is probably the most airtight documentation I've run across in some time," Greg Martin, proprietor of the auction house, said before the sale. "We have pictures of the guy there at the time, standing in the ruins holding the globe like a newborn baby."

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**Soldier AWOL While Seeking Treatment Arrested**

A soldier who served two combat tours in Iraq was arrested yesterday near Syracuse, N.Y., for leaving the Army without permission more than a year ago to seek treatment for post traumatic stress disorder.

At a news conference hours before his arrest, Sgt. Brad Gaskins said he left the base in August 2006 because the Army wasn't providing effective treatment after he was diagnosed with PTSD and severe depression. "They just don't have the resources to handle it, but that's not my fault," Gaskins said.

Tod Ensign, an attorney with Citizen Soldier, a GI rights group that is representing Gaskins, said the case is part of a "coming tsunami" of mental health problems involving Iraq and Afghanistan Vets.

In Nov the Veterans Administration said more than 100,000 troops were being treated for mental health problems, and half of those specifically for PTSD.

Gaskins, 25, of East Orange, N.J., was taken into custody at a Watertown, N.Y., cafe by MP's from Fort Drum and two local police officers, Ensign said. The lawyer said he had been on the phone with military prosecutors working out the details of Gaskins' surrender when the soldier was arrested.

Fort Drum spokesman Ben Abel said after a soldier is AWOL for more than 30 days he becomes classified as a deserter and a federal arrest warrant is issued. He said he was unaware of the specifics of Gaskins' case and declined to comment on it.

**Disabled Vet Stands Trial Over Arson**

A disabled Iraq war Veteran will stand trial on charges he tried to burn down a Fayette County, Pa., mobile home and fought with a volunteer firefighter.

But county prosecutors have dropped three attempted homicide charges against 25-year-old Salvatore Ross, Jr., over the February incident.

Police say Ross threatened his brother's girlfriend and that another woman and child left the home during the dispute, as Ross tried to light various household items on fire. Police say Ross also cut the face of a Dunbar Township firefighter.

Ross was blinded and lost a leg while defusing a bomb in Iraq in May 2003. His attorney is pursuing an insanity defense related to Ross' war trauma.

**Suicide Prevention For Marines**

Suicide has become prevalent within the U.S. Marine Corps, every month two Marines commit suicide. Many more attempt suicide or have thoughts of killing themselves.

Suicidal behavior reduces Marines' readiness for battle. All Marines must respond to suicidal behavior and assist fellow Marines who are suffering.

"This is not a problem unique to the Marine Corps. Sailors, airmen and soldiers also work hard to prevent suicide," the Corps says. "The Marine Corps must constantly strive to overcome the stigma inherent in getting help for the problems that lead to suicide."

**Troops Get Late-Night Parade**

A late-night homecoming was held Nov. 14 for soldiers of the 303rd Military Police Company, returning to Jackson, Mich., from Iraq.

The US Army Reserve unit left Fort Dix, NJ, at 8 p.m., and arrived in Jackson between 11:30 p.m.

Buses full of soldiers arrived led by Jackson Police cars, fire trucks and other vehicles. The parade ended at the Army Reserve Center, where a short ceremony was held.

Citizens were invited to line the route about 11 p.m., to greet the troops. "I encouraged people to come out," said Ted Brzezinski, a parade organizer. "I know it was late, but these troops have done a lot for us. They've suffered a lot. Let's show them the respect they deserve."

The 303rd Military Police Company, a Jackson-based Army Reserve unit, was mobilized in September 2006 for its second deployment to Iraq. One hundred and seventy soldiers in the company performed combat-support duties, including security for convoys traveling to forward bases.

Two soldiers in the unit were killed in action, and more than 20 were wounded.

**In Virginia, Free Rooms For Military Families At Christmas**

Junior enlisted military troops stationed on Peninsula bases could get a free hotel room for their families visiting over the Christmas holiday.

The Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce's Military Affairs Committee hosts an annual "Holiday Rooms" program with hotels in Hampton, Newport News, York County and Williamsburg. Rooms are assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis to military members ranked E-6 and below.

The troops must be stationed on a Peninsula base: the Marine Corps Reserve Center in Newport News, Fort Eustis, Fort Monroe, Langley Air Force Base, the Newport News shipyard, Naval Weapons Station Yorktown or Coast Guard Training Center Yorktown.

Military bases in South Hampton Roads participate in their own program, according to the Peninsula chamber. Military members who live on the Peninsula but are stationed on the south side should contact their respective base for information about a hotel program there.

