



# LEXINGTON COUNTY VETERANS NEWS

*"Serving those who served and sacrificed for America"*

November/December 2019



Lexington, SC.

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**At a Glance Calendar  
November & December**

For a list of events in Lexington County for November & December

See page 25 - Happenings Around Lexington County

Weekly on Tuesdays in November

Lexington County Veterans Group Meeting from 10am to 12 noon

Friday, November 1st

Chapin Outreach

Sunday, November 3rd

Daylight Savings Time Ends  
Lexington County Veterans Parade @ 3pm

Tuesday, November 5th

Election Day

Thursday, November 7th

Gaston Outreach

Saturday, November 9th

Dang-it Doll Workshop - for more information see page 23

Monday, November 11th

Veterans Day  
County Offices Closed

Tuesday, November 12th

County Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 20th

County Council Meeting

Thursday, November 28th

Thanksgiving Day  
County Offices Closed

Friday, November 29th

County Offices Closed

Weekly on Tuesdays in December

Lexington County Veterans Group Meeting from 10am to 12 noon

Thursday, December 5th

Gaston Outreach

Friday, December 6th

Chapin Outreach

Saturday, December 7th

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Tuesday, December 10th

County Council Meeting

Saturday, December 14th

Wreaths Across America - for more information, see page 21

Saturday, December 21st

Winter Begins

Sunday, December 22nd

Hanukkah begins at sundown

Tuesday, December 24th

Christmas Eve  
County Offices Closed

Wednesday, December 25th

Christmas Day  
County Offices Closed

Thursday, December 26th

Kwanzaa Begins  
County Offices Closed

Tuesday, December 31st

New Year's Eve

Wednesday, January 1st

New Year's Day  
County Offices Closed

**From the Director...**

As we approach Veterans Day activities both in our County and the Midlands, we are mindful of the service of all Veterans. We are grateful for their sacrifice and that of their family. We are honored to serve them every day. This large issue is chock full of discounts, free meals, free entertainment and free or reduced hotel stays for Veterans to honor the Veterans Day holiday. Please share this information with Veterans or those still serving on active duty that you may know.

Our Lexington County Veterans Parade will be at 3pm on Sunday, November 3rd and we would love to have a large crowd to honor our Veterans. Our grand marshal this year is the American Legion, celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> year of this great Veteran's Service Organization. Last year was a great parade with great weather. The parade marches down Main Street, Lexington and ends at the County Administration building and Veterans Monument on South Lake Drive and is always a highlight of the year. Usually, a patriotic ceremony is held at the Veterans monument immediately after the parade and the public is invited.

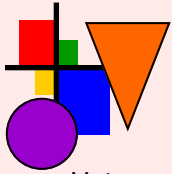
Enjoying the journey,



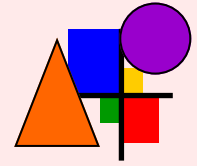
**CALENDAR KEY**

Purple—Holidays/Special Days  
Blue—Outreach dates  
Red—County Offices Closed, and Special Notices  
Black—Director's appearances in the County

Brown—County Council Meetings  
Pink—Special Events throughout the County  
Orange—Director Out of Office  
Green—Lexington County Veterans Group Meetings



# Death and Burial Benefits

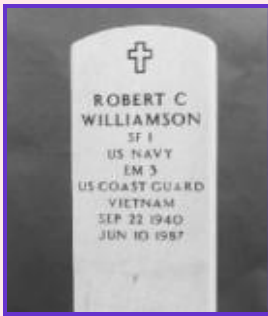


Veterans discharged from active duty under conditions other than dishonorable and service members who die while on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training, as well as spouses and dependent children (under age 18 and age 18-23 if in school full-time) of Veterans and active duty service members, may be eligible for VA burial and memorial benefits. The Veteran does not have to die before a spouse or dependent child (under age 18 and age 18-23 if in school full-time) for them to be eligible.



## Burial in VA National Cemeteries

Burial in a VA National Cemetery is available for eligible Veterans, their spouses and dependents (under age 18 and age 18-23 if in school full-time) at no cost to the family and includes the gravesite, grave-liner, opening and closing of the grave, a headstone or marker, and perpetual care as part of a national shrine. For Veterans, benefits also include a burial flag (with case for active duty) and military funeral honors. The VA operates 131 National Cemeteries, of which 72 are open for new casketed interment and 18 are open to accept only cremated remains. The funeral director or the next of kin makes arrangements by contacting the National Cemetery Scheduling office at 800-535-1117 or the Ft. Jackson National Cemetery at 866-577-5248 (803-699-2246).



## Headstones, Markers, and Medallions

Veterans, active duty service members, and retired Reservists and National Guard service members, are eligible for an inscribed headstone or marker for their grave at any cemetery — National, State Veterans, or private. VA will deliver a headstone or marker at no cost, anywhere in the world. For eligible Veterans whose deaths occurred on or after November 1, 1990, VA may provide a government headstone or marker even if the grave is already marked with a private one, or VA may provide a medallion instead of a headstone or marker for Veterans' graves in private cemeteries when the grave is already marked with a privately-purchased headstone or marker. Spouses and dependent children (under age 18 and age 18-23 if in school full-time) are eligible for a government headstone or marker only if they are buried in a National or State Veterans cemetery. Public Law 110-157 enacted December 26, 2007, expanded VA authority to provide a medallion instead of a headstone or markers for Veterans' graves in private cemeteries when the grave is already marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker. Claimants will have the option to apply for either a traditional headstone or marker to place on the grave, or a medallion to affix to a privately-purchased headstone or marker.



## Military Funeral Honors

Upon request, Department of Defense will provide military funeral honors consisting of folding and presentation of the United States flag and the playing of "Taps." A funeral honors detail consists of two or more uniformed members of the armed forces, with at least one member from the deceased's branch of service. Family members should inform their funeral director if they want military funeral honors. Department of Defense maintains a toll-free number (1-877-MIL-HONR) for use by funeral directors only to request honors. VA can help arrange honors for burials at VA National cemeteries. Veterans service organization or volunteer groups may also help provide honors. For more information, visit [www.militaryfuneralhonors.osd.mil/](http://www.militaryfuneralhonors.osd.mil/).



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### Burial Flags

The VA will furnish a United States burial flag to memorialize: Veterans who served during wartime or after January 31, 1955; Veterans who were entitled to retired pay for service in the Reserve or National Guard, or would have been entitled if over age 60; or members or former members of the Selected Reserve who served their initial obligation, or were discharged for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, or died while a member of the Selected Reserve. The next of kin may apply for the flag at any VA regional office or United States Post Office by completing VA Form 21-2008, Application for United States Flag for Burial Purposes, available at <http://vbaw.vba.va.gov/bl/20/cio/2055/forms/VBA-21-2008-ARE.pdf>. In most cases, a funeral director will help the family obtain the flag.



### Reimbursement of Burial Expenses

The VA will pay a burial allowance of up to \$2,000 if the Veteran's death is deemed service-connected. In such cases, the person who bore the Veteran's burial expenses may claim reimbursement from the VA. In some cases, VA will pay the cost of transporting the remains of a Veteran whose death was service-connected to the nearest National cemetery with available gravesites. There is no time limit for filing reimbursement claims in service-connected death cases.



### Burial Allowance

The VA will pay up to a \$700 burial and funeral allowance for Veterans who, at time of death, were entitled to receive pension or compensation or would have been entitled if they were not receiving military retirement pay. Eligibility also may be established when death occurs in a VA facility, a VA-contracted nursing home or a State Veterans nursing home. In cases in which the Veteran's death was not service-connected, claims must be filed within two years after burial or cremation.



### Plot Allowance

The VA will pay up to a \$700 plot allowance when a Veteran is buried in a cemetery not under United States government jurisdiction if: the Veteran was discharged from active duty because of disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty; the Veteran was receiving compensation or pension or would have been if the Veteran was not receiving military retired pay; or the Veteran died in a VA facility. The plot allowance may be paid to the state for the cost of a plot or interment in a state-owned cemetery reserved solely for Veterans burials if the Veteran is buried without charge. Burial expenses paid by the deceased's employer or a state agency will not be reimbursed.

