

# The Lycoming Vet

Volume 7, Issue 2

April, 2014

## A SNEAK PEAK AT WHAT'S INSIDE



New VA  
Office Location



Memorial Day  
Preparation



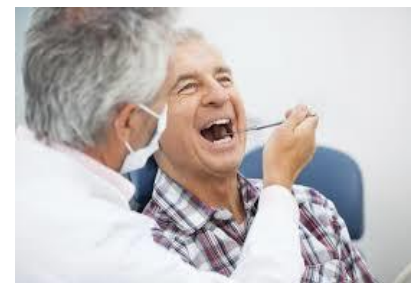
New Veteran  
Organization



American Legion's  
Donation



New Vietnam  
Museum



VA Dental  
Insurance

# Lycoming County Veterans Affairs

## 4th Floor



**WE MOVED**

The Office of Lycoming County Veterans Affairs is now in a new location. For your convenience we are still Located at 330 Pine Street in the Executive Plaza. We have just moved up three floors.

We are now on the **FOURTH FLOOR** in Suite **401**.

Once you come off the elevator we are the office directly behind the post.

We are excited for you to see our new office.

**\*\*\*We also now have a NEW fax number 570-320-8148\*\*\***

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# GETTING PREPARED FOR MEMORIAL DAY

**May 26th marks Memorial Day for 2014. The Veteran Affairs Office began planning months ago by ordering 130 gross of flags—that's 18,720 flags—to be placed on veteran's graves. With 141 cemeteries in Lycoming County, that becomes quite an undertaking.**



**We would not be able to accomplish this task without the large number of groups and individuals who volunteer to assist us. They range from service groups to families that have adopted and maintained cemeteries for many years. We ask all volunteers to take the time to straighten any flag holders so the flag can be displayed as it should. The sheer beauty of a cemetery with flags flying is a sight that brings high emotions to the families of our fallen heroes. We honor each veteran, old and new, as a patriot for the freedoms that we enjoy today.**



War	Number Of Veterans	
	1951	2013
Revolutionary War	71	95
War of 1812	4	26
Civil War	2,774	2,781
Mexican War	2	2
Indian War	0	6
Spanish Am. War	224	426
WWI	824	3,429
WWII	254	9,476
Korean War	1	1,817
Vietnam War	-	964
Persian Gulf War	-	35
War on Terrorism	-	5
Peace Time	-	312

## Williamsport PA, US Submarine Veterans Inc.

- **Our purpose** is “Perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.
- In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U.S. Submarine Force.
- The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today.”

- Regular membership requires that you were qualified in submarines (active duty accepted also). Other persons interested in submarines, especially tender personnel or other submarine connected occupations, are also welcome as associate members.
- The details of the organization can be seen on the National USSVI site at: <http://ussvi.org>, including the location of all bases (select “find a base”). There are also two internet bases not related to a specific location: cyberspace Base (under “find a base”) and Lockwood Internet Base, and a “members-at-large” category, for those who don’t belong to any particular base.

### **COSTS:**

The annual cost of membership in USSVI / Williamsport Base is \$30, which includes \$20 for national dues, and \$10 for Williamsport Base dues. Life memberships are available with fees based on your age. Membership includes a subscription to the USSVI national magazine, American Submariner, and the Williamsport Base newsletter.



# USSVI, Inc. Continued...

## MEETINGS:

Held at the Zafar Grotto Club (381 E. 2nd Avenue, S. Williamsport), on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00pm.

## OUR COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

KAPS4KIDS is a USSVI Community Outreach Program whose goal is to bring smiles to children battling challenging medical conditions, anywhere they are being treated. US Submarine Veterans voluntarily do this by giving these children caring attention, Honorary Submariner caps, certificates, photos of submarines and submarine related items during visits.

The KAPS4KIDS Program is part of the United States Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation (USSVCF). The USSVCF is the charitable arm of USSVI. It was formed to further the purpose of the USSVI by assuming the responsibility of some USSVI activities which are charitable in nature. The USSVI purpose, in part, is to “Perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country.”



The first presentation was conducted at the Janet Weis Children's Hospital at The Geisinger Medical Center, held on November 11, 2013.

## **For Additional Information Contact**

William H. Reasner, Jr. (Base Commander) at 570-326-1848

Or Visit: [www.WilliamsportSubVets.org](http://www.WilliamsportSubVets.org) and [www.USSVI.org](http://www.USSVI.org)

## *Generous Donation to the Vet Center*



On January 17, 2014, George Heiges (Service Officer) and Martin Dudek (Chaplin) of The Montgomery American Legion Bower-Decker, Post 251 presented a check in the amount of \$1,000 to Lori Raffensberger, Team Leader of the Vet Center in Williamsport, PA. Lori explained that this donation helps with the Veterans Summer Picnic that they love to put together. The picnic gives the Veterans the opportunity to join together for great stories, food and fun. The donation also goes towards the refreshments for the Veterans while visiting the Vet Center.



