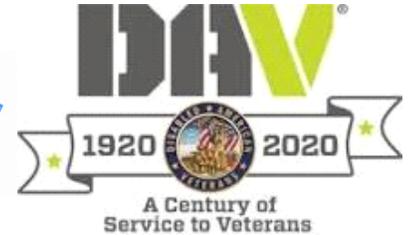


Disabled American Veterans

January 2026 Newsletter



FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDER/ MICHAEL STOYONOVICH

Brothers and Sisters!

Thank you for the honor of serving you as your Department Commander again this year.

My number one priority for this year will again be, “No Chapter Left Behind.” The Department officers and staff, (Brooke and Hollie), worked with 24 chapters this year when they got behind on submission of mandated reports such as Officer Election Reports, Annual Financial Reports, Tax Returns (IRS 990 Form), and Annual Kentucky Secretary of State Nonprofit status fees. The Department and the Chapter officers came together and we kept the nonprofit status for said chapters, intact.

DAV National now requires all Chapters that have less than \$25,000 in their chapter accounts to submit an annual financial report digitally on National’s specific forms to them no later than 90 days from the date of the last day of our Department Convention. The Department has been working continually for the past 45 days in complying with National’s new requirement explained above.

Chapter Officers: Please consider during your new chapter officer elections this Spring to consider members for positions or committees that have experience using personal computers and are computer experienced in light of all these new requirements to submit mandatory reports to DAV National and the DAV Department of Kentucky, digitally.

All chapters must now submit annual financial reports to DAV National and the DAV Department of Kentucky. Please let me, or any of your Department Officers, Department Staff, or District Officers know if you need support in submitting these mandatory report forms. We are here to support you with no animosity. Without our chapters we can’t exist as an organization. After working with all chapter officers these past 45 days the Department has a good financial baseline to help support all our chapters in submitting these annual financial reports for 2026 and beyond.

Priority-Working final development of Department/Chapter fundraisers to help our income grow for 2026 and beyond. The 1st DAV Annual Department of Kentucky Bass Fishing Tournament at Lake Cumberland was a great success and a lot of fun last fall. We had a good turnout and your SEC Officers were on site to make sure we all had a good time. Your Department Officers are working on details for more fundraisers now, and will make you aware of when and where they will be.

Priority- Is putting the final touches on a **Department Website** in order for all our members to better communicate safely between each other. **The Department has chosen a System Administrator and that is Hollie from Department HQ.** She has experience as a system administrator with websites and we couldn’t be more thrilled with her volunteering to take this on. **She has already started the development of the Department Website and is anxious for the startup.** I will keep you all informed when it is ready for you to log on. Please let us know what you would like to see as a feature in the new website. *(continued on next page)*

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Priority- This coming year will be developing a training program to support our chapters in recruiting new members. This will be in the form of a recommendation to chapter officers to use as a guide for future recruitment of new members. Your 1st Jr. Vice Jonathan Collett, (A Department Champion Recruiter for 2025), has drafted a training program document that recommends ways that all of us can recruit new members. Jonathan will be finalizing this training document and it will be submitted to you at our Spring District meetings as a guideline for your future use.

Priority- Will be to make sound financial investments to grow our Department income and allow the SEC to make future decisions on how to invest our monies. The Department has received several donated vehicles during 2025-2026, and we have turned them into income for the Department General Fund. The Department and Chapter leadership, will gladly accept your recommendations from any of our Chapter members on priorities that make us better to serve you.

The Department of Kentucky only exists to support you!

Thank you for having your trust in me as your Commander. Together we have solved several lingering issues this past year as to updating our Department Constitution and Bylaws and having much needed SEC and Finance Committee meetings to address how to move forward as a Department. More of these meetings to follow this year.

We also have had an actual live Zoom SEC meeting in late 2025 with several SEC Officers in attendance with discussions on several topics on how to improve the Department for us all. We also had a Finance Committee Zoom meeting with discussions focused on Department Investment strategies and how to improve. We discussed what to do with monies we have now, as well as future investments. A discussion ensued for scheduling more Zoom meetings for the SEC and the Department Finance Committees. **These Zoom meetings were able to save time traveling and fuel expenses for the participants.**

Lastly, I have had more than one member tell me to consider asking all our chapter's brothers and sisters to send their favorite or generational family favorite recipes to Department HQ, so we can develop a **DAV Department of Kentucky Cookbook**. We eat so good at our Chapter meetings and District meetings that I know there is some great family recipes out there. 3rd District Executive Committeeman, Jerry Long, was the first to suggest a Department Cookbook. I believe developing a cookbook together would be fun and well received. Let me know what you all think.

