

Veterans Day Salute *to* Valor

A Special Section Honoring America's Military Veterans





Gus Johnson had the honor of handing the keys of brand new 2018 Ford Flex to the SPOKANE Veterans Hospital. This Ford Flex is a gift from Ford Motor & the NW Ford Dealers, of which Gus Johnson currently serves on the board of directors.



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Our country has only been officially celebrating Veterans Day since the 1950s, but our appreciation for the men and women who defend it goes back much even before the first shot was fired in the Revolutionary War.

America's standing military has had vital roles in peacetime or wartime, and there's no shortage of brave individuals of any generation ready to stand up for our freedoms, even if it means the possibility of paying the ultimate price.

It's important to thank active duty and reserve personnel, and it's equally important to recognize those fellow Americans who have already served. Unfortunately, even with these wonderful intentions and kind thoughts, many veterans and their families are hurting. Access to services can sometimes be

difficult, and there's no end to the complicated paperwork. Meanwhile, the amount of people needing mental and physical help keeps growing.

To do our part, *The Spokesman-Review* is collaborating with a VetHelpNet and number of other veterans organizations throughout the Inland Northwest in order to help connect community members who need help to groups and individuals eager to provide it.

As a prime source of information for 135 years, we're in a perfect position to become a useful resource to improve lives, starting with this publication. Inside this section you'll see examples of many services available at local and national levels. If these stories inspire you to help, we provide some easy ways to reach out.

Continue reading for:

- **A directory of service organizations**
- **Success stories**
- **Helpful how-tos in finding assistance**
- **Common misconceptions/questions about benefits/services**
- **Volunteer opportunities**

This effort is expected to continue in 2019 with a regular section sharing additional resources.

We're eager to spotlight people doing great things in our community. These sections also can be perfect opportunities for advertisers and area employers to show their commitment. Do you hire veterans? Do you have veterans in your organization's leadership team? Do you have a story to share? Please contact Don Walker at dwalker@vethelpnet.com to share your suggestions.



Wreaths Across America helps us remember, honor, teach

The Washington State Veterans Cemetery is honored to be participating in Wreaths Across America for the ninth year.

In 2017, 1.56 million wreaths were sponsored and placed at 1,433 participating locations. There will be close to 1,500 participating locations this year on National Wreaths Across America Day.

The Spokane-area event takes place at noon Saturday, Dec. 15. In 2010, 300 wreaths were donated. The need for additional wreaths has increased annually since in order to place one on each grave. This year our goal is to raise enough funds to place 2,000 veterans' wreaths on the headstones of our local heroes laid to rest at this hallowed shrine.

This will ensure the individuals who served to protect the freedoms of our country are never forgotten as part of a solemn community commemoration.

Our local community has come together enduring all types of weather to remember, honor and teach. Without our veterans and service members today, where would we be? "Don't say I should have, say I did" honor veterans today.

This program lets us remember our veterans, honor their service and sacrifice, and teach our children and others about our freedoms.

Individuals interested in making donations should contact Joyce with the Ladies & Gentlemen of the Veterans Cemetery 501c3 at (509) 928-1189. Contact the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs Cemetery at (509) 299-6280 for additional information on the ceremony.

Value of WA Veterans Cemetery

The Washington State Veterans Cemetery in Medical Lake helps veterans and their families through one of life's most challenging times while honoring their military service and sacrifice. Knowledgeable cemetery staff guide veterans and families through the process of preregistering for cemetery services and work with families after a death occurs. The facility serves eligible veterans and their families regardless of state of residency, and determines eligibility based on established Federal VA National Cemetery Administration criteria.

Federal law provides eligibility for burial in a state or national cemetery to veterans who have met minimum active duty service requirements as applicable by law and who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

Members of the reserve component of the armed forces are also eligible, provided they died while on active duty under certain circumstances, or while performing training duty; have 20 years of service creditable for retired pay; or were called to active duty and served the full term of service and have met characterization of discharge requirements. Family member eligibility is determined based on the veteran's military service meeting eligibility criteria. The veteran does not have to be interred at this facility for a qualifying spouse to be interred at the State Veterans Cemetery.

