

Amador County Veterans Newsletter - July 7th, 2025

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FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. Hebrews 10:23, NIV

Lord our God, we thank you for all you have done for us, for all you are doing for us, for deliverance from need and death. We thank you for all the signs you give us that you hear our prayer when, without wavering or weakening, we set our hopes on you. We thank you that we can be without fear of sin and death, for you stand by us in everything. In spite of our imperfections you show us your goodness again and again. May the light in our hearts never be extinguished, the light that enables us to look into heaven and earth and see the good that is on its way to us today. May joy remain with us, and may we have the strength to be a community that follows the paths of life which bring praise and honor to you. Amen.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"And so with the sunshine and the great bursts of leaves growing on the trees, just as things grow in fast movies, I had that familiar conviction that life was beginning over again with the summer."

— F. Scott Fitzgerald

MILITARY HISTORY THIS WEEK

- 7/7/1941: U.S. forces land on Iceland to take over its garrisoning from the British.
- 7/8/1853: Commodore Perry sails into Tokyo Bay
- 7/9/1943: Operation HUSKY (the invasion of Sicily) begins
- 7/10/1945: US Task Force 38 aircraft, 1022 in all, raid 70 air bases in the Tokyo area, destroying 173 Japanese planes.
- 7/11/1798: President Adams signed bill that re-established the Marine Corps
- 7/12/1950: The first Distinguished Service Cross of the Korean War was awarded posthumously to Colonel Robert R. Martin who single-handedly attacked an enemy tank with a rocket launcher.
- 7/13/1943: The 10 Mountain Division came into being on July 13, 1943, at Camp Hale, Colorado as the 10th Light Division (Alpine).



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

1. Veterans with lung conditions like COPD can get care from home with VA [#telehealth](#). See how virtual visits can help you manage your lung health and stay connected to your VA care team. [#VAMobile](#) . For said information, [click here](#).
2. Veterans can use the My VA Images app to securely send photos or videos of medical concerns, like skin conditions or wound healing, to their VA providers without a visit to the clinic. Check with your provider to see if it fits your care plan. [Click here for the information](#).
3. Make sure to add "Visit a National Park" to your summer bucket list! Veterans, service members, dependents, and Gold Star Families receive free access to more than 2,000 federal recreation areas. Learn more [by clicking here](#)

GENERAL INFO

Sacramento VA Medical Center

10535 Hospital Way

Mather, CA 95655-4200

Main phone:: 916-843-7000

Mental health care: 800-382-8387

LINKS

[June 2025 Veterans Benefits Newsletter](#)

[May 2025 Veterans Benefits Newsletter](#)

[April 2025 Veterans Benefits Newsletter](#)

[Federal Benefits Guide \(2025\)](#)

[How to report a veterans death to VA](#)

[Million Veteran Program](#)

[PACT Act and your VA Benefits](#)

[Survivors Pension](#)

[Women Veterans Care - Mather](#)

Crisis Line. Veterans experiencing a mental health emergency can contact the Veterans Crisis Line by calling 988 and pressing

1. Veterans, service members or their family members can also text 838255 or visit [veteranscrisisline.net](#) for assistance.

POW/MIA

Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Morton Sher, 22, killed during World War II, was accounted for on June 11, 2025. In the summer of 1943, Sher was a fighter pilot assigned to 76th Fighter Squadron, 23rd Fighter Group, 14th Air Force. On Aug. 20, while intercepting an Imperial Japanese aircraft enroute to attack Hengyang, China, where the 76th was stationed, Sher's aircraft reportedly crashed in Hengshan County, Hunan Province. Although the crash site was located by U.S. forces, Sher's remains were not recovered or identified after the war.

Army Pvt. Erwin H. Schopp, 30, of Plymouth, Nebraska, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for Jan. 24, 2025. He was a member of Headquarters Battery, 59th Coastal Artillery Regiment, when Japanese forces invaded the Philippine Islands in December. Intense fighting continued until the surrender of the Bataan peninsula on April 9, 1942, and of Corregidor Island on May 6, 1942. He was among those reported captured when U.S. forces on Corregidor surrendered to the Japanese and was subsequently held at the Cabanatuan POW camp. According to prison camp and other historical records, Schopp died on Jan. 1, 1943, and was buried along with other deceased prisoners in the local Cabanatuan Camp Cemetery in Common Grave 822. Schopp will be buried in Plymouth, Nebraska, on a date yet to be determined.

Army Cpl. Paul Eugene Hoots, 25, of Galesburg, Illinois, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Nov. 15, 2024. In July 1950, Hoots was assigned to K Company, 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. He went missing in action after his unit engaged the North Korean People's Army in the vicinity of Ch'onan, South Korea, on July 7. At the time, the circumstances for his loss were not immediately recorded, and there was no evidence that he was a prisoner of war. His unit reported Hoots missing in action on July 8, 1950. Hoots will be buried in Galesburg, Illinois in July 2025.

