



# Hollis VFW

## March 2018 Newsletter

Vol. 28 Issue: 3

*Serving Hollis and Brookline*

March 2018

*The Hollis VFW meets the third Sunday of each month.*

*Meetings in April through September are at the American Legion Hall, 38 Main Street, Brookline, NH and begin at 7 PM.*

*Meetings from October through March are at the Hollis Town Hall, 7 Monument Square, Hollis, NH and begin at 2 PM.*

*If you wish to join or have questions about the VFW, please call one of the Post Officers.*

***Next Meeting: 18 March, 2 pm, Hollis Town Hall.***

***12 March - Veterans at the Middle School. See announcement in the newsletter.***

### **February Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 2:15 PM by Commander George Robinson at The Lawrence Barn in Hollis. 8 members present and 11 Guests.

**Membership Applications:** Still waiting for Doug Arseneau to submit his DD 214 to verify eligibility.

#### **New Business:**

- Greg d'Arbonne reported he spent \$25.70 to purchase 2 Eagle Scout Certificates and one cover for the Hollis Citizen of the Year Award and is requesting reimbursement from the Post. Jim Bélanger made a motion that the Post reimburse Greg in the amount of \$25.70; seconded by Andy Seremeth and unanimously approved.
- Jim Bélanger made a motion that the Annual Pot Luck be put on the agenda for the next meeting so when we will hold it each year can be discussed; seconded by Greg d'Arbonne and unanimously approved.

- Greg d'Arbonne stated the Middle School contacted him and the Annual Veterans with the 8th Graders sessions will be held on 12 March.
- Commander Robinson asked who will be available to present the Hollis Citizen of the Year Award at the Hollis Town Meeting. Andy Seremeth will do the presentation.

#### **For the Good of the Order:**

- Chris Lussier made a motion the remainder of the meeting be suspended so the attendees could participate in the Potluck Luncheon; seconded by Greg d'Arbonne and unanimously approved.

#### **Upcoming Dates:**

- 18 March: 2 pm Post Meeting, Hollis Town Hall
- 15 April: 7 pm Post Meeting, Brookline American Legion Hall

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM. The next meeting is Sunday, 18 March 2018 at 2 pm at the Hollis Town Hall.

## **News For & From Members**

### **Veterans at the Middle School – 12 March**

On Monday, 12 March, the Hollis-Brookline Middle School will hold its annual Veterans with the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class program where the Veterans talk to the 8<sup>th</sup> Graders before they go on their trip to Washington, DC.

Here is a brief overview of the schedule:

- 1010-1040 = Gather at the Middle School
- 1040-1150 = Session I
- 1153-1222 = Lunch with students
- 1225-1335 = Session II

If you plan on attending all or just a part of the activities, please call the school at (603) 324-5899 ASAP so they have a good count to provide the logistics for this event.

### **Passing of Joan Ellis**

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Joan Ellis, widow of Bob Ellis, former member of our Post. Joan was a great supporter of our Post and attended our functions. She will be missed by the Post. Our condolences to her family. Her obituary, as published in the Nashua Telegraph follows:

Joan M. Ellis, 82, of Nashua, widow of Robert F. Ellis, passed away Tuesday, January 30th, 2018, after a long battle with cancer.

Joan was born June 29, 1935, in Sault Ste. Marie Michigan and eventually settled in New Hampshire. She worked in the insurance industry for many years and eventually retired from working in the Human Resource Department with the City of Nashua.

In addition to her parents she is also predeceased by her son Ross Ellis, her sister Eva Whynott and her brother, Edwin Spooner. She is survived by her son David Ellis and his partner Lois of Phoenix Arizona, her daughter Patti Rogers and her husband Scott of Nashua, NH and her son Charles Ellis and his wife Lorrie of Merrimack, NH. She leaves behind many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nephews and nieces.

### **Please Make Sure You Renew ASAP**

If you are a member who pays annually for your membership, we ask that you renew as soon as possible so we can meet our numbers for the year now and not have to rush at the end of the year (which is June). You can renew at a meeting or you can renew online (<https://www.vfw.org/OMS/QuickRenew.aspx>), but please renew! Thanks!

### **News of Interest to Veterans**

#### **Help Our Heroes and Give ConvenientMD a Thumbs Up!**

We all know about the great partnership Easterseals NH has with ConvenientMD! Employees who utilize our health insurance not only receive quality care from the ConvenientMD staff, but convenient and affordable Urgent Care services for a \$25 co-pay!

ConvenientMD has taken it a step further and is partnering with Veterans Count during the month of March to help raise money for our veterans, service members and their families!

For each LIKE ConvenientMD receives on their Facebook page (click here), they will donate \$3 to Veterans Count!

Please forward this email to your friends and family so they can help us too! Be sure to LIKE Veterans Count too!