The cemetery offers preneed planning services, giving veterans and eligible family members the peace of mind that they've satisfied eligibility criteria, knowing their end-of-life needs will be met without burdening their families. The preneed eligibility determination process is non-binding and does not obligate the family to use the State Veterans Cemetery should life situations and end-of-life plans change.

There are no charges for veteran interments, which includes an interment plot, government headstone or memorial marker, use of a committal shelter for interment services and perpetual care of the grounds as a national shrine. The cemetery recovers a cost of \$300 at the time of interment for family member interments.

The 120-acre Washington State Veterans Cemetery opened in 2010 through federal grants totaling \$11 million for capital development from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. This facility makes the federal VA burial benefit more accessible to veterans in Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho. In the coming years, WDVA will continue to expand burial areas incorporating additional public spaces and maintenance facilities. Additionally, WDVA is committed to developing a second state veterans cemetery in central or southeastern Washington to better serve veterans across this region.

Since opening, the site is a final resting place for over 5,200 veterans and family members. The cemetery offers traditional casket burials as well as options for cremation inurnments; in-ground burial, a columbarium wall for above ground placement, as well as a scattering garden. All inurnment options include a personalized granite marker to memorialize veterans and their family members. Families are invited to use the committal shelter for memorial services including full military honors for veterans. Military honors is a statutory entitlement for qualifying veterans which includes playing of taps and presentation of a burial flag to the veteran's next-of-kin. The cemetery does not provide graveside services for safety concerns. We are also fortunate to have the assistance of a team of over 100 volunteers who assist with a wide range of supportive services. Individuals interested in volunteering should contact the cemetery directly for additional information.

The Washington State Veterans Cemetery grounds are open to the public 7 days a week, from 8 a.m. to sunset. Interments are conducted Monday through Friday and are scheduled by contacting the cemetery staff. Additional information and pre-registration forms are available on-line at www.dva.wa.gov/Cemetery or by calling (509) 299-6280.

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Son's death sparks mother's commitment to work on behalf of veterans



*By Kaye Hult
The Fig Tree*

On July 7, 2011, Theresa Hart's son, 20-year-old SPC Nicholas Newby, was killed in Baghdad, Iraq by an armor-piercing bomb.

In October 2013, with the help of her husband, James, and friends, Theresa opened Newby-ginnings of North Idaho, a nonprofit that serves active military, veterans and Gold Star families.

Newby-ginnings allows Hart to honor her son and others

who have died serving the country. Its motto is, "humble support and steadfast honor to those who served and sacrificed."

Her work allows her to talk about Nick daily. He joined the Army National Guard in 2008. In 2009, he graduated from high school and went through basic and advanced training.

He was deployed with the National Guard unit out of Post Falls in 2010. He was 10 months into his 12-month deployment when he was killed.

Nick was the 4,471st U.S. casualty in Iraq since U.S. involvement there in 2003. He was one of 54 fatalities in 2011. People continue to die there.

Two months after she learned of his death, Theresa went to work as an RN for the State of Idaho.

"Grief of that magnitude changes a person at a cellular level. When I walked back into work, I said, 'I do not want to be here!'" she said. "Being Nick's mother defined me. Losing him defined me, too. I had to do something."

For about a year and a half, she did nothing. During that time, many of Nick's battle buddies called her, telling her of their struggles with post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injuries, and financial and relationship problems.

Theresa realized she could help young men and women who had returned home. Her mother came up with the name "Newby-ginnings."

The mission statement is: "With support from and in partnership with the community, Newby-ginnings of North Idaho, Inc., a nonprofit organization, will provide, with honor, respect and integrity, essential items, resources and referrals to area active military, veterans and Gold Star families in need of such services."

They provide basic necessities and common comforts. They welcome clean, functional donations, such as household items, furniture and clothing. They provide these free with no red tape or appointments. People don't have to wait for months.

"We do this with community support through donations and fundraisers," she said. "There are no income eligibility guidelines. No one has to prove their need. All that is required is proof of military service. They can take what they need."

