

The Lycoming Vet

Volume 9, Issue 4

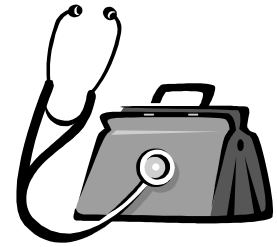
October 2016

A SNEAK PEAK AT WHAT'S INSIDE



**Support our TROOPS
Remember our VETERANS**

VAMC Wilkes-Barre Toll Free: 1-877-928-2621



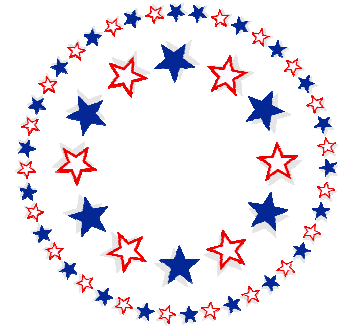
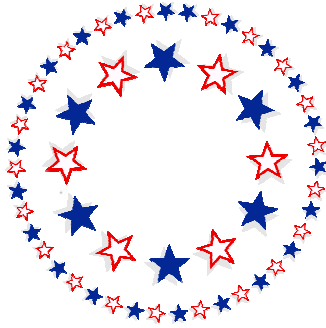
Did you know?

If you were unable to get to your VA Hospital because of an emergency: you, your family, friends, or hospital staff need to contact one of the numbers within **72 hours** of your emergency, so you are better aware of what services VA may or may not cover.

DAY: Utilization Management
8:00AM-4:00PM
EXT. *7258

NIGHT: Health Benefits Advisor
4:00PM-8:00AM
EXT. *7140

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	PAGE
Sneak Peak Of Volume 9, Issue 2	1
Important Number	2
Dedication Ceremony	3
Ceremony Honoring our Vietnam War Veterans	4
Hometown Hero Banner Ceremony/ Marine Corps Ball	5
Who are Veterans?	6
American Legions, VFWs, and Other Vet Organizations	7
Your Reps In Washington & Harrisburg	8
News From the County, State, and U.S. VA	9
Your Local VA Clinic, Vet Center, Career Link	10
Contact Information, Holidays	11



A SPECIAL INVITATION
to attend the
DEDICATION CEREMONY
of the
PRIVATE WALTER L. SMITH
SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR MEMORIAL BRIDGE
and the
LANCE CORPORAL WILLIAM F. MERRILL
VIETNAM VETERANS HIGHWAY
(Designated by Act 46 of the 2016 Pennsylvania Legislature)

Sunday, October 9, 2016 – 2:30 PM
Muncy Baptist Church
11 West Penn Street, Muncy, PA

PLEASE JOIN US IN HONORING AND REMEMBERING OUR FALLEN HEROES:

Private Walter Lawrence Smith, U.S. Army, served in the Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, the Spanish-American War, and the Philippine Insurrection. On July 28, 1901, during an engagement at Don Carlon, Samar, Philippine Islands, he was severely wounded, captured and taken prisoner, and killed by insurgents. His remains were never recovered.

Walter was the son of David S. Smith and Hannah L. (Colley) Smith of Muncy Creek Township, and has many descendants and relatives, including Zehner/Zaner, Colley, Smith, and Bailey families.

Lance Corporal William Franklin Merrill, U.S. Marine Corps, served in the Vietnam War. On November 26, 1969, he was killed in action while on a special night patrol at Quang Nam. His body was returned home to his family for internment at Boalsburg, PA Cemetery.

Bill was the son of Joseph A. Merrill and Sheila (Wolfe) Merrill.

