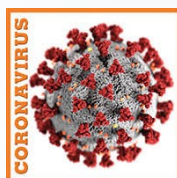




VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.®

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VFW Post 8555 Newsletter/ Calendar



Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Centers for Disease Control has added six new COVID-19 symptoms as health experts are seeing the virus affect patients in a growing number of ways.

The CDC has added the following symptoms, which may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus:

- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

Previously, the CDC listed three symptoms for the novel coronavirus, including cough, fever, and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>



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VA offers debt relief to Veterans through year's end

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today announced its commitment to extend debt relief to Veterans adversely impacted by COVID-19 to the end of 2020 by suspending certain debt collection actions.

The department recognizes Veterans and beneficiaries are still being greatly impacted by the coronavirus prompting the extension of financial relief.

"Veterans and their families should be focused on their health and safety during the pandemic," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "VA is taking action to give those with pending debts greater flexibility during these challenging times."

VA is suspending all actions on Veteran debts under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Treasury Department. This includes the suspension of collection action or extending repayment terms on preexisting VA debts, whichever the Veteran prefers.

For benefit debts, Veterans should contact the VA Debt Management Center at 1-800-827-0648.

For health care debts, Veterans should contact the Health Resource Center at 1-866-400-1238 or <https://www.pay.govfor> payments.



121st VFW National Convention

In the wake of COVID-19, the Veterans of Foreign Wars has announced its 121st VFW National Convention scheduled to be held in Reno, Nevada, this July has been officially cancelled. Read the full statement here. Thousands of VFW and Auxiliary delegates were expected to gather to represent the organization's total membership of more than 1.6 million at the week long event.

The decision comes as public-health concerns and social-distancing mandates are expected to span into the summer months ahead. This year will mark the first in the organization's storied 121-year history where a national convention will not be held. The VFW Auxiliary has also cancelled its convention.

We're disappointed to not be able to gather in Reno, but we look forward to seeing you in Baltimore, Maryland, July 31 - August 5, 2021

Veteran Project Participation Report (VPR)

National VFW Ritual – Commemorative Tributes: “Posts should arrange special ceremonies and all commanders shall alert comrades to their obligations for appropriate commemoration of the following outstanding action dates in U.S. history:

THE DATES

May 1—Loyalty Day, annually.

May 8—VE Day: German unconditional surrender signed, 1945.

May 28—Memorial Day

June 6—D Day: Allied invasion of Europe, 1944.

June 14—Flag Day.

July 4—Independence Day.

July 27—Signing of the Korean Armistice in 1953.

August 31—End of Operation Iraqi Freedom 2010.

September 2—VJ Day: Japan surrendered, 1945, ending World War II fighting.

September 11— Patriot’s Day

September, third Friday—POW/MIA Recognition Day.

October 9—Start of Operation Enduring Freedom—
.Afghanistan 2001.

October 18—Recognition of Women in Military Service

November 11—Signing World War I Armistice, 1918. Veterans Day.

December 7—Pearl Harbor Day, since 1941.

January 27—Signing of the Vietnam Peace Accord in 1973.

February 15—Sinking of U.S.S. Maine, 1898.

February 28— Liberation of Kuwait—Operation Desert Storm 1991.

March 24—Start of the Kosovo Campaign 1999.

March 31—End of Operation Restore Hope—Somalia 1995.

Every Date should be properly commemorated by each Post. However, only 12 reports from each Post will be accepted. Five minimum for minimum requirement credit. The ones in bold lettering must be accomplished, and the Post Commander selects the others for reporting purposes. This means only 12 will count for Community Service. 2 Pts for each report –24 total pts Emphasis will be on Community Service for each Post this year. The goal is for each Post to report at least 100 Community Service events.



July						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 VFW Meeting	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 VPR—Korean Armistice	28	29	30	31	

Phases of the Moon: 5:☉ 12:☾ 20:☀ 27:☾

Holidays and Observances: 3: 'Independence Day' observed, 4: Independence Day

August						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 USCG Birthday	5	6	7	8
9	10 VFW Meeting	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Dist 20 Mtg	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 VPR—End of OIF 2010					

Phases of the Moon: 3:☉ 11:☾ 18:☀ 25:☾