



DMVA

North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

ON POINT NEWSLETTER

November 2022 Newsletter

In This Issue

- **ICYMI: In Case You Missed It**
- **NCDMVA Making a Difference**
- **At Work**
- **PSAs**
- **Leaderboard**
- **Save the Date**
- **Community Calendar**





Happy Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is the perfect time to reflect and honor the many sacrifices of our active-duty military, veterans, and the valued staff of the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. Because of your support, DMVA has reached new heights. I am thankful for each and every one of you! May you and your family be blessed and all that you hold close to your heart during this holiday season. Happy Thanksgiving!



W.E. Gaskin



#ICYMI

NCDMVA Transitions Director and Veteran Andrea Allard Gives Keynote Address at Capitol Veterans Day Ceremony

This year's 2022 Raleigh and Wake County Annual Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony featured more than 80 groups from various veterans organizations, Junior ROTC units, and



Featured above, NCDMVA Director of Transition Services and veteran, Andrea Allard, gives a compelling Veterans Day Keynote Address.

During the event, veterans are highly honored. All who served and those in battles to include veterans from World

many other veterans related groups.

The day of events was organized and hosted by the Wake County Veterans Council. In addition to the parade, the day's ceremony included full readings of Wake County's and Governor Cooper's State proclamations, and remarks from Elected Officials. Addressing the attendees and guests were veterans advocates, Wake County Commissioner, Vickie Adamson, and U.S. Congresswoman Deborah Ross, NC District 2. The keynote address was presented by Andrea Allard, NCDMVA's Transitions Director and Veteran.

War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Gulf War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom eras.

To see pictures from the ceremony, click on the below button.

[Visit our Flickr Page](#)

NCDMVA Making a Difference!

"Our family would like to thank you for what you have done for us and the many families you have assisted.

Update: our daughter Karyn graduated in May 2022 with a master's degree in Library Science from UNC-Chapel Hill. She is now a librarian at a local high school.

Again, thank you for what you do to assist veterans' families and to make their lives richer!

God bless you and Happy Thanksgiving!"

*Sincerely,
Dr. Josephus C. Brown*

**Coastal Carolina State Veterans Cemetery Urn Cover
Donated for Veteran Committal Services**

Veterans Week events included a special ceremony. The second of four handcrafted ceremonial urn covers, were donated to the State of North Carolina with significant meaning to our veterans and their families.

During the quaint ceremony at the state owned, Coastal Carolina State Veterans Cemetery located in Jacksonville, North Carolina Secretary of State, Elaine Marshall, presented the donated ceremonial veteran urn cover to North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Secretary, Lt. Gen Walter E. Gaskin, on behalf of the State.

"The value these urns will provide to North Carolina's veterans and their families cannot be overstated," said Secretary Gaskin. *"We often see those who gave everything in service to their country not able to afford proper burial services. These ceremonial urns will offer meaningful dignity and proper interment our brothers and sisters earned and deserve."*

Check out the [photos here](#)

Read more [here](#)

Visit our Website



NCDMVA Communications Specialist Jumps with the U.S. Army Golden knight

North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Communications Specialist, Dwight Collins, tandem parachute jumped with the elite demonstration and competition parachute team of the United States Army better known as the Army Golden Knights.

Founded in 1959, the elite parachutist team consists of professional jumpers drawn from all divisions of the U.S. Army who all demonstrate excellence in parachuting. Members of the team conduct high speed canopy maneuvers while conducting aerial training over Laurinburg - Maxton Airport. The Golden Knights are part of the Marketing and Engagement Brigade of the [U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion](#).

"I have friends, family, and co-workers that risked their lives to ensure that I have the choice to risk mine the way I please", replied the Communications Specialist when asked what made him want to participate in such a daring feat. "This was my way of tasting what it is they do above, and on the ground, all the time. During the night and day, these guys go hard".

Be sure to view the [tandem jump footage](#) by clicking the button below.



