



New logo honoring PVA's 75th Anniversary

This year PVA is proud to celebrate their 75th Diamond Anniversary.

As you well know the organization was founded in 1946 by a group of veterans being treated at the Bronx Veterans Hospital in New York as a way of reaching out to other veterans with spinal cord injuries. They were seeking to reach out to not only the veterans but health professional's as well in order to try to make their quality of life the best it could be.

We have come a long way and look forward to what the future will bring to our organization.

Kick-Off to the 75th year festivities will take place at the National Convention which will be held at the Golden Nugget Casino here in Las Vegas, May 17-23. We are extremely excited to be hosting this event, doubly so because it is the 75th anniversary.

Paralyzed Veterans of America, Nevada Chapter

www.nevadapva.org

704 S. Jones Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89107
702/646-0040 fax: 702/646-3712 866/638-3837

Nevada PVA Officers

Dan Kaminski, President
Mike Romanowski, Vice President
Dominic Cirino, Treasurer
Lawrence Brown, Secretary

Sports Director

Mike Romanowski
L.E. Curtis, Bowling Director

Legislative/Advocacy Directors

Roger Dauffenbach
Lawrence Brown

Board of Directors

Roger Dauffenbach
Tom Hudson
William Burns
Marc Fenn
L.E. Curtis

National Director

Dan Kaminski

Hospital Liaison

Dan Kaminski

NSO

Jason McDonald
Paralyzed Veterans of America
5460 Reno Corporate Drive
Reno, NV 89511
775/321-4789
775/321-4856—fax
jasonm@pva.org

Executive Director

Julie Johnson

Office Manager

Ann Perelman

Mission Statement

The mission of Nevada PVA is to improve the quality of life of U.S. military veterans and others who have spinal cord dysfunction through the use of adaptive sports, recreation, wellness programs, outreach, education, research and support.

Disclaimer

The Nevada Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America is a non-profit organization. We do not ask for or receive any money from any federal or state agencies. All of our funds are received mainly from donations. All members of the Paralyzed Veterans of America have sustained a spinal cord injury or disease. This newsletter is a publication of the Nevada chapter and is meant to inform its readers of Chapter activities, legislation, and other matters of concern to veterans and/or members of the disabled community. The opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of Nevada PVA, its officers, board members, the editor or production staff.



President/Executive Director Report *by Dan Kaminski and Julie Johnson*



The beginning of March, we virtually attended the Advocacy and Legislation Seminar and met with our representatives in Congress and the Senate regarding PVA's policy priorities. Please see pages 6-9 of this newsletter for some of those priorities.

Vaccines are now available for all veterans who are enrolled in the VA system.

The PVA annual convention will be held this year in Las Vegas at the Golden Nugget, May 17-22. We are looking forward to seeing everyone face to face.

Join us for our annual Walk, Run and Roll. This year we are going virtual so you can do your 1 mile fun walk, 5K run or 15K bike ride from anywhere you are comfortable doing it. We would love for all or you to post your race day pictures. Just go to our website www.nevadapva.org and sign up.



JOIN US FOR OUR VIRTUAL WALK, RUN & ROLL 5K



April 17, 2021

**\$30 Entry Fee includes
t-shirt and medal.**

Sponsors:

JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.



Go to nevadapva.org to register.

National Service Officer Report

by Jason McDonald

House Resolution 7105 (PL 116-315) and House Resolution 6395 (PL 116-283)

On January 5, 2021 the 116th Congress passed House Resolution 7105 and it became Public Law No: 116-315. This law introduces many changes for Veterans and I would like to take the time to make you all aware of some of them. For more information you can read the official document at <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7105>.

Increases the timeframe of the Vietnam War Era of military service, stating that the Vietnam Era began on November 1, 1955, instead of February 28, 1961.

It sets new limits on when VA's Debt Management Center may initiate debt collection against Veterans.

Lowers the age to 55 at which a re-married surviving spouse of a Veteran may still receive Dependency Indemnity Compensation (DIC).

Requires the Veterans Benefits Administration to establish specialized teams for processing Military Sexual Trauma claims.

Allows Veteran's filing a claim for physical or mental health conditions resulting from sexual trauma to choose the gender of their Compensation and Pension provider.

Allows National Guard and Reserve service under Title 32 order to count for VA Home Loan eligibility.

Requires the VA to update eBenefits website to allow Veterans to update dependent information.

Mandates that every VA facility have at least one women's health primary care provider.

Creates a permanent Office of Women's Health within the Veterans Health Administration tasked with providing oversight over all Women's Health Programs within the VA.

Restores GI Bill entitlement to eligible student Veterans whose school closed in the middle of the semester without the ability to transfer credits to another school.

Allows the VA to continue paying educational assistance benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic if the VA determines a student was adversely impacted by the pandemic.

