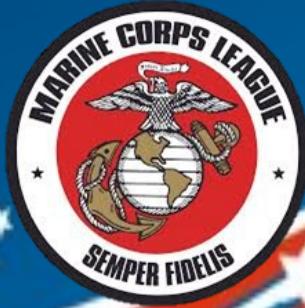


The Cutting Edge

The Official Newsletter

of the Anne Arundel County Detachment

January 2026



Ready on the right. Ready on the left.



The detachment enjoyed an evening of shooting on January 22nd, at **Cindy's Hot Shots** in Glen Burnie. Pictured are **Joe Peacy** (left) and John Dunker (right). Special thanks to Marine **Chris Wise** who arranged the shoot at Cindy's.

If you would like to join us, see page 4 of this newsletter for additional information regarding our next shoot.

The detachment meets the 3rd Monday of the Month at 7:00 PM at the American Legion Post 175 at 832 Manhattan Beach Rd, Severna Park, MD.

ALL MARINES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND



From the Editor



NEW LOOK

In honor of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of our great nation, this year's newsletter will feature a more patriotic look and some new formatting. The intent is to make the newsletter more readable, informative, and hopefully more enjoyable.

The detachment remains busy and engaged with the community. We do need your help though. **If you can simply volunteer for one event this year, it would be a huge help.**

As always, your ideas for new content are always welcome. If you have an article to share, please send it to me at Bandit6A@gmail.com.

FYI

February meeting > 1st round of nominations for detachment officers

March meeting > 2nd round of nominations and election of detachment officers

April meeting > Installation of Officers

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Marines,

We are in the 2nd month of the year. Last month's meeting was cancelled due to weather. This month's meeting is a go, depending on weather. We have a Department meeting on the 21st of February in O.C. followed by National Mid- Winter the 26th through 28th of February in Pentagon City. Let's not forget our Detachment meeting the 16th of February, then a pound growl sometime in March.

Our raffle that **Ms. Jane, Debbie Deene** and **Nila Caulder** are running is going well. Remember to SELL, SELL, SELL! See me at detachment meeting for Department raffle tickets. Bull and Oyster roast is set, more from the Senior Vice.

Detachment ran a Friday dinner at Post 175. This was headed up by Junior Vice **Joe Peacy**. It brought in \$300.

The Detachment got together on Thursday after a January meeting that didn't happen, at Cindy's Hot Shot for some range time. All had a good time. Let's get a couple more shooters out next time.

Finally, with the Department Convention in May, let's all get together in O.C. Reservations are now being accepted.

Semper Fi
Burt

DETACHMENT STAFF

Commandant	Burt Helmka
Sr Vice Cmdt	John Dunker
Jr Vice Cmdt	Joe Peacy
Judge Advocate	Ray Sturm
Jr Past Cmdt	Ban Wells
Adjutant	Debbie Deene
Chaplain	Jim Sanchez
Sgt-at-Arms	Jim Galvin
Color Guard Cdr	Woody Bowman
Paymaster	Joe Peacy
Quartermaster	Dan Ryan
Public Affairs	Vacant
Marksmanship	Ray Sturm
Web Sgt	Joe Wright
Young Marines	Ray Sturm

WEBSITE

<https://mclaacd1049.org>

FACEBOOK

Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049, MCL

MEETINGS

The detachment meets the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 Pm at American Legion Post 175 at 832 Manhattan Beach Rd, Severna Park, MD

SOCIAL HOUR

Commences immediately after the meeting. Join us for a beverage and the telling of sea stories.



Next Pistol Shoot

19 Feb 2026

6:00 PM
to
8:00 PM

Cindy's Hot Shots

115-C Holsum Way

Glen Burnie, MD 21060

No experience required.

Some shooters bring several firearms to share. Bring ammo or purchase on site.



DINNER

SOCIAL

Due to Valentine's Day,
our next dinner will be
in March.