Blessings to you all and your families!

Contact me at stoyboy.stoyonovich300@gmail.com or daveterans@yahoo.com or by phone/text: (270) 566-3722



DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT/GEORGE HALL

Greetings to all of our Kentucky DAV members. I hope this finds each and every one of you in good health as we enter the New Year of 2026.

Let's all think recruiting for new members from now until we meet at the Department Convention in June. We need to make that our priority to make sure we leave a great legacy for our future generations of veterans. DAV has made a promise to our veterans to support them but we must recruit new members to carry that promise into the future. Invite veterans to your chapter meetings and make them feel welcome and get them involved by putting them to work. Your focus on fundraising and community involvement will undoubtedly help raise awareness and support for the DAV.

Our legislative team is heading to Washington DC at the end of February. We will be again fighting for legislation that will benefit our membership and all disabled veterans.

Thank you for your leadership and dedication to making a difference in the lives of veterans.

If you have questions I am available for you at (606) 477-5460 or daveterans@yahoo.com

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES/ LEE EWING



I hope you all had a great holiday season!

I have been busy this year helping our veterans and family members get their well earned benefits. We have kept the new CMS/VA system loaded with new claims already this new year. The CMS system is all digital and requires service officers to do a lot of keyboarding. Just take your time in adjusting to the system. Know your VA forms and the rest will just take adjusting to.

Your NSO's and I are here for you. When possible the NSO's or others that have gotten their specific password and specialized training can come to your chapter or group session and train you where you live. NSO's will provide each chapter service officer their own password to enter and use the CMS system.

Note: Please review the Department of Kentucky Constitution and By-Laws which has a lot of new language added this past state convention,(2025). Your Chapter Officers need to be aware of what mandatory reports are due to whom and when. Several annual reports have to be filed online and sent electronically to the Department of Kentucky and DAV National.

If I can be of service, please feel free to call (502) 543- 7705 or email daveterans@yahoo.com. My prayers are with you and your families and I want you to know that I appreciate your service and your dedication to DAV.

DEPARTMENT SENIOR VICE COMMANDER/JOHN CLARK



Dear Fellow DAV Department of Kentucky Members,

As we look ahead to the upcoming year, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for your continued dedication to the mission of the Disabled American Veterans. Your commitment to serving our fellow veterans is what makes this organization strong.

With Chapter officer elections approaching, I encourage any member who has an interest in serving to consider stepping forward and leading. Serving as an officer is a meaningful way to give back, support our chapters, and help guide our organization into the future. Strong leadership at the chapter level is essential in ensuring that DAV continues to effectively advocate for and support veterans and their families.

District meetings will be starting soon, and I look forward to seeing everyone in attendance. These meetings are an important opportunity to share information, collaborate, and strengthen communication across chapters. I strongly encourage every chapter to send a representative to their respective District meeting so that all voices are heard and all chapters remain informed and engaged.

Thank you again for your service, your dedication, and your willingness to support one another. I look forward to working together in the year ahead and seeing many of you at the upcoming District meetings.

Respectfully,
Department Sr. Vice
John Clark

Reach me at (606) 425-3059 or email: VETJOHNCLARK@AOL.COM

DEPARTMENT 1ST JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER/ JONATHAN COLLETT



Greetings Comrades.

I hope this newsletter is finding you all well and still finding the joy of the season as we come into this year. Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, and the various other holidays of the season are meant to be a time of joy with our families, and a time of reflection within ourselves. I am thankful for my family, and the Veteran Comrades which have come into my life. This has made this season incredibly special to me, and I am thankful for the opportunities God has given me in my life. I truly hope you each find the same comfort as well.

The holiday season can be a challenging time for many veterans. Surviving combat sounds great on the surface, but we each know veterans who struggle during this time of the year. Although they survived, many have guilt because they made it through while a buddy never came home. Other stressors often go unnoticed. I encourage each of you to remember those who served. Not all wounds have healed and not every scar is visible. Remember to check in with those who are not in the forefront. We could call these “the least, the last and the lost.” Our mission is not complete without looking out for those who others have overlooked or forgotten. Since our Department Convention in June, service officers have seen remarkable results after switching to the DAV’s Claim Management system. The ability to get our claims into the hands of the National Service Officers in a managed system has led to our claims getting through much quicker. I have seen claims approved in as little as 28 days. I have witnessed firsthand how this has impacted our veterans. This system is one of the best tools to reach our hands in recent years.

