

July 16, 2013

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2. **Tricare cuts will hurt at-risk military children, lawmakers say.**
3. **POW/MIA recovery unit defended in wake of critical internal report.**
4. **Thieves take disabled veterans' hunting gear.**
5. **Nonprofits to receive federal grants to help homeless veterans in New Mexico.**
6. **Fighting Military Suicide: Can Technology Help?**
7. **VA to help rural veterans reach clinics.**
8. **RI Division of Veterans Affairs benefits veterans and families in many ways.**
9. **VA Speeds Up Veterans Education Benefit Processing.**
10. **Fort Bragg Spc. Stephen Currier puts face on growing prescription drug problem.**
11. **Bitter Pills series: Bitter Pills series: Prescription oversight lax as overdoses tick up.**
12. **Bringing Female Veterans Together on the Golf Course.**
13. **Salem County Veterans Cemetery begins receiving federal funds to support veterans burials.**
14. **VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as July 16, 2013:**
15. **Today in History:**

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1. [Obama praises George HW Bush for volunteer initiative.](#) President Barack Obama welcomed President George H.W. Bush to the White House on Monday in a salute to public service and to the drive for volunteerism that the 41st president inspired with his "thousand points of light" initiative more than two decades ago.
2. [Tricare cuts will hurt at-risk military children, lawmakers say.](#) New rules for Tricare will limit the ability of thousands of military children with developmental disabilities to get the therapy and care they need, two U.S. senators and an advocacy group say.
3. [POW/MIA recovery unit defended in wake of critical internal report.](#) In 2010 a seven-member team from the Hawaii-based Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command investigated an anonymous lead that an American World War I soldier's remains were in an underground passageway in Connigis, France.
4. [Thieves take disabled veterans' hunting gear.](#) Thieves shot down an effort by Michigan volunteers to help disabled military veterans by stealing nearly \$18,000 in equipment used to transport gear and veterans into the woods to hunt.
5. [Nonprofits to receive federal grants to help homeless veterans in New Mexico.](#) [The Republic](#) Tom Udall said the grants from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will help pay for a wide range of assistance, including for rent, utilities and moving expenses as well as transportation and child care. About \$1 million will go to Goodwill ...
6. [Fighting Military Suicide: Can Technology Help?](#) [TIME](#) Phase One of The Durkheim Project, conducted with The Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and completed in 2013, the predictive analytics and text-mining technology methods used to power the database ...
7. [VA to help rural veterans reach clinics.](#) [In-Forum](#) A new initiative by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs may make it easier for veterans in rural areas to get medical services. The department announced Thursday it will provide grants to state veteran service agencies and ...

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8. [RI Division of Veterans Affairs benefits veterans and families in many ways.](#) [The Providence Journal](#) Veterans of the United States armed forces may also be eligible for a broad range of programs and services provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Check out available benefits online at http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book ...

9. [VA Speeds Up Veterans Education Benefit Processing.](#) [Hyperlink to Story About.com](#): According to VA assistant secretary for information and technology Roger W. Baker, the VA has fully automated its formerly paper-based education benefit claims processing system and can now process supplemental benefit payments for currently enrolled student veterans in an average of eight days - compared to 23 days in the fall of 2012.

10. [Fort Bragg Spc. Stephen Currier puts face on growing prescription drug problem.](#) [Hyperlink to Story Fayetteville Observer: Bitter Pills series](#): Currier is just one of the many casualties associated with the enormous increase in opium-based prescription painkillers in the Fayetteville area since the country went to war more than a decade ago.

11. [Bitter Pills series: Bitter Pills series: Prescription oversight lax as overdoses tick up.](#) [Hyperlink to Story Fayetteville Observer](#): Womack Army Medical Center on Fort Bragg and the Fayetteville Veterans Affairs Medical Center have both seen huge increases in the number of painkiller prescriptions since 9/11 - the years in which so many soldiers have come home injured from war.

12. [Bringing Female Veterans Together on the Golf Course.](#) [Hyperlink to Story The New York Times](#): Clearview HOPE was started as a women's offshoot of the P.G.A. of America's P.G.A. HOPE program, which has at least a dozen chapters nationwide. That veterans' program sprung from the Iowa GIVE initiative, an acronym meaning Golf for Injured Veterans Everywhere.

13. [Salem County Veterans Cemetery begins receiving federal funds to support veterans burials.](#) [Hyperlink to Story NJ.com \(South Jersey Times\)](#): Serving as the final resting place for about 2,500 veterans, the Salem County Veterans Cemetery will now begin receiving federal funds to support veterans' burials thanks to local efforts.

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14. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as July 16, 2013:

- **July 17, 2013.** HVAC will hold a legislative hearing on the following bills:
 - H.R. 813
 - H.R. 806
 - Draft Discussion Bill – To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a Future-Years Veterans Program and a quadrennial Veterans review, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a Chief Strategy Officer, and for other purposes.

