



# WVI NEWSLETTER

Nov  
2024

## The Things She Carried: November 2024

1980's

In 1989, Ellen (Thuet) Bryant was the first women assigned to the Coast Guard National Strike Force's Pacific Strike Team (PST), which was established in 1973. During the Exxon Valdez oilspill in Alaska in 1989, she worked at a PST Hangar at Huntington Field, CA, and was commended for her work during the disaster.

Information provided by: Military Women's Memorial



### Canine Food Pantry

A dog food pantry is available for any Lucas County resident in need. Funded through community donations, the pantry, which opened in response to multiple walk-in requests for dog food at the shelter, is open on the third Sunday of each month in the Lucas County Canine Care facility, 410 S. Erie Street, Toledo. Register to use the pantry at [lucascountydogs.com](http://lucascountydogs.com).

Article: Lucas County Canine Care & Control

### Free Smoke Alarms

Did you know that if a fire starts in your home, you may have just two minutes to escape? Remember to test your smoke alarms monthly and practice your fire escape plan. Call 800-733-2767 to request your free home safety visit and smoke alarm installation. The American Red Cross will also install the smoke alarm.

Information provided by: American Red Cross

## Task Force 20: Annual Awards Banquet

The Task Force 204 th Annual Awards Banquet of NW Ohio & SE Michigan was held September 6, 2024, at the Pinnacle in Maumee. The keynote speaker was Margaret Delillo - Storey (RET. Major US Army). Margaret is from the Canton, Ohio area and is a Licensed Clinical Counselor/Supervisor interested in Trauma Loss, contributing faculty in the School of Counseling at Walden University and is a trainer contracted by Stark County Education Service Center in Training, Resiliency and Education Coordinator. Margaret also lectures across the United States and was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame in 2011.



C. Nagy-M. Delillo-Storey-C. Middleton  
Picture provided by: C. Nagy

Margaret served 23 years in the army in a variety of leadership positions. During Operation Desert Shield/Storm, Margaret was a LT in Logistics with the 350 th Evacuation Hospital and shared a tent with Cathy Middleton and Carolyn Nagy. The banquet was a great opportunity to reminisce about 350 th personnel and experiences. Many laughs were shared. Margaret was accompanied by her husband, daughter and son-in-law.

# Veterans Day

Short history of Veterans Day:

- Veterans Day was originally called Armistice Day in the United States, commemorating the signing of the agreement that ended WWI at 11:00am, November 11, 1918. President Woodrow Wilson celebrated the first Armistice Day in 1919.
- In 1938, November 11 became a legal holiday by an act of Congress.
- In 1954, this federal holiday was changed from “Armistice” to “Veterans” Day.
- Although this holiday initially honored those who perished in service of their country, when the holiday’s name changed to Veterans Day, it became a day to honor all men and women who have served in the armed forces of the United States.

Information: The Old Farmer’s 2024 Almanac

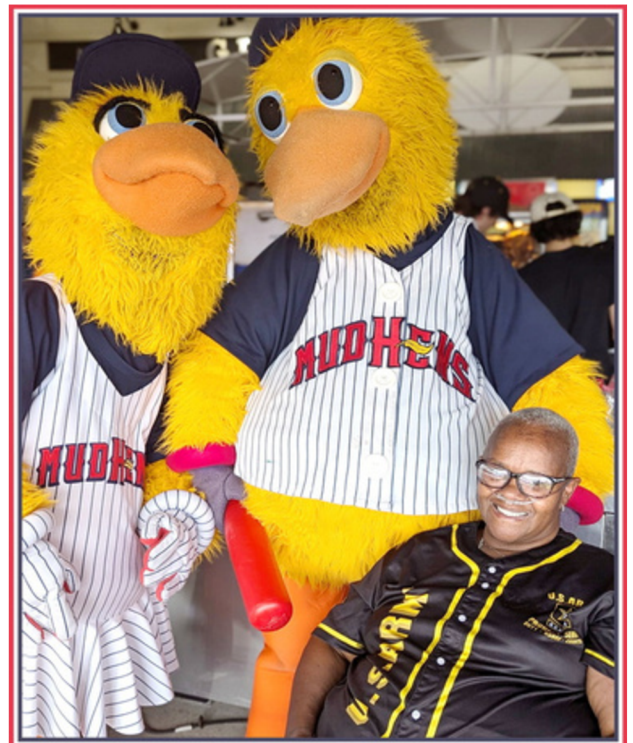


## Hometown Heroes

Wanda Murrell (Army) was selected by the Toledo Mud Hens to be honored as a Hometown Hero at their September 22 game.

Wanda writes “The experience was great. I was overwhelmed by the response of the crowd. The applause was thunderous. People came over to shake my hand and salute me. I never imagined that I would experience anything like this. It made me even more proud of myself for having enlisted.” PS: The Mud Hens won.

Picture provided by: W. Murrell



## Medicare Review

It’s that time of year to review your Medicare plans. Austin Rehberg, Licensed Agent/Broker with Core Wealth Benefits can discuss your Medicare benefits and direct you to a more suitable plan. Austin is well versed in working with veterans with disabilities and is excited to share his knowledge with veterans. For a free consultation contact Austin at 419-705-8045.

Austin states “We do not offer every plan available in your area. Currently we represent 8 organizations which offer 102 products in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) to get information on all your options.”



# Horsing Around



Twelve women veterans gathered on September 22 at Little Blessings Veteran and Community Outreach in Temperance, MI for an afternoon of food, conversation and horsing around. While everyone dined on sandwiches, chips and cookies provided by Core Wealth Benefits, Austin Rehberg (Licensed Agent/Broker) provided a review of Medicare benefits. Jamie Paxton (Director, Little Blessings) gave everyone a tour and an introduction to Scooter the goat (he thinks he is a dog). Jamie then instructed two teams to use nothing but noodles and/or hula hoops to motivate a horse to walk around barrels (the horse did not buy into this). There was also an exercise on getting out of one's comfort zone. The afternoon ended with two tickets being raffled to see "A Musical Merry Christmas" on December 13 at the Maumee Indoor Theater. The tickets were donated by Libby and Stephan Stibbins who are the shows stars. In addition to the tickets, there were 4 baskets donated by L. Fletcher. WWI was also a sponsor of this event.

Pictures provided by C. Nagy



## Annual Holiday Party:

- Sunday, December 1
- 2:00pm-5:00pm
- Location: Genesis Village
- Food-gifts-Christmas Bazaar-Surprises
- RSVP: November 25 to [cenagy@bex.net](mailto:cenagy@bex.net)