



WHEN YOU NEED US MOST

Our Veterans deserve the very best care – and VA is committed to delivering excellence in every aspect of patient care. At VA Butler, we uphold our mission to all Veterans and that means meeting the needs of women Veterans, like Air Force Veteran Charlotte Varner.

Charlotte enlisted in the U.S. Air Force shortly after graduating high school, and worked for

the head of pilot training. After the Air Force, she had quite the career – working for Exxon, a local radio station, and Westinghouse. She also used VA education benefits to earn her Associate’s degree in Business Management.

Charlotte’s current job working full-time for a private school does not provide her with any health benefits though. She bought health care for the longest time, but the costs were overwhelming. Today, both Charlotte and her husband David (also an Air Force Veteran) come to VA Butler Healthcare.

“With my job not providing health benefits, I’m so grateful to have the VA,” Charlotte said. Charlotte comes to VA Butler annually for a physical and all of her gender-specific screenings. “It’s a great service that is so convenient, and with excellent

doctors – I love my doctor, she is so wonderful and personable.”

Women Veterans comprise one of the fastest growing subpopulations of Veterans, and are eligible for a full range of VA benefits and health programs. We provide comprehensive health care services specific to women Veterans’ needs – including gynecology, maternity care, mammography, and bone density testing and treatment. We also coordinate support services for women Veterans such as parenting, caregiver issues, and mental health care. For more information, contact the Women Veterans Program Manager at 724.285.2756.

You served, now let us serve you. Even if you think you don’t need it, don’t want it, or are not eligible, let us make that determination. Get registered today! Call us: 724.477.5011. ★

“With my job not providing health benefits, I’m so grateful to have the VA.”
Air Force Veteran Charlotte Varner

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY...MARCH

- 1 Rebecca Lee (Crumpler) becomes the first black woman to receive an American medical degree, from the New England Female Medical College (1864)
- 3 “The Star-Spangled Banner” officially becomes the U.S. national anthem (1931)
- 19 The first air combat mission in U.S. history is initiated as eight American planes take off for Mexico in search of Pancho Villa (1916)
- 26 Dr. Jonas Salk invents a vaccine to fight polio (1953)
- 26 Groundbreaking ceremonies take place in Washington, D.C. for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (1982)
- 29 Meat, butter and cheese rationing begins during WWII (1943)



March is Social Work Month

It’s a great time to highlight the essential role social workers play every day at VA Butler Healthcare. VA’s social workers lead change and advocate on behalf of Veterans and their loved ones.

www.socialwork.va.gov



WE'RE ON TV!

Have you seen VA Butler's new cable show *Veteran Connection* yet? If not, you're missing out! We've partnered with Armstrong Cable to bring you a local cable television show featuring Veteran guests and VA employees talking about the information and hot topics important to our Veterans today.

You can even ask us questions that will be aired and addressed on television. Send an email to vetconnect@zoominternet.net and our Director will read your message and answer questions on an upcoming episode. Check your local cable listings for the next episode! ★

PHARMACY COPAYS - WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Veterans with specific service-connected conditions documented in their VA patient record do **not** pay prescription copays for medications that treat those specific conditions. However, conditions that can be considered secondary to the service-connected condition, but not listed as service-connected by the Veteran Benefits Administration, are billed with copays. Veterans rated in priority group 1 or who fall below the pharmacy financial threshold **never** pay prescription copays.

If you have questions about which prescriptions qualify for no copays, talk to your Primary Care Provider or VA pharmacist. If you feel you have been billed copays incorrectly, contact the Copay Office, 800.362.8262, ext. 2567. ★

We want to hear from you!
Email amanda.wilczynski@va.gov
or lauren.heiger@va.gov to share your story with us!

COMMIT TO BE SCREENED

beat colon cancer before it beats you

Among cancers that affect both men and women, colorectal cancer – cancer of the colon or rectum – is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States. Colorectal cancer also is one of the most commonly diagnosed cancers in the U.S.

The risk of developing colorectal cancer increases with advancing age. More than 90% of cases occur in people aged 50 or older. The most effective way to reduce your risk is by having regular colorectal cancer screening tests beginning at age 50. Colorectal cancer screening saves lives. If everyone aged 50 years old or older were screened regularly, as many as 60% of deaths from this cancer could be avoided. Talk to your VA doctor about getting screened today! ★

NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH

March is National Nutrition Month®, a great time to focus on making healthier decisions in your life. VA Butler Healthcare's registered dietitians are available to help you focus on healthy lifestyle changes like maintaining a balance between what you eat and drink and staying active. They also provide one-on-one nutrition counseling for Veterans referred by their Primary Care Provider.



"This is so romantic, Darling. Just you and me and your dietitian."

www.move.va.gov

EVENTS

- 1 **March Podcast • Mental Health Access**
Thursday, Mar. 1 • 12-12:30 pm
Chat link: talkshoe.com/tc/85029
or Call in: 724.444.7444 (Call ID: 85029)
- 20 **Veterans Interviewing and Employment Workshop**
Tuesday, Mar. 20 • 2-4 pm
PA CareerLink Lawrence County
102 Margaret Street
New Castle, PA 16101
724.656.3165, ext. 206



325 new castle road · butler pa 16001



800.362.8262
724.287.4781



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