

## in our post home >>>

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2025

JULY



# POST 52'S NEWS

*A Publication of VVnW Jack Green Memorial Post 52*



## Our Troops >>>

### Project Support our Troops

#### UPCOMING PACKING:

- **Tuesday, July 8th at 5:30pm**

Visit us at:

[https://www.facebook.com/pages/Project-Support-](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Project-Support-Our-Troops/)

[Our-Troops/](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Project-Support-Our-Troops/) We are accepting

stateside names and addresses,

in addition to those deployed!

Reach out to your friends and

neighbors and let's get as

many soldiers' boxes as we

can.

Please Contact: Kim

Lengling at (814) 724-9099

OR

OR

Laurie Davis at (814) 853-8145

## Commander's Comments

Summer is officially here. I hope everyone has been able to keep up with the yard mowing with all of the rain.

The Post continues to stay busy with all of our projects, along with color guard details, helping veterans in need, dinners, sending packages all around the world to places you've never heard of and don't see on the news.

Please remember we have soldiers deployed all over the world in dangerous places keeping us safe. Keep them in your prayers. We are always in need of help with the many things we have going on to help veterans.

We are 100% all volunteer. Every penny we take in goes to help veterans and their families in one way or another. If you have any time to spare; whether it's helping in the dining room / kitchen, color guard, packing boxes etc., please let us know what you can do to help. We are always busy doing something to make things better for someone else.

As we all are aging and our crew is getting smaller, we need your help so we can continue to do what needs done to help our veterans, their families and the community. Remember our Motto, We Are People Who Care.

Thanks for your continued support.

Never Forget.

Yours In Brotherhood,

*Phil*

814-282-9737



# JULY 2025



Open for dine-in or Take-Out 4 pm - 7 pm  
Homemade Dinners are open to the public

Gift Certificates available

CARRY-OUT AVAILABLE – CALL 814-807-1661

NOTE: We are closed for major holidays



**CLOSED JULY 5<sup>TH</sup>. HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY**

## *FISH, SHRIMP & SPAGHETTI SERVED EACH WEEK*

### Beer Battered Fried Fish

**\$15**

Deep fried haddock served with choice of fresh cut fries or baked potato. Served with choice of coleslaw or applesauce, veggie and dessert included.

### Lemon Pepper Baked Haddock

**\$15**

Haddock seasoned with lemon pepper seasoning, freshly baked served with choice of fresh cut fries or baked potato. Served with choice of coleslaw or applesauce, veggie and dessert included.

### Shrimp Basket

**\$15**

8 pieces of golden fried butterfly shrimp served with choice of fresh cut fries or baked potato. Also served with choice of coleslaw or applesauce and dessert included.

### Spaghetti

**\$10**

Post 52 homemade spaghetti meat sauce. Served with choice of coleslaw or applesauce, bread and dessert included.

### Feature dinner July 12, 2025

#### MEATLOAF

**\$12**

### Feature dinner July 19, 2025

#### WINGS

**\$1+**

Choice of BBQ, Hot, Mild, Cajun or dry ranch. Served with choice of fresh cut fries or baked potato, choice of coleslaw or applesauce and dessert. Upgrade to meal add \$5

### Feature dinner July 26, 2025

#### CHICKEN PARMESAN

**\$12**



## Details and Dates.....

**ATTENTION COLOR GUARD:** Flag Raising at Fly-in at the Meadville Airport, July 5<sup>th</sup> first thing in the morning. Contact Phil to let him know you will be (or not be) participating. 814-282-9737

**Next troops packing** – Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>

*Many thanks to Tina Bennett for putting together a donation bin for Project Support Our Troops at Walmart. The drive was very beneficial in helping fill the boxes for the packing on July 8<sup>th</sup>.*

**Lion meeting** — July 10<sup>th</sup> - help needed

**Next meeting** — July 21<sup>st</sup> - 7 pm

**Veterans Resource Fair** – Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> 10 am – 1 pm. Call Phil to sign up for your time slot. It is a great time to see other veterans you haven't seen for a while. Phil's number is 814-282-9737.

