



APRIL 2025

## COME TO THE EXPO

**Saturday April 5th is the day to be at the Dick and Beverly Davis Corps of The Salvation Army for the 12th Annual Veterans and Community Expo.**

Since 2010, this event has been the **only one** of its kind in the Coachella Valley and a reflective way to spend part of a day honoring our country, our veterans, our active duty military and learning about all the special and hard-earned benefits available.

The day kicks off at 9AM with a fly-over by the Palm Springs Air Museum. A local American Legion Color Guard will open the program followed by the honoring of two distinguished veterans and two active duty Marines. Each honoree has a unique story to tell. Hear them tell it in their own words. Then visit the Gallery of Heroes and see a moving power point presentation featuring more than 140 veterans from every conflict and branch of the service.

VIP guests from throughout the Coachella Valley will be accompanied by a cadet escort from the Desert Hot Springs High Public Safety Academy. This program acts as a mentoring program for these wonderful High School kids as they interact with their VIPs. We are repeating this program from last year due to excellent results.

A free lunch is open to all. 45 exhibitors open their booths for the attendees to browse through to ask questions and learn about benefits. Many organizations providing benefits appeal to all in attendance, veteran and non-veteran.

A sampling of those exhibitors would include the Air and Space Forces Association, this year presenting a special interactive A.I. demonstration, State Senator Rosilicie Ochoa-Bogh, The office of Assemblyman Jeff Gonzalez, Riverside County Veterans Services, Riverside National Cemetery, Riverside County Office on Aging, US Vets, The Sy Kaplan Palm Desert VA Clinic and Assemblyman Greg Wallis. In addition, there will be two mobile vans from Riverside County and University Health Services providing a variety of immunizations...options for everyone!

Mark your calendars and tell your friends. Please come and let your city officials and local legislators know the value of events such as these and what they mean to veterans and to the relationship between the Coachella Valley and 29 Palms Marine Base. We welcome all your input. Send to Bill Young at [majorbill1@aol.com](mailto:majorbill1@aol.com). See you Saturday the 5th at 9AM!

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# Veterans, Get Ready to Experience the Future!

## PREMIERING AT APRIL 5TH'S VETERANS EXPO ASFA BOOTH

The Air & Space Forces Association (AFA) of Palm Springs is locked, loaded, and excited to introduce **VetsAI**, the conversational AI tool designed for Veterans, enabling voice-operated interactive conversations on any topics or individuals desired. Witness **VetsAI** in action at the **Veterans EXPO on April 5th** for the exciting debut of this incredible new resource.

Witness the Amazing Power of AI for Veterans

Visitors to the ASFA booth should prepare to be amazed by live demonstrations of **VetAI** and see firsthand how this innovative technology can enhance their lives. These demos will be ongoing throughout the EXPO, offering ample opportunities to experience the magic of **VetsAI**. Veterans can also relax in our AI Lounge and enjoy refreshments while receiving assistance in downloading their copy of the AI software onto their phones.

**VetsAI** is more than an exhibit; it is an ongoing service designed to bring awareness of the benefits of AI to our veterans. AFA Chapter Vice President Jim McFarlin is excited about **VetsAI**'s potential. "AI is a game-changer. It's fun, educational, and truly life-enhancing. We have AI for everything these days—doctors, students, financial analysis, customer service—so why not AI specifically for our incredible Coachella Valley veterans?"

AI tailor-made for veterans. From that question **VetsAI** was born: an AI model tailor-made for veterans. With **VetsAI**, the possibilities are endless. Imagine exploring new worlds, reliving historical events, and so much more, all with simple voice commands on your smartphone. And the best part? It's completely **FREE!** **VetsAI** can transport you beyond the present – into the past, the future, and even fantastical realms of your own creation.

"At the **EXPO**," Jim continued, "veterans will get to see **VetsAI** in action and jump right in, creating their own personalized AI experiences. You'll be able to explore any topic imaginable and get information tailored just for you."

Here are just a few of the amazing things veterans will be able to do with **VetsAI**:

- Write your personal story or craft a captivating account of a memorable military experience.
- Embark on virtual adventures to the moon, Mars, or the depths of the ocean.
- Have conversations with historical figures like General George Patton or Amelia Earhart—the choice is yours!
- Discover education and employment opportunities right here in the Coachella Valley.
- Take virtual trips to ancient Rome, relive pivotal moments in history, or explore futuristic civilizations.

And that's just the beginning. All you need is a smartphone and your imagination to unlock the incredible potential of **VetsAI**.

**VetsAI** is powered by Google's Gemini AI, making it user-friendly, voice-activated, and compatible with any smartphone. Gemini seamlessly integrates with Google apps such as Search, Gmail, and Images.