### **It's Time To Tell The Story Of American Soldiers Who Served In Vietnam!**

The Vietnam Veteran's Museum is dedicated to educating people solely about the Vietnam War. These soldiers have earned and deserve a place that tells their story with dignity, respect and gratitude like no other place can. Inside the Museum you will find... a multitude of information and historical remnants, extensive library consisting of books, pictures, and maps, audio visual library, to help portray a wide variety of films, documentaries and music for your educational, and entertainment purposes, "The Wall of Honor" a testimonial display of 32 names and pictures of soldiers from Chemung County that died during Combat, and much more. There is always someone available to help you find what you are looking for and to answer any additional questions as well.

The museum has been the top goal of Chapter 803, since their organizational founding in 1997. They want to tell the true story of the U.S. involvement in Vietnam, the longest War in our Country's history.

**Museum Operating Hours: Monday-Friday 10am-5pm & Saturday-Sunday 12am-5pm**

**1200 Davis Street at Grant Street, Elmira, New York 14901**

**Museum Director: Dennis L. Wolfe (607) 737-2760**

[www.myspace.com/namvets803](http://www.myspace.com/namvets803)

[Namvets803@aol.com](mailto:Namvets803@aol.com)

<http://profile.to/namvetsofamericamuseum803>

[Namvets803@live.com](mailto:Namvets803@live.com)

**Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another**

## VA DENTAL INSUREANCE PROGRAM (VADIP)



The Department of Veterans Affairs provides comprehensive dental care to Veterans who MEET eligibility standards; however, the benefit is not available to many Veterans. VA would like all Veterans and beneficiaries to have access to good oral health. Good oral health is more than just a nice smile or ability to chew favorite foods– it impacts a person’s overall health throughout his or her life.



VA’s Dental Insurance Program (VADIP) offers enrolled Veterans and beneficiaries of VA’s Civilian Health and Medical Program (CHAMPVA) the opportunity to purchase dental insurance at a reduced cost. VA is offering this service through Delta Dental and Metlife.

VADIP is a three-year, national pilot program to assess the feasibility and advisability of providing a premium-based dental insurance plan to eligible individuals. The program is mandated by Public Law 111-136, Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010.

### Eligibility for VADIP

Veterans enrolled in the VA Health Care Program and CHAMPVA program beneficiaries are eligible to participate in VADIP. Participation in VADIP will not affect Veteran’s eligibility for VA dental services and treatment.

Dependents of Veterans, except those eligible under CHAMPVA, are not eligible for VADIP; however, separate coverage options may be offered dependents by the insurance carrier.

### Dental Plan Information

VA has contracted with Delta Dental and Metlife, private insurers, to administer the dental insurance program. Beginning November 15, 2013 individuals interested in participating in VADIP may complete an application online, over the phone or by mail. A direct link to each provider’s VADIP webpage is available from [www.va.gov/healthbenefits/VADIP](http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/VADIP). The following shows contact information for each provider.

#### Delta Dental

1-855-370-3303 <http://deltadentalvadip.org/>

#### Metlife

1-888-310-1681 [www.metlife.com/VADIP](http://www.metlife.com/VADIP)

- Coverage under VADIP begins January 1, 2014, and will be provided throughout the United States and its territories. The initial participation period will be at least 12 calendar months. Afterward, VADIP beneficiaries can renew their participation for another 12-month period or be covered month-to-month, as long as the participant remains eligible for coverage and VA continues VADIP.
- Each participant will pay a fixed monthly premium for coverage, in addition to any copayments required by his or her plan.
- For more information on VADIP, visit [www.va.gov/healthbenefits/VADIP](http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/VADIP) and click the insurer’s link for specific information regarding registration, rates and services, or call Delta Dental or Metlife.

