



Idaho Division of
**VETERANS
SERVICES**

*Caring for
America's
Heroes*

Office of Veterans Advocacy

BULLETIN

July 2022

STATE OF IDAHO

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To be connected with a VA suicide prevention and mental health professional,
call the toll-free National Suicide Prevention hotline and indicate you are a veteran.
(800) 273-8255

ALL EMPLOYMENT ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES ARE ADMINISTERED IN A NONDISCRIMINATORY
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**If you’ve not already done so, please volunteer to receive the bulletin via email
by emailing Jennel Binsky at
jennel.binsky@veterans.idaho.gov**



As of March 7, 2022, the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has resumed normal operations. To submit a request, you can log onto www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records.

Beginning October 1, 2022, the VA Medical Center's Family Caregiver Program is preparing to expand to all generations of veterans. More information on the program can be found at www.va.gov/family-member-benefits/comprehensive-assistance-for-family-caregivers.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact our offices and have a fun and safe summer season!

PREPARING FOR THE TRANSITION FROM MY HEALTHVET TO MY VA HEALTH

Press Release

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) transitioned to a new electronic health record (EHR) system on July 23, 2022. The new EHR system will transform health care for veterans, allowing VA clinicians, staff and community health care providers to access your full medical history on a single platform without you or your provider needing to track down previous health information. As part of this change, if you use My HealthVet to manage your care at Boise VA Medical Center (VAMC), you will need to use a new online patient portal called My VA Health.

You may review My VA Health features and functions in the Veteran User Guide for My VA Health. You can find this guide along with other information at www.va.gov/boise-health-care/programs/my-va-health.

Refill and renew prescriptions early. Submit VA prescription refill and/or renewal requests as soon as possible to avoid possible delays in processing your prescriptions. You can use My HealthVet to request online prescription renewals until midnight MT on July 18th and to request online prescription refills until midnight MT on July 20th. You can still request refills during an appointment, by mailing in a refill slip, or using the automated refill line by calling 208-422-1000, pressing 1 for pharmacy related calls, and following the prompts to refill a prescription or speak to a representative. Your early action will assist pharmacy staff to help you prepare for the new patient portal.

Double-check your account type. To access My VA Health, you can use any of these accounts: Premium Department of Defense Self-Service (DS) Logon account, Premium My HealthVet account, a verified login.gov account, or a verified ID.me account. Please note that My VA Health will require you to enable multifactor authentication to log in. If you have a Basic My HealthVet account, you should upgrade your account now by going to www.myhealth.va.gov/premium. At that link, you will find a step-by-step guide on how to upgrade your account to Premium at no cost.

Confirm your contact information on file is accurate. Make sure your contact information, including physical and email addresses, are up to date in your VA profile at VA.gov before the new My VA Health patient portal is launched on July 23rd. To make updates, log in to VA Profile at www.va.gov/profile/personal-information or through VA.gov using your Premium DS Logon account, Premium My HealthVet account, a verified login.gov account, or a verified ID.me account. You can contact Boise VAMC at 208-422-1000 with any questions or if you need additional assistance.

Other resources: You must continue to use the My HealthVet patient portal to request prescription refills or renewals for your medications ordered by VA providers from other VA medical facilities not using the new EHR system. Prescriptions from VA medical facilities not using the new EHR will not be transferred to Boise VAMC.

Log in to the new patient portal, My VA Health at patientportal.myhealth.va.gov.

Bring your third-party insurance card to your next VA provider visit. If you use third-party insurance, bring your insurance card to your first appointment with your VA provider on or after July 23rd. Doing so will help ensure we have the correct information on file for you.

We are here to support you throughout this transition to the new EHR system and patient portal. To learn more about these changes at Boise VAMC and access your patient portal, visit www.va.gov/boise-health-care/programs/boise-va-electronic-health-record-modernization-ehrm. You can call My VA Health support 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, at 888-444-6982 or 888-444-MYVA.