Join the **VetAI** user community

**VetsAI** users will want to join **VetsAI** Raiders (**FREE**), which provides the opportunity to connect with **VetsAI** colleagues and share experiences and fun ideas. Rangers will also participate in ASFA-organized group chats to discuss **VetsAI** uses, new ideas, and tips.

To all the veterans planning to attend the April 5th Veterans **EXPO**: Don't miss this incredible opportunity to experience the amazing power of **VetsAI**, designed just for you.

Come experience the magic of AI in the ASFA booth - and get ready to be wowed!

# VA CUTS



The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has confirmed that more than 1,000 staff members have been let go as part of President Donald Trump's wide-ranging purge of federal bureaucracy, prompting concern that benefits could be impacted by lower staffing levels.

There are some 6.2 million veterans in the United States who receive disability benefits from the VA.

The dismissals have prompted the VA to issue a message to quell concerns that benefits for veterans may be cut.

Compensation offers tax-free monthly benefits for those with disabilities resulting from diseases, events, or injuries sustained or worsened during active military service, and benefits are also offered to surviving members of deceased veterans' families.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Doug Collins, who was confirmed by the Senate to lead the agency earlier this month, has said that VA benefits will not be cut despite the staffing cull.

"I'm the Secretary of VA, and I'm telling you right now, that's not happening ... the reality is, veterans benefits aren't getting cut," Collins said. "In fact, we are actually giving and improving services."

The VA has confirmed that "mission-critical" positions—including those involved in the administration of benefits—are not being eliminated.

In a press release issued on February 13, the VA said the dismissals "are part of a government-wide Trump Administration effort to make agencies more efficient, effective and responsive." This will allow the VA to focus "on its core mission: providing the best possible care and benefits to Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors."

Since the announcement, there has been considerable opposition to the staffing reduction. Democratic lawmakers, along with union leaders and concerned veterans, gathered outside the VA offices in Washington, D.C., this week.

VA Secretary Doug Collins said in a press release issued on February 13: "At VA, we are focused on saving money so it can be better spent on Veteran care. We thank these employees for their service to VA. This was a tough decision, but ultimately it's the right call to better support the Veterans, families, caregivers, and survivors the department exists to serve."





## ONE OF THE LAST US SURVIVORS OF PEARL HARBOR DIES AT 102

Jessie A. Mahaffey, one of the last remaining survivors of the sinking of the USS Oklahoma during the 1941 Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, died March 1 in Alexandria, La. He was 102.

The Oklahoma capsized and sank within minutes of the Sunday morning attack, killing 429 crew members. With Mahaffey's death, only two survivors of the Oklahoma are known to be living, according to a tally maintained by Kathleen Farley, president of the California chapter of Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors. By that same tally, only 14 veterans who survived the 1941 Pearl Harbor attack are still alive.

Jessie Alton Mahaffey was born Nov. 23, 1922, in Florien, La., according to an obituary posted online by Warren Meadows Funeral Home in Many, La. Mahaffey joined the Navy in the summer of 1941 after graduating high school in Louisiana. After attending boot camp in San Diego, he was assigned to the Oklahoma. On the morning of the attack, he was preparing for an inspection when Japanese torpedo bombers attacked the Oklahoma, he told KTBS-TV in Shreveport in a Dec. 7 interview. He and five other sailors were scrubbing the battleship's wooden deck using abrasive holystones attached to broomsticks, he said. "It was a quiet Sunday, and we had the day off except for the yearly admiral inspection," he told the TV station. "Then we heard a siren, saw planes and smoke. It must have only gone on for 45 minutes, but it was crazy." Japanese planes immediately targeted the Oklahoma, and it was struck by three torpedoes within 10 minutes. As it began to capsize, two more torpedoes slammed into it, and crew members were strafed as they abandoned ship. "It turned upside down and we had to slide over the bottom of the ship into the water," he recollected in the interview. He swam to and boarded the USS Maryland, which was moored beside the Oklahoma.

Mahaffey was later assigned to the cruiser USS Northampton, and he once again cheated death when it was sunk Nov. 30, 1942, during the Battle of Tassafaronga in the Solomon Islands. The Northampton was part of a cruiser-destroyer force tasked with preventing Japanese reinforcements from reaching Guadalcanal. Two Japanese torpedoes ripped open the Northampton, and within three hours the crew was forced to abandon the sinking ship. "The ship was sunk at midnight, and we had to stay on rafts the whole night," he said in the interview. Mahaffey left the Navy when the war ended in 1945, returning to Louisiana where he worked for the phone company for 30 years. He was preceded in death by his wife, Joyce, and is survived by two sons.