Newby-ginnings has enrolled more than 2,300 veterans, active servicemen and women, and Gold Star families in the Coeur d'Alene area, serving 50 to 100 a day.

Theresa called Scott Thorsness, director of the Kootenai County Veterans Services Office in Post Falls. She asked him to refer people with needs and donations.

For about two months, she and James stored items in their garage. When they ran out of room, they rented a 1,700-square-foot industrial unit. It filled within three months. Then they used a Dalton Gardens facility for two years.

The next move began by her wishing she had a box truck. Right after a grant for a new truck was declined, the owners of "We've Got Stuff" said they were going to close and offered their remaining inventory to Newby-ginnings. This also included a bigger and better box truck and a driver. Through the Coeur d'Alene VFW, Josh Scott of Maximum Exposure donated a wrap for the truck.

He contacted Riverbend Office Park, which gave Theresa a lease at 570 S. Clearwater Loop in Post Falls, where it has been located since May 2016.

The nonprofit works with various area veterans' organizations, service agencies and assisted-living facilities.

"If a veteran is released from rehabilitation with a new knee or hip, they call us. We can give them what they need—walkers, wheelchairs, shower chairs, potty chairs or power chairs," she said.

Newby-ginnings welcomes new kitchen items, underwear, socks, cleaning

supplies and more. Donations go to veterans when they move into a new location.

They may have been homeless or just out of the hospital. She wants them to have both a new home and a fresh start with dignity.

Theresa spends about 60 hours a week providing this service—30 hours at the shop Mondays through Wednesdays, plus meetings and presentations.

Newby-ginnings has a seven-member board of directors and about 50 volunteers.

“Their unselfish effort, caring and compassion for others is the lifeblood of our organization,” she said. “They are a source of inspiration for me and for the clients. We couldn’t do what we do without them.”

Theresa was born in Norwalk, Conn. Her father was in the Air Force. By the time Theresa was in the ninth grade, she had attended 11 schools. After his discharge in 1978 in Anchorage, the family settled there.

Theresa graduated from the University of Alaska, Anchorage, in 1985 with a bachelor’s in nursing. She and her former husband had two children, Nick and Nathan. They moved to Coeur d’Alene in 1996.

“Sometimes, I still can’t believe Nick is gone,” she said. “I just keep moving. I have an overwhelming sense of responsibility. I want people to appreciate their freedom because of the sacrifices made by so many to preserve it.”

She said Newby-ginnings has helped bring the local veteran community closer.

“It has impacted the lives of thousands,” Theresa said. “It is our job to live our lives worthy of their sacrifice, to live our lives to the fullest, to laugh, to love, to make this world a better place. Nick would want that.”

For more information, call (208) 610-6996 or email newbyginnings4471@gmail.com.



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Stone Crest veterans receive handmade Quilts of Valor

*By Gary Garcea
Special to The Spokesman-Review*

Spokane resident and Gold Star grandma Barbara McCormick recently surprised 12 veterans in her neighborhood with handmade personalized quilts for each of them.

The 83-year-old presented the Quilts of Valor quilts at Stone Crest's annual community picnic on Sept. 8.

The quilt-making effort began in February when McCormick attended a group sewing class at the Garland Church in Spokane. Instructor Cherrie Takenaka showed students how to make personalized Quilts of Valors, which are a tribute that can be presented to service members and veterans who have been touched by war.

McCormick thought it would be a nice way to recognize her neighbors for their service, including her next-door neighbor Matthew DePauli, a 92-year-old Navy veteran who served in World War II.

The quilts also are able to celebrate and honor the memory of her grandson Ryan Job, the first Navy Seal wounded in the Iraq war.

In 2006, Job was blinded and received other extensive injuries while serving with Naval Seal Team 3 as a Task Unit Bruiser in the Charlie Platoon. He died in 2009 at age 28, following complications from reconstructive surgery to his face and eyes. Prior to his death, Job had been a strong advocate for wounded veterans, and encouraged them to find ways to move forward with their lives. He traveled the country increasing awareness of veterans' issues and raising money for Camp Patriot, a program that empowers veterans.

