



# VETERANS CONNECTIONS

News from the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs ★ Volume 5, Issue 6 ★ June 2025



## ★ Message from IDVA Director Terry Prince

As the Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, entrusted with ensuring veterans in Illinois have access to their earned benefits and services, and as a Navy veteran, I am concerned about the recent announcement by the USDVA that may compromise or deny services to veterans based on their marital status or political affiliation. Please read the press release issued by Governor JB Pritzker (following this article) for Illinois' full response to these policies. Rest assured, IDVA Veteran Service

Officers are equipped to assist veterans in obtaining their earned benefits while also available to support veterans who have been denied assistance or care due to discrimination. Please contact the IDVA hotline at **1-800-437-9824** to report any such incidents. IDVA continues to monitor all federal policies that may impact Illinois veterans and will share relevant information as necessary.

In June, we celebrated our valued Veterans Nursing Assistants Certified (VNAC) and the 250th Birthday of the United States Army, including many of our IDVA team who are Army Veterans. We are grateful for the service of our VNACs and Army veterans. The Women Veterans Program honored Women Veterans Day and continues to feature the 25 Women Veterans Leaders in 2025. We are also supporting the Military Women's Memorial's **#StriveFor500** campaign to register at least 500 military women in 2025 to preserve their powerful stories in the National Digital Repository.

June was PTSD Awareness Month. An estimated 12 million individuals in the United States suffer from PTSD. Many of us have witnessed firsthand the horrible impact on the quality of life for veterans, survivors of sexual assault, serious accidents, natural disasters, or other traumatic events, and their families. Some of us have or are experiencing the debilitating consequences of PTSD. Today, more than ever, we are aware of the silent wounds of war and are offering treatment and support for those who are suffering. For those of you with PTSD, there is support for you. For those by the side of those with PTSD, you are not alone. You can learn more about the resources available to you here: <https://www.ptsd.va.gov/understand/awareness/index.asp>. Please read on to learn more about all these exciting happenings at IDVA.

Thank you for staying connected to IDVA.

Sincerely,

**Terry Prince**, U.S. Navy Veteran and IDVA Director

## Press Release Issued by Governor JB Pritzker on June 20th

### Gov. Pritzker Takes Action to Protect Veterans from Healthcare Discrimination

Governor directs state agencies to activate resources for veterans amid reports of the Trump administration threatening veterans' healthcare

**CHICAGO** — In the wake of reports that the Trump administration is proposing rules that would allow VA providers to deny military veterans healthcare based on their marital status and political affiliation, Governor JB Pritzker has directed key state agencies to take every available action to protect veterans' access to care.

"Our nation's heroes put their lives on the line to protect our way of life, and we owe them every bit of care and support we can offer," said Governor JB Pritzker. "The Trump administration wants to deny our veterans healthcare because of who they love or vote for – and the State of Illinois will do everything in our power to protect the benefits they have earned."

At the direction of Governor Pritzker, the State of Illinois is already taking action to push back against these reported new VA discriminatory measures, including providing resources to veterans and fighting to ensure their healthcare remains protected. These efforts include:

- **The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR)** issued a [statement](#) reminding licensed medical professionals that it will continue to enforce anti-discrimination laws. IDFPR has also begun internal monitoring for complaints or reports related to this issue so that they are ready to respond swiftly and appropriately. IDFPR will continue encouraging patients and consumers who experience discrimination or medical misconduct to file complaints by following the [instructions on IDFPR's website](#).
- **The Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA)** issued a notice to its Veterans Services Officers requesting that they continue to stand ready to meet with or take calls from Illinois Veterans with any reports of discrimination. IDVA will also reach out to veterans' organizations and other partners to share resources about reporting discrimination.
- **The Illinois Department of Human Rights (IDHR)** will continue to monitor and enforce laws protecting people from discrimination, including on the basis of religion, race, military status, or marital status. All Illinoisans are protected by the Illinois Human Rights Act, including in the context of public accommodations, such as healthcare and government services. While IDHS has limited authority over federal facilities, they encourage anyone encountering potential discrimination to [file a charge](#) with IDHR so that the State can explore all possible remedies.

IDVA Veteran Service Officers across the state are positioned to provide assistance to any veteran facing discrimination or denial of care. Illinoisans are encouraged to contact the **IDVA hotline at 1-800-437-9824** to report any such incidents.