Source - Stars and Stripes



Jessie Alton Mahaffey





# A GRANT OF SUICIDE

And

## The Rest of the Story

The Grant administration was widely believed, especially in Democratic circles, to have been a corrupt one. And while Grant initially aimed to establish a peaceful policy with Native American tribes, including the Sioux, through his "Peace Policy," this ultimately failed due to the discovery of gold in the Black Hills, leading to increased conflict and forced removal of the Sioux from their land, with Grant's administration approving military action to seize the territory which ultimately led to the Great Sioux War of 1876.

By spring of 1876 "Get-Grant" fever had spilled from the Hill into the heartland. But congressional investigators needed something substantial with which to nail the president. They would begin with grand-scale graft in the War Department. They would get to Grant through his suspect secretary of war, William Belknap.

Under Belknap, soldiers at army posts could no longer purchase nonmilitary supplies from whomever they wished. Beginning June 1870, they could make such purchases only from merchants chosen and licensed by the War Department. Rumor had it, those army-post merchants, called "sutlers," were paying up to four-fifths of their annual income to War Department officials. Some said, to Secretary Belknap himself!

It would take more than hearsay to expose Belknap, however.

One man came forward.

He was a soldier named George from Fort Abraham Lincoln in the Dakota Territory.

He testified before a number of congressional committees. Yes, he believed Belknap was a crook. Then he, George, produced certain documents to support his contention. He even linked Orvil Grant, the president's own brother, to Belknap's alleged indiscretions.

Before the congressional investigation was over, William Belknap resigned as secretary of war.



...continued on page 9

## Hey Boys and Girls, "WHAT TIME IS IT???"



Check out the following freebies and discounts available to military families.

**Liberty Tax** offers discounted pricing on tax preparation for active-duty service members and veterans, and it has offices all over the country. Use coupon code MILITARY25 to redeem, and visit Liberty Tax's website to find a location near you to book an appointment.

At **TurboTax**, all enlisted active-duty military members and reservists can file their 2024 federal and state taxes for free. This offer is not valid for officers and National Guard and excludes TurboTax Live products.

**TaxSlayer** has a military deal that allows active-duty military to e-file a federal return for free. Keep in mind that state returns are additional.

At **TaxAct**, active-duty military can file federal and state returns for free, plus get free expert assistance. The offer is applied when an eligible Employer ID Number is entered during filing.

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is working with **H&R Block** to provide tax preparation services to military members at a 10% discount at select Exchange locations around the world through March 21, 2025.

If you're a USAA member, enlisted members can use **TurboTax** Online and file taxes for free, and officers can file for free before Feb. 28, 2025. All USAA members save 20% when filing their federal tax returns with TurboTax.

Military OneSource provides military members free tax consultations and tax preparation and filing services through **MilTax**. This includes tax preparation and e-filing software, support from tax consultants and current information about filing taxes in the military. MilTax e-filing software is available from mid-January through mid-October.

With **IRS Free File Software**, you can prepare and file your federal individual income tax return for free using tax preparation and filing software. If your adjusted gross income (AGI) is below \$84,000, you can file your taxes with free software and find free state return options. Use free file fillable forms if your income is greater than \$84,000.



# MILITARY HISTORY

## APRIL IS MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD



**April 4, 1949:** The foreign ministries of twelve countries sign the North Atlantic Treaty establishing the organization NATO. NATO was the first peacetime military alliance for the United States. It was formed to deter Soviet expansion, forbid a revival of national militarism in Europe and encourage European political integration. Article 5 of the treaty forcibly stated that the participating nations agreed to "an armed attack against one or more of them shall constitute an attack against them all."

**April 6, 1917:** America joins in World War I. Congress votes in favor of President Woodrow Wilson's request for a declaration of war against Germany. Although Europeans had been engaged in battle since July 1914, the United States had tried to remain neutral. More than two million U.S. soldiers fought between April 1917 and November 1918. One outcome from the war was that many women worked on the home front during the war and this increased the call for women's rights, in particular, the right to vote and led to the passing of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution in 1920.

**April 9, 1865:** Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrenders to General Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia ending the Civil War.

**April 14, 1865:** President Abraham Lincoln is shot at Ford's Theater in Washington, DC by John Wilkes Booth and dies the following morning.

**April 14, 1948:** Birthday of the Air Force Reserves.

**April 15, 1912:** The British ocean liner RMS Titanic sinks in the North Atlantic after hitting an iceberg.

**April 18, 1775:** Paul Revere's famous "midnight ride" ... The British are coming. Start of the American Revolutionary War.

