A veteran is someone who, at one point in their lives, wrote a blank check made payable to ‘The United States of America’ for an amount of ‘up to and including my life’.

2019 Summer Events in Milwaukee
Free Events for:
Military/Veterans/ Families

June 29:
Mitchell Park Domes 10am-5pm
Admission for military/veterans +5
524 Layton BLVD

June 30:
Discovery World 10 am-5pm
500 N Harbor Dr
Milwaukee Public Museum
9 AM-5PM
800 W Wells
Admission for military/veteran +5

July 1
Milwaukee County Zoo 9AM-5PM
Free Admission for Wisconsin military/veterans +9 immediate family.

TICKETS REQUIRED:
-Memorial Day thru Labor Day
Milwaukee Art Museum
Military/ Veterans +5
700 N Art Museum Dr.
All events are FREE admission (with proof of military service) at the gate, except for the Zoo, which requires tickets.

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MILITARY/VETERANS FAMILY DAY

Once again the Milwaukee Zoo is sponsoring free admission and parking to the Milwaukee Zoo on July 1, 2018 from 9 am to 5 pm.

Milwaukee Zoo
10001 W Bluemound Road
Milwaukee, WI 53226

* Don’t miss the Veterans Benefits Expo at the top of the U.S. Bank Gathering Place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a one-stop-shop where veterans can learn about getting the benefits they deserve. Sponsored by the Milwaukee County Veterans Office.

* Admission tickets will be available from May 29-June 29. Active military and veterans residing in Wisconsin can pick up tickets at their local County Veterans Service Office (CVSO) Waushara County Veterans Contact CVSO at (920) 787-0446. You must be registered with this office, or bring in your DD214 and photo ID to get your tickets.

* Tickets are required for entry and will be available for immediate family only, with a limit of 10 tickets per family.

We are located 230 W Park St. Wautoma, WI. Please call before coming we will be short handed until new hire.

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Emergency Medical Care in a Non VA Facility

During a medical emergency, Veterans should immediately seek care at the nearest medical facility. A medical emergency is an injury, illness or symptom so severe that without immediate treatment, you believe your life or health is in danger. If you believe your life or health is in danger, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department (ED) right away.

Veterans do not need to check with VA before calling for an ambulance or going to an ED. During a medical emergency, VA encourages all Veterans to seek immediate medical attention without delay. A claim for emergency care will never be denied based solely on VA not receiving notification prior to seeking care.

It is, however, important to promptly notify VA after receiving emergency care at a community ED. Notification should be made within 72 hours of admission to a community medical facility. This allows VA to assist the Veteran in coordinating necessary care or transfer, and helps to ensure that the administrative and clinical requirements for VA to pay for the care are met.

Service-Connected Emergency Care

In general, VA can pay for emergency medical care at a local ED for a Veteran’s service-connected condition, or if the care is related to a Veteran’s service-connected condition. Specifically, emergency medical care for a Veteran’s service-connected or related (adjunct) condition(s) is eligible for VA payment as long as VA wasn’t reasonably available to provide the care.

In accordance with the following situations and requirements, VA can pay emergency care costs for:

A Veteran who receives emergency treatment of a service-connected, or adjunct condition* in a community emergency department; or

A Veteran who is Permanently and Totally disabled (P&T) as the result of a service-connected condition is eligible for emergency treatment of ANY condition; or

A Veteran who is participating in a VA Vocational Rehabilitation Program, and who requires emergency treatment to expedite their return to the program, is eligible for emergency treatment for any condition; and (scenarios 1-3 must all meet #4)

The emergency was of such a nature that the Veteran (or other prudent layperson without medical training) would reasonably believe that any delay in seeking immediate medical attention would cause their life or health to be placed in jeopardy.

* A service-connected condition is one that has been adjudicated by the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and a disability rating has been granted. An adjunct condition is one that, while not directly service-connected, is medically considered to be aggravating a service-connected condition. Note: Legal authorities and payment methods for VA payment for emergency care for service-connected conditions are contained in Title 38 U.S.C. §1728, 38 CFR §17.120 and 38 CFR §17.132

Nonservice-connected Emergency Care

VA can also pay for emergency medical care at a community ED for a Veteran’s nonservice-connected condition. However, there are several requirements and factors that affect the extent to which VA can cover those services. Specifically, emergency medical care for a Veteran’s nonservice-connected condition(s) is eligible for VA payment when all of the five following elements are true:

Care was provided in a hospital emergency department (or similar public facility held to provide emergency treatment to the public); and

The emergency was of such a nature that the Veteran or other prudent layperson without medical training) would reasonably believe that any delay in seeking immediate medical attention would cause their life or health to be placed in jeopardy; and

3. VA medical facility or another Federal facility was no reasonably available to provide the care; and

4. The Veteran is enrolled and has received care within a VA facility during the 24 month before the emergency care; and

5. The Veteran is financially liable to the provider of the emergency treatment. BY LAW the VA can’t pay copayments, coinsurance, deductible or similar payments.

