



www.womenveteransunite.com

June 2024

womenvunite@gmail.com

Mission: Becoming Visible



Thank you VyStar!

VyStar opened a new location on Capital Circle on June 11. As part of their ribbon cutting they chose Women Veterans Unite as an organization to partner with in the community and donated \$5,000.00.

Women Veterans Unite President, Audrey Alexander speaks to the VyStar administrators and community present at the ceremony, thanking them for honoring us with the donation.

June 20 WVU gathering



Donna Newton Lett Kittrell
and Gwen Jamerson-
Membership committee



May June July birthdays:
Marianne Scholer, Pia
Woodley, Cindy Bennett,
Betty Smith and Kim
Watford.



Reviewing the Bylaws



Group shot



Manager Lydia Turner accepts the Certificate of Appreciation from WVU Vice-President, Paula Hubert. Olive Garden generously donated dinner for the June 2024 WVU monthly gathering. Brian Haywood, General Manager (not

pictured) says: Olive Garden is glad to help!"

Thank you, Olive Garden.

Did someone leave their welcome packet with a XL polo shirt at the American Legion Hall after the WVU gathering? IF so, call Karen 914-772-5915.

Sponsor/Donor Profiles



SunStop Convenience Store and Gas station

Dive into a summer of unbeatable savings and thrilling rewards at SunStop! Fuel up with exclusive discounts on gas, indulge in mouthwatering snacks and refreshing drinks with irresistible deals, and don't miss out on our epic SunStop Summer Games

sponsored by Coca-Cola. Earn big with our Summer Meal Deals, making each stop more rewarding than ever. Get ready to turn every journey into an adventure with SunStop - your ultimate destination for a summer filled with excitement and savings!

SunStop is dedicated to being a responsible corporate citizen and actively contributes to the communities in which we operate. Through community engagement initiatives, philanthropic endeavors, and support for local organizations, we strive to make a positive impact and help build stronger, more vibrant communities.

Thank you SunStop for sponsoring WVU! We appreciate your support.

DO YOU KNOW...

Anyone selling a used car. WVU member Ava Underwood is looking for one. She can spend between

\$4000-\$6000

Please contact Ava

850-345-2770

Avaunderwood25@gmail.com



Thanks to **Dodi Sheffield (pictured on the right), friend of WVU member Beatrice Wolfe**, for designing and donating the Women Veterans Unite business cards. This enables us to continue our mission of educating the public that women are veterans too!

Resources

Vanessa Thomas, State Women Veterans Coordinator for FDVA (Florida Department of Veterans Affairs)



Vanessa Thomas, FDVA

Vaness works closely with Sharon Brooks who is the WVU regional representative for the Florida Women Veterans Advisory Council. Need help with disability claims? Contact Sharon at **850-728-0067**



Sharon Brooks, Florida Women Veterans Advisory Council rep

Felecia Brown, Founder Bo Johnson Girls, LLC. A former homeless Army veteran Felecia has a mission to provide transitional and permanent housing for homeless veterans and their families. She will assist veterans navigating the health and benefits system-

FREE

Contact Felecia at **832-316-7475**

www.bojohnsongirls.com



Felecia Brown

Debra Mann works for DAV. Her office is at the VA clinic.

DAV Debra Mann
850-272-6170
Disability Claims



Debbie Mann

Veterans Legal Collaborative-FREE legal information and help with disability or homeless issues meets every Thursday from 3 pm to 5 pm at the American Legion Hall Lake Ella Drive. Walk in encouraged.

Disabled Veterans Outreach Program
Brooklyn Enders
443-621-0579
Job information and retraining



Brooklyn Enders, DVOP



FIND HELP FOR YOURSELF & OTHERS

If you or someone you know is struggling upon returning home and needs immediate, professional help—call the Suicide and Crisis Hotline and press 1 for veteran support or visit the website to talk with a VA responder.

Call 988 and press 1
VeteranCrisisLine.net

If you want to be a partner in the suicide solution the American Legion initiative, **“Be the One,”** needs help reaching out to at risk veterans. Contact

Rodney Keener
251-635-7663
rbkeener22@gmail.com

American Legion Update



Cindy Laskowski, NEWLY ELECTED COMMANDER **Sauls Bridges Post 13**

Cindy enlisted in Delayed Entry US Army in February 1977. After high school graduation she went active October 18, 1977. She completed Basic and AIT at Ft. Jackson, SC then went off to HHD 509th Signal Battalion, Camp Darby, Italy. She served as a Personnel Actions Specialist and Col Driver. She transferred back stateside to Ft. Ord, CA, 7th AG Company, P & A Battalion, 7th Infantry Division where she served as a Personnel Actions Specialist. She also learned to drive 2.5-ton trucks

Cindy will be installed as the Commander for the Sauls-Bridges #13 American Legion Post on Thursday July 11 at 6:30 pm.

FUNDRAISER INFO



Savour



Drew and Kim McLeod of Savour restaurant (<https://www.savourtallahassee.com/>) choose a nonprofit organization to receive the proceeds from their "drink of the month." Drew and Kim chose Women Veterans Unite to honor with their drink "Forged from Valor." Whenever a customer orders this drink, the proceeds will be put aside and at the end of the month given to Women Veterans Unite.