"Women Veterans have often been underserved and overlooked when it comes to care that we need with the VA health system," said **Representative Stephanie Kifowit (D-Oswego)**. "Policy changes like this will have chilling effects on victims of Military Sexual Trauma seeking care, along with other types of healthcare services that are unique to Women Veterans. As we just recognized June 12th as Women Recognition Day in our nation, it is disappointing that policy changes like these will roll back the recognition and services provided in our VA healthcare that so many of my Veteran sisters have been advocating for."

## ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Press Release

"Our country has a sacred contract with veterans to take care of them when they return home. Service members swore the same oath to defend our country regardless of their marital status or political views," said **Terry Prince, Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs**. "In Illinois, we are deeply committed to protecting our veterans from discrimination and providing access to the best health care our nation has to offer. Illinois will continue to fight every day to give every veteran the benefits they earned."

"To deny care for our military veterans who have risked their lives for this country is unacceptable." said **President of the Illinois State Medical Society Richard C. Anderson, M.D.** "As physicians, we have a legal and ethical duty to treat patients – no matter what their background. Our veterans have earned and deserve their benefits, especially healthcare, without barriers to access."

## ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Veteran Nursing Assistant Certified Week



**Veterans' Home at Manteno:** *Laura Torres, Maggie Shankland, Tavasie Terrell, and Jennifer Corbett.*

### **Veteran Nursing Assistant Certified (VNAC) Week: June 12th-18th**

Throughout Certified Nursing Assistants Week, or at IDVA, "Veteran Nursing Assistant Certified (VNAC) Week, we celebrated our frontline caregivers. They provide compassionate care to veterans in our five skilled residential Veterans' Homes. As a major part of the IDVA care team, we rely on them to ensure that we exceed the expectations of the veterans entrusted to our care. From their daily interactions, they may be the first to notice any physical or emotional changes, while working alongside the nurses and physicians to address these concerns. We know that many of our veterans and their families become a major part of their lives. They become a family who relies on them for their well-being, including their daily care, a friendly voice, and social interaction.

This year's theme is "We are the Champions", and indeed, they are most definitely our champions.

Thank you for choosing to serve those who served. We are grateful. Enjoy these photos of our amazing teams.





# Veteran Nursing Assistant Certified Week

## Veterans' Home at Anna



Front Row: Khalilah Washam, Anna Lawson, Mallory Ozment, Princess Smith, Alexa Macy. Back Row: Da'Zhane Ballentine, Allie Sauerbrunn, Tasha Mealer, Linsey Miller.



Front row: Ruby Dunn, Bonnie Cast. Back Row: Amber Wachter, Brandy Eads, Bonnie Brimm, Kitta McClung, Rich Tripp.

## Veterans' Home at Chicago



Left to right: Denise Poore, Jennifer Malone, Becky Ronneberg, Luz Gonzales, Karen Boleaga, Karen Daley, and Mini Thomas.



Denise Poore, Tramika Robinson, and Karen Daley.



Sijimol Santhosh

## Veterans' Home at Manteno



Angie Love and Shannon Hester



Alice Dee, Pamela Harrison, Tiffany Douglas, and Erica Warren





# Veteran Nursing Assistant Certified Week

## Veterans' Home at Manteno



Casey Munson



Andrea Phagan and Rosalind Johnson



Michelle Jackson, Sean Latham, and Latonya Hill



Alison Skaggs and Amanda Webb



Jasmin Fleming, Kameelah Armour, and Danielle Flowers

## Veterans' Home at Quincy



Markword 2: Left to right: Elizabeth Van Hove, Terri Clayton, Melissa Robb, Clara Hodge, Liz Harness, Josh Cisneros, Anderson Knapp, Keri Olson



Markword 1: Left to right: Kristy Cadwallader, Rebekah Mowen, Khristy Lovan, Sadie Smith, John Goehl, Yolanda Ricketts, Robin Williams





# ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Women Veterans

## Women Veterans Program



Left to right: Enrique Cabrera (Veteran's Education Specialist), Andrew Pieper (Veteran's Education Specialist), Margo Watson (IDVA Women Veterans Coordinator), Cynthia McKee (IDVA Veterans Service Officer), and Tiffany Perry (Veterans Education Specialist).

Margo Watson attended the Women Veterans Engage Conference/Women Veterans Alliance event held at the VFW Post #311 in the Chicago area. It was the first of its kind and it brought women veteran organizations together to discuss their purpose and mission.