All Marines and Families are Welcome

Fundraiser Tickets

Available Now

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY DETACHMENT 1049 Over \$2000 in CASH prizes * Month of MAY 2026							
The winning number is based on the Maryland EVENING 3-digit number drawn STRAIGHT. Payouts will be made at the end of the month. Awards will be given as listed below. Name appearing on the stub is the winner.							
May 1	\$75	May 9	\$50	May 17	\$50	May 25	\$300
May 2	\$50	May 10	\$300	May 18	\$50	May 26	\$50
May 3	\$50	May 11	\$50	May 19	\$75	May 27	\$50
May 4	\$50	May 12	\$50	May 20	\$50	May 28	\$50
May 5	\$50	May 13	\$50	May 21	\$50	May 29	\$50
May 6	\$50	May 14	\$50	May 22	\$50	May 30	\$50
May 7	\$75	May 15	\$50	May 23	\$50	May 31	\$75
May 8	\$50	May 16	\$50	May 24	\$50		

REORDER TICKETS CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MCL DET 1049

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____
SELLER _____

DONATION: \$5.00—1,000 TICKETS SOLD
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT MCL DET 1049



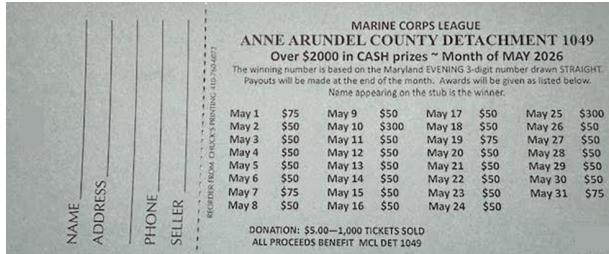


Senior Vice Commandant

We need your support.

> The detachment is running a **fundraiser** for May. It is based on the Maryland Evening Pick 3 daily lottery (picked straight.) Tickets are just \$5 each with proceeds supporting the detachment's general fund. You will have 31 chances to win.

Tickets are on sale now. See any detachment officer for tickets.



> Standby for information on our next **Bull & Oyster Roast on April 11th**. Last year's was a success and we want to continue growing it.

- John Dunker

Junior Vice Commandant

It's a new year with new beginnings. Let's all resolve to make the detachment as strong as ever. That begins with membership, and membership begins with you. First, to your ability, we would love to see you at our monthly meetings. Car pooling is available if you need a ride. Also, keep your eyes open for new members. The detachment needs to grow to succeed. Imagine if each member recruited just one Marine this year! The challenge is extended. Will you accept it?

- Joe Peacy

Quartermaster

The detachment has just replenished its supply of unit polo shirts, baseball caps, and other gear. Let me know if you need anything.

Detachment coins are available for \$10 each.

- Dan Ryan





Chaplain

The recent freezing weather storms have seriously impacted family and friends, including millions of our countrymen. Some of whom are devastated and have not recovered. Many of us are blessed with roofs over our heads, warmth, electricity, food, and water. Sad to say that there are thousands of children and elderly adults who die on the streets, or even die in their homes from no heat, no food, or any of those things that we might take for granted. Let us remember those children and elderly adults who go through daily life not having basic necessities like a home, a warm bed, proper clothing, food, or water. And that we are able to recognize opportunities to provide relief or comfort for someone in need. Pray that we have the compassion to help or to be in the service of others less fortunate

S/F

Jim Sanchez

Color Guard

No report.

Next event: Memorial Day

Semper Fi

Woody



Scouting Liaison

Jim Galvin, Sgt-at-Arms



Troop 216 Participated in the Pinewood Derby at Glen Burnie Elks Lodge on February 1st. Afterwards, they celebrated with a pizza party at Casa Della Nonna.



From Around the Corps

Quick repair by Marine keeps critical radar functioning on Okinawa

By RYAN M. BREEDEN STARS AND STRIPES • January 26, 2026

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa – The chief of naval operations has recognized a Marine staff sergeant for repairing a sophisticated radar system used to defend troops against aerial threats.

Brenden Kuhlmann of the 12th Marine Littoral Regiment received the Gold Disk award after fixing a key component of the regiment's AN/TPS-80 Ground/Air Task Oriented Radar, according to a Navy administrative message in September.

"It's a good feeling to allow a lot of Marines to actually do the repairs that they're capable of, then see them get recognized for it and come together to do all kinds of stuff," Kuhlmann told Stars and Stripes by phone Thursday. "The entire program that we're running here is really beneficial."