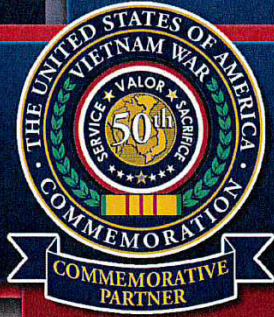
THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND
A reception will immediately follow the ceremony

This event is sponsored by the Muncy Historical Society
and the families of Private Walter Smith and Lance Corporal William Merrill

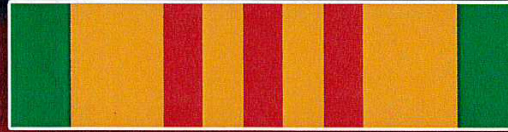
William H. Bailey, Jr. (great-nephew of Walter L. Smith)
U.S. Navy, Korean War
Home: (352) 341-0501 Cell: (352) 476-6065 Cell: (352) 476-5045

FROM WILLIAMSPORT: Take I-180 East to Exit 13A (Route 405 West to Muncy). Continue on East Water Street to Main Street. At light make left onto S. Main Street. At light, make right onto W. Penn Street to the church at 11 **West** Penn Street (corner of West Penn and South Market Street).

FROM INTERSTATE 80: Traveling west from Bloomsburg/Danville areas: Take the I-180 Exit to Exit 10 (Main Street Muncy). At bottom of ramp, left to Main Street. At light, left turn onto West Penn Street. Follow directions above.



A CEREMONY HONORING ★ ★ ★ U.S. VIETNAM WAR VETERANS



HOSTED BY

REPRESENTATIVE
GARTH EVERETT
84TH DISTRICT

REPRESENTATIVE
JEFF C. WHEELAND
83RD DISTRICT

SENATOR
GENE YAW
23RD DISTRICT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2016 ★ 7:00 PM

COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER

220 WEST FOURTH STREET, WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701

We are proud to recognize and honor the Vietnam Veterans of House Districts 83 and 84 within the 23rd Senatorial District with a special Commemorative Ceremony.

The 2008 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the Secretary of Defense to conduct a program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War and coordinate, support, and facilitate programs and activities of

the Federal, State and local governments in commemoration of the Vietnam War. A special Vietnam Veterans' lapel pin has been produced and will be distributed to attending veterans.



Representative
Garth Everett
84th District



Representative
Jeff C. Wheeland
83rd District



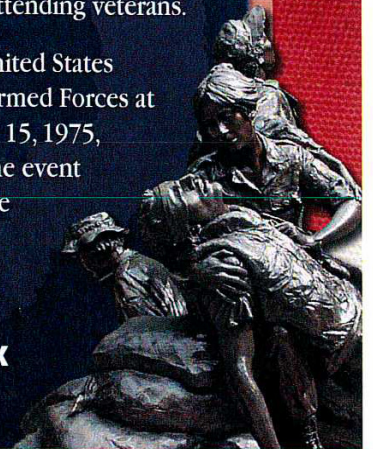
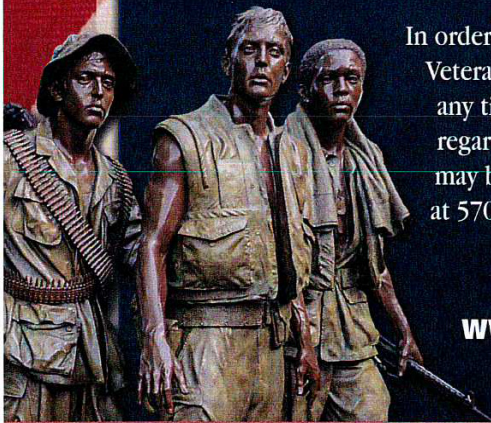
Senator
Gene Yaw
23rd District

In order to attend this event the pin recipient must be a United States Veteran who served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces at any time during the period of November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of stationing location. Questions regarding the event may be directed to Representative Everett's district office at 570-546-2084.

