



Great Plains Veterans Services Center

"Veterans helping Veterans for a better future"

ROCKY BOY'S 2022 POW-WOW



September
2022

NEWSLETTER

G.P.V.S.C STAFF AND BOARD

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Niles Wolf Chief

Veterans Service Driver
Scobey Office
Marshall York

Graphic Designer
Amber Lewis



American Legion Post 67 Meeting

At Northern Winz Casino
11275 US-87, Box Elder, MT 59521

**Tuesday
September 13th
6:00pm**

THE WARRIOR WAGON PROVIDES FOOD AT THIS YEARS POW-WOW



services to unemployed veterans and transitioning Servicing Members. Enrolled members provide maintenance and groundskeeping of the Veterans Center Facilities, small home improvement construction jobs, administrative tasks, and services in Food Truck operations. This Rodeo event also included our WIOA program members. They have been a huge asset to our organization all summer long.

Famous not just for it's Legion Burger, The Warrior Wagon was established in March 2018 by the Rocky Boy Veterans Center, focuses primarily on serving classic Concession Stand foods including grilled burgers and specialty fries. "The days were long and hot, and we really kept busy", said John Gardipee, Jr., Transition Assistance Coordinator at GPVSC. All in all it was a fun filled weekend with great food, great rodeo, and of course, great people; all made possible by the hard work of Veterans Centers team.

The Warrior Wagon Food Truck found it's way to the 2022 Chippewa Cree INFR Rodeo (OR ROCKY BOY RODEO) on August 4th-7th. Fundraising through Food Trucks has found its place and is an accepted and successful method of participating in local events. Run by GPVSC employees, co-founders John Gardipee Sr. and Chauncey Park took inspiration from their Veterans Support Services and incorporated the Food Truck as part of the Veterans Transitional Employment Program (VTEP).

VTEP provides temporary employment and supportive

Support the Great Plains Veterans Services Center and Donate



Non-Veteran-
\$23.00

Veteran-
\$18.00

American Legion
Post Member-
\$15.00



Follow us on
Social Media



visit our website at www.greatplainsveterans.org

CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM PAGES FOR UPCOMING BBQ'S AND OTHER EVENTS.

CHANGING LIVES: BUTTE VETERANS COURT MARKS ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY



It has been 12 months since the Butte-Silver Bow Veterans Treatment Court started its work and true to its mission, it is changing lives.

Nine veterans have been in the intensive program that combines treatment, counseling and accountability. Even with its many challenges, two will graduate soon and the others are on their way.

“It’s just awesome to see them as they come before me now because they have some pep in their step,” Butte City Court Judge Jerome McCarthy said Tuesday after a ceremony marking the court’s first year.

“Their color is great, they are smiling, you know, they’re talking about their families, they’re talking about their jobs, they’re excited to live life without being under the influence,” McCarthy said. “It’s fantastic. It’s the best part of this job.”

McCarthy oversees misdemeanor offenders in the program, District Judge Robert Whelan handles felony cases, and a team including prosecutors, veteran mentors, mental-health and addictions counselors, a coordinator and others make it work. In Butte, a screening committee identifies veterans who might benefit from the program and as part of their criminal sentences,

those offenders are sent to the new court and agree to its standards and commitments.

The commitments often include intense supervision, alcohol and drug testing and treatment, mental health services and case management. For 12 to 18 months participants meet with probation officers, police officers, prosecutors and defense attorneys, and they talk weekly with McCarthy or Whelan.

“Our motto is to leave no veteran behind and because of some very helpful partners, we are able to do that mission every day,” Mike Clague, a Navy veteran and prosecutor on the court team, said to about 50 people who attended the event.

The partners and supporters include U.S. Sens. Steve Daines and Jon Tester, the Gianforte Family Foundation, Veteran Mentors, Friends of the Veteran Mentors, the Montana Health Care Foundation, the U.S. Veterans Administration, Justice for Vets, Butte-Silver Bow and the state of Montana. Clague said program coordinator Susanne Clague and veteran mentor coordinator Mike Vincent have played instrumental roles in the court. But the most important partners in the program, he said, are the veterans going through it.

“Our veteran participants decided that they wanted to change how they were doing things and they put their faith in the Veterans Treatment Court to make sure they would get the help needed to make that change,” Mike Clague said.

Their closest partners are often their mentors — fellow veterans who join them for court sessions and group meetings, and lend encouragement and guidance whenever needed. Mentors know what the veterans have seen, felt and been through because they have been through those experiences too.

“These bonds allow the mentor to walk the mentee through the court’s program in a nonjudgmental way that helps to engage, encourage and empower the veteran to successfully return to his community and family,” Vincent said at the ceremony. “All our mentors have a shared and deep empathy for veterans. “One mentee told me, ‘It means a lot to know I can always call and

talk to my mentor,’” Vincent said, adding that volunteer mentors “take our oath of ‘no veteran left behind’ seriously.”

Other mentors in the Butte program include Mick Ringsak, Bob Green, Mike Lawson, Ed Kelly, Jack Walsh, Lyndsay Alt, Brian Trudgeon, Pat Mohan, Dan Gardipee and Rocko Mulcahy.