As DAV service officers, we enable our chapters to lead the charge of veteran assistance in our communities. There is no greater joy than helping our brothers and sisters who fought for their country. I have watched as veterans go from little or no income, to receiving benefits which greatly increase the quality of their lives. This work would not be possible without the many volunteers who work tirelessly across the Commonwealth. We cannot talk about Service Officers without talking about recruiting. Service Officers have the unique opportunity of introducing previously unsolicited veterans to the Disabled American Veterans. There is no shortage of Veteran Service Organizations throughout the Commonwealth, but there is a shortage of VSO’s filing claims. We offer something other organizations do not. We afford every chapter the ability to have chapter service officers. You do not have to travel to Lexington, Louisville, Paducah, or any of the metro areas to file a claim. We can file your claim right here, at our chapter, in our city. This is a strength on which we must capitalize. Show them the benefit of joining our ranks, not only for themselves, but for the tens of thousands of veterans standing tall across the state. Show them why we are the go-to VSO when needing to access their earned benefits.

If your chapter does not currently have a Chapter Service Officer, start planning to send your best candidates to the Department Convention for training. It will pay dividends for your chapter, your community, and the veterans we so proudly serve.

Jonathan Collett,
1st Junior Vice Commander
Disabled American Veterans
Department of Kentucky

DEPARTMENT 2ND JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER/ANTHONY EVANS

Good afternoon, I hope the new year brings you many opportunities for new experiences and opportunities!. Please accept my apology for sending out my newsletter statement late as I have had the opportunity to spend several weeks with my parents and kids which has been a fantastic distraction.

As we embark on a new year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the challenges faced by many individuals and families in our veteran community. Hardships have affected numerous lives, particularly those who have felt the weight of rejection, abandonment, and loss. As we honor the sacrifices of our troops and their families, it's essential to always remember those who are now navigating life as surviving parents, spouses and children. In this time of reflection, I urge each of you to check in on one another. A small act of kindness can go a long way in fostering a sense of connection and support among us. It is in these moments that we can truly stand together, united in our commitment to help those who may be struggling. Please take the opportunity to extend a hand to fellow comrades or reach out to those who may feel alone. Let us make a collective effort to shine a light on the challenges faced by members of our community. Thank you for your time, and I look forward to our continued collaboration in 2026.

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to our continued collaboration in 2026.

Anthony Evans

DEPARTMENT 3RD JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER/ DANNY SHEPHERD

Hello my DAV friends! A new year and a new me. On January 18th I got baptized.



I haven't been to church since I was 10 years old. I always felt a calling but the calling got louder last year. I started going to church when one of my DAV members had an accident. It made me realize that you never know when it is your time. I appreciate all the support that has flowed my way.



The name of the DAV member that I lost in November 2025 is David Korff. David was the member that had just one arm. David came to the convention last year to help with flag presentations. David joined DAV about 4 years ago. He lived in the homeless shelter that I run. David became

Chapter #18 family quickly. He would do anything that he could to help the chapter. He was very dedicated. The VA caseworkers told me that they have seen a big change in David since they moved him down to the shelter that I run. David will be forever missed in Chapter #18.



I checked on our buddy Luke Rollins yesterday, and he is getting around very well. Luke came to honor night and we honored 3 DAV members for their exemplary work in the chapter. I wasn't expecting Luke to come to this event because of sickness, but he surprised me. Luke is a great DAV member. He taught me everything that I know about service work. He is a great mentor and a great friend.

We as DAV need to lift each other up instead of putting one another down. We have great members that do a lot of work and are very dedicated to the cause. I respect each and every one of you all. If you need anything just reach out to me.

I want to leave you with this quote from Nelson Mandela, "The greatest glory in living lies not in never failing, but in rising every time we fall."

Contact me at (606) 789-4852 or email at dnnysphrd32@yahoo.com

DEPARTMENT 4TH JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER/ STEVE JOHNSON



Hello 2026 Comrades!

I hope the holiday season treated you well and you got to spend time with family and friends. I know illness has been running rampant in my house since the holidays. Pretty much every member of my family. A good reminder to check on friends and fellow veterans during this flu season, as many of us are at risk for serious illnesses.

My remarks are coming in late due to being ill, I would like to thank our Commander for giving me extra time to submit.