*Both ConvenientMD and Veterans Count have posts on their Facebook page that you can share too!*



**Tuesday, March 13 | 6pm**  
**Manchester Country Club | Bedford, NH**

Join us as our brave service men and women transition from fatigues to fabulous fashion.

Heavy hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, raffles, and more!

**\$40/person**

[Register Here](#)



**Guest Emcee, Erin Fehlau!**

*Erin anchors the morning and noon weekday newscasts and hosts "NH Chronicle" weekday evenings on WMUR-TV. Erin has received a number of awards through her career including an Edward R. Murrow Award for Investigative Journalism, an Emmy Award and a National Clarion Award. Before coming to NH, Erin worked in Portland, ME as a TV anchor/reporter and prior to that she was a newscast producer in Boston. Erin is a graduate of the S.I. Newhouse School of Communications at Syracuse University.*

Make 12 Hours Count



A program of Easterseals

# THE VETERANS COUNT RADIO THON

Hosted by Jack Heath on 96.7 fm & 610 am  
to support our military and their families.

**March 21 | 6-6pm**  
**Call 1.844.650.VETS (8387)**

Proudly Presented by:



**Tune In and Help**  
**“Make 12 Hours Count!”**



Learn more at [www.vetscount.org/nh](http://www.vetscount.org/nh)

# LOYALTY DAY 2018



**NASHUA VFW POST 483  
PRESENTS  
LOYALTY DAY 2018**



**DATE: 28 APRIL 2018  
TIME: 1000 TO NOON  
LOCATION: NASHUA SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER  
70 TEMPLE ST., NASHUA, NH**

**HONORING  
VOICE OF DEMOCRACY PARTICIPANTS  
TEACHER OF THE YEAR  
FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR  
POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR**



**REFRESHMENTS  
FEATURING THE NASHUA NORTH JR. AIR FORCE  
ROTC COLOR GUARD  
MUSIC BY C.T. TOWNSEND**



**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**


**Souhegan Valley** presents  
 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE **THE 11TH ANNUAL BENEFIT AUCTION**






**ALL STAR  
TAILGATE  
FOR TROOPS**

**MEET & GREET AFC CHAMPIONS**

**SAFETY**

**DEVIN MCCOURTY**

**& RUNNING BACK**

**DION LEWIS**

The Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce is proud to partner with New England AFC Champions Devin McCourty and Dion Lewis.

During this fun night you will meet Devin & Dion while raising funds for CERF (Chaplain Emergency Relief Fund) a non-profit organization which provides emergency financial assistance to local active duty military families.

All-Star Tailgate for Troops ticket holders will meet Devin McCourty and Dion Lewis, take photo's and play games with them for Autographed Memorabilia. The evening also includes tailgate fare, Question & Answer session, silent auction, raffles & cash bar

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to meet two AFC champions and raise money for our active duty military families. Don't forget to wear your best game day gear!











For more information or to buy tickets, visit: [www.souhegan.net](http://www.souhegan.net)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018**  
**5:30-8:30PM**  
**CROWNE PLAZA (soon to be known as Doubletree Hilton) NASHUA NH**



to benefit  
**The Chaplain  
Emergency  
Relief Fund**

### **New Director of Manchester VA Medical Center Appointed**

MANCHESTER, NH, 23 February 2018 – Today the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced the appointment of U.S. Air Force Veteran, Alfred Montoya, Jr., MHA, VHA-CM as director at the Manchester VA Medical Center. Mr. Montoya has served as the acting director at Manchester VA Medical Center since July of 2017 after an organizational crisis brought him to the facility. His leadership immediately improved care for New Hampshire Veterans, and his response advanced unprecedented community collaboration, innovation and opportunity.

Before arriving at Manchester, Mr. Montoya served as Medical Center Director at the White River Junction VA Medical Center. His proven leadership was applied at the Manchester VA with a focus on partnerships. “My work has been to bring people together to realize all that is possible for Veterans,” said Montoya. “I am

excited to continue this work, deepen relationships, and enhance collaboration across medical centers in Vermont and New Hampshire. In the last eight months, and with the dedicated staff at Manchester VA, we have made unprecedented change together, and I am humbled and honored to be appointed to be a permanent part of the team.”

Matthew Mulcahy, acting director, White River Junction VAMC served as associate director to Mr. Montoya in Vermont, “The White River Junction VA Medical Center is grateful for the exceptional work Mr. Montoya accomplished during his time here,” said Mulcahy. “It has been my pleasure to have had a chance to serve on Al’s leadership team, and I look forward to continuing to strengthening our collaboration with Manchester VA and offering the best care for our Veterans.”

At the Manchester VA, Montoya will oversee a comprehensive healthcare system classified as a Complexity Level 3 facility that provides care to approximately 33,000 New Hampshire Veterans, with an operating budget of \$141+ million.