Vincent said veterans treatment courts are among “advancements we have made” in helping veterans since he came home from Vietnam in 1968.

“Yet there are still vets slipping through the cracks and it’s our job to find and support them,” he said.

McCarthy said it’s a joy to see those in the court literally turn their lives around.

“The best part of the week is to see these folks just get back to living and seeing their lives change for the better,” he said.



VETERANS EAT FREE!!

Join Us...

FOR OUR LAST 2 BARBEQUES OF THE SUMMER

GREAT PLAINS VETERANS SERVICES CENTER

Meet and Greet BBQ

Tuesday September 1st and Thursday September 15th @ 11:30AM

US STATE DEPARTMENT CREATES ONE-STOP SHOP FOR SUPPORTING VETERANS



“I envision our VSP manager to be somebody who can make recommendations for new policies and procedures, so that way we can improve the department’s overall support to veterans, active military and their family members,” Gehan said.

Megan Ilnicky started as the programs manager in April. Previously, she served in the Marine Corps, separating from the service in 2004 and worked for the Congress’s Chief Administration Office Wounded Warrior Program.

“Veterans, current active military, family members, and spouses have faced unique challenges throughout their careers, particularly when starting a second career or transitioning to a new government agency,” Ilnicky said. “They need assistance to help them manage this change, as well as guidance on how to navigate multiple government bureaucracies simultaneously.”

The program was created after a department initiative known as Talent Care and their veterans assistance working group conducted a survey of the veteran workforce asking what is it they need. The answer was a single landing place for all their queries.

While all the necessary information to answer their questions was accessible before the VSP was created, it was disjointed. The veterans either had to scour the State Department’s intranet or reach out to the Department of Veterans Affairs. The burden to find answers fell largely on the shoulders of the veteran.

“The biggest challenge I have observed has been helping veterans access their benefits and connect them with helpful resources,” Ilnicky said. “Often veterans are not sure where to turn for the information they

need, and I help point them in the right direction.”

The program is broken down into three major areas of focus: guidance and support, advocacy and policy and partnership and collaboration. Information on Military Buy Back and Disabled Veteran Leave are just two examples of benefits with highly requested assistance, according to Ilnicky. And given the time constraints for both, if they are not handled properly, a veteran can lose their ability to use the entitlement.

The VSP is running a pilot program in the Bureau of Diplomatic Security, which

has the largest percentage of veterans in its workforce. After the program is completed and best practices compiled, it will be rolled out department-wide.

And in September, the program will be holding a department-wide listening session in partnership with colleagues from other parts of the department in order to better align the new resources they have available to them now that the program is created with the needs of the veteran workforce.

“The positive impact of the Veteran Support Program cannot be overstated,” Ilnicky said.

The U.S. Department of State said it launched an internal program to assist veterans it employs in navigating their post-military career in a large bureaucracy.

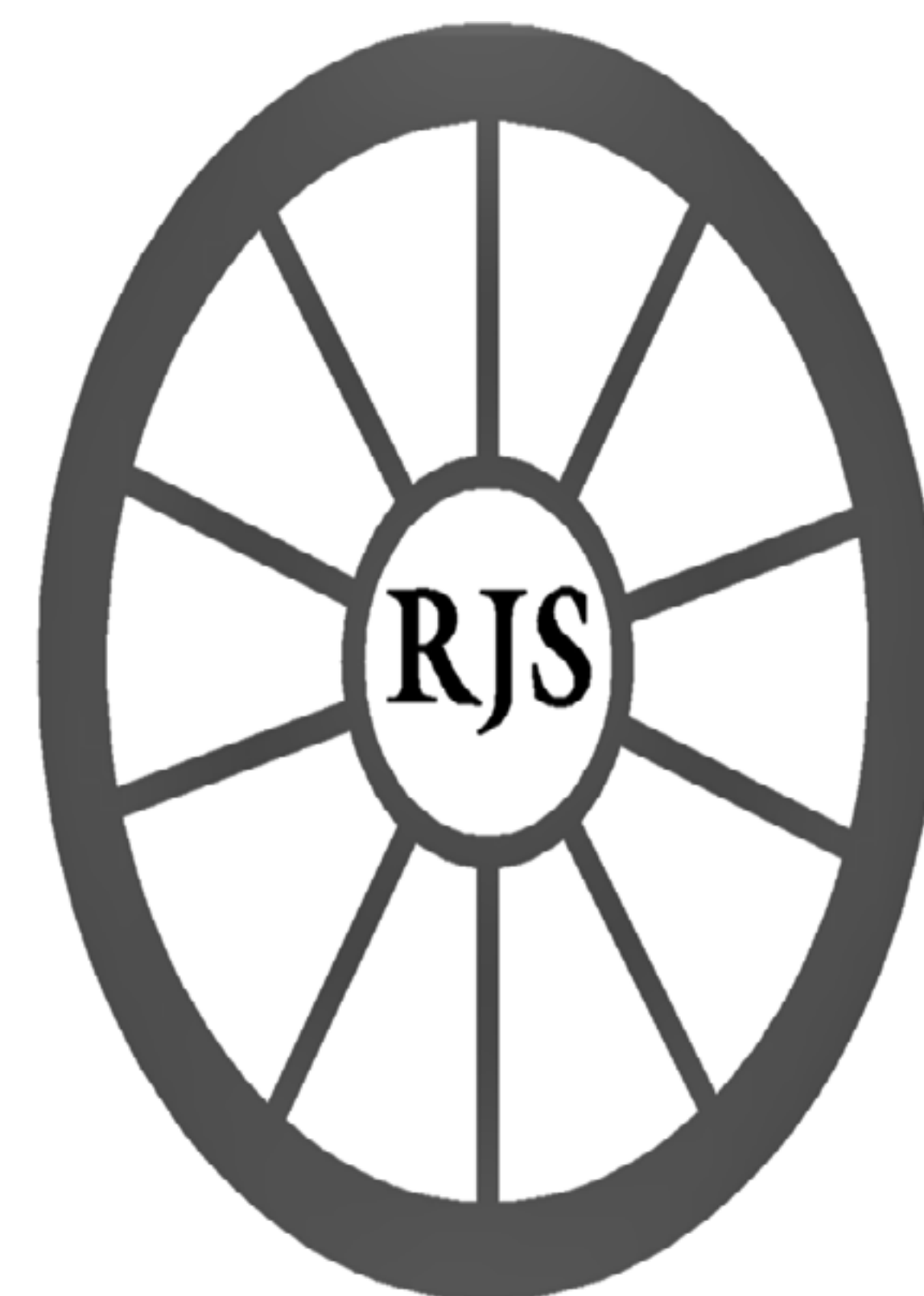
The Veterans Support Program is branded as a singular touch-point for all former active military or current reservists/guard employees to access their service related resources or a place to raise questions to.