[See Video & Photos](#)



**The 2022 U.S. Capitol
Christmas Tree Makes a Stop
at NC State Veterans Home
in Kinston**



As the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree made it's way to Washington D.C., it made a very special and anticipated stop at the North Carolina State Veterans Home in Kinston on Veterans Day. The National Forest (North Carolina) and Choose Outdoors teams greeted veterans, staff, and families with the warmest of gratitude and appreciation.



The North Carolina State Veterans Home in Kinston is located in the Coastal Plains region of Eastern North Carolina. The 100 bed facility hosts and welcomes the families of the veterans daily and for special programs and events. You can often see multiple generations enjoying the beautiful landscape all year long. However, this event brought many smiles because of the Christmas season and a piece of North Carolina going to the U.S. Capitol. A proud day for the veterans, families, and staff.



[See Photos Here](#)

Secretary Walter E. Gaskin Honors Veterans at 8th Annual Metro Veterans Day Luncheon

NCDMVA Secretary, Lt. Gen. Walter Gaskin delivered remarks of appreciation and encouragement to more than 500 attendees at the 8th Annual Los Angeles Metro Veterans Day Luncheon held at the Historic Ticketing Hall in L.A. Union Station.



L.A. Metro annually recognizes the dedication of the employees that are veterans and the contributions they give back to their community and economy.



Wilmington NC VEAC



North Carolina's American Legion Post 10 in Wilmington, hosted veterans from near and far at their facility for it's 5th Annual NC Veterans Experience Action Center (VEAC) - also rereferred to as Veterans Benefits Live, VA in My Town.

Attendees talked directly to Veterans Service Officers from NCDMVA and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Many sought the answers to questions concerning earned benefits and support for the proper documentation. A total of 563 veterans from 10 states including California, Washington, Texas, Montana, Maryland the the entire southeast were served.

Approximately 20 rating decisions were completed for claims requiring

expedited action and \$265,467.00 in retroactive benefits were paid out during the event. Retroactive benefits will continue to be generated over the coming days thanks to rating and dependency adjustments set in motion on site.

There were 242 PACT Act related interactions; 111 veterans who *Chose VA* and reached out to VA for the first time; 20 homeless veterans were assisted and 42 veterans were assisted with Military Sexual Trauma related issues.

Wayne County Museum Next to Experience "We Wanted to Fight" Exhibit

The North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, in conjunction with the North Carolina Museum of History, will continue the traveling exhibit "*We Wanted to Fight*", slated to be in Goldsboro's Wayne County Museum of History in weeks to come.

The exhibit "*We Wanted to Fight*" was designed as a traveling exhibit to showcase at various cultural sites, institutions, schools, and military bases, across the state throughout the year. With the goal of reaching a broad audience across the state, the intriguing, seven panel display continues to zig zag from one place, to the next.

[Click here](#) to Learn more behind this project including the African American Military & Veterans Lineage Project



**AFRICAN AMERICAN MILITARY AND
★ VETERANS LINEAGE PROJECT ★**

The North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs in collaboration with the Elizabeth City State University School of Humanities and Social Sciences, the North Carolina Museum of History, and the State Archives of North Carolina, created a platform in which African American veterans can share their experiences at schools, military installations, cultural centers, and libraries across the state. The content of the "We Wanted to Fight" exhibition originates in part from veterans interviewed as a component of this project.

EXHIBIT DATES:
MARCH 2022
4-27

VISIT THE EXHIBIT AT
Elizabeth City State University
G.R. LITTLE LIBRARY
1704 Weaverville Road
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

HOURS OF OPERATION
MON. THURS. 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM
FRI. 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
SAT. 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
SUN. 1:00 PM - 9:00 PM

View the documentary, "In the Face of Adversity" at youtu.be/t835vQaupCc

The African American Military and Veterans Lineage Project, managed by the NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, is designed to address the lack of information regarding the roles, triumphs, and heroism that North Carolina African Americans played in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf Wars, and War on Terror in the early conflicts, despite being given inferior equipment and less training, as well as navigating a segregated and biased military. Black Americans served with valor and courage.