10:15 A.M.; 334 Cannon

- **July 17, 2013.** HVAC, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs will markup pending legislation. 2:30 P.M.; 334 Cannon
- **July 18, 2013.** HVAC, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity will markup pending legislation. 10:00 A.M.; 334 Cannon
- **July 19, 2013.** HVAC, Subcommittee on Health will hold a hearing entitled “Safety for Survivors: Care and Treatment for Military Sexual Trauma.” 10:00 A.M.; 340 Cannon

15. Today in History:

- [1779](#) – [American Revolutionary War](#): [light infantry](#) of the [Continental Army](#) seize a fortified [British Army](#) position in a midnight bayonet attack at the [Battle of Stony Point](#).
- [1790](#) – The [District of Columbia](#) is established as the capital of the United States after signature of the [Residence Act](#).
- [1809](#) – The city of [La Paz](#), in what is today [Bolivia](#), declares its independence from the [Spanish Crown](#) during the [La Paz revolution](#) and forms the Junta Tuitiva, the first independent government in Spanish America, led by [Pedro Domingo Murillo](#).
- [1861](#) – [American Civil War](#): at the order of President [Abraham Lincoln](#), Union troops begin a 25 mile march into [Virginia](#) for what will become the [First Battle of Bull Run](#), the first major land battle of the war.
- [1862](#) – American Civil War: [David Farragut](#) is promoted to [rear admiral](#), becoming the first officer in [United States Navy](#) to hold an admiral rank.
- [1910](#) – [John Robertson Duigan](#) makes the first flight of the [Duigan pusher biplane](#), the first aircraft built in Australia.
- [1915](#) – [Henry James](#) becomes a British citizen, to highlight his commitment to England during the first World War.
- [1915](#) – First [Order of the Arrow](#) ceremony takes places and the Order of the Arrow is founded.
- [1927](#) – [Augusto César Sandino](#) leads a raid on U.S. Marines and Nicaraguan Guardia Nacional that had been sent to apprehend him in the village of [Ocotal](#), but is repulsed by one of the first [dive-bombing](#) attacks in history.

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- [1935](#) – The world's first [parking meter](#) is installed in [Oklahoma City, Oklahoma](#).
- [1941](#) – [Joe DiMaggio](#) hits safely for the 56th consecutive game, a streak that still stands as a [MLB](#) record.
- [1942](#) – [Holocaust: Vel' d'Hiv Roundup](#) (*Rafle du Vel' d'Hiv*): the government of [Vichy France](#) orders the [mass arrest](#) of 13,152 [Jews](#) who are held at the [Winter Velodrome](#) in Paris before deportation to [Auschwitz](#).
- [1945](#) – [World War II](#): The [heavy cruiser USS Indianapolis](#) leaves San Francisco with parts for the atomic bomb "[Little Boy](#)" bound for [Tinian Island](#).
- [1945](#) – [Manhattan Project](#): the [Atomic Age](#) begins when the [United States](#) [successfully detonates](#) a [plutonium](#)-based test [nuclear weapon](#) near [Alamogordo, New Mexico](#).
- [1948](#) – Following token resistance, the city of [Nazareth](#), revered by Christians as the hometown of [Jesus](#), capitulates to [Israeli](#) troops during [Operation Dekel](#) in the [1948 Arab–Israeli War](#).
- [1948](#) – The storming of the cockpit of the [Miss Macao](#) passenger seaplane, operated by a subsidiary of the [Cathay Pacific](#) Airways, marks the first [aircraft hijacking](#) of a commercial plane.
- [1950](#) – [Chaplain–Medic massacre](#): American POWs were massacred by North Korean Army.
- [1951](#) – [The Catcher in the Rye](#) by [J. D. Salinger](#) is published for the first time by [Little, Brown and Company](#).
- [1956](#) – [Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus](#) closes its very last "Big Tent" show in [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania](#), due to changing economics all subsequent circus shows will be held in arenas.
- [1960](#) – [USS George Washington](#) a modified [Skipjack class submarine](#) successfully test fires the first [ballistic missile](#) while submerged.
- [1965](#) – The [Mont Blanc Tunnel](#) linking [France](#) and [Italy](#) opens.
- [1969](#) – [Apollo program: Apollo 11](#), the first [manned space mission](#) to land on the [Moon](#), is launched from the [Kennedy Space Center](#) at [Cape Canaveral, Florida](#).
- [1973](#) – [Watergate scandal](#): former [White House](#) aide [Alexander Butterfield](#) informs the [United States Senate](#) that [President Richard Nixon](#) had secretly recorded potentially incriminating conversations.
- [1979](#) – [Iraqi President Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr](#) resigns and is replaced by [Saddam Hussein](#).
- [1981](#) – [Mahathir Mohamad](#) becomes [Malaysia's](#) 4th [Prime Minister](#); his 22 years in office, ending with retirement on 31 October 2003, made him Asia's longest-serving political leader.
- [1990](#) – The [Parliament of the Ukrainian SSR declares state sovereignty](#) over the territory of the [Ukrainian SSR](#).
- [1993](#) – The [Slackware operating system](#) is first released.
- [1994](#) – [Comet Shoemaker–Levy 9](#) collides with [Jupiter](#). Impacts continue until July 22.
- [1999](#) – [John F. Kennedy, Jr.](#), piloting a [Piper Saratoga](#) aircraft, dies when his plane crashes into the [Atlantic Ocean](#) off the coast of [Martha's Vineyard](#). His wife [Carolyn Bessette-Kennedy](#) and sister-in-law [Lauren Bessette](#) are also killed.

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- [2004](#) – [Millennium Park](#), considered [Chicago, Illinois](#)'s first and most ambitious early 21st century architectural project, is opened to the public by [Mayor Richard M. Daley](#).
- [2007](#) – An [earthquake](#) of magnitude 6.8 and 6.6 aftershock occurs off the [Niigata](#) coast of [Japan](#) killing eight people, injuring at least 800 and damaging a nuclear power plant.
- [2008](#) – Sixteen infants in [Gansu Province](#), China, who had been fed on [tainted milk powder](#), are diagnosed with [kidney stones](#); in total an estimated 300,000 infants are affected.