

The Wall That Heals | *In Memory* Program
Application Deadline August 28th

**WAS YOUR VIETNAM VETERAN'S LIFE
CUT SHORT AFTER THEY RETURNED HOME?**

HONOR THEIR SACRIFICE THROUGH THE
IN MEMORY PROGRAM



Since the Vietnam War ended, thousands of Vietnam veterans have suffered each year due to Agent Orange exposure, PTSD/ suicide, cancer and other causes related to their service. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund's *In Memory* program honors those who returned home from Vietnam and later died.

**The Wall That Heals will be on display in
New York City, NY from September 28th -
October 1st.**

Apply to honor your veteran, through In Memory, by August 28th and their photo will be included as part of the mobile Education Center display when The Wall That Heals is on display in New York City.

To apply online , visit www.VVMF.org/In-Memory-Program



The **VVMF's *IN MEMORY*** program invites families and communities to remember those Vietnam Veterans whose lives were cut short by their service.

Honorees submitted before August 28, 2023, will be remembered on a special video display at The Wall That Heals during its visit to New York City from Sept 27 - Oct 1.

These veterans will also be included in a ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. on June 15, 2024, and will be celebrated in a number of other ways by the VVMF. You can sign up or learn more at vvmf.org/InMemory

Thank you in advance for your help in honoring our Vietnam Veterans!

[Submit Your Loved Ones to the In Memory Project Here](#)

[Read More About The Wall That Heals](#)

[Volunteer to Help with The Wall That Heals](#)

**Tony Bennett's World War II Experience
Was a 'Front-Row Seat in Hell'**



21 Jul 2023

Military.com | By [Blake Stilwell](#)

Singer Tony Bennett's stint in the U.S. [Army](#) during World War II led him to legendary entertainer Bob Hope, which inspired him to pursue a career spanning more than seven decades. Only after he announced he was suffering from Alzheimer's disease in 2021 did the crooner retire from performing live shows.

He continued to rehearse his repertoire, however, and broke the Guinness World Record for the oldest person to release an album of new material, at age 95. It was just one more honor earned by a man who spent a lifetime receiving awards and accolades for his work. Bennett died on July 21, 2023, two weeks shy of his 97th birthday.

His experience in World War II not only shaped the rest of his life, it put infantry rifleman Anthony Dominick Benedetto in the spotlight as a member of Special Services, singing for the Allied troops in the trenches, sometimes literally.

"The main thing I got out of my military experience was the realization that I am completely opposed to war," Bennett wrote in his 1998 autobiography, "The Good Life." "Although I understand why this war was fought, it was a terrifying, demoralizing experience for me... life can never be the same once you've been through combat."

From the age of 15, young Tony watched as his friends and relatives were drafted into service. Bennett turned 18 in the summer of 1944, and that November, he received a draft notice of his own. He was sent to the Army, completed basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and became an infantry rifleman at Fort Robinson, Arkansas. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

**PACT Act & Women Veterans Empowerment
Virtual Event**



WOMEN VETERANS
IMPORTANT INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW.

The new PACT Act offers toxic exposure screenings for all Veterans, who were exposed to burn pits and other toxins.

A variety of reproductive health concerns are now considered presumptive conditions including ovarian, uterine, cervical and breast cancers.

GET YOUR TOXIC EXPOSURE SCREENING

1-800-MyVA411 (800-698-2411)
 Find out more at <https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/>

VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 12:00 P.M. ET PACT ACT EVENT VIRTUAL EXCHANGE & WOMEN VETERANS EMPOWERMENT

Miss the event on July 18th? We have you covered, join us on the 28th for the same great information.

Signed into law on August 10, 2022, the PACT Act is the largest expansion of Veteran health care and benefits in generations. It will benefit millions of Veterans of the Vietnam War, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras who were exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxins while serving our country — and their survivors.

The Center for Women Veterans and the Veterans Benefits Administration will provide an update on PACT Act Benefits and services geared toward women Veterans during this virtual event.

Learn how to [apply](#) for PACT Act-related benefits or submit an [intent to file](#), enroll in VA health care, where to get screened for toxic exposures, and more.



Subject Matter Experts from the Veterans Benefits Administration will discuss all aspects of the PACT ACT, Women Veterans and Survivors

Presumptive conditions include ovarian, uterine, cervical, and breast cancers.

Center for Women Veterans
 810 Vermont Ave, NW,
 Washington, DC 20420
www.va.gov/womenVets






DEADLINE

Apply by Aug 9, 2023, to receive benefits paid back to August 10, 2022

Registration is Required

Click to Register

 **Friday, July 28, 2023**
 **12:00 PM - 1:00 PM**
 **Webex (Virtual)**

Learn how to [apply](#) for PACT Act-related benefits or submit an [intent to file](#), enroll in VA health care, where to get screened for toxic exposures, and more.