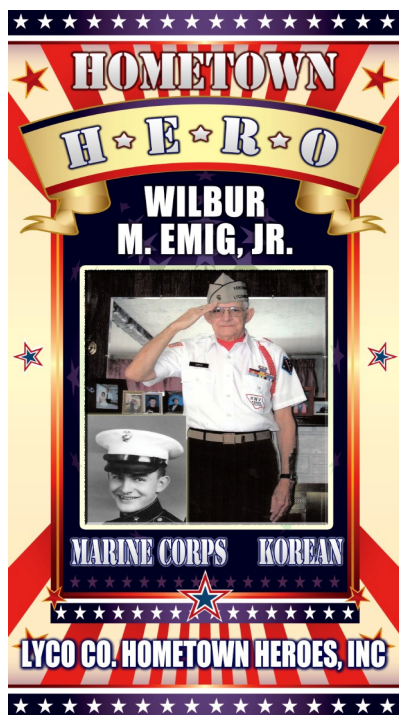
Registration is required for this event at:

www.repeverett.com/VietnamVets.aspx

or call 570-546-2084



★ A GRATEFUL NATION THANKS AND HONORS YOU ★



2016 Ceremony

The Lycoming County Hometown Hero Banner Ceremony will be held on

November 12, 2016 at 10:00am

Location: St. Mark's Lutheran Church-
142 N. Market Street, Williamsport PA

Marine Corps Ball



The 241st United States Marine Corps Birthday Ball

Dinner, Dancing, Camaraderie

November 12, 2016 from 5:30pm to 11:00pm

Genetti Hotel, Grand Ball Room

\$30.00 per person/ \$55.00 per couple

Tickets must be purchased by November 4th, 2016

For more information, contact Doug Lane at 570-322-4075
or Bill Dougherty at 570-435-2236

Doors open at 5:15pm no outside alcohol permitted

Dinner Selection Includes: Choice of Pork Tenderloin or Prime Rib

Parsley Buttered Potatoes, Vegetable Medley, Rolls

Coffee and Tea

Birthday Cake and Ice Cream

“Veterans, Who Do They Think They Are?”

They are the men and women who live every day in pain.
 Physical pain from their wounds, lost limbs, or maybe it's the shrapnel they still carry.
 Emotional pain from being separated from their families for long periods of time.
 For missing the birth of their child, or death of a parent.
 Mental pain for what they have seen and what they had to do.
 Pain from knowing that they would have died for you and you are not wise
 enough to know you should care.
 They are the ones who make life-long friends.
 They know how precious life is and they never forget the ones who didn't make it back. Never.
 That is why you will see Veterans at the cemetery on Memorial Day walking around and
 silently thanking the ones who are buried there.
 They don't have to know them personally to know the sacrifice each one made.
 They are the ones who...
 ... are loud and boisterous.
 ... are quiet.
 ... shivered in the foxhole, trying to keep the enemy at bay.
 ... crawled through sand when the temperature was 126 Degrees.
 ... carried their buddy to safety.
 ... sometimes drink too much, trying to keep the memories from haunting them.
 ... carry the flag with honor and respect it deserves.
 ... wear their military uniform with pride and still have it in their closet 30 some years later.
 ... don't ask you to go out of your way for them.
 ... have gone out of their way for you.
 ... spent many nights awake on guard duty so you didn't have to.
 ... helped keep our shores safe while you played video games.
 ... missed their birthdays, anniversaries, and other important dates.
 ... got shot and got sent home, but felt guilty because their buddies were still there.
 ... followed orders even when they didn't want to.
 ... had enough love and pride in their country to do a job many others couldn't do.
 ... stepped up when the call went out.
 ... ate MRE's till they were sick of them.
 ... cried “Medic” at the top of their lungs though they couldn't even hear their own voice.
 ... cried when they were alone in their tent.
 ... flew planes, drove tanks, worked a ship, and armed the missiles.
 ... had moms at homes praying for them every minute of every day.
 ... made it safe for you so you could go to school or work.
 ... missed ordering pizza, the movies, the shopping trips, and all that you take for granted.
 ... asked to take a friend's deployment because that friend had a family.
 ... gave their girlfriends a lock of their hair to keep as a promise of their return.
 ... wanted to come home.
 ... didn't return.
 ... waited months for a letter.
 How Can You Not Wait One Day?