**Post Meetings:** *All Post monthly meetings are scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00pm. Next meetings are July 21, No Meeting in August, and September 15<sup>th</sup>.*

*You can keep up-to-date on Post information at [www.post52.com](http://www.post52.com)*

**Commander: Phil Davis**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice: Del Preston**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice: Tom Burbidge**

**Master Sgt-at-Arms: Jack Sheets**

**Trustee: Ken Novosel**

**Quarter Master: Laurie Davis**

**Secretary: Marsha Manning**

### **RENTALS of the POST HOME**

#### **Use of Building Only:**

- Member Rental Fee - \$75
- Non-Member Rental Fee - \$100

#### **Use of Kitchen with Building:**

- Member Rental Fee – \$125
- Non-Member Rental Fee -- \$150

***Renter is responsible for set up of building prior to event and clean up after event. Thank you!***

***Thank you to Theresa Novosel and Myke Bennett for being the committee for the Crawford County Fair. Mark your calendar---Fair dates are August 16<sup>th</sup> – August 23<sup>rd</sup>. You will be receiving a phone call to schedule your work time.***

***Thank you to Marsha Manning and Myke Bennett for being the committee for the Post Christmas Party. Stay tuned for details.***





*Congratulations to Alexandria Potts, winner of Post 52's Education Assistance Award for 2025. Alexandria will be furthering her education at Slippery Rock University. She is the granddaughter of Post 52 life member, Jim Potts. We are very grateful she came to the Post and read her essay. It gave us the opportunity to see what an amazing young lady she is and to see Grandpa Jim again.*



Harold Beerbower, Korea POW (held for 27 months) riding in the Post 52 Jeep in the Memorial Day Parade, chauffeured by Ken Novosel





Behind the Jeep were 5 veterans proudly participating.







Post 52 Color Guard members retiring the colors during the Memorial Day ceremony. Left to right: Wayne Gray, Marshall Liliie and Phil Davis.



Post 52 members at Memorial Day ceremony in Diamond Park.

***Post 52 volunteers recently built a new set of steps for an 89-year-old veteran.  
The Post received a call for help from a UPMC nurse.  
Pictured left to right: Phil Davis, Adam Novosel, Jake Novosel and Ken Novosel.  
Special thanks to the Novosel boys for all the help.***



***Post 52 Color Guard attending flag ceremony at the Elks Club. The ceremony was intended to be a flag burning ceremony, however, there was extremely heavy rain that day, so it changed to an indoor ceremony which was absolutely beautiful.***

***Pictured left to right:  
Bob Preston, Phil Davis, Del Preston***



# Veterans Services



## VETERANS RESOURCE

**VETERANS  
OF THE  
VIETNAM WAR**



## FAIR

In Partnership with:

**Please join us:**

**July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025 1**

**10:00 am - 1:00pm**

**Harm Jan Huidekoper**



**Post 2006**

### **Location:**

**Downtown Mall, 900 Water Street, Meadville, PA 16335**

All Veterans, Active Duty service members and Family  
Members are welcome

Organizations and Agencies from around  
the area will be here to provide answers to  
your question and offer support.





## FROM the VA



### ***Program aims to ease navigating resources for Veterans June 24, 2025, Code of Support Foundation***

The sharing of any non-VA information does not constitute an endorsement of products and services on the part of VA. Veterans should verify the information with the organization offering. If you've ever felt overwhelmed trying to find the right support services as a Veteran, you're not alone. From housing needs to employment and mental health resources, knowing where to start or how to apply can feel like a full-time job. That's where [PATRIOTlink](#), an open-access resource database from [Code of Support Foundation](#) comes in. And now, it's better than ever.

