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Salute to Veterans

A special supplement to the

Gallipolis Daily Tribune | The Daily Sentinel | Point Pleasant Register

They served. They sacrificed. We salute.
By Sarah Hawley
sthawley@lowcountryhomer.com

MEIGS COUNTY — For William Charles Brewer it was a trip 20 years in the making and one he did to honor his late brother, James.

James Brewer served in the military and was sent to Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

James was four years older than Charlie and the younger brother recalled that James always liked to play military games with his twin. John, growing up on the family farm outside of Chester, Ohio, James and his brother. John was in the military, but only one would be deployed overseas. John went on to be a combat medic and spent time stationed in Hawaii.

James Dale Brewer enlisted in the Army on Nov. 5, 1965. After basic training at Fort Jackson, he was sent to Fort Dix. He eventually was sent to Fort Devens, and trained with the 190th LB before being sent to Vietnam on the USS Patch out of Boston. He participated in Operations Atlantic, Godwin, Cedar Falls, and Junction City.

Brewer’s disregard for his own safety, coolness under fire, and personal bravery are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army,” read the information regarding the presentation of the Bronze Star.

Field artillery after his brother was killed, Charlie stood on the battlefield, paying tribute to his brother, along with others killed in the battle. The next step in the journey to honor his brother and learn about the battle in which he was killed.

Charlie has spent several years researching the battle and learning about the death of his brother in the Vietnam War. Along the way he has spoken to many others who had served in the battle. It was in these connections that he met Michael Doolittle, a survivor of the battle, who would make the trip to Vietnam with him.

“Speaking in a small ceremony at the battlefield, Charlie said, “To come to Suoi Tre battlefield has been a quest of mine for many years. I am honored to be here today to pay tribute to my brother. James Dale Brewer who died on this battlefield 52 years ago and is still sadly missed. I owe so much to so many in helping me to get here. I am privileged to share this day with Michael Doolittle, who witnessed the carnage and is a survivor of that horrific battle. I am also here to pay tribute to those that perished on this battlefield on the 19th, 20, and 21st of 1967. You are not forgotten. The loss of life on both sides should be a lesson to all that war is not the answer. It is only destruction and devastation. May the world learn to live in peace and harmony. We came here also with hope that returning here will be a sense of healing to help us deal with the mental scars of war. In closing, I want to say this, this is not closure. There will never be closure. This is just another step to help our healing.”

In addition to his trip to the battlefield, Charlie has spoken with many veterans of the Vietnam War who served in the units his brother was with. He has attended some of the reunion events and met with the fellow soldiers to hear their stories.

During his trip to the battlefield, there was a group which was attempting to locate possible mass graves of soldiers whose remains have never been located. While they did not locate any of the groves during that trip, some had previously been located and as new information arises additional searches could take place. It is believed there were 647 enemy bodies buried on the battlefield. The goal is to locate those bodies to bury them in a cemetery where they can be honored.

Brewer plans to return to the battlefield next year.

Sarah Hawley is the morning editor of The Daily Sentinel.
Serving together as a family

By Sarah Hawley
shawley@aimmediamidwest.com

Serving together as a family

SALUTE TO VETERANS

and Della of having their portion of the deployment grandparents during a time with their other are expected to spend deployment. The girls girls currently during this deployment and have the deployment. The girls is supposed to be a six-month East on Sept. 28 for what deployment to the Middle again.

Early in life, Carly, Randie and their children made the trip from North Dakota to join Meigs County, as they prepared for Carly's deployment. As they prepared for that deployment, Della said, Carly took the girls to shop for their Halloween costumes, as well as picking out gifts for Christmas (even opening a few with them) and decorating a tree (one of the girls' favorite blue stars). Carly and Craig were spending Christmas with their grandparents. Della said it helped Carly that she was able to prepare with them for the deployment.

This is the second time Con has deployed since becoming a mom, having been deployed for around three months when Carly was nearly 4, when Carly was 19 months old. Now, with Carly 10 months old, Con is deployed once again.

Craig left for deployment to the Middle East on Sept. 28, for what is supposed to be a nine-month deployment. Carl and Della cared for Carly during the first deployment and have the girls currently attending school. The girls are expected to spend time with their grandparents during a portion of the deployment as well.