About 20 percent of the State Department’s workforce is composed of veterans. That includes some 13,000 members of the Foreign Service and more than 11,000 Civil Service employees. The department also employs more than 45,000 local staff at more than 270 diplomatic missions worldwide.

“Our department is committed to supporting out veterans,” Margery Gehan, chief of the Work Life Division in the Bureau of Global Talent Management, said in an interview with Federal Times. “We value the experience that they bring to the department.”

The VSP is only the second of its kind in the federal government, according to Gehan. The first was created by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection.

To run the program, the State Department hired a manager to solely focus on the task.



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10 BACK-TO-SCHOOL DEALS FOR MILITARY FAMILIES



As summer camps wind to a close and kids make their final splashes at the pool, parents have one thing on their minds: back-to-school shopping. But when you add up the cost of all the items on your kids' classroom supply lists, backpacks, clothes and shoes, back-to-school is expensive.

The following is a list of discounts to help military families get the kids off to school in style while staying within your budget.

1. Operation Homefront's Back-to-School Brigade

Operation Homefront partners with Dollar Tree to collect school supplies for military children as part of their Back-to-School Brigade. Volunteers distribute the supplies at events throughout the country during the back-to-school season. Visit the Operation Homefront website for more information and to find events in your area.

2. Tax-Free Shopping Days

For a few days each year, some states offer a "sales tax holiday" right around back-to-school time when shoppers can buy specified items tax-free. This is a great way to save on back-to-school necessities like clothes, shoes, and other school supplies. Click here for a list of participating states and dates.

Advertisement

3. Clothing and Accessories

By the time summer is over, the kids have either outgrown all their school clothes or worn them ragged from vacation and camp. Update their wardrobe with new clothes and accessories using military discounts at stores like Kohl's, Old Navy, L.L.Bean, Wrangler

and Columbia. If you're mall shopping, be sure to ask for a military discount in every store you stop in. Some malls, like the Lynnhaven Mall in Virginia Beach, Virginia, offer military discounts in many of their stores.

4. Shoes

No back-to-school wardrobe is complete without new shoes. So take advantage of the military discounts offered by stores like Rack Room Shoes, Foot Locker, New Balance, Nike and Zappos.com.

5. Classroom Supplies

Most schools expect parents to help stock classroom supplies like pencils, crayons, notebooks, folders, scissors, glue, and binders, as well as necessities like tissues and hand sanitizer. Find these supplies and use military discounts at Office Depot, Michaels and Jo-Ann Fabric.

6. Eye wear

It may be time for a new prescription or maybe just fun new frames. Military discounts are available when purchasing glasses at Zenni.com and Eyemart Express.

7. Backpacks and Lunch Bags

Looking for backpacks and lunch bags? Vera Bradley has adorable collections and offers a 15% military discount. Kohl's also has backpacks and lunch bags, but keep in mind their military discount is only valid on Mondays.

8. Tutoring and Test Prep

Does your child need a little extra help with homework and studying? Tutor.com, where expert tutors are online 24/7, offers free

tutoring for military families.