Some of his story has been shared in the books "A Warrior's Faith" and "American Sniper."

McCormick moved to Spokane in 2016. She met DePauli right away, who served as a Navy Fireman 1st Class from 1944 to 1946.

Another neighbor was Guy Pace, a Navy veteran who served in Vietnam, who said that McCormick was one of the very few people who thanked him for his service and for helping provide freedom to our country.

She went on to learn about 10 other veterans in her community and decided that quilts would be a lovely way to show her appreciation for their service.



To learn more about how to make Quilts of Valor, contact Garland Church at garlandQOVgroup@gmail.com. To learn more about the Quilts Of Valor Foundation, visit www.govf.org. To learn more about or support Camp Patriot, visit www.camppatriot.org/donations.



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Air Force vet enjoys giving back to Spokane County



Tonya Gaskins approached Spokane County's Regional Veterans Services office seeking help with her VA paperwork.

After she got to know some of the staff, they realized her background and skills would be a great fit for working with the veterans through our community.

Today, Tonya is the staff assistant for the county office, able and willing to get to know and help area veterans with emergency assistance, their VA claims and any other questions or challenges as people make the sometimes difficult transition from the military to civilian life and workforce.

Tonya served in the Air Force for seven years as a Civil Engineering Operations Manager. Her wartime service included a tour of duty in the Middle East while attached to a Joint Force team.

She returned home with a broken leg and a few memories to share that were both good and challenging to her spirit. After being honorably discharged, she was firm in making her primary focus providing for her family, but her first job after getting out wasn't very satisfying spiritually.

As she met Spokane County's Veteran Service Center staff and learned about its mission and purpose, she also learned about an open position. It became a good opportunity pay it forward for the services she's already received.

The staff agreed and felt she brought a lot to the table, from her skillsets to her military service to experience trying to adjust to civilian life.

Today, Tonya and the rest of the staff are able to assist county veterans and their families maintain healthy and successful lives. They're willing to help with anything, from connecting to jobs to answering benefit questions.



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A ‘village’ teams up to help local veteran

Post Falls resident and veteran Dean DeVitto recently got a new start in life thanks to help from veterans groups, generous volunteers and other supporters in Washington and Idaho.

After a series of layoffs and financial struggles while living in California, Dean moved to Spokane. But he ended up homeless and living in a storage unit, with his bike as his only means of transportation.

Eventually, he connected with Gordon Graves, a Veteran Services Officer who specializes in job development and placement through the Mann-Grandstaff VAMC. Graves focused on helping DeVitto, starting with finding him a job and then connecting him to other community resources.

DeVitto was sent to meet Robert Shoeman, a veterans representative with the Idaho State Department of Labor.

Shoeman was able to find DeVitto a job at River City Fabrication in Post Falls. Employment made it able to connect with Goodwill’s Support Services for Veterans Families, which focused on finding him an apartment.

Then, Theresa Hart from Newby-ginnings heard about DeVitto and wanted to help. This organization provides household goods and home essentials for veterans, so they were able to help DeVitto furnish his new place.

The community’s generosity continued: Shevelle Sleeman had been considering donating her late husband’s car to Newby-ginnings. It seemed like a good fit to make it available to DeVitto, who could get back and forth to work easier without relying on his bike.

The Combat Veteran Riders, another local veterans service group, heard the story, and offered to pay the registration and windshield repair so DeVitto could get it on the road sooner.

All this cooperation came together, and now DeVitto has an apartment, job and vehicle. He plans to begin furnishing it shortly.

“There are a lot of players involved in this one story,” Robert Shoeman said. “Dean followed through on everything we’ve asked him to. He’s humble and has a strong work ethic.”

Hart agreed.

“Dean is the epitome of the veteran we try to help,” she said. “He’s trying to get on his feet with good intentions.”

Sleeman, who provided the car, thought her husband would look down and say “Yes, that is what needed to happen.”