Rooms are available Dec. 23 to 25, with checkout on Dec. 26.

The Military Affairs Council has offered this program for over two decades. Local hotels in the area donate rooms to the program, but in years past, there have been more rooms than troops signing up. To register, troops should contact their commanding officers or their base public affairs office.

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**G.I. Jill Goes Out For Miss America**



Sgt. Jill Stevens of the Utah National Guard is a top contender for the 2008 Miss America competition, which takes place Jan. 26.

Sgt. Stevens had just started nursing school at Southern Utah University in the fall of 2005 when the school's pageant director recruited her to run for Miss SUU. "I was like, 'Yeah, right.' I wear combat boots; I don't do heels," she said.

Catch print and video coverage of Sgt. Stevens' journey through pageantry and the Army's ranks at [www.army.mil/gijill](http://www.army.mil/gijill)

**If You Haven't Gone To War, You're About To**

Soldiers who haven't been downrange yet had better hone their warrior skills, because the Army wants to see more combat patches in the ranks.

The Army has targeted 37,000 active-duty soldiers who have yet to serve a combat tour after more than six years of war in Afghanistan and Iraq. Over that period, 59.4 percent of some 515,000 active-duty soldiers have deployed to the U.S. Central Command's area of operations at least once, according to data compiled by U.S. Army Human Resources Command (HRC). Many of them have served three or four tours -- some even more. Another 33.4 percent have not served a war tour but are assigned to units with pending deployments; are not

in deployable status because they are at basic training, school or other Army training; have medical or legal issues that keep them out of rotation; are serving as instructors, recruiters or drill sergeants; or are in transit or otherwise on hold. But 7.2 percent, roughly 37,000 active-duty soldiers have been identified by the HRC as available for deployment and are facing transfers to operational units.

**AWOL Soldier Arrested At VA Hospital**

A Kentucky soldier facing his second tour of duty in Iraq said in a jail house interview that he was seeking mental help at a Veterans' hospital when police showed up in the middle of the night to arrest him.

SP4 Justin Faulkner, 22, of Stanton, Ky., is accused of being absent without leave, even though he insists his superior officers at Fort Campbell knew about his mental problems but refused to provide adequate treatment.

Instead, he checked into the VA hospital Nov. 15, in Lexington, KY, doctors there told him they wanted to keep him until Monday for observation. He didn't make it that long, as police showed up at the hospital shortly after 2 a.m., Saturday, to take him to jail.

"It's humiliating, degrading," Faulkner said, just minutes before his release from the Fayette County Detention Center. "It's made me lose respect for the military. To come and arrest me at the VA, it wasn't like I was trying to hide, trying to run. I was getting help. I am being punished for getting help."

Faulkner, who concluded a one-year tour of duty in Iraq in February 2006, was due to head back there yesterday to join the rest of his unit. He was released from jail on the condition he report back to Fort Campbell today. He said he would but insisted the Army would be "foolish" to send him back considering the post-traumatic symptoms he has been experiencing since realizing a few weeks ago that a return trip to Iraq was likely. "I kept getting these flashbacks, these recurring scenes from when I was over there the first time," Faulkner said. "I get these anxiety attacks at night, and sometimes during the day, I daze off. I can't get it out of my head. It wasn't until I was told I had to go back to Iraq, something just clicked in my head -- it was like reliving your worst nightmare."

**Wounded Soldier: Military Wants Part Of Bonus Back**

The U.S. Military is demanding that thousands of wounded service personnel give back signing bonuses because they are unable to serve out their

commitments.

To get people to sign up, the military gives enlistment bonuses up to \$30,000 in some cases. Now, men and women who have lost arms, legs, eyesight, hearing and can no longer serve are being ordered to pay some of that money back.

One of them is Jordan Fox, a young soldier from the South Hills in Pennsylvania. He finds solace in the hundreds of boxes he loads onto a truck in Carnegie. In each box is a care package that will be sent to a man or woman serving in Iraq. It was in his name that "Operation Pittsburgh Pride" was started.

Fox was seriously injured when a roadside bomb blew up his vehicle. He was knocked unconscious. His back was injured and lost all vision in his right eye. A few months later, Fox was sent home. His injuries prohibited him from fulfilling three months of his commitment.

Now he received a letter from the military demanding nearly \$3,000 of his signing bonus back.

"I tried to do my best and serve my country. I was unfortunately hurt in the process. Now they're telling me they want their money back," he explained.