It has been an adjustment, said Carl and Della as they have their grandparents live with them. “You have to adjust to having babies again,” said Della. “You aren’t in grandparent mode, you have to be in parent mode.” They have adjusted to a new routine, not only with the girls, but with their own retrievers earlier this year. “You alter everything, but we weren’t afraid of it, we were excited,” said Della.

“We volunteered to do it (spending time with the girls),” said Della. “We wanted to do whatever you can for your kids to make things easier.” Della said that they have explained to the girls that this is “home” for them while their mom is deployed.

She added that Carly will tell people that her mom is “at work far away.” Each of the girls has a doll which was made for them with a picture of their mom in her uniform.

The dolls each say “Mommy loves you” and are something that the girls can hold onto while their mom is away.

“Catie did a great job to prepare them,” said Della. “They knew they were coming to our house for awhile while mommy is far away at work.”

Thanks to advances in technology Carly and Catie are able to communicate daily through FaceTime or calls with both their mom and dad. They can also send pictures. The time difference to the Middle East, around eight hours, means that when they are able to talk in the mornings here, it is evening there. They try to keep the girls busy with outside activities and spending time with family, including the Wolfe’s other grandchildren and several other family members. They have been to football games this fall, and will be going to basketball games soon. As with any parents, having a child deployed, there is the stress and worry. That is the case this time, but there is also the worry for Carly and Carly and Della of helping them to adjust.

“When you have the confines of this country there is a certain degree of anxiety and worry, you are at the mercy of the people there,” said Carl. The question comes up from time to time as to how Carly can be away from the girls and deal with the things that come with being in the military. Della explained that when she enlisted in the Air Force, Carly knew what the military was about and that it would be her job. “You sacrifice and give up things to be in the military,” said Della.

“We always wanted her to be independent and we knew what she was doing entering the military and having a family,” said the Wolfe’s daughter. They have been to football games this fall, and will be going to basketball games soon. As with any parents, having a child deployed, there is the stress and worry. That is the case this time, but there is also the worry for Carly and Della of helping them to adjust.

“Before Catie left for deployment, she knew it had to be hard on everyone,” said Carl. “But we had to do it.”

Catie sprang high school. Additionally, since Catie is nearly done with her bachelor's degree and has not used her GI Bill, that will be able to split between her girls.

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“During this time, Catie was in a time mode,” said Della. “You aren’t in parent mode, you have to be in grandparent mode.”

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Putting their heads together for ‘Wounded Warrior’

By Mindy Kearns
Special to OVP

Three members of the Stewart-Johnson VFW Post 9926 Auxiliary have vowed to shave their heads if their monetary goal is not met to contribute to the Potomac Highlands Wounded Warrior Outreach. Pictured, from left, are Jamie Crum, Jeannette Radford, and Kathy Edwards.

The outreach, based in West Virginia and provides outdoor sporting opportunities to wounded veterans to help their healing process. The group organizes and funds three-to-five-day recreational outings for combat injured veterans, including deer, bear and turkey hunting, wildlife photography, archery, fly fishing and more.

Edwards said they became interested in the outreach at last year’s auxiliary state convention. She said Richard Ogilvin, vice president of the outreach, spoke and read them a letter from a veteran who went on one of the hunting trips. The veteran wrote that he was ready to commit suicide, but the trip turned his life around.

According to the outreach statistics show that support of belonging, and instill an and wellness, instill a sense of confidence, promote healing and self-reliance, bolster self-esteem, and provide outreach trips to veterans serving in Iraq, he went on a deer hunt provided by the outreach. She said a guide is with the veterans at all times, and the adventure provides an opportunity for the participants to join other veterans for companionship and a chance to talk together.

The actual shaving of their heads will take place at the 2020 state convention in June. It will be held at Glade Springs.

All three women are active members of the Post 9926 auxiliary. Crum serves as auxiliary president. Edwards is serving as vice-president and takes care of Veterans and Family Support, while Radford serves as trustee and historian.

The auxiliary is involved in both veteran and community projects. Members are active at the veterans home, making regular visits, serving dinners, and giving out holiday cards containing money. Present community projects are collecting supplies for the Mason County Homeless Shelter and providing blankets to a local dialysis center.

