

Veterans Affairs Office of Lexington County

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VET NEWS

November 2007

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- Nov. 4th Daylight Savings
Time Ends
- Nov. 10th Marine Corps Day
- Nov. 11th Veterans Day & Parade 3PM
*****Program honoring veterans will be held
at the Monument immediately following the
parade*** (program sponsors: American
Legion Post 7 and VFW Post 6738)**
- Nov. 12th Office Closed
- Nov. 22nd Thanksgiving
Office Closed 22nd and 23rd
- ***THE DAV VAN WILL NOT RUN ON
NOV. 12TH OR 22ND*****



James Miller Chapter 402 Commander with Joseph Williams Chapter 402 checking out physical therapy equipment

MOPH Visits Victory Nursing Home in Walterboro

The Military Order of the Purple Heart Department of South Carolina visited the Veteran's Victory House Nursing Home in Walterboro, SC on September 26, 2007. During their visit they were met by The Home Executive Director Mrs. LeeAnne Newton who provided a briefing and tour of the facility. Patriots were able to meet with the residents and join them for lunch. During this visit the Commander of Chapter 402 of Columbia, SC presented to the Director a new 50 Inch HD TV and the Department Commander Cliff Davis gave the home a check for \$4,700 dollars to purchase two new "Broda" Chairs for the more seriously ill veterans. The Department had previously provided a donation of \$2,125.00 dollars to assist in the purchase of an Aviary, bird houses and lectern stand for chapel services.



Cliff Davis, Dept Commander, MOPH SC (seated) makes his presentation to the Veteran's Home, a check in the amount of \$4,700.00 for the purchase of 2 "Broda" Chairs

Let's Give Thanks for the Freedoms We Enjoy

LAST S.C. AIRMAN WITH DOOLITTLE RAIDERS DIES AT AGE 88

Major Nolan Herndon of Edgefield, a member of **Doolittle's Raiders**, who bombed Tokyo and other Japanese cities in retaliation for the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, died October 7th, 2007. He was 88 years old. Herndon was one of 80 men who volunteered for the Tokyo mission, which would become the most famous air raid in American history.

The Raiders flew 16 heavy Army B-25 bombers from the pitching deck of a Navy aircraft carrier, which was a first in military history, and bombed Japanese military targets. The raid came just four months after Pearl Harbor and was a tonic to the nation when U.S. morale was at its lowest. Three airmen were killed in the raid, eight were captured in Japanese-occupied China, and three of the captives, including William Farrow of Darlington, were executed. It was considered a psychological turning point in the war.

Major Herndon's experience was different from that of most Raiders. All of the five-man crews crashed or bailed out over China when their planes ran out of fuel after the mission-except for Herndon's plane No. 8, which inexplicably was diverted by its pilot to the Soviet Union. According to Herndon, No. 8's navigator, bombardier and gunner, the plane was on a secret mission to test the Soviet Union's resolve as an ally. The Soviets were at peace with Japan at the time, and the flight, Herndon believed, was intended to see if they would support U.S. fliers bombing Japan. Herndon's late pilot and co-pilot were last minute replacements and intelligence officers, Herndon asserted in a 2002 interview with **The State**, and were under secret orders. No military officials including mission commander Lt. General Doolittle, would confirm or deny Herndon's story. The Raiders official historian, C.V. Glines of Dallas, Texas, also said he couldn't receive a "straight answer" about the diverted plane. "It was always a mystery," Casey said in an interview with **The State** October 8th.

For his valor, Herndon received the **Distinguished Flying Cross**. The Raiders celebrated their 50th reunion in Columbia and were embraced wherever they went when they returned for their 60th in 2002. Nearly 12,000 people turned out for a parade in 2002. Herndon's death leaves only 12 surviving Raiders.

April 1942 on board
USS Hornet CV8
Lt. Colonel
James H. Doolittle
and
Captain Marc A.
Mitscher with mem-
bers of Doolittle Raid-
ers while en route to
Japan



3 Raiders Were From S C

Nolan Herndon: from Edgefield, was navigator, bombardier and gunner on Plane 8.

Horace "Sally" Crouch: from Columbia, was navigator, bombardier and gunner on Plane 10. Became a teacher after he returned from the war. Died in 2005.

William "Billy" Farrow: of Darlington, was pilot of Plane 16, one of eight pilots who were captured in Japanese-occupied China. He was tortured for 6 months, then executed at age 25.

Veteran's Cemetery Final Design Chosen

(Taken from article by Mike Glasch in [The Fort Jackson Leader](#) 10/11/07)

A final design has been selected for the national cemetery to be built on Fort Jackson. The design was chosen October 3rd from several options submitted by Columbia architect-engineering firm Davis & Floyd, Inc.