It's a slap for Fox's mother, Susan Wardezak, who met with President Bush in Pittsburgh last May. He thanked her for starting "Operation Pittsburgh Pride," which has sent approximately 4,000 care packages. He then sent her a letter expressing his concern over her son's injuries, so she cannot understand the U.S. government's apparent lack of concern over injuries to countless U.S. soldiers and demands that they return their bonuses.

While he's unsure of his future, Fox says he's unwavering in his commitment to his country. "I'd do it all over again cause I'm proud of the discipline I learned -- proud I could do something for my country," he said.

KDKA TV contacted Congressman Jason Altmire on his behalf. He says he has proposed a bill that would guarantee soldiers receive the full benefit of bonuses.

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### USAF changing rules of retirees' funerals

Manpower cuts and a high operations tempo, plus more retiree funerals than ever in Air Force history, mean base honor guards Air Force-wide changed the way they perform retirees' funerals, on Nov. 1.

The formal 10-person funeral will no longer be authorized for retirees' funerals. The funeral detail will now consist of seven people who will serve as pall bearers, flag folders, flag presenter, bugler, spare, and the firing party. This is to provide a 30-percent manpower relief for retirees' funeral details, and 21-percent manning relief for overall funeral details, according to Pentagon air staff officials.

"The main concern people had in the change of the funeral procedures was that we wouldn't be keeping with past traditions," said Staff Sgt. David Little, U.S. Air Force Honor Guard course supervisor for base honor guards. "Originally, the number of (airmen) was going to be lowered to five, but we didn't want to lose the pall-bearing aspect so we determined that seven people would still be able to carry on all aspects of the funeral."

### Veteran Sues Army; claims job loss stemmed from parking space

A former Michigan soldier who was seriously injured while trying to disarm a roadside bomb in Iraq in 2004 has sued the U.S. Army, saying he was forced out of his job at the Warren tank arsenal because his bosses didn't want him to park in a handicapped space.

James McKelvey, 36, of Sterling Heights, Mich., said in a lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Detroit that bosses and a co-worker derided him as a cripple, refused to provide him with equipment to accommodate his disabilities and excluded him from meetings, eventually forcing him to quit in March.

His lawyer said he had a state-issued permit to park in a handicapped parking space at the arsenal where McKelvey had an office job. Arsenal officials have declined to comment on the suit.

One of McKelvey's lawyers, Todd Weglarz, said McKelvey lost his right hand, suffered serious injuries to his left hand and sustained other serious injuries while trying to disarm a roadside bomb near Baghdad in 2004. Weglarz said President Bush presented McKelvey with a Purple Heart during his recovery at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. After spending 11 months in the hospital, McKelvey went to work at the Warren, Mich., facility. Within weeks, the harassment began, Weglarz said.

McKelvey, who now works for Oakland County Emergency Response and Preparedness, is requesting compensation for lost wages, retirement benefits and punitive damages. The case has been assigned to a U.S. district judge in Ann Arbor.

### Words Spoken In Funeral Flag-Folding Cause Flap

Flag-folding recitations by Memorial Honor Detail volunteers are now banned at the nation's 125 Veterans graveyards because of a complaint about the ceremony at the Riverside, CA National Cemetery.

During thousands of military burials, the volunteers have folded the American flag 13 times and recited the significance of every fold to survivors. The first fold represents life, the second a belief in eternal life, and so on.

The complaint revolved around the narration in the 11th fold, which celebrates Jewish war Veterans and "glorifies the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob."

The National Cemetery Administration decided to ban the entire recital at all national cemeteries. Details of the complaint weren't disclosed.

Veterans Affairs spokesman Mike Nacincik said the new policy outlined in a Sept. 27 memorandum is aimed at creating uniform services throughout the military graveyard system. He said the 13-fold recital is not part of the U.S. Flag Code and is not government-approved.

Veterans and honor detail volunteers, including Bobby Castillo, 85, and Rees Lloyd, 59, are furious.

"That the actions of one disgruntled, whining, narcissistic and intolerant individual is preventing Veterans from getting the honors they deserve is truly an outrage," Lloyd said. "This is another attempt by secularist fanatics to cleanse any reference to God."

Castillo, a Navy Veteran of World War II, said it's "a slap in the face to every Veteran. When we got back from the war, we didn't ask for a whole lot,"

Castillo said. "We just want to give our Veterans the respect they deserve. No one has ever complained to us about it. I just don't understand."