Those wishing to make a donation to the trio should make checks payable to VFW Auxiliary Post 9926, with the memo Potomac Highlands Wounded Warrior Hair Cut. They can be mailed to Mason VFW Post 9926, 415 Adamesville Road, Mason, WV 25260. For more information, contact Edwards at 304-593-2077; Crum at 304-325-2156; or Radford at 740-591-0396.

Veterans at risk for possible suicide are urged to contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 Press 1. Confidential crisis chat is available at VeteransCrisisLine.net or text crisis chat is available at text to 838255.

Mindy Kearns is a freelance writer for Ohio Valley Publishing.
Remembering the divided and reunited

SALUTE TO VETERANS

veterans who served in

It appears here to remind

in a 2017 edition of the

the Civil War.

Pictured is the headstone of Samuel McElhinny, a man who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for actions taken during the Civil War.

The Vinton dinner is now

hosted by the Vinton American Legion Post 161. The Rio Grande dinner, formerly held by the L. Tasing Post No. 330 GAR, is now by the Rio Grande Memorial Association. The Rio Grande dinner is typically held on the second Saturday of August. Both dinners honor memories of veterans who sacrificed, those who live and those who are serving. The Vinton dinner is held in Vinton Community Park and the Rio Grande dinner has been held in the University of Rio Grande Bob Evans Shelterhouse.

According to Rio Grande Memorial Association member Robert Leith, the Rio Grande event "was started in 1870 by the village residents to honor returning United States soldiers who had served in the Civil War (1861-1865). This Civil War tradition welcomed those who 'may have had ties with the Confederacy' and 'all men of color.' Late 19th century fans consisted of strong and bitter black coffee, hardback, and soup beans cooked over a wood-fuel fire (similar to soldiers foods eaten in the recent war). Today, the Civil War beans are (annually) supplemented by homemade cornbread, homemade pies, Bob Evans sausage sandwiches, iced water, coffee and soft drinks. Additional charges occur for foods and drinks beyond the basic.' It’s not uncommon for the event to hold Civil War demonstrations or exhibitions as well.

McCluskey brothers, Robert (planted) and Gary, have traditionally been the cooks of Vinton Bean Dinner.

The story behind Civil War Medal of Honor recipient

By Morgan McKinniss

Staff Report

GALLIPOLIS — Vinton County has a unique distinction among counties because of the valorous service performed by the men who have served in the Civil War.

McElhinny, 55 other soldiers also received this honor from the events of Sailor’s Creek, which is also known by.

This places McElhinny’s medal as one of the earliest to be awarded. According to March, McElhinny earned the medal due to his bravery in capturing the enemy flag. After eight hours of intense battle, he said he walked across the battlefield with flying flag, grabbed the enemy’s flag, and stated that “This is over, we’ve caught your flag.” With a statement such as this and valor that set him apart from his fellow soldiers, he earned the Medal of Honor.

Lettie McElhinny, McElhinny’s daughter, was 13 years old when her father passed away. She and her younger brother were at their home in Meigs County. When she got her father’s medal, she was told by the family that their father had died from disease before their family and friend against friend. According to Vinton America Legion Post’s John Hokusak Ohio restored the nation with 310,554 fighting men during the American Civil War, 1861-1865. These men fought in nearly every battlefield of the war. In all Ohio lost 39,357 men in blue, in its effort to preserve the Union and to end the course of the war. Approximately 13,537 of the men were killed or wounded in combat and another 13,534 died from disease before their enlistment ended. Out of all of Ohio’s fighting troops and living memorials to the “boys in blue” exist in the form of six historic bean dinners which take place across the Buckeye State each year. Governor Ruth Tuohy, during the state’s bicentennial in 2003, officially recognized four of these events, the only four known to exist in 2003. The last of these events, the only four known to exist in 2003. The last of these events, the only four known to exist in 2003. These events were called “Campfires” by GAR members and serve as a legacy for the state’s tie to the American Civil War. Vinton’s bean dinner is considered the oldest in the country and Rio Grande’s dinner will be celebrating its 150th bean dinner in August of next year. Music and other activities commonly accompany these events now. The Vinton Bean Dinner is typically held the last Saturday of August and was formerly led by members of the Vinton Matthews Post no. 259 GAR. The Vinton dinner is now

its neighboring counties of Gallia, Meigs and Lawrence.