**God Bless Our Veterans,
 Laurel A. Olmsted
 Wife of a Veteran, Proud Mother of two Veterans**

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

Veterans of the Vietnam War – Post PA 51

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

American Legion Post 35-

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

VFW Post 3428-

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

American Legion Post 36 -

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

VFW Post 5859-

Billy O. Brandt Post
201 N. Lincoln Ave., Jersey Shore, PA 17740
Phone: 570-8656216

American Legion Post 104 -

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

VFW Post 7863-

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

American Legion Post 251 -

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

VFW POST 844-

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

American Legion Post 268 -

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

Forty & Eight Voiture 382

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

American Legion Post 617 -

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

Susquehanna Valley Chapter 47 of The Disabled American Veterans

P.O. Box 3372, Williamsport, PA 17701
Phone: 570-567-4554

Blue Star Mothers of America Inc. -

Chapter 12
P.O. Box 851
Williamsport, PA 17703
Phone: 570-772-4638

Williamsport Detachment 388

Marine Corp League Inc.
P. O. Box 3245, Williamsport, PA 17701
Phone: 570-323-9900

United States Submarine Veterans Inc.-

Williamsport Base
Mailing: 160 North Broad St, Hughesville, PA 17737
Meeting Location: Zafar Gorotto Club
381 E. 2nd St, S. Williamsport, PA 17702
Phone: 570-244-1351

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	One Progress Plaza, Suite 13
Williamsport, PA	Towanda, PA 18848
Phone: 570-322-6457	Phone: 570-265-7448
Fax: 570-327-3703	Fax: 570-268-4313
Toll-free: 1-800-443-5772	
Website: http://senatorgeneyaw.com/	Email: gyaw@pasen.gov



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

Penn Hills Plaza, Halls Station	Tiadaghton Valley Mall
21 Kristi Road, Suite 2	Room 105
Muncy, PA 17756	Jersey Shore, PA 17740
Phone: 570-546-2084	Phone: 570-398-4476
Fax: 570-546-5220	Fax: 570-398-5963
Website: http://www.repeverett.com/	Email: geverett@pahousegop.com



PA State Representative Jeff Wheeland— 83rd Legislative District

349 Pine Street Suite 1	Room 414 Irvis Office Building
Williamsport, PA 17701	P.O. Box 202083
Phone: 570-321-1270	Harrisburg, PA 17120-2083
Fax: 570-327-3719	Phone: 717-787-2885
Office Hours: M-F 8:30-4:30	
Website: www.repwheeland.com	Email: jwheeland@pahousegop.com

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

Web: 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.

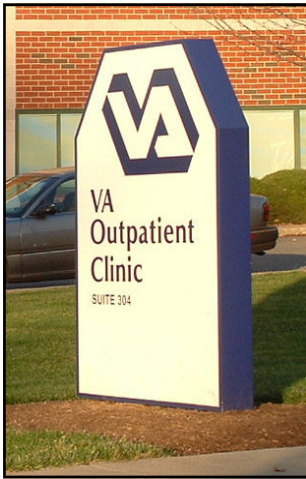
Be aware that your out-of-pocket costs for existing care will change from TRICARE Prime copayments to TRICARE Standard (Extra) cost-shares and deductibles on **October 1, 2013**.

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



MARINE CORPS BALL

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

Phone: 570-601-5934

Online: www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us



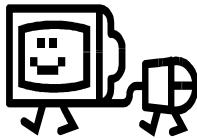
Lycoming County Office of Veterans Affairs

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
R. Jack McKernan,
Chairman
Tony R. Mussare,
Vice Chairman
Richard Mirabito,
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

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

(No Comp or Pension Claims, Info ONLY)

Closed weekends and major holidays.

The Lycoming County VA

Office Will Be Closed:

Veterans Day– Friday November 11, 2016
Thanksgiving Holiday– Thursday & Friday November 24 & 25
Christmas– Monday December 26, 2016

**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.