## ★ 25 Illinois Women Veteran Leaders of 2025 ★



**Evamarie Duff**  
U.S. Army and Illinois National Guard Veteran

Evamarie Duff, is a decorated veteran, a passionate advocate for women veterans, and an inspiring example of resilience, courage, and determination. Following military service, she joined the Joshua W. Harris Memorial VFW Post 2868, where she has held numerous leadership roles. She is also a member of the American Legion, Wounded Warrior Project, Order of the Eastern Star, Daughters of the American

Revolution, and DAV.

As an 88M Transportation soldier, Evamarie played a critical role in convoy security and transportation operations during her deployment to Camp Buehring, Kuwait, and LSA Anaconda, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Despite facing challenges, including a medical evacuation to Germany and the completion of her military career at Fort Knox, Kentucky, in May 2007, Evamarie's dedication to service and leadership only grew stronger.



## Military Women's Memorial



Published with permission

The Military Women's Memorial is a one-of-a-kind tribute to America's Servicewomen, past and present, and a world-class collection of military women's stories. It is the leading memorial honoring the commitment, contributions, and experiences of Servicewomen.

Three million women have served in or with the Armed Forces since the American Revolution. By contributing names and information to the Register, you can help record and preserve stories that will otherwise be lost to history and unknown to future generations. Register TODAY and MAKE HERstory!

To learn more, watch this [brief video](#).

### #StriveFor500

The Military Women's Memorial's #StriveFor500 campaign is in full swing, and the goal is clear – every state and territory is working to register at least 500 military women in 2025 to preserve their powerful stories in the National Digital Repository.

Women Service Members, Veterans, and those in the Reserve/National Guard, we're calling on YOU to help Illinois make history! Illinois is one of the larger states, so let's make our registration numbers reflect that! We have thousands of women veterans in our state, but last year we only registered 231. So far this year, we are at 136. Let's show that Illinois Women Veterans Lead the Way!!

It only takes a few minutes to register at [www.womensmemorial.org](http://www.womensmemorial.org)





# ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Women Veterans

## ★ 25 Illinois Women Veteran Leaders of 2025 ★



**Ashley Tubruan**  
U.S. Navy Veteran

Ashley Tubruan, U.S. Navy veteran, is a dedicated advocate, leader, and recent graduate of the University of Illinois Chicago School of Law, where she is focusing on the rights and well-being of veterans. Following her military service, Ashley became a police officer in suburban Chicago, where she became a leader on the force's Crisis Intervention Team and Crisis

Negotiation Unit. During law school, Ashley completed three semesters with the school's pro bono VA legal clinic for veterans. Her leadership and advocacy were instrumental in helping pass legislation to expand Illinois' definition of a "veteran," thereby increasing access to housing and healthcare for previously excluded groups.

Ashley plans to continue staying active in the veteran community and focusing on Military Sexual Trauma (MST) resources, counseling, and support groups in a private and safe environment. Ashley helped launch the national campaign "Face the Fight" in D.C. to assist veterans in crisis. Additionally, she plans to share her experiences with MST and help others gain confidence to succeed.



## ★ 25 Illinois Women Veteran Leaders of 2025 ★



**Tamala Anderson**  
U.S. Air Force Veteran

U.S. Air Force Veteran Tamala Anderson's trailblazing leadership brought a new voice to the table and opened doors for other women to step into roles of influence and impact within the veteran support system. She remains a fierce and unwavering voice for equity, recognition, and progress for women who have served.

With over 15 years of experience as a Veterans Service Officer at the DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission since October 2008, she has managed more than 5,000 veteran claims, which have changed lives through dedicated support and expert advocacy. Tamala broke barriers by becoming the Superintendent of a Veterans Assistance Commission, an achievement that was once considered nearly impossible for a woman. She remains a fierce and unwavering voice for equity, recognition, and progress for women who have served.

In the Air Force, she served for the Headquarters Office of Special Investigations and was a Military Training Instructor.



**Margo Watson**, IDVA's Women Veterans Program Coordinator was the keynote speaker for the National Women Veterans United (NWWU) event honoring the service and contributions of women veterans. The event, held at the SGT Simone A. Robinson Center, brought together veterans, community members, and supporters to recognize the dedication and sacrifices of women in the Armed Forces.