Do you have older kids getting ready for college testing? eKnowledge donates their SAT and ACT College Test Preparation Programs to service members and their families. You pay a small fee of either \$19.99 (standard), \$39.99 (premium) or \$99.99 (super course).

9. Computers, Devices and Cellphone Plans

If you're looking to buy a computer or other devices, check out the military discounts offered by Apple.

Most cellphone providers, like Verizon and T-Mobile, offer military discounts, so if you're in the market for new cellphone plans to keep in touch with your active student, contact your provider to ask what they offer for military families. (Some offer military discounts on devices and accessories as well.)

10. Exchange Price Match Policy

Don't forget that the Navy Exchange (NEX), the Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) and the Army and Air Force Exchange (AAFES) all offer price matching. That means if you see a lower price for the same item at another store, bring proof to the Exchange and you can buy that item for the competitor's price.

Stay Up-to-Date With Military Discounts

Want the scoop on military discounts? From travel to phones and everything in between, troops, military families and veterans can stay on top of military discounts. Become a Military.com subscriber and get full access through our newsletter.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS: HELP IS AVAILABLE FOR THOSE IN NEED

September is National Suicide Prevention Month, and while this important time of observance and suicide awareness is not limited to veterans, active duty, National Guard, or Reservists, the military's needs in this area cannot be overlooked.

Suicide in the Armed Forces has been a critical issue for as long as there have been branches of the military. Just how critical? The following numbers represent some of the most recent reports for suicide rates for the active duty military, Reserves, National Guard, and veterans:

According to a 2019 Congressional Research Service report titled "Recent Trends in Active-Duty Military Deaths," between 2006 and 2018, 3,863 active duty service members ended their own lives. This is more than service members who were killed in action, (2,710), and service members who died by wounds received, (886), combined. According to a 2016 report from the Office of Suicide Prevention, while veterans account for only 8.5% of the U.S. population, 18% of all adult suicides in the U.S. are veterans, or about 20 veteran suicides per day.

These numbers paint a sobering picture: Suicide is the second leading cause of death among service members, and one of the leading causes of death among veterans.

According to a presentation by Defense Suicide Prevention Office Acting Director Jacqueline Garrick, between 2001 and 2008, suicide deaths in active duty military service members increased from about 10 in 100 thousand people to about 16 in 100 thousand people.

In response to this increase, the Secretary of Defense initiated a Defense Health Board Task Force,

which recommended the creation of a Defense Suicide Prevention Office (DSPO). This office was established as part of the Department of Defense's Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

The mission was both simple and lofty: a mission-ready, suicide-free military community. DSPO sought to promote suicide prevention in military and veteran communities through policy, oversight, and engagement, and to create cultural change within these communities regarding mental health and wellness.

DSPO programs include suicide prevention, intervention, and post-vention through medical and non-medical resources, and collaboration with military services, government agencies, non-government agencies, non-profit organizations, and communities.

The DSPO was also tasked with several responsibilities:

- To serve as the authoritative source for suicide data in the DoD
- To evaluate the effectiveness and strategic integration of suicide prevention programs and research throughout DoD
- To advocate for all suicide prevention efforts with internal and external partners
- To serve as the primary originator and coordinator of suicide prevention policy throughout the DoD

Within a few years of the creation of the DSPO, the Air Force, Army, National Guard, Marine Corps, Navy, Coast Guard, and VA all established suicide prevention programs.

Since its creation in 2011, the DoD Defense Suicide Prevention Office has worked alongside civilian organizations to raise awareness regarding suicide prevention. It has released annual

reports detailing statistics on suicide among service members and veterans, held conferences for both service and civilian mental health professionals, maintained a social media presence, and offered easily accessed support for service members who struggle with suicidal thoughts.

The VA has also released reports on suicide rates among veterans and offered support for veterans who struggle with suicidal thoughts.

Military members and families have a wide range of resources available for those in need and for those worried about military members or veterans who may be considering suicide. The Veterans Crisis Line is an online and phone-based resource intended for:

The Veterans Crisis Line is free, confidential and available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is open to all even if you are not registered with the VA or enrolled in VA healthcare services. This crisis line has been operational since 2007 and has since that time taken nearly four million phone calls, responded to more than 100 thousand text messages and has helped veterans, currently serving military, family, and friends with more than 450 thousand chat sessions.

How To Connect With The Veterans Crisis Line

- By Text: Send a text message to 838255. The text is free, but your service provider's message and data rates may apply.
- By Chat: Go to the Veterans Crisis Line official chat page and follow the instructions.
- By Phone: Call 1-800-273-8255 and press 1.

The Department of Veterans Affairs official site lists a variety of warning signs for military members, veterans, and their families to look out for in times

of crisis, stress, and situations leading up to or following such periods.