VA ESTABLISHES PRESUMPTIVE SERVICE CONNECTION FOR RARE RESPIRATORY CANCERS

Press Release, April 25, 2022

As part of President Biden’s Unity Agenda commitment to support the nation’s veterans, the Department of Veterans Affairs is adding nine rare respiratory cancers to the list of presumed service-connected disabilities due to military environmental exposures to fine particulate matter. The following list of rare respiratory cancers have been added to the VA’s regulations through an Interim Final Rule published in the Federal Register on April 26, 2022:

- Squamous cell carcinoma of the larynx.
- Squamous cell carcinoma of the trachea.
- Adenocarcinoma of the trachea.
- Salivary gland-type tumors of the trachea.
- Adenosquamous carcinoma of the lung.
- Large cell carcinoma of the lung.
- Salivary gland-type tumors of the lung.
- Sarcomatoid carcinoma of the lung.
- Typical and atypical carcinoid of the lung.

The VA determined through a focused review of scientific and medical evidence there is biological plausibility between airborne hazards and carcinogenesis of the respiratory tract — and the unique circumstances of these rare cancers warrant a presumption of service connection. The rarity and severity of these illnesses and the reality these conditions present, is a situation where it may not be possible to develop additional evidence, prompted the VA to take this action. “Last year we made promises to fundamentally change and improve how we establish and expedite presumptions — now we’re keeping them,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “We are taking a new approach to presumptives that takes all available science into account, with one goal in mind — getting today’s veterans — and vets in the decades ahead — the benefits they deserve as fast as possible.”

The VA will begin processing disability compensation claims for veterans who served any amount of time in the Southwest Asia theater of operations beginning August 2, 1990, to the present; or Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Syria, or Djibouti beginning September 19, 2001, to the present. Any veteran who has or had one of the listed cancers at any time during or after separation from military service may be eligible for disability compensation benefits. The VA will contact impacted veterans and survivors to inform them about their eligibility and will provide information on how to apply. Veterans, survivors, or dependents who had claims previously denied for any of these respiratory cancers are encouraged to file a supplemental claim for benefits. If you are a veteran, survivor, or dependent applying for the first time, file a new claim. To apply for benefits, veterans and survivors may contact their local veterans representative; or visit VA.gov or call toll-free (800) 827-1000.

SIMPLIFIED MEDICAL DEBT RELIEF APPLICATION PROCESS FOR VETERANS

Press Release

What type of changes have been made to the application process for medical debt relief and why were these changes made? In early March 2022, the White House announced an effort to reduce financial hardship for veterans by simplifying the process by which veterans can apply for medical debt relief. In June 2022, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) launched a simplified application process, meant to allow veterans easier access to the debt relief they might need. Veterans may continue to apply for medical debt relief through a Facility Revenue Office or the Health Resource Center (HRC). Objective income threshold criteria will now be used for the processing and consideration of debt relief. Supplemental documents to support requests will no longer be recommended for submission of applications.

Is it still necessary to fill out VA Form 5655 for medical debt relief? Yes. A VA Form 5655 must be used to apply for medical debt relief. You can access the form online at www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/revenue_ops/Financial_Hardship or www.va.gov/find-forms/about-form-5655. You can also pick up the form at your facility revenue office. You can submit the completed forms to a facility revenue office or by calling the HRC.

Where can veterans access their statement? Patient statements are mailed monthly. Veterans can also view them online at eauth.va.gov/accessva or www.va.gov/manage-va-debt.

Will there be more changes to the application process in the future? Yes. Veterans and their financial well-being are top priorities for VA. VA teams continue to work on modernizing the debt relief application process. A future state will include the addition of an online automated approval process for medical debt relief.

VA ADVANCES EQUITY IN BENEFITS, SERVICES, & HEALTH CARE

Press Release, April 14, 2022

On April 14th, the Department of Veterans Affairs released its Equity Action Plan to eliminate barriers to health care, benefits, and services, and to create opportunities to improve access and experiences for historically marginalized veterans. The VA’s Equity Action Plan is part of the Biden-Harris administration’s broader focus on advancing equity as outlined in Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government. “The department’s mission is to ensure equity and access for all those who served their country in uniform and the Equity Action Plan is a natural extension of that mission,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “We have efforts underway to change policies, processes, and procedures, as well as identify infrastructure and data enhancements to enable access to all veterans, including underserved veterans.”

To serve all veterans, the VA must reach the most marginalized and underserved — regardless of race, gender, age, or socio-economic status. The plan sets forth a myriad of goals to effectively incorporate equity across the department. To help achieve broad equity in every area of VA operations and engagement includes:

- Building and maintaining trust with underserved veterans.
- Developing data to measure equitable delivery of care and services.
- Improving access for advancing outcomes when it comes to:
 - Health care, benefits, and services for underserved veterans.
 - Contracts awarded to minority, small disadvantaged and women-owned businesses.