A better way to find support

PATRIOTlink has launched a new pilot program designed to make resource navigation easier for Veterans and military families searching for assistance. This update introduces a referral feature, built specifically for partner case managers, but with major benefits for Veterans:

- Secure file storage: All of your information stays safe in one place.
- Chat with a case manager: A built-in chat tool makes it easier to stay in touch with your case manager or the PATRIOTlink team, ensuring that you feel supported at all times.
- Progress tracking: You and your case manager can keep tabs on applications, updates and follow-ups all in one place, keeping you organized and informed.

Integration with VA

Additionally, PATRIOTlink now connects directly with VA through a secure application programming interface (API), which allows eligible users to upload their information to their platform account. If you're a Title 38 Veteran, you can securely reference your VA profile when applying for support services on the platform, making verification more efficient.

Built with Community in Mind

So far, 21 nonprofit organizations have joined the pilot program. These include groups that specialize in mental health, employment, education support, recreational programs, service animals, caregiver support and more. All of these programs are ready to support Veterans.

By using PATRIOTlink's referral feature and VA API, partners are equipped to do this work on your behalf even more effectively and efficiently.

Why this matters

There are over 45,000 Veteran support organizations across the U.S., but navigating the entire system of resources can be incredibly difficult. PATRIOTlink is working to bring them all together into one easy-to-use, accessible platform for you and your family.

Since 2016, PATRIOTlink.org has been connecting Veterans and their families to vetted, free or low-cost programs nationwide. Whether you're transitioning out of service, in need of support, or helping a fellow Veteran find resources, these updates will provide you with the ease of use and peace of mind you've been searching for. Visit [patriotlink.org](#) to get started today.

## FROM the VA



### ***Never too late to sign up for VA benefits***

***'I Never Expected We Would Have Such Good Care'***

***June 26, 2025, Michael Hamill, Public Affairs Specialist, Coatesville VA Medical Center***

During a visit to her private doctor in 2010, Jo-Ann Belanger was stunned to find out how much a new prescription would cost each month, even with private health insurance.

Then her doctor pointed out that both she and her husband were Air Force Veterans. "You should be able to get some help from VA," he said. The doctor's suggestion changed the Belangers' lives.

Using the benefits they earned

Courtesy photo. Jo-Ann and Ken Belanger are leaving their church on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025.



Like other Veterans, they Belangers assumed they weren't entitled to [VA health benefits](#) because they only served a few years at a stateside location. For 45 years after they left military service, they relied on their private health insurance policies. Then they signed up for the VA benefits they had earned and deserved.

At first, the Belangers only took advantage of VA pharmacy services. "Our pharmacist is wonderful," said Jo-Ann. "When I call, she always gets back to me. My questions are always answered. They are always there for me. Nothing is too much for them."

But the longer the Belangers used VA, the more benefits they realized they could access, including annual physicals and acupuncture.

'I love it here'

Now in their 80s, they regularly see a private sector doctor when Medicare and insurance cover it, and then come to [Coatesville VA](#) for everything else: podiatry, optometry, audiology and physical therapy.

"I love it here. Everybody is great," said Jo-Ann. "I get care that I never thought I could get. The people suggest things that I didn't even know I could do or have."

VA also provides medical equipment and other supplies. "I get one free pair of shoes from podiatry every year. And the hearing aids. And eyeglasses." After recent surgery, VA "gave us blood pressure cuffs, the commode, the shower and the walker"—all of which would have cost money under private insurance.

"It is such good care," she added. "I never expected that we would have such good care."

Learn [how to apply for VA health care](#).

## FROM the VA



**Women Veterans deserve respect  
VA promises to be a safe place to receive care  
June 21, 2025, Office of Women's Health**

Nationwide, [81% of women in the U.S.](#) report experiencing some form of harassment or assault in their lifetime (compared to 43% of men). A recent [women Veterans study](#) found that some women have reported being harassed while on VA grounds, a place where all Veterans deserve respectful and safe care.

These experiences send a negative message to the Veterans VA serves. For women Veterans, [harassment](#) in a health care setting can bring up earlier military sexual trauma. This is not acceptable.