Army Sgt. Elwyn D. Nordyke, 22, of Tacoma, Washington, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for March 10, 2025. In November 1950, Nordyke was assigned to Medical Company, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Nov. 28 in the vicinity Of Chosin Reservoir when his convoy was ambushed by opposing forces. It was later determined that Nordyke was held at Camp 1 in Changsong, North Korea, where he died in captivity in the summer of 1951. Nordyke will be buried in Lakewood, Washington on a date yet to be determined.

Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Nathaniel L. Hightower Jr., 27, of Bluffton, Georgia, killed during World War II, was accounted for on April 18, 2025. In the summer of 1943, Hightower was a member of 22nd Bombardment Squadron (Medium), 341st Bombardment Group (Medium), 10th Air Force during World War II. On Aug. 3, while serving as the co-pilot of a B-25C "Mitchell" bomber on a low-altitude bombing raid in Meiktila, Burma, his aircraft crashed. Of the six individuals aboard the aircraft, two survived and were captured by Japanese forces, while the remaining four, including Hightower, were killed. His remains were not recovered after the war, and he was declared missing in action. Hightower will be buried in Montevallo, Alabama, on a date yet to be determined.

Army Cpl. Howard A. Troup, 29, of Ford City, PA, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Nov. 20, 2024. Troup was a member of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. He went missing in action during a battle in the vicinity of Hill 409, near Am-sin, South Korea, when enemy forces attacked and overran his company's defensive positions on Sept. 1. A statement from a member of his unit said he was likely killed by a grenade during an all-out "banzai" attack. The Army issued a presumptive finding of death in December 1953. Troup will be buried in Ford City, Pennsylvania in June 2025.

POW/MIA UNACCOUNTED FOR



*According to DPAA,
as of July 3rd, 2025,
there remain:*

World War II:	71898
Korea:	7413
Vietnam:	1567
Cold War:	126
Gulf War/Libya:	6
Total:	81024

*Current Identifications
By Conflict for FY 25
As of June 20th, 2025*

World War II	109
Korea	40
Cold War	0
Vietnam	7

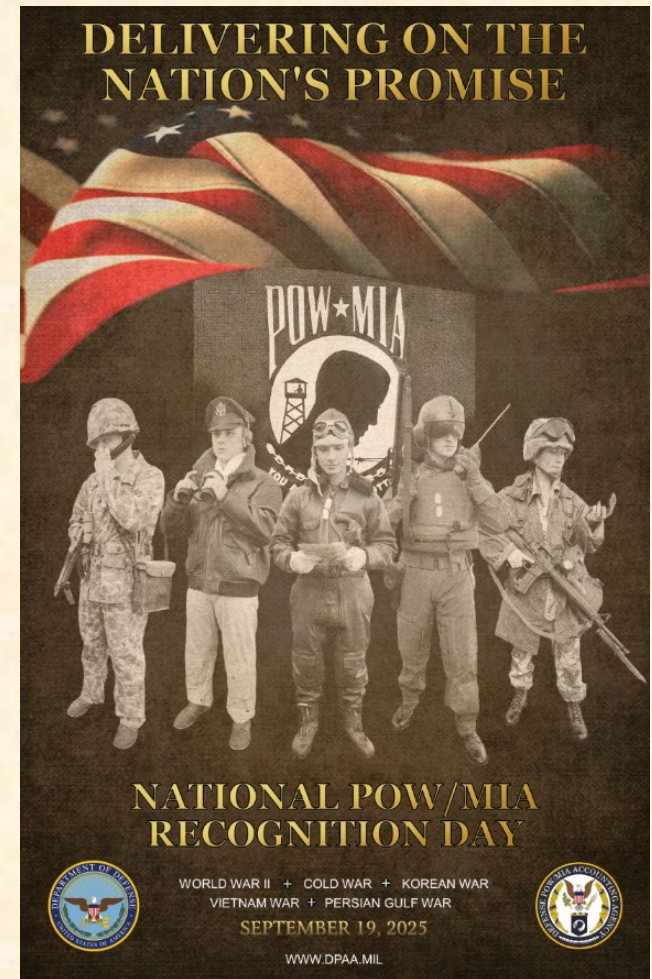
Army Pvt. 1st Class Leon R. Karwacki, 27, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, killed during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 26, 2024. In late 1944, Karwacki was assigned to Company E, 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, 3rd Armored Division. In mid-September 1944, his battalion advanced against enemy forces around Stolberg, Germany, between Aachen and the Hürtgen Forest. He was killed on Sept. 17, during an attack near the village of Mausbach. Karwacki's body could not be recovered due to the intensity of enemy fire. Karwacki will be buried in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in September 2025.