[Click to Register](#)

VETERAN NEWS

The Afghan Adjustment Act of 2023: Everything You Need to Know



IMMIGRATION IMPACT

Posted by [Dara Lind](#) | Jul 18, 2023 | [Benefits & Relief](#)

Bipartisan groups of lawmakers in both the House of Representatives and the Senate reintroduced the [Afghan Adjustment Act](#) (AAA) last week. The bill, similar to a version introduced in the last Congress, would fix a problem that will only get more urgent: tens of thousands of Afghans who were evacuated or fled to the United States (or were stranded here) when the U.S. military withdrew from Afghanistan and the Taliban retook control in 2021 have no viable way to apply for permanent legal status in the U.S., leaving them in limbo.

The Biden administration is already conducting a second round of two-year grants of “[humanitarian parole](#)” for Afghan evacuees. But while humanitarian parole allows someone to temporarily live and work legally in the United States, it doesn’t let them apply for a green card or any permanent status. Furthermore, like any discretionary immigration program, parole is subject to continued executive approval and could be eliminated by a future president – or struck down in court.

Right now, Afghan evacuees are faced with a patchwork of immigration options. Over 17,000 Afghans have filed asylum applications. While [hardly any of those applications have been denied](#), it’s not a guarantee for every evacuee. Fleeing a war isn’t enough to qualify for asylum in the United States. And evacuees who haven’t already filed an asylum application could be ineligible due to the one-year deadline for filing an asylum application, though U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has indicated it [will accept late asylum applications from certain parolees](#). [\[READ MORE\]](#)

More Veteran-related Headlines

VA | News: [Veterans can now file supplemental claims online](#)

Gothamist: [Free ride: MTA to nix fares on 5 NYC bus routes by late September](#)

Military Times: [VA lays groundwork for first major survey of moral injury in veterans](#)

Military.com: [Vets in Formerly Redlined Neighborhoods at Higher Risk for Heart Disease, Other Chronic Conditions, Study Finds](#)

QNS: [Holden introduces bills to combat illicit drug use, recognize Korean War veterans](#)



We are looking to highlight Veterans in the arts community! Whether it's an upcoming free exhibition, performance, or piece/installation you've created, we want to showcase your work and help spread the word. Submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis and promoted at our discretion. We want this to be a space for Veteran artists to express themselves in an authentic way.

Please email submissions to connect@veterans.nyc.gov with a brief bio, an artist statement, art medium, and your affiliation to the Veteran community.

**Salmagundi Club | Coast Guard Art Program
2023 Collection | June 26 - July 28, 2023**



Debris cleanup in Hawaii - Debra Keirce

Salmagundi Club Inc | Coast Guard Art Program : inaugural exhibition | Retrieved from [Coast Guard Art Program \(COGAP\)](#)

This year marks the 42nd Anniversary of the **Coast Guard Art Program (COGAP)**. Today, the collection holds over 2,000 works that capture the myriad of missions the active-duty men and women of the Coast Guard perform daily. Paintings and drawings bring to life the work performed by the Coast Guard and vividly demonstrate the Service's contributions to the country.

The 2023 collection is comprised of 38 works of art created by 25 artists. All works are generously donated by COGAP members, most of whom are professional artists. Additional works from other collection years underscore the Service's many contributions to the nation and display many works by New York metro area artists. Also on view are works by recently deceased COGAP artists Lewis Jackson and Dino Sistilli. These are in tribute to the lives and work of these esteemed Coast Guard Art Program artists.

Since its inception in 1981, **the Salmagundi Club** has been the sponsor of the Coast Guard Art Program. In recognition of its many contributions in this capacity it was awarded the **Coast Guard's Distinguished Public Service Award**, the highest public award given.

The Coast Guard Art Program uses fine art as an outreach tool for educating diverse audiences about the Coast Guard. Today, more than ever, the Service addresses an abundance of challenges as it works to maintain the nation's security at home and abroad and executes its statutory missions. COGAP art provides visual testimony to the unique contribution the Service makes to the nation in its multifaceted roles as a military, humanitarian and law enforcement organization. Art from the program is exhibited at museums around the country. It is displayed in the offices of members of Congress, cabinet secretaries, senior government officials and other military services and Coast Guard locations nationwide. It has also been displayed by the State Department overseas in its Art in Embassies program.

[Read more about this year's COGAP collection here!](#)

A Message From Mayor Adams:

Each week DVS will share a short update about how our administration is getting stuff done for New Yorkers.



The Adams administration is dedicated to cutting through the noise and delivering information directly to you and all New Yorkers.

Sign up to "Hear From Eric" and get direct messages from City Hall, tailored to your interests and neighborhood, sent directly to your inbox – at [nyc.gov/hearfromeric!](https://nyc.gov/hearfromeric)

Join Our Team! Be Part of the Mission!



Current DVS Job Openings

Being part of our team is a great way to continue to serve.