The radar made its operational debut during the July 2024 Resolute Dragon exercise on Yonaguni Island, about 67 miles east of Taiwan. The system can detect, identify and track airborne threats in 360 degrees, according to its manufacturer, Northrop Grumman.

The radar malfunctioned in an unexpected way, said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jared Hohmeier, the regiment's electronics maintenance officer. "It wasn't in our technical manual," he said during the phone interview.

Repairs by the regiment's members have saved the Marine Corps an estimated \$2 million and prevented more than 2,000 days of operational downtime, according to a 3rd Marine Division news release Jan. 11.



Staff Sgt. Brenden Kuhlmann, an artillery electronics technician with 12th Littoral Combat Team, 12th Marine Littoral Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, repairs a circuit board on Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Nov. 7, 2025. (Robert Blanks/U.S. Marine Corps)

Too funny to pass up...

Frenchman hospitalized after inserting WWI munition up his rear. *By Claire Barrett and J.D. Simkins, Military Times 2/2/2026*

The anonymous Englishman who managed to lodge a 2-inch-wide World War II anti-tank shell inside his rectum back in 2021 has been unseated.

The phrase “shell shocked” took on new meaning over the weekend when a 24-year-old Frenchman hobbled into Rangueil Hospital in Toulouse, France, complaining of unspecified pain.

Rushed into surgery, the doctors soon discovered that the source of the “unspecified pain” turned out to be an 8-inch long 37mm brass-and copper shell used by the Imperial German Army in the late stages of the Great War.

According to the French newspaper *La Dépêche*, the medical staff in Toulouse are “accustomed to treating victims injured during sexual games,” but are understandably unused to dislodging centuries-old munitions from rectums.

“He was in a state of extreme discomfort, having inserted a large object up his rectum,” said an investigating source, stating the obvious.

The artillery shell, unexploded at the time of the removal, resulted in the evacuation of the hospital, with an explosive ordnance disposal squad called to the hospital to ensure the munition was not in danger of detonating within the individual’s personal hurt locker.

France is currently edging the British in its centuries-old rivalry, as this is not the first time a Frenchman has married munition with derrière.

In 2022, an 88-year-old patient visited Hospital Sainte Musse in Toulon stunning doctors when they removed what turned out to be a WWI-era French munition measuring 8 inches long and more than 2 inches wide — from the man’s rectum. Surgeons were forced to cut open his abdomen in order to remove the hefty relic due to the shell’s considerably above-average size.

“An apple, a mango, or even a can of shaving foam, we are used to finding unusual objects inserted where they shouldn’t be,” one doctor reported. “But a shell? Never!”

While the echoes of the Great War are now more than a century old, the vestiges of the deadly conflict remain.

Along the Western Front, namely France and Belgium, the remnants of the First World War are still coming to the surface.

About 1.5 billion shells were fired during the war, and unexploded ammunition continues to plague Western Europe, particularly France.

An annual collection of the ordnances called “récolte de fer,” or “iron harvest” work to rid the land — and now rectums — of the explosives.

On Saturday, firefighters confirmed that they had defused the bomb and that there was no further risk to the patient or those in proximity to the hospital.

While the patient is expected to make a full physical recovery, the mental scars of his very own trench warfare is another story.

Still recuperating, the French national is set to be interviewed by police this week and prosecutors are considering legal action against the 24-year-old for handling “category A munitions,” according to an officer.



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



News You Can Use

Want to learn a new technique to manage stress? Take any or all classes! No registration required.

Phone-based Mindfulness Meditation Classes

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION classes provide an opportunity to learn about and practice mindfulness meditation techniques and cultivate awareness, compassion, and acceptance. Classes are once per month, conducted by phone. During each class, a topic related to mindfulness is introduced, followed by a guided meditation practice. Hosted by the War Related Illness and Injury Study Center (WRIISC), sessions are facilitated by experienced clinicians who provide mindfulness-based groups at VA.