Army Air Forces Pfc. Lee I. Clendenning, 23, of Rib Lake, Wisconsin, killed during World War II, was accounted for on March 11, 2025. Clendenning was assigned to 23rd Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), 5th Bombardment Group at Hickam Airfield on the island of Oahu, Hawaii. On Dec. 7th, 1941, following the attack on Pearl Harbor, Japanese aircraft expanded to Hickam Field, targeting U.S. aircrafts and ships, barracks, supply buildings, and the base chapel. The attack lasted four hours. Clendenning was reportedly killed during this time. Clendenning will be buried in Rib Lake, Wisconsin in September 2025.

Army Air Forces Pfc. Norman R. Thomas, 20, of Clanton, Alabama, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for Jan. 29, 2025. In late 1941, Thomas was a member of 48th Material Squadron, 5th Air Base Group, when Japanese forces invaded the Philippine Islands in December. Intense fighting continued until the surrender of the Bataan peninsula on April 9, 1942, and of Corregidor Island on May 6, 1942. Thousands of U.S. and Filipino service members were captured and interned at POW camps. Thomas was among those reported captured when U.S. forces in Bataan surrendered to the Japanese. They were subjected to the 65-mile Bataan Death March and then held at the Cabanatuan POW camp. According to prison camp and other historical records, Thomas died on July 19, 1942, and was buried along with other deceased prisoners in the local Cabanatuan Camp Cemetery in Common Grave 312.

Army Tech. Sgt. Joseph R. Moore, 28, of Richmond, Virginia, killed during World War II, was accounted for Dec. 20, 2024. In December 1944, Moore was assigned to Company A, 1st Battalion, 121st Infantry Regiment, 8th Infantry Division, in Europe. His regiment had recently captured Hürtgen, Germany, during the Hürtgen Forest offensive. Beginning Dec. 1, Moore's unit was part of the push east from the town. He was reported missing in action as of Dec. 11 while his unit occupied the woods between Brandenburg and Kleinhau, though there is no clear indication of what happened to him. The Germans never reported Moore as a German prisoner of war; and Army investigators found no evidence he survived the fighting around Brandenburg and Kleinhau. The War Department issued a presumptive finding of death on Dec. 12, 1945. Moore will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery, on a date to be determined.

Army Pfc. Jack M. Cash, 19, of Broken Bow, Nebraska killed during the Korean War; was accounted for Aug. 26, 2024. In September 1950, Cash was a member of A Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. He went missing in action after his unit engaged in combat actions with the North Korean People's Army along the Naktong River in the vicinity of Yongsan, South Korea, on Sept. 1. The exact circumstances of his death were unknown, and the U.S. Army determined him to be nonrecoverable on Dec. 31, 1953. Cash's funeral service will be in Calimesa, California in July 2025.



Note: It is our intent to host a small, open to the public commemoration of POW/MIA's on Friday, September 19th. We are putting together the details, but it will be a short event, most likely held at the Ione Veterans Memorial Hall with a time TBD. We further expect to have some light refreshments afterward.

AMADOR COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Announcing New TSA PreCheck® “Serve with Honor, Travel with Ease” Benefits for the Military and Uniformed Service Community

Free for Gold Star families, discounted for military spouses and expedited lanes for service members

National Press Release | Wednesday, July 2, 2025

WASHINGTON – In recognition of Independence Day and the enduring sacrifice of military families, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is proud to announce a multi-faceted initiative to enhance the travel experience for members of the U.S. military community.

Starting this summer, TSA and its [TSA PreCheck®](#) enrollment providers, CLEAR, IDEMIA and Telos, will honor Gold Star family members by waiving the enrollment fee for TSA PreCheck. Gold Star families have lost a loved one in military service to the United States—spouses, parents, children and siblings who carry forward the legacy of their fallen heroes. This gesture represents TSA’s profound respect for their sacrifice and aims to ease their travel journey in a meaningful way.

In addition, TSA will offer a \$25 discount on TSA PreCheck enrollment for spouses of military and uniformed service members. This new benefit supports families who frequently travel to reunite with service members or relocate due to duty assignments. TSA PreCheck offers enrollees reduced wait times, expedited screening benefits and an improved checkpoint experience at selected airports.

“This Independence Day and beyond, TSA reaffirms its commitment to ease travel for the military community through its TSA PreCheck program by providing it free to Gold Star families, discounting it for military spouses and creating expedited lanes for service members,” said TSA Acting Administrator Ha Nguyen McNeill. “By expanding access, easing enrollment, and partnering with our TSA PreCheck enrollment providers and industry partners, we strive to honor those who serve and the families who stand beside them.”

To increase access to these benefits, TSA is collaborating with its TSA PreCheck enrollment providers to host mobile enrollment events near major U.S. military installations, making it easier for eligible individuals to enroll.

TSA, in coordination with its industry partners, is also introducing expedited access for military members in TSA PreCheck lanes at select airports near larger military installations. This includes dedicated screening lanes, or front-of-line privileges, designed to minimize wait times and improve convenience for service members.