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Veterans Day facts and figures

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Veterans Day, once known as Armistice Day, was first celebrated on Nov. 11, 1919, the anniversary of the end of World War I. In 1928, the United States Congress passed a resolution for Armistice Day to be an annual observation, and by 1938, the day became a national holiday. Differing from Memorial Day in May, Armistice Day, which would be renamed Veterans Day in 1954 under President Dwight Eisenhower, pays tribute to veterans who survived various wars. Memorial Day commemorates those veterans who lost their lives. Americans celebrate Veterans Day, while residents of Great Britain, Canada and Australia celebrate Remembrance Day. Those who want to learn more about Veterans Day can consider the following facts.

- According to the American Community Survey, there were 19.3 million military veterans in the United States in 2014. Of those, 1.6 million were female.
- California, Texas and Florida comprise the states with the largest number of veterans, equalling one million or more.
- Veterans consist of people who served in the military. This includes the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard. Veterans serve in times of war and peace.
- The word 'veteran' comes from the Old English language and means 'old, experienced soldier.' The first use of the word was documented in 1789.
- Although many veterans are working, and the average annual income of male veterans is \$37,000, some veterans continue to be unemployed. According to data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the overall unemployment rate for veterans rose to 7.6 percent in January 2013. The unemployment rate of post-9/11 veterans or those who participated in the Gulf War reached 6.2 percent.
- Upon retiring or being discharged, veterans may need help acclimating to life outside the military. The Department of Veterans Affairs says about 30 percent of Vietnam War veterans have been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD.
- Between 1971 and 1977, Veterans Day was celebrated on the fourth Monday in October. It was changed back to its original date, Nov. 11, in 1975 when President Gerald Ford signed bill S.331 into law. The change went into effect beginning in 1978.
- An American soldier was buried at the national cemetery in Arlington on November 11, 1921. His identity was unknown, and the gravesite is known as the 'Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.' A guard from the Society of the Honor Guard stands watch over the grave each year on Veterans Day, and the president or another high-ranking member of the government places a wreath on the grave.



MILITARY MOVE?

**5 key tips
that can
smooth
the way**



Brandpoint-

Changing residences can be an emotional and logistical challenge for any family.

For military families, that challenge can be recreated many times over. Due to the nature of the work, the average U.S. military family relocates every two to three years - 10 times more than civilian families. That can mean a complete change of surroundings in addition to new schools, teachers, friends, neighborhoods, jobs, places of worship, schedules and activities.

When faced with those kinds of challenges, strong military families often become very good at planning, gathering together their support systems and fully optimizing their available resources.

If your military family is anticipating a relocation, the moving experts at Penske offer these tips for ensuring the process goes smoothly.

■ **Rely on key resources.** Since you may not know when or where they'll be deployed, it's wise to keep a folder listing all the resources you need to plan a move, including your go-to moving company. For example,

Penske Truck Rental maintains a dedicated call center for U.S. military moves and offers a standard 10 percent discount on moving truck rentals.

■ **Check in with your relocation assistance office.**

Fully utilize the services offered through your assigned Military and Family Support Center. Once informed of the details of your move, personnel there can connect you with valuable resources, help you create a schedule and contact your new support center, which should then connect you with a local sponsor.

■ **Get to know your sponsor.** The military does it best, assigning you a sponsor who's already working at your new location and with whom you have something in common. Optimize that contact to ask key questions, allay concerns and generally familiarize yourself with your new surroundings.

■ **Do the math on truck weights.** When it comes to loading your moving vehicles, your goal should be to maximize your military travel allowance while avoiding any overweight charges you may have to pay out of pocket. That means getting a close estimate of the

weight of your belongings. In general, you can plan on about 1,000 pounds per room; don't count bathrooms, but do add in the estimated poundage of large appliances and of miscellaneous goods stored in your garage and storage areas. Military regulations require weight certification of moving vehicles both before and after loading.

■ **Inventory your belongings.** When packing boxes, mark each one with the name of your family, your destination, a general description of contents and the room the box should go in. To prevent any discrepancies between what you packed and what actually arrives, you should also list everything as it's placed into the vehicles, taking photographs of high-value items. While moving can be a fact of life for military families, good planning and solid support can smooth the way. Don't hesitate to optimize every resource at your disposal when making your next move.