This follows the creation of an Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access task force, April 1, 2021, which developed a set of 20 recommendations to ensure equitable treatment and experiences for all VA employees, and veterans and their families, caregivers, and survivors.

The Department of Veterans Affairs introduced new efforts to improve interagency coordination and expand outreach to criminal justice partners, to better help those reentering into society after incarceration. In conjunction with a presidential proclamation designating April as Second Chance Month, the initiative is part of the Biden-Harris administration’s goal to provide meaningful redemption and rehabilitation for formerly imprisoned persons. “Justice-involved veterans deserve an opportunity to fully reintegrate into society,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “During Second Chance Month, the VA is taking action to enable veterans committed to rejoining society, post-incarceration, by expanding the use of a web-based tool to identify and connect them to needed VA care, while also restoring VA benefits faster.”

In partnership with the Social Security Administration and Bureau of Prisons, the Veterans Benefits Administration is working diligently to streamline information-sharing processes among these three agencies to ensure VBA receives prison release dates for veterans within 30 days after release to improve timeliness to reinstate benefits as applicable.

Currently, veterans bear the administrative burden of restoring benefits post-incarceration. Once released, a veteran notifies the VA, and the department then must obtain verification of prison release dates from corrections facilities. This multi-step process causes a delay in the restoration of a wide range of health, rehabilitation, and subsistence benefits for veterans. It also hinders their successful and full reintegration into our communities. Through collaborative information-sharing, the VBA will ensure the load is on the agency, not the veteran. Assistance available to impacted veterans includes:

- Expansion of the VA’s existing outreach campaign to state prison systems and jails to increase the number of veterans to whom it can offer individualized reentry services and connect more veterans to post-release services while they are still incarcerated.
- Assistance through the VA’s Veterans Reentry Search Service, a free web-based tool criminal justice partners and prison and jail staff can use to identify incarcerated veterans and connect them to needed services post release.
- Help through Health Care for Reentry Veterans and Veterans Justice Outreach which make up Veterans Justice Programs. Its mission is to identify justice-involved veterans and engage them through outreach to facilitate access to VA services at the earliest possible point.
- Outreach by Veterans Justice Programs specialists for the purpose of linking veterans to needed Veterans Health Administration services and other community resources.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics reports there are approximately 107,400 veterans in state or federal prison. Following release, these veterans are at increased risk of homelessness, suicide, and death by drug overdose — that’s why it’s vital to re-connect veterans to VA care and benefits to which they may be entitled, post-incarceration.

VA SUSPENDS ANNUAL REASSESSMENT IN THE PCAFC PROGRAM

Press Release, June 9, 2022

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAM

Press Release, April 14, 2022

As part of the Department of Veterans Affairs and White House national suicide prevention efforts, the VA published a Notice of Funding Opportunity for approximately \$51,750,000 in suicide prevention grants. Under Section 201 of the Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act, grants will be awarded to organizations that provide or coordinate suicide prevention services for veterans at risk of suicide and the families of those veterans. “Communities are important partners in our work to end veteran suicide,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “The Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program will fund programs in local communities that provide suicide prevention services and resources to veterans and their families along with ensuring veterans have access to our community partners who know how to reach them.”

Organizations may apply for grants worth up to \$750,000, as well as apply to renew awards from year to year throughout the length of the three-year community-based grant program. Information about the Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program, as well as eligibility and award process can be found at VA.gov.

VA DEVELOPS NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Press Release, June 30, 2022

The Department of Veterans Affairs published its first of 50 draft national standards of practice in the Federal Register on June 30th, along with the Notice of Request for Information on the VA's Blind Rehabilitation Specialist and Visual Impairment Services Team Coordinator Standard of Practice. National standards of practice are a standardized set of services that all health care professionals in a given occupation can perform within the VA, regardless of what is permitted by state licensure, certification, or registration, per Authority of VA Professionals to Practice Health Care. “VA is undertaking a multi-year endeavor to develop national standards of practice for each of its 50 health care professions to ensure the continued safe, high-quality care for our nation’s veterans,” said Deputy Under Secretary for Health Performing the Delegable Duties of Under Secretary for Health Steven Lieberman, M.D. “These standards will ensure VA health care professionals are able to deliver services in regions other than where they may be licensed, registered, certified, or limited by a state requirement, so veterans can get the care they need, when they need it.”