TSA reminds travelers that military personnel and civilian Department of Defense (DOD) staff are eligible for free TSA PreCheck by using their DOD ID number as their Known Traveler Number when booking travel. Children 12 and under may accompany service members and DOD staff in TSA PreCheck lanes without restriction. Minors 13-17 must be on the same airline reservation with a TSA PreCheck-eligible parent or guardian to receive expedited screening.

In addition, the [TSA Cares](#) program remains available for veterans and wounded warriors, providing personalized assistance through the screening process and ensuring a dignified travel experience.

Gold Star families and military spouses can go to www.tsa.gov/military to learn how to enroll. For full details on TSA PreCheck benefits for the military community, visit www.tsa.gov/military and www.tsa.gov/travel/tsa-cares.

INFORMATION



Angela Sheble
Amador County
Veterans Service Officer
10877 Conductor Blvd., Ste. 700
209-223-6476
Email: asheble@amadorcounty.gov

Hours:
Mon, Tue, Wed (9-4)
by appointment
Thu (9-1) & (2-4) Walk-ins
Fri – No appointments

VA News

Jun 27: [How to stay safe and healthy during extreme heat](#)

IONE MEMORIAL POST & AUX 8254

Action Corps Weekly – June 30th, 2025

VFW Speaks at Roundtable with House Leaders: VFW National Legislative Director Kristina Keenan participated in a veterans organization roundtable hosted by House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (NY-8) and House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Ranking Member Mark Takano (CA-39). When asked what members of Congress could do to better understand the issues that veterans face, Keenan replied they should host town hall meetings during the August congressional recess to hear directly from veterans in their districts. Leader Jeffries committed to communicating to his caucus that every member should hold at least one veteran town hall this summer. Keenan also encouraged the House leaders to include Veterans Service Organizations in upcoming congressional hearings on VA's budget. The VFW, DAV (Disabled American Veterans), and Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) have analyzed the budget needs through our annual report, [The Independent Budget](#), and would like to have an opportunity to comment in a public forum.

VFW Testimony on Subcommittee Pending Legislation: VFW National Legislative Associate Director Nancy Springer submitted a statement for the record for a House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs hearing on pending legislation. The hearing reviewed 12 bills addressing issues including burial and survivor benefits, an annual report on veterans' causes of death, enhanced access to benefits for rural veterans, hiring preferences for Veterans Law Judges, and improvements to the VA claims and appeals processes. A key piece of legislation that includes provisions that the VFW has asked for and commented on in previous testimony is [H.R. 3983](#), Veterans Claims Quality Improvement Act of 2025. It would enhance the accuracy, efficiency, and overall effectiveness of the claims and appeals processes through data-driven training initiatives and strengthened quality assurance protocols. [Read the testimony](#) or [watch the hearing](#), which begins at the 12:38 mark.

VFW and Gold Star Spouses Champion Survivor Benefits: VFW National Legislative Associate Director Nancy Springer joined Gold Star Spouses of America, Inc. members on Capitol Hill during their inaugural legislative fly-in to advocate for critical improvements to survivor benefits. During her meetings, Springer advocated for [H.R. 2055/S. 611](#), Caring for Survivors Act of 2025, a top legislative priority for the VFW. This proposal would seek to increase the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) rate from 43 to 55 percent of the compensation awarded to a veteran rated 100 percent disabled by VA, which would make it on par with other federal survivor benefits programs. Except for standard cost-of-living adjustments, the amount of DIC has not increased appreciably since the program's 1993 inception.

Post 8254. July 1st through the 3rd will be our second poppy distribution of the year. We regret not having enough during the Memorial Day weekend, but we believe we will have enough for this distribution. It will be at Wal-Mart on those dates from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

- **Purple Heart Day.** The 5th Annual Commemoration will be held on August 7th at 10:00 AM in Plymouth.
- **Updated Post Hours.** As the new year approaches on Monday, and effective July 10th, our Post is going to change its hours. The Post will be manned and open on Thursdays from 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM. We will announce future hours as the plan becomes more clear.



Meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the Month.
Dinner starts at 5:00 PM with the meeting starting at 6:00 PM sharp. Our meetings **DO NOT** last more than one hour 15 minutes.

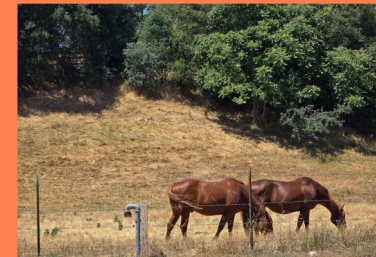
Post Hours: Thursdays 4:00 – 6:00 PM

LINKS

[National Website](#)

[Post Website](#)

[Post Facebook Page](#)



**Post 8254 & Auxiliary
Dinner & a Meeting
Wednesday, July 9th
Dinner: 5:00 PM;
Meeting 6:00 PM Sharp
(Maximum done by 7:15)
215 S. Amador St., Ione
209-274-4956**

DAV CHAPTER 118

DAV California Supports SB 694! 🇺🇸

Today, our Department of California DAV Legislative Director, J.R. Wilson, was at the State Capitol in Sacramento standing in strong support of SB 694, authored by Senator Bob Archuleta.