These warning signs include:

- Feelings of hopelessness
- Feeling like there's no way out of a problem or circumstance
- Anxiety and agitation
- Sleeplessness
- Mood swings
- Feeling like there is no reason to live
- Rage / anger
- Risky behavior
- Increasing alcohol or drug use / abuse
- Withdrawing from family and friends

The VA advises immediate attention in cases where:

- There are thoughts about self-harm
- Researching ways to die or commit suicide
- Talk about death, dying, suicide
- Self-destructive behavior

There are many situations where military members and their families are more vulnerable to problems with suicidal feelings, thoughts, or actions. These can include time leading up to or coming back from a deployment, times of personal upheaval and uncertainty, and situations where major life changes are occurring.

The approach to suicidal feelings in these cases may start with counseling or other talk-based therapies but a medical approach may also be required depending on the cause of the problems and the severity of the condition.

Always reach out for help if you or a friend or loved one struggles in any way with suicidal feelings. The Veterans Crisis Line can be reached at 1-800-273-8255. Call this number if you or someone you know is struggling with suicidal feelings.

Instructions:

Sudoku puzzles require you to find the missing numbers in a 9x9 grid, with that grid itself divided into 9 square grids of 3x3.

You can't just add any numbers though. There are rules that make solving the puzzle challenging.

To solve a Sudoku, look for open spaces where its row, column and square already have enough other numbers filled in to tell you the correct value. The more squares you fill in, the easier the puzzle is to finish!

A number can only occur once in a row, column, or square.

August's Answers

9	8	1	3	6	5	2	7	4
7	6	5	4	8	2	3	1	9
2	4	3	1	7	9	8	5	6
1	9	2	6	3	4	7	8	5
4	3	7	5	2	8	9	6	1
8	5	6	9	1	7	4	3	2
3	2	4	7	5	6	1	9	8
5	1	8	2	9	3	6	4	7
6	7	9	8	4	1	5	2	3

8	7	5	9	2	1	3	4	6
3	6	1	7	5	4	8	9	2
2	4	9	8	6	3	7	1	5
5	8	4	6	9	7	1	2	3
7	1	3	2	4	8	6	5	9
9	2	6	1	3	5	4	8	7
6	9	7	4	1	2	5	3	8
1	5	8	3	7	9	2	6	4
4	3	2	5	8	6	9	7	1

September 2022 Suduko Puzzle

Answer in October's Newsletter

2		9				6		
	4		8	7			1	2
8				1	9		4	
	3		7			8		1
	6	5			8		3	
1				3				7
				6	5		7	9
6		4					2	
	8		3		1	4	5	

CHECK CASHING SERVICES

Unload Debit Card, Bill Pay, Buy Bitcoin



DEBIT CARD SERVICES

Cash withdrawal fees:

Post 67 Member: \$1

Veterans: \$1.50

Non-Veteran: \$2.50



CHECK CASHING SERVICES

Fees:

Post 67 Member: 1%

Veteran: 1.5%

Non-Veteran: 2%



BILL PAY SERVICES

Fees

Veteran: FREE

Non-Veteran: \$3.50

Same Day Venders:

Hill County Electric

Triangle Communications

Other venders allow 1-3 days posting time to your account

CHECK CASHING POLICIES

- ✓ NO MONEY ORDERS
- ✓ WE CASH CANADIAN CHECKS UP TO \$500
- ✓ US GOVERNMENT CHECKS CAN ONLY BE CASHED BY THE INDIVIDUAL TO WHOM THE CHECK IS ISSUED

CHECK CASHING HOURS:

MON-FRI: 8:30am - 4:00pm
SAT-SUN: CLOSED



"BECAUSE I WANT TO KEEP MY CULTURE AND TRADITIONS ALIVE"

- BREEANNA -

ALWAYS BUCKLE UP AND DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK OTHERS TO DO THE SAME

When you don't buckle up, you endanger more than just your own life. Drivers and passengers often don't consider how unbuckled occupants can be thrown at high speed during a crash and can cause serious harm or even death, not only to themselves but to others in the vehicle. That's why it's so important to buckle up and insist others do the same.



[f /SafeOnAllRoads](#)



Employee Spotlight



This month's Employee Spotlight is featuring Louis Pollock, one of our Veterans Service Drivers in Browning, Mt.

Louis was born and raised in Browning, Montana, where he currently lives with his wife and 4 children.

He is a United States Marine Corps Veteran. Many members of his family have also served in the military.

His Grandpa served in both the Air Force and the Navy, an Uncle who retired from the Air Force, a brother and cousin who are currently serving in the Marine Corps. Louis also has a couple uncles who are serving in the Army.

Louis started working for Great Plains Veterans Services Center in January of 2022, as a Veterans Service Driver. "Louis has transported 54 veterans and traveled over 7,000 miles in the 7 months since he has been with GPVSC. He truly has been an asset and a wonderful addition to the GPVSC team," reported Thomas Lewis, the Veterans Transportation Manager.

"I really enjoy giving fellow veterans rides, not only because they are taking care of their business and health, but because it also gives me a chance to talk with them about their time in the service, life, religion, and current affairs," said Louis.

Outside of work Louis enjoys playing the guitar, playing video games and watching TV. Summer time his family spends most of their time swimming, camping, having cookouts, and enjoying a good game of badminton.