The proposed national standard of practice for Blind Rehabilitation Specialists is consistent with the four national certifications from the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals; therefore, Blind Rehabilitation Specialists will continue to practice in the VA as set by their national certification. There is no national or state license or certification for Visual Impairment Services coordinators. They will adhere to the national standard for the occupation in which they hold a license, certification, or registration.

The development of national standards of practice enables the VA to move health care professionals seamlessly throughout the organization. Further, national standards will support VA health care professionals practicing across state lines and creates standardized practice and business operations across VA medical facilities. The VA is using a robust, interactive development process for these national standards that includes consultation with internal and external stakeholders, including state licensing boards, VA employees, federal labor partners, professional associations, veteran service organizations, and others.

The VA will share all draft standards on the Federal Register. Veterans, the public, professional associations, and medical leadership are welcome to provide their comments during the 60-day posting period. VA employees will have a separate, internal mechanism to provide comments during the 60-day posting period. Comments will be reviewed and considered before the VA finalizes each national standard of practice. Information pertaining to timing of all VA national standards and hyperlinks to the applicable commenting platform can be found on the National Standards website.

The final national standards of practice will be approved by VA leadership and published as an appendix into a new Veterans Health Administration policy. The policy will establish basic principles that apply across all national standards of practice, including oversight, reporting, implementation, training, and recertification. The VA values input and feedback from the VA workforce and external stakeholders. Please visit the National Standards website for additional information and to subscribe to the newsletter.

VA EXPANDS LIVE DONOR CARE & SUPPORT

Press Release, June 30, 2022

The Department of Veterans Affairs implemented a final rule, July 1st, describing the authority to provide support for donation procedures and related care to those who donate an organ or bone marrow to veterans for transplants. Live donor support includes the following at no cost to the live donor, both in-house and in the community:

- Initial screening, tests, and studies necessary to qualify an interested individual as a live donor for a specific veteran.
- Medical care and services related to the solid organ or bone marrow donation procedure.
- Post-donation follow-up, to include medical care and services required to address reasonably foreseeable donor health complications resulting directly from the donation procedure for the period specified in the regulation.
- Necessary travel and temporary lodging expenses, including those of one needed attendant or support person for the live donor, at rates prescribed in the regulation.

The final rule also highlights the informed consent rights of live donors, including the right to revoke their consent at any time and for any reason. Additionally, growing awareness and use of paired kidney donations or kidney donation chains in the private sector are voluntary efforts that could benefit veterans, and so these are specifically addressed in the final rule. “The more live donors we have, the more the gift of life is given to the veterans we serve,” said VA National Director of Clinical Services Manimegalai Murugavel D.N.P. “We know the availability of live organs and bone marrow does not meet the need for transplants nationwide. That’s why it’s important we find live donors to facilitate transplantation within a reasonably short time compared to the wait time of an organ from a deceased donor.”

As part of the integral care required by an eligible veteran in need of a transplant, the VA has offered solid organ transplant services since 1962 and bone marrow transplant services since 1982, including providing care and services for live donors donating a solid organ or bone marrow to a veteran. On average, the VA receives over 3,500 referrals for transplants each year and performs more than 480 solid organ and bone marrow transplant procedures including live donor transplantation. Learn more about the VA National Transplant Program.

VA ADOPTS LOGIN.GOV FOR A UNIFIED VETERAN SIGN-IN EXPERIENCE

Press Release, June 28, 2022

By creating an account on Login.gov, veterans can now use the same login and password to access a growing list of federal government websites, including the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Personnel Management, and Small Business Administration to deliver a secure and streamlined identity verification experience. Currently, veterans can login to VA.gov, My HealtheVet, and the VA’s flagship Health and Benefits mobile app using Login.gov. Operated by the General Services Administration’s Technology Transformation Services, the availability of Login.gov at the VA marks a major milestone in improving how veterans access their benefits and services.