In addition, on January 1, 2021 the 116th Congress passed House Resolution 6395 and it became Public Law No 116-283. This law introduces three more conditions to the Agent Orange presumptive-conditions list wherein Veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange may qualify for benefits:

Bladder cancer,

Hypothyroidism, and

Parkinsonism, or Parkinson-like symptoms.

Veterans and survivors are encouraged to submit claims and contact their local National Service Officer for assistance. For more information you can read the official document at <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/6395>.

Legislative News

A Framework for Integrating Family Caregivers into the Health Care Team

RAND Corporation published a study in mid-January examining the role of family caregivers in a health care team and making recommendations for effective involvement of caregivers in supporting loved ones with disabilities or chronic health conditions. Four themes around barriers to integrating caregivers into health care teams emerged from the study report including: (1) identifying caregivers; (2) communication and information-sharing; (3) time limitations and competing demands; and (4) trust and cultural barriers. The authors also identified six policy areas in which initiatives could mitigate these barriers: (1) identify and record information on family caregivers; (2) incentivize providers to engage with family caregivers; (3) invest in programs that provide supportive services for family caregivers; (4) expand access to and funding for care coordinators to support caregivers and connect them to clinical information; (5) implement training programs for providers and caregivers to facilitate effective communication; and (6) develop, test, and improve caregiver access to technologies that foster caregiver-provider care integration and information-sharing.



March

William Burns	13
Marc Fenn	28
Jose Gonzalez	19
Darrin Newland	20
R C Christensen	31
Robert (Wes) Jensen	05
Art Lyles	17
Laverne Wood	27
Josephine Owens	19
Douglas Nagoshi	22
Michael Romanowski	17
Ramon Collins	17
Alan Marsh	24
Ben Keechler	04
Jerry Bench	13

April

Helen Wicker	25
Gary Price	01
Lawrence Brown	09
Larry Feezor	06
Jason Mullholland	11
Kenneth Shockley	19
Carma Richens	01
Roger Dauffenbach	14
Kyla Pike	04
Jeanette Miller	24
Edwin Collins	12
Robert Jones	17
Barbara Johnson	12
William Geller	27
Brad Whiting	13
Timothy Andring	11
Randal Slutz	03

Follow us on:

FB: www.facebook.com/ParalyzedVeteransofAmericaNevadaChapter

Twitter: [Twitter.com/PVANevada](https://twitter.com/PVANevada)

Instagram: [Instagram.com/pvanevada](https://www.instagram.com/pvanevada)

Veterans Transportation Service (VTS)

Veterans can schedule transportation through their VA primary Care Provider or by calling the VTS office at 1/844-859-5074. Please schedule transportation ahead of your appointment time.

**NATIONAL CRISIS HOTLINE 1/800-273-8255
VETERANS PRESS 1**

2021 POLICY PRIORITIES

Improve & Protect Systems & Civil Rights that Support People with Disabilities

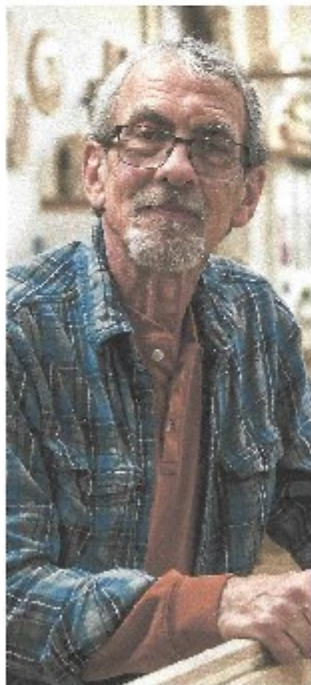


A Strengthen Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA)

Congress must improve access for people with disabilities to air travel by requiring airlines to use airplanes that meet broad accessibility standards, strengthening the Department of Transportation's enforcement of the ACAA, and establishing a private right of action under the law.

B Promote Increased Compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Congress must support increased compliance with the ADA by increasing tax incentives that help businesses remove access barriers. We also support the increased funding for the Department of Justice's (DOJ) ADA mediation program, as well as the increased DOJ enforcement of complaints that are filed.



C Preserve & Strengthen Social Security

Congress must strengthen and enhance the Social Security system without harming beneficiaries by implementing a more realistic cost-of-living-adjustment reflective of typical expenses; reducing the tax burden on beneficiaries; making long overdue adjustments in the financing mechanisms for the system; eliminating the five-month waiting period for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI); and removing barriers to work for SSDI beneficiaries.

D Prioritize Employment Opportunities for People with Disabilities

Congress must protect and strengthen disability employment rights; increase tax incentives for employers to hire and retain persons with disabilities; enhance entrepreneurship opportunities for people with disabilities; and improve federal hiring and promotions under Schedule A, veterans preference, and other authorities targeting those with significant disabilities.