Margo's message celebrated the strength, resilience, and continued leadership of women veterans in both military and civilian life. Women veterans shared their personal stories, discussing both the challenges they've faced and the triumphs they've achieved throughout and after their military service. Their experiences highlighted the importance of support, recognition, and advocacy for all who have served.



To close the event, the ladies released balloons representing women veterans from each military branch and to honor and remember those women veterans who have been lost.

## News From the Capitol



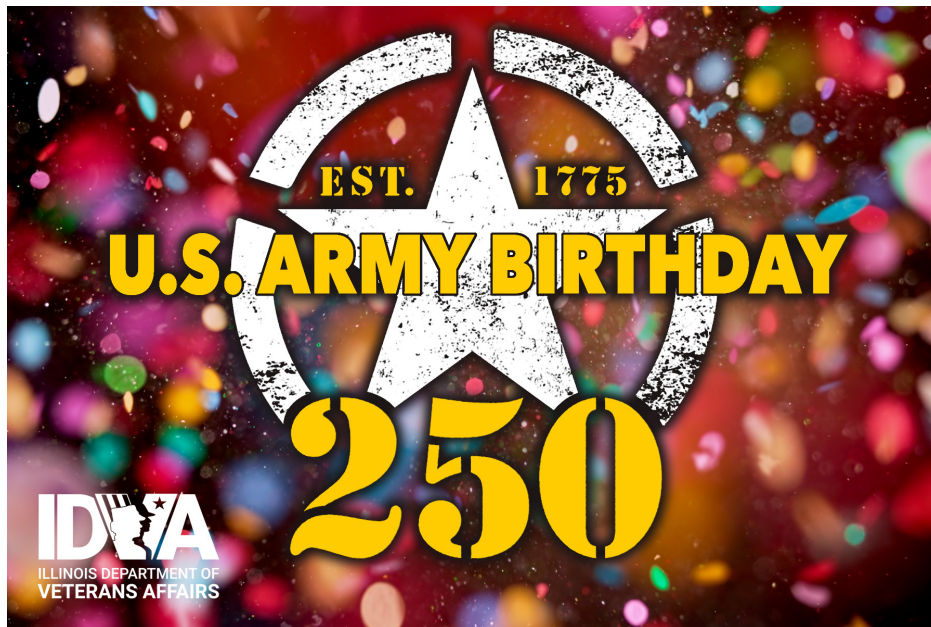
*Left to right: Veterans' Home at Quincy Administrator Chuck Newton, Chief of Staff Jassen Strokosch, State Representative Kyle Moore, State Representative Dan Swanson, State Representative C.D. Davidsmeyer, State Representative Stephanie Kifowit, Director Terry Prince, Kelly May, and Regina Gaus.*

On Thursday, June 26, 2025, four legislators and three legislative staffers visited the Illinois Veterans' Home at Quincy (IVHQ) new skilled care building, which is nearing completion. The state-of-the-art, 251,000 square foot facility will provide skilled care for up to 210 veterans. The \$310 M project is a federal and state partnership and is part of the State's Rebuild Illinois. Illinois will receive federal reimbursement for 67% of the total project costs.

IDVA is working diligently with the Illinois Capital Development Board (CDB), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), the Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT), Veterans United Constructors, and other stakeholders in anticipation an October 2025 move-in.

During the visit, legislators toured the new facility, met with residents and staff, and spoke with IDVA Director Terry Prince about the agency and how it serves the 550,000 Illinois veterans.

## U.S. Army 250th Birthday



The United States Army has been protecting our nation in peacetime and conflicts around the globe. Today is its 250th birthday, and the theme is "This we'll defend," - first used as a battle cry by the Continental Army. Today, it reminds us that our Army's purpose is clear - to fight and win the nation's wars.

IDVA is privileged to care for Army veterans in its five residential Veterans' Homes across the state. Many U.S. Army veterans have chosen to share their skills and dedication with their fellow veterans as part of Team IDVA. We are proud of our U.S. Army veterans and grateful for their service.

These are photos of some of the extraordinary IDVA employees who were either Active Duty at some point, served, or are currently serving in the Army Reserve, or in the Army National Guard.