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Vets can make a difference through volunteer firefighting

NewsUSA

The heart of patriotism is helping others, and like our veterans, volunteer firefighters, EMS personnel and rescue workers are all about helping those in need.

In fact, for veterans looking for new ways to give back, becoming a volunteer firefighter can be a great choice to serve their communities.

According to the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), the leading nonprofit membership association representing the interests of the volunteer fire, EMS and rescue services, volunteer firefighters enjoy many of the same benefits veterans found in the military.

These include a sense of accomplishment, achievement and pride in the work they do. Volunteers get to learn new skills, make new friends, be a part of a tight-knit team, give back to their community and make a difference.

And there is a significant need across the country for more volunteer firefighters,

EMTs and rescue personnel. That is why the NVFC has launched a nationwide recruitment campaign called Make Me A Firefighter. The campaign is supported by a federal SAFER grant.

“Recruiting new volunteers is a critical challenge facing many fire and EMS departments,” says NVFC Chair Kevin D. Quinn.

“NVFC research has shown that a key hurdle is many people simply don’t realize their department needs volunteers. Another challenge is that volunteer departments often don’t have the time or resources to develop a robust recruitment campaign. The Make Me A Firefighter campaign helps alleviate these obstacles by putting ready-to-use, message-tested resources in the hands of local departments.”

One audience the Council is trying to reach is veterans.

There is a natural fit for those who have served their nation abroad and are now

looking for ways to serve their communities locally. Communities served by volunteer firefighters depend on them to be their first line of defense for many types of emergencies.

Volunteer firefighters are summoned to a wide array of emergencies across the country every day, including fires, medical incidents, terrorist events, natural disasters, hazardous materials incidents, water rescues and other public service calls.

The public relies on these volunteers, who receive special training to prepare for what may come.

To lend some perspective:

- Volunteers comprise 70 percent of firefighters in the United States.
- The majority of fire departments in the United States are volunteer. Small, rural communities especially rely on volunteers to provide an array of services and protection.
- The time donated by volunteer firefighters saves localities across the country an estimated \$139.8 billion per year. For many communities, switching to an all-career model is not feasible.

Volunteer firefighters come from all backgrounds and professions, and encompass all ages, genders, races and ethnicities. Members of the public, including veterans, who are interested in serving their communities as fire service volunteers can find opportunities by visiting www.MakeMeAFirefighter.org.

Fire departments can add their opportunities to the database and access ready-to-use recruitment resources at <http://portal.nvfc.org>.





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Eastern Washington Resources

Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs
222 E. Fifth Ave., Spokane
800-562-2308
www.dva.wa.gov

Spokane Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center
4815 N. Assembly St., Spokane
(509) 434-7000
800-325-7940

Washington Veterans Cemetery
21702 W. Espanola Rd., Medical Lake
(509) 299-6280

Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial
VA Medical Center
77 Wainwright Drive, Walla Walla
(509) 525-5200

VA Outreach Centers
Spokane: (509) 444-8387
Walla Walla (509) 526-8387

Rural Health Clinics/CBOC
Sandpoint, 420 N. Second, Suite 200,
(208) 263-0450
Colville, 1200 E. Columbia,
(509) 684-3701
Coeur d'Alene, 915 W. Emma,
(208) 665-1700

Spokane County Regional
Veterans Service Center
1101 W. College Ave., Suite 401
(509) 477-3690

Healthcare for Homeless Veterans
705 W. Second Ave.
(509) 462-2500

Spokane Veterans Home
222 E. Fifth Ave., Spokane
(509) 344-5770

Spokane Veterans Outreach Center
13109 E Mirabeau Pkwy, Spokane Valley
(509) 444-8387

WorkSource Spokane
130 S. Arthur, Spokane
(509) 532-3101

Goodwill Industries
Supportive Services for Veteran Families
(SSVF) Eastern WA and North Idaho
130 E. Third Ave.
Spokane, WA 99202
509-462-0516
Assists Veterans and families
experiencing homelessness
or facing eviction.