UPCOMING SESSIONS

February 6

March 6

April 3

TIME

11am-Noon ET

TO JOIN

1-404-397-1596 or 1-833-558-0712 (Toll Free)

Participant Access code: 433 794 55



Edward C. Rothstein

Acting Secretary since August 2025

Edward.Rothstein@maryland.gov

<http://veterans.maryland.gov>



How To Apply For Benefits

The Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families' Service and Benefits Program assists veterans, service members, and their families in understanding and applying for the benefits they have earned. Our VA-accredited Benefit Specialists provide knowledgeable, in-person support to eligible veterans, dependents, and survivors seeking benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Defense, the State of Maryland, and other veteran-serving programs, helping ensure the application process is conducted clearly, accurately, and with appropriate support.

Before You Apply

If you already receive benefits, but just need to change your direct deposit information: The VA requires completion of an SF1199-A which [can be found here](#).

It is recommended that you first speak to the VSO before you submit your online request.

The VA Office of General Counsel maintains a list of VA-recognized organizations and VA-accredited individuals that are authorized to assist in the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of VA benefit claims at <https://www.va.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation/index.asp>.

How to Apply

Make an appointment with a DVMF specialist:

Find a DVMF Service Office near you (see below) and call that office directly to make an appointment. Service Program offices are open Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm, by appointment only.

During the appointment with the specialist, you can expect the following:

- Military separation discharge document review
- VA system review: Healthcare, Benefits, and Cemeteries
- DVMF programs review: Charlotte Hall Veterans Home and Cemeteries

Disability compensation/pension claim submission (if discharge paperwork supports the claim)

Continued on next page





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DVMF Service Program Offices

The Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families' Service Program Offices provide assistance from VA-accredited Benefits Services Specialists to veterans and their families with filing VA claims to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Defense, State of Maryland as well as other agencies that provide benefits to Veterans or family members. The assistance provided is at no cost—veterans should never have to pay to access the benefits they earned through their service. Our accredited specialists work with the veteran/family to the USDVA, DOD, State of Maryland or other agencies that administer benefits to veterans/dependents or survivors. We will assist in guiding individuals through the claims process and advocate on their behalf. Veterans are encouraged to be cautious of individuals or organizations that charge fees or are not VA-accredited, by the USDVA. Oftentimes fees can be applied not only to a current claim but to any claims for increase that may arise in the future.

County or Region	Location and Hours	Service Officer	Contact
Baltimore: Regional Office	31 Hopkins Plaza, Room 3020 Baltimore, MD 21201	Phil Munley, Director Stacy Travers, Chief, Veterans Appeals Cardell Bass, Western Area Supervisor Sharron Hall, Veterans Benefit Specialist II Joeanne Johanson, Veterans Benefit Specialist II Jeanie Paeng, Administrative Aide	800-446-4926, ext. 6450 800-446-4926, ext. 1 (office secretary) 410-230-4445 (fax)
Annapolis	Annapolis Motor Vehicle Administration Service Center 160 Harry S. Truman Parkway Annapolis, MD 21401	Kiana Hinton, Veterans Benefits Specialist II	410-573-4786 or 4787
Glen Burnie	Glen Burnie Service Center, Building A, Ground Floor Motor Vehicle Administration 6601 Ritchie Highway Glen Burnie, MD 21062	Antione Strange, Veterans Benefits Specialist II Jynell Proctor, Office Secretary III	410-424-3039 410-424-3047 (fax)





History ~ Customs ~ Traditions



January 3, 1777, The Marine Corps participates in its first land combat at the Battle of Princeton. (Paraphrased from Paul McBride)

After their founding on November 10, 1775, the Marines primary duty was to serve as the Navy's infantry arm. It was in this capacity that they conducted their first amphibious assault at New Providence, Nassau in the Bahamas.

In the fall of 1776, Captain Nicholas was recruiting in Philadelphia. The war was not going well for the Americans. By December, Washington was retreating through New Jersey. When he reached the shores of the Delaware River on the Pennsylvania side, he put out a call for veteran soldiers. Nicholas and about 600 new Marines from Philadelphia responded.