### Presidential Memorial Certificates

Certificates are issued upon request to recognize the United States military service of honorably discharged deceased Veterans. Next of kin, relatives and other loved ones may apply for a certificate by mailing, e-mailing, or faxing a completed and signed VA form 40-0247 along with a copy of the Veteran's military discharge documents or proof of honorable military service. The form and eligibility requirements can be found at [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov).



**Did  
you  
know?**

**The VA has a new  
suicide hotline number.  
It is 1-855-948-2311.**

## **ELECTION DAY**

There will be elections in the following towns on November 5th. You have to be a registered voter and live in these towns to vote.

- \* Town of Batesburg-Leesville
- \* Town of Irmo
- \* Town of Chapin
- \* Town of Summit
- \* Town of Pineridge
- \* Town of Pelion
- \* Town of Swansea
- \* Town of Springdale
- \* City of West Columbia
- \* City of Columbia

For more information, please call the Lexington County Registration and Elections office at 803-785-8361.

It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived.

- George S. Patton



### **“Why I Served Series”**

Our County Public Information Officer, Harrison Cahill, has started a “Why I Served Series.” He would like to record some video stories of Veterans explaining why they served. If you are interested or know of a Veteran who would be, please call Harrison at (803) 212-5553 or email him at [hcahill@lex-co.com](mailto:hcahill@lex-co.com) to set this up. He records the interviews in our new conference room, where you will have privacy and can take your time in being interviewed. Harrison usually pares down these interviews to three to five minute videos that are shown on the Lexington County Facebook page.



**Are you a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one?**

Connect with the Veterans Crisis Line to reach caring, qualified responders with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Many of them are Veterans themselves.

**Call 1-800-273-8255 and press 1 or text 838255.**

The Veterans Crisis line is a free, anonymous, confidential resource that's available to anyone, even if you're not registered with the VA or enrolled in VA healthcare. The Veterans Crisis Line does not charge for texting to 838255, but message and data rates may apply.

## Thanksgiving Day



In a 1789 proclamation, President George Washington called on the people of the United States to acknowledge God for affording them "an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness" by observing a day of thanksgiving. Devoting a day to "public thanksgiving and prayer," as Washington called it, became a yearly tradition in many communities. Thanksgiving became a national holiday in 1863. In that year, during the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln made his Thanksgiving Day Proclamation. He asked his fellow citizens to "to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of thanksgiving and praise . . ." It was not until 1941 that Congress designated the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day, thus creating a federal holiday. However official, the idea of a special day for giving thanks was not born of presidential proclamations. Native American harvest festivals had been celebrated for centuries, and colonial services dated back to the late 16th century. Thanksgiving Day, as we know it today, began in the early 1600s when settlers in both Massachusetts and Virginia came together to give thanks for their survival, for the fertility of their fields, and for their faith. The most widely known early Thanksgiving is that of the Pilgrims in Plymouth, Massachusetts, who feasted for 3 days with the Wampanoag people in 1621. Turkey has become the traditional Thanksgiving fare because at one time it was a rare treat. During the 1830s, an eight- to ten-pound bird cost a day's wages. Even though turkeys are affordable today, they still remain a celebratory symbol of bounty. In fact, astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin ate roast turkey in foil packets for their first meal on the Moon.



### VA Board of Veterans' Appeals makes history with record breaking year in 2019

The VA Board of Veterans' Appeals (Board) surpassed last year's record-high output for decisions. The Board officially dispatched 95,089 decisions for Veterans and their families in fiscal year (FY) 2019, the largest number of decisions in the Board's history – that is 5,000 more decisions than the goal and 11% more than the Board's decision output in FY 2018, the previous record high. The Board held a record 22,743 hearings in FY 2019, a 38% increase compared to the number of hearings held in FY 2018. This was in addition to implementing Appeals Modernization, undergoing a reorganization with addition of new leaders across the organization, taking over all hearing scheduling and testing virtual tele-hearings. The Board's success is a result of strong collaboration and customer experience across the department – with the Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Chief of Staff leading the way along with VA's administrations, offices and programs areas.

Many area schools are holding Veterans Day Programs. Contact your local school for more information.



# Travel Benefits for VA Healthcare

If you meet the criteria below, you may be eligible for mileage reimbursement or special mode transport in association with obtaining VA health care services.

YOU QUALIFY IF:	YOU QUALIFY FOR SPECIAL MODE TRANSPORTATION (AMBULANCE, WHEELCHAIR VAN ETC.) IF:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. you have a service-connected (SC) rating of 30 percent or more, or</li> <li>2. you are traveling for treatment of a SC condition, or</li> <li>3. you receive a VA pension, or</li> <li>4. your income does not exceed the maximum annual VA pension rate, or</li> <li>5. you are traveling for a scheduled compensation or pension examination</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ your medical condition requires an ambulance or a specially equipped van as determined by a VA clinician, and</li> <li>◇ you meet one of the eligibility criteria in 1 through 5 above, and</li> <li>◇ the travel is pre-authorized (authorization is not required for emergencies if a delay would be hazardous to life or health)</li> </ul>

## Mileage Rates

### General Travel

\$0.415 (41.5 cents) per mile

Scheduled appointments qualify for round-trip mileage. Unscheduled visits may be limited to return mileage only.

### Deductible

\$3.00 one-way (\$6.00 round trip)

Deductible requirement is subject to a monthly cap of \$18.00. Upon reaching \$18.00 in deductibles or 6 one-way (3 round) trips, whichever comes first in a calendar year, travel payments made for the balance of that particular month will be free of deductible charges.

### Waiver of Deductible

A waiver of the deductible will be provided if you are eligible for travel and you:

1. are in receipt of a VA pension or;
2. are a NSC Veteran and your previous year's income does not exceed, or your projected current calendar year's income, in the year of application will not exceed the applicable VA pension rate, or
3. are a SC Veteran and your previous year's income does not exceed, or your projected current calendar year's income, in the year of application will not exceed the applicable national means test income threshold or,
4. are traveling for a scheduled compensation and pension exam

# ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

*Did you know that the following events occurred during the months of November & December?*



November 2, 1734 - American frontiersman, Daniel Boone was born near Reading, Pennsylvania.



November 4, 1922 - King Tut's tomb was discovered at Luxor, Egypt, by British archaeologist Howard Carter.

November 7, 1944 - President Roosevelt was elected to an unprecedented fourth term.

November 10, 1775 - The U.S. Marine Corps was established as part of the U.S. Navy.

November 12, 1929 - Grace Kelly was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

November 14, 1666 - The first experimental blood transfusion took place in Britain, utilizing two dogs.

November 17, 1869 - The Suez Canal was formally opened after more than 10 years of construction.

November 19, 1493 - Puerto Rico was discovered by Columbus.

November 23, 1859 - William H. Bonney (Billy the Kid) was born in New York City.

November 26, 1832 - The first female surgeon in the US Army, Mary Edwards Walker was born in Oswego, New York.

December 2, 1804 - Napoleon Bonaparte was crowned Emperor of France.

December 5, 1901 - Walt Disney was born in Chicago, Illinois.

December 7, 1941 - The US Naval Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii was bombed. This started the US involvement in WWII.

December 14, 1799 - George Washington died at Mount Vernon.

December 16, 1944 - During World War II in Europe, the Battle of the Bulge began.

December 18, 1865 - The 13th Amendment was ratified abolishing slavery.

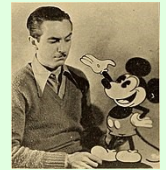
December 20, 1860 - South Carolina became the first state to secede from the Union in a prelude to the American Civil War.

December 21, 1945 - General George Patton died in Germany following a car accident.

December 27, 1822 - French chemist-bacteriologist, Louis Pasteur was born in Dole, France.

December 28, 1832 - John C. Calhoun became the first American ever to resign the office of vice president.

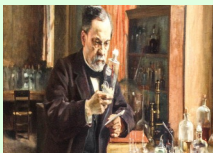
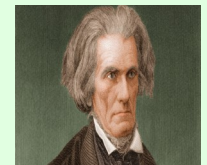
December 29, 1940 - During the Blitz, German aircraft dropped thousands of incendiary bombs on the center of London, causing the worst fire damage since the great fire of 1666.



## 13th Amendment

Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.