This important bill protects our veterans and service members from deceptive practices related to VA benefit claims. SB 694 prohibits charging illegal fees for helping with VA claims and ensures any contracts violating this are void and punishable.

Veterans earned their benefits — they shouldn't have to fight scammers to receive them. The DAV proudly backs this legislation and will continue to fight for integrity and justice in veteran services.

We salute Senator Archuleta for sponsoring this critical bill to protect California's heroes from deceptive practices. Join us in urging your legislators to pass SB 694 and safeguard every veteran's right to honest, fee-free assistance.

✉️ *Contact your state senator today*

Finally, we have added the links to both the National and Department of California websites over to the right.



*Meetings are held on the Third
Thursday of the Month at 7PM at the
Ione Veterans Hall, 207 S. Amador St..*

Commander: Gareth Hall

LINKS

[DAV National Website](#)

[DAV Department of California Website](#)

[DAV Department Newsletter – June 2025](#)

[DAV Twitch Video Games](#)

[Veteran Caregivers](#)

[Battle of Iwo Jima Veterans Share
Reflections 80 years later.](#)

[Unraveling the mystery of VA rating math](#)

AMERICAN LEGION – POST 108



Three testimonies in two days, hundreds of bills reviewed so far this session.

The American Legion's voice has been heard loud and clear in the 119th Congress, with policy experts testifying on dozens of bills that affect veterans and their families in June and in the months since the session began. In two days – June 11-12 – Legion Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation and Veterans Employment & Education leaders appeared in person before three House Veterans' Affairs Committee subcommittees.

Meanwhile, American Legion Emblem Sales is outpacing last year's record number of U.S. flag sales, more than 20,000 people have now been trained to detect and prevent veteran suicide through the Be the One/Columbia University/QPR program, 29 competitors have qualified for the National American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Championships, and more than 66,000 veterans have been recruited to join the organization through the final month of the membership cycle.

[Click here to see the June American Legion Membership Impact Report and those from previous months.](#)

LEGION INFO



Post Cdr:	Mike Green	209-267-9493
Riders:	Pat Burkhardt	530-635-3878
Sons:	Robby Boughner	916-990-4252
Office	Kathleen Gast	209-267-9493
Hours	Tue, Wed, Thu	10 AM – 2 PM

Dues

Legion:	\$50
Riders:	\$30
Sons:	\$10

Meetings

Post	1 st Thursday at 7:00 PM
Riders	2 nd Monday at 6:30 PM
Sons	2 nd Monday at 6:00 PM

2025 Blood Drives: August 4th, September 29th, and December 1st. As for 2025, the Blood Drives netted a total of 1167 units of whole blood. Thank you Amador County!

Please call 877-258-4825 to make an appointment. Or you can donate your blood as a 'walk-in'. The Blood Drive will be held at the American Legion Hall.

Karaoke. Jack Magee will be hosting Karaoke on the third Saturday of each month from 7:00 PM to Midnight.

Bingo. Bingo will start up at the Legion Post on the Second Thursday of each month.

Links:

[Be the One Program](#)
[Library & Museum](#)
[Scholarship Information](#)

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MOTHERLODE DET 1080



#Marines with @3rdMLG take part in the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program course on Camp Kinser, Okinawa, Japan. MCMAP is focused on hand-to-hand combat training, physical conditioning, warrior ethos studies, and also contains leadership discussions to develop tough and physically capable warfighters.



Commander: Tom Correa

Links

[Marine Corps Website](#)

[Marine Corps League Membership Application](#)

[Marine Corps League Recommended Reading](#)

Next Meeting



Det 1080 Monthly Meeting
Saturday, July 12th, 10:00 AM
215 S. Amador St., Lone



Marine Corps Ball will be held November 10th at a new location – the American Legion Hall in Sutter Hill.

TRICARE – AFTER A DISASTER

Unlock Your Health: Learn When To Get Different Types of Care

July 1st, 2025 | By TRICARE Communications

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – When a health issue comes up, knowing where to go for care can make a big difference. Whether it's an accident or an illness, TRICARE covers a range of health care services—but the [type of care](#) you need determines where you should go. [Unlock your health](#) by understanding the types of care—and when to use them—to make better choices for you and your family.

Emergency care. If your life, limb, or eyesight is at risk, you're having a [medical emergency](#). Chest pain, trouble breathing, severe bleeding, and broken bones are examples of emergencies that need immediate attention. If you reasonably believe you have an emergency, always call 911 or your international emergency number. Or, go to the nearest emergency room.

TRICARE covers emergency care anywhere in the world. You also don't need a [referral or pre-authorization](#) to get it. However, for [TRICARE Prime](#), you should contact your [primary care manager](#) within 24 hours—or the next business day—after receiving care. You may also need a referral for any follow-up treatment to avoid [out-of-pocket costs](#).