# U.S. Army 250th Birthday

## Southern Region



Veteran Service Officer Anthony Krajefski  
Centralia (Marion County)



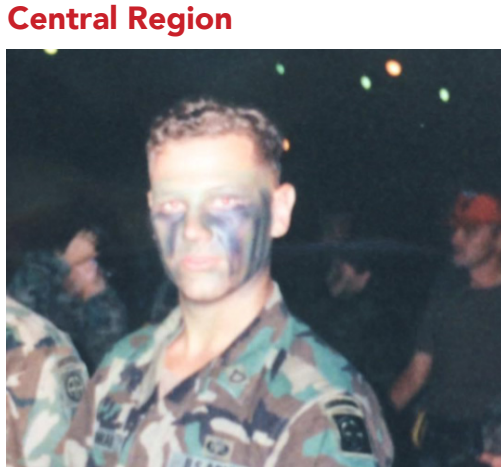
Veteran Service Officer Tina Mocaby with her  
daughter Peyton Star (now 18).



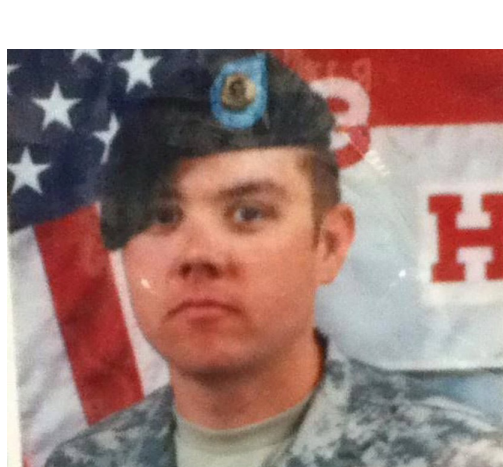
Veteran Service Officer Chad Roach  
Carlville (Macoupin County)



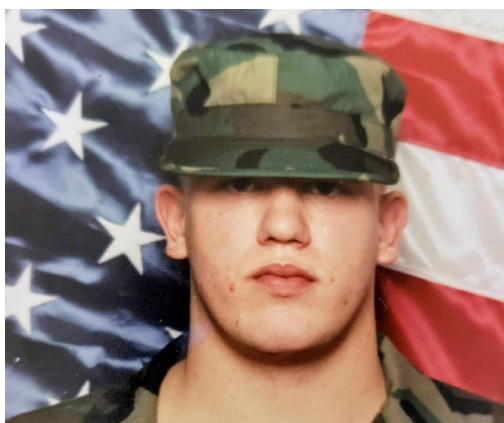
Veteran Service Officer Steve Stroup  
East St. Louis (St. Clair County)



Veteran Service Officer Kurt Cochran  
Taylorville (Christian County)



Veteran Service Officer Jordan Heap  
Decatur (Macon County)



Veteran Service Officer Jeremy Hoelscher  
Quincy (Adams County)



Veteran Service Officer Alfredo "Freddy" Rocha  
Springfield (Sangamon County)



Veteran Service Officer Lauralee Treece  
Jacksonville (Morgan County)

### Not Pictured:

Veteran Service Officer Jeff Eagler – Decatur (Macon County)  
 Veteran Service Officer Anthony Harrison – Springfield (Sangamon County)  
 Veteran Service Officer William Linder – Quincy (Adams County)  
 Veteran Service Officer Diane Moncrief – Champaign (Champaign County)



# **U.S. Army 250th Birthday**

## **Northern Region**



*Veteran Service Officer Tina Paggi  
Freeport (Stephenson County)*



*Veteran Service Officer Melissa Downey  
Woodstock (McHenry County)*



*VSO Supervisor Melissa Beckford  
Machesney Park (Winnebago County).*

## **Metro Region**



*Metro Region VSO Supervisor Robert Iverson III  
Chicago (Cook County)*



*Veteran Service Officer Shaun Redden  
SW, Chicago Vet Center (Cook County)*



*Veteran Service Officer Tanya Reyes  
Des Plaines (Cook County)*

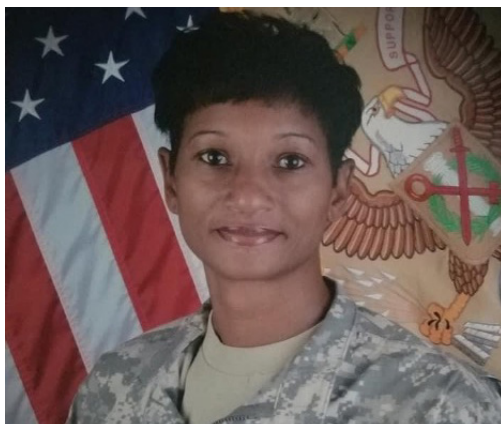
### **Not Pictured:**

*Veteran Service Officers Cynthia McKee and Michele Richards – Chicago downtown (Cook County).*