Now that we are through the holidays its time to get back to work in improving the lives of veterans, and their families, here in the Commonwealth. I have been working on learning the software and hardware requirements to put together a podcast to showcase veterans and their experiences. I had pitched developing a podcast during our Fall District meetings. It's a lot to learn and when it comes to producing something like this, I am a bit of a perfectionist. I will hopefully have something to present to the Executive Committee in the coming months. I look forward to continuing the work we do for veterans, and I thank all of you for giving me the time, effort, and passion, that you give me everyday to our DAV mission. As always if there is anything I can do for you or your chapter, please don't hesitate to reach out. I can be reached at either email stevejohnson.dav@gmail.com or talk/text at (812) 797-4377

DEPARTMENT JUDGE ADVOCATE/ BENEFITS PROTECTION TEAM LEADER/DAVID BALL



Each year, Disabled American Veterans gathers in our nation's capitol for one of the most important events on the DAV calendar, the DAV Midwinter Conference in Washington D.C. This conference is more than a meeting. It is a chance for our organization to come together, and review the challenges facing our nation's disabled veterans, and sharpen our focus for the year ahead.

For the DAV Department of Kentucky, the Midwinter represents a proud tradition of service and advocacy. Once again, we will be on Capitol Hill meeting face to face with our Kentucky elected officials to ensure that the voices of Kentucky's disabled veterans are not just heard, but respected and acted upon. This year's dates for the Conference are February 21st-25th.

During our time in Washington, members of the Kentucky delegation will visit our state's legislators and their staffs to discuss DAV's national legislative priorities and the issues most urgently affecting veterans and their families. These visits matter. They help put real stories behind the policies being debated, and they remind decision-makers that veterans' needs are not partisan, they're personal.

We will present DAV's legislative goals for the coming year, emphasizing support for programs and protections that ensure veterans receive the care, benefits, and respect they have earned through sacrifice. From healthcare access to claims processing, caregiver resources to mental health support, DAV remains committed to fighting for meaningful solutions- and Kentucky will be part of that fight.

This conference is also an opportunity to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with fellow advocates from across the country, learn from national leadership, and return home with renewed energy to serve veterans at the local level. Advocacy does not end in Washington, it begins there and continues back in our communities, posts, and chapters all across the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The DAV mission is clear: to empower veterans to lead high- quality lives with respect and dignity. Kentucky's presence at Midwinter is a reflection of that mission in action.

On behalf of the DAV Department of Kentucky, I am honored to represent our members, our chapters, and most importantly our disabled veterans. I look forward to working alongside our team in Washington, and I encourage every member to stay engaged as we push forward on behalf of those who have already given so much.

Together, we will continue the fight!

Respectfully,

David Ball
Department Judge Advocate/ Benefits Team Leader
DAV, Department of Kentucky
Contact me at (606) 309-1812 or email at Ball.David1976@gmail.com



DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN/ JOSEPH MCCARTNEY

My Fellow Comrades,

2025 is now in the rearview mirror. I hope everyone had a grateful and blessed holiday season.

Now we look forward to 2026 and see what OUR FUTURE holds, not only for our veterans, but for this organization (as a whole).

What can WE do to leave a historical mark, or legacy for OUR veterans, future veterans, and their families to say, "hey I was a part of that historical moment".

As I've said repetitively at the District (Regional) meetings "I will continue" to recognize our veterans across this state with fifty years of dedication to this organization. So, with that said... **DISTRICT** and **CHAPTER COMMANDERS**, please ensure that **your** rosters are **ACCURATE**, and **UP TO DATE** (by removing those that have passed). This will help me out considerably once I start putting the names together for the display (Which I plan on starting the first part of MAY).

Now on a more personal note... I want to thank **EVERYONE** throughout this organization that showed support, prayers, and condolences for myself, and my family, with the passing of our youngest daughter (Geri). This organization put the true meaning into "**FAMILY**". I am so thankful to be a part of this group of fellow veterans that are considered my brothers and sisters. From the bottom of my heart **THANK YOU**.

Remember, if you have an event or function happening in your area that maybe noteworthy of DAV history, please contact me at 606-682-2356 (please leave a msg), or email: jmacattack60@gmail.com

Until next time, Bless all of you, and I'll see everyone at the upcoming meetings, Lords' will.