**April 23, 1908:** Birthday of the United States Army Reserve."

**April 28, 1810:** Daniel Ullmann, Union General and advocate for black troops is born. Look up his story in google!

**April 30, 1789.** General George Washington is inaugurated as the first President of the newly formed United States.





Thursday, March 27, 2025

For Immediate Release

Mark Hinkle, Press Officer

[press.office@ssa.gov](mailto:press.office@ssa.gov)

Correcting the Record about Social Security Office  
Closings

Recent reports in the media that the Social Security Administration (SSA) is permanently closing local field offices are false.

Since January 1, 2025, the agency has not permanently closed or announced the permanent closure of any local field office. From time to time, SSA must temporarily close a local field office for reasons such as weather, damage, or facilities issues, and it reopens when the issues are resolved. The agency has announced the permanent closure of one hearing office, in White Plains, NY.



# "Hi" Notes

"No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks."

JAMES ALLEN

BE kind

LIVE, love, LAUGH.

ATTITUDE IS every THING.

today WILL BE amazing!

WORK hard, BE nice.

ROCK this DAY!

MY GOALS PLAN ACT CREATE  
 INVENT DEVELOP INSPIRE INNOVATE  
 SHARE EARN SUCCEED SMILE



Happiness IS NOT BEING problem free... IT'S THE ABILITY TO DEAL WITH PROBLEMS positively.

THE TRICK IS TO enjoy your life today. DON'T WISH AWAY YOUR DAYS, waiting for better ones ahead.

BAD ATTITUDE IS LIKE A flat tyre YOU CAN'T GO ANYWHERE UNTIL YOU change it.

Happiness is a direction, not a destination - unknown

The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little extra. - Jimmy Johnson

If you're doing your best, you won't have any time to worry about failure. - M. Jackson Brown, Jr.

decide that you want it more than you are afraid of it. - Bill Cosby

LOVE Yourself. loveydreams.tumblr.com

Where there is love, There is life. - Gandhi

An eye for an eye, only makes the whole world blind. - Gandhi

The purpose of life is a life of purpose. - Robert Byrne

the future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. - Eleanor Roosevelt

Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength, while loving someone deeply gives you courage. - Lao Tzu

We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used to create them. - Albert Einstein



## A GRANT OF SUICIDE And THE REST OF THE STORY

President Grant weathered his ordeal and was destined to complete this, his second term. No thanks to George.

But, Grant would never forget George.

In fact, the president grew determined to punish George for trying to ruin him politically, and it is easy for a commander-in-chief to punish a soldier.

Choice assignments dried up and life for George became tormented.

George tried desperately to get back into President Grant's good graces. He visited the White House personally, sat waiting for hours before being told that the president did not want to see him.

George realized he would have to do something spectacular in order to redeem himself.

And he failed.

Yet this desperate soldier failed so spectacularly that each generation since has remembered him for it.

George, attempting to regain the favor of the man he had sought to disgrace, planned a daring, reckless raid against the Sioux and Cheyenne, and rode to his death – at Little Big Horn.

George, General George Armstrong Custer, was President Grant's nemesis.

All your life you've heard of Custer's last stand?

Now you know the **REST OF THE STORY**.



Custer's Last Stand #1, 1973  
Peter Saul



## Congress Considers Changes to VA Home Loan Program

The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity recently reviewed legislative proposals to strengthen the VA Home Loan Program. A primary focus was the "Restoring the VA Home Loan Program in Perpetuity Act," introduced by Chairman Mike Bost (R-IL), which seeks to limit the number of direct loans the VA can repurchase. This proposal is intended to reduce the financial risks posed by the VA Service Purchase Program, VASP, which allows the VA to acquire and modify delinquent loans. Bost argues that VASP, if left unchanged, could undermine the program's future viability.

"This legislation would limit the number of direct loans VA is authorized to purchase back to what VA had traditionally done before the creation of the VA Service Purchase Program," says Bost. "I believe that if we don't change VASP, this program will continue to be a trojan horse on VA's books that could ruin the VA home loan program forever."

Bost, a Veteran who has used the VA Home Loan Program multiple times, says the program must remain available for future generations. He advocates for a permanent partial claim option to help struggling borrowers defer missed payments without facing immediate foreclosure. This provision would align the VA Home Loan Program with similar relief programs under FHA, Fannie Mae, and Freddie Mac, allowing Veterans to recover financially while maintaining homeownership.

The proposed legislation draws mixed reactions. Elizabeth Balce of Carrington Mortgage Services, representing the Mortgage Bankers Association, MBA, expresses concerns that capping VA loan repurchases could restrict critical assistance for Veterans. Balce supports the introduction of a partial claim program but criticizes elements of the bill that could reduce its effectiveness. She argues that deducting a partial claim from the VA's 25%

loan guaranty increases risks for lenders, making VA loans less attractive and potentially limiting Veterans' access to these benefits.