# 2019 Veteran's Day Free Meals and Discounts

*Two things to always remember during Veterans Day when using any of the free meals or discounts listed below:*

1 - **Proof of Military Service:** First, most companies require some form of military ID – including a U.S. Uniform Services ID Card (active/reserve/retired), Current Leave and Earnings Statement (LES), Photograph in uniform, be wearing uniform (if your service permits), Veterans Organization Card (e.g., American Legion and VFW), DD214, discharge paperwork, or other form of identification. Other restaurants and companies may only require a photo of you in uniform, or go by the honor system.

2 – **Participation:** Second, always call ahead to verify locations, times, and participation. Many of the listed companies are franchises and may have different policies.

*We will do our best to keep this page updated as we find new information.*



## Discounts at Restaurants

54th Street Grill - Veterans and active duty military get a free entree on November 11.

Applebee's – Veterans and active duty military receive a free meal from a limited menu on November 11.

Arooga's - Veterans and active duty military get a free meal from a fixed menu on November 11.

Bakers Square - Veterans and active duty military get a free breakfast from a set menu on November 11.

Bar Louie – On November 11, Veterans and active military personnel get a free appetizer or entree.

Ben's Soft Pretzels - Veterans receive a free Jumbo Soft Pretzel at participating locations on November 11.

BJ's Restaurant - Active duty military and Veterans receive a complimentary entree under \$12.95 on November 11.

BLT Steak - On November 11, parties of two or less receive a 50% discount and parties of three or more receive a 25% discount for veterans and active duty military.

Bob Evans - Veterans and active military personnel receive a free meal from a select menu on November 11.

Bonanza Steakhouses - Active duty and retired military get a free buffet on November 11.

Bonefish Grill – Veterans and active duty service members receive a free Bang Bang Shrimp appetizer on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Boston Market - Active duty or retired military personnel and their families can receive one free brownie or cookie with any purchase on November 11.



Bubba's 33 - Veterans and active members of the military get a free lunch on November 11.

Buffalo Wild Wings - Veterans and active duty military personnel receive one small order of wings and a side of fries free on November 11 all day.

Burntwood Tavern - Veterans and active military get a free lunch or dinner on November 11.

Calhoun's - Veterans and active duty military get a free meal on November 11.

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## 2019 Veteran's Day Free Meals and Discounts continued from page 9

California Pizza Kitchen – Veterans and active military receive a complimentary entrée from a special menu on November 11.

Carraba's – Veterans and active duty service members receive a free appetizer of your choice on November 11.

CentraArch Restaurants - Veterans and active duty service members get a free entrée and 25% off to their accompanied family on November 11 at participating restaurants.

Chevys Fresh Mex - On November 11 from 11am-10pm, all active and retired military personnel can select one complimentary item from a special Veterans Day menu.

Chicken Salad Chick - On November 11, Veterans and active duty military receive one sandwich or scoop of their choice of chicken salad, one side, a pickle spear, a cookie and a drink.



Chili's – Veterans and active duty military receive a free meal from a special menu on November 11.

Chipotle - Active duty military, Reserves, National Guard, Veterans and spouses get a buy-one-get-one (BOGO) deal from 3:00 p.m. to close on November 11.

Chuck E. Cheese's - Active and retired military members can enjoy a free individual 1-topping pizza on November 11.

Cici's – Veterans and active duty members receive a free buffet that includes pizza, salad, desserts and more on November 11.

City Barbecue - Veterans and troops get a free sandwich platter on November 11.

Claim Jumper - On November 11, all Claim Jumper locations will provide Veterans with a complimentary meal from a special menu.

Country Cookin - Veterans receive a free meal from 2 pm – 8 pm on November 11.

Cracker Barrel - Veterans get a complimentary slice of Double Chocolate Fudge Coca-Cola Cake on November 11.

Dairy Queen – Veterans and active duty military receive a free Blizzard treat on November 11.

Denny's – Active, inactive and retired military personnel get a free Build Your Own Grand Slam on November 11, from 5am to noon.

El Torito - Active and retired military personnel can select one complimentary item from a special menu on November 11 from 11am-10pm.

Famous Dave's - On November 11, former and current military personnel will receive a free Two Meat Combo.



Farmer Boys - Veterans and active duty military receive a free Big Cheese burger on November 11.

FATZ – Veterans and active duty military receive one free world famous Calabash Chicken entrée.

Fazoli's - Veterans get a free Build Your Own Pasta Bowl on November 11.

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## 2019 Veteran's Day Free Meals and Discounts continued from 10

Figaro's Pizza - Veterans and active duty service members get a complimentary medium 1-topping pizza on November 11.

Firebirds Wood Fired Grill - Active duty military and Veterans get a free lunch or dinner entrée on November 11.

Fogo de Chão - Veterans and active duty personnel will receive 50% off their meal on November 11, and up to three additional guests will receive 10% off their meals.



Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steak Burgers – Veterans and active duty service members receive a free combo meal card on November 11.

Friendly's - Friendly's is treating Veterans and active military to a free breakfast, lunch or dinner from a limited menu on November 11.

Glory Days Grill - Veterans get a free appetizer on November 11.

Golden Corral – Golden Corral Restaurants' Military Appreciation Night free dinner will be available on November 14 from 5 to 9pm. Military retirees, Veterans, active duty, National Guard and Reserves are all welcome.

Green Mill Restaurant and Bar - Veterans and active duty military get a free meal on November 11.

Hickory Tavern - Veterans and active duty military get 50% off all food and non-alcoholic beverages all day on November 11.

Hickory Tavern – Veterans and active duty military get 50% off all food and non-alcoholic beverages all day on November 11.

Hooters – Hooters invites all Veterans and current service men and women to enjoy a free meal, up to \$10.99 in value with any drink purchase, by presenting a military ID or proof of service at any locations across the country.

Houlihan's - Active military and Veterans receive one free entrée, valued up to \$15, with purchase of an additional entrée on November 11.

Hurricane Grill and Wings - Veterans and active duty personnel get a complimentary entrée and non-alcoholic beverage on November 11 from a limited menu.

Hy-Vee - Veterans and active duty military members get a free breakfast buffet on November 11.

IHOP - On November 11, participating IHOP Restaurants offer Veterans and active duty military free Red, White and Blue pancakes from 7am to 7pm.

IKEA - Veterans get a free entrée from November 7 through 11.

JJ's Red Hots - Veterans and active duty get a free meal including unlimited hot dogs, sausages, sides and non-alcoholic drinks all day on November 11.

K&W Cafeteria – Anyone with a valid military ID can have a free meal on November 11, which includes meat, vegetables, bread and a refillable drink.

Krispy Kreme – Veterans and active duty military receive a free doughnut and a free small coffee on November 11.



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## 2019 Veteran's Day Free Meals and Discounts continued from page 11

Krystal - All guests with their military ID may receive a complimentary breakfast Sausage Biscuit from opening until 11 am on November 11.

LaMar's Donuts - Veterans and active duty military get a free donut and 12 oz. coffee at participating locations on November 11.

Little Caesars Pizza - Veterans and active military members with a free \$5 Hot-n-Ready lunch combo on November 11 at participating stores nationwide.

Longhorn Steakhouse – Active duty military, Veterans and their families get a complimentary appetizer or dessert on November 11. Guests that dine with a Veteran will also receive 10 percent off their meal.

Max & Erma's – On November 11, participating Max & Erma's locations are offering Veterans and active military personnel a free Best Cheeseburger in America.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurants – On November 6, participating McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurants will offer a complimentary entrée to Veterans and Gold Star Families from a special menu.

Menchie's – All active and retired military personnel will receive a free 6oz frozen yogurt on November 11.

Mimi's Cafe - All Veterans and active duty military will receive a complimentary entrée with the purchase of any non-alcoholic beverage on November 11. On November 12 and 13, Veterans and active duty military receive their choice of breakfast, lunch or dinner entrees on the 'Veterans Day' menu for \$5.99.

Mission BBQ - Veterans and active duty military get a free sandwich and a slice of cake on November 11.

Native Grill & Wings - Veterans and active duty service members receive any menu item up to \$11.99 free all day on November 11.

Ninety Nine Restaurant and Pub - On November 11 from 11 am to 4 pm, Veterans and active military get a free lunch with purchase of an entree.

O'Charley's – Veterans and active duty service members get a free meal on November 11.

Olive Garden – Active duty military, Veterans and their families get a free entrée from a special menu on November 11.



On the Border – Veterans and active duty military can enjoy a free meal from the “create your own combo” menu on November 11.