Washington assigned the Marines to General Cadwalader's Brigade to cross at Burlington. However, the ice-choked river prevented the brigade from crossing and participating in Washington's victory at Trenton. Cadwalader's three companies of Marines marched to Crosswicks, NJ and joined Washington outside of Princeton. The Battle of Princeton was the first in a long line of battles where the Continental Marines were called to action far from their ships.





Hound Dog Pound 204

Mer-lin Pack

Officers

Pound Keeper Howard Koontz

Sr Vice PK Bobby Lee

Jr Vice PK Wayne Miller

Smart Dog Ray Sturm

Dog Trainer Leonard Steipler

Mad Dog Glen Tabler

Police Dog Harry Hierstetter

Watch Dog Burt Helmka

Barking Dog Stuart Blair

Dog Robber Burt Helmka

Dog House

Harry L. Cooper VFW Post 160



MODD

Hound Dog Pound 204

Next Pound Growl

8 March 2026

VFW Post 160

Pack Growl

21 Feb 2026

American Legion Post 166

Ocean City, MD

Mini Growl of the Kennel

27 Feb 2026

Sheraton Hotel

Arlington, VA





The Young Marines is a national youth group for boys and girls ages eight through high school. It is focused on leadership, citizenship through community service, self-discipline, and living a healthy drug-free lifestyle.



Upcoming Events

1 Feb	Drill	American Legion Post 276	Severn, MD
14 Feb	Wreaths Across America clean-up	Crownsville	
15 Feb	Drill	American Legion Post 276	Severn, MD
1 Mar	Drill	American Legion Post 276	Severn, MD
13 Mar	Nat'l Awards Banquet	DoubleTree Hilton-Dulles	
15 Mar	Drill	American Legion Post 276	Severn, MD
28 Mar	Fish Fry	American Legion Post 276	Severn MD
29 Mar	Drill & Recruit Graduation	American Legion Post 276	

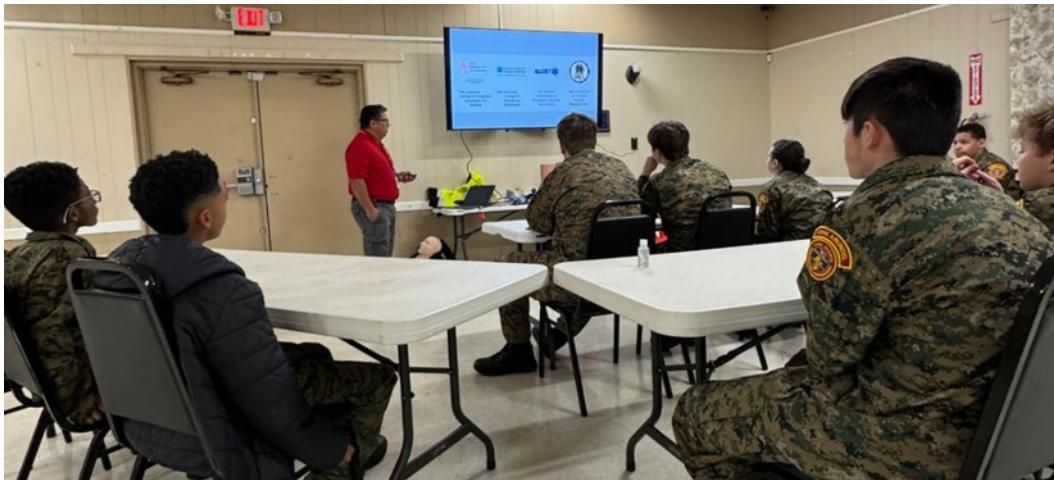
Special Events

Bushel of Crabs Fundraiser	Tickets Coming Soon	Drawing 16 May
Poker Run Fundraiser	TBD	

AAYoungMarines.org



First Aid Training



Jorge Paucar, from the Anne Arundel County Office of Emergency Management, conducts Basic and Advanced First Aid training for the unit. Topics covered included “Stop the Bleed”, packing a wound, tourniquets, Epi-pens, choking, and child and adult CPR.



YM Sgt Hudson Mager and YM Pvt Donovan Alford pack a wound while YM Cpl Charlie Knott and YM LCpl Mikey Southward observe.