Veteran Transportation to VA Medical Center
DAV Shuttle Van Eastern WA, N. Idaho,
Western Montana
(509)434-7019

Fairchild AFB
Airmen and Family Readiness Center CTR
4 W. Castle St.
Fairchild AFB, WA 99011
509-247-2246

North Idaho Resources

Idaho Department of Veterans Services
(208) 780-1300
http://www.veterans.idaho.gov/

Kootenai County Veterans Services
120 E. Railroad Ave., Post Falls
(208) 446-1090
Scott Thorsness, sthorsness@kcgov.us (Director)
Darryl Heisey, (208) 446-1092 darryl.heisey@
veterans.idaho.gov

Bonner County Veterans Services
1500 Highway 2, Suite 115, Sandpoint
(208) 255-3630
Bryan Hult (208) 255-5291
bryan.hult@bonnercountyid.gov

Boundary County Veterans Services
6635 Lincoln St., Bonners Ferry
(208) 267-8611
John Tucker (208) 267-8611
jtucker@boundarycountyid.org

Shoshone County
700 Bank St. Suite 120, Wallace
Susan Hendrixson (208) 752-3331
commsec@co.shoshone.id.us

Idaho Department of Labor
600 N. Thornton St, Postfalls
Robert Shoeman (208) 457-8789 ext. 3993
robert.shoeman@labor.idaho.gov

Newby-ginnings of North Idaho/Eastern WA
570 S. Clearwater Loop, Unit A
Post Falls, Idaho 83854
208-610-6996
Home essentials and household good for
Veterans And Gold Star families.

Idaho Joint Military Family Programs
Family Assistance Center
Post Falls National Guard Armory
5433 E. Seltice Way
Post Falls, Idaho 83854
92080272-7532

National Resources

Veterans Crisis Line 800-273-8255
Help for Homeless Veterans
877-4AID-VET (877) 424-3838

Combat Call Center/Crisis Line
877-927-8987

Confidential online chat
veteranscrisisline.net

Veterans Benefits Website
ebenefits.va.gov

"Serving Those Who Served"



The Spokane County Veteran's Services Office is a Public Partnership in collaboration with the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs. It is operated by Spokane County and is governed by the Veterans Advisory Board comprised of members from Veteran's Service organizations and veteran community leaders, led by the Director who is appointed by the Spokane County Commissioners.

Spokane County Regional Veterans Services Center

"Proudly Serving Those Who Served"

**Spokane County Veterans Relief Services
WDVA Statewide Programs & Services
Grant Funded Programs & Services
Claims, Benefits, and Advocacy Services
Financial, Transition, & Reintegration Services
Advanced Employment Readiness Services**

**1101 West College
Ave., Suite 401
Spokane, Washington
99201**

**Phone: (509) 477-3690
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Mon - Fri**

Additional Spokane Area Resources:

American Legion WDVA

Veterans Services Office.

(509) 434-7750

address: 4815 N. Assembly Bldg 6-A

Veterans Outreach Center

(administered by the VA)

(509) 444-8387

address: 13109 E Mirabeau Pkwy
Spokane Valley 99216

VA Hospital - (509) 434-7000

Toll Free: 1-800-325-7940

address: 4815 N. Assembly 99205

VFW Post# 51

(509) 327-9847

Health Care for Homeless Vets

(HCHV)- (509) 462-2500

address: 705 W. 2nd Ave. 99201

American Legion #9

(509) 328-2884

address: 300 West Mission (both posts)

2-1-1

(Local emergency assistance number) *just dial: 211 and tell the operator what your emergency needs are for a list of agency referrals.*

Northwest Justice Project

Legal Advice

Toll Free: 1-888-201-1014

9:15 AM to 12:15 Monday-Friday

Regional VA Office (Seattle)

1-800-827-1000

For VA Loans, Health Benefits, etc

address: 915 2nd Ave., Seattle,
WA 98174



spokanecounty.org/1122/Veteran-Services dva.wa.gov



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VETERANS

THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

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The roles of the different branches of the U.S. military

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The United States military is one of the most comprehensive, effective and respected armed forces in the world. Without the tireless commitment of military personnel, from the soldiers on the ground to the support staff behind the scenes, America could not be the world power it is today. Each branch of the U.S. military has a unique mission, and here is a brief rundown of what those missions entail, courtesy of Military.com and the U.S. Department of Defense.