Outback Steakhouse – All active and retired service members receive a free Bloomin' Onion and a beverage on November 11. Outback is also offering active and former service members 15% off their meals November 12 through December 31.

Perkins - Active duty military and Veterans get a free Magnificent Seven meal on November 11.

Pizza Schmizza - Veterans and active duty service members get a free slice of pizza on November 11, between 1 and 4 pm.

Ponderosa Steakhouse - Active duty and retired military get a free buffet on November 11.

Primanti Bros. - Veterans and active duty military get a free sandwich from 4 pm to close on November 11.



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## 2019 Veteran's Day Free Meals and Discounts continued from page 12

Quaker Steak & Lube – Veterans and active duty military receive a free meal on November 11.

Red Hot & Blue - Veterans receive a free entrée with the purchase of a second entrée on November 9, 10 and 11. Coupon required.



Red Lobster – Veterans, reserve and active-duty military personnel receive a free appetizer or dessert from a limited menu on November 10 and 11.

Red Robin – Veterans and active duty military get a free Red's Tavern Double Burger with Bottomless Steak Fries on November 11.

Rib Crib - Veterans and active military personnel receive a free meal on November 11.

Rock and Brews - Veterans and active military personnel receive a complimentary pulled pork sandwich on November 11.

Rosebud Restaurants - All currently serving and retired Veterans get half off a second entrée purchase for lunch with the purchase of an entrée on November 11.

Ruby Tuesday - Veterans, active duty and reserve service members get a free appetizer on November 11.

Sheetz – Veterans and active duty military personnel get a free 6 inch turkey sub, regular size fountain drink and a carwash at all Sheetz locations on November 11.

Shoney's – Shoney's will offer a free All-American Burger to Veterans and active duty service members on November 11.

Spaghetti Warehouse - From November 11 through November 13 buy one entrée and get the second entrée free. Coupon required.

Steak 'n Shake – Veterans and active duty military receive a free breakfast skillet & coffee from 6am to 11am on November 11.



Sticky Fingers - Veterans and active military get a free pulled pork sandwich with baked beans and coleslaw all day on November 11.

Stir Crazy - Veterans and active duty military get a free chicken or steak fresh market bar on November 11.

Tap House Grill - Active, inactive and retired military personnel get a complimentary meal on November 11.

Texas Roadhouse – Texas Roadhouse locations nationwide will offer Veterans a free lunch on November 11 from 11am to 2pm. Offer is good for active duty, retired and former US military.

T.G.I. Friday's – Veterans and active duty military get a free lunch on November 11 from 11am to 2pm.

Tijuana Flats – Veterans and active duty military receive a free meal on November 11.

Travel Centers of America - Military Veterans who are CDL holders receive a free meal with beverage on November 11.

Twin Peaks - Active duty and Veterans get a free menu item from their Annual Veterans Day Appreciation Menu on November 11.

Uno Chicago Grill – Veterans and active duty military receive a free entrée or individual pizza with an entrée or pizza purchase of equal or greater value on November 11.

**Continued on page 14**

## 2019 Veteran's Day Free Meals and Discounts continued from page 13

Village Inn - Veterans and active military personnel receive a free Inn-Credible V.I.B. Breakfast on November 11.

White Castle - Veterans and all members of the military receive a free combo meal on November 11.

Wienerschnitzel - Veterans and active duty military receive a free Chili Dog, small fries and a 20oz drink on November 11

World of Beer - All Veterans and current service members receive a free select draught beer on November 11.

Yard House - Veterans and active duty military receive a complimentary appetizer on November 11.

### Retail Stores and More

AARP - Get 20 percent off membership for veterans and their families.

Alfred Angelo - Military brides get a free wedding gown on Veterans Day. Must make an appointment for Nov. 11 to qualify.

Amazon.com - Get 20 percent off select clothing on Veterans Day using the promotion code: 20veterans.

*free*

Army Corp of Engineers Recreation Areas - Free use at more than 2,400 recreation areas nationwide for Veterans and active-duty service members and their families.

Bellhops - Veterans and active-duty service members can order free service for moving and lifting jobs that will take place between November 13 and December 15.

Bed, Bath & Beyond – 20% off in store purchases, November 10 - 11

Big Lots – 10% off all purchases on November 11 for Veterans, active duty, reservists and their dependents.

Brides Across America - Military brides can get a wedding dress during the month of November through the Brides Across America program. The group partners with salons across the nation. You must register online.

Dell - Military members get 15 percent off on select PCs and electronics from Veterans Day through November 15.

Dollar General - Get 11 percent off on November 11 if you are a veteran or active duty military.

Great Clips - A free haircut for military members and for those not in the military, a card for a free haircut to give to military members.



Home Depot - Get a 10 percent discount with military ID.

Jockey - Veterans, active-duty and families get 25 percent off using the promo code MILITARY.

JDog Junk Removal & Hauling - Half-off services for Veterans if you book before November 11.

JC Penney - Twenty percent off for Veterans and active-duty military on in-store purchases.

La-Z-Boy Furniture Gallery - An additional 5 percent off the Veterans Day sale for active-duty, Veterans, retirees and reservists.

Lowes Home Improvement - Ten percent off for anyone who has served in the military with proof of service.

**Continued on page 15**

## 2019 Veteran's Day Free Meals and Discounts continued from page 14

Meineke - All Veterans receive a free Basic Oil Change at participating Meineke locations.  
newegg.com: Get 10 percent off through Tuesday, November 10.

Publix - Active and retired military personnel and family members receive a 10 percent discount on Veterans Day. Proof of service required.

Rack Room Shoes - Ten percent off for retired and active-duty service members for your the entire purchase on Veterans Day.



Red Roof Inn - Retired and active-duty service members get 15 percent off a stay during the month of November.

Sleep Number - Save \$500-\$700 on selected Sleep Number mattress sets.

Sports Clips – Veterans and active duty US service members can stop in on November 11 to get a free haircut.

Under Armour - Retired and active-duty service members get 15 percent through November 12.

## Free Park Admissions for Veterans Day

Colonial Williamsburg – Veterans, service members and dependents of currently deployed troops can get free admission tickets to the park from November 7<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup>.

Free Entrance Into National Parks – This freebie is in honor of Veterans Day but everyone can take part in it. Over 100 national parks will waive admission fees on November 11<sup>th</sup> in honor of Veteran's Day.

Knotts Berry Farm– Knott's Berry Farm continues its tradition of honoring the brave men and women who have served in the U.S. military, both past and present, with free admission during its annual Military Tribute Days. The free-admission offer applies to all U.S. Veterans, retired and active military personnel and one guest. Up to six additional tickets may be purchased at Knott's Ticket Booths for only \$42 each from November 3 through 21 and for \$48 each from December 2 through 19, 2019. U.S. Veterans, retired and active military personnel must present military ID or proof of U.S. military service at Knott's ticket booths to receive the complimentary tickets. Veterans, retired and active military personnel must be present.

Seaworld Parks - Veterans and active-duty military receive discounts or free admission. Seaworld properties include SeaWorld Orlando, SeaWorld San Antonio, SeaWorld San Diego, Busch Gardens Tampa, Busch Gardens Williamsburg, Sesame Place Langhorne. The program does not include Discovery Cove in Orlando or Aquatica, SeaWorld's Waterpark.

Veteran Ticket Foundation – Get free tickets to sporting event, movies, shows and more by visiting [www.vettix.org](http://www.vettix.org).



## 2019 Holiday Basket Wish List

**Ham or Turkey (frozen or canned)**  
**Canned Sweet Potatoes**  
**Canned Collards**  
**Stuffing Mix**  
**Cranberry Sauce**  
**Cornbread Mix**  
**Green Beans**  
**Dessert Mix (complete kit)**



We will begin to give these to clients  
Thanksgiving: Friday, November 1  
Christmas: Monday, December 2

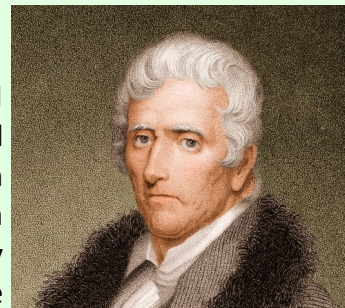
**Questions?** Anna Smith  
[anna@missionlexingtonsc.org](mailto:anna@missionlexingtonsc.org)  
803-957-6656 x 228

You may pack a basket or box and bring it completed, or simply bring the items and we will prepare. Feel free to add a personal note or prayer for the family.