2022 GREAT PLAINS U PICK 'EM FOOTBALL RAFFLE



PICKS OPEN SEPTEMBER 1ST, 2022

**OFFICIAL NFL SEASON STARTS
SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2022**

www.greatplainsveterans.org

SCOBEY OFFICE NEW HIRE

2022 has brought on new challenges for employers to find new hires, but after many months of searching... we would like to introduce to you our newest Veterans Service Driver, Marshall York. He will be based out of our Branch office in Scobey Montana, which opened on May 2, 2022. Marshall, who is originally from Kalispell, MT brings a wealth of driving experience to the organization. He has worked for different trucking companies, driven many miles, and spent many hours on the road.

Welcome to the team Marshall!

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THE GREAT PLAINS VETERANS SERVICES CENTER IS PROUD TO BE IN PARTNERSHIP OF THESE FOUNDATIONS.



BlueCross BlueShield of Montana



POTLATCH FUND



Help for Homeless Veterans
877-4AID-VET
va.gov/homeless (877) 424-3838

September

A representative from the Great Falls Vet Center will be at the office a couple times a month to answer any VA related questions, aid in enrollment, and offer counselling services for eligible Veterans. The representative will also be available to answer questions about benefits and services.

For more information or to schedule and appointment Call Rich or Becky at (406) 452-9048

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 VET CENTER 10:30am-2:30pm Meet & Greet BBQ	2 V-J Day GPVSC Weekly Raffle Drawing	3
4	5 All GPVSC Offices Closed Happy Labor Day	6 VET CENTER 10:30am-2:30pm	7	8	9 GPVSC Weekly Raffle Drawing	10
11 Patriot Day	12	13 VET CENTER 10:30am-2:30pm American Legion Post 67 Meeting 6pm	14	15 Meet & Greet BBQ	16 National POW/MIA Recognition Day GPVSC Weekly Raffle Drawing	17
18 Air Force Birthday Office of Sec. of Defense Birthday Air National Guard Birthday	19	20	21	22 VET CENTER 10:30am-2:30pm	23 GPVSC Weekly Raffle Drawing	24
25 Gold Star Mother's Day	26	27 Happy Birthday Matthew	28	29 VET CENTER 10:30am-2:30pm VFW Day	30 GPVSC Weekly Raffle Drawing	

WARRIORS CURRENTLY SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

ARMY

Royce Bird
Forest Doney
Richard Lujan
Justin Murphy Small
Orion Wolf Chief
Shane Ketchum
Leo Johnson

NAVY

Kristen LaMere
Jessica Stump

AIRFORCE

Trey Henderson
Maia Henderson

NATIONAL GUARD/RESERVE

Chauncey Parker
Charles Parker
Dominic Pullin
Jonas Rockett

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ROCKY BOY COMMUNITY SHOWCASE



This month we are showcasing a GPVSC Board Member of ours of whom we are so proud. He not only represents our organization here at Great Plains Veterans Services Center, but his Veteran support is above and beyond. Donald Whitehorse is an amazing asset to our organization and community.

Donald was born in Havre, MT and raised on the Rocky Boy Reservation. Donald chose our great community to raise a family, with hopes to instill to them the values and cultural beliefs to stay true to their heritage. Donald said, "My main goal is to leave a better place for my kids, grandkids and future generations in everything I do."

Donald started dancing when his children were little (around 1995-2000). In hopes to try and keep them out on the dance floor. As his children grew up and moved on with their own families, He stopped dancing. Family members urged him to get back out on the dance floor. About 4 years ago, his sister-in-law and her husband gifted him the outfit (breach cloth, cap, and shirt) that he wears today.

Before he was able to start dancing again, he needed to finish a complete outfit. Donald began his own beadwork. "I have done about 95% of the beadwork that I currently wear. A couple pieces stem from my late mother-in-law, and what their family wears, Donald shared." He mentions that the Big Knife family inspired him, this is where the floral part of his beadwork comes from.

When asked why he dances, he responded with, "I mainly dance for the love of dancing. Being at a Pow-Wow is very healing. I dance for the ones that cannot dance for whatever reason it may be. I dance for the ones that are watching and get the good vibes of seeing someone dance. I dance for the spirit of the Pow-Wow." Donald reflects on his love for going to Pow-Wow's and is proud to finally have regalia that he is proud to share.

Donald is of the age where most Pow-Wow's categorize me as "Golden Age". The smaller Pow-Wow's will pay golden age dancers day money, and the larger ones will have that age group compete. I have been lucky enough to place at a couple Pow-Wow's and won one Veterans Dance Special at the Red Bottom Pow-Wow (Frazer, MT.) this year. I enjoy dancing competitively.

"Even though I dance competitively, I will always show my Regalia, feathers, and beadwork with respect. Before I get ready to start dancing at any Pow-Wow, I always smudge my feathers with Sweetgrass and say a prayer," Donald added. When Donald is not competitively dancing, he loves attending Pow-Wow's, Hand Games, and Round Dances. He enjoys supporting our youth by watching High School Sports. Donald has a serious love for the sport of Disc Golf and plays as much as possible.