Lloyd and Castillo are part of a 16-member detail that have performed military honors at more than 1,400 services. They were preparing to read the flag-folding remarks at the Riverside cemetery when the graveyard staff stopped them.

Charlie Waters, parliamentarian for the American Legion of California, said he's advising memorial honor details to ignore the edict. "This is nuts," Waters said. "There are 26 million Veterans in this country and they're not going to take us all to prison."

Nacincik said that while the flag-folding narrative includes references to God that the government does not endorse, the main reason for the new rules is uniformity. "We are looking at consistency," Nacincik said. "We think that's important."

Rabbi Yitzhak Miller, of Temple Beth El, said he understands the ban. "It is a perfect example of government choosing to ignore religion in order to avoid offending some religions," Miller said. "To me, ignoring religion in general is just as problematic as endorsing any one religion."

### Christians Encouraged To Take Action On Funeral Flag Recitation Ban

The founder of the American Family Association (AFA) says it's outrageous that a complaint from one person can put a halt to a long-standing tradition at Veterans' funerals throughout all 125 national cemeteries.

### Time Off Requirement For Military Spouses Becomes Effective In California

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has signed California Statute AB-392, which is effective immediately, and grants the spouse of a member of the armed forces, National Guard, or reserves up to 10 days unpaid leave during a qualified leave period when the employee's spouse is home on leave.

Now law, Section 395.10 of the California Military and Veterans Code applies to employers with 25 or more employees. Employees must be the spouse of a "qualified member" of the armed forces (one that has been deployed to a scene of military conflict); perform an average of 20 hours of work per week; and, provide notice within two business days of receiving official notice that the qualified member will be on leave from deployment.

### Protests At Military Funerals Cost Kansas Church \$11 Million

Members of a fundamentalist Kansas church ordered to pay nearly \$11 million in damages to a grieving father smiled as they walked out of a Baltimore, Md., courtroom, vowing that the verdict would not deter them from protesting at military funerals.

"Absolutely, don't you understand this was an act in futility?" said Shirley Phelps-Roper, whose father founded the Westboro Baptist Church.

Members promised to picket future funerals with placards bearing such slogans as "Thank God for dead soldiers" and "God hates fags." They believe that U.S. deaths in the Iraq war are punishment for the nation's tolerance of homosexuality.

They say they are entitled to protest at funerals under the First Amendment, which guarantees freedom of speech and religion.

Albert Snyder sued the Topeka, Kan., church after a protest last year at the funeral of his son, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Matthew Snyder, who was killed in Iraq. He claimed the protests intruded upon what should have been a private ceremony and sullied his memory of the event.

A jury agreed. And, the church and three of its leaders -- Fred Phelps and his two daughters, Phelps-Roper and Rebekah Phelps-Davis -- were found liable for invasion of privacy and intent to inflict emotional distress.

**Clerk's Note:** So while the VA is concerned what is said at graveside because they can do whatever they want with Veterans, they have said nothing about these people who mock our Veteran dead and their families.

### Study Finds More Veterans Are Uninsured

About one of every eight Veterans under the age of 65 is uninsured, a finding that contradicts the assumption many have that all Vets qualify for free health care through the Veterans Affairs department, says a new study.

Researchers at Harvard Medical School projected that about 1.8 million Veterans overall lack health coverage. That's an increase of 290,000 since 2000. The researchers said most uninsured Veterans are in the middle class and are ineligible for VA care because of their incomes. Still others cannot afford their co-payments, or suffer from a lack VA facilities in their communities.

"Like other uninsured Americans, most uninsured Vets are working people -- too poor to afford private coverage but not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid or means-tested VA care," said Dr. Steffie Woolhandler, an associate professor and a physician at the Cambridge Health Alliance.

### Reunited On The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Kammy McCleery, a Donut Dolly to our Vietnam Veterans, meets up with some old friends on Nov. 10 at the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; The Wall, in Washington, DC.



Daughters of Vietnam Veterans of America Arizona State Council march in the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Parade.

### NORAD's Santa-Tracking Site Goes Live

The highly-serious North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) is showing its warm and fuzzy side for the 52nd year in a row.

The NORAD Tracks Santa and is now live on line at: <http://www.noradsanta.org/>

On Dec. 24, beginning at 2 a.m., Mountain Standard Time, the Web site will feature a minute-by-minute update of Santa's travels around the world. All the information is available in English, French, German, Italian, Japanese and Spanish.