For More information go to:

Q: Did President Donald Trump sign an order allowing veterans to get full medical bills paid at hospitals outside the VA?

A: No, but Trump has continued a program that allows some veterans to seek outside care.

FULL QUESTION

There is a FB post going around saying veterans are 100% covered at any hospital, a bill signed by President Trump. Is this so?

FULL ANSWER

A Facebook post shared and continually reposted in recent days claims that President Donald Trump “signed an executive order allowing our veterans to get 100% medical bills paid at hospitals other than a V.A. hospital.”

But no such executive order was ever signed, as evidenced by a review of Trump’s more than 60 orders made between 2017 and 2018. Several readers inquired with FactCheck.org about the veracity of the claim. We looked at news reports and White House statements and could find no evidence to support the post, which in one instance was shared more than 209,700 times. It reads in full: “For all the Trump haters; today President Trump signed an executive order allowing our veterans to get 100% medical bills paid at hospitals other than a V.A. hospital. This will save the lives of many American service men and women who have been on V.A. waiting lists, some for years and many dying while waiting. Now they can go to ANY hospital they want... This is how our veterans SHOULD be treated!!! Thanks President Trump!!!” That’s not to say that Trump hasn’t used his signature to address veterans’ issues. The president has continued the Veterans Choice Program, a program started in 2014 following a scandal over wait times at Veterans Affairs facilities. The program was created through the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act, a bipartisan bill that was signed by President Barack Obama.

See article on page 2 regarding Emergency Care in a non-VA facility. REMEMBER: The VA will ALWAYS tell you go to an emergency room. Because a triage nurse tells you to go to the ER they are NOT approving payment for the ER visit. They are a medical professional not a financial approving system. This past month our office has spent hours on non va payment of bills because the veteran feels this should have been paid by the VA strictly based on the Triage Nurse saying get to the ER. Not so!!!
Between September 1939 and December 1941, the United States moved from neutral to active belligerent in an undeclared naval war against Nazi Germany. During those early years the British could well have lost the Battle of the Atlantic. The undeclared war was the difference that kept Britain in the war and gave the United States time to prepare for total war. With America’s isolationism, disillusionment from its World War I experience, pacifism, and tradition of avoiding European problems, President Franklin D. Roosevelt moved cautiously to aid Britain. Historian C.L. Sulzberger wrote that the undeclared war “came about in degrees.” For Roosevelt, it was more than a policy. It was a conviction to halt an evil and a threat to civilization. As commander in chief of the U.S. armed forces, Roosevelt ordered the U.S. Navy from neutrality to undeclared war. It was a slow process as Roosevelt walked a tightrope between public opinion, the Constitution, and a declaration of war. By the fall of 1941, the U.S. Navy and the British Royal Navy were operating together as wartime naval partners. So close were their operations that as early as autumn 1939, the British Ambassador to the United States, Lord Lothian, termed it a “present unwritten and unnamed naval alliance.” The United States Navy called it an “informal arrangement.” Regardless of what America’s actions were called, the fact is the course of the Atlantic war in 1941. The undeclared war was most intense between September and December 1941, but its origins reached back more than two years and sprang from the mind of one man and one man only—Franklin Roosevelt. [Source: Warfare History Network | James I. Marino | April 7, 2018 ++/]

**AMERICA’S UNDECLARED NAVAL WAR 9/1929-11/1941**

**TIMBER RATTLERS MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY**

**SUNDAY JULY 8 – 1 PM**

FREE ticket for your service!

All military service veterans receive a FREE reserved ticket. Must show military ID or DD 214

Ryan Braun bobblehead giveaway to the 1st 1000 fans!

Pre-Game Catch on the Field, Specialty Jersey Auction, Post-Game Autographs

Immediately following the game. Timber Rattlers players will sign autographs for 30 minutes in the third base picnic area.

♦ 920-733-4152  TIMBERRATTLERS.COM  #TRATNATION

♦ A County Veterans Service Officer will be there distributing VA benefit handbooks.

**AMERICA’S UNDECLARED NAVAL WAR 9/1929-11/1941**

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Our service members have continuously made the ultimate sacrifice for years, compromising their safety for the betterment of the nation. While the immediate dangers of combat are well-known and understood, there are a slew of secondary risks associated with serving one’s country that we often don’t see on the surface. Some of these dangers develop years after service and are often a new battle of their own. Perhaps one of the most overlooked hazards some Veterans face is asbestos exposure. The invisible and life-threatening mineral is capable of posing a severe health threat to those who come into contact with it and has been tied to several debilitating diseases, including cancer.