Urgent care—but not an emergency. Not every issue is an emergency, but that doesn't mean it can wait. [Urgent care](#) is for conditions that need attention within 24 hours but aren't emergencies.

Most TRICARE plans allow you to visit any TRICARE-authorized urgent care center without a referral, but it all depends on your plan and [beneficiary group](#). Certain [rules](#) apply if you're active duty or enrolled in a TRICARE overseas plan, so be sure to check ahead of time.

If you're unsure about the seriousness of your symptoms, the [Military Health System Nurse Advice Line](#) is available 24/7. If you live overseas, call your [TRICARE Overseas Program Regional Call Center](#).

Routine care. Routine or primary care is the foundation of everyday health. Whether it's a [routine physical](#), managing chronic conditions, or a lingering cough, your PCM is your first point of contact. These providers know your medical history and can treat a wide variety of conditions and follow ups—or refer you to a specialist if needed. Use the [Find a Doctor Tool](#) to locate a provider near you.

Specialty care. Sometimes, your health concern requires care from a provider who's trained in a specific area of medicine. Specialists—like cardiologists, neurologists, or dermatologists—can diagnose and treat more complex conditions within their field.

Depending on your plan, you may need a [referral](#) to see a specialist. With TRICARE Prime, for example, you need a referral from your PCM. If your plan doesn't require one, you can schedule directly with a TRICARE-authorized provider. If you're unsure, the [TRICARE Customer Service Directory](#) is a good place to start.

(Note: If you're enrolled in TRICARE Prime in the [West Region](#), the specialty care referral approval waiver expired June 30. Starting July 1, you should follow all normal referral processes according to the rules of your TRICARE plan.)

Preventive care. You don't have to be sick to see a health care provider. [Preventive care](#)—like [cancer screenings](#), [immunizations](#), and [well-child care](#)—are key to long-term health and readiness. Even when you feel fine, these services can catch problems early or help prevent them altogether. TRICARE covers a wide range of [preventive services](#). What's more, you'll have no cost for these services when received from a [network provider](#), as described in the [TRICARE Costs and Fees Fact Sheet](#).

Be prepared. It's easier to make the right decision when you know your options ahead of time. [Unlock your health](#) by reviewing your TRICARE plan, finding covered providers, and saving contact numbers. That way, whether it's an emergency or a sore throat, you'll know exactly what to do.



Links

[DEERS INFO](#)
[TRICARE 101](#)
[TRICARE Costs & Fees Sheet](#)
[TRICARE Eligibility](#)
[TRICARE Overseas Travel](#)
[TRICARE West](#)

TRICARE News

July 1: [Unlock Your Health: Learn When To Get Different Types of Care](#)

June 26: [Unlock Your Health as You Approach Medicare Eligibility](#)

June 24: [4 Ways You Can Use Your TRICARE Benefits and Stay Healthy This Summer](#)

June 17: [Getting Care While You Travel: A TRICARE Guide for the U.S. and Overseas](#)

June 10: [Keep an Eye on Your Vision Health With TRICARE](#)

June 5: [Unlock Your Health: How to Report Fraud and Abuse With TRICARE](#)

2025 DATES TO REMEMBER

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time:</u>	<u>Location</u>
Feb 16:	Liversedge/Iwo Jima Remembrance	11:00 AM	Volcano
Mar 15 & 16:	Dandelion Days		Downtown Jackson
Mar 22 & 23:	Capital Air Show		Mather Field
Mar 29:	National Vietnam War Veterans Day		
Apr 16-19:	Military Vehicle Show (MVCC)		County Fairgrounds
Apr 26:	Ione Walk for the Troops	11:00 AM	Ione Veterans Memorial Park
May 1:	Loyalty Day & <i>Silver Star Service Banner Day</i>		
May 3:	VFW National Day of Service		
May 8-11:	Ione Homecoming		Ione Main St./Howard Park
May 10:	Military Spouse Appreciation Day		
May 18:	Armed Forces Day		
May 19-20:	Veterans Homeless Resource Fair		Detert Park, Jackson
May 19-26:	Memorial Weekend Events		Various
Jun 6:	D-Day		
Jun 14:	Flag Day & Army Birthday		
Jun 21:	Ione Car Show & Chili Cookoff		Main St. Ione
Jul 4:	Independence Day & Volcano Car Show		Volcano (Car Show)
Jul 27:	Korea Armistice Day		
Jul 31 – Aug 3:	Amador County Fair		Plymouth Fairgrounds
August	Cootie Hospital Visit	TBD	Veterans Home Yountville
Aug 4:	Coast Guard Birthday		
Aug 7:	Purple Heart Day	10:00 AM	Plymouth
Aug 29:	79 th Birthday – Post 8254	TBD	Post 8254
Sep 2:	Labor Day & V-J Day		
Sep 11:	Patriot Day Ceremony		Ione Fire Department
Sep 11-14:	MVCC Fall Show		County Fairgrounds
Sep 18:	Air Force Birthday		
Sep 19:	POW/MIA Recognition Day	TBD	Post 8254
Sep 29:	Gold Star Mother's Day & VFW Day		
Oct 7:	Start of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM		
Oct 13:	Navy Birthday		
Nov 3:	IVMP Shoot	9:30 AM	Camanche Hills
Nov 10:	Marine Corps Birthday Ball	5:00 PM	Sutter Creek
Nov 11:	Veterans Day Parade	10:00 AM	Main St. Jackson
Dec 7:	Pearl Harbor Day		
TBD:	IVMP Tree Lighting	7:00 PM	Ione Veterans Memorial Park
Dec 13:	National Guard Birthday		
Dec 13:	Wreaths Across America & Ione Xmas Parade	9:00 AM	Ione & Jackson (Wreaths)
Dec 20:	Space Force Birthday		

