WVI NEWSLETTER

Nov 2026

Ohio Veteran Hall of Fame Inductee: Jamie Paxton

COLUMBUS – Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Ohio Department of Veterans Services (ODVS) Director John C. Harris Jr. are proud to announce the members of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Class of 2026.

Twenty outstanding inductees will be honored for their post-military accomplishments and achievements at the 35th annual Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in November. This class represents 14 Ohio counties and four branches of the U.S. Armed Forces.



Each class member meets the high standards of the Hall of Fame, which honors outstanding service and accomplishment following honorable service in the military. This amazing group has demonstrated a wide reach and has improved the lives of others through the avenues of advanced technology, law practice and enforcement, public service, teaching and mentoring, veteran advocacy, architectural design, volunteerism, philanthropy, and much more.

Jamie Paxton (USAF) Executive Director, Little Blessings Veteran Outreach is one ofthe 2026 Halll of Fame inductees. Congratulations, Jamie.

Article: ODVS October 2026
Photo provided by: C. Nagy

VA Homeless Support Fund

VA is investing $29 million to help homeless Veterans with emergency supplies and transportation.

If you are a Veteran who is homeless or at risk of homelessness, call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 877-4AID-VET (877-424-3838) to take advantage of the support made possible by this authorization and learn about VA's programs for Veterans exiting homelessness.

Notice: USDVA August 2026

Operation Smile

Free dental care for veterans Sunday, November 8, 2026 from 9:00am – 2:00pm at Frankel Dentistry 3150 Dustin Rd #1 Oregon, Ohio 419-693-0781.

Education Funds:

United States Vets, Inc. offers $2500.00 annually to a veteran who is currently enrolled in higher education. The funds are awarded in December. The application can be found at www.unitedstatesvets.org. The process includes submitting the application, a brief essay, copy of college transcript and military ID.

Holiday Party:

The annual Holiday Party is scheduled for Sunday, November 29 from 2:00pm-5:00pm at Genesis Village (2429 S. Reynolds Rd.) RSVP: by November 23 to cenagy@bex.net.

Simple Steps Toward Smarter Spending and Savings

Managing money can sometimes feel overwhelming, especially when everyday expenses seem to keep increasing. But creating a budget doesn't mean giving up everything you enjoy. It simply means understanding where your money is going and deciding where you want it to go.

The Women Who Lead Savings and Spending Worksheet is designed to help you take a closer look at your monthly income, regular expenses, and spending habits. Sometimes just seeing everything written down can make it easier to identify opportunities to save.

Start with the expenses you must pay each month. Housing, utilities, transportation, insurance, groceries, medications, and other necessities. Then look at the smaller purchases that may not seem significant at the time. Coffee, takeout, convenience-store stops, subscriptions, and impulse purchases can quickly add up.

The goal isn't to eliminate every extra expense. Instead, ask yourself: Is this something I need, something I truly enjoy, or something I'm buying out of habit?

Even small changes can make a difference. Preparing a few meals at home instead of ordering out, planning meals around grocery sales, canceling an unused subscription, or setting aside $10 or $20 from each paycheck can add up over time.

One helpful approach is to give your savings a purpose. Instead of simply writing "savings" in your budget, identify what you are saving for. An emergency fund, a car repair, holiday expenses, a trip, or simply having a little more financial security. A specific goal can make saving feel much more rewarding.

Most importantly, remember that a budget is not about being perfect. Unexpected expenses happen, and some months will be easier than others. Your budget should be a tool that works for you, not something that makes you feel restricted.

Use the accompanying worksheet to see where your money is going today and identify one or two realistic changes you can make. Small, consistent choices can create meaningful financial progress over time.

Note: The "Love Thyself" retreat scheduled for March 6, 2027 will include a segment on budgeting.

Author: Nikki Hernandez - Executive Director Operation Outfit