GALLIAN COUNTY — Gallia County is unique from most of Ohio in that it’s name is derived from the word of the Union and Confederacy during the American Civil War, much like its neighboring counties of Meigs and Lawrence.

It rests as home to two of the longest running traditions of their kind in memory of a conflict that put family against family and friend against friend. According to Vinton America Legion Post’s John Hokusak Ohio restored the nation with 310,554 fighting men during the American Civil War, 1861-1865. These men fought in nearly every battlefield of the war. In all Ohio lost 39,357 men in blue, in its effort to preserve the Union and to end the course of the war. Approximately 13,537 of the men were killed or wounded in combat and another 13,534 died from disease before their enlistment ended. Out of all of Ohio’s fighting troops and living memorials to the “boys in blue” exist in the form of six historic bean dinners which take place across the Buckeye State each year. Governor Ruth Tuohy, during the state’s bicentennial in 2003, officially recognized four of these events, the only four known to exist in 2003. These events were called “Campfires” by GAR members and serve as a legacy for the state’s tie to the American Civil War. Vinton’s bean dinner is considered the oldest in the country and Rio Grande’s dinner will be celebrating its 150th bean dinner in August of next year. Music and other activities commonly accompany these events now. The Vinton Bean Dinner is typically held the last Saturday of August and was formerly led by members of the Vinton Matthews Post no. 259 GAR. The Vinton dinner is now

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GALLIPOLIS, Ohio

On May 21, 1865, along with McElhinny, 55 other soldiers also received this honor from the events of Sailor’s Creek, which is also known by.

This places McElhinny’s medal as one of the earliest to be awarded. According to March, McElhinny earned the medal due to his bravery in capturing the enemy flag. After eight hours of intense battle, he said he walked across the battlefield with flying flag, grabbed the enemy’s flag, and stated that “This is over, we’ve caught your flag.” With a statement such as this and valor that set him apart from his fellow soldiers, he earned the Medal of Honor.

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Point Pleasant’s Gold Star Mothers Memorial

By Erin (Perkins) Johnson
Special to OVP

POINT PLEASANT, W.Va. — The City of Point Pleasant welcomed a new feature to the community this past June. June is West Virginia Women’s History Month and Point Pleasant is honored to be the site of one of these very special memorials. The city of Point Pleasant was presented with an Honor and Remember Flag from representatives of the West Virginia Gold Star Mothers (WVGSMA) organization to hang by the monument.

Following the dedication of the Gold Star Mothers Monument, the Honor and Remember Flag was adopted as a West Virginia honor flag in 2012. The meaning of the design and details of the Honor and Remember Flag as follows:

The red field represents the blood spilled by brave men and women who gave their lives so that the nation would remain free. The white border beneath the red field recognizes the purity of sacrifice and surrounding the gold star signifies the final tribute to an individual life presented to the nation. Gold reflects the value of an individual life given in active service who will not return home. Gold reflects the value of the life that was given. The folded flag signifies the final tribute to an individual life presented to the family for their significant loss. The flame is an eternal reminder of the spirit that has departed this life but burns on in the memory of all who knew and loved the fallen hero.

“I have had many positive comments from community members and the Mason County Commission since June,” said Cromley. “I hope it will bring attention to the mothers who have lost a child while honorably serving in the military. Though this symbol originated with World War I, this flag signifies active service in all wars from the American Revolution to present day. The gold star signifies the ultimate sacrifice of a warrior in active service who will not return home. Gold reflects the value of the life that was given. The folded flag signifies the final tribute to an individual life presented to the family for their significant loss. The flame is an eternal reminder of the spirit that has departed this life but burns on in the memory of all who knew and loved the fallen hero.”

Ed Cromley, president of the Point Pleasant Chapter of the SAR/Memorial Committee, shared these new flags as well as the flag poles were provided by the West Virginia DAR and were installed by the Gold Star Mothers Monument Committee member, Ed Cromley, president of the Mason County Commission.

