

# THE HOOSIER VETERAN

ISSUE 5-23 • MAY 2023

<u>in.gov/dva</u>



#### WELCOME!

BY JOE DEVITO
IDVA OUTREACH DIRECTOR

To ensure the sacrifices of America's fallen heroes are never forgotten, the U.S. Congress established Memorial Day. We take time this month to honor and remember those who gave their lives for our nation. Looking ahead to June, Dare 2 Tri's Injured Military Camp held in Hammond is sure to be a winner. Ever wanted to learn to write a stage play? Playwriting for Veterans begins June 7. It's always a good month to visit your County Veteran Service Officer and make sure you are receiving all the benefits and services available to you. IDVA remains committed to making Indiana the best place for all Indiana Veterans to Live, Work and Thrive! We welcome contributions and feedback to outreachedva.in.gov.

THE HOOSIER
VETERAN
NEWSLETTER

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Vets Gift • P. 2

Remembering a Hero • PP. 3-4

Salute to Veterans Golf Outing • P. 5

Locate your CVSO: Jefferson Co • P. 6

May Calendar of Events • P. 7

Operation Flat Rock • P. 8

AgrAbility Regional Workshop • P. 9

Veteran Events for All • P. 10

Roll Call • P. 11

Let's Connect • P. 12

# Find an Event Near You!



## INDIANA VIETNAM VETS GIFT



A TIME TO HONOR - HARDCOVER BOOK, EXPANDED DIGITAL BOOK & E-BOOK A DVD DOCUMENTARY: THE JOURNEY HOME & WELCOME HOME LAPEL PIN

# A FREE GIFT OF GRATITUDE FOR INDIANA VIETNAM ERA VETERANS

WITH MILITARY SERVICE DURING 1955-1975 REGARDLESS OF DUTY STATION



FIND \* THANK \* REPAY www. VETS GIFT.com info. events & photos







Info: 317-549-5900 Jill@WHVV.org

# Remembering a Hero: Robert Oliver, Jr.

Story & Photos by Kirsten Clark

Madison, Ind. — Loving, knowledgeable, steadfast, humble. While these words are just a few of the many adjectives fellow police officers and friends used to describe Robert Oliver, Jr., he was man who left an indelible legacy of kindness and quiet strength on the Louisville Metro Police Department and all who knew him.







The funeral procession of Robert Oliver, Jr. begins as the hearse approaches the semi-circle April 6 at the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Madison, Ind. Oliver served in the LMPD for 18 years. Prior to his service there, he was an officer in Jeffersonville, Ind.



The LMPD, many friends and family members, along with Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs and Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery staff, paid tribute to Oliver's life April 6 during a procession and ceremony on the hallowed Madison grounds.

"Rob was the type of guy who had a lot of knowledge (he used to be a drill sergeant in the Army) but always gave positive criticism and would train people to be proficient," said friend and fellow police officer Sgt. Daniel Elliott. "He was never angry, always helpful, and had a big heart. He was a wonderful, kind dad and he was like our big brother. He will be missed, we feel his loss deeply."



Members of the LMPD Honor Guard guide Oliver's casket inside the building for a ceremony to remember and honor his life. Oliver passed away March 29 in Louisville, Ky.

"Rob could always tell if you were anxious before an event and he would put his hand on your back and say, 'Just breathe.'," said Elliott. "Rob never put anyone in an uncomfortable position and he was always prepared – even kept a sewing kit and extra badges with him in case someone needed them."

Oliver was an Army veteran. He most recently served as the LMPD District Resource Officer for the First Division. He was a proud LMPD Honor Guard member and leader, serving as the unit's Commander until his passing.

"Rob was the glue who held us together, the tip of the spear," Sgt. Michael Jackson, LMPD Honor Guard commander said. "I never saw him angry. He will be greatly, greatly missed."





#### **A Final Farewell**

"It was an honor to serve a fellow veteran and his family here at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery," said Superintendent Alan Burham, IVCM. "As a veteran it does make you humble to see a community of police officers pull together and honor such a great man. He was truly one of a kind."

# Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs 2023 Salute to Veterans Charity Golf Outing

Non-Profit Partner 2023:



SOUTHERN GLAZIERS

COCOMON SOUTH OF THE SOUT

For decades,
Southern Glazers
has supported local
educational,
hospitality, and
hunger relief
programs in our
communities by
founding, hosting,
and sponsoring a
variety of signature
charitable events.

Title Sponsor



# LOCATE YOUR COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICE

**CVSO SPOTLIGHT** 

Faith Weir

JEFFERSON COUNTY

This Veteran Service office offers assistance in the following:

- Obtaining your DD-214 military discharge
- Discharge Review
- Filing claims for service connected or nonservice connected disabilities
- Education benefits
- Low Income Wartime Pension Benefits
- Survivor Benefits
- VA Medical Care
- VA Home Loans
- G.I. Bill Benefits
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Burial Benefits
- Property Tax Abatement
- Tuition and Fee Exemption for Children of Disabled Veterans
- Motor Vehicle License Plates
- Peddlers, Vendors License
- Resident Veteran Hunting & Fishing License
- Golden Hoosier Passport



#### **LEARN MORE**

315 Jefferson Street

Madison, IN 47250

Phone: (812) 265-3600

Office Hours: Monday - Friday

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

\*Wednesday by appointment only faith.weir@jeffersoncounty.in.gov



8: Military Family Research Institute Reaching Rural Veterans Event 5 to 7 p.m. Bridge of Hope Worship Center and Food Pantry 4050 E. County Road 50 S, Milan 47031.

12: 2023 Salute to Veterans Charity Golf Outing benefiting ECHO Housing noon tee time Brookshire Golf Club 12120 Brookshire Parkway Carmel, 46033.

13: Veteran Benefits & Resource Fair 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Brownsburg VA Clinic 557 Pit Road, Brownsburg 46112.

17: VA2K Event 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hoosier Clinic 1496 W. Hoosier Boulevard Peru, 46970.

19-21: Armed Forces Weekend at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway gates open at 10 a.m. 4802 Crawfordsville Road Speedway, 46224.

20: VA Claims Assistance 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Post 11 1801 S. 9th Street Lafayette, 47905.



For events coming up in June and July, check out our calendar **here.** 

#### SUBMIT A VETERAN EVENT!

Tell us about your event to support, serve, and advocate for the veteran community in your area! We want to know about events happening all across our great state. <u>Visit our site</u> and let us know to add it to our website calendar!



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FOR HEALTHY LIVING FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

### **OPERATION FLAT ROCK**

#### **OVERNIGHT CAMP EXCLUSIVELY FOR MILITARY FAMILIES**

JULY 2-7, 2023 | AGES 7-15

Flat Rock River YMCA Camp offers this special week of camp exclusively for children of veterans or active military service members, including the Reserves and National Guard.

Operation Flat Rock is a full week of traditional overnight summer camp that includes everything that the beautiful Flat Rock River YMCA Camp has to offer, like kayaking, horseback riding, archery, zip line, and so much more!





Learn more. FlatRockYMCA.org 765.525.6730

#### **FLAT ROCK RIVER YMCA CAMP**

Located in St. Paul, Indiana, just 40 minutes southeast of Indianapolis!



We are proud to offer Operation Flat Rock to all military families at a subsidized rate, made possible through Y-USA grant funding and donations to the Flat Rock Annual Campaign. Additionally, these generous donations allow us to provide a 3 rate pricing structure based on an honor system whereby each family chooses the rate they are able to pay.

RATE A: \$350\* | RATE B: \$250\* | RATE C: \$150\*

\*The actual cost of a week at Flat Rock is \$815. These subsidized rates are made possible by donations to the Flat Rock Annual Campaign.