## **Central Office: Springfield and Chicago**



*Amanda Bentler  
Programs Adjudicator, War Graves*



*Renyscha Brown  
Veterans' Accountability Unit Director*



*Dylan Hopp  
Legislative Liaison*



# ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ U.S. Army 250th Birthday



Matthew McCormick, Senior Home Construction Coordinator (three generations)



Mark Patterson  
Field Services Manager



Britt Talley  
Budget Analyst



Margo Watson, Senior Program Manager/  
Women Veterans Coordinator

## Not Pictured:

Mark Berger, Information Systems Analyst (DoIT)  
Justin Buchanan, Property Control Officer  
Nakesha Rice, Human Resources Transaction Specialist  
Dan Wellman, State Approving Agency Manager (retired as of 6/24).

## U.S. Army Veterans of the Veterans' Home at LaSalle



Randy Schueler,,Raymond Null, Richard Mathias, Thomas Gianfrancisco, Edward Giomi, Stephen Maas, William Eisenberg, Arvin Bailey, James Jones, Malcolm Brooks, Chuck Geiger, Tunney Sebastian, John Soberri, Stephen Moore, James Crawford, George Reutner, Fred Leone, James Allen, Owen Liable, Joseph Posevina, Leland Musser, Richard Rivara, Raymond Hughes, Richard Osmund, Walter Garriott, Donald Brenner, Glenn Glover, Henry Piscia, Chester Gapski, Susan Milton, Joel Carter, Frank Montez,Robert Cipalo, and John Kochis.



# ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ U.S. Army 250th Birthday

## U.S. Army Veterans at the Veterans' Home at Anna



*Ed Charles*



*Owen Lynn*



*Bill Parker*



*Daniel Gogerty*

# ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Deputy Chief of Staff



**Asia Gentry** joins the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs as its Deputy Chief of Staff. Before joining IDVA, she served two years as the Deputy Chief of Staff for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, where she was integral in the daily operations of the Agency, development and execution of its strategic plan, and creation and implementation of its legislative initiatives. She also served as the Director of Legislative and Administrative Operations for Phelps Barry & Associates, where she led projects, communications strategies, and office policies. Asia's Illinois state work began as the Legislative Assistant for the Illinois State Democratic Caucus. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Benedictine College.

Asia's project management, government experience, and leadership will greatly benefit IDVA and its mission of ensuring that veterans thrive in Illinois.



## Community Events

IDVA Veteran Service Officers are located across the state, equipped to assist veterans in obtaining their earned benefits. They are highly trained about the availability of benefits and how to obtain them. They work one-on-one with veterans to learn about their needs, aspirations, and goals. They assist with filing claims and appeals and are dedicated to advocating and following through. They also dedicate their time to meeting veterans in their communities at resource fairs, county and state fairs, and events to provide veterans with information on their benefits and how IDVA can support them with their claims. To locate a VSO near you, [click here](#).



*Veteran Service Officer Brandon Jagers and IDVA Recruiter and HR Specialist Candice Rudd attend the National Louis University Memorial Day Veteran Resource & Hiring Expo Special Event.*



*Veteran Service Officer Gerald Enriquez participates in the Beyond the Call: 2nd Annual Veteran Business Support Symposium.*



*Veteran Service Officer Malon Norfleet at the Trickster Veteran Resource Fair hosted by Edward J. Hines, VA Hospital. Event.*



*Veteran Service Officers Brandon Jagers and Christopher Garrett attend the DuPage Veterans Assistance Commission Resource Fair.*





Veteran Service Officer Charletta Lutch-Hayes attends the Community Resource Fair in Alsip.



IDVA State Approving Agency Enrique Cabrera, IDVA Recruiter and Hiring Specialist Candice Rudd, and Veteran Service Officer Malon Norfleet attend the Markham Hiring event.



Veteran Service Officer Michele Richards at the VAC of Cook County VA Housing Education Benefits Fair.



Veteran Service Officer Cynthia McKee at the 22 in 22 Veteran Suicide Prevention Event.