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Gallia grad to speak at USMC 244th Birthday Ball

John Adams and adopted as the birth date of the Continental Navy. The recently formed Continental Congress passes a resolution stating that "two Battalions of Marines be raised" for service as landing forces for the recently formed Continental Navy. The resolution, drafted by future U.S. President John Adams and adopted in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was signed by 24 members of the Continental Marines and is now observed as the birth date of the United States Marine Corps.

The Marine Corps Birthday Ball with a formal dinner, celebration, and entertainment is an annual tradition that has been taking place all around the world on Nov. 10. The Marine Corps League, Maj.-Gen. Gallipolis Mason Detachment 1180, will present its 244th Birthday Ball on Nov. 9 at the American Legion Post 23 located at 100 Second Street in Point Pleasant. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are $50 charges for admission, however, a donation is expected.

Wroblewski is a Gallipolis, Ohio, resident born in Charleston, West Virginia, who graduated from Gallia Academy High School and is a Vietnam Combat Veteran having served as a field radio operator with the United States Marine Corps from mid 1963 to late 1965 (Vietnam 1965-1966).

His 100% service-connected disability hasn't diminished his love for America or his desire to continue to give back to his country. His accomplishments are many, as evidenced by being named a Hometown Hero but, perhaps, his most significant and most recent is his successful project of having a U.S. Naval ship named in honor of beloved "Woody" Williams, West Virginia's only living Medal of Honor recipient. It took 10 years of dedication to get the Navy to name the ship, Wroblewski is currently serving as the President of Tri-state Chapter 340, Vietnam Veterans of America and the West Virginia Marine Corps Coordinating Council.

Poem from the past

When the clock rolls around to four, You jump out of bed and run to the door. You got to the galley still sleepy and tired, You work and slave and you cook and sweat, And that stripe on your sleeve you never get. You think of the rating you so much desired. How some of the boys, the ratings they land. "Uncle Sam needs help so I'll try somehow." You got to the galley still sleepy and tired, And that stripe on your sleeve you never get.

But you say to yourself, "I can't quit now. Uncle Sam needs help so I'll try somehow." So I'll keep on plugging though I can't understand, How and run to the door, the ratings they land. I've been in the service little over a year, And I'm proud to work for a country so clear. So I guess it's no use for me to complain. For a chance I guess I must always remain.

Wes Ramsey, Sr. Petty Officer, 3rd Class United States Navy 1943

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114 S. Main Street%2c %28570%29 740-441-5638 or Patti Lott.

JSA: the Latest Wales Kincaid, Sr., pictured for left, while serving in the United States Navy working as a cook on an large naval ships during World War II. Kincaid was a native of Point Pleasant.

You get to the galley still sleepy and tired, You work and slave and you cook and sweat, And that stripe on your sleeve you never get.

But you say to yourself, "I can’t quit now. Uncle Sam needs help so I’ll try somehow." So I’ll keep on plugging though I can’t understand, How and run to the door, the ratings they land. I’ve been in the service little over a year, And I’m proud to work for a country so clear. So I guess it’s no use for me to complain. For a chance I guess I must always remain.

Wes Ramsey, Sr.
Petty Officer, 3rd Class
United States Navy
1943

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Local parades ‘in step’ with honoring veterans

**Staff Report**

**OHIO VALLEY** — Parades honoring veterans take place in both Point Pleasant and Gallipolis in November.

Last Saturday, the annual AMVETS Post #2 Veterans Day Parade made its way down Main Street. Participants for this parade ranged from American Legion Post #23 members and their ladies auxiliaries, American Legion Riders motorcycle club members, various Mason County youth groups, the Point Pleasant High School Black Knight Marching Band, the Gallipolis Shrine Club, and more. The AMVETS post #2 and its ladies auxiliary have been hosting the parade for over a decade. Following the parade, the members of Post #23 hosted their annual Veteran’s Day Dinner.

The Veteran’s Day Parade and Ceremony will be on Nov. 11 in Gallipolis, sponsored by the Gallia County Veterans Service Commission, and Deputy Director of the Ohio Department of Veterans Affairs Susan McCarthy is anticipated to serve as its keynote speaker.