Additionally, Balce opposes the bill's requirement that Veterans begin repaying their partial claims within three years to maintain a 0% interest rate. After three years, the balance accrues interest at 0.5%, a provision she describes as burdensome and inconsistent with other government-backed programs. She also raises concerns about the bill's sunset date of September 30, 2027, arguing that a longer time frame, such as five years, would provide more meaningful assistance.

While the legislation intends to protect the program's financial stability, critics warn that restricting VA's ability to repurchase loans may harm Veterans by reducing available mortgage options. Balce urges lawmakers to strengthen loss mitigation tools, such as a permanent partial claim, rather than impose arbitrary caps. The MBA also urges Congress to stop using the VA funding fee as a budget offset, stressing that it should remain dedicated to supporting the home loan program's mission.

Lawmakers continue to debate the best approach to balancing financial responsibility with ensuring long-term support for Veterans seeking homeownership.

Rikki Almanza  
Author: Rikki Almanza



## US MILITARY VETERANS RESCUE AMERICAN FAMILY AMID ESCALATING VIOLENCE IN HAITI

Maggie BenZvi February 13, 2025

Founded in the wake of the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, **Project DYNAMO** brings together American military veterans and veterans of the intelligence services to rescue U.S. nationals from overseas in the “gray space,” where official channels cannot function freely.

“In a perfect world, there shouldn’t be a need for Project DYNAMO, but the simple fact is that the world has become more globalized,” said Mario Duarte, president and CEO of Project DYNAMO and former soldier in the U.S. Army and Army Reserve. “The embassies, as we are seeing firsthand, are not always able, capable or legally allowed to help.”

As a fully donor-funded organization, Project DYNAMO is able to clear bureaucratic hurdles that NGOs, which receive U.S. government funding, cannot.

“We have a smaller chain of command so we can make decisions immediately — ‘OK, we’re gonna go get those people,’” said James Judge, a Coast Guard veteran who acted as team leader in the effort to rescue Ennis, his wife, Mica, and their daughter, Niah.

Despite the limited operations of the U.S. Embassy in Haiti and the closure of the Port au Prince airport, the Project DYNAMO team was able to fly from Miami to a small airport in Cap Haitien. From there, they took a private helicopter into the missionary compound in Saint-Marc and performed a hard extraction. They loaded the family onto a fixed wing aircraft to an undisclosed third country, finally landing in the Dominican Republic.

With the assistance of Sen. Ted Cruz and the government of the Dominican Republic, Project DYNAMO was able to secure safe passage for the Ennis family back to Zach’s home in Conroe, Texas.

If Dianne Ennis had never seen Project DYNAMO mentioned in a Facebook group for missionaries, it’s unclear when she might have met her new granddaughter.

“She’s a gorgeous little princess,” Duarte said of 5-month-old Niah. “We’ve been to different embassies, and everyone wants to be her friend.”

Duarte is proud of the work Project DYNAMO does to rescue people like the Ennis family from war and combat zones.

“There are Americans all over the world,” he said, “and at some point, they need help.”





# BITS AND PIECES



A Bit of a **BIG** Piece...at least in our minds...  
The Producers of the Veterans VEAP EXPO have retired.

That means NO EXPO next year UNLESS someone steps up to produce it and develop it into a new and thriving program.

There will be a meeting in mid May to discuss ideas and solicit for those interested in the job(s). Please watch ReadBack for details, OR, if you are anxious to jump at the opportunity and want to get started now...please get in touch with Bill or Deanna Young at:

Readback.VEAP@gmail.com.

## VA "GET STARTED" NEW PAMPHLETS

A link for the [VA.GOV](http://VA.GOV) "Get Started" pamphlet is here and is also available on the DAV Chapter 78 website.

Click on Download to access the link and follow the instructions on the VA website.

Don't forget The Salvation Army's Seniors Food Boxes, available through the Social Services Office. Contact Victoria Perez at 760/324-2275.



March 13  
Military working dogs are honored each year on March 13 for National K-9 Veterans Day.

*Who Knew?!!!*

## Social Security Announces Options to its Workforce

The following message was sent to agency employees Feb 27:

The Social Security Administration (SSA) will soon implement agency-wide organizational restructuring that will include significant workforce reductions. Through these massive reorganizations, offices that perform functions not mandated by statute may be prioritized for reduction-in-force actions that could include abolishment of organizations and positions, directed reassignments, and reductions in staffing. The agency may reassign employees from non-mission critical positions to mission critical direct service positions (e.g., field offices, teleservice centers, processing centers). Reassignments may be involuntary and may require retraining for new workloads.