Asbestos is a naturally-occurring silicate mineral that was used extensively throughout the 20th century as an additive in materials and consumer products across a variety of industries. The mineral was especially popular in construction and infrastructure, and could be found in roofing, flooring and insulation products. Due to its fire resistance and durability, asbestos was also a common material used extensively in military operations, particularly within the Navy. Many ships, especially during the WWII era, contained a variety of asbestos-containing products. The boiler and engine rooms of a ship were particularly dangerous because asbestos was widely used as an insulator.

Veterans who lived and worked in tight spaces aboard ships are more at risk since these areas usually had poor ventilation systems. The cramped spaces enabled airborne asbestos to become concentrated, increasing the level of exposure. Asbestos could also be found in many buildings and homes erected prior to 1980. As a result, Veterans may have been exposed to asbestos at different times in their lives, both at work and in their leisure time at home. Asbestos has been banned in about 60 countries worldwide but isn’t regulated in others, including past conflict zones like Vietnam.

The mineral is known for its strength and ability to resist high temperatures and chemical reactions, but the rigid fibers pose a serious danger when asbestos-containing materials are damaged. If these products are broken or eroded, fibers may be released into the surrounding air where they can be breathed in. When asbestos is disrupted and the particles are inhaled, they can become lodged inside the body indefinitely. As the particles settle, they may cause irritation and scarring in the linings of organs such as the lungs, heart or abdomen, eventually leading to a cancer known as cancer known as mesothelioma. The disease slowly progresses through inflammation, irritation and tumor growth, and includes several other symptoms, including chest pain, tightness, and trouble breathing. Due to the rareness of the disease, as well as the commonality of its symptoms, it is sometimes misdiagnosed until the cancer has progressed into its later stages. The prognosis for mesothelioma patients is grim, as they are generally given a life expectancy of only 12 to 21 months.

While Veterans face many challenges both during and after their service, it is important to remain vigilant about potential asbestos exposure and the dangers it causes. Veterans account for about one-third of all diagnosed mesothelioma cases, so being aware of the disease and its symptoms may help promote early detection and provide patients with the best chance to fight the illness. Veterans diagnosed with mesothelioma can seek treatment at private cancer centers or at VA-affiliated medical centers which have the capability to treat the disease. Veterans may also be eligible to apply for disability compensation or health care as a result of illnesses caused by asbestos exposure during service. Refer to https://www.benefits.va.gov/COMPENSATION/claims-postservice-exposures-asbestos.asp. [Source: Health.mil | April 26, 2018 ++]
VA MEDICAL IMAGES AND REPORTS

VA recently released a new online feature through the My HealthVet portal that allows Veterans to access their medical images and associated study reports online. Called VA Medical Images and Reports, the feature allows Veterans with a premium account to view, download and share copies of their radiology studies, such as X-rays, mammograms, MRIs and CTs, from the VA Electronic Health Record (EHR). “With VA Medical Images and Reports, patients have the option of obtaining their images and reports online, eliminating the need to visit a VA facility to acquire a copy of their information,” said VA Acting Secretary Robert Wilkie. “This feature aligns with VA Blue Button’s concept, which simplifies patient access to their personal health information by allowing them to retrieve it securely online.”

Veterans can view a list of accessible radiology studies, which are available in My HealthVet, three calendar days after the study report has been verified. When a request for a specific study is completed, Veterans can view a lower resolution thumbnail copy of the images and the associated radiology report online, or download a zip file that contains the report and diagnostic quality images. For studies with large files, Veterans can choose to receive an email notification when the download request is complete. To view diagnostic quality (Digital Imaging and Communication in Medicine or DICOM) images, Veterans may install a free medical image viewer on their computer to view DICOM image files. The images and reports may be copied to a CD, DVD, USB flash drive, or any portable drive of their choice to share with providers, both outside of VA and across VA settings of care. [Source: VAntage Point | April 30, 2018++]

VA ID CARD

Identification cards from the Department of Veterans Affairs' new program will be in the mail, on their way to veterans starting "4 MAY," VA officials said -- two months after they were initially scheduled to go out. Officials said in January that approved veterans would start receiving the free printed cards in early March. But when March rolled around, printing was delayed to April. Now, a VA spokesman says the cards will be sent starting tomorrow "We expect to begin mailing cards in batches tomorrow to veterans whose applications have been reviewed and approved," Curtis Cashour told Military.com on 3 MAY.