# AMERICAN LEGIONS, VFW's & OTHER COUNTY VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS



## **American Legion Post 1-**

Garrett Cochran  
10 E. 3rd St., Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-323-9409

## **American Legion Post 35-**

Glenn Sharrow  
78 N. Main St., Hughesville, PA 17737  
Phone: 570-584-2123

## **American Legion Post 36 -**

George Webster Pepperman  
P.O. Box 211, Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
Phone: 570-398-4174

## **American Legion Post 104 -**

Eugene Grafius  
1312 Broad St., Montoursville, PA 17754  
Phone: 570-368-9000

## **American Legion Post 251 -**

Bower Decker  
185 Broad St., Montgomery, PA 17752  
Phone: 570-547-2039

## **American Legion Post 268 -**

Roland Ritter  
515 Legion Rd., Muncy, PA 17756  
Phone: 570-546-5210

## **American Legion Post 617 -**

Royal P. Steinbacher  
901 Market Street, South Williamsport,  
PA 17702  
Phone: 570-327-0255

## **American Legion Post 999 -**

West Branch Service Post  
2985 Four Mile Drive, Apt. 107  
Montoursville, PA 17754  
Phone: 570-447-1572

## **Veterans of the Vietnam War – Post PA 51**

P.O. Box 23, Hughesville, PA 17737  
Phone: 570-547-2814

## **VFW Post 3428-**

Edward J. Smith Post  
12 N Market St., Muncy, PA 17756  
Phone: 570-546-3820

## **VFW Post 5859-**

Billy O. Brandt Post  
201 N. Lincoln Ave., Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
Phone: 570-398-2801

## **VFW Post 7863-**

Le Roy O. Buck Post  
150 Shaffer St., South Williamsport, PA 17702  
Phone: 570-323-1579

## **VFW POST 844-**

Howard W. Kahler Post  
1260 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-326-2752

## **Forty & Eight Voiture 382**

345 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-322-1670

## **Susquehanna Valley Chapter 47 of The Disabled Americans Veterans**

P.O. Box 3372, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-974-8768

## **Williamsport Detachment 388 Marine Corp League Inc.**

P. O. Box 3245, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-322-4727

## **Korean War Veterans of Lycoming County, Inc.**

P. O. Box 3232, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-745-3775 (Military Funerals)

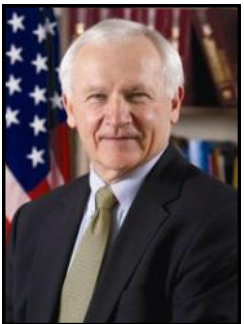


# Your Reps in Washington & Harrisburg



## **U.S. Representative Thomas Marino— 10th Congressional District**

Williamsport District Office  
1020 Commerce Park Drive, Suite 1A  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-322-3961  
Fax: 570-322-3965  
Office Hours: M-F 9-5  
Website: <http://marino.house.gov/>



## **PA State Senator Gene Yaw— Senate District 23**

330 Pine Street, Suite 204  
Williamsport, PA  
Phone: 570-322-6457  
Fax: 570-327-3703  
Toll-free: 1-800-443-5772

One Progress Plaza, Suite 13  
Towanda, PA 18848  
Phone: 570-265-7448  
Fax: 570-268-4313

Website: <http://senatorgeneyaw.com/>

Email: [gyaw@pasen.gov](mailto:gyaw@pasen.gov)



## **PA State Representative Garth D. Everett— 84th Legislative District**

Penn Hills Plaza, Halls Station  
21 Kristi Road, Suite 2  
Muncy, PA 17756  
Phone: 570-546-2084  
Fax: 570-546-5220  
Office Hours: M-F 9-5  
Website: <http://www.repeverett.com/>

Tiadaghton Valley Mall  
Room 105  
Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
Phone: 570-398-4476  
Fax: 570-398-5963  
Office Hours: M-F 9-4:30  
Email: [geverett@pahousegop.com](mailto:geverett@pahousegop.com)



## **PA State Representative Rick Mirabito— 83rd Legislative District**

800 West Fourth Street, Suite GO2  
Williamsport, PA  
Phone: 570-321-1270  
Fax: 570-327-3719

115 East Wing P.O. Box 202083  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
Phone: 717-772-1314

Office Hours: M-F 8-5

Website: <http://www.pahouse.com/mirabito/>

Email: [rmirabito@pahouse.net](mailto:rmirabito@pahouse.net)

**Not sure who your representative is? Find out at:**

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/findyourlegislator/countylist.cfm?CNTYLIST=LYCOMING>

## FROM THE LYCOMING COUNTY VA OFFICE:



Would you like to have a VA Benefit Seminar at a Nursing Home, Legion, VFW, or Other Organization? Have George come and speak to the Veterans and Widows about what they could be eligible for through the VA. Call our office at 570-327-2365 to set it up.



Home Loans? Contact Bob Brown, Sr. Loan Officer at Allentown Mortgage Corp. VA Loan Specialist/ Residential Financing.