What harassment looks like

For women Veterans, harassment can take many forms, including:

- Being called inappropriate names like "sweetheart" or "baby."
- Enduring catcalling, staring or leering.
- Receiving intrusive questions such as, "Are you single?"
- Being told, "You don't look like you belong here."
- Getting unwanted comments about appearance or clothing.
- Experiencing invasive actions like being touched, followed or photographed without permission.
- Being repeatedly referred to as Mister when called for appointments.

These behaviors aren't just uncomfortable, they can also remind the Veteran of past traumatic experiences. Some Veterans may avoid, miss or delay important health care appointments as a result.

What VA is doing and what you can do

VA is actively working to eliminate all forms of harassment in its facilities. Here's how:

- Zero-tolerance policy: No form of harassment is acceptable. Ever.
- Ongoing education: Staff, patients and visitors are learning to identify and intervene in harassment through public messaging and training.



- Support systems: Veterans can report harassment anonymously and receive follow-up support, counseling and investigation.  
If you see or experience harassment at a VA facility, report it. There are several ways you can report harassment, including the following:
  - VA Police or security.
  - A patient advocate.
  - A [Women Veterans Program Manager](#).
  - Your health care provider, nurse or any VA staff member.
  - The [Women Veterans Call Center](#) at 855-829-6636 (many of the call center staff are women Veterans themselves).
  - VA customer service at 800-698-2411 (option 9) for 24/7 confidential support.  
VA staff will take you seriously, ensure your safety and guide you through your options, whether you want to give your name or [remain anonymous](#).
- What happens when you make a report
- When you report harassment, VA follows a structured, supportive process to ensure your safety, document the incident and take action. We inspect every report—even if you don't have all the details. Here's what you can expect:
1. Ensure your safety: If you've been assaulted or feel unsafe, VA staff will act immediately to protect your physical and emotional well-being. They may contact VA security or local law enforcement if needed.
  2. Provide information: VA staff will listen to what happened and may ask for details such as your name or contact info (you can report anonymously), location and date/time of incident, description of what occurred, who was involved (if known), any witnesses and supporting materials (such as images).
  3. Conduct an inquiry: All reports are reviewed within one business day. A fair, thorough inquiry may include speaking with you and any witnesses, reviewing submitted materials and determining appropriate next steps.
  4. Take action: VA will take steps to stop the harassment, hold those responsible accountable and prevent future incidents. This may involve disciplinary action, training or other corrective measures.
  5. Receive ongoing support: You'll receive updates once the inquiry is complete, along with information about counseling and mental health resources. VA staff will remain available to support you throughout the process.

To Women Veterans: VA has your back

Women Veterans belong at VA. We are committed to making sure you feel safe, comfortable and respected every time you seek care here. If someone makes you feel disrespected or unsafe, it's not "just a comment" or "no big deal." It's harassment, and it's not acceptable. We will support you, and we will take action.

To everyone who enters a VA facility

Most people don't intend to harass others, but sometimes they witness it and don't know what to do. Others may make a comment without thinking twice about how it could make someone else feel. VA encourages everyone—Veterans, staff, family members and visitors—to learn more about [bystander intervention](#) to learn how to safely and effectively intervene when harassment occurs. However, the best thing you can do to help is to report the incident. A single action can stop an incident, support a sister Veteran and set a new standard of respect.

Let's continue building a VA culture that respects every Veteran's service and ensures that no one is ever made to feel like they don't belong. VA will take every report seriously, act swiftly to ensure safety, investigate thoroughly and provide follow-up support.

Visit the [VA Report Harassment](#) page to learn more or call, text or chat with the [Women Veterans Call Center](#). To learn more about how VA is building a culture of respect for women Veterans, visit our [Women's Health Culture of Respect](#) page.

## FROM the VA

VA is working for Veterans when it comes to purchasing a home.