*"The King will reply, Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." - Matthew 25:40*



## The History of Daniel Boone



No name looms larger in the story of the early American West than Daniel Boone. A wanderer for most of his life, he is forever associated with the exploration of Kentucky. Boone's exploits in exploring and hunting in the Bluegrass, as well as its defense during the American Revolution made him a legend in his own time. He was an early American frontiersman and legendary hero who helped blaze a trail through Cumberland Gap, a notch in the Appalachian Mountains near the juncture of Virginia, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

He was born on November 2, 1734, in a log cabin near Reading, Pennsylvania to Squire and Sarah Boone. As the couple's sixth child, received little formal education. Boone learned how to read and write from his mother, and his father taught him wilderness survival skills. Boone was given his first rifle when he was 12 years old. He quickly proved himself a talented woodsman and hunter, shooting his first bear when most children his age were too frightened. At age 15, Boone moved with his family to Rowan County, North Carolina, on the Yadkin River, where he started his own hunting business.



Rather than take up a life of farming, Boone preferred to make his living as a marker or long hunter. Ranging far from home for months and sometimes years at a time, these individuals relied on the money from the sale of deerskins collected on their hunts to support themselves and their families.

In the spring of 1755, Boone returned to Pennsylvania as a wagoner on Maj. Gen. Edward Braddock's expedition to Fort Duquesne. During the march, he met a trader named John Findley who regaled him with tales of a veritable Eden west of the Allegheny Mountains, Kentucky. This relatively untouched land was populated by deer, buffalo, elk and other game which presented a significant financial opportunity. After a brief courtship, Boone married Rebecca Bryan on August 14, 1756. Their marriage spanned more than half a century and produced ten children, despite Boone's long absences. In the ensuing years Boone's hunting took him throughout the Carolinas and south to Florida.

Sometime in early 1769, John Findley appeared at the Boone cabin. His visit rekindled Daniel's interest in exploring Kentucky. Along with Findley and several others, Boone set out to find his promised land. Boone's party traveled from the Upper Yadkin Valley to part of what became Tennessee, Virginia and through the Cumberland Gap. The trail would become the means by which settlers would access the frontier.

In March 1775. Judge Richard Henderson, along with other business associates had formed the Transylvania Company. Henderson enlisted Boone's help to assemble tribal leaders at Sycamore Shoals on the Watauga River. The negotiations resulted in the Cherokees signing over their claims to Henderson, who directed Boone to cut a road through the mountains to allow for the passage of settlers. Heading a band of axmen, Boone cleared a path that would later become part of the Wilderness Road. Boone's party stopped near a salt lick along the Kentucky River on April 6. There, he established a small fort to which he gave his name, Boonesborough. That same year he brought his own family west to live on the settlement and became its leader. He would also serve as a representative in the Virginia legislature.



Continued on page 26



## Red, White and Blue

*He lay where he had fallen.  
Enemy fire had brought him down.  
He knew his life was over,  
As he lost all sigh and sound.*

*He knew a peaceful sleep,  
Amidst the raging guns of war,  
But for him the fight was over.  
He'd gave his all...and more.*

*Oh, he was not alone.  
Others have fallen too.  
And time will not erase the fact...  
They fell for me and you.*

*We owe these men and women,  
For they never got any older.  
We didn't even know them.  
To most of us they were...unknown soldiers.*

*So rest in honored glory,  
Each and every one of you.  
You gave all you had to give...  
For freedom and the red, white and blue.*

**THANK YOU VETERANS!**

### Did You Know...

The Department of Defense, the Social Security Administration and the Department of Veterans Affairs have all announced a 1.6% cost of living increase for 2020.

That means if you draw benefits from all three agencies, each monthly benefit will be increased by 1.6% starting in January of 2020.

## Easy Cranberry Orange Relish

- 1 navel orange
- 1 (12 ounce) package fresh cranberries
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1. Grate 2 teaspoons of zest from orange, discard the remaining peel and pith from the orange. Divide orange into sections.
2. Place orange sections, orange zest, cranberries, sugar and cinnamon in a food processor; pulse until finely chopped.
3. Transfer relish to a bowl and cover; refrigerate to allow flavors to blend, at least 2 hours.

## Fall



ACORN  
APPLES  
AUTUMN  
BONFIRE  
CIDER  
CORN  
GOURD

HALLOWEEN  
HARVEST  
HAY RIDE  
LEAVES  
NOVEMBER  
OCTOBER  
PIE

PUMPKIN  
RAKE  
SCARECROW  
SEPTEMBER  
TURKEY



## The VA completes home loan funding fee refund initiative

The VA recently completed an aggressive initiative to process home loan funding fee refunds to Veteran borrowers, issuing more than \$400 million in refunds. The refunds are the culmination of a multi-year internal review of millions of VA-backed home loans spanning almost two decades. The VA staff worked diligently throughout the summer reviewing 130,000 cases, which is an average of 16,000 loans reviewed per week. The effort included loans dating back nearly 20 years. The administration prioritized fixing the problems and paid Veterans what they were owed.

The VA's Loan Guaranty Service (LGY) program identified more than 130,000 loans where a refund was potentially due. While some funding fees charged were found to be attributable to clerical errors, most fees were charged correctly. The exception was for those Veterans whose exemption status changed following the issuance of a disability rating after the closing of their loan. Letters were mailed notifying Veterans who were eligible for a refund.

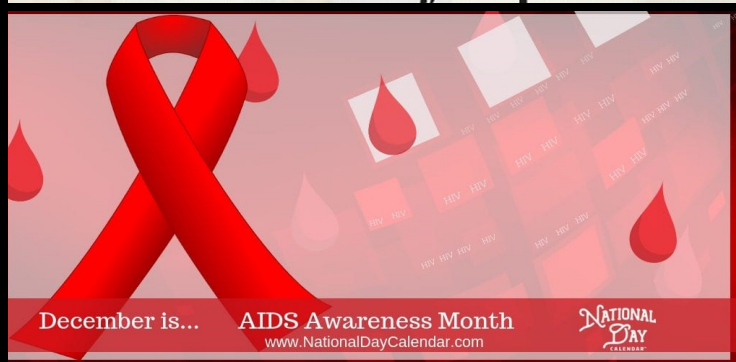
The VA has made several program and systems changes to provide Veterans and lenders with the most up-to-date information possible on a Veteran's funding fee exemption status. The changes include:

- ◆ Enhancements to Veteran-focused communications to better inform about the loan funding fee and when it may be waived as part of the loan transaction.
- ◆ Policy guidance directing lenders to inquire about a Veteran's VA disability claim status during the loan underwriting process and obtain an updated Certificate of Eligibility no more than three days prior to loan closing if the Veteran had a disability claim pending.
- ◆ System and procedural changes to ensure regular internal oversight activities swiftly identify Veterans eligible for fee waivers and potential refund cases.

Veterans who believe that they are entitled to a refund of the VA funding fee are strongly encouraged to call their VA Regional Loan Center at (877) 827-3702 to find out if they are eligible.



November is ...  
**National Home Care & Hospice Month**



December is... **AIDS Awareness Month**  
[www.NationalDayCalendar.com](http://www.NationalDayCalendar.com)



Even though it's not a federal holiday, the birthday of the U.S. National Guard — celebrated on December 13 — is an important event to note. Established in 1636, the National Guard is the oldest military organization in America. Its members serve during times of war and emergency. Take time to honor those who have protected our country for centuries.

**NATIONAL**   
**GUARD**



Appointments are strongly encouraged to meet with our Veterans Benefits Counselors. You can call 803-785-8400 to schedule an appointment. Please allow 24 hours for a return call.

## Reminder

### County Council Needs You!

Veterans are still needed to lead the Pledge of Allegiance at County Council meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month.

County Council meetings start at 4:30pm, so please be present around 4:15pm.

Contact the office at 803-785-8400, if you are interested.

The office would like to thank Samuel "Tank" Owens, Mike Smith, & JW Hester. These individuals volunteered their time to say the Pledge of Allegiance during the months of September & October.