The Library of Congress has solicited for participants in their Veterans History Project. Web site is:

<https://www.loc.gov/programs/veterans-history-project/about-this-program/>

There are forms to fill out and the PS Air Museum has them, as well as other veterans organizations in the Valley.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



1 - Monthly Meeting of Chapter 78 of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) 5PM. Denny's. 42445 Washington, Palm Desert. 760-600-0684

1 - Monthly Meeting of VFW Post 3699. 6:30PM. American Legion Hall. 44200 Sungold, Indio, Lenny at 760-668-5988.

2 - Monthly Meeting of American Legion Post 739. 6:30PM American Legion Hall. 44200 Sungold, Indio. Steve at 760-969-0035.

3 - Palm Springs Chapter of the Air and Space Forces Association (AFSA) monthly meeting. 2PM. Palm Springs Air Museum. Guest Speaker and presentation. Live and via zoom. Tony Della-Moretta at tonydm@gmail.com

5 - Gold Star Spouses Day

5 - 12th Annual Veterans and Community Expo. 9AM to 2PM. Cathedral City Corps of The Salvation Army. 30-400 Landau Blvd, Cathedral City. Patriotic Program, lunch and 45+ exhibitor Expo. Everyone welcome. Bill Young at majorbill1@aol.com

5 - Presentation: Fireball at Night ... Firebombing of Japan and the Atomic Bomb Controversy. Dr. Ed Gordon. 1PM. Palm Springs Air Museum. 760-778-6262 or palmspringsairmuseum.org

9 - Former POW Recognition Day

12 - Presentation: The Great

Marianas Turkey Shoot. Michael Carra. 1PM. Palm Springs Air Museum. 760-778-6262 or palmspringsairmuseum.org

12 to 13 - March ARB Air Show highlighted by the USAF Thunderbirds. Moreno Valley. Gates open at 8AM and show starts at 10AM to 5PM. 951-655-4138.

14 - USAF Reserve Birthday

15 - Tax Day

17 - Veterans Services Zoom Meeting. 9AM. Contact Anita Worthen at abird82@aol.com in advance to get connected. Great source of information for veterans throughout Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

17 - Palm Springs Chapter of MOAA Membership Meeting/Lunch. 11:30AM. Heritage Palms Country Club., Indio. LTC Alan Tibbetts at atibbettsry@gmail.com

17 - Military Appreciation Dinner. Part of 108th National Orange Show Fair. Gate B, 690 S Arrowhead Ave, San Bernardino. You must RSVP by 3/18 to attend. www.nosevents.com 909-888-6788 Ext 0.

19 - Presentation: Hitler's Downfall ... the battle of Berlin. Dr. Ed Gordon. 1PM. Palm Springs Air Museum. 760-778-6262 or palmspringsairmuseum.org

20 - Easter Sunday

23 - U.S. Army Reserve Birthday

25 - Input for the May VEAP Readback due.

25 to 27 - FlaBoB Airport's Centennial Anniversary

Fly-In. Weekend of the 25th-27th. Jurupa Valley. Lots to see and do. www.flabob.org 951-683-2309.

26 - Presentation: When baseball went to war. 1PM. Palm Springs Air Museum. 760-778-6262 or palmspringsairmuseum.org

26 - Veteran Supplemental Support Network (VSSN) Daisy Walk to promote Veterans Suicide Awareness, Murietta Valley High School, 4-8 PM. Community walk, car show, stage performances, food, screenings and much more. Contact VSSN to learn more.

1 - National Day of Prayer



1 - Palm Springs Chapter of the Air and Space Forces Association (AFSA) monthly meeting. 2PM. Palm Springs Air Museum. Guest speaker and presentation. All welcome. Tony Della-Moretta at tonydm@gmail.com

6 - Monthly meeting of Chapter 78 of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV). Last Meeting until Fall. 5PM Denny's. 42445 Washington, Palm Desert. 760-600-0684.

6 - Monthly meeting of VFW Post 3699. 6:30PM. American Legion Hall. 44200 Sungold, Indio. Lenny at 760-668-5988.

7 - Monthly meeting of American Legion Post 739.

6:30PM American Legion Hall, Indio. Steve at 760-969-0035.

8 - V-E Day (Victory in Europe)

9 - Military Spouse Appreciation Day

12 - Mr. Willards Closet. the Salvation Army located at 30-400 Landau Blvd. 10AM to Noon. Deanna Young at 760-832-2883 or readback.veap@gmail.com

15 - Veterans Services Zoom Meeting. 9AM. Contact Anita Worthen at abird82@aol.com in advance .

15 - Palm Springs Chapter of MOAA Scholarship and Awards Luncheon. Contact Terrie Heer at heercom@aol.com

17 - Armed Forces Day ... fly your flag

23 - Mr. Willard's Closet (special day for Memorial Day.. The Salvation Army 30-400 Landau Blvd. 10AM to Noon. Deanna Young at 760-832-2883 or Readback.veap@gmail.com

25 - Input for the June VEAP Readback due.