According to Bruce Borko of the National Cemetery Administration, the next step is to solicit and award a construction contract. Construction of the 600-acre site is expected to begin in May of 2008 and be completed by August, with the first burials taking place in November.

Construction will take place in several phases. The first phase has two parts (Phase 1A and 1B). Phase 1A will be an early burial area with temporary facilities while Phase 1B is being completed. Once completed, this Phase I development will provide 5,000 full casket (including 4,200 crypts) and 2,450 cremain gravesites including a 2,000-niche columbaria. Also included in the project will be an administration/public information facility, maintenance facility, two committal shelters for interment ceremonies, a flag/assembly area, and supporting infrastructure; including utilities and irrigation.

A name for the cemetery is expected to be finalized by the end of the year. Representatives from Fort Jackson, the Chamber of Commerce and the community have already reviewed, scored and ranked the names submitted by the public. Their recommendations were forwarded to the NCA for the final selection.

The cemetery will be bordered by Wildcat Road to the west, Spears Creek Church Road to the east, North Tower Road to the south and Percival Road to the north. Other phases will be planned and constructed over 10-year increments as needed. A complete list of who is eligible for burial in a national cemetery can be found on the burial and memorials page of the VA Website at www.cem.va.gov.



The Lance Corporal Joshua L. Torrence Memorial Field House Committee



Proudly Presents The

VETERANS BOWL ~ November 2, 2007 TAILGATING FOR TORRENCE & PATRIOTIC PRIDE SALUTE ~ November 3, 2007

Please join us for two nights of festivities honoring our local veterans and remembering those who have given their lives in defense of our country. On Nov. 2nd Senator John McCain, a veteran of the Vietnam War, will speak and dedicate the new WKHS field house to LCpl Joshua L. Torrence USMC who was killed in Iraq in 2005. On Nov. 3rd we will honor all of our First Responders-Police Officers, Firefighters, Emergency Medical Servers and all branches of our military.

Friday, November 2, 2007

Doors open at 5 P.M. Admission to hear Senator McCain (Teachers and Students w/ID \$5, Adults \$10). Senator McCain to speak at 6 P.M. Field House dedication at 7:10 P.M. Veterans Bowl at 7:30 P.M. with Patriotic halftime show. **Sponsors in the Platinum to Supreme levels will be invited to attend a private reception with Senator McCain.

Saturday, November 3, 2007

Doors open at 5 P.M. Tickets \$20

Military and First Responder Displays and Silent Auction 5 P.M.

Patriotic music and Reception at 6 P.M. NYC Firefighters to speak at 7 P.M.

White Knoll High School

5643 Platt Springs Road • Lexington, SC 29073

For ticket information please call: 803 996-4500 or email: wkhsfieldhouse@yahoo.com

Sponsorship Levels

Supreme**	\$10,001-plus	12 Tickets
Five Star**	\$ 5,001-\$ 10,000	10 Tickets
Platinum**	\$ 2,501-\$ 5,000	8 Tickets
Gold	\$ 1,001-\$ 2,500	6 Tickets
Silver	\$ 501-\$ 1,000	4 Tickets
Bronze	\$ 250-\$ 500	2 Tickets

Please print name and address

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone number (h) _____ (c) _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Pledged Amount \$ _____

Operation Wind Chill

Afghanistan Counterinsurgency Academy is going to conduct winter humanitarian aid to 40 to 50 Afghan children on the 1st of December.

Excess goods will be donated to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and will help support them in the winterization of the Afghan children. What we are looking for is basic winter clothing for children from 1 to 13 years old. Thanks for your Support!

You can contact them at pembletonj@gmail.com .



Counterinsurgency Academy Afghanistan

2007 County of Lexington Veteran's Day Parade Application
Sunday, November 11, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.

****** PLEASE READ GROUP DROP OFF INSTRUCTIONS******

Name of Entry: _____

Type of Entry: Marching Band Beauty Queen Civic Float
(Please Circle Entry Type) Marching Group Dignitary Business Float

Description of Entry: _____
(i.e., truck, car, float, tractor trailer - include the length of your entry)

Number Participating: _____

Entry Contact Person: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (W) _____ (H) _____

Additional Information for Your Entry Here:

Mail Applications To:
County of Lexington Veteran's Day
Parade Committee
Attn: Sharon Willis, Chairperson
440 Ball Park Road
Lexington SC 29072

For More Information Contact:
Sharon Willis 803-785-8121
Gary Baker 803-785-8400
Bob Hall 803-785-8349
*Monday - Friday 8-5 pm *

GET THOSE ENTRIES IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!!!!!

