

**Montgomery County** 

# **Veterans Service Commission**

Newsletter July 2021

#### **Director's Message**

## Let Freedom Ring...

This Independence day we remember quotes from the "Great Communicator" - Ronald Reagan.

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what is was once like in the United States."

"Here's my strategy on the Cold War: We win, they lose."
"No arsenal, or no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is as formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women."

"The most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the government and I'm here to help"

"If we ever forget that we're one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under."

Veterans, thank you for your service and the freedoms we enjoy today.

Kimberly Frisco, Executive Director

# Exchange of Information with Representative Warren Davidson

On July 15, 2021, the MCVSC team had an opportunity to meet with Representative Warren Davidson (Ohio 8th District) and share information on the obstacles facing our Veterans receiving benefits. One of the main items discussed was the current difficulty we are having getting records, and the position taken by the National Personnel Record Center (NPRC) on cleaning up the backlog. In a letter dated 19 July 2021 to the Chairs and Ranking Members of the Senate sent by NPRC, it "aims to have the entire backlog of approximately 500,000 requests eliminated by the end of calendar year 2022." Some of our Veterans have been waiting more than a year to receive documents to file their VA claim. Many family members are still awaiting DD-214s to bury their loved ones. We appreciate Congressman Davidson.



#### Welcome New AMVETS Commissioner

Please welcome John Theobald following his appointment to the Veterans Service Commission as the AMVETS Representative effective July 7, 2021. Commissioner Theobald is a Navy Veteran. For the last 25 years, he has dedicated his life to public service to include the City of Clayton and Montgomery County.

## Aid & Attendance for Veterans and Spouses

This benefit is an additional monetary pension benefit that helps eligible Veterans and/or their surviving spouses to pay for the assistance they need with activities of daily living (eating, bathing, dressing, and medication management) at home, in assisted living or in a nursing home.

Veterans who served on active duty for at least <u>90</u> consecutive days, including at least <u>one full day during a</u> time of war, may be eligible for Aid and Attendance. A Veteran or surviving spouse cannot be eligible for the Aid & Attendance Pension or the Homebound Pension without being eligible for the Basic Veterans Pension and/or service-connected compensation disability. The clinical activities of daily living need of and financial requirements must be met

The income and asset limit for VA aid and attendance is a brightline net worth limit of not more than \$130,773. There is a 36-month look back period for asset transfers to prevent Veterans and survivors from gifting assets in an attempt to meet the VA net worth limit.

This can be a complex and daunting undertaking so, please come in and speak with one of our certified Veterans Service Officers specializing in VA benefits. Contact us at 937-225-4801 to discuss eligibility for this benefit.

## This Month in History

<u>July 4, 1776</u> - The Declaration of Independence was approved by the Continental Congress.

<u>July 26, 1944</u> - The U.S. Army began desegregating its training camp facilities. Black platoons were then assigned to white companies in a first step toward battlefield integration. However, the official order integrating the armed forces didn't come until <u>July 26, 1948</u>, signed by President Harry Truman.

#### **About Us**

Montgomery County Veterans Services Commission

627 Edwin C. Moses Blvd.4th Floor, East Medical PlazaDayton, OH 45417

**Phone:** (937) 225-4801

**Office Hours:** Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Appointment Hours:** Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**EVENT SPONSORSHIP FOR VETERAN EVENTS AVAILABLE.** Contact us for more information at 937-225-4801.

# Transportation Available for all VA and Community Medical Appointments

Offering day bus passes,
Uber assistance for those not
on a bus line or unable to
walk to a bus stop, and
Paratransit for those utilizing
mobility devices such as
wheelchairs, Call
937-225-4801 for more
information.

# Commission Meetings:

August 11, 2021 at 10:00am September 8, 2021 at 10:00am October 13, 2021 at 10:00am November 10, 2021 at 10:00am December 8, 2021 at 10:00am

#### **Our Commissioners**

Jerry Hays President Disabled American Veterans

Federico Rojas, Jr. Vice President Veterans of Foreign Wars

William Fried
Secretary
Vietnam Veterans of America

James Dare
American Legion

John Theobald AMVETS