

THE LYCOMING VET

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 3

AUGUST 2012

2 New Counselors at The VET CENTER



The Vet Center located next to the James V. Brown Library on East Fourth street is happy to announce the addition of two new counselors to the staff.

June Gallagos Moser LSW. was hired in early march. June is a marriage, family and individual therapist. June graduated from Marywood University with a masters in social work. She is also an aviation navy veteran of three years serving after Vietnam . She has three daughters ,one of which is in the navy along with her son in law, who is a sea-bee. Her daughter is a third generation veteran.

Prior to June arriving at the Vet Center she worked for Diacom which is a non profit outpatient counseling center for two and one half years. She still works for Diacom part time seeing traumatized women. She enjoys outdoor activities and is a flute player in a local group. She spends free time reading and taking care of her donkey and peacock. June looks forward to helping veterans and there families in the area.

The second new counselor is Matt Vosk LSW. Matt was hired as a readjustment counselor in March of 2012. Matt attained his bachelors degree at Penn State University and his masters at Marywood University.

Before arriving at the Vet Center Matt worked at the Genesis House in Williamsport as a drug and alcohol counselor for four years. Prior to that he worked for enhanced treatment for children.

Both Matts' grandfathers participated in World War II and his step father was in Vietnam. Matt also enjoys outdoor activities which include rock climbing. He spends his free time playing the guitar and taking care of his cat.

Matt also looks forward to meeting and helping veterans and there families.

Taps Celebrate 150 Years

ho

The 150-year legacy of "Taps" was celebrated recently at Charles City County's Berkeley Plantation in Virginia, the site where Civil War Union Brig. Gen. Daniel Butterfield and bugler Cpl. Oliver W. Norton revised an earlier version of "Tattoo" into something into the enduring bugle call. "Taps," initially meant as a tranquil signal to extinguish all camp lights, eventually evolved into the sound of solemn tribute that today honors the sacrifice and service of the nation's fallen. For more information on "Taps" and its history, visit the [Taps Bugler website](#) and the [Taps 150 website](#).

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	PAGE
2 NEW EMPLOYEES AT VET CENTER	1
TAPS 150 YEARS OLD.	2
VETERANS RETRAINING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	3
Bios of new counselors at the Vet Center	4
ANNUAL VET CENTER PINIC	5
YOUR REPS IN WASHINGTON & HARRISBURG	8
NEWS FROM THE COUNTY, STATE & U.S. VA	9
YOUR LOCAL VA CLINIC, VET CENTER & CAREERLINK	10
AMERICAN LEGIONS, VFWs, AND OTHER VET ORGANIZATIONS	11
CONTACT INFO	12

Veterans Retraining Assistance Program

VA offers new training program for veterans (JDNews.com) --- The Department of Veterans Affairs is now accepting applications for the Veteran's Retraining Assistance Program. The Veteran's Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) is an extension of the VOW to Hire Heroes Act signed into law by the president in 2011. VRAP offers up to 12 months of training assistance to unemployed Veterans, according to a recent press release sent out by the VA. The program will take effect on July 1, and the VA is currently accepting applications. "Veterans have to be 'on their game' to compete for jobs in a challenging economy," said Curtis Coy, VA Deputy Under Secretary for Economic Opportunity, via e-mail. "Sometimes, the additional up to 12 months of education or training VRAP will make possible may be the extra step up they need to find meaningful employment in a high demand occupation." In order to be eligible for VRAP, veterans between 35 and 60 years old must be unemployed and not have received a dishonorable discharge, as well as be willing to train for a career in a high demand occupation, according to the VA's website. The VA considers high demand occupations to be those jobs like electricians, technicians, accountants, and telecommunications experts that are always needed. A full list of the occupations considered to be in high demand by the VA is available on their website. In addition, veterans cannot be eligible for any other VA education benefit program like the Post-9/11 GI Bill, Montgomery GI Bill, or Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Assistance. Veterans also must not be in receipt of VA compensation due to unemployability and cannot be enrolled in a federal or state job training program. If accepted, veterans will receive up to 12 months of financial assistance equal to the monthly full-time payment rate under the Montgomery Gi Bill program, which is currently \$1,473, according to the VA website.



Yes, the Vet Center can be found right next door to the library on East Fourth Street . Now that you know *where* the Vet Center is, do you know what they do? And for whom? Let's take a look... The first thing you should know is that the services that the Vet Center provides are FREE OF CHARGE. These services include readjustment counseling and outreach services to all veterans who served in any combat zone. Services are also available for their family members. **What is readjustment counseling?** Readjustment counseling is a wide range of services provided to combat veterans in the effort to make a satisfying transition from military to civilian life. Services include:

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

Am I eligible for Vet Center readjustment counseling?

If you, or a family member, served in any combat zone and received a military campaign ribbon in WWI (12/7/41-3/2/46), Korea (6/27/50-5/7/54), Vietnam (2/28/61-5/7/75), Lebanon (8/25/82-2/26/84), Grenada (10/23/82-11/21/83), Panama (12/20/89-1/31/90), Persian Gulf (8/20/90-TBD), Bosnia/Kosovo (12/20/96-4/8/99), Global War on Terrorism: OEF (9/11/01-TBD) or OIF (4/3/03-TBD), you are eligible for services

Attention All Veterans:

You are cordially invited to attend the

ANNUAL VET CENTER PICNIC

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

To be held on Friday, September 7, 2012

From 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the

VFW Post 7863
Le Roy O. Buck Post
150 Shaffer St.
DuBoistown, PA 17702



All veterans and invited guests are welcome to drop by this
FUN & FREE opportunity to get to know each other.

SEE YOU ON THE 7th!

