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## 'Rip through the heart': Holyoke Soldiers' Home marks somber Memorial Day



COVID-19 has caused a “tremendous rip through the heart” of the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke Mass, Gov. Charlie Baker said in an online video Memorial Day observance for state-run nursing home.

“Memorial Day has always been a particularly special treat to come in and share time with the residents, with families in many cases, and

with the staff,” he said. “I can tell you that we share the sense of sorrow and loss that I know so many carry because of the impact of COVID-19.”

Baker's administration and those of his predecessors are coming under fire now for longstanding staffing deficiencies at the home, shortages critics say contributed to overcrowding and to the spread of the coronavirus.

The Soldiers' Home suffered what was reportedly one of the deadliest coronavirus outbreak of any long-term health care facility in the country. Seventy-four residents who died since mid-March tested positive for COVID-19, the disease caused by the new coronavirus, and another 74 survivors have also tested positive. The outbreak is the subject of state and federal investigations.

State officials now plan staffing changes and a drop in the home's capacity in order to provide more space between patients and prevent more outbreaks.

Traditionally the Soldiers' Home's Memorial Day observances are done live. But this one was not in person and not even broadcast live. Instead it was a video edited to include submissions from community members and made available on the Home's Facebook page. The 15-minute ceremony featured an invocation by the Rev. Jacob Brooks, a chaplain with the Massachusetts Army National Guard.

There were taped musical performances. Sara Michel played taps on violin and Michele Hall sang the national anthem. Both are recreation therapists at the home. Raymond A. Benoit, a veterans' home resident and a Navy veteran, sang “God Bless America.”

The names of all Soldiers' Home residents who died in the preceding year appeared as graphics on the screen.

## Meetings

The Chapter 120 membership meeting and elections will tentatively be held on Thursday, September 3, 2020 at 7:00pm in the Machinists Union Hall, 357 Main St., East Hartford.

The Board of Directors will meet on Thursday, August 27 25 at 7:00pm. Call the Chapter office for any changes in schedule. Chapter members are welcomed to attend.

## Notice

If you have moved or changed your address, PLEASE notify us immediately. Call the Chapter office at (860) 568-9212, mail us at the address on the back of this newsletter or e-mail the Newsletter editor at [cchapter120@aol.com](mailto:cchapter120@aol.com).

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## Chapter/State News

### Chapter Elections Postponed

Chapter elections for officers, directors and state council delegates are postponed until at least September 3, 2020. We again ask our members to offer their time and enthusiasm in order to continue the good works that Chapter 120 is known for in the veterans' community. We need our members to offer their support, expertise, their ideas and their leadership to guide our organization down the right path to attain our basic goals – and establish new goals for our future. We are asking you, our members, to seriously consider running for these important positions. We need your help – we need your leadership and ideas to guide Chapter 120 for the next two years.

Please contact our Election Committee (Leigh Lovering, Tim Siggia or Bill Chiodo) to submit your name for one of these positions. Help our Chapter continue our work to support all veterans and their families.

Positions open for candidacy:

**Officers:** President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer

**Board of Directors:** Five positions

**State Council Delegates:** Five positions

**Elections Committee:** Three positions

### Chapter 120 Life Member Passes

Patrick Laureat “Larry” Dube, 76, of Portland CT, passed away on April 25th, 2020 at Middlesex Hospital in Middletown, from complications brought on by the COVID-19 virus and diabetes.

Larry was born on December 25th, 1943 in Lewiston, Maine, the son of Patrick M. Dube and Yolande B. Dube. He proudly served his country during the Vietnam War, and was a veteran of the United States Army, serving from 1965 to 1977. He was an avid and talented bowler for many years of his life. He bowled as a member of the New England Bowling Association and as a member of the Central Connecticut Bowling Association.

He is survived by a son, Richard Dube; a daughter Jeanette Bingley; three grandchildren, Katelyn Wiechert, Amanda Weichert, and Danielle Bingley. Larry's children and grandchildren all reside in the state of Washington. He is also survived by a brother, Robert M. Dube of Portland; a brother and sister in-law, David N. and Denise Dube of Salem; a sister, Joan D. Brule of Norwich; an aunt, Mary Dube of Rocky Hill; an aunt, Irene Pomerleau of Lewiston, ME. He also leaves several nieces, a nephew and several cousins. He was predeceased by both of his parents. Arrangements are entrusted to Abbey Funeral & Cremation Services of Rocky Hill.