United States Army

The Army is one of the three military departments that reports directly to the Department of Defense. The Army conducts operational and institutional missions around the world, typically handling land-based missions. The Army also guards U.S. installations and properties throughout the world.

United States Navy

Serving to protect the freedom of the seas, the Navy is another branch of the military that reports directly to the Department of Defense. Among its many missions, the U.S. Navy serves to make the seas safe for travel and trade.

United States Air Force

The Air Force also reports directly to the Department of Defense and trains for and maintains global superiority in air, space and cyberspace. Air Force personnel fly planes, helicopters and even satellites.

United States Marine Corps

The Marine Corps is a component of the Department of the Navy. It carries out global missions on both sea and shore and serves as an expeditionary force. Marines are a rapid-reaction team and are usually the first boots on the ground in a conflict.

United States Coast Guard

The Coast Guard safeguards maritime interests through both civil and military missions. The Coast Guard operates around the world and in domestic waterways and ports.

United States Army National Guard

The oldest branch of the U.S. military, the National Guard serves as a complementary force to active duty. Those in the National Guard are trained to be versatile, providing for humanitarian aid, domestic emergencies, combat missions, and homeland security operations. The Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, Army Reserve, Coast Guard Reserve, and Navy Reserve are the other branches made up of servicemen and servicewomen who primarily work civilian jobs but may be called to full-time military duty if necessary.

The U.S. Armed Forces are headed by the President of the United States. The Secretary of the Department of Defense reports directly to the Commander-in-Chief. The DOD controls each military branch, except for the Coast Guard, which is overseen by the Department of Homeland Security. Learn more about the U.S. military at dod.defense.gov.



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SPOKANE - NORTH

 Lisa Owen Financial Advisor 218 N. Bernard St. Suite 100 509-455-3004	 Josh Clements-Sampson CFP®, AAMS® Financial Advisor 1212 N Washington, Ste 130 509-325-6376	 Curtis Spores Financial Advisor 1212 N Washington, Ste 130 509-325-6376	 Steve Wright Financial Advisor 4407 N Division St. Suite 502, 509-413-2514	 Stacie Duenich AAMS® Financial Advisor 5515 N. Alberta 509-326-5740	 Tom Hunt AAMS® Financial Advisor 12310 N. ST. RT 395 Suite 103A 509-467-2454	 Tim Zacharias AAMS® Financial Advisor 7407 N. Division St., Suite E 509-468-5290	 Jessica Ekstrom AAMS® Financial Advisor 2603 W. Wellesley Ave 509-328-2115	 Joel Mitchell CFP®, AAMS® Financial Advisor 624 W. Hastings Rd, Suite 13 509-466-0239	 Jon Shroyer AAMS® Financial Advisor 9029 N. Indian Trail 509-468-3737	 Michelle Courson Financial Advisor 9029 N. Indian Trail 509-468-3737	 Joseph M Carter AAMS®, CRPC® Financial Advisor 605 E Holland Ave Suite 216 509-468-2541	 Kevin Lake AAMS® Financial Advisor 9708 N. Nevada St. Ste 003 509-468-2150
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 Casey Clabby Financial Advisor 2020 E. 29th Ave. Suite 105 509-624-6067	 Steve Wilkins Financial Advisor 3022 E. 57th Ave. Suite 15 509-535-4501	 Dave Bingham AAMS® Financial Advisor 5915 S. Regal St., Suite 207 509-241-3164	 Matthew DelRiccio Financial Advisor 2922 S. Grand Blvd 509-838-2408
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IDAHO

 Jesse Applehans AAMS® Financial Advisor 1875 N Lakewood Dr Ste 202 Coeur D'Alene, ID 208-676-9450	 Carolyn S Hicklin Financial Advisor 212 Rodeo Dr, Ste 810 - Moscow, ID 208-883-4460	 Debbie Holmes Financial Advisor 6600 W. Commercial Suite E Rathrum, ID 208-687-5765
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OUTLYING AREAS

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