[Visit NYC.gov/jobs](https://www.nyc.gov/jobs) and select "Veterans' Services" from the agency menu to learn more about and apply to the job below.

Client Services Manager - DVS seeks a highly qualified candidate to join Community Services as a Manager. The Manager will be responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of a team responsible for performing intakes and sending referrals within the VetConnectNYC system, a multi-provider network of participating organizations, government agencies, and other partners that provide direct services to Veterans. The Manager will also be a subject matter expert in claiming VA benefits through accreditation by New York State Department of Veterans Services.

VA Work Study Positions at DVS

The NYC Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) supports VA Work-Study Positions! Here is a current list of available VA Work-Study openings:

- [Administrative Intern](#)
- [Benefit Intern](#)
- [Care Coordination Intern](#)
- [Data Analyst Intern](#)
- [Information Technology Intern](#)
- [IT Support Intern](#)

- [Legal Intern](#)
- [Outreach Coordinator Intern](#)
- [Veteran Business Promotion Intern](#)

If you are interested in applying for a DVS-specific Work-Study position and meet eligibility requirements, please submit the following to VAWorkStudy@veterans.nyc.gov:

- Resume
- Job Specific Cover Letter
- Supporting Documents found in the Job Description

[Check Here for VA Work-Study Postings](#)

NYC Civil Service Job Openings and Exams



Open Competitive Exams

Housing Assistant - Housing Assistants, under general supervision, with some latitude for independent action or decision, perform work of ordinary difficulty and responsibility in the administration and management of the NYC Housing Authority's public housing and leased housing program. All Housing Assistants perform related work.

Call Center Representative - Call Center Representatives, under supervision, in the Office of Information Technology and Innovation (OTI) New York City 24-hour 3-1-1 Call Center, provide a single point of contact for all non-emergency City services utilizing state-of-the-art telephone and interactive computer systems, respond to phone inquiries from the public, provide customer service and information to callers, take complaints and service requests and forward them for further action; enter inquiries, complaints and requests into appropriate computer systems, and perform related clerical and computer support work.

Youth Development Specialist - Youth Development Specialists under supervision, and with limited latitude for the exercise of independent judgment and initiative, work as part of an interdisciplinary team to provide secure, safe care, and skill-based therapeutic interventions for pre-adjudicated and post-adjudicated youth in juvenile detention facilities and other ACS operated or managed juvenile justice facilities and programs. To read more, visit the full job description [here!](#)

To receive monthly updates on upcoming civil service exams click the button below to be directed to the [Subscribe to the DCAS Newsletter](#) page. On the registration form, select "City Jobs and Civil Service Announcements".

[Subscribe to the DCAS Newsletter Here](#)

Programs and Initiatives

Affordable Housing For Veterans



The [NYC Department of Veterans' Services \(DVS\)](#) maintains a list of federal, state, and city programs that offers a limited, but selective list of affordable housing options for veterans seeking financial relief for their housing arrangements. Visit our [Affordable Housing for Veterans](#) page to learn more.

Empowering Veteran Business Owners



The primary mission of the [VBLA](#) is to serve Veterans seeking support and assistance with running a business and in their pursuit of New York City Government contracting opportunities. Our leadership association engages with the private sector, government, advisory board, and local partners to build a consortium that facilitates the growth and development of Veteran Businesses.

VetBizNYC: Supporting Veteran Entrepreneurship

DVS has launched [VetBizNYC](#), an interactive map that identifies Veteran-owned businesses across the five boroughs. New Yorkers can use our interactive map to find and support Veteran-owned businesses in their community.



Are You Getting the Benefits You Deserve?

The [NYC Department of Veterans' Services \(DVS\)](#) represents NYC Veterans in claims for benefits from the [U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs](#). Our team is also qualified to assist with PACT Act related claims. If you had a toxic exposure during your service, time is crucial for you to get the benefits you deserve. To file a claim, fill out the [VetConnectNYC.org](#) form and select **Benefits Navigation** as your preferred service.



VetConnectPro: A First-in-the-Nation Employment Tool



[VetConnectPro](#), is a new employment tool designed to help Veterans find employment within NYC government. The platform features a military skills translator that can match your service experience and Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) to City jobs and civil service exams. Upload your resume and get started today: nyc.gov/vetconnectpro.

Newsletter Sign-up

If you received this newsletter by way of a friend or colleague and have yet to sign-up on your own, click [here](#), and stay up-to-date with the latest news impacting the community, updates on city services, info on DVS programs, Veteran-specific resources & more.

Contact Us

- Complete a service request form at vetconnectnyc.org
- [Message the Commissioner](#)
- [Partner with DVS](#)
- [Press Inquiries](#)
- [Event Request Form](#)

Stay tuned on our website www.nyc.gov/vets and social media platforms [@nycveterans](https://twitter.com/nycveterans), or via email at connect@veterans.nyc.gov.