Montoya shared his appreciation with the staff at White River Junction, “Words cannot express how appreciative I am of each and every one of you and what you do for our Veterans. I am grateful for the time I was able to spend in White River Junction, and I am grateful to continue my mission of caring for our nations heroes.”

Manchester VA Medical Center is part of the VA New England Healthcare System which includes eight medical centers, located in the six New England States: Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts. It is an integral part of VISN 1, headquartered in Bedford, Mass. Manchester VA Medical Center is comprised of one main campus located in Manchester, N.H. and four Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) located in Conway, Portsmouth, Somersworth, and Tilton. The Portsmouth outpatient clinic is located at Pease Air National Guard Base.

### **Governor Chris Sununu Signs Executive Order to Re-Organize and Streamline State Veterans Services**

Concord, NH, February 15, 2018 - Today Governor Chris Sununu signed an executive order to initiate creation of one coordinated State operation for the provision of veterans services. The Governor was joined at the signing immediately after his State of the State address by guests David Meaney of the American Legion, Ray Goulet of the NH Chapter of Vietnam Veterans of America, Paul Lloyd of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), and Ernest Sulloway of Disabled American Veterans.

“We must recognize a fundamental truth, that once a person signs those enlistment papers, they are a soldier for life,” said Governor Sununu. “This executive order will bring coordinated veterans services under one roof in New Hampshire, which will bring resources together to streamline services for one simple goal: better outcomes for our veterans.”

The changes contemplated by the executive order will be a team effort involving Adjutant General Dave Mikolaities, the Veterans Council, the Office of Veterans Services (“OVS”), the Department of Health Human Services’ Bureau of Community Based Military Programs, and other Executive Branch officials and personnel.

The executive order directs the Adjutant General to develop and execute memorandums of understanding with both the Office of Veterans Services and the Bureau of Community Based Military Programs to provide for the streamlining and coordination of all veterans services provided by the State. The memorandums of understanding will be executed within 60 days and fully implemented within 120 days.

Adjutant General Dave Mikolaities and OVS Director Bill Gaudreau also weighed in on the new executive order.

“New Hampshire’s veterans and their families will benefit immensely from having a single operation and point of contact for the services and benefits they have earned,” said Adjutant General Mikolaities. “I am grateful to Governor Sununu for his leadership and efforts on this issue, and the Adjutant General’s Department looks forward to working with the Office of Veterans Services and the Bureau of Community Based Military Programs to turn the Governor’s vision into a reality.”

“The Office of Veterans Services is excited to join the Adjutant General’s Department and the Bureau of Community Based Military Programs in this exciting and important initiative,” said OVS Director Bill Gaudreau. “The services provided by OVS will be greatly enhanced by this new coordinated effort.”

### **Help with Cadets Studying PTSD and Veteran Issues**

My name is Ryan Cirbo and I’m in the ROTC program here at Thomas More. I’m in the classroom doing my prerequisite studies before I begin my active training in the fall. We are currently in the midst of learning about veteran services before, during, and after service. Most recently, we’ve been discussing and learning about social reintegration, and the common struggles and hardships veterans face when making the transition to ordinary civilian life.

This unit has covered a range of topics like Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, depression, anxiety, and other common hardships. For the unit, our instructor has given us a project to spread information to “strong facilitators of information” and we stumbled across your memorial site in our research. Our group’s topic is on PTSD and addiction and we’ve found a couple helpful resources online and wanted to share them with you, in hopes that you would share them further with our community. Here are a couple resources we thought would be helpful to share:

- [PTSD in Veterans HelpGuide](https://www.helpguide.org/articles/ptsd-trauma/ptsd-in-military-veterans.htm) (<https://www.helpguide.org/articles/ptsd-trauma/ptsd-in-military-veterans.htm>)
- [Veterans in Recovery](https://www.therecoveryvillage.com/resources/veterans/) (<https://www.therecoveryvillage.com/resources/veterans/>)

Both resources contain some valuable information that could potentially help a veteran down the line. Our hope is that you can evaluate these resources and provide honest feedback to my group – we would be very grateful. Thank you so much for your time and we appreciate everything you do in supporting our cause.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Ryan Cirbo (ryanbcirbo@gmail.com), Christian Walters, Devin McGinnis, Carl Morelli

### **Gold Star Family Memorial Monument - Newsletter**

The Gold Star Family Memorial Project Committee is starting a newsletter that can be shared with the public. We are hoping to help foster the human connection we have with this monument and why it is important. We are looking to have you share stories of your loved one. The story is not necessarily or only about their military service (although that is okay too) but share who they were in life and the many memories and reason they will always live on in your hearts. You can tell how you persevere and honor them going forward.

Please consider sharing your heroes story - that would be wonderful!