Participation in the parade is encouraged and open to all veterans, veteran service groups and community organizations. The Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony is to honor military veterans and to demonstrate individual and community support for their service and sacrifices. The parade will begin at 10:30 a.m. and end at the Gallipolis City Park, with the ceremony beginning at 11 a.m. Contact the Gallia County Veterans Services Office at 740-446-2005 no later than Nov. 8 to confirm participation in the parade.

According to a release provided by the Gallia Veterans Service Commission, McCarthy currently serves as assistant director of the Ohio Department of Veterans Services, a cabinet agency with more than 1,000 employees engaged in healthcare, education, and employment. Prior to this appointment, he served as general counsel for that department.

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MILLWOOD, W.Va. — Have you ever driven across a bridge dedicated to someone's memory and wondered who they were? How did they leave this world? Who did they leave behind?

Earlier this year, one such bridge was dedicated in the Millwood, W.Va. area along W.Va. 2. Though it was in Jackson County, W.Va., it was dedicated to a young man with family in Mason County, W.Va., in fact, the Roush family has one of the most well-established, deep-rooted family trees in the area. Some of those family members and friends attended the bridge dedication, as did Delegate Scott Cadle who originally worked on the legislation to move the dedication forward in honor of Army Sgt. Arthur George Roush who was just 22 when he died in Korea in 1954.

Tragically, Roush's obituary read “The young Jackson County soldier was shot when a buddy was cleaning a gun on Aug. 14 and it accidentally went off and sent a slug into Roush’s chest.” He was scheduled to leave Korea just 20 days after the fatal shooting.

Beyond an awful twist of fate, the rest of Roush’s story was told in the resolution drafted by the West Virginia Legislature to name a bridge in his honor:

Whereas, Sergeant Arthur George Roush was born in Millwood, West Virginia, on June 13, 1932, and was the eighth of eleven children born to Calvin Elmer Roush, Jr., and Goldie Flesher Roush; and
Whereas, Sergeant Roush was a good student in school and took part in church and school activities and, along with his brothers Donald and Pete, was active in 4-H; and
Whereas, Sergeant Roush was adept at woodworking projects, making an end table for his mother as well as several bird houses and little dancing men; and
Whereas, Sergeant Roush went to work on a river boat early in life where he made good money and later bought a new big green Oldsmobile that he was so very proud of; and
Whereas, Sergeant Roush met the girl of his dreams, Becky Jo Barnett, and was looking forward to spending the rest of his life with her; and
Whereas, Sergeant Roush was very fond of children and spent a great deal of time with his nieces and nephews but his life was cut short when he died in Korea on August 14, 1954, and he never got a chance to be a father to his own son, Rodney, who was eight months old when Sergeant Roush died; and
Whereas, While Sergeant Roush’s family was devastated by him dying so far away from home, his wife Becky Jo Roush raised their son to be a wonderful man who visits her every day in Broadmoor Senior Living in Hurricane; and
Whereas, It is fitting and proper, to honor the life of Sergeant Arthur George Roush for his dedicated service to his community, state and country and gave the ultimate sacrifice by naming this bridge in his memory; therefore, be it
Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:
That the Legislature hereby requests the Division of Highways to name bridge number 18A004, (38.88137, -81.86401), locally known as Millwood Bridge, carrying West Virginia Route 2 over Little Mill Creek in Jackson County, as the “U. S. Army SGT Arthur George Roush Memorial Bridge.”
Honoring All Who Served

Join us this Veterans Day as we honor the men and women of the U.S. Military. Their courage, hard work and sacrifice are the backbone of our nation, protecting freedom, liberty, justice and all we hold dear. Thank you, veterans.

www.fbsc.com

Stop Hunger @ Home

Home National Bank and Meigs Cooperative Parish want to help Stop Hunger @ Home. You can help by donating a non-perishable food item or making a monetary donation. Together we can Stop Hunger @ Home.

Thank you veterans!

Land of the free and home of the brave because of you.

Thank you veterans!

FREE Lung Cancer Screening for qualifying veterans

Are you eligible?

You must be 55-77 years old

You must have smoked at least...

- 1 pack per day for 30 years
- 2 packs per day for 15 years
- 3 packs per day for 10 years

Even if you quit smoking, you may still qualify. You must have quit in the last 15 years.

For more information, please call 304.674.2409.