**THANKS**



All Lexington County Offices will be closed on the following days:

Monday, November 11th - Veterans Day  
Thursday, November 28th - Thanksgiving Day  
Friday, November 29th - Day after Thanksgiving

Tuesday, December 24th - Christmas Eve  
Wednesday, December 25th - Christmas Day  
Thursday, December 26th - Day after Christmas

Wednesday, January 1st - New Year's Day

### Did you know...

Any National Guard member or Reservist who is entitled to retired pay for non-regular service or, would be entitled to retired pay for non-regular service, now has Veteran status. To see if you qualify for any benefits, check with your local VA regional office.

### Direct Deposit

What is the fastest way to enroll or make a change to your Direct Deposit? The fastest way is to call 1-800-827-1000. They will be able to change it over the phone. To enroll you will need to know your routing and account number along with the amount that is being deposited. If you are changing your direct deposit, you will need to know your old routing and account number along with your new information.



★ **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!** ★



Please be mindful that the office will be on a reduced staff the last three weeks in December for the holidays.

Please be patient with us as the staff takes some time off for the holidays to spend with family.



## WreathsAcrossAmerica.org

In 2007, the Worcester family, along with Veterans, and others who had helped with their annual Christmas wreath ceremony in Arlington, formed Wreaths Across America™, to continue and expand this effort, and support other groups around the country who wanted to do the same. This nonprofit organization continues the Arlington tradition as part of its mission to Remember, Honor and teach.

In 2018, Wreaths Across America and our national network of volunteers laid over 1,400,000 memorial wreaths at nearly 1200 locations in the United States and beyond. We accomplished this with help from over 2800 fundraising groups, many corporate contributions, and donations of trucking, shipping, and thousands of helping hands. Our annual pilgrimage from Harrington, Maine to Arlington National Cemetery is known as the world's largest Veteran's parade, stopping at schools, monuments, Veteran's homes and communities all along the way to remind people how important it is to remember, honor and teach.

Proceeds place a wreath at one of the participating cemeteries; help support our fundraising partners, educational and Veteran's services outreach. Please note that **all sponsorships are sent directly to the location and no wreaths are sent to the individuals purchasing sponsorships.**

We welcome all to join us at any Wreaths Across America ceremony. If you would like to participate or help bring sponsored wreaths to your local community, please contact us and we will help connect you with other groups already working in your area.

### Schedule of Events

#### Sunday, December 08, 2019

Start of World's Longest Veterans Parade from Maine to Arlington National Cemetery and participating locations

#### Monday, December 09, 2019 12:00 Noon at the SC Veterans Memorial

#### Located on the Assembly Street side of the Statehouse grounds

There will be State House wreath-laying ceremonies in all 50 States and Puerto Rico

#### Saturday December 14, 2019 12:00 Noon

#### Fort Jackson National Cemetery, 4107 Percival Road, Columbia, SC 29229

Parking will be at the Blue Cross Blue Shield parking lot across from the cemetery. We will have shuttle buses to bring you to and from the cemetery starting at 10:30am the morning of the ceremony. There will be limited handicap parking in the cemetery with proper identification.

For more information visit [www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org), or call Carol Davis (803) 467-4482.  
You can also email [waajtjackson@gmail.com](mailto:waajtjackson@gmail.com).



# WREATHS *across* AMERICA

## 2019

### Wreath Sponsorship Form

\*Sponsored wreaths are placed on the grave markers at state, national Veterans cemeteries as well as local cemeteries each December. Wreaths may be purchased online at [www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org). Please use Cemetery Code SCFJNC and Organization Code SC0015.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:  
**Wreaths Across America TM**  
 PO Box 3356  
 West Columbia, SC 29171  
 Questions? Please call 803-467-4482  
 Thank you for your Sponsorship and joining us  
 in our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach!

### WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA FORT JACKSON NATIONAL CEMETERY

**WHEN USING THIS FORM, FOR EVERY 2 WREATHS SPONSORED, WAA WILL DONATE 1 FREE WREATH.**

Sponsorship	Price	Quantity	Total
Individual= 1 Wreath	\$15.00		
Mailed "In Honor" card= If you wish to send a mailed honor card telling someone of your sponsorship-see "In Honor" section below. *Card will not be mailed if the \$2 fee is not included.	\$2.00		
Family= 4 Wreaths	\$60.00		
Small Business= 10 Wreaths	\$150.00		
Corporate= 100 Wreaths	\$1,500.00		
		<b>Grand Total</b>	

**\*\*SORRY- WE CAN NOT TAKE GRAVE SPECIFIC REQUESTS\*\***

#### In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please provide email of "In Honor Of" recipient, or mailing address so a card can be sent notifying them of your sponsorship in their honor. (if you have a specific message please write it on the back of this sheet and we will include it.)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing: \_\_\_\_\_

#### In Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

This name will be listed on our online memory wall, please provide name, rank, branch of service and state resided

Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Please note that **all** sponsorships are sent directly to the location and **no** wreaths are sent to the individuals purchasing sponsorships.

Location ID: SCFJNC Fundraising Group ID: SC0015

#### FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Cash \$: \_\_\_\_\_

Total\$: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Total # Checks: \_\_\_\_\_

Reconciled: \_\_\_\_\_

MO \$: \_\_\_\_\_

GEN: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered: \_\_\_\_\_

## Lexington County Veterans Group

All Honorably Discharged Lexington County Veterans are invited to attend the weekly meetings. The group meets weekly on Tuesdays from 10 am to 12 noon in the auditorium at 605 West Main Street in Lexington. The group meets for Health Issues and PTSD counseling with a licensed counselor.

On the second Tuesday of each month, they meet at a different local restaurant for food and fellowship. Check their website for the location.

The Veterans group also participates in various social activities such as group lunches, group dinners with wives/significant other, boat trips on Lake Murray, participation in the Lexington County Veterans parade and other general group tours.



## ***Veteran Wives Support Group***

***Meets 1st Friday of each month***

***2 to 4pm***

***Crossroads Counseling Center***

***130A Whiteford Way***

***Lexington, SC 29072***

*For further information, please visit their website at  
[lex-coveteransgroup.com](http://lex-coveteransgroup.com) or  
contact our office at 803-785-8400.*



## ***Dang-it Dolls Workshops***

Saturday, November 9th from 10am to 2pm  
Cayce Masonic Lodge, 1701 12th Street, Cayce, SC.

The Lodge Brothers will be preparing their famous Hot Dog Lunch for everyone.

***Come for an hour, or spend the day. All help is appreciated.***

***If you are a student, & need community service hours for class credit,  
please keep us in mind.***

***There will be NO WORKSHOP in December.  
The workshops will return again starting in January.***

Grab a friend and come join in with the stuffing and decorating of the dolls so we can bring smiles and stress relief to our service men and women.

To date, with your help, we have shipped over 200,000 Dang-it Dolls all over the world.

We have volunteers ranging in age from 5 years to 90 years old.

There is something for everyone to do & this is the one place where

***THE MORE THE MERRIER*** really counts.

Just a reminder, Wal-Mart is only carrying minimal amounts of the Morning Glory stuffing in their stores, but it can be ordered from them on-line and shipped free to the store for a little less than the price we were paying. This is the only stuffing we use for the dolls as the other brands are too soft and silky for our purpose. A 5 pound box costs approximately \$13.00.

The average cost of shipping a box of 25 to 30 dolls is \$35.00.

***We can always use stuffing donations. We are also in need of funds to ship the dolls.***

Any help you can give will be appreciated.

For more information, contact Carol Davis at [omsrd@yahoo.com](mailto:omsrd@yahoo.com).

## List of Common Allowable (Recurring) Medical Expenses for an Initial Claim Application

The list below shows recurring VA allowable medical expenses for the initial claim application for pension benefits. The list is not all-inclusive and must be unreimbursed by insurance. They must be paid for by the applicant and are used to reduce income that exceeds the VA income limit.

1. Medicare Part B Premiums
2. Medicare Part D Premiums
3. Insurance Premiums for supplemental medical insurance
4. Home Health Services
5. Assisted Living Facility Services
6. Nursing Home Services
7. Long Term Care Insurance
8. Medical Monitoring Program (like Life Alert)



There is a new number to call for billing issues through the VAMC for any private health care that was fee based out. That number is 1-877-881-7618 9am to 5pm EST.