There are no calling hours. A memorial service will be held at a future date to be determined. Please consider making a donation in Larry's memory to the American Diabetes Association or Operation Homefront.

## Birthday Wishes

Birthday wishes go to our members born in June. May you have many more!

<i>Moe Armstrong</i>	<i>Dorothy Barry</i>
<i>Peter Beley</i>	<i>Bo J. De Alba</i>
<i>Robert Dowding</i>	<i>Gary M. Gazdzicki Sr.</i>
<i>Joseph S. Hachey</i>	<i>Donald Kelly</i>
<i>Harry Kiernan</i>	<i>Donald Mooers</i>
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<i>James M. Parent</i>	<i>Ronald Pariseau</i>
<i>Arthur N. Steben, Jr.</i>	<i>Robert Stepanian</i>
<i>George W. Washington</i>	

## Happy Birthday!

### Receive “The Connection” by E-Mail

The monthly Chapter 120 newsletter, *The Connection*, is available by e-mail. Currently, 100 members receive the newsletter by e-mail, saving the Chapter over \$1,600 in printing and postal fees annually. The newsletter is available in Adobe format (.pdf), attached to your e-mail. If you wish to receive the newsletter via e-mail, please e-mail the newsletter editor at [ctchapter120@aol.com](mailto:ctchapter120@aol.com)

Extracted from Putnam Villager - 15 May 2020

### Mobile food pantry meets needs of local veterans



On the first Thursday of each month, local veterans in need receive needed food supplies at a veterans' food bank sponsored by the Danielson Veteran's Coffeeshouse.

"It is a program in conjunction with the Connecticut Food Bank," said Fred Ruhlemann. "It is the only Food Bank program for veterans only."

Ruhlemann, a veteran who served in the Navy during the Vietnam War, has been the President of the Danielson Veteran's Coffeeshouse Mobile Food Pantry Truck since 2017.

On the first Thursday of the month, the truck arrives at the Riverview Marketplace Pavilion in Putnam, providing about 10,000 pounds of fresh produce and groceries, which helps to meet some of their needs.

"We serve a little over 100 Veterans and their families each month. This month, it was 130 Vets. It doesn't cost them anything," said Ruhlemann. "We work with the town of Putnam. The Mayor, Norman 'Barney' Seney, Jr. is a Vietnam Vet. Willie Bousquet, Putnam's Recreation Director is overseeing things. He has kept up with new regulations from the Governor and has bent over backwards to help. We are very grateful it is still going. We are also working with the police on social distancing."

No appointment is needed and all Vets are welcome. You must bring your driver's license with a Veteran Flag, a VA ID card or a discharge DD214. If a Veteran is too ill to come, the spouse may come with the ID and proof of marriage."

Some of the food that has been distributed in the past has been bread, fruits, salad fixings, potatoes and one time even corn on the cob. They have even had smoothies for kids.

Steve Randolph, a Sergeant in the Army who served in both Desert Storm and Operation Enduring Freedom, is one of the Veterans that receives food through the program. He said, "It is a resource to help a lot of Veterans that need food assistance. It

is a great thing the coffeehouse does. They make it happen through the Food Bank."

This is the only program for Veterans that is running right now. Before the coronavirus hit, Veterans Coffeeshouse would meet on Tuesday mornings and on the first Wednesday evening of the month for the coffeehouse where they would gather to socialize with other Vets and listen to guest speakers.

"The Veteran Coffeeshouse is made up of men and women who stepped up when the country needed them and did their job for the country," said Ruhlemann.

The coffeehouse was originally run under TVCCA. It was started in 2015 by Greg Kline, a TVCCA employee. In 2017, it became a tax exempt corporation run by a Board of Directors with Ruhlemann as President.

More information can be found on their Web site at [www.DVCoffeehouse.com](http://www.DVCoffeehouse.com)

### POW/MIA News



### Bring Our Heroes Home Act - The Fine Art of Declassification

**The Number: 81,905**

That's the Number of unresolved Missing in Action/Unaccounted for cases still on the Books of the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in Action

Accounting Agency (DPAA) today. A vast number of these cases are still wrapped up under the cloak of 'classified' even though there has been multiple Executive Orders issued from the Commander-in-Chief and at least one Bill from Congress ordering Federal Government Agencies to purge their files and present these POW/MIA related files to the Public or show evidence why it should remain Classified.