In FY2024, VA Loan Guaranty Service helped Veterans do the following:

VA-Guaranteed Loans: **416K**

Average Veteran Interest Rate: **5.8%**

First-time Homebuyers: **119K**

Homebuyers under 35 yrs old: **33%**

Average time to close: **31 days**



VA

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

## VA Home Loan basics: An earned benefit with unique advantages

June 20, 2025, Lorin Smith, Office of Communications, Loan Guaranty Service

Active homebuyers most often search for their new homes during the busy spring and summer months. Experienced Veteran homebuyers know they have a leg up on the process—their VA Home Loan Guaranty benefit. But what about those who've never used it?

Meet Army Reservists and new homeowners Brian and Amy. They expected the VA home loan process to include lots of government paperwork that would take a ton of time to complete, but they quickly learned that it was fairly simple—and came with an added benefit. The couple had been saving up for a down payment, but thanks to the VA Home Loan program, they were able to use the money they saved for the down payment and instead put it toward renovating their new home.

This is just one unique benefit of the VA home loan that makes it the product of choice for eligible Veterans, service members, National Guard and Reserve members, and surviving spouses.

For Veterans thinking of starting the home-buying journey, VA wants to make it easy to understand the VA home loan process. Let's start with the basics.

What is the VA Home Loan Guaranty?

Since 1944, VA loans have helped generations of Veterans and service members build stronger financial futures. As part of its mission to serve Veterans, VA Loan Guaranty Service helps Veterans buy, build, repair, retain or adapt a home for their personal occupancy.

The VA home loan program offers several advantages for Veterans:

- In most cases, no or limited down payment required by VA (lenders require a down payment in some cases).
- In most cases, no or limited loan limit if the Veteran has full entitlement and can meet the lender's financial guidelines.
- No need for Private Mortgage Insurance (PMI).
- Limited closing costs and competitive interest rates compared to other loan programs.
- Your VA home loan is a lifetime benefit: You can use the VA loan guaranty multiple times (with adequate entitlement).

How does the VA loan guaranty work?

VA is not a lender. VA home loans are funded by private lenders, such as banks and mortgage companies. VA guarantees a portion of the loan, enabling the lender to provide a Veteran with more favorable terms. This means VA provides a guarantee to pay a percentage of the loan back to the lender should the borrower default. This allows lenders to offer VA home loans with favorable financing terms.

What's the first step in the VA Loan process?

The first step is to apply for a [VA home loan Certificate of Eligibility](#), or COE, to verify eligibility for the VA home loan benefit. Generally, mortgage lenders will assist Veterans with obtaining their COE online with just a few pieces of information, but Veterans may [do it on their own by requesting their COE online](#), or by mail. The majority of COE applications are issued automatically online.

What is the maximum loan amount a Veteran can obtain without a down payment?

VA does not set a maximum loan limit if the reasonable value meets or exceeds the purchase price and the Veteran qualifies based on their credit history, assets and income. In these cases, no down payment is required by VA. This means eligible Veterans who qualify can obtain loans over \$1 million without a down payment! VA does limit the maximum amount of guaranty available to



Veterans who have unrestored entitlement, which means the lender may require a down payment.

#### VA loan types

- Purchase: Buy new construction or existing single-family homes, condominiums, manufactured homes and multi-unit 2-4 properties.
- IRRRL: The VA Interest Rate Reduction Refinancing Loan (IRRRL) is one of the best features of the program because they're simple, low-cost refinance loans that don't require income verification or an appraisal.
- Cashout: Allows qualified homeowners to refinance their mortgage and take out cash from their home's equity.
- Assumptions: For all VA home loans committed on or after March 1, 1988, Veterans may sell their home to someone who agrees to assume the original terms of the loan.

What if a Veteran has an issue paying their mortgage?

VA is here for Veterans, even if they are having trouble [making their home loan payments](#). We encourage any Veteran who is having problems with their mortgage—or their mortgage servicer—to work with the mortgage company directly or reach out to us for support by calling a VA home loan representative at 877-827-3702.