Phone: 610-883-7601 or 484-494-6593

Email: [bobbrown@worldlynx.net](mailto:bobbrown@worldlynx.net)

Web: [www.allentownmortgage.com](http://www.allentownmortgage.com)

\*Licensed by the PA Dept. of Banking\*

## FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS:



Are you rated 100% disabled by the VA? Then you may be eligible for real estate tax exemption and free hunting and fishing licenses. Call 570-327-2365 for more information.



If you or anyone you know are interested in being trained for an Honor Guard position please contact the VA office at 570-327-2365.



## Important information to Know when Transitioning from TRICARE Prime to Standard.

- You can still see your same doctor.
- Costs for care will change.
- Your health care prior authorizations are still valid.

Be aware that your out-of-pocket costs for existing care will change from TRICARE Prime copayments to TRICARE Standard (Extra) cost-shares and deductibles on **October 1, 2013**.

If you have any other questions or concerns please contact us at 570-327-2365



# VA Outpatient Clinic



The VA Outpatient Clinic was established July 1997 on the Campus of Divine Providence Hospital in the Wenner Building, 1705 Warren Avenue, Suite 304, Williamsport, PA

**Phone:** 570-322-4791 **Fax:** 570-322-5170

Open: Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Scheduled appointments only  
~ No Emergency Services/No walk-ins

**Services Include:** Primary Care, Enrollment/Eligibility forms, Psychiatry, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Social Services, Counseling, Lab, Nutrition services, and Immunizations.

**The VA Clinic has a social worker at the clinic on Tuesday and Thursday. Her name is Chris Veach; please call the clinic at (570) 322-4791 to schedule an appointment.**

## Vet Center

The Vet Center is located at Suite 104, 49 East Fourth Street, Williamsport, next to the James V. Brown Library. Phone 327-5281.

All services provided by the Vet Center are **FREE OF CHARGE**. These include readjustment counseling and outreach services to all veterans who served in any combat zone. Services are also available for their family members. These include:

- individual and group counseling: women, spouses, WWII, Korean, Vietnam, OEF/OIF, and other combat veterans.
- group counseling
- marital and family counseling
- bereavement counseling



- substance abuse information and referral
- referral in applying for VA Benefits, job counseling and educational VA benefits
- referral for homeless vets
- military sexual trauma (male and female) counseling & referral
- outreach and community education

*Pennsylvania*  
**CareerLink**  
LYCOMING COUNTY

The PA Career Link—Lycoming County office is located at 329 Pine Street in Williamsport and is open Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays.

**Contact:** Timothy French

**E-mail:** [tifrench@state.pa.us](mailto:tifrench@state.pa.us)

**Phone:** 570-601-5934

**Online:** [www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us](http://www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us)



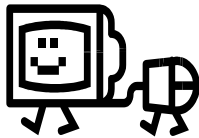
**Lycoming County Office of Veterans Affairs**

330 Pine Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
Suite 401  
Executive Plaza Building  
Mailing Address:  
48 West Third Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
570-327-2365

*County Commissioners*  
*Jeff C. Wheeland,*  
*Chairman*  
*Ernest P. Larson,*  
*Vice Chairman*  
*Tony R. Mussare,*  
*Secretary*

**Visit Our Web Site:**  
[www.lyco.org/va](http://www.lyco.org/va)

For up-to-date  
News and  
Information  
For Veterans



***The Lycoming Vet***  
*is published*  
*by the Office of*  
*Veterans Affairs*  
*in Lycoming County, PA*



**We are here to help you . . .**

**MSGT George W. Heiges (Ret.)**

**Lycoming County Director of Veterans Affairs**

570-327-2365 gheiges@lyco.org

- Fully accredited as a Veterans Service Officer by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Twenty- one years USAF

**David A. Keene**

**Assistant Director of Veterans Affairs**

570-327-2365 dkeene@lyco.org

- Fully accredited as a Veterans Service Officer by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Four years USMC

**To make an appointment, please contact**

**Natalie Miller at: 570-320-2101**

Office Hours

Monday through Friday 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM  
Monday– Thursday: Scheduled Appointments Only  
Friday: Walk-Ins 9:00 AM- 4:30 PM  
Closed weekends and major holidays.

**The Lycoming County VA**

**Office Will Be Closed:**

Good Friday– Friday, April 18, 2014  
Memorial Day– Monday, May 26, 2014

**Do you have announcements  
or information to share???**

The Lycoming County Office of Veterans Affairs invites you to submit articles and items of interest to be published in the next edition of *The Lycoming Vet*.

For questions or to make submissions,  
please contact Natalie Miller at the Veterans Affairs Office.