Implementing Login.gov fulfills a key objective of President Biden’s Executive Order on Transforming Federal Customer Experience and the VA plays an integral role in innovative technologies driving simplified access to the world-class care and benefits veterans have earned. "Login.gov is a secure digital credential designed to streamline how users access government benefits and services," said Chief Technology Officer Charles Worthington. "As part of the department's digital transformation efforts focused on continuous improvement, we're embracing the innovative technology designed by Login.gov to provide our veterans a seamless sign-in experience to better serve, engage and enhance the customer experience." “This is an important example of using technology to deliver services that provide convenient access to benefits while supporting veterans as they transition into civilian life,” said Director of General Services Administration’s Technology Transformation Services Dave Zvenyach. “It’s our mission at GSA to provide a secure and seamless digital experience for veterans and those supporting them.”

The launch of Login.gov follows several other digital transformations including the relaunch of VA.gov, and the launch of the VA’s flagship mobile application enabling veterans to schedule and track health care appointments. To learn more about the sign-in experience visit Login.gov.

VA EXPANDS REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT PROGRAM TO URBAN INDIAN ORGANIZATIONS

Press Release, April 28, 2022

The Department of Veterans Affairs partners with Health and Human Services' 41 Indian Health Service (IHS) grant-funded Urban Indian Organizations (UIO) serving eligible American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) veterans. The collaboration is part of a recent expansion of the VA's health care Reimbursement Agreement Program. UIOs provide unique access to quality health care and culturally appropriate services for AI/AN people living in urban areas, who may not have access to Indian Health Service or Tribal health care services because they do not live on or near a reservation or reside outside of an IHS area.

The partnership is possible through Section 1113 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 which amended Sharing Arrangements with Federal Agencies to allow UIOs to participate in the department's Reimbursement Agreement Program to deliver health care to the 70% of AI/AN veterans now living in urban areas. "VA has partnered with the Indian Health Services/Tribal Health Program since 2012 to deliver the Reimbursement Agreement Program — which continues to evolve to meet the needs of all veterans," said Acting Chief Medical Officer of the VA's Office of Integrated Veteran Care Sachin P. Yende, M.D. "Partnering with Urban Indian Organizations will widen access to culturally sensitive care and build mutually-beneficial relationships to better serve American Indian/Alaska Native veterans."

THE STORY OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

Independence Day is the national holiday of the United States of America commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

At the time of the signing, the United States consisted of 13 colonies under the rule of England's King George III. There was growing unrest in the colonies concerning the taxes that had to be paid to England. This was commonly referred to as "Taxation without Representation," as the colonists did not have any representation in the English Parliament and had no say in what went on. As the unrest grew in the colonies, King George sent extra troops to help control any rebellion. In 1774, the 13 colonies sent delegates to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to form the First Continental Congress. The delegates were unhappy with England, but were not yet ready to declare war.

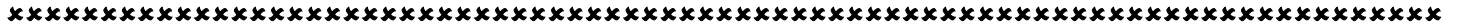
In April 1775, as the King's troops advanced on Concord, Massachusetts, Paul Revere would sound the alarm "The British are coming, the British are coming" as he rode his horse through the late night streets. The battle of Concord and its "shot heard round the world" would mark the unofficial beginning of the colonies war for Independence.

The following May, the colonies again sent delegates to the Second Continental Congress. For almost a year the congress tried to work out its differences with England, again without formally declaring war. By June 1776 their efforts had become hopeless and a committee was formed to compose a formal declaration of independence. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Philip Livingston, and Roger Sherman. Thomas Jefferson was chosen to write the first draft, which was presented to the congress on June 28th. After various changes, a vote was taken late in the afternoon of July 4th. Of the 13 colonies, nine voted in favor of the Declaration, two - Pennsylvania and South Carolina - voted no, Delaware was undecided, and New York abstained.

To make it official, John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence. It is said that John Hancock signed his name "with a great flourish" so "King George can read that without spectacles!" The following day copies of the Declaration were distributed. The first newspaper to print the Declaration was the Pennsylvania Evening Post on July 6, 1776. On July 8th, the Declaration had its first public reading in Philadelphia's Independence Square. Twice that day the Declaration was read to cheering crowds and pealing church bells. Even the bell in Independence Hall was rung. The "Province Bell" would later be renamed "Liberty Bell" after its inscription – "*Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land Unto All the Inhabitants Thereof.*"

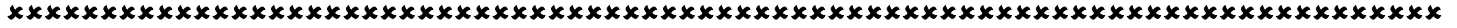
Although the signing of the Declaration was not completed until August, the 4th of July has been accepted as the official anniversary of United States independence. The first Independence Day celebration took place the following year, July 4, 1777. By the early 1800's, the traditions of parades, picnics, and fireworks were established as the way to celebrate America's birthday. And although fireworks have been banned in most places because of their danger, most towns and cities usually have big firework displays for all to see and enjoy.

DATES TO REMEMBER



- July 2U.S. Army Air Corps established, 1926
July 4Independence Day
July 20Neil Armstrong walks on the moon, 1969
July 27Korean War Armistice Day, 1953
August 4.....U.S. Coast Guard established, 1790
August 7.....Order of the Purple Heart established, 1782
August 14Japan surrendered, ending WWII, 1945
September 5Labor Day
September 11Patriot Day
September 14.....Star Spangled Banner written by Francis Scott Key, 1814 - see lyrics below
September 16.....POW/MIA Day
September 17.....VFW Ladies Auxiliary organized, 1914
U.S. Constitution approved, 1787
September 18.....U.S. Air Force established, 1947
September 29.....Veteran of Foreign Wars (VFW) established, 1899

CONVENTION SCHEDULES - ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE



American Legion

- StateJuly 14-17, 2022, Moscow, ID
National.....August 26-September 1, 2022, Milwaukee, WI

AMVETS

- National.....August 16-20, 2022, New Orleans, LA

Disabled American Veterans

- National.....August 6-9, 2022, Orlando, FL

Marine Corps League

- National.....August 15-19, 2022, Daytona Beach, FL

Military Order of the Purple Heart

- National.....August 14-19, 2022, Rapid City, SD

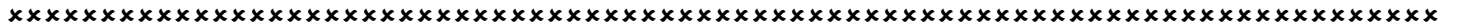
Veterans of Foreign Wars

- National.....July 16-21, 2022, Kansas City, MO

Vietnam Veterans of America

- National.....August 9-13, 2022, Greenville, NC

THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER



Oh, say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

And where is that band who so dauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has wiped out their foul footstep's pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave:
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines on the stream:
'Tis the star-spangled banner! O long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

DAV VAN CONTACTS TO AND FROM VA MEDICAL CENTERS

BOISE & SURROUNDING AREA TO BOISE VAMC

All appointments for rides must be made 72 hours in advance.

For the schedule or an appointment, call Jim Rossette at the Boise VA Medical Center (208) 422-1000 ext. 7555.

LEWISTON & SURROUNDING AREA TO SPOKANE VAMC

All appointments for rides must be made 72 hours in advance.

For the schedule or an appointment, call the DAV Transportation Office at the Spokane VA Medical Center (800) 325-7940.

LIBBY & SURROUNDING AREA TO SPOKANE VAMC

All appointments for rides must be made 72 hours in advance.

For the schedule or an appointment, Call the DAV Transportation Office at the Spokane VA Medical Center (800) 325-7940.

COEUR D'ALENE & SURROUNDING AREA TO SPOKANE VAMC

All appointments for rides must be made 72 hours in advance.

For the schedule or an appointment, Call the DAV Transportation Office at the Spokane VA Medical Center (800) 325-7940.

SANDPOINT & SURROUNDING AREA TO SPOKANE VAMC

All appointments for rides must be made 72 hours in advance.

For the schedule or an appointment, call the DAV Transportation Office at the Spokane VA Medical Center (800) 325-7940.

LEWISTON TO WALLA WALLA VAMC

Thursdays: Walla Walla VA Medical Center Van. 8:00 a.m. departure from the CBOC at 1630 23rd Avenue, Building 2.

Arrives at Walla Walla at 10:00 a.m. Departs Walla Walla at 1:30 p.m. Arrives Lewiston at 3:30 p.m.

If your appointment runs past the departure time of 1:30, there is no alternative for returning to Lewiston.

POCATELLO, IDAHO FALLS, & SURROUNDING ARE TO SALT LAKE CITY VAMC

All appointments for rides should be made 72 hours in advance.

For the schedule or an appointment, call the VTS/DAV Transportation Office at (800) 613-4012 ext. 2003 or 1027.