NOTES:

- This is a living document subject to change as the events warrant...or corrections require. If text is red, that means it is a change from a previous copy.**
- Poppy Drives are held:** May 23rd – 25th, July 1st – 3rd, August 29th – 31st, and November 7th – 9th, and November 11th. All will be OUTSIDE OF WAL-MART from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM.
- Unaccompanied Veterans Ceremony.** Held at 2:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery (Dixon) at Shelter 1.
- Blood Drives.** Getting the dates from the Legion, but the times are generally 11:30 AM – 5:00 PM. In 2025, the remaining dates are August 4th, September 29th, and December 1st.
- Ex-USS LUCID (MSO 458) working parties** are on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the Month.
- Kaiser Truck.** Visits Post 8254 on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the Month. Expected times are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Amador Veterans Reference Guide

Place	Name	Phone	Social Media or Website	E-mail
VFW/DAV	Rick Boughner	209-274-4956	www.facebook.com/vfw8254.org	Brady8246@sbcglobal.net
American Legion Post 108	Kathleen Gast	209-267-9493	www.alpost108amador.org	
Marine Corps League Det 1080	Rick Boughner	209-274-4956	www.facebook.com/MCLMotherlode	0311usmc8162@gmail.com
Ione Memorial Hall Rental	Megan Buchanan	209-274-0274		Hall Rental Info (Click Here)
County VSO	Angela Sheble	209-223-6476	Amador County Office CACVSO	asheble@amadorcounty.gov
Veterans Crisis Line:		988 (then press 1)	https://www.veteranscrisisline.net	
Caregiver Support Line:		1-855-260-3274		
Help for Homeless Vets:		1-877-424-3838		
Plymouth Vets Memorial Park:	Jim Wise			jwise@pacellp.com
Amador Interfaith Food Bank	Beth Stanton	209-267-9006	www.feedamador.org	bstanton@feedamador.org
CA Military Funeral Honor Program	CA NG HQ	916-616-6412		Nhut.t.le.mil@mail.mil

Office Hours

Legion Post 108 (Sutter Hill)	Kathleen Gast	Tue-Thu, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM	209-267-9493
VFW, DAV, MCL (Ione)	Rick B.	Noon – 4:00 PM	209-274-4956
Amador County Veterans Service Office	Angela Sheble	Refer to CVSO Page	209-223-6476

Emergency Contacts

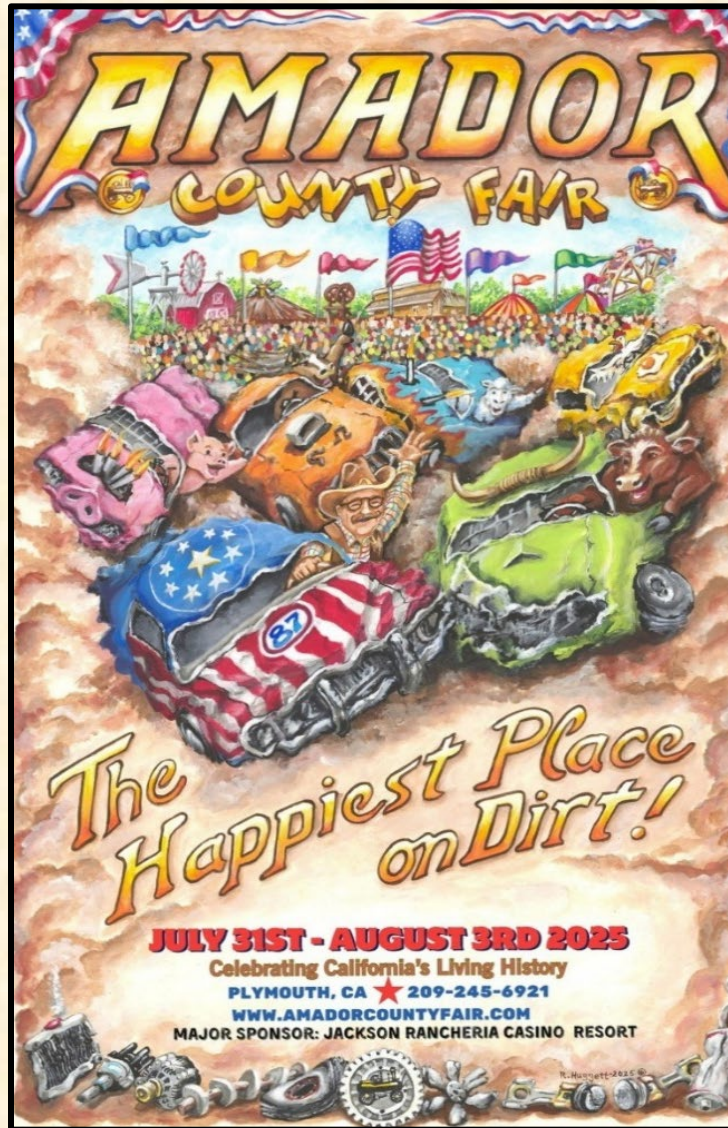
Ione PD:	209-274-2456		Sutter Amador Hospital:	209-223-7500
Jackson PD:	209-223-1771		Amador Fire:	209-223-6391
Sutter Creek PD:	209-267-5646		Burn Day Hotline:	209-223-6246
Amador County Sheriff:	209-223-6500		American Red Cross:	www.redcross.org
Amador County Jail:	209-223-6522		FEMA Disaster Assistance:	Veterans disasterassistance.gov