A Bill has been re-introduced on the Floor of Congress (House H.R. 5646 – Senate S 2794) entitled "Bring Our Heroes Home Act" and it has the right amount of 'accountability' as well as 'liability' in it.

The Bill needs to be very detailed on the responsibility as well as the liability to ensure action by all parties holding classified files pertaining to any/all of the case files being held by DPAA. This mission (accountability) should/could come to an end in the next 20 years with the institution of this legislation. Without it, we are on track for another 20 years to complete the Mission.

We NEED your Help! Take time to contact your Senators' offices. Let them know you want them to support this Bill. (Sen. Blumenthal has cosponsored this bill)

Let us work together to give the 81,905 families a chance to get answers in their lifetime!

## On The Hill



*From Stars & Stripes*

## Senate Democrats try to restore 48-hour review process for VA claims

A group of Senate Democrats is trying to reverse a change to the Department of Veterans Affairs claims process that critics argued would cause delays, create confusion and erode a veteran's right to competent representation when applying for VA benefits.

Last month, the VA ended a decades-old practice of allowing veterans service representatives to review benefits decisions for accuracy before those decisions are finalized and sent to

veterans. As outlined in a VA manual, representatives accredited by the VA had 48 hours to review new rating decisions on behalf of their clients. The decisions determine the level of compensation for service-connected injuries and illnesses.

A group of Democrats introduced legislation ("Veterans Claim Transparency Act of 2020") in the Senate on May 19 to restore the 48-hour review process. Under the legislation, veterans' service organizations, as well as attorneys and claims agents, would be permitted to review benefits decisions before they are final.

"VA's recent move to eliminate the 48-hour review rule is a thumb in the eye to any veteran relying on professional assistance to navigate the complicated claims review process, especially during this trying time," Sen. Jon Tester of Montana said in a statement.

Along with Tester, Sens. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut and Mazie Hirono of Hawaii introduced the legislation, as well as Jeanne Shaheen and Maggie Hassan, both representing New Hampshire.

During the 48-hour review period, representatives check for inadvertent errors that could save veterans from having to file appeals or request VA reviews. VFW representatives find errors in 5% to 7% of claims, said Ryan Gallucci, a director at the VFW's office in Washington.

The change went into effect April 24. Before then, more than a dozen lawmakers and eight veterans groups, including VVA, urged VA Secretary Robert Wilkie to reconsider and President Donald Trump to intervene.

"During these uncertain times, VA should not implement broad policy changes to veterans' claims adjudication," the veterans groups wrote to Trump. "In light of VA's refusal to pay heed to previous requests, we call on you to direct Secretary Wilkie to maintain the 48-hour review policy."

The VA decided to make the change because its online claims system made the 48-hour review process "obsolete," VA Press Secretary Christina Noel said in April.

In 2013, the department turned all paper claims into digital records and transitioned to an all-online claims process. The agency created the Veterans Benefits Management System, an online database.

"Since all veteran records, documents and other materials are now scanned or transmitted electronically, Veterans Service Organizations and other accredited representatives have access to their clients' records throughout the claims process in real time," Noel said. "This is a marked improvement over the limited, 48-hour review period under the old system."

Veterans groups argued veterans would prefer representatives take the 48 hours to check for errors "rather than litigate their claims in the lengthy appeals process."

## Veterans Affairs News



*From CNN*

## Veterans who sacrificed for their country battle coronavirus threat

More than 40 years after serving his country in the Vietnam War, John Rowan and many of his fellow

veterans are facing a new terrifying reality at home: surviving the coronavirus pandemic.

Like thousands of Vietnam-era veterans, Rowan is entering his mid-70's and suffers from preexisting conditions, meaning he faces a significantly higher risk of death if he contracts the coronavirus.

"It felt like I had a target on my back," Rowan, the president of Vietnam Veterans of America, told CNN. "Older male with preexisting conditions. That's me and every Vietnam veteran I know practically."

When the coronavirus outbreak first reached the US earlier this year, the Department of Veterans Affairs acted quickly to implement restrictive measures at hundreds of nursing homes around the country in an effort to lower the risk of exposure to the virus among older veterans who are particularly vulnerable to infection.

But months later, there is still a growing fear that older veterans remain at risk, especially after the VA recently released disturbing new numbers. At least 985 coronavirus patients have died after receiving some type of care from VA medical facilities, which serve more than six million people across the country.