★★★★★

NCDMVA At Work

Operation Green Light

**Light up Green in
support and
appreciation for
veterans**

#OperationGreenLight

During Veterans Week, the week of November 7th-12th, 2022, our North Carolina veterans were recognized and honored with this inaugural and new initiative.

The NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (NCDMVA), the NC Association of County Commissioners, and other government agencies from across the state, participated in **“Operation Green Light”**. This united effort showed recognition and support for veterans inclusive of all military branches.

During the week of Veterans Day, NCDMVA and all participating agencies, urged residents, businesses, and government facilities to turn their exterior lights green in honor of our servicemen and women. Boy did they! Just to

mention a few participants: The Catawba County Justice Center of Newton, Forsyth County Government facilities, Carolina Field of Honor at Triad Park, The Riverfront Convention Center of Craven County, the Craven County Administration Building, the Craven County Courthouse and Craven County Veterans Services, Hanover County Health & Human Services building, the Durham County Courthouse, Brunswick County Courthouse, Wake County Government Buildings, the NC Capitol Building, the NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Seaboard Building, and the Governor's Mansion.

It is a part of NCDMVA's mission to educate the public about the challenges servicemen and women face, and bring forth available resources to assist veterans and their families. See the many buildings and site lit up around the state in support and recognition of Operation Green Light.



[Visit our Website](#)

The entire North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs,



honors our U.S. Navy veteran, **Mary Marshall** recently killed in the Raleigh mass shooting in October. At the memorial service on October 29th, Retired Lt. General, USMC and NCDMVA Secretary Walter Gaskin paid tribute to Marshall and offered support Marshall's fiancé and family.

Non sibi sed patriae
"Not self, but country"

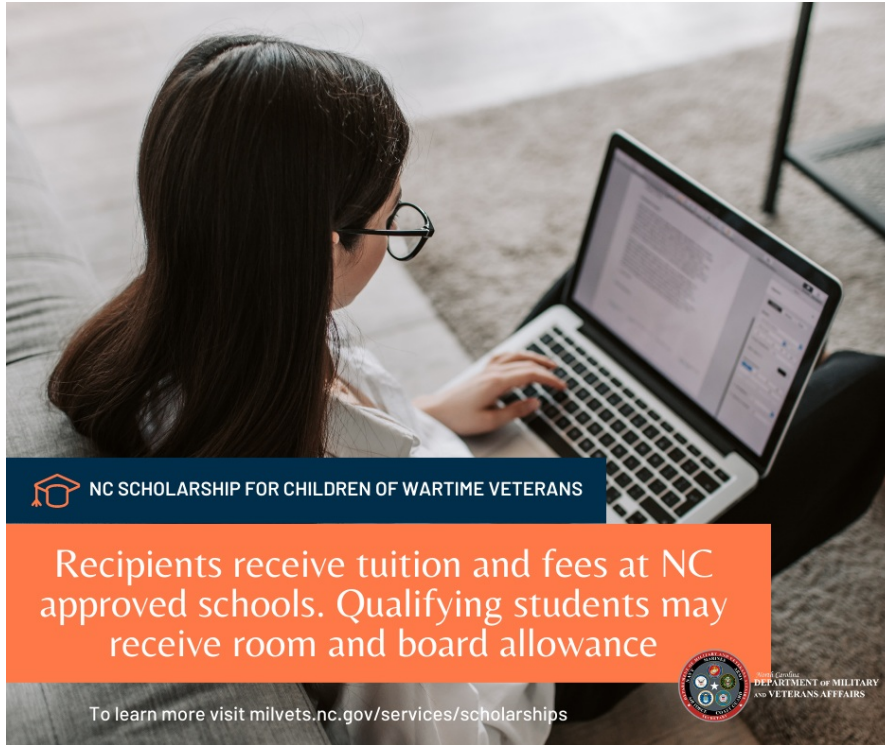
Seaman Marshall will never be forgotten for her exemplary service to our nation.


NCDMVA Staff would like to thank Seaman Marshall for her service!