Important Internet Resources

Amador County Emergency Info/Resources	Fisher House – DGMC Travis AFB	USS LUCID Project
California Department of Veterans Affairs	IRS Information for Veterans	VA Dental Information
California Veterans Resource Book	Marine Corps League Website	VA Disability Rates
DAV Death Benefits Guide	Military Order of the Purple Heart	VA Mather Website
Disaster Assistance for Veterans	National Archives for Veterans	Wood Angels
DOD Military One Source	National Park Service Benefits	Year-round veterans discounts
DPAA YEAR IN REVIEW 2024	Sew 4 Vets	
Exhale Farms	State Tax Information for Military Pay	
Federal Benefits For Vets, Dependents & Survivors	TRICARE	

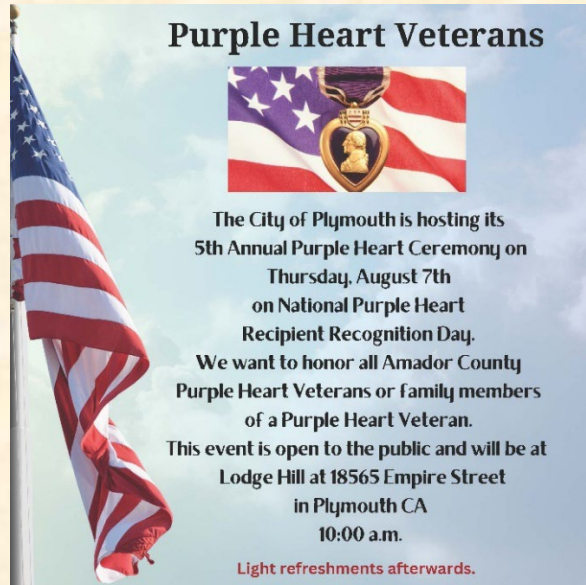
UPCOMING EVENTS

*End of July...
Amador County Fair*



UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

AUGUST 7TH



One of the bigger commemorations, this ceremony is open to the public. It is a brief event honoring Purple Heart recipients.

We expect to have a joint VFW/Legion Honor Guard, a performance from Prior National Auxiliary Soloist Juliet Kennedy.

AUGUST 29TH

Ione Memorial Post 8254 will be celebrating our 79th Birthday with a small celebration. More details to follow...

SEPTEMBER 11TH



The annual commemoration put on by the Ione Fire Department, takes place at Ione Fire Department, Station One at 8:56 on September 11th.

This is a VERY short event which honors the victims and first responders of that day.

VETERANS CALENDAR – JULY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jun 29 Legion State Convention (Visalia)	30	Jul 1 8 AM VFW Poppy Distro	2	3 7 PM Legion Mtg	4 Independence Day Volcano Car Show	5 10 AM MCL Mtg
6	7	8	9 5 PM 8254 Mtgs	10	11	12 LUCID WKG PTY Redneck Yacht Club Vets Event
13	14 6 PM Sons Mtg 6:30 PM Riders Mtg	15	16	17 7 PM DAV Mtg	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 LUCID WORKING PTY
27	28	29	30 5:30 PM Post 8254 Bingo	31	Aug 1 Amador County Fair	2 10 AM MCL Mtg

July is one of our smaller months, but in a way, it's also a very important month. It begins the new "Fiscal Year" for our organizations, and the majority of our activities will be confined to administrative tasks, such as planning, budgets, and training.