



WVI NEWSLETTER

Feb
2026

Nurses American Legion Post

The Blade (December 18 1919) headline on page 19 announced “These Women Head Nurses Post”. Legion shows appreciation of women’s tender care. Our revolutionary ancestors would be greatly astonished and the great Florence Nightingale, founder of the army nursing service, would be overjoyed at the status of the American Legion, which admits the women who cared for the sick and wounded, on the same basis of equality as the soldiers themselves. The Legion, which now numbers more than a million members, of whom more than 400 are army nurses and yeomanettes, is probably the first organization of its kind in the world which has admitted women on an equal footing with men.

The Kuhlman-Saygers-Pollack Post composed of former army nurses, has been organized here and officers have been elected.”

- Miss Katherine Maples (Commander) served at Camp Taylor, Kentucky and was the chairman of the local nursing committee during the influenza epidemic and was the first superintendent of the Red Cross Teaching Center.
- Miss Cornelia Hill (Vice Commander) served at Camp Sherman and later at No. 31 Hospital, Carlisle, Pa. She is a Flower Hospital graduate.
- Miss Nettle Neville (Post Adjutant) served at Camp Lee, Ga. And is the superintendent of the Red Cross teaching center.
- Miss Wilma Kilmer (Finance Officer) saw overseas service in France (1918) where she served at No. 102 American Red Cross Hospital. She is now connected with the District Nurses’ Association.

World War I (1914-1918) played a critical role in advancing the nursing profession in the United States and the role of female nurses in general. During World War I women joined both the U.S. Army and Navy as nurses although they were never recognized as either enlisted or commissioned personnel.”

Veteran Year-Round Discounts

USDVA: Center for Women Veterans (December 2025) writes “Researching Veteran discounts often means dodging outdated information, misleading sites or even malware. We’ve created a reliable list: no fees, and fully vetted. We’ve got your six. This list was created in 2021, but verified as of Dec. 12, 2025. Updates will follow as needed.”

<https://news.va.gov/85765/veteran-discounts-available-year-round/>

Toledo area discounts:

- Barr’s Pubic House 15%
- Carrabba’s Italian Grill 15%
- Hollywood Casino 50% veteran meals on Monday (only). Note: Stop at the customer desk with military ID.

Ohio Veterans Convention

The Convention is designed to educate, empower, celebrate, and connect Ohio's veteran community, focusing on practical solutions and collaboration. Topics will include benefits, crisis support, education and workforce development, all while highlighting Ohio's veterans as the incredible assets they are. Additional veteran-focused events will take place throughout the weekend in Columbus.

The convention will be held August 8 at Ohio Union (1739 N, High Street Columbus). Attendee registration opens April 1, 2026.

Women Veterans Retreat

Love Thyself: A Women Veterans Retreat will be held Saturday, February 21, 2026. Join fellow sisters-in-service for a free day of wellness activities, conversation, laughter, and community.

- Registration 8:30am.
- Program 9:00am – 3:00pm
- Location: American Legion Post #587 (2020 West Alexis Road Toledo)
- Workshops, resource tables, lunch and raffle baskets
- RSVP: February 17 to womenveteransinitiative2025@gmail.com
- Sponsored by American Legion Post #587 and WVI

Hands of Honor

This event is a small but meaningful way to thank women veterans for their service—offering free manicures as a moment of relaxation, connection, and appreciation.



- Jonathan Khoi Nail Salon (6819 Central Avenue Sylvania)
- Sunday, March 15, 2026 at 4:00pm
- Service: basic manicure or pedicure (no artificial nails)
- Includes: free manicure/pedicure, beverage and snack
- Registration limited. RSVP by March 7 to womenveteransinitiative2025@gmail.com
- Sponsors: Johnathan Khoi Nail Salon and WVI



Use your phone for check-in travel claims

USDVA: Center for Women Veterans (December 2025) writes “VA offers many ways to manage your care. Did you know that you can check-in for your appointments from your phone?”

<https://news.va.gov/144021/use-your-phone-for-check-in-travel-claims/>



Access Gynecology Care

USDVA: Center for Women Veterans (December 2025) writes “Women Veterans can now schedule appointments directly with gynecology specialists without a referral from a VA primary care provider.

<https://news.va.gov/press-room/va-makes-it-easier-for-women-veterans-to-access-gynecology-care/>

Sexual Harrasment

If you or someone you know has been harassed or sexually assaulted at a VA facility, tell a VA staff member you trust, VA police. Patient Advocate or your VA provider. There is no wrong door for reporting harassment or sexual assault. You may also submit a report by following the guidance found at www.va.gov/report-harassment. Reporting not only helps VA better support victims, it enables the VA to more effectively prevent future incidents.

If you've left a facility, call 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411) and select option 9. The call center is staffed to answer reports of this