## SC Hunting and Fishing Licenses for Disabled Veterans

Residents of SC may apply for a disability license by mail or in person at a DNR Regional Office. Offices are located in Columbia, Charleston, Clemson, Florence, York, and DNR at the Market, located at the SC State Farmer's Market in West Columbia. In order to qualify for a disability license you must be declared disabled and receiving disability benefits from one of the following agencies:

- Federal Civil Service
- Medicaid or Railroad Retirement
- SC State Retirement System
- Social Security Administration
- Veterans Affairs (the VA)



In order to qualify for a Disability license you must have been a SC resident for 365 days. DNR must have a completed application, a photocopy of your SC driver's license or SC state issued ID card and current proof (dated within the past 12 months) stating you are disabled and receiving benefits.

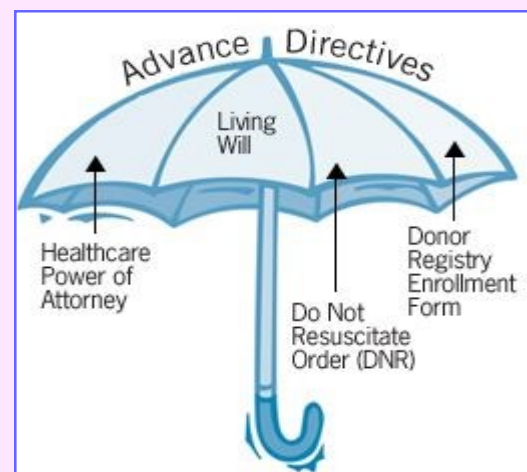
The license will be valid for 3 years and includes privileges of hunting, big game, WMA permit, migratory waterfowl permit and fresh and saltwater fishing.

For more information, you can contact DNR at 803-734-3833 or by visiting their website at [dnr.sc.gov/regs/pdf/disabilitylicense.pdf](http://dnr.sc.gov/regs/pdf/disabilitylicense.pdf).

## Did You Know...



**Veterans can obtain advance directives through the Dorn VAMC. For more information contact Cheryl Geddings at 776-4000 ext. 4084.**





# *Happenings Around Lexington County*

## *During the Months of November & December*

Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>  
through  
Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Pelion Peanut Party**  
Friday 5-11pm & Saturday 10am-11pm  
For more information go to  
[www.sc.pelionpeanutparty.com](http://www.sc.pelionpeanutparty.com).



Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Lexington County Veterans Parade - 3pm**  
For more information contact Sharon  
Willis @ 803-785-1454.



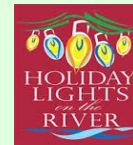
Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>

**Lexington County Museum's  
Murder & Mysteries Lexington Walking Tour**  
8pm - Ice House Amphitheater  
For more information visit  
[www.lexingtoncountymuseum.org/events](http://www.lexingtoncountymuseum.org/events).



Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>  
through  
Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

**Holiday Lights on the River at Saluda Shoals**  
6 to 10pm - every night  
(closed 11/28, 12/24 & 12/25 for the holidays)  
For more information visit their website at  
[iric.net/event/holiday-lights](http://iric.net/event/holiday-lights).



Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
through  
Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup>

**Lights Before Christmas at Riverbanks Zoo**  
5 to 9pm – only select nights  
(closed 11/28, 12/24 & 12/25 for the holidays).



For more information visit their website at  
[riverbanks.org/events/lights-before-Christmas](http://riverbanks.org/events/lights-before-Christmas).

Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>  
through  
Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

**Town of Lexington's Snowball Festival**  
Parade will be on Sunday, 12/8 @ 3pm.  
For information on the parade contact Heather  
Danley at 803-530-2604. For more information  
on the Snowball Festival visit  
[www.lexsc.com/640/Snowball-Festival](http://www.lexsc.com/640/Snowball-Festival).



Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

**Lexington County Museum  
Christmas Open House**  
1 to 4pm. For more information call  
803-359-8369.



Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

**Lexington Leisure Center Christmas Sampler**  
9 to 3pm. For information call 803-957-7828.



Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

**Tri-City Leisure Center Christmas Peddler**  
9 to 3pm. For information call 803-939-9309.

Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

**West Metro Holiday Parade of Lights**  
Starts at 5:30pm. For more information  
contact the Cayce/West Columbia Chamber  
at 803-794-6504.



# VA Apportionments



A claim for an apportionment is by or on behalf of a dependent for which the primary beneficiary is not providing reasonable support, or part of a Veterans' disability award may be apportioned (paid) to the Veteran's spouse, child or dependent parent. A surviving spouse's award may also be apportioned for the Veteran's child or children. When the Department of Veterans Affairs receives a claim for an apportionment of a primary beneficiary's benefits, the VA must develop for evidence, decide whether to award or deny the apportionment claim and notify the primary beneficiary and claimant of the decision. Additionally, in some cases, the VA must offset or withhold part or all of the apportioned award.

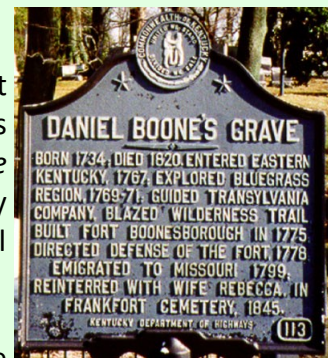
In order for a claimant to receive an apportionment of a competent primary beneficiary's benefits, the claimant must file a claim for an apportionment, and demonstrate a need for benefits or live apart from the Veteran and not receive a reasonable level of support. If the requirements are met and the primary beneficiary will not suffer undue hardship, the VA may authorize an apportionment to be paid to the claimant. The VA's primary obligation is to the Veteran. Even if the claimant demonstrates a need, the VA cannot impose undue hardship on the Veteran. An apportionment may also be paid to an estranged spouse and child, children in an estranged spouse's custody, a child or children not living with the primary beneficiary or surviving spouse and to whom the primary beneficiary or surviving spouse is not reasonably contributing, or a dependent parent (in compensation cases).

A primary beneficiary's benefits will not be apportioned, when the total benefit payable to the primary beneficiary is so small that it does not allow payment of a reasonable amount to any apportionee. Special consideration must be given to claims for apportionment from an estranged spouse or a spouse for whom the Veteran is not receiving additional benefits, as it could adversely affect the rate of the Veteran's benefit.

An apportionment is not made to a dependent as a convenience on the part of the primary beneficiary. The primary beneficiary cannot request a portion of his or her benefits not be paid in order to allocate those benefits to another person. Information regarding the financial status of all parties involved may be required to determine the need on the part of the claimant and hardship on the part of the primary beneficiary.

## The History of Daniel Boone continued from page 17

In the summer of 1783, Boone was interviewed by John Filson, an itinerant schoolteacher from Pennsylvania. Embellished by Filson, he turned his notes into *The Adventures of Col. Daniel Boone*, which appeared as an appendix in *The Discovery, Settlement and Present State of Kentucke*. Distributed across the country and in Europe, its publication was extremely popular and brought international attention to Boone's life.



Despite this newfound fame, Boone struggled to make a living. Now over fifty, he attempted to provide for his family as a surveyor, merchant and tavern keeper. Unable to make ends meet and with creditors closing in, Boone decided to leave Kentucky for good in 1799 and move to the Spanish Territory of Missouri. Here he continued to hunt for the remainder of his life. The legend surrounding Boone was so popular in American culture that NBC launched an action-adventure TV show about him in 1964, starring actor Fess Parker as Boone and lasting six seasons. An earlier TV show on Boone, played by Dewey Martin, was made by The Walt Disney Company in 1960.

On September 26, 1820, Daniel Boone died of natural causes at his home in Femme Osage Creek, Missouri. He was 85 years old. More than two decades after his death, his body was exhumed and reburied in Frankfort, Kentucky with his wife, Rebecca. Regardless of the folklore surrounding his figure, Boone indeed existed and is still remembered as one of the greatest woodsmen in American history.

NOVEMBER IS  
NATIONAL  
RAISIN BREAD  
MONTH!



DECEMBER IS  
NATIONAL  
PEAR MONTH!

### ***The Road Not Taken***

By Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way lead on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sign  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I -  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.

Wishing you a Hanukkah  
full of beauty and light.



## **VA announces new process for responding to Privacy Act requests**

The VA implemented a new process October 1st for responding to Privacy Act requests from claimants received by the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) for access to their claims files. The VA has amended its process for those requesting their own information while respecting the privacy rights of third-parties by redacting third-party personally identifiable information (PII) from the claims files.

