



DMVA

North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

ON POINT NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY HALL



Welcome to another edition of our newsletter “ON POINT”. The month of March is recognized as National Women’s History Month. It is observed in recognition of the many accomplishments of women throughout history. In North Carolina, we also celebrate Women Veterans Month to highlight women veterans who have served in our military in a variety of roles and who have shaped our country’s history.

This month in particular, we pay tribute to those women who have sacrificed and served not only in our military but in various capacities throughout our country. We salute those who are trailblazers and have paved the way for so many other history makers. One such individual is [Millie Dunn Veasey](#), a Raleigh native who turned 100 in January and passed away earlier

this month. Veasey was a World War II veteran that served in the Women's Army Corps (WAC) in the 6888th Central Postal Battalion, the only African American all-female battalion to serve overseas during World War II. She and thousands of other women that served during this era made history by dispelling the myths and stereotypes that existed about women. To Ms. Veasey and all the other women history makers, we say "**Thank You and God Bless**".



DMVA Launches New Veterans Information Platform Project (VIPP)



Pictured Above: Members of DMVA, DIT, GDAC & SAS

The DMVA, along with other Veteran Service Stakeholders, held a kick-off meeting in February for the new Veterans Information Platform Project (VIPP). The project, which is a secure information sharing program, will facilitate collaboration among veteran service state agencies. VIPP will streamline the process of applying for jobs and other services for veterans and their families. The project is aligned with Governor Cooper's goals and priorities to develop North Carolina's workforce through his signature NC Job Ready program. The primary focus of NC Job Ready is to ensure that more North Carolinians

are ready for current and future jobs. VIPP is one initiative of DMVA designed to achieve that goal.

VIPP was developed in partnership with the NC Government Data Analytics Center (GDAC), the NC Department of Information Technology (DIT) and the Statistical Analysis System (SAS). This effort is one of many currently underway by the DMVA and other veteran service partners to increase job opportunities, improve customer service and bring benefit awareness to veterans and their families.

To learn more about VIPP contact Chief Information Officer (CIO), Rob Main at Rob.main@milvets.nc.gov or 919-754-6228.



New Online Tool Will Provide Simplified Process For Discharge Upgrade



The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and The Department of Defense (DOD) have partnered to launch a new web-based tool for veterans. The online tool will provide customized guidance to veterans who desire to update or change the conditions of their military discharge.

According to the VA, the military estimates that thousands of veterans with dishonorable discharges that were due to incidents related to post-traumatic stress disorder or other disorders may be able to upgrade or change the conditions of their military status. Essentially, these are veterans that received a less than honorable discharge for what could be considered a service-connected condition.

The new tool will provide veterans with an easily accessible process, customized steps and helpful tips for appealing what they may believe is an unfair discharge or unfair discharge characterization.

The new discharge upgrade tool is available at www.vets.gov/discharge-upgrade-instructions.



N.C. Department of Revenue Provides New FREE Tax Assistance

NCfreefile You may be eligible to file your taxes online for FREE!

Many North Carolinians qualify for NCfreefile or other free filing options. Available only through NCDOR.gov for income limits up to **\$66,000** for individuals and **\$95,000** for joint filers.

To qualify, you must access *eFile for Free* at www.NCDOR.gov/NCfreefile

NCDOR NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

Available for current year returns and payments. File using a free online eFile software provider, otherwise fees may be assessed - eligibility requirements vary each year. Visit www.ncdor.gov for eligibility requirements.

The North Carolina Department of Revenue is partnering with a nonprofit alliance of tax software companies to provide free electronic tax filing services. Online filing is easier and more accurate for taxpayers and refunds are processed more quickly. Taxpayers with incomes as high as \$66,000 for individuals and \$95,000 for joint filers may be eligible. Many of these programs offer discounts to active duty military members as well.

Don't forget that this year, taxes are due on **April 17, 2018** instead of April 15th which falls on a Sunday.

To file your taxes electronically, Access NCfreefile at <https://www.ncdor.gov/ncfreefile>.



Upcoming Events

- March 22nd - Governor's Working Group on Veterans monthly meeting @ 2-4pm NC National Guard Headquarters (Join the meeting by calling 919-212-5747 or by live stream on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ncveteransworkinggroup)), Raleigh, NC. <http://ncveteransworkinggroup.org/>

- March 29th - National Vietnam War Veteran Day @ 1pm - NC State Capitol Grounds, Raleigh, NC. For more info contact DMVA at 984-204-8336.
- April 18-21 - 128th Annual Legion of Valor Convention - Ramada Convention Center, Fayetteville, NC. www.LegionofValorConvention.com
- April 25th - NC4ME Veterans Hiring Summit @ 9am - MetLife Global Campus, Cary, NC. <http://www.nc4me.org/mes-april-25-2018.html>
- May 2nd - DMVA Military Women's Summit @9am - McKimmon Center, Raleigh, NC. www.milvets.nc.gov/events/2018/05/02/2018-nc-women-milvets-summit-expo
- May 21-24 - Southeast Valor Games - @ various times, Raleigh, NC. <https://www.bridge2sports.org/valorgame>



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