26 - Memorial Day Observed .... Fly your flag. Many great events scheduled across the country. Check with your local American Legion or VFW post

26 - Memorial Day Air Fair and Flower Drop. Palm Springs Air Museum. Flower drop about 2PM. 760-778-6262 or palmspringsairmuseum.org



# GALLERY OF HEROES AT THE EXPO

**WE NEED YOU, YOUR FAMILY FRIENDS AND  
ANCESTORS IN THE GALLERY OF HEROES...**

**JUST SHARE A COPY OF THEIR U.S. MILITARY  
PHOTO, OR ANY PHOTO IN UNIFORM, AND A BRIEF  
BIO INCLUDING :**

- ★ **BRANCH OF SERVICE**
- ★ **RANK ATTAINED**
- ★ **DUTY**
- ★ **YEARS ACTIVE**
- ★ **WHATEVER ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE**
- ★ **(IF MILITARY HERO IS DECEASED, OR KIA,  
PLEASE SO INDICATE)**

**EMAIL TO: [READBACK.VEAP@GMAIL.COM](mailto:READBACK.VEAP@GMAIL.COM)**

**OR MAIL COPIES TO:**

**GALLERY EDITOR  
44665 MONACO CIRCLE  
PALM DESERT, CA 92260**

**QUESTIONS: DEANNA YOUNG 760/832-2883**

**NOTE: YOUR INFORMATION AND PHOTO(S) MAY BE SHARED  
WITH THIRD PARTY ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS FOREST  
LAWN TO BE USED FOR RESPECTFUL AND HONORING VISUAL  
PRESENTATION THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA.**



**V.E.A.P.**

VETERANS EASY ACCESS PROGRAM



# Active Senior Health & Fitness

Every Monday & Wednesday  
10 AM - 12 PM

For more information  
Contact: Roman Pellum at 760-424-5820 or  
[Roman.Pellum.Sr@usw.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Roman.Pellum.Sr@usw.salvationarmy.org)



Free Program  
for Seniors



**Location:**

**Davis Center Gym**

30-400 Landau Blvd.  
Cathedral City, CA 92234





CHARLOTTE W FAY

# CHAPTER 28



**EVERY THIRD SATURDAY  
DRIVE-THRU PANTRY  
09:00 AM – 11:30 AM**

**Charlotte W Fay  
DAV CHAPTER 28  
4351 University Ave  
Riverside, California 92501**



**WHAT SHOULD YOU BRING**  
Military/Veteran Identification

**PANTRY SCHEDULE 2025**

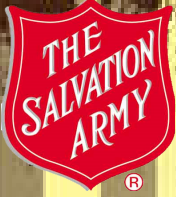
JANUARY 18, 2025	JULY 19, 2025
FEBRUARY 15, 2025	AUGUST 16, 2025
MARCH 15, 2025	SEPTEMBER 20, 2025
APRIL 19, 2025	OCTOBER 18, 2025
MAY 17, 2025	NOVEMBER 15, 2025
JUNE 21, 2025	DECEMBER 20, 2025

**CALL FOR MORE INFO 951-369-8626**  
darrin.dav28pantry@gmail.com  
ann.dav28pantry@gmail.com

In Collaboration with



The Women Veterans Unity Group Feed A Vet Program



# Mr. Willard's Closet

Sorry  
We're  
Closed

Mr. Willard's Closet will be closed the month  
of April.  
See you again May 12 between 10am and  
**NOON**



V.E.A.P.  
VETERANS EASY ACCESS PROGRAM





ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

April 3, 2025 | 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM

ALBERTSONS IN PALM DESERT | ALBERTSONS IN PALM SPRINGS

## Great Items to Donate:

Canned Meats or Soup  
Canned Fruit/Veggies  
Peanut Butter  
Boxed Cereal/Oatmeal  
Nuts

Breakfast Bars  
Coffee  
Non-Dairy Creamer  
Honey  
Evaporated Milk

Rice/Pasta  
Crackers  
Rice, Beans, Lentils, etc.  
Toiletries

**Nothing perishable, please.**

Thank you for your donations! They will benefit:



CO-Sponsored by:



ALPHAMEDIA  
ON-AIR . ON-SITE . ON-DEMAND





12th ANNUAL

# VETERANS AND COMMUNITY EXPO

**Saturday, April 5, 2025**

**9am until 2pm**

**The Salvation Army's**

**Davis Center**

**30-400 Landau Blvd.**

**Cathedral City**

**Information: Bill Young**

**760/861-0037**

**majorbill1@aol.com**



**V.E.A.P.**

VETERANS EASY ACCESS PROGRAM

**FREE**



# USAF Thunderbirds



[socalairshow.com](http://socalairshow.com)  
8am-5pm  
Show starts at 10am

# *Southern California Air Show*

March Air Reserve Base

April 12 - 13, 2025

*Honoring all who have served*

# MILITARY APPRECIATION DINNER

Thursday, April 17, 2025  
Doors open 1500 hours



The 108th National Orange Show Fair is thankful to our servicemen and women for all of their sacrifices so that we can enjoy our freedoms. To show our gratitude, we would like to invite veterans and active military to join us for a very special free program honoring your service.

Enjoy a delicious dinner, non-alcoholic beverages, entertainment, Color Guard Ceremony, Recognition Awards, and much more.

Space is limited.  
Get your reservations in soon.  
*Dress Attire : California casual or Military uniform.*



**National Orange Show Fair**  
Gate 8 | 690 S.Arrowhead Ave. | San Bernardino, CA 92408

***You must RSVP to attend this event.***

**RSVP online by 3.28.25**  
**Click [here](#) to RSVP**

For more information, please call:  
**(909) 888-6788 ext 0**



SCAN ME

*One guest per person. No children please at the program. Please bring some form of Military I.D. to check-in.*



# FLABOB TURNS 100!



**FLY-IN!**  
The party's on,  
and you're invited!

## Flabob Airport's Centennial Anniversary Fly-In

- Weekend of April 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>
- Bring your antique, classic and/or warbird airplane
- FREE parking, FREE admission and FREE historic presentation
- Saturday – Flying all day, food & beer vendors, evening live big band swing dance (Tickets for sale at Eventbrite)
- For more information – [www.flabob.org](http://www.flabob.org)

**POLY  
FIBER**  
Aircraft Coatings

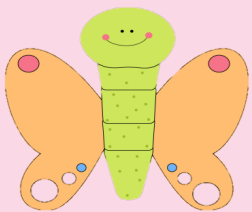
Jurupa Valley CA • 951-683-2309



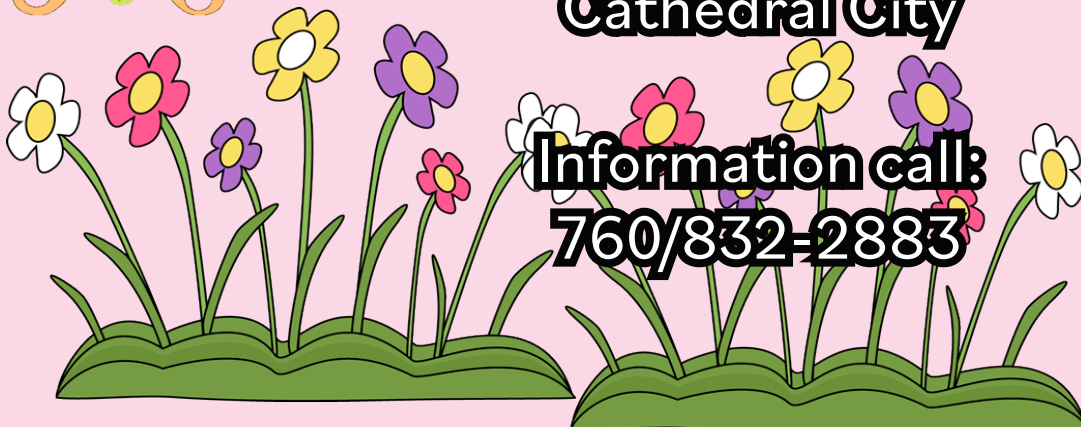
# MIR. WILLARD'S CLOSET



MONDAY & FRIDAY  
MAY 12TH AND 23RD  
10AM - NOON



**The Salvation Army**  
**30-400 Landau**  
**Cathedral City**



**Information call:**  
**760/832-2883**





**Chapter 519 American Legion Riders  
present**

**22K Invisible Wounds Walk  
& American Legion Allstar Baseball Fundraiser**

**Saturday, May 17, 2025**

**Hosted by Palm Springs Power  
Walk is from 730am to 130pm**

**Legion Baseball game starts at 1700**

**All proceeds will go towards PTSD Awareness,  
Suicide Prevention and the American**

**Legion Youth Baseball Team**

**\$25 early registration gets you a**

**22K Invisible Wounds t-shirt**

**\$10 admission to the American Legion Youth Baseball Game**

**Sponsor the event**

**Sign up a team to walk**

**Questions Contact:**

**Jeff Cole @ 442-322-9118 or**

**Angel Herrera @ 951-403-4027**