Public Service Announcements


NC Scholarship for Children of Wartime Veterans



 NC SCHOLARSHIP FOR CHILDREN OF WARTIME VETERANS

Recipients receive tuition and fees at NC approved schools. Qualifying students may receive room and board allowance

To learn more visit milvets.nc.gov/services/scholarships



DEPARTMENT of MILITARY
AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

[More information](#)



Camp Lejeune Water Contamination

From at least 1953 through 1985, Marines and personnel of any branch of the armed forces and their families stationed at Camp Lejeune's main base, barracks, family, temporary housing, Tarawa Terrace and Hadnot Point may have consumed, and bathed in, water contaminated with toxins at concentrations from 240 to 3400 times levels permitted by safety standards.

Monetary relief may be provided for those injured by exposure to the Camp Lejeune base and its toxic water by^[45] 30 days of "living" or "working" or "otherwise" being

exposed between 1953 and 1987 is the prerequisite for compensation. For more information contact your local veteran service office or click below to learn more from the U.S Department of Veterans Affairs.

[Learn More Here](#)

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Join VA's Education Network

Join VA's GI Bill® network by applying for education benefits!
You'll gain access to tools and funding that help you pursue your educational and career goals, no toggling or troubleshooting needed.

Connect with your benefits by clicking the button below.

[More Information](#)

Extension of Gulf War Presumptive Period

The Department of Veterans Affairs has extended the presumptive period for qualifying chronic disabilities resulting from undiagnosed illnesses in Persian Gulf War Veterans to December 31, 2026. To learn more about VA and Gulf War Veterans, [click here](#).

The Department of Veteran Affairs has **extended the presumptive period for qualifying chronic disabilities resulting from undiagnosed illnesses in Persian Gulf War Veterans to Dec. 31, 2026.**



To learn more about VA and Gulf War Veterans, click the button below.

More information

You are not alone! Connect with Care Now.



VA's top clinical priority is preventing suicide among all Veterans — including those who do not, and may never, seek care within the VA health care system. As a Veteran, you can play a role in fulfilling this mission, and VA can equip you with tools to do your part. You can explore [suicide prevention resources](#) to build networks of support among community-based organizations, Veterans Service Organizations, health care providers, and other members of your community that strengthen protective factors for Veterans.

More information

Leaderboard

NCDMVA Welcomes to the Team Brian Pierce



Military Affairs Deputy Secretary
COL (R) Brian Pierce

NCDMVA is pleased to welcome aboard new Military Affairs Deputy Secretary Brian Pierce. He was born in Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland and is lifelong and proud *Army Strong*.

Upon graduating from Officer Candidate School, Pierce was commissioned as an Aviation Officer and entered Fort Rucker's Initial Entry Rotary Wing Training program.

Pierce went on to have a successful military career. He held many positions over the years including Platoon Leader, Company Commander, Executive Officer, Brigade Commander, Director, and Deputy Chief of Staff before retiring from the North Carolina Army National Guard's Government Affairs Office.

Colonel (Ret.) Pierce resides in Cary, with his wife Jennifer and their two children, Jordan Taylor and William Charles (Charlie). He hopes to use his vast amount of experience and education to further the mission of the Department.

Welcome to the DMVA Family!

Save the Date

OFF-BASE TRANSITION > TRAINING

Employment-focused training for veterans, including those veterans currently serving in the Reserve Component (National Guard and Reserve members), and their spouses.

Off-Base Transition Training (OBTT) is an extension of the Department of Labor's (DOL) Transition Assistance Program. OBTT workshops are short, educational modules to help participants meet their employment-preparation needs.

Job Search Techniques - Resume Essentials - Interview Skills - Federal Hiring - LinkedIn - Employment Rights - & more!