Donald is an Army National Guard Veteran who served between 1985 and 1991. He has worked at Plain Green as an Account Services Team Lead for the past 9 years. Donald shows up to help wherever he can to help make our community great. "I want to help make the Great Plains Veterans Services Center a main-stay for the reservation and surrounding communities," said Donald.

GRAND ENTRY AT THE 2022

ROCKY BOY POW-WOW

This year's Pow-Wow Color Guard was made up of American Legion Post 67, Veteran employees of GPVSC, and Veteran guest. Color Guard members who performed the Grand Entries included; John Gardipee, Chauncey Parker, Sam Sangrey, Andrew Windy Boy, Orion Wolf Chief, Traci Henderson, Trey Henderson, Maia Henderson, Niles Wolf Chief, Francis Eagleman, Jon Monteaux, Coby Stump, Tommy Foursouls, Brian Flacker, and Lakota Grey Hawk.

We provided a total of 6 Grand Entries. There were 2 Grand Entries for the Kids Pow-Wow on Thursday August 4th at 1300 and 1900 and 4 Grand Entries for the main Pow-Wow. Friday at 1900, Saturday at 1330 and 1900, and Sunday at 1300. This was our first Pow-Wow Color Guard event since 2019.

During this event we honored service members and Veterans on Friday, August 5th.

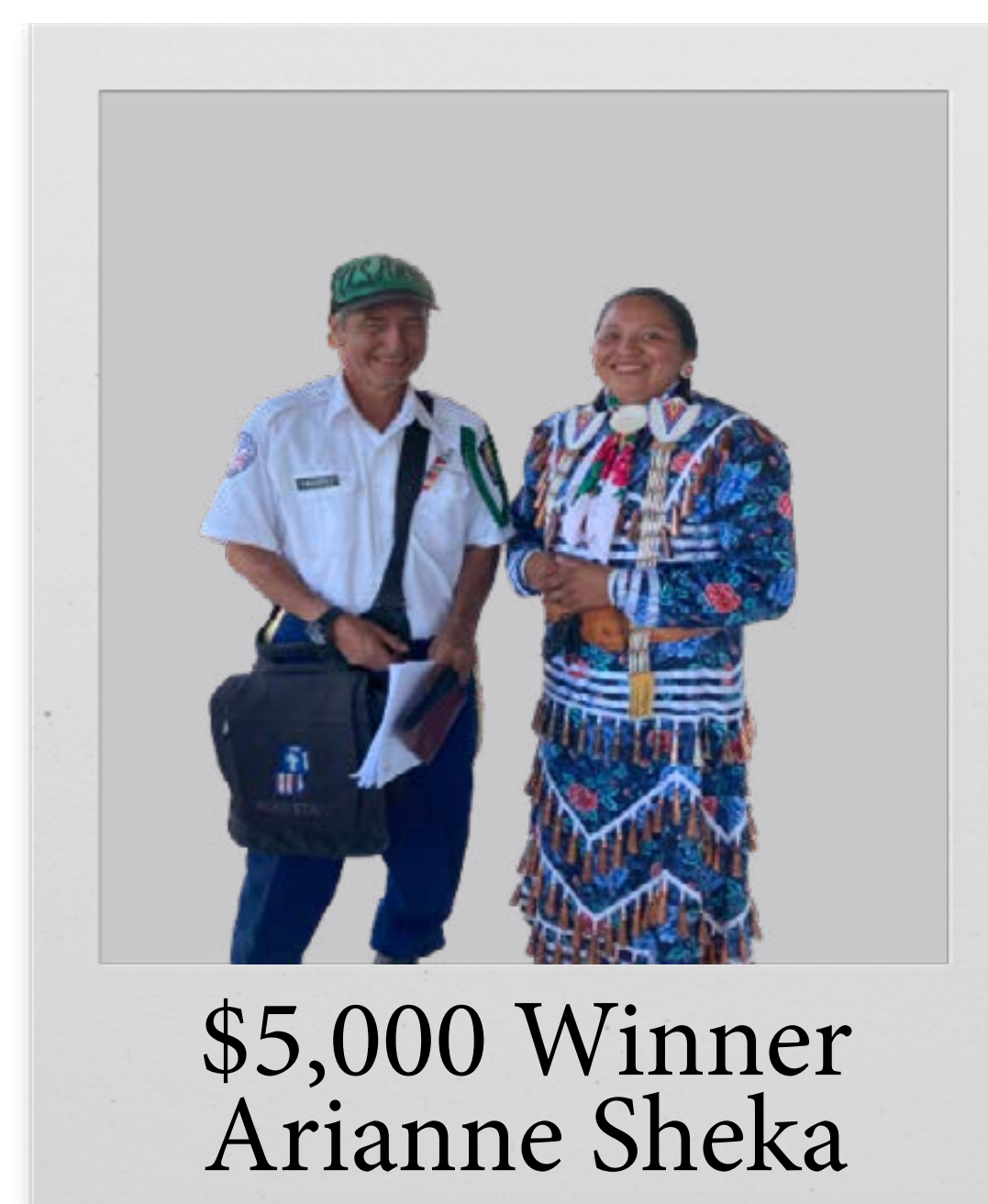
- Sam Sangrey, Jr – US Navy, Vietnam, Master Diver, 30 years of service
- Orion Wolf Chief – currently serving in the US Army stationed in Japan
- Maia Henderson – currently serving in the US Air Force, stationed in Texas
- Trey Henderson – currently serving in the US Air Force, stationed at Malmstrom

On Saturday August 6th we rendered military honors, taps and presented the flag for fallen warrior, Paul Flores, who passed earlier in the year. As we were unable to present the honors at the time of his passing.