The Santa tracking tradition began in 1955 with an errant phone call to NORAD's predecessor, the Continental Air Defense Command operations center in Colorado Springs, Colo., NORAD spokesman Michael Perini said. "The call was from a local child who dialed a misprinted telephone number in a local newspaper advertisement." The officer who answered the phone that night gave the youngster the information he requested and the tradition of NORAD tracking Santa began, he explained.

The program has grown continually since it was first presented on the Internet in 1998. "In 2006, the Web site received a whopping 941 million hits from 210 countries and territories," Perini said.

Last Christmas Eve, 756 volunteers at the Tracking Center answered nearly 65,000 phone calls and 96,000 e-mails from children around the world.

The Web site features the history of the program, information on how NORAD tracks Santa and interactive games.

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by Dec 8<sup>th</sup> to ensure Christmas delivery

### It's Not Just America

Britain's Home Secretary has told Parliament there are probably 10,000 illegal immigrants working in government-related security jobs in the U.K.

### Feds To Check More Migrant Ids At Sea

The U.S. government is expanding a test program that matches fingerprints and photographs of illegal immigrants intercepted at sea with a federal database, U.S. officials announced yesterday.

The "biometrics-at-sea" program has been used since November 2006 in the dangerous Mona Pass between the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico. It will be used by Coast Guard vessels operating out of South Florida in Spring 2008, said Coast Guard Rear Adm. Wayne Justice.

### Drivers' Licenses For Immigrants? Not In Mexico!

The question of whether to give driver's licenses to illegal immigrants ignited a national debate in the United States. But in Mexico, the largest source of U.S. immigrants, there's no question: Here, you must be a legal resident to get a driver's license.

### Vets Can Sue The VA Over Stolen Laptop

A federal judge questioned the Veterans Affairs Department's computer security and has ruled that lawsuits can go forward over the theft of computer equipment containing data on 26.5 million Veterans.

In Washington, D.C., U.S. District Judge James Robertson dismissed several aspects of the case, but said the three lawsuits sufficiently made the claim that the agency failed to safeguard personal information, as required by the Privacy Act. "The government's own evidence raises serious questions about the VA's computer safeguards," Robertson wrote, citing government reports that faulted the agency's computer security years before the theft.

A laptop and hard drive were stolen last year during a burglary at the home of a Veterans Affairs employee. The equipment contained the names, Social Security numbers and birth dates of Veterans discharged since 1975. It was the worst-ever breach of government data. The equipment was later recovered and the FBI said the sensitive files were neither compromised nor accessed.

In the lawsuits, Veterans said they suffered embarrassment, mental distress, emotional trauma and the threat of future identity theft. Some said they also had to pay for credit-monitoring services.

The U.S. Justice Department, which represents federal agencies in lawsuits, had asked that the case be dismissed. Robertson agreed on some counts: He threw out claims of constitutional violations, said the theft did not qualify as an "unauthorized disclosure" under the Privacy Act and said only individual Veterans -- not organizations -- can sue.

The lawsuits have been filed as potential class-action cases representing every Veteran whose data was released.

### 120 U.S. War Veteran Suicides A Week

The U.S. military is experiencing a "suicide epidemic" with Veterans killing themselves at the rate of 120 a week.

### Horse Guard Seeks New Recruits

The First Company, Governor's Horse Guard -- a volunteer cavalry unit started in 1778 as bodyguards for Connecticut's governor during the American Revolution is seeking new riders.

The group is believed to be the oldest continuously serving cavalry unit. They need 16 to 20 recruits. No experience needed.

Applications at: [www.govhorseguards.org](http://www.govhorseguards.org) call 860-805-7837 or email; [knthjacobs@aol.com](mailto:knthjacobs@aol.com)

### Interesting Statistic

Regardless of where you stand on the issue of the U.S. involvement in Iraq, here is a sobering statistic:

There has been a monthly average of 160,000 troops in the Iraq theatre of operations during the last 22 months, and a total of 2,867 deaths. That gives a firearm death rate of 60 per 100,000 soldiers.

The firearm death rate in Washington D.C. is 80.6 per 100,000 persons for the same period.

That means that you are about 25% more likely to be shot and killed in the U.S. Capital than you are in Iraq. Conclusion: The US should pull out of DC.

### Democrats Criticized For Stripping Border Security Funds From Defense Bill

A Democratic congressman has been joined by an expert on immigration policy in accusing some Senate Democrats of "playing partisan politics" with national security by removing \$3 billion in border security funding from the Defense Appropriations bill.