Where to learn more?

The VA home loan is considered the product of choice for Veterans and gives them an opportunity for homeownership not offered to civilians. For more information, visit [VA's home loan website](#), and check out the [VA Home Loan Guaranty Buyer's Guide](#) for all of the details to help make your homebuying dreams possible.



## **It's OKAY to Ask for Help!**

*Please utilize this link to sign up and receive updates from the Veterans Administration via email and/or text messages:*

**<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVA/subscriber/new/>**

**CRISIS LINE – Crawford County 800-315-**

**5721 and Erie County 800-300-9558**

**Suicide Hotline 800-273-8255 IF IMMEDIATE DANGER, CALL 911**

**National Resource Directory- [www.nrd.gov](http://www.nrd.gov) – online directory to services and resources for wounded troops, veterans and their families.**

**AGENT ORANGE REGISTRY INFORMATION – 412-822-1707 OR**

**<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/benefits/registry-exam.asp>**

**Herbicide Storage Location Link (OUTSIDE of Vietnam):**

**<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/locations/index.asp>**

**CRAWFORD COUNTY VETERANS SERVICES OFFICE**

**814-333-7314 (phone) OR website information:**

**<https://www.crawfordcountypa.net/VeteransServices/Pages/home.aspx>**

**There is help available 24 hours a day, seven days a week:**

The Veterans Crisis Line — Call (800) 273-8255, then press 1. You can also text/chat at 838255.

**Dial 988 then Press 1 for crisis support 24/7!**

*Also available is the Women Veterans Call Center, which provides U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs services and resources to women veterans, their families and caregivers. You can also chat online anonymously with a call center representative. Call (855) VA-Women (855-829-6636) 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays and 8 to 6:30 Saturdays. Use the same number to text.*

*The paper edition of Post 52's News is a quarterly publication.*

*The email (e-Edition) is issued monthly.*

*If you wish to receive a monthly copy, please send your email address to: [post52news@gmail.com](mailto:post52news@gmail.com)*

*Paper Edition/Copy Schedule (subject to changes / extra editions): March, June, September, December.*

*Email Edition Schedule: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December.*

*Submission Deadline for the Post 52 Newsletter is the 28<sup>th</sup> of each month. Items received after the 28<sup>th</sup> will be held for future issues, printed as time and space permit, and as appropriate.*

*Lion's Club dinners are listed on our calendar so that members are aware of when we need additional kitchen help; our Post caters the dinners for the Lion's Club. Stop in, lend a hand, and thank the Lion's Club members for their community work*





## What's Happening at Post 52 and around the Globe

### July 2025

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Independence. Day	5 NO Dinner – Have a Safe 4 <sup>th</sup> of July
6	7	8 Troops Packing at 5:30pm	9	10 Lions Club Dinner, help needed	11	12 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
13 A.B.A.T.E. meeting at Post 52 11:30am	14	15	16	17	18	19 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM A.B.A.T.E. TOYZ-4-KIDZ RUN!!
20	21 Post 52 Monthly Meeting 7pm	22	23	24	25	26 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
27	28	29	30	31		

### August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
10 A.B.A.T.E. meeting at Post 52 11:30am	11	12	13	14 Lions Club Dinner, help needed	15	16 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
17	18 NO MEETING	19	20	21	22	23 SATURDAY
Crawford County Fair Aug. 16 – 23 – Be Ready to Sign Up!						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 NO Dinner – Have a Safe Labor Day Weekend!
31						

### September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
7	8	9	10	11 Patriot Day Lions Club Dinner, help needed	12	13 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
14 A.B.A.T.E. meeting at Post 52 11:30am	15 Post 52 Monthly Meeting 7pm	16	17	18	19	20 No Dinner – Ride Safe at: Post 52's Ride for Freedom
21	22 Start of Fall (Autumnal Equinox)	23	24	25	26	27 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
28	29	30				