Veterans must apply for the card online via https://www.vets.gov/?next=%2Fveteran-id-card%2F. Card applications are not available at VA facilities. The veteran ID card program has faced a series of delays and technical challenges since its November 2017 launch. A glut of applicants overwhelmed the system's server, and the application was put on hold for several weeks. Since applications reopened early this year, users have complained that their service records are reported as "not found," even though they receive other VA benefits such as the post-911 GI Bill. Others complained that their military service branch was not listed on the application pull-down menu. [Source: Military.com | Amy Bushatz | May 3, 2018]
Illinois Veterans Groups Gaming Machines?

An Illinois bill would allow veterans organizations to install gaming machines in communities that would otherwise prohibit them. The legislation, Senate Bill 3166, would allow the state Gaming Board to give licensed veterans’ establishments permission to operate video gaming machines in areas that prohibit gambling, The Daily Herald reported. The bill would help American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars organizations that are financially struggling as membership dwindles, said Democratic Sen. Terry Link, the bill’s sponsor. “This could help solve their problems,” Link said.

Burn Pit Toxic Exp.

Veterans and their families asked a federal appeals court MAY 9 to reinstate dozens of lawsuits alleging that a government contractor caused health problems by using burn pits during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. More than 60 lawsuits allege that KBR Inc. — a former Halliburton subsidiary — dumped tires, batteries, medical waste and other materials into open burn pits, creating harmful smoke that caused gastrointestinal illnesses, neurological problems, respiratory problems, cancers and other health issues in more than 800 service members. The lawsuits, which were filed in multiple districts around the country and then consolidated, also alleged that at least 12 service members died from illnesses caused by the burn pits.

Last year, a judge in Maryland dismissed the lawsuits, finding that the U.S. military made all of the key decisions and had control over KBR's use and operation of burn pits. In arguments before the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, a lawyer for the service members asked the court to reverse that ruling and allow the lawsuits to move forward. Attorney Susan Burke said the military contracted with KBR to provide support services in Iraq and Afghanistan. She said KBR repeatedly violated the terms of its contract to handle waste disposal.

Burke said KBR operated burn pits at 119 locations when it only had permission to use the pits at 18 sites. She said the contractor also disobeyed a military directive against burning hazardous materials. At all 119 locations, KBR "negligently burned substances they were directly told not to," Burke said. KBR's attorney, Warren Harris, urged the three-judge panel to uphold dismissal of the lawsuits. Harris said KBR operated only 31 burn pits, while the remainder were operated by the military. "The decision to use burn pits was made by the military," Harris said. U.S. District Judge Roger Titus said the military recognized that there were certain health risks associated with burn pits, but balanced those risks "against the greater risk of harm to military and other personnel should other methods of waste management be utilized."

Titus found that the use of open burn pits "was a quintessential military decision made by the military, not KBR, and was a decision driven by the exigencies of war." Article cut to fit page.

Huntley American Legion Post 673 made more than $116,700 from video gambling, according to state Gaming Board records. The organization used the funds to complete major facility renovations. Arlington Heights American Legion Post 208 would likely see benefits if the bill passes because it would be the only place in the area to offer video gambling, said David Roberts, the post’s finance officer. “You get fewer and fewer veterans coming into places like the American Legion, and we need draws to get people in to spend money and support what we do,” Roberts said.

Army veteran and Arlington Heights Mayor Tom Hayes said he wants to help veterans but believes the bill is an intrusion on local control. “I’m not sure I see a valid justification to carve out that exception,” Hayes said. Gurnee officials denied an American Legion post's request for video gambling several years ago. Officials remain opposed to the idea. “A community should have the right to decide what uses belong in their municipal boundaries, especially something like gambling that has such a negative impact on neighborhoods and the local economy,” said Gurnee Mayor Kristina Kovarik. State senators approved the legislation 41-5 last week. The bill has been referred to the House Rules Committee.

[Source: The Associated Press | May 3, 2018 ++]
If you have been denied Energy Assistance, and you are a veteran, you may have one more option to seek help. Heat for Heroes will first need a denial from Energy Assistance and they might be able to help you with your energy bill. If you have been denied by Energy Assistance, please call 800-891-9276.

Center for Vet Issues: (Homeless/Near Homeless) Angela Kalsbbeck MSW 920-906-4779

JOBS!!! Low Income/Disabled/ Newly Returned or Vets between the ages of 18-24. Dept. of Workforce Development counsels & helps with resume’ building for jobs at Waushara Co. Court House on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays each month 9am-2pm. Call 920-251-4761 for appt.

Issues many different, AODA, Mental Health and other issues: Cal Stammer 715-409-3767

SUICIDE PREVENTION Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, text to 838255, or chat online 24/7/365

Waushara County Veteran Services
PO BOX 159
230 W. Park St
Wautoma, WI 54982
veterans.parkstreet@co.waushara.wi.us
(920)787-0446 Fax (920)787-6658

«Name» «Title» «Address» «City», «State» «Zip»