YM Pvt Tyson Lampley applies a tourniquet to AV Brian Ott. YM Pvts Joey Allegar and Lukas Ott save themselves.





YM Pvt Dominic Mack performs the Heimlich Maneuver while YM Recruit Georgia McGrail and YM Pvt Alayna Ott observe.



Infant CPR performed by YM LCpl Manny Pereira.



Adult CPR performed by YM Pvt Dominic



Instructor observes YM Pvt Allegar using the Epi-pen



YM Pvt Alayna Ott uses the Epi-pen



UPCOMING EVENTS

CALENDAR

16 Feb	Detachment Meeting	AL Post 175	Severna Park, MD
21 Feb	Department Meeting	AL Post 166	Ocean City, MD
26-28 Feb	Nat'l Midwinter Conf	Sheraton Hotel	Arlington, VA
16 Mar	Detachment Meeting	AL Post 175	Severna Park, MD
17 Mar	MED MOY Due Date		
11 Apr	Bull & Oyster Roast	AL Post 175	Severna Park, MD
17-19 Apr	MED Conference	Atlantic Sands	Rehoboth Beach, DE
20 Apr	Detachment Meeting	AL Post 175	Severna Park, MD
28-30 Apr	Modern Day Marine	Convention Ctr	Washington, DC
7-10 May	Dept of MD Convention	Grand Hotel	Ocean City, MD
17 May	Detachment Meeting	AL Post 175	Severna Park, MD

The detachment meets the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 PM at the American Legion Post 175 at 832 Manhattan Beach Rd, Severna Park, MD.

Detachment Calendar Fundraiser— Tickets on sale for May drawings.

Bull & Oyster Roast - 11 April 2026

Bass Pro Membership Drive—TBD

Glen Burnie Spring Fest - 9 May 2026

Volunteers are needed to assist at these events.



HEAR YE, HEAR YE

The January Minutes will be posted on the detachment's website
and included in the February newsletter.

The editor apologizes for the inconvenience.



Print it out and have some fun.

Rumor has it, Ben can't find his mittens.



WINTER



F P A M O T I U S W O N S Q B S
R X G O Y D S H O V E L Z J N C
Q T L B N K L W R S M A G O U F
V G S R A P E N G U I N W Y H D
I W N T E J G X M Q S B R E O Z
U C E A Y T N D P I O H F K L R
M S I Z G Q A V B A T L X C I J
Y H K C F G W E R N U T P O D G
S J M V L S O D W R X Q E H A N
E N T G K E N B R S F M C N Y I
V L O I N H S I O X J U Q A S D
O F I W P E E R S T O O B M C D
L N X U B S Z J Y P N I H W K E
G I P E T A L O C O H C T O H L
B S C A R F L D R E M Z U N J S
H R E T N I W L X F P G Y S O K



boots	hot chocolate	shovel	snowboard
flurries	icicle	skates	snowman
frozen	igloo	skiing	snowsuit
gloves	mittens	sledding	sweater
hockey	penguin	snow angels	toboggan
holidays	scarf	snowball	winter

Tree Valley Academy



Crisis Signs



**Veterans
Crisis Line**
DIAL 988 then PRESS 1

These signs require immediate attention. If you are experiencing any of these and need medical attention, call 911 now. For immediate help in dealing with a suicidal crisis, contact the Veterans Crisis Line: Dial 988 then Press 1.

- Thinking about hurting or killing yourself
- Looking for ways to kill yourself
- Talking about death, dying, or suicide
- Self-destructive behavior, such as drug abuse, risky use of weapons, etc.

It's okay to ask directly: "Are you thinking about taking your own life?"