Improve the VA Health Care System & Available Services

A Protect Access to VA's Specialized Services

Congress must preserve access to VA's specialized services, including the spinal cord injury/disorder (SCI/D) system of care, and provide appropriate funding to ensure continued success. Congress must also ensure proper staffing of VA's specialized services by providing competitive compensation and retention incentives to keep up with the private sector.

B Expand Access to VA's Long-Term Services & Supports

Congress must conduct oversight of VA's implementation of the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers to ensure consistent eligibility determinations and a fair appeals process. Also, expedite Phase II of the caregiver program expansion to October 1. Furthermore, Congress must maintain a safe margin of community living center capacity by increasing funding for SCI/D-related construction projects.

C Increase Access to IVF

Congress must repeal VA's ban on IVF and make these services a regular part of the medical benefits package available to veterans and authorize VA to provide assisted reproductive technology, including IVF, surrogacy, and gamete donation at VA for any veterans enrolled in VA health care.

D Enhance Care for Women Veterans with SCI/D

Congress must ensure VA properly serves women veterans with catastrophic disabilities by considering their unique needs in developing programs and services.



Improve VA Benefits

A Strengthen Benefits for Catastrophically Disabled Veterans

Congress must improve their benefits by:

- Increasing the number of times veterans can access the Automobile Allowance Grant & ensure veterans receive Automotive Adaptive Equipment (AAE) reimbursement;
- Allowing veterans with nonservice-connected catastrophic disabilities to receive the same type of AAE as veterans with service-connected disabilities; and
- Raising the amount of VA's Home Improvements and Structural Alterations grants.

B Enhance Benefits for Spouses of Catastrophically Disabled Veterans

Congress must ensure survivors of veterans who die from ALS receive the full benefits they are due.



VA SCI/D SPOTLIGHT DURING COVID-19

- There are +17,000 veterans with Spinal Cord Injury/ Disorder (SCI/D) in the VA Health Care system.
- VA SCI/D Care Centers require medical staff specialized in SCI/D care -- a main reason why paralyzed veterans and their caregivers choose the VA Health Care system.
- PVA is the **ONLY** veterans service organization that evaluates care throughout the VA Health Care system. In a typical year we visit all SCI/D Centers and collaborate with the VA to make a great health care system better...



31

SCI/D Centers across the U.S. mainland: 6 Long-Term & 25 Acute Care Centers



SCI/D Long-Term Care Centers have chronic wait lists of veterans for admission

198

SCI/D Long-Term Care beds available across the VA Health Care system and most are occupied



Veterans with SCI/D who need long-term care are at higher risk of bed sores & infections at community nursing homes rather than SCI/D Long-Term Care Centers. Isolation & lack of social support has led to increased anxiety & loneliness.



30%

of veterans with SCI/D as of the end of January report having been vaccinated with at least one dose

- At the onset of COVID-19, VA SCI/D Centers made significant changes to their regular operations that temporarily limited inpatient, outpatient, and home care services.
- Veterans with SCI/D, including newly injured veterans, have been able to continue to access safe inpatient care throughout the pandemic.
- Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, VA SCI/D Centers have continued to provide veterans access to their care teams through the expanded use of telehealth.

3.9M

VA Video Telehealth calls were performed throughout VA during 2020: an increase from 294,000 in 2019



SCI/D outpatient clinics opened for urgent cases such as blood draws, catheter changes, & wound care



COVID-19 has increased a backlog of preventative & primary care services which will require an enormous amount of time & large financial support to recover.



WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE RENTAL VANS!

MobilityRental - Another Option

We want to ensure that you can always be connected with who and what matters most. Whether traveling on business or pleasure, mobilityrental can provide you with service to and from 13 of the top 20 airports in the United States. You can rent for a day, a week or even longer.

**10% OFF YOUR
FIRST RENTAL**

**WEEKEND
SPECIALS**

**LONG TERM
RENTAL
DISCOUNTS**

**ASK FOR
JESSYKA**

**DELIVERY
OPTIONS**

**MobilityWorks
2100 S Decatur
Blvd
Las Vegas, NV
89102
702-876-9606**



Help Support Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America

Our organization number is **YY152**



Support _____
every time you shop
at Smith's.

Signing up is free and easy!

1. Go to SmithsFoodandDrug.com/inspire
2. Sign into your digital account or choose "Create an Account" and fill in the information.
3. Link your Rewards Card to your organization: Enter your organization's number _____ or at least 3 letters of your organization's name and click 'Search', select the organization and choose 'Save'.

Then, every time you shop at Smith's with your Rewards Card, they donate 0.5% of your total order to our nonprofit.*

