



Legacy E-News

Project Site: www.usaflegacytonasket.org
Newsletter: www.veteranlegacyproject.org
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Next Meeting is July 16th

6:00 PM (1800 Hours)
Whistler's Restaurant
Tonasket WA

Legacy Receives \$3000.00 Grant !!

The "First Mike" and Mr. John Lee visit with Michael Stewart and Dale White at the Legacy Site



First Mike, John Lee, Dennis Clark, Commissioners Peterson and Lampe, Dale White, Michael Stewart and Don Cates discuss Veteran's programs.

Notes of May 28th luncheon, gathering and meetings in Omak WA.

Mr. John Lee, Director of WDVA opened the luncheon discussion by stating the recognized needs of our Veteran population. Emphasis is being placed on the younger and newer Veterans of the Gulf war, OIF and OEF.

With John's introduction of an honored guest; our Washington State's "First Gentleman" Mr. Mike Gregoire or First Mike as he prefers to be called! One could feel as he spoke, the interest and compassion conveyed; not only being his own but that also of his wife, Our Governor of this State; for the well being of our Veterans. Unknown too many, acknowledged by just a few, yet appreciated by all; is that First Mike attends all the funerals of our KIA's. What more needs to be said! No D or R involved.



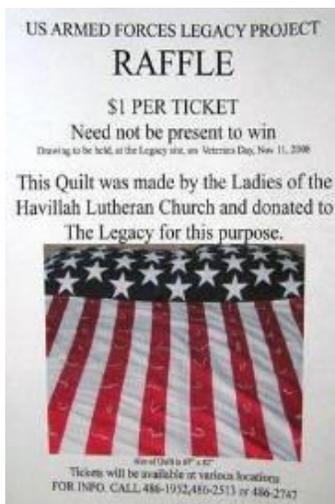
There were many Service providers in attendance all getting the opportunity to introduce themselves and share personal contact information. This helped lay the groundwork for expanding this gathering into a viable Okanogan Task Force. The primary concern being that the available benefits are delivered to our Veterans in a timely and efficient manner.

It is heartwarming to hear of the programs in place to assist our younger Veterans as they return home and transition to civilian life. There is also a deeper good feeling of knowing that; "As Veterans" and communities, we will be there for them this time around! Dale White was able to arrange a private meeting with concerned and interested persons at the Okanogan County Commissioners hearing room to further discuss our Legacy. County Commissioner Mary Lou Peterson had attended the luncheon and was happy to be able to provide the space and time for talks.

First Mike, John Lee, Dennis Clark, Commissioners Peterson and Lampe, Dale White, Michael Stewart and Don Cates of the OVB met for about 20 minutes discussing various funding potentials or the lack thereof. Not getting exactly the response we wanted, yet getting our message across to them; we then drove up to Tonasket to view the legacy site. The project area is laid out well enough that we were able to walk them through the site for a better feel of what we are doing.

First Mike and company must have liked what they saw and heard because by fast forwarding one week to June 5th, we have received news that with First Mike going and speaking with the Emblem fund director our USAFL project is to receive a \$3000.00 grant. Due Soonest!

Michael Stewart
Treasurer USAFL



Quilt Raffle Supports the Legacy

The Ladies of the Havillah Lutheran Church have donated a wonderful flag quilt to the Legacy.

It is 67 inches by 82 inches and represents many hours of craftsmanship. The raffle runs until Veterans Day, Nov 11th.

Please look for our ticket locations or contact us at usaflp@comcast.net



Help Spread the Word

If you're reading this newsletter, you can help. Please send the web addresses of our sites on to people you know who may be interested in learning more about the Legacy Project. Many of their questions and required forms are available on the web. The addresses are:

Project Site: www.usaflegacytonasket.org

This Newsletter: www.veteranlegacyproject.org

If you would like email updates about the Legacy Project, please send your email address to: usaflp@comcast.net

Lifetime Legacy Memberships are Available

Annual membership dues are \$20.00.

Did you know that Lifetime memberships are also available? Lifetime membership dues are based upon the member's age at the time they enroll. A schedule of dues is available by clicking here ---> [due schedule](#)



Serving Our Nation



The Legacy recognizes not only men and women who have served our country honorably, but also those that currently stand in defense of our freedoms and way of life. Accordingly, we would like to acknowledge service members who are currently serving. If you know someone that should be recognized in the newsletter, please email a photo along with background and current assignment info to usafip@comcast.net We will publish and let you know when it is available for viewing on the web.

At Ease: Cartoon Time



Health Care "Report Card" Gives VA High Marks

Peake: Demonstrates VA's Openness and Accountability

WASHINGTON (June 13, 2008) - A new "hospital report card" by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives the Department's health care system high marks, with VA facilities often outscoring private-sector health plans in standards commonly accepted by the health care industry.

"This report is a comprehensive snapshot of the quality of care VA provides to our veterans," said Dr. James B. Peake, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. "From waiting times and staffing levels to hospital accreditation and patient satisfaction, this report demonstrates VA is providing high quality care to the veterans we serve."

Among the report's findings:

- * 98 percent of veterans were seen within 30 days at primary care facilities, 97 percent at specialty clinics. (Veterans requiring emergency care are seen immediately.)
- * All of VA's 153 medical centers are accredited by the independent Joint Commission which accredits all U.S. health care facilities.
- * The quality scores for older veterans are similar to those for younger veterans.

Although screening for breast and cervical cancer for women in VA facilities exceeds screening in private-sector

facilities, women veterans lag behind their male counterparts in some quality measurements, the report noted.

VA has already launched an aggressive program to ensure women veterans receive the highest quality of care, including placement of women advocates in every outpatient clinic and medical center. Health care will be a major topic at VA's National Summit on Women Veterans Issues scheduled for June 20-22 in Washington.

The report also found minority veterans are generally less satisfied with inpatient and outpatient care than white veterans. That disparity will be the focus of an in-depth study, based upon input from veterans, which will be completed this summer.

"Disparities in treatment and satisfaction based on gender or ethnic background are unacceptable," Peake said. "VA has a robust program to look at disparities and to deal with the underlying causes."

The report card is available on the Internet at http://www.va.gov/health/docs/Hospital_Quality_Report.pdf. In February, Congress directed VA to complete the report card, highlighting measurements of quality, safety, timeliness, efficiency and "patient-centeredness."

"This report demonstrates VA's determination to be open and accountable for the quality and safety of the care we provide," Peake said. "No other health care organization provides this much information about its ability to care for its patients."

More Veteran news can be found on our [links and video](#) page.

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