



JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES Department of Maryland

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Jewish War Veterans of Maryland

January 14, 2021

A Healthy, Safe and Happy New Year

Excerpts from the *JWV MA Newsletter*: As we enter the New Year JWV Maryland would like to thank our Members, Descendants and Patrons for their support and standing with us whenever the need arises. May we continue to serve and support our Active Service Members, Veterans, their Families and our local Community Partners. As always, our JWV Membership is the secret ingredient that make things happen within our Department. Thank you, for your continued support, and have a healthy, safe and happy New Year. Commanders are asked to please stay in contact with your membership. Soon we will return to our normal practice and we will be, ***“Stronger and Ready to Serve.”***

JWV Events Around our State

JWV Free State Post 167 info:

Meeting dates:

17 January 2021 @ 1000 - new time
February no meeting, possibly an Executive Meeting if needed.
14 March 2021 @ 1000
11 April 2021 @ 1000
16 May 2021 @ 1000
20 June 2021 @ 1000
18 July 2021 @ 1000
August no meeting

JWV Post 380 info:

31 May 2021 - Memorial Day Parade in Formation at Annapolis

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Since 1896, We are the Jewish Voice for Veterans, across all generations

Late June/Early July (exact date TBD) - Induction Day Dinner with Naval Academy Plebe Families. More info to follow on Annual Dining Out, Department Annual Meeting, Annual Golf Outing - sponsored by Post 567

JWV Krieger-Loube Post 567 info:

Prize-winning journalist Bob Levey will be the featured speaker on a special free Zoom virtual event, Sunday, February 7 at 11 AM. Register soon as registrants are limited to the first 99 people. Contact Post Commander Jerry Cohen by email at jeromeacohen67@outlook.com and provide your full name to reserve a spot and to receive a Zoom invite. Members of the other Department of Maryland JWV Posts are invited to attend.



Many readers will remember Levey's long-running and popular column of 23 years, published in The Washington Post. Levey will talk about "The Golden Era at The Washington Post," under the leadership of executive editor Ben Bradlee and publisher Katharine Graham. He will provide insights and recollections about Watergate, the Pentagon Papers, the great political reporters of that era, and much more.

JWV Post 692 info:

30 May 2021 - Memorial Day Program at the American-Jewish Veterans Memorial, Bender Jewish Community Center (JCC), Rockville, MD

7 November 2021 - Veterans Day Program at the American-Jewish Veterans Memorial, Bender JCC, Rockville, MD

JWV Events Around the Country

Are you having an online event that you want to invite the rest of JWV to attend? Do you want to attend JWV events from other posts or departments? Find that new calendar at <https://www.jwv.org/programs/in-your-area/post-online-programs-events/>

REGISTRATION FOR National Executive Committee (NEC) NOW OPEN

The JWV National have changed the dates for NEC 2021 to make this a virtual convention using WebEx. We will no longer be traveling to Orlando, Florida because of ongoing issues related to the coronavirus. Instead, the convention will take place **Thursday, January 28 – Friday, January 29.**

Click on link for registering on line:

https://www.jwv.org/programs/building-membership/national-executive-committee/?mc_cid=e7dd953d54&mc_eid=2dd9869a37

JWV Celebrates 125 Years

2021 marks the 125th Anniversary of the establishment of the Jewish War Veterans! To celebrate this milestone, order the 125th Anniversary commemorative pin! The pins are \$5 each and a **minimum of 5 pins per order is required**. To place your order, [e-mail](#) or call Ben Kane at 202-448-5410.



In the News

Insurance changes could help disabled veterans, troops in the new year

Disabled veterans will see an increase in their life insurance coverage and new protections on the payout of traumatic injury insurance claims under the veterans bill passed by Congress last week. More info click below.

https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2020/12/18/insurance-changes-could-help-disabled-veterans-troops-in-the-new-year/?mc_cid=e7dd953d54&mc_eid=2dd9869a37

Veterans Affairs changes thousands of prescription deliveries to other carriers over USPS delays

An internal memo at the VA indicates thousands of prescription deliveries will now go to other carriers because the slowdown at the post office meant some veterans didn't get prescriptions on time. More info click below.

https://www.radio.com/connectingvets/news/inside-veterans-affairs/usps-again-delaying-veterans-affairs-prescription-deliveries?mc_cid=e7dd953d54&mc_eid=2dd9869a37

Rabbis and Jewish ethicists hail vaccine for COVID-19, encourage its use

Some polls have conflicting views about the public's desire to get the COVID-19 vaccine in the U.S. and Israel, but rabbis and ethicists say there is no higher value in Judaism than protecting life itself. More info click below.

https://www.jns.org/rabbis-and-jewish-ethicists-hail-vaccine-for-covid-19-encourage-its-use/?mc_cid=e7dd953d54&mc_eid=2dd9869a37

New Year, New You: VA's online resources can help you handle life's challenges

The Department of Veterans Affairs has a program to help you "adjust to life's challenges" called Moving Forward.

https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/82837/new-year-new-you-vas-online-resources-handle-lifes-challenges/?mc_cid=276fae705a&mc_eid=2dd9869a37

Looking for new perspectives on combating suicide

The Air Force is creating a working group on mental health and resiliency this year as part of an effort to fight suicide in its ranks.

https://www.airforcetimes.com/news/your-air-force/2021/01/03/new-in-2021-looking-for-new-perspectives-on-combating-suicide/?mc_cid=276fae705a&mc_eid=2dd9869a37

VA restarts collection notices for benefits overpayments after COVID put them on hold

The Department of Veterans Affairs will resume overpayment notification for benefits that it had suspended from April 3, 2020 through January 1, 2021.

https://federalnewsnetwork.com/veterans-affairs/2020/12/va-restarts-collection-notices-for-benefits-overpayments-after-covid-put-them-on-hold/?mc_cid=276fae705a&mc_eid=2dd9869a37

Submissions for next *The Jewish Veteran*

Have you or your post done something you want to share with JWV? Do you want to write an article about veteran issues? If you are interested in submitting photos or articles for the first issue of *The Jewish Veteran* in 2021, the **deadline is March 2**. Send items to editor@jwv.org. If you have questions, call Cara Rinkoff at (202) 265-6280 ext. 413.

Information sharing... *VA Now Has One Centralized Phone Number for all Customer Service*

If you've ever tried to call the Department of Veterans Affairs to get help or information about your VA benefits you know that it can be confusing knowing just which number to call. The agency currently has several dozen customer service lines, each set to address a different issue. If you call the wrong number, you most likely won't be able to get your specific question answered. That has now changed with the addition of the new single access telephone contact point that VA officials say will alleviate confusion and make it easier for veterans, families, caregivers and survivors to reach a live agent that can provide assistance. The new number is **800-MyVA411 (800-698-2411)**, and provides a single access point to all VA contact centers. Make sure to add the number to your

contacts for easy access. The number is available **anytime 24/7/365**. But the other numbers are not going away. That means if you can't remember or lose the new number, the line you've been using for years to contact your desired division will still work. For additional information in its entirety, here is the link: <https://www.military.com/benefits/2020/12/17/va-now-has-one-centralized-phone-number-all-customer-service.html> Special thanks to JWV NJ Post 609 Commander Charles Koppelman for making us aware of this recent update.