FREE WORKSHOPS

FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES

IN-PERSON OR ONLINE

**REGISTER ONLINE AT
DOL.GOV/OBTTWORKSHOPS**

OBTT workshop dates thru February

December 2022:

Cumberland: AJC NCWorks Career Center, Fayetteville, NC – December 6, 2022

Wake: AJC NCWorks Career Center, Raleigh, NC – December 13, 2022

No event scheduled – December 20, 2022

No event scheduled (Christmas week) – December 27, 2022

January 2023:

New Years observance no workshop scheduled – January 3, 2023

Cumberland: AJC NCWorks Career Center, Fayetteville, NC – January 10, 2023

Wake: AJC NCWorks Career Center, Raleigh, NC – January 17, 2023

Durham: Maple Court, Durham, NC – January 24, 2023

Cumberland: AJC NCWorks Career Center, Fayetteville, NC -January 31, 2023

February 2023:

Wake: Wake Tech, Raleigh, NC – February 7, 2023

Durham: AJC NCWorks Career Center Orange County, Chapel Hill, NC –

February 14, 2023

Cumberland: AJC NCWorks Career Center, Fayetteville, NC – February 21, 2023

Wake: AJC NCWorks Career Center, Raleigh, NC – February 28, 2023

Community Calendar

December 2022

[Dec 1 Civil Air Patrol Birthday](#)

[Dec 1 Salesforce Fellowship Program Information Session](#)

[Dec 1 USO Coffee Connections, Jacksonville \(Mil Spouse only\)](#)

[Dec 2 HOH Pacific OCONUS Virtual Hiring Fair](#)

[Dec 2 ASCENT Employment Networking Social, Fayetteville](#)

[Dec 5 AUSA Virtual Happy Hour -Valerie W Perlowitz \(virtual\) RSVP](#)

[Dec 7 National Pearl Harbor Remembrance](#)

[Dec 7 USDOL Off-Base Transition Training, Charlotte](#)

[Dec 7-8 HOH Virtual AMPLIFY Career Development for Military Spouses](#)

[Dec 7 HOH Military Spouse Fellowship Program Overview](#)

[Dec 7 Ballantyne Veterans Breakfast, Charlotte](#)

[Dec 8 HOH Virtual Hiring Fair: Aviation and Aerospace](#)

[Dec 10 10th Annual Toys for Our Troops, Charlotte \(AGR only\)](#)

[Dec 12-16 Patriots Path Workshop](#)

[Dec 13 National Guard Birthday](#)

[Dec 13 Patriots Path Mock Interview](#)

[Dec 14 USDOL Off-Base Transition Training, Charlotte](#)

[Dec 14 Mental Health First Aid Training, Sanford](#)

[Dec 14 Monthly Veterans Luncheon, Charlotte](#)

[Dec 15 Veterans Coffee, Charlotte](#)

[Dec 15 Veterans Lunch, Ft Mill-SC](#)

[Dec 16 JOB Veteran Career Symposium at Call of Duty Endowment Bowl III](#)

[Dec 17-18 Wreaths Across America, NC-SC](#)

[Dec 18 Panthers in the Park, Charlotte](#)

Want to be included in a future issue?

To recommend content, news, and resources for future issues or to find more information, please connect with us at publisher@milvets.nc.gov.

You can view previous issues [here](#).

Share your news



North Carolina
**DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY
AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

The North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (NCDMVA) supports both active and reserve uniformed military personnel and their families; military installations and communities; and military veterans and their families in North Carolina. The Department seeks to provide timely and responsive engagement to enhance North Carolina's current military and veteran friendly environment. In addition, the department also seeks to foster and promote business, technology, transportation, education, economic development, and healthcare for the above communities. Lastly, the Department works to accomplish these services by providing assistance and coordination between the Federal Government, the State of North Carolina, its political subdivisions, and collaborative and supporting agencies.

Let's Get Social!

Connect with us on social media for more news, updates, issue reports, action calls, and time sensitive items of note.



NC DMVA | www.milvets.nc.gov

NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs | 413 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27603

[Unsubscribe dwight.collins@milvets.nc.gov](mailto:dwight.collins@milvets.nc.gov)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by dwight.collins@milvets.nc.gov powered by



Try email marketing for free today!