### City Evicts Boy Scouts for Being Pro-War

Despite having twice given permission to a troop of Boy Scouts to place their donation boxes for soldiers serving in Iraq, election officials in the city of Cambridge, Mass., have ordered them removed after receiving a single complaint about their "pro-war" message.

### LAPD's Plan To Find Muslims Draws Fire

The L.A. police dept's counter-terrorism bureau wants to know the Muslim communities' potential for harboring terrorists, and which are susceptible to "violent, ideologically-based extremism."

The ACLU says it's "nothing short of racial profiling."

### U.N. Issues 'Final Wake-Up Call' On Population And Environment

The human population is living far beyond its means and inflicting damage to the environment that could pass points of no return, according to the major report by the U.N.'s Environment Program.

**Clerk's Note:** We all agree that there are too many people and not enough planet. The solution is simple enough and we can do it by helping our fellow man. There are over one billion radical muslims (RM's) who are dying to meet their Allah. Now in order to convince all the rest of the world to actually help, we have devised a scenario which even the most left wing New Yorker would send us a check for our cause. The next time one of those destruction crews who remove big buildings by explosive implosion gets a call... They notify us to round up thousands of RM's. We position the RM's tightly packed throughout the floors of the building being demolished. This is a Win-Win-Win Situation! The RM's go out like the suicide bomber they want to be, the Old Testament requirement is met (An Eye for and Eye) and we help the environment by reducing the population. Now if we get a call from a demolition group saying they will be doing the Sear's Tower or the Golden Gate Bridge...

### GI's wife finds way to have the last laugh

Not long after Jan Donahue's husband left for a two-year tour of duty in Iraq, one of her neighbors tied a yellow ribbon around a tree in the Donahue's yard.

"That's great -- thank you," Donahue said during a standup routine in front of a military crowd at a Holiday Inn in Rochester, Minn. "Now, how about tying one of those yellow ribbons on my dog and walking him around the friggin' block?"

The 49-year-old Minnesota mother is trying to find humor in the fears and frustrations of being a soldier's wife. With help from a Los Angeles comedy coach, she has developed a stand-up routine and has been performing it in front of military audiences around the country. And while her husband is now back from Iraq, she hopes to make a career out of telling jokes.

Her new line of work grew out of her misery -- a husband absent for much of the last five years, two belligerent teenage boys, a mountain of debt and her own health problems, including a deepening depression.

"Bad for life, good for comedy," said Judy Carter, the comedy coach who helped Donahue with her act. "When people come to me they think they're going to be talking about the good things in their life -- no. Tell us about your humiliations, the painful things, the bad day."

Among other things, Donahue riffs on the hardships at home: "When your husband's deployed, you've got to

pick up the slack and do different things. Everybody's got to take their part. My kitchen floor's dirty -- the dog's not doing his job."

And, she cracks wise about those who have returned home: "What do they teach those soldiers in Iraq? How to snore louder? How to steal the covers? How to talk in your sleep?"

A year ago, Donahue didn't much see the humor in her situation. Her husband, Kevin Donahue, was first called up in 2002, when the couple's sons were 13 and 15. He was stationed in England in a support role for the fighting in Afghanistan. Kevin returned to their home in the Minnesota town of Windom about a year later, but then got called up again for training camp and then duty in Iraq. He would be gone almost two years.

Not long after her husband left, Donahue developed kidney stones and lost her job with the state's Department of Transportation. Her sons were getting in trouble with the law.

"I didn't want to leave the house. I didn't want to do anything," she said. "I almost didn't want to live anymore, except I had to for my boys and my husband. But I didn't know what I was going to do because everything that could possibly go wrong was going wrong."

In early 2007, the Minnesota National Guard learned that many of its soldiers in Iraq would see their tours extended. The Guard made counselors available to family members, and Donahue -- by now at her wit's end -- went to see one. "She said, 'What do you want to do in life?'" Donahue recalled. "I said I've always wanted to be a comic, but I'll never do that. But a week later she had me at a family readiness group, doing some comedy."

Donahue said her base fee has now climbed to \$3,500.

Donahue's humor seemed to connect with some of those in the audience in Rochester.

"When you think about your loved one, you do get sad, mostly," said Laura Strickland, whose 22-year-old son, Kyle, is due home soon after a year in Iraq. "It's nice to get a reminder that it's OK to remember the funny things, the silly things."

**Last minute gift idea... Have the Veterans Post News sent to them every month for 12 months. Sort of like the Smile of the Month Club!**

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