DEPARTMENT SGT-AT-ARMS/ JEFF MORGAN

Happy New Year everyone! Hope everyone had a good Christmas. It is a new year, let's hit the ground running and getting out making the DAV Department of Kentucky a name people know. DAV Chapter 105 and Auxiliary went to the Lexington VA Hospital and passed out "goodie bags" to the veterans. We donated \$350.00 worth of underwear to the veterans as well. Our local Walmart gave us a \$100.00 gift card to help us with this project. Chapter 105 thanks them all for what they do for us.

Chapter 105 has plans again this year going to "Summer Nights Cruise." Hope to see other chapters there to help get the DAV name out there to recruit new members.

Chapter 105 is also planning on hosting a car show on July 18th at the park in Monticello. We are working on what classes of cars we want to be registered in the show. I hope some of our chapters come out on July 18th and join us and have some fun at our car show. Details to follow.

Chapter 105 is gearing up to host the 5th District Spring meeting and we will send out details on where and what time the meeting will take place. Chapter 105 has a busy year calendar of events planned for this year.

Chapter 105 has been asked by event coordinators to participate in an annual event to recognize veterans at Sergeant York's Park in Pall Mall, Tennessee on April 10, 2026. Chapter 105 will participate in this event for veterans recognition and our "Doughboy Statue" will be the center piece of the event. Come out and join us. Details to follow.

The main theme here is to get out and make DAV Department of Kentucky well known for our good deeds throughout the Commonwealth.

Our Chapter 105 has printed yard signs for advertising our events and what our great chapter does. This maybe something that other chapters would like to do. It has worked well in getting recognized and has helped with getting Wayne County and Monticello citizens to participate in our events and has helped with recruitment for new DAV members.

On another note, my account on Facebook has been hacked and have entered a new page for Jeffrey Morgan and my picture now has a DAV Canopy in it. Send me friend requests if I have not gotten one to you.

I hope to work with all others at the Department level in making us, "Set the Example for success at DAV, nationwide." Each of us need to be one voice for what is best about our great organization.

Blessings!
Jeff Morgan

Contact me at (606) 307-8719 or email at MORGANJEFF89@yahoo.com

The Lighter Side of Things

"Life is brighter on the lighter side of things."



Chapter News

If your Chapter would like to be included in our Chapter News Section of our Department Newsletter, please send articles, pictures, fund raising event information, Honor Guard information, etc. to: stoyboy.stoyonovich300@gmail.com or to Department HQ at daveterans@yahoo.com. We have a space for all Chapters to participate.

“DON'T KEEP ALL YOUR GOOD DEEDS TO YOURSELVES. BE PROUD SAY IT LOUD!!!!!!”

Chapter #18

Flag folding at Porter elementary school in November 2025



(continued on next page)

Chapter News

Chapter 18

Prestonsburg Veterans ceremony in November 2025



East side Baptist church flag ceremony in November 2025



Chapter News

Chapter 18

Highlands elementary flag folding in November 2025



WR Castle elementary flag folding in November 2025



Getting needed clothes to school children from 10 different schools (Veterans Coalition funded)



Chapter News

HONOR NIGHT—George Hall, Luke Rollins, & Larry Sexton



DAV Chapter 18 Christmas Party 2025



Chapter News

Chapter 32 2025 Car Show



Best Engine, 1971 Chevy Vega,
Kenny Shaid



Best Ford, 1969 Ford Mustang GT 428
Joe Daugherty



Best GM, 1967 Chevy Z 28 Camaro,
Gary Carney



Best in Show. 1957 Chevy Bel Air
K.W. Walker



Best Mopar, 1973 Plymouth Scamp
David Crisman



Best Paint, 2013 Ford Shelby GT 500
Sawyer Vincent



Best Paint, 2013 Ford Shelby GT 500
Sawyer Vincent



Judge's Choice, 1957 Chevy Pick-up
Charles Langdon



Ladies Choice, 1956 Chevy Bel Air
Larry Skillern



Larry Vincent Memorial, 1972 Chevy Chevelle
Greg Williams

Winners not pictured:

Best Other, 1941 Mercury, Jerry Tindle

Best Interior, 1957 Chevy Bel Air, model 210, William PlumLee

DAV Choice, 1969 Chevy Chevelle SS, Cody Farris

Best Motorcycle, 2019 Janus Halycon, Eddie Seabrough

(all photos by Lynn Bledsoe)

Chapter News

Chapter #32

Christmas Dinner and celebrating our great Auxiliary



Chapter 132

Morgan County DAV 132 had the honor to post colors for the local high school (Morgan County High School) veterans program.



Chapters 66 and 158

Golden Corral on Veteran's Day



DAV Chapters 66 & 158
2025 Golden Corral
Veterans Day Dinner
London KY



Veterans Day Dinner At
Bobby's Corbin KY

POW/MIA



The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced identifications and updates for service members who have been missing and unaccounted for from WWII, Korean War, and Vietnam. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

World War II Army Staff Sergeant David Polvado

World War II Army Private Donald R. Lichty

World War II Army Sergeant Melvin E. Jones

World War II Army Staff Sergeant Charles H. Knecht

World War II Navy Lt. Thomas A. Ruth

World War II Army Staff Sergeant Paul A. Huzarewicz, Jr.

World War II Army Corporal Richard A. Veal

World War II Army Air Forces Private Lowell C. Acres

Korean War Army Corporal Thomas W. Neiswinger

Korean War Army Corporal Nicolas S. Dell Olio

Korean War Army Sergeant James R. Martin

Korean War Army Corporal Lawrence A. Smith

You can rest now brothers!

News & Notes



- + The House of Representatives is considering a bill H.R. 2605, Assisting Veterans (SAVES) Act, which would create a five-year pilot program for VA to provide grants to nonprofit organizations to furnish eligible veterans with service dogs and veterinary insurance. Service dogs have proven to assist veterans who have various physical, auditory, and trauma-related disabilities.
- + The journey to home ownership for Veterans can be challenging, but the VA provides support to help you stay in your home during financial hardships. VA has options such as special forbearance, repayment plans, loan modifications, or the new VA Servicing Purchase (VASP) program can provide relief tailored to your situation and help you avoid foreclosure. For additional support, contact the VA at 877-827-3702 or the website at va.gov.
- + Veterans are being prescribed powerful psychiatric medications, often several at once, without clear written information about the risks. This is unacceptable. Two House Bills would bring real protection and real options: **H.R. 4837**, Written Information Consent Act, would require clear written information before VA prescribes certain psychiatric medications. **H.R. 2623**, Innovative Therapies Centers Excellence Act of 2025, would create five VA centers to expand access to cutting-edge PTSD treatments. Veterans deserve transparency, safety, and real choices.
- + VA's specialized programs for homeless veterans provide housing solutions, employment opportunities, health care, justice related services, and more. If you, or someone you know, is homeless or at risk of homelessness, call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at (877) 424-3838 for assistance.
- + DAV and VFW have recently testified at a Senate Veterans Affairs Committee hearing on pending legislation. The VSO's addressed all 24 legislative proposals and bills under the Committee's consideration, while highlighting three key measures during their testimony. The three key pieces of legislation would eliminate automatic claim denials due to a missed medical examination, enable a more efficient and timely appeals process, and allow veterans to access available military medical treatment facilities, improving continuity of care and timely medical evaluations.
- + The Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs now has a Homeless Veteran Grant Program which has proven to be successful in helping veterans currently experiencing homelessness or those at risk through a \$750.00 grant for rental, electric, gas, and water assistance. Requirements include: 1) Must be a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces, with an honorable or general discharge and proof of a DD214 form, 2) Completed application, Photo I.D., DD214, Proof of income, and copy of Electric, Gas, Water, Rental Agreement statements. Send completed application packet to: kdvafinancialassist@ky.gov
- + VA has added three cancers to the list of presumptive diseases covered under the PACT ACT of 2022. Male breast cancer, urethral cancer, and cancer of the paraurethral glands are now presumed service-connected disabilities due to toxic exposure, streamlining the claims process for eligible veterans with evidence of a diagnosis.
- + The VA National Caregiver Support Line has new operational hours of Monday-Friday, 8am-8pm EST. Caregivers, family members, friends, veterans, and community partners can call toll-free at 855-260-3274 to learn more about the services that are available, and for assistance connecting with the Caregiver Support Team at a local VA Medical Center. Read more www.caregiver.va.gov/help_landing.asp.
- + The U.S. Supreme Court ruled against two veterans who argued that their disability claims were unfairly denied because they did not receive favorable decisions when the evidence presented in their cases was equal. In a 7-2 decision, the court ruled that the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims is not required to review the VA application of the "benefit-of-the-doubt" rule in most decisions. The standard requires the VA to approve veteran's claims when the supporting evidence, either for or against approval, is close.

DAV Department of Kentucky Contact Information:

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DAV Department of Kentucky State Executive Committee 2025-2026

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