*******ALL MARCHING BANDS AND ROTC GROUPS WILL MEET IN THE BUS PARKING LOT OF THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. PLEASE DROP OFF ALL MEMBERS OF THE BAND AND ROTC IN THE REAR BUS PARKING LOT ALSO. (Please enter off of North Lake Dr, to Corley Street then left on School Street. This will take you to the rear of school parking lot.) BANDS AND ROTC GROUPS WILL LINE UP AND ENTER THE PARADE FROM THE DRIVEWAY OF THE PARKING LOT. THANKS,*******

PARADE ROUTE:

START AT 116 AZALEA DRIVE IN FRONT OF LEXINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. TURN LEFT ON TO NORTH LAKE DRIVE - CONTINUING DOWN NORTH LAKE DRIVE CROSSING MAIN STREET TO SOUTH LAKE DRIVE. CONTINUE DOWN SOUTH LAKE DRIVE, TURNING LEFT ON FORT STREET, AND ENDING AT LEXINGTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING PARKING LOTS. ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR ALL VETERANS TO RETURN TO THEIR VEHICLES AFTER REACHING THE PARKING LOTS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Two Military Bases Team Up To Train Pilots

Shaw Air Force Base and McEntire Joint National Guard Base have signed an agreement to cooperate more when training.

The bases held a small ceremony on October 13th to make what Col. Keith Coln, commander of the 169th Fighter Wing at McEntire, called a "momentous occasion."

The agreement allows members of the Air National Guard help train and develop pilots at Shaw and also gives additional manpower to the 169th Fighter Wing at McEntire to help its Air Expeditionary Force.



TELEPHONE ADVICE PROGRAM

24 hours a day / 7 days a week

Local Telephone Number (803) 647-5829
Toll-Free 1-888-651-2683

During Clinic Hours You Can:

- ⇒ Have a staff member answer your question about appointments and services
- ⇒ Speak to a nurse assigned to the Telephone Advice Program (TAP)
- ⇒ Leave a message with the TAP staff for your provider or nurse case manager
- ⇒ **Please be patient, we WILL answer your call in the order it was received.**

After Hours (4PM to 8AM) You Can:

- ⇒ Speak to a nurse about health problems.

If You Have Prescription Refills Please
Use the Automated Telephone System

The VA is only a "PHONE CALL AWAY"

NATION OF SURVIVORS

*In the bright September morning without warning to us all
A few thousand lives were shattered and we watched two buildings fall
And a billion souls felt empty, and the flags at half-mast fly
In the memory of the innocent which didn't have to die*

*We've lost brothers, sisters, cousins. We've lost family and friends
But we've made the choice not to forget their lives and tragic ends
Though we've had our share of troubles we have put them all aside
As a nation grieves we find ourselves defending them with pride*

*We're a nation of survivors, with one heart we share a tear
But we live to serve the memory, not giving in to fear.
Though they try to take security with the things they've done and said
All their acts of inhumanity bring unity instead
So we stand here as a family, One heart, one soul, one voice.
We are challenged by this moment, and united here by choice.*

~Jack Foshee Jr., written on Sept. 12, 2001~

As the Holidays approach and many of our soldiers are away from their loved ones, there will be opportunities to help make their Holidays brighter. Here is an appeal from **Janet Parsons** of Military Support Ministry:

We are having a card-making party on Nov 3rd at 1 PM. Also, on Nov 17th and 18th we will be packing about 400,000 cards to send to those in harm's way. We need people to come and help pack. We want our troops to receive these cards before Christmas.

One large donation that would also increase morale is DVDs that you may have already watched and would be willing to donate to the troops. And we also need money to ship these items.

Our web site has a list of all current projects. All donations are tax-deductible.



Janet can be reached in any of the following ways:

Write: Military Support Ministry,
PO Box 2383, Lexington, SC 29071.

Call: 803-553- 0157

Email: WeCareMilitary@aol.com

Web: www.MilitarySupportMinistry.com

**VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE
OF LEXINGTON COUNTY
605 West Main Street, Suite 101
Lexington, SC 29072
(803)785-8400**

NOVEMBER OUTREACH PROGRAM

Nov.6th	9-12	Batesburg/Leesville
Nov.13th	9-12	Chapin
Nov.20th	9-12	Swansea
Nov.27th	9-12	West Columbia

TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Lexington Main Office:	785-8400
From Batesburg/Leesville:	332-8400
From Chapin:	941-0231