The Mc Leods' graciously extended the fundraiser through the month of June.

FHSMV Veteran Recognition Day June 14

**GUEST SPEAKER
CAPTAIN DONNIE
COCHRAN
(USN ret.)**

The guest speaker, Captain Donnie Cochran was the first African American aviator to be selected to the flight demonstration squadron: Blue Angels. He is a 2022 inductee into the Georgia Aviation Hall of Fame. The Cpt. speech was inspirational.



WVU Public Information Officer Kimberly Homer and Cpt. Cochran.



PIO Kimberly Homer, VP Paula Hubert, new recruit to WVU Dove, Karen Bauer, Armed Forces Liaison

North Florida Homeless/At-Risk Veterans STAND DOWN



July 12-13, 2024
FAMU

Lawson Multipurpose Center
1800 Wahnish Way
Tallahassee, FL 32310
www.tallahasseeveteransorganization.org
Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday only: spouses and caregivers

SERVICES OFFERED DURING THE STAND DOWN

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| VA Benefits Counseling & Claims | Accessibility Aids |
| Housing Assistance | Disability Sports Services |
| Free Hot Meals & Non-Perishable Food Bags | Veterinary Services |
| Medical, Mental and Dental Services | Employment Counseling |
| Legal Services | Senior Services Awareness |
| Chiropractic Services | Prize Drawing & Gift Cards |
| Suicide Prevention Awareness | Drawings for Free Bicycles |
| Free Haircuts | Health and Wellness Packet |
| Free Star Metro Bus Transportation | Other VA and Community Services |

ATTENTION:

Pre-register with TVO for the Stand Down at
www.tallahasseeveteransorganization.org/stand-down
To obtain a Driver's License or ID, a birth certificate is required;
Legal Issues

Veteran status must be verified by presenting a VA healthcare card or a DD Form-214.

Stand Down Coordinator Jevell Robinson: tallahasseeveterans@gmail.com



**Women Veterans
Unite will have a
table set up at the
Stand Down 2024.**

At Ease Campground

Hosted by American Legion Post 340

4th OF JULY

BBQ BASH

LIVE MUSIC 5 - 9 PM
ANNA WESCOAT

FIREWORKS at Dark (Donations Accepted)

\$5 ENTRY FEE
WORST DANCERS REQUIRED
UNDER 12 FREE

BOUNCE HOUSE & LAWN GAMES

Pork or Chicken Dinner Plate
Fundraiser by Recovery Fire Department
Burgers Also Available

At Ease Marina
WINGATE LANDING

139 WINGATE RD - LAKE SEMINOLE

Sponsors



Sherlock Springs Sherlock Springs may be North Florida's best kept secret. This sprawling nature retreat, event venue and environmental educational facility is in Crawfordville, Wakulla County about 15 miles south of Tallahassee, FL. Owner/operator Rich Abrams champions veterans and graciously offers WVU the venue for the fourth year in a row.



VyStar was founded in 1952 as the JAX Navy Federal Credit Union at Naval Air Station Jacksonville. Our goal was to serve the financial needs of military service members, civil service employees and their families.



Pam Moyer at **Haven Spa** provides half spa day as a prize for the WVU fundraiser.



INSURANCE • BONDS **Earl Bacon Agency** is one of the oldest and largest independent insurance agencies in North Florida providing business and family insurance services. Robert Bacon, CEO. Robert and his daughter Lauren have sponsored WVU for three years. They are the agents for the WVU event insurance.



A trusted Nissan dealer in Tallahassee, **Kraft Nissan** is known for its exceptional customer service including a wide selection of vehicles, helpful financial experts and trained service technicians. They pride themselves in their commitment to the community and welcome partnerships with local organizations.



Best convenience store and gas station. Bringing everyone amazing moments.



Mission BBQ always ready to feed veterans and first responders.



BARBRA BOUTIN Barbra Boutin is the daughter of Jack Richard Bayer, Vietnam Veteran, 183rd Airborne Brigade who served as a medic in the United States Army. She is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Jack's honor. Barbra is a multi-million-dollar Florida licensed Real Estate Advisor and Broker Associate with Engel & Völkers serving Greater Tallahassee.



The ALA answers the call of *Service Not Self*. They are the male and female spouses, grandmothers, mothers, sisters, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The

American Legion. Some are veterans themselves. The American Legion, the ALA has grown to be one of the largest veterans' support organizations. Nell Hewitt, President of Tallahassee ALA #13.



The **NSDAR (National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution)** is a nonprofit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting historic preservation, education and patriotism. **FT San Luis Chapter, DAR** Regent Becky Berensten.



Vietnam Veterans of Big Bend Chapter 96 works with other veteran organizations to provide veterans with services that enhance their health. Joe West, President



Healthy Trak-Karen Bauer, RN, MS, Wellness Coordinator. Juice Plus Rep-because no one eats the recommended daily number of fruits, vegetables, and berries.

Donors and Supporters Tallahassee Chinese Medicine Parrotheads of Tallahassee Charles Mohr
Maggie Finch Helen Wohrab