

CONGRATS GRAD!

U.S. Army Veteran Kathleen Cashaw will celebrate her 62nd birthday this summer. She also is celebrating this summer for another reason - earning her college degree!

With the support from the Butler VA's Vocational Rehabilitation Program, Kathleen has achieved her goal of completing her Associates of Arts Degree as a Medical Assistant at Butler Community College (BC3).

"The Vocational Rehabilitation staff at the Butler VA always gave me encouragement," said Kathleen. "I had doubts about completing the degree, but the Voc Rehab staff always directed me to the positive of completing the program rather than the negative thoughts that I was having (like being too old!)."

Vocational Rehabilitation at the Butler VA assists Veterans to prepare for, find, and maintain suitable jobs. Employment services such as job training, employment-seeking skills, resume development, and other work-



readiness assistance is available for Veterans to achieve their employment goals.

"I cannot thank the staff in Vocational Rehabilitation enough. They were instrumental in my success and I have been given confidence to continue my education—Bachelor of Science, my ultimate 'Bucket List!'"

Kathleen encourages other Veterans to reach out to Vocational Rehabilitation for support and assistance. Her other advice: "You are never too old to pursue your dreams. If you really want to succeed you will. It takes hard work,

but never succumb to the negative, look for the positive."

Congrats Kathleen, and congrats to all our student Veterans in the class of 2020!

To learn more about Vocational Rehabilitation at the Butler VA, talk to your health care team, or call the Butler VA Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist at 800-362-8262 Ext. 6164.

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY...JUNE

- 1** Henry J. Heimlich publishes his informal findings for a better way to rescue a choking victim in an essay titled "Pop Goes the Café Coronary" in an issue of *Emergency Medicine*. The method announced in this paper is now universally known as "the Heimlich Maneuver" (1974)
- 14** The U.S. Army is established (1775)
- 14** John Adams introduces a resolution before Congress mandating a United States flag, stating, "...that the flag of the thirteen United States shall be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white on a blue field, representing a new constellation" (1777)
- 22** President Roosevelt signs the Readjustment Act of 1944, more popularly known as the GI Bill, providing Veterans of the Second World War funds for college education, unemployment insurance, and housing (1945)
- 25** The Korean War begins (1950)



CODE OF INTEGRITY

VA recently published its Code of Integrity, which sets the ethical standards and obligations of every employee in VA's Veterans Health Administration. Centered upon VA's ICARE values of Integrity, Commitment, Advocacy, Respect and Excellence, the Code of Integrity, makes VA among the first handful of federal departments or agencies to implement such an action.

More Information: [www.va.gov/HEALTHCARE EXCELLENCE/code](http://www.va.gov/HEALTHCARE_EXCELLENCE/code).



VA Coronavirus Chatbot

VA developed an interactive VA coronavirus chatbot to provide precise and timely information throughout this time. This new tool directs Veterans to information and services without requiring a phone call. It includes access to a coronavirus symptom self-checker tool, aligned with the latest CDC advice. The tool provides answers to Veteran-focused frequently asked questions, and information about how Veterans can access VA health care and other benefits and services. <https://www.va.gov/coronavirus-chatbot/>

VA COVID-19 TOOLS

COVID Coach App

The COVID Coach app was created for everyone, including Veterans and Servicemembers, to support self-care and overall mental health during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Note: This app is available on the App Store for iPhone and iPad and at Google Play for Android devices. <https://mobile.va.gov/app/covid-coach>

COVID-19 Guide for Veterans

This guide helps Veterans learn how to use VA health care benefits during COVID-19 and has links and resources Veterans can reference to protect themselves and others. <https://www.va.gov/covid-19-links-and-resources.pdf>

SAFE CARE

The Butler VA is here to ensure we meet your needs in a safe environment. We continue to make your safety a priority. Following are a few points to keep in mind as we prepare to see you again in-person.

- All persons entering the facility are to be masked.
- Maintain physical distancing (see signage).
- The facility was re-organized to provide optimal physical distancing.
- Screening of individuals into the facility will continue.
- Testing is available to staff and Veterans upon request.
- Veterans are limited to one guest.
- No person under the age of 18 is permitted.
- Please speak up to address any issues or ideas for improvement.

MOVING FORWARD

VA is moving forward with a phased approach for expanding select services that were put on hold due to the coronavirus. The safety of all of our patients and employees continues to be our top priority. We are working on a plan to expand services; our plan will consider guidance from federal, state and local governments.

Our goal is to begin offering limited face-to-face visits for behavioral health, primary care, specialty clinics, rehab and prosthetics, lab, radiology, pharmacy and community-based outpatient clinics starting June 15.

More information will be available as we get closer to the expansion date. You can stay informed by looking at our website www.butler.va.gov or Facebook page (www.facebook.com/VAButlerPA).

Moving forward together, we will continue to provide exceptional care to our Veterans. Safe care is our mission and our continuing commitment to you.

SALUTE YOU

Thank you for your service
WILLIAM GEORGE HARTLE
U.S. Army Veteran



1966 to 1970
Ground Electronics
Engineering Installation
Agency (GEEIA)

Electronic
Communications &
Cryptographer
Equipment Systems
Repairman



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Butler VA Health Care System



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www.butler.va.gov/news/MediaCenter.asp

Let us "Salute You!" Contact the Butler VA Public Affairs Office for more information.