## Join us for a Regional AgrAbility Workshop! Veterans in Farming

Indianapolis
June 6-8, 2023
The Hilton Garden Inn
8910 Hatfield Drive, Indianapolis IN 46241
Cost- \$125 for all 3 days
\$75 for the 2 workshop session days, with no tour

For more information and link to register go to <a href="https://bit.ly/41ce50T">https://bit.ly/41ce50T</a>
Registration is open through May 31st

This Regional Event was planned in conjunction with <u>Veterans IN Farming</u> and will focus on Veterans in Agriculture. Tuesday and Wednesday will be workshop sessions that will include topics on business planning, getting your product to market, land access and estate planning, farming with a disability, and resources, programs and benefits for veterans. Thursday will consist of tours of veteran-owned agricultural businesses. Lunch will be provided.

AgrAbility is a program sponsored by the US Department of Agriculture that provides assistance to farmers, ranchers and other agricultural workers, and farm family members impacted by disability, illness or chronic conditions. The program is funded through a competitive grant process for one National Project and State/ Regional Projects (currently serving 20 states). Each project involves a collaborative partnership between land grant universities and various non-profit disability services organizations.



A nightly rate of \$127 is available at the <u>Hilton Garden Inn Indianapolis Airport</u> through 5/9/23. You can reserve a room by clicking on the hotel name. Please edit the dates at the top of the page before reserving your room.

For more details, please contact National AgrAbility Partners at Goodwill:

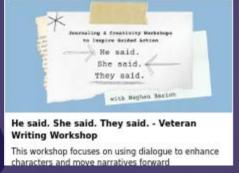
Tess McKeel: <a href="mailto:tmckeel@goodwillfingerlakes.org">tmckeel@goodwillfingerlakes.org</a>
JoBeth Rath: <a href="mailto:jbrath@goodwillfingerlakes.org">jbrath@goodwillfingerlakes.org</a>
Learn more at: <a href="mailto:www.agrability.org">www.agrability.org</a>

The National AgrAbility Project is supported by AgrAbility Project, USDA/NIFA Special Project 2021-41590-34813

# Veteran Events for All 2022







Join us for our next installment of Journaling & Creativity Workshops to Inspire Guided Action.

In this two-hour workshop, we will craft dialogues that express nuance, personality, emotions, and that move a story forward with meaning. Through written dialogue, participants will gain understanding of the conversations they have with themselves and others.

Your facilitator is Meghan Barich. Megan is most passionate about helping folks reclaim their highest self—the part of you who embraces curiosity, play, and creativity to be conscious to the decision they make. She helps folks build a new toolkit to stop people pleasing and start choosing and creating their own joy and satisfaction. Meghan is a Journal to the Self® certified instructor and is studying to be a Certified Journal Facilitator through the Therapeutic Writing Institute. She is a certified creativity coach and knows first-hand how a daily art and personal expression practice lowers stress and deepens connection to self and to others.





**Veterans Helping Veterans** 

FREE VETERANS FOOD PANTRY

4th Tuesday of Each Month From 0900 to 1200

At the Richmond Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC)

For Questions Please Call (765) 983-2183

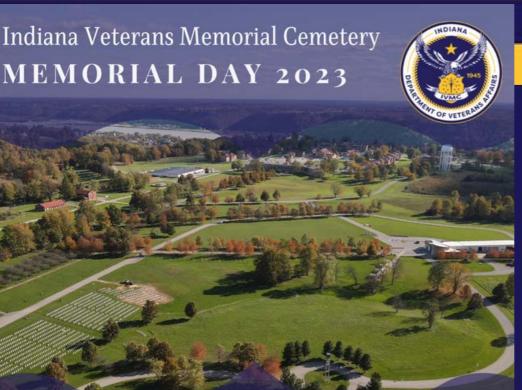






HELPING VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

## ROLL CALL!



May 29 at 1 P.M.

Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery 1415 North Gate Rd., Madison, IN 47250

Open to the Public

\*This event is outdoors, rain or shine





Visit our
website for
more about
the cemetery.

## INDIANA VETERANS HOME NEWS

- Joseph Campbell

"A hero is someone who has given

his or her life for something bigger than oneself." - Josep

> 2023 New admissions application packet now available here!

Check out IVH's Facebook for more photos and videos!





# LETS CONNECT Socially

IDVA Events Calendar: Click Here







LIKE &



SHARE