Veteran Service Officer Alfredo "Freddy" Rocha attended the 2025 108th VFW Illinois VFW Convention in Springfield.



# ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Veterans' Homes

In celebration of National Donut Day, The Salvation Army presented veterans at the Veterans' Home at Quincy with a Donut Day presentation, which included the history of Donut Day and music from The Salvation Army brass band. The State of Illinois VFW Auxiliary also provided donuts for the residents of the Home.

National Donut Day was established by The Salvation Army on the first Friday of June in 1938. This tradition honors the Salvation Army Donut Lassies, who provided donuts to soldiers on the front lines during World War I. The Salvation Army continued this tradition of comfort and care through World War II and beyond, ensuring that service members received a taste of home even in the toughest times.



*U.S. Army veteran Paul Altgilbers danced with the Donut during the Salvation Army Donut Day.*



*Sara Colgrove, Director of Activities at the Veterans' Home at Quincy, has glasses for every occasion, even Donut Day.*



*Flag Day at the Veterans' Home at LaSalle sponsored by the Oglesby Elks.*



*The Veterans' Home at LaSalle unveiled a Vietnam Veterans Memorial in its Peace Garden, accompanied by a motorcycle drive-by of local veterans.*



## World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) was launched by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization at the United Nations. The purpose of WEAAD is to provide an opportunity for communities around the world to promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older persons by raising awareness of the cultural, social, economic, and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect. To learn more, [click here](#).

The staff of the Veterans' Home at LaSalle acknowledged this day in support of the veterans in their care.



*Bridgette Steinbach, Jamie Shrimplin, Mary Beth Hawkins*



*(In black scrubs) Janie Alexander, (In pink) Kathy Muller, Sandy Coops, and Mayflor Teauseau*



*Tia Krzysciak, Paige Whittle, Jennifer Kreider, Jennifer Kuhne-Hubbard, Dayna Schweickert, and Amber Lohman.*



The drum and bugle corps monument was placed alongside a marker commemorating the site of the Illinois Veterans' Home Hospital Annex. The Annex was designed in the shape of a horseshoe with porches gracing the second and third stories. It served as a sanctuary for veterans well into the mid-20th century. During the 1970s, the Horseshoe Building was decommissioned as a hospital and became the home of the Flying Dutchmen. It served as a storage location for the corps' equipment and their meeting place when leaving on tour, continuing the spirit of community and pride. The monument states, "May this site forever remind us of the dedication and sacrifice of those who served."





# Do you have a Compliment, Recommendation, Question, or Complaint?

## Illinois Veterans Accountability Unit (VAU)

### Let us Know!

If you are an Illinois veteran or other Illinois resident who seeks services from the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA); a resident of any Illinois Veterans' Home, a family member of a resident, a visitor of any Illinois Veterans' Home; a vendor and/or contractor of the IDVA; or staff of the IDVA, we want to hear from you.

This office welcomes feedback about the services being provided to the veterans of Illinois.  
If you received exceptional service or have concerns involving any member of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, please let us know.

Email us at

**[IDVA.accountability@illinois.gov](mailto:IDVA.accountability@illinois.gov)**

or Call our Toll-Free Helpline

**1-855-660-7011**

More information about the VAU can be found on the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs website

**<https://veterans.illinois.gov/>**

The VAU maintains the confidentiality of investigations, complainants, and witnesses to the maximum extent allowable, but must disclose complaints to the Office of the Executive Inspector General (OEIG).

You can obtain more information about the OEIG or file a complaint with the OEIG directly through its website at **<https://oeig.illinois.gov/>**.

Our mission at the IDVA is very simple. To serve those who have served. In doing so, we serve not only the men and women who have worn the uniform, but also their families. It is our privilege to be able to help our veterans receive the benefits they have earned through service to our nation. Our goal is to empower our veterans and their families to thrive in all aspects of their lives.

We know there are many veterans within our great state who do not require any assistance – but we still want to encourage you to “Stand Up and Be Counted!” by registering with your local VSO. In doing so, you’re helping IDVA to do a better job of planning for services, seeking federal funding and understanding the needs of our veteran communities statewide. [Click here to register.](#)

**We thank you for your service and for your sacrifice and we at the IDVA look forward to offering our services to you.**



**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF  
VETERANS AFFAIRS**

★ Follow us