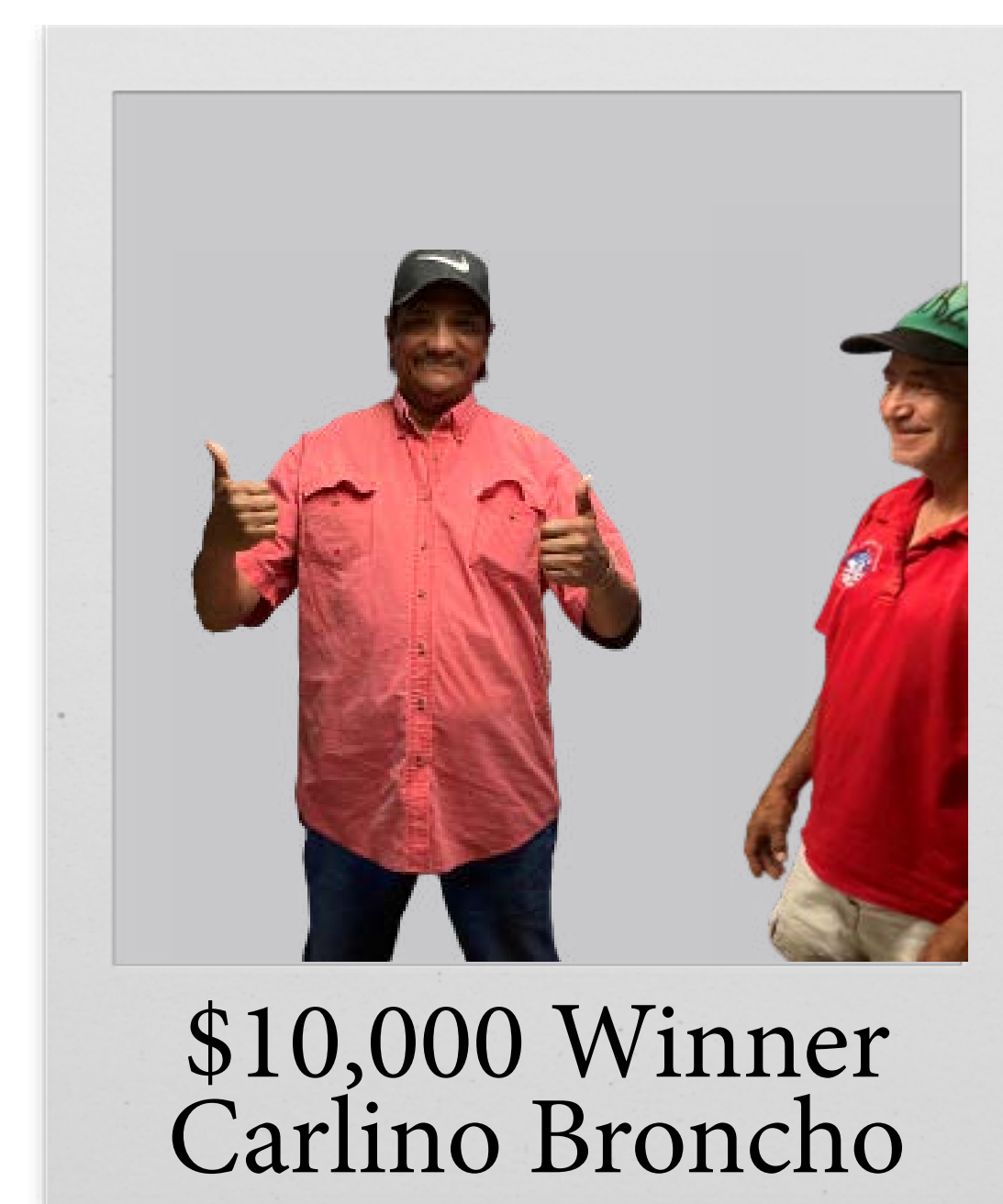
We are very honored to be able to perform the Grand Entries for the 2022 Rocky Boy Pow-Wow.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEARS RAFFLE WINNERS

This Year's 2022 Pow-wow raffle concluded in great success. "We'll do the same thing next year. We hope we will see you next year for the Big Pow-wow Raffle," said John Gardipee, Sr.



\$5,000 Winner
Arianne Sheka



\$10,000 Winner
Carlino Broncho

Not Pictured
\$3,000 Winner -Latrishia Arkinson Celis



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