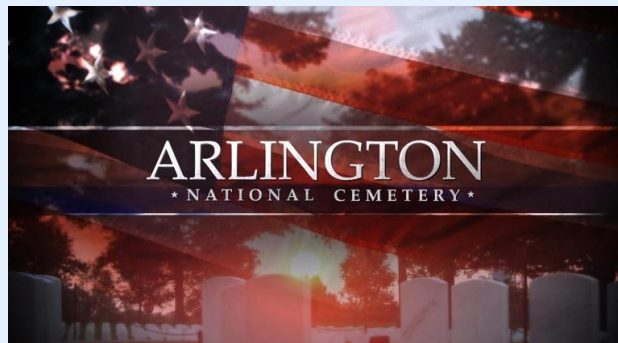
The VA is committed to providing Veterans prompt access to their claim records increasing transparency and improving customer service. The VBA is required by the Privacy Act to allow Veterans -- or their representatives -- the opportunity to review or make copies of claims files. Under this new process, the VA does not anticipate delays in forwarding copies of claims files to Veterans or their designated representatives.

FALL BACK  
1 HOUR



**NOVEMBER**  
*3rd*

# Acting Secretary of the Army announces proposed changes to eligibility criteria for burial at Arlington National Cemetery



The Honorable Ryan D. McCarthy, Acting Secretary of the Army, has proposed revised eligibility criteria for interment and inurnment at Arlington National Cemetery (ANC). The Fiscal Year 2019 National Defense Authorization Act directed the Secretary of the Army to establish revised eligibility criteria to keep the cemetery functioning as an active burial ground “well into the future” – defined as 150 years.

At the outset, the Army established critical imperatives to guide this effort: sacrifice; service; and impact. The process involved more than two and a half years of thoughtful deliberation, public outreach and surveys – including feedback from Veterans and military service organizations – and active engagement with ANC senior leaders and the ANC Advisory Committee.

While ANC continues to look for ways to expand, that alone will not solve the existing demand for burial space. If no changes are made, ANC will be closed to new interments by the mid-2050s – even for Medal of Honor recipients. In addition to directing ANC to preserve 1,000 gravesites for current and future Medal of Honor recipients, the secretary proposed revised eligibility criteria for those who honorably served our nation, as broadly outlined below:

For below-ground interment:

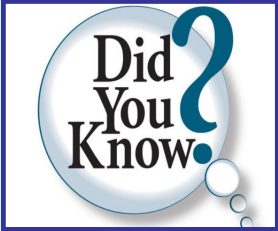
- Killed in Action, to include repatriated remains of service members
- Award recipients of the Silver Star and above who also served in combat
- Recipients of the Purple Heart
- Combat-related service deaths while conducting uniquely military activities
- Former Prisoners of War
- Presidents and Vice Presidents of the United States
- Veterans with combat service who also served out of uniform as a government official and made significant contributions to the nation’s security at the highest levels of public service

For above-ground inurnment:

- World War II-era veterans, to include legislated active duty designees
- Retirees from the armed forces who are eligible to receive retired pay but are not otherwise eligible for interment
- Veterans who have served a minimum of two years on active duty and who have served in combat
- Veterans without combat service who also served out of uniform as a government official and made significant contributions to the nation’s security at the highest levels of public service

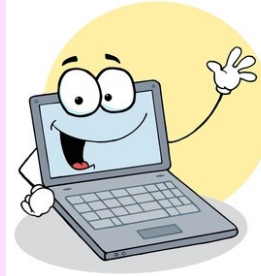
Eventual implementation of revised eligibility at ANC will not affect previously scheduled services. Additionally, the proposed revisions at ANC will not affect Veterans’ burial benefits or Veteran eligibility at Department of Veterans Affairs national cemeteries and state Veterans cemeteries.

The next step to implement the proposed rule is notice and public comment rulemaking in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, amending the current eligibility rule found at 32 Code of Federal Regulations part 553. We expect the clearance process to take a minimum of nine months to make public in the Federal Register for citizens to comment.



All Patient Advocate extensions go to one central line, 803-776-4000 ext. 6937.

If you need to speak to a patient advocate, use extension 5933. This is for the Patient Advocate check-in area.



**DID YOU KNOW...**

Copies of all of our newsletters can be found on the Lexington County website at [lex-co.com/departments/veteransaffairs/newsletters](http://lex-co.com/departments/veteransaffairs/newsletters).

The newsletters are listed on the site by year.



**About Our Office**

On March 22, 1945 the SC General Assembly adopted a bill creating a VA office in each of the state's 46 counties. The Lexington County VA Director is appointed by the Lexington County delegation. This office is employed by Lexington County; not the Federal VA. The Lexington County Veterans' Affairs Office is an advocate for Veterans and their surviving dependents. We provide the assistance needed in applying for benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs and for VA medical care. The Lexington County VA Office assists former and present members of the US Armed Forces and their dependents in preparing claims. Types of benefits include but not limited to: service connected disabilities and non-service connected pension; death pension benefits; burial; medical care; educational assistance, including vocational rehabilitation; guaranteed home loans; government life insurance and other benefits. We are not trained in Social Security or Department of Defense Benefits but can assist with some of these forms. Our office also provides off-site appointments at three of the County libraries once a month and we can provide home visits on a case by case basis.



**OUTREACH DATES AND TIMES**



**Batesburg/Leesville Outreach** is the 2nd Friday of the month at the Batesburg/Leesville Library from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

**Chapin Outreach** is the 1st Friday of the month at the Chapin Library from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.



**Gaston/Swansea Outreach** is the 1st Thursday of the month at the Gaston Library from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

*Appointments are strongly encouraged.  
Call the office at 803-785-8400 to schedule a time.*

**There will be no outreach in Batesburg/Leesville during the months of November & December.**

**The VA has a website anyone can access for all VA questions, SEP user guides, regulations, policies, laws and any other VA resources. The website is: [www.knowva.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.knowva.ebenefits.va.gov).**





**Saturday**  
**November 9th**  
**9 AM -1 PM**



# VETERANS DAY

*Fundraiser to purchase a wheelchair accessible van for  
**Veteran John "Sully" Sullivan***

## 5K RUN/WALK

**5K Run**  
 Entry: \$35



**1 Mi. Walk**  
 Entry: \$25

**Batesburg-Leesville Middle School**  
 425 Shealy Road, Batesburg-Leesville 29006

Donations can be sent to:  
 VFW 6740 c/o Van for Sully  
 950 Rock N. Creek Rd  
 Leesville, SC 29070

Register at: [raceentry.com](http://raceentry.com)  
 Race name: Van for Sully 5k



Sully: Support Veteran John Sullivan

Jointly hosted by Lake Murray VFW Post 6740 and the Chester D. Townsend VFW Post 6561

**Contact information: 803-226-7104**

# ***Featured Medal: Vietnam Campaign Medal***

The Vietnam Campaign Medal is a military campaign medal of the former country of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam). Established in 1966, it was awarded to members of the United States, Australian, and New Zealand military forces serving six months or more in support of Republic of Vietnam military operations. The medal was the most commonly bestowed foreign military award to the United States Armed Forces personnel at the time. The Vietnam Campaign Medal may also be awarded to any service member who, while serving outside the geographical limits of the Republic of Vietnam, provided direct combat support to the Republic of Vietnam armed forces for a period exceeding six months. For those members who were wounded by an enemy force, captured by the enemy in the line of duty, or killed in action, the Vietnam Campaign Medal is automatically awarded regardless of total time served in Vietnam. The medal is issued with a device known as the 1960 Bar. The bar displays the date of 1960 followed by a dash and a blank space. The unusual appearance was caused by the government of the Republic of Vietnam stating that the 1960 bar would show the dates of the Vietnam War from start to finish, with the ending date placed on the 1960 bar after the South Vietnamese had triumphed over North Vietnam (the Democratic Republic of Vietnam). Since South Vietnam fell, and the government ceased to exist, an ending date for the 1960 Bar was never established



Picture of the Vietnam Campaign Medal and Ribbon.

**Happy Holidays  
from the staff of Lexington County Veterans Affairs.**

**Ed Lundeen,  
Jennifer Hendrix, Kathy DeBerry,  
Jennifer Parler and Mary Kay Hatchell**

**Wishing everyone a  
Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy Kwanzaa.**

***Coming in the Next Issue...***

**Different types of ID cards  
for Veterans;  
Patient Advocates and  
Ft. Jackson Cemetery.**