AMERICAN LEGION, VFW & OTHER COUNTY VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS

American Legion Post 1- Garrett Cochran
10 E. 3rd St., Williamsport, PA 17701
Phone: 570-323-9409
Lloyd Brooks, Adjutant

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: 570-368-8234

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
Gail Eppler, Commander

American Legion Post 999 - West Branch Service Post
Michael J. Jones, Commander; Phone: 323-9421
P.O. Box 1971, 1061 John Brady Rd.,
Pennsdale, PA 17756
George Diffenbaugh, Adjutant; Phone: 570-546-6508
Meets at the Montoursville Presbyterian Church

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

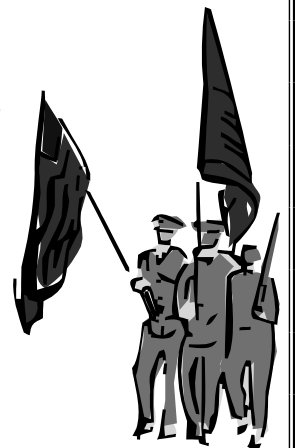
VFW Post 7863- Le Roy O. Buck Post
150 Shaffer St., South Williamsport, PA 17702
Phone: 570-323-9195

VFW Post 844- Howard W. Kahler Post
1260 West 3rd Street, Williamsport, PA 17701

Veterans of the Vietnam War – Post PA 51
P.O. Box 23, Hughesville, PA 17737
Web site: www.vvnw.org/postpa-51
Commander: Gary L. Jenney Sr.
Phone: 570-547-7900

**Williamsport Detachment 388
Marine Corp League Inc.**
P. O. Box 3245, Williamsport, PA 17701
Commandant Don Miller
Contact: Robert Mosley Phone: 570-322-4727

**Korean War Veterans
of Lycoming County, Inc.**
P. O. Box 3232
Williamsport, PA 17701
Commander Fred Schaefer
Phone: 570-323-5627
(to arrange military funerals)



Your Reps in Washington & Harrisburg



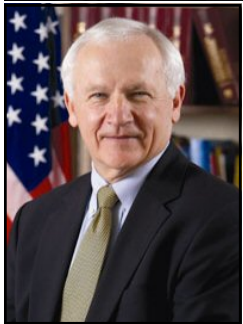
U.S. Representative Thomas Marino— 10th Congressional District

Williamsport District Office
1020 Commerce Park Drive, Suite 1A
Williamsport, PA 17701
Phone: 570-322-3961
Fax: 570-322-3965
Office Hours: M-F 8:30-5
Website: <http://marino.house.gov/>



U.S. Representative Glenn "GT" Thompson— 5th Congressional District

3555 Benner Pike
Suite 101
Bellefonte, PA 16823
Phone: 814-353-0215
Fax: 814-353-0218
Website: <http://thompson.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



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



PA State Representative Rick Mirabito— 83rd Legislative District

800 West Fourth Street, Suite GO2
Williamsport, PA
Phone: 570-321-1270
Fax: 570-327-3719
Office Hours: M-W-F 8-5; T-TH 8-7

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

FROM THE LYCOMING COUNTY VA OFFICE:



Beginning January 1, 2012, meetings with the County VA director may be scheduled off-site if the veteran or veterans' widow is physically unable to travel to the office and the court-appointed POA does not live locally. These will be determined on a case-by-case basis.



You must call & schedule an appointment if you would like to meet with the staff at the County VA Office. We take walk-ins on Friday afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m. **ONLY** if staff is available. Our phone number is 570-327-2365.

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 570-327-2367.

Quotes from Great Men:



Only 2 defining forces have ever offered to die for you....Jesus Christ and the American Soldier. One died for your soul, the other for your freedom.

Lt. Col. Grant L. Rosensteel, Jr

Pennsylvania CareerLink

LYCOMING COUNTY

Contact: Timothy French
Phone: 570-601-5934
E-mail: tifrench@state.pa.us
Online: www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us

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.

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:

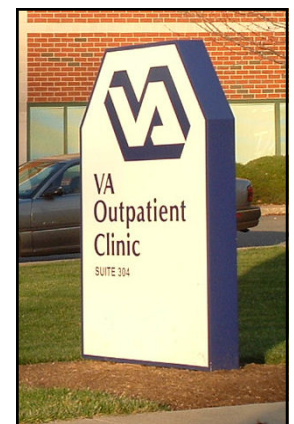
- individual and group counseling: women, spouses, WWII, Korean, Vietnam, OEF/OIF, and other combat veterans.
- group counseling
- marital and family counseling
- bereavement counseling
- substance abuse information and referral
- referral in applying for VA Benefits, job counseling and educational VA benefits
- referral for homeless vets
- military sexual trauma (male and female) counseling & referral
- outreach and community education



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.





LYCOMING COUNTY OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Suite 104
Executive Plaza Building
330 Pine Street
Williamsport, PA 17701

Mailing Address:
48 West Third Street
Williamsport, PA 17701

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JEFF C. WHEELAND, CHAIRMAN
ERNEST P. LARSON, VICE CHAIRMAN
TONY R. MUSSARE, SECRETARY

Visit our
Web site:



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

Ronald K. Poust

Assistant Director of Veterans Affairs

570-320-2365 rpoust@lyco.org

- Fully accredited as a Veteran's Service Officer by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Four years USMC, six years Pennsylvania National Guard

To make an appointment, please call

Kim Sewall at: 570-320-8111

Office Hours

Monday through Friday 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Scheduled appointments only

Walk-ins on Friday 1 - 4 p.m. subject to staff availability

Closed weekends and major holidays.

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 Ron Poust at the Veterans Affairs Office.