If the VA hospitals and state-run nursing homes were a state, it would rank 16th for total coronavirus deaths, according to the data available.

And outside of the federal system, the number of veteran deaths at state-run nursing homes has skyrocketed in recent weeks.

“This disease once it got into these nursing homes, these veteran homes before anybody knew it, it was running rampant,” Rowan said.

Veterans’ advocacy groups have raised questions about various elements of the VA’s response to the coronavirus outbreak, including its initial handling of the outbreak and its continued use of hydroxychloroquine to treat the virus despite warnings from health officials that it may do more harm than good.

Among the most important, however, are concerns related to VA’s oversight of state-run facilities.

More than 550 residents of veterans nursing homes across the country have died from the virus, according to a report from the Vietnam Veterans of America, which notes not all states are reporting their numbers.

Families of those residents have been forced to face unfathomable and painful realities as their loved ones fight for their lives.

Sometimes families have been kept in the dark as they wait to hear about whether their family member is still alive, as was the case in Holyoke, Massachusetts where more than 70 residents have died from Covid-19.

“I took a grease crayon and wrote on my car: is my father alive? Shame on you, soldiers home,” Susan Kenney, whose 78-year-old father, Air Force veteran Charlie Lowell, died after being diagnosed with pneumonia at the Holyoke Soldier’s home, told CNN affiliate WCVB.

Despite the fact that these state-run facilities receive partial funding and oversight from the VA, department Secretary Robert Willkie is bucking blame and instead pointing the finger at local governments he says are responsible.

“We take complaints when we hear complaints ... we cannot impose our will on those state venues,” Willkie said in an interview on Fox News earlier this month.

VA spokesperson Christina Noel told CNN that federal law states the VA “shall have no authority over the management or control of any State (Veterans) home.” And that individual states, not the federal government “are solely responsible for the operation and management of state-run Veterans homes and any problems that arise within them.”

“VA operates and oversees 134 of its own nursing homes -- known as community living centers -- across the country. These homes are separate from state-run Veterans homes and benefitted from important early steps we took to prevent the spread of Covid-19, such as a strict limitation on visitors,

including family members. As a result, many VA nursing homes have few, if any, Covid-19 cases,” the spokesperson added.

But former VA Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning, Linda Schwartz, pushed back on Willkie’s comments, saying the secretary can create and enforce guidelines to hold these homes accountable.

“They have the authority to make changes, and they have in the past,” she told CNN. “There is a real need to do an analysis of what is going on. It can’t be something that takes years, it has to be now. Taking care of veterans is a great honor and responsibility.”

“(It’s) sad to think how many we will be mourning this year who died because of a virus and not on the battlefield. In a way, the battlefield is in the streets of America today,” Schwartz added.

Asked if there is anything the department wishes it could have done better, Noel said: “VA grieves for all of the Veterans and loved ones affected by this heartbreaking situation.”

## **The VA has treated 1,300 patients with hydroxychloroquine**



The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has treated 1,300 coronavirus patients with the malaria drug hydroxychloroquine, which a study has tied to an increased risk of death, according to a document released by a Senate Democrat.

Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer, who received the information from the VA in response to questions he submitted on the issue, said he was “deeply troubled” by the data.

President Donald Trump has long urged use of hydroxychloroquine against coronavirus and recently said he has been taking it himself, despite evidence that the treatment could be harmful.

A study published in the medical journal Lancet tied the drug to an increased risk of death in hospitalized patients with COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus.

In April, doctors at VA itself also said hydroxychloroquine did not help COVID-19 patients and might pose a higher risk of death.

The VA, which provides care to 9 million veterans, said that about 1,300 coronavirus patients who received the drug are among more than 10,000 COVID-19 patients it has treated. It has also dispensed hydroxychloroquine to about 7,500 patients with other conditions including rheumatoid arthritis and lupus.

The VA said it will continue to dispense the drug under the guidelines of the Food and Drug Administration.

In answer to a question from Schumer, the VA said it was not pressured into using hydroxychloroquine by the White House, the Department of Health and Human Services or any other federal agency.

“VA, like so many medical facilities across this nation, is in a race to keep patients alive during this pandemic, and we are using as many tools as we can,” the VA told Schumer.