Warning Signs

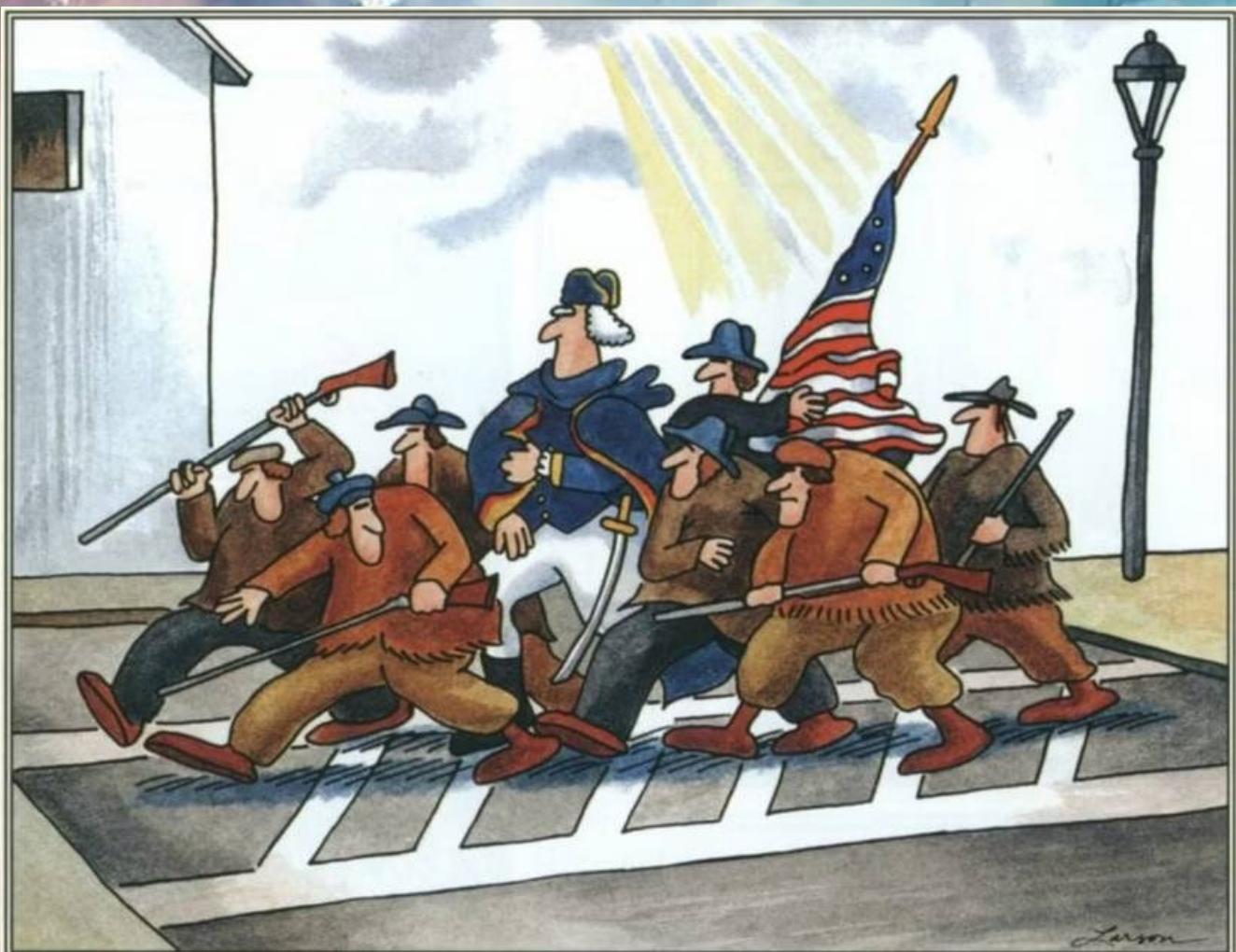
These signs may indicate that a Veteran needs help. If you or a Veteran you know is experiencing any of these, contact the Veterans Crisis Line now: Dial 988 then Press 1.

- Appearing sad or depressed most of the time
- Hopelessness
- Anxiety, agitation, sleeplessness, or mood swings
- Feeling as if there is no reason to live
- Feeling excessive guilt, shame, or sense of failure
- Rage or anger
- Engaging in risky activities without thinking
- Increasing alcohol or drug misuse
- Losing interest in hobbies, work, or school
- Neglecting personal welfare and appearance
- Withdrawing from family and friends
- Showing violent behavior, like punching a hole in the wall or getting into fights
- Giving away prized possessions
- Getting affairs in order, tying up loose ends, or writing a will



Asking about thoughts of suicide doesn't increase their suicide risk.





Washington crossing the street