For family friends too - they often know great stories and have a unique perspective on how your loved one impacted them.

We are hoping this newsletter will help the public see your loved one's face and give that very human connection. We plan to post the newsletter on-line and encourage people to share. We will continue to send information about the Monument until all funds have been raised and it is completed.

Please email your stories to me at your earliest convenience (phil413.susan@gmail.com).

### **SNHU "Full Ride" Scholarship**

Bob Stewart here from Southern New Hampshire University's military team. We will be hosting a "SNHU Night" at the TD Garden on March 20th when the Celtics play the Oklahoma City Thunder. We have been approved by the Celtics to award a full scholarship to a deserving service member, veteran, or spouse of a service member in the local area during a timeout or at halftime during the game.

I would like to afford you the opportunity to nominate an outstanding individual with the following circumstances:

- Not currently a Southern New Hampshire University student
- Must be a service member on active duty, part time Reserve, or National Guard, the spouse of either, or a veteran who has served honorably.
- Would like to complete their education but are suffering a financial hardship (i.e. no GI Bill or benefits available).
- Would be willing to tell their story in writing.
- Must be present at the game (may bring guest) on the 20th as our guest.

The deadline for this is short fused and I need to know as soon as possible if you have any candidates and need their story in writing by COB next Friday the 9th.

This is an excellent opportunity to help a deserving individual who otherwise would not be able continue their education. I would like to thank you in advance for supporting our military community!! Please contact me with any questions. I look forward to hearing from you.

Bob Stewart, BA, BS, CSM (Ret)| Assistant Director Military Initiatives

Southern New Hampshire University | 33 South Commercial Street | Manchester, NH 03101

p. 603.851.2330| r.stewart1@snhu.edu| snhu.edu

### **New Hampshire State Office of Veterans Services**

Please take the time to visit the New Hampshire State Office of Veterans Services. It has a lot of great information: <https://www.nh.gov/nhveterans/>

### **VA Launches Welcome Kit to Guide Veterans to the Benefits and Services They've Earned**

VA's onboarding process can be overwhelming at times. Veterans who have visited a VA outreach booth, VA eligibility office, or have gone through a Transition Assistance Program know that VA has no shortage of technical handouts, benefits books and materials. But, even with all of these resources, Veterans are telling us "Where do I start?"

Now, VA can point all Veterans to the VA Welcome Kit. Click on the link to check it out: <https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/44852/va-announces-new-welcome-kit-guide-veterans-benefits-services-theyve-earned/>

## **Points To Ponder**

*The views expressed in the following article were deemed interesting enough by me to include in the newsletter. I take full responsibility and the content does not reflect the opinion of the members of the Post. Please contact me if these articles offend you. – Greg d'Arbonne*

## Heteronyms -- Enjoy!

Homographs are words of like spelling but with more than one meaning. A homograph that is also pronounced differently is a heteronym.

You think English is easy?? I think a retired English teacher was bored...THIS IS GREAT!

Read all the way to the end.....This took a lot of work to put together!

- 1) The bandage was wound around the wound.
- 2) The farm was used to produce produce.
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- 4) We must polish the Polish furniture.
- 5) He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- 6) The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
- 7) Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
- 8) A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
- 9) When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- 10) I did not object to the object.
- 11) The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
- 12) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.
- 13) They were too close to the door to close it.
- 14) The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- 15) A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
- 16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- 17) The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- 18) Upon seeing the tear in the painting, I shed a tear.
- 19) I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
- 20) How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple.

English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France.

Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square, and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham?

If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth?

One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices?

Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend?

If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught?

If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?

Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital?

Ship by truck and send cargo by ship?

Have noses that run and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

P. S. - Why doesn't 'Buick' rhyme with 'quick'?

You lovers of the English language might enjoy this.

There is a two-letter word that perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that is 'UP.'

It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP?

At a meeting, why does a topic come UP?

Why do we speak UP and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report?

We call UP our friends.

And we use it to brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver; we warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen.

We lock UP the house and some guys fix UP the old car.

At other times the little word has real special meaning.

People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses.

To be dressed is one thing, but to be dressed UP is special.

A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP.

We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night.

We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP!

To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look the word UP in the dictionary.

In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4th of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions.

If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used.

It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP.

When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP

When it rains, it wets the earth and often messes things UP.

When it doesn't rain for a while, things dry UP.

One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP, for now my time is UP, so.....

it is time to shut UP!

Now it's UP to you what you do with this email.

### Post Officers

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#### *Do You Have an E-mail Address?*

*If you have e-mail access, send a message to Greg ([Gdarbo6844@aol.com](mailto:Gdarbo6844@aol.com)). Addresses are for the use of the members to pass information and not to be sold or freely passed to others without formal consent of the member. No funds solicitation is authorized via e-mail.*