*From Stars & Stripes*

## Agent Orange may have sickened Vietnam-era veterans on Guam, Yale-linked report says



Veterans who served on Guam between 1962 and 1975 were likely exposed to Agent Orange and other herbicides containing dioxins and may have valid claims to service-related disabilities as a result, according to a recent report by the National Veterans Legal Services Program and the Veterans Legal Services Clinic at Yale Law School.

The veterans meet the legal standard for exposure, said the review of government, private, archival and oral history evidence of herbicide use on Guam during the Vietnam era.

Past claims based on service on the island have been rejected by the Department of Veterans Affairs, said Bart Stichman, executive director of the National Veterans Legal Services Program, in a statement issued with the report on May 11.

The standard of proof is whether it is “as likely as not” that veterans were exposed to herbicide agents, according to the report.

“It is time that the VA acknowledge the strong evidence of toxic herbicide exposure in Guam and care for veterans exposed,” Stichman said in the statement.

The VA believes Agent Orange causes several cancers, including leukemia, Hodgkin’s disease, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma and others, according to its website. The department also recognizes the herbicide as a cause in some cases of diabetes and diseases of the nervous system, skin and heart.

Guam served as a major base for U.S. air power during the Vietnam War. At the height of bombing operations during Vietnam, three-quarters of all U.S. B-52 aircraft available for operations in Southeast Asia were based on the island.

The rapid U.S. airpower buildup on Guam created a pressing need to control fire risks and tropical growth with heavy herbicide usage, according to the researchers.

“Service members have said for years that they sprayed Agent Orange and other toxic herbicides all across Guam,” Brian Moyer, a Marine veteran who served there from 1974-76 and leads the group Agent Orange Survivors of Guam, said in the statement.

“So many of us were exposed and, sadly, many have already passed away with no recognition from the VA,” he said.

Like many whose Agent Orange claims were dismissed in the 1970s and 1980s, Guam veterans have been fighting for recognition of their in-service disabilities, John Rowan, National President of Vietnam Veterans for America, said in the statement.

“Guam veterans now have an overwhelming case that will require the VA to finally recognize these meritorious claims,” he said.

VA officials on Guam did not respond to emails last week or a telephone call Monday.

The report — titled “NVLSP And VLSC White Paper Confirming That Veterans Who Served in Guam from 1962-1975 Were Likely Exposed to Dioxin-Containing Herbicide Agents Including Agent Orange” — is available online. [https://www.nvlsp.org/images/uploads/2020.05.08\\_-\\_NVLSP\\_VLSC\\_White\\_Paper.pdf](https://www.nvlsp.org/images/uploads/2020.05.08_-_NVLSP_VLSC_White_Paper.pdf)

*From Stars & Stripes*

## VA disputes Yale-linked report, says no evidence Agent Orange was used on Guam

The Department of Veterans Affairs is pushing back against a recent report that says veterans who served on Guam between 1962 and 1975 were likely exposed to the toxic herbicide Agent Orange.

The report — released May 11, by the National Veterans Legal Services Program and the Veterans Legal Services Clinic at Yale Law School — says those veterans meet the legal standard for exposure and may have valid claims to service-related disabilities.

The VA disputed the report’s findings in an email to Stars and Stripes on Tuesday, May 19.

“There is no evidence Agent Orange was ever used on Guam,” wrote VA press secretary Christina Noel.

She said the report's authors failed to consider a 2018 Government Accountability Office report and a recent Department of Defense review on the subject.

"GAO reviewed DOD documents, other government records, and interviewed Veterans alleging Agent Orange exposure and concluded that there was no evidence of Agent Orange or other tactical herbicides, such as Agents White or Blue, on Guam," she said.

Investigators found extensive use of approved commercial herbicides on Guam but no evidence of Agent Orange or other tactical herbicides, Noel said.

The report by the veterans' legal program and Yale Law School clinic was based on a review of government, private, archival and oral history evidence of herbicide use on Guam during the Vietnam era.

## On the Lighter Side

### These Trainees Will Have You in Stitches

The first time I have to have stitches is during annual training for the military. My unit is required to participate in an exercise across the country. However, there is a prep period of about a week to two weeks depending on the size of the unit for this particular exercise, where we are required to be present and mostly do checks of equipment.

During this time, I am messing with my knife while by my bunk. I go to close the blade and nick my finger pretty bad, about half an inch deep on the tip of my index finger, right to the side of the nail to about the middle of the finger pad. I immediately go to my first aid kit to get gauze, thinking I'll be able to stop the bleeding with direct pressure. I manage to reduce the amount of blood pouring from my finger a little, but after about an hour it hasn't stopped so I am escorted to the aid station.

It isn't during sick call hours, so it's pretty slow and I'm admitted quickly. Despite reserving non-sick call hours for life, limb, and eyesight situations, they agree to see me. The major who is the equivalent of a surgeon or doctor comes in and analyzes the wound. It's still bleeding and the flesh is separated, so he determines that I'll need three sutures to keep the wound closed. I'm asked the question that would lead to me having the worst pain I have experienced in my life.

"Since it isn't a life-threatening wound, would you mind if we let a few trainees inject the novocaine and apply the stitches?"

Ever so ignorant, I agree; besides, my mistake can be another person's learning opportunity, so why not? I agree and I meet the two trainees who are my rank, and a nurse who is a non-commissioned officer walks in to supervise as well as the major.

As a boy, whenever I got nervous or fearful around needles and the like, my father taught me to overcome these fears by looking at the procedure and concentrating on the pain level and how the fear never really justified how much it actually hurt.

As they prepared the numbing agent and stuck me once, I felt nothing; the major concluded that they'd missed and had them do another dose. My finger felt numb at the base but the tip where they would be working still had full feeling. After triple the normal dose and six different tries, my finger was now swollen from the local anesthetic and I could still feel my fingertip. I could not receive any more medication, so they decided to continue anyway.

I've dealt with needles. They didn't hurt too much except that the trainees weren't smooth on the exit and tore a bit while removing the needle. That's not too bad; I give blood regularly and I've experienced it before. However, I saw the hook that was about to be sent through my body three times and I shuddered. These trainees had likely never done this before on a live subject. Granted, it wasn't that bad of a wound, but it was still in one of the most nerve-rich centers on the body.

I tried to look at the procedure as the hook was pushed in for the first time and I nearly teared up from the pain. The NCO saw this and went into what I later learned was trauma nurse practices of distraction and breathing exercises. We talked about family and other subjects and when the pain got worse, she had to remind me to breathe. Twice more, they put the string through the skin while I forced myself to hold my hand as still as possible. The first two were done by the trainees and the last by the major. The major had experience so it wasn't as terrible and took considerably less time.

When I was done, they wrapped it up and sent me back to my tent with no meds or painkillers — which I sort of understand — just with training, gauze, and other medical supplies to change the bandages every 24 hours.

I still had to go through the week-long exercise, and my bandages were removed in the field with a pair of scissors a week later. I still have the scar from the uneven stitching and I shudder whenever I think about having inexperienced medical staff perform stitches without effective anesthetic.

To this day, I don't trust local anesthetic by anyone, and I had to be put under general when I had my wisdom teeth removed about two months later.



## Helping Hands for Our Fellow Veterans



### ***Won't You Please Give a Helping Hand to a Brother or Sister Veteran?***

Several veterans have contacted Chapter 120 asking for help in paying the most basic of needs for themselves and their families. These veterans are those who do not qualify for regular federal, state or local assistance – they fall into that financial category where they make too much to qualify for assistance, but not enough to afford basic needs for their families, like food, fuel for heat, or clothing for their children.

Chapter 120 has decided to ask you – our members – to lend a helping hand to your fellow veterans and their families. Won't you please consider donating for this worthy cause? Even a small amount of \$5 can make a difference – or more if you can afford to help a fellow veteran and his or her family.

Please send your generous gift, made out to Connecticut Chapter 120, to:

Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.  
 Connecticut Chapter 120  
 Attention: Helping Hands for Veterans  
 P.O. Box 4136  
 Hartford, CT 06145

Chapter 120 has established a separate line item in the budget to collect donations to assist these fellow veterans and their families in need. *And don't forget, your donations are tax deductible.*

### **Newsletter articles/ stories/photos**

Any articles, stories and/or photos submitted for the newsletter must be received by the "cut off" date for any given month. Photos must be accompanied by text which describes the event, names, dates and any other pertinent facts so our readers understand the story behind the photo(s). The newsletter editor will announce the "cut off" dates at each Chapter meeting. The "cut off" date for our July/August 2020 newsletter is 26 June 2020. Due to space availability, the editor reserves the right to include or not include photos for a given month.

### ***This newsletter printed by***



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