

VSC NAACP Veterans News Issue 3

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Virginia Department of Veterans Services

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services (VDVS) continues the phased reopening of offices and facilities that had been closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Veterans and their family members must call or email their local VDVS office to make an appointment to meet in-person with a Veteran Services Representative (Benefit Services division) or a Resource Specialist (Virginia Veteran and Family Support program – VVFS).

The addresses, telephone numbers and emails of all VDVS offices are available on the VDVS website at www.dvs.virginia.gov/dvs/locations.

Read more at:

<https://royalexaminer.com/virginia-department-of-veterans-services-continues-phased-reopening/>

VA Support for Caregivers

The VA's Caregiver Support Program, which now assists only caregivers of post-9/11 veterans, will expand. Starting in June 2020, caregivers of veterans who served after 1974 will be able to apply for full services, and sometime in 2021, caregivers of veterans who served during or after World War II can apply.

Once the expansion is fully phased in, caregivers of all veterans who served from World War II on will be eligible for full benefits from the Caregiver Support Program.

To be eligible for full benefits, caregivers must be caring for veterans with medical conditions linked to their service.

The program expansion is part of the VA Mission Act passed in 2018 by Congress.

To apply, go to www.va-10-10cg-form.com

[Military Caregiving Guide for veterans, service members and their families](#)

<https://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/caregiving/2019/05/748002-Caregiving-Guide-Military-DEC-2019-WEB.pdf>



The National Association of Black Veterans (NABVETS), with headquarters in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is a 501c(3), nationally certified Veterans Service Organization by the Department of Veterans Affairs to assist veterans with filing claims for VA benefits and to represent veterans before the Board of Veterans Appeals.

NABVETS provides strategic advocacy with Congress, the Federal Administration, State Administrations and other agencies and organizations on behalf of all veterans; and particularly African American veterans, women veterans, veterans disabled, homeless, incarcerated or of limited means. NABVETS, with over 50 chapters across the nations and five State Commands works in

'Unity with the Community' to end homelessness, empower low-income and minority veterans and advocate for disadvantaged youth in all matters related to their successful passage into adulthood.

NABVETS works closely with the Veterans Enterprise Training & Services Group (VETS Group), NAACP Veterans Affairs Committee and the Consumer Action Agency to provide outreach, training and support to veterans and their families transitioning back into the community.

Publication: Eclipse

A few of our past Eclipse Magazines can be viewed on our web site.

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<http://nabvets.org/locations/>

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Attached you will find a recent newsletter that has a variety of articles and information.

<https://email.marylandoutreach.com/w/y38ZUDq5dqfLlaA1u5vkrw>

NABVETS Government and Public Affairs Council (GPAC) Newsletter
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First Black man nominated to lead Air Force Academy



COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — An African American man was nominated for the first time to lead the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, officials said.

The Air Force announced on July 3 that President Donald Trump nominated Lt. Gen. Richard M. Clark to be the school's next superintendent.

Clark is currently the deputy chief of staff for strategic deterrence and nuclear integration at the Pentagon.

Clark is expected to take command in August if the Senate confirms the nomination, becoming the second Black general to head up a service academy, officials said.

He would replace Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria.

"I am extremely humbled and honored by the nomination to serve as the Superintendent of the Air Force Academy," Clark said.

Clark graduated from the Academy in 1986. He previously served as the school's commandant of cadets, was a junior varsity football coach and candidate counselor.

“I have no doubt that Lt. Gen. Clark will be an extraordinary leader for the Academy,” Silveria said. “He has a long history with USAFA and an exceptional leadership record.”

Lt. Gen. Darryl A. Williams became the first African American superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, in 2018.

Air Force General Confirmed As First Black Chief Of A U.S. Military Service



The Senate on July 9 confirmed Gen. Charles Q. Brown to be the next Air Force chief of staff, making him the first African American leader of a military service as the Pentagon and the country grapple with a raft of racial issues.

The confirmation also makes Brown the second African American officer to sit on the Joint Chiefs of Staff since Chairman Gen. Colin Powell.

The 98-to-0 vote was a blowout approval for the four-star general. Vice President Mike Pence presided over the historic vote. Read more at:

<https://usveteransmagazine.com/2020/06/air-force-general-confirmed-first-black-chief-u-s-military-service/>



The 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, the largest unit of black servicewomen to ever deploy overseas.

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/20/us/6888th-battalion-african-american-women-world-war-ii/index.html>

https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/17/magazine/6888th-battalion-charity-adams.html?fbclid=IwAR3N8_zMyNJ9HIVca3m-Fka3hBfffi2eKuVAMwLdN6wlxOmlXth7UBGEO6w



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INC**



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www.military-retirees-club.com

militaryretiree@comcast.net

With coronavirus cases surging, VA's 'fourth mission' now covers 46 states, Wilkie says

As new coronavirus hotspots have emerged across the country, the Department of Veterans Affairs has so far deployed nearly 1,000 of its own medical professionals to 46 states as part of its “fourth mission.”

The department is currently tracking some 5,254 active coronavirus cases, including 4,655 veterans and 432 VA employees, according to [public data](#).

To date 40 employees have died due to complications from coronavirus. Since the beginning of the pandemic, VA has tracked 26,132 cumulative cases, including a total of 2,624 employee cases.

“We have not been hit particularly hard in the broader sense, in that we have about 600 beds occupied by veterans who have Covid,” VA Secretary Robert Wilkie told reporters on July 8. “We’ve lost about 1,500, but the vast majority of veterans who contracted this have recovered. That has allowed us to increase our footprint across the country.”

Read more at:

<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/veterans-affairs/2020/07/with-coronavirus-cases-surging-vas-fourth-mission-now-covers-46-states-wilkie-says/>



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'Go forth and kick butt': Navy's first Black female fighter pilot earns her wings



Student naval aviator Lt. j.g. Madeline Swegle, assigned to the Redhawks of Training Squadron (VT) 21 at Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas, stands by a T-45C Goshawk training aircraft following her final flight to complete the undergraduate Tactical Air (Strike) pilot training syllabus, July 7, 2020. Swegle is the Navy's first known Black female strike aviator and will receive her wings during a ceremony July 31.

https://www.stripes.com/go-forth-and-kick-butt-navy-s-first-black-female-fighter-pilot-earns-her-wings-1.637010?utm_medium=email&utm_source=Stars+and+Stripes+Emails&utm_campaign=Daily+Headlines

Virginia National Guard gains first female infantry company commander



Capt. Candice Bowen, a black female, became the first female officer to take command of a Virginia National Guard infantry company on July 18, 2020, in Woodstock, Virginia. Bowen became the VNG's first female infantry officer after completing the Infantry Basic Officer Leader Course in 2019, and took command of the Woodstock-based Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry Regiment, 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team from Capt. Timothy England.

https://www.wavy.com/news/virginia-national-guard-welcomes-first-female-infantry-company-commander/?fbclid=IwAR2UYLm-TKm0zsH-oHLG9LvuiOCKBQ17SvbG4j_H85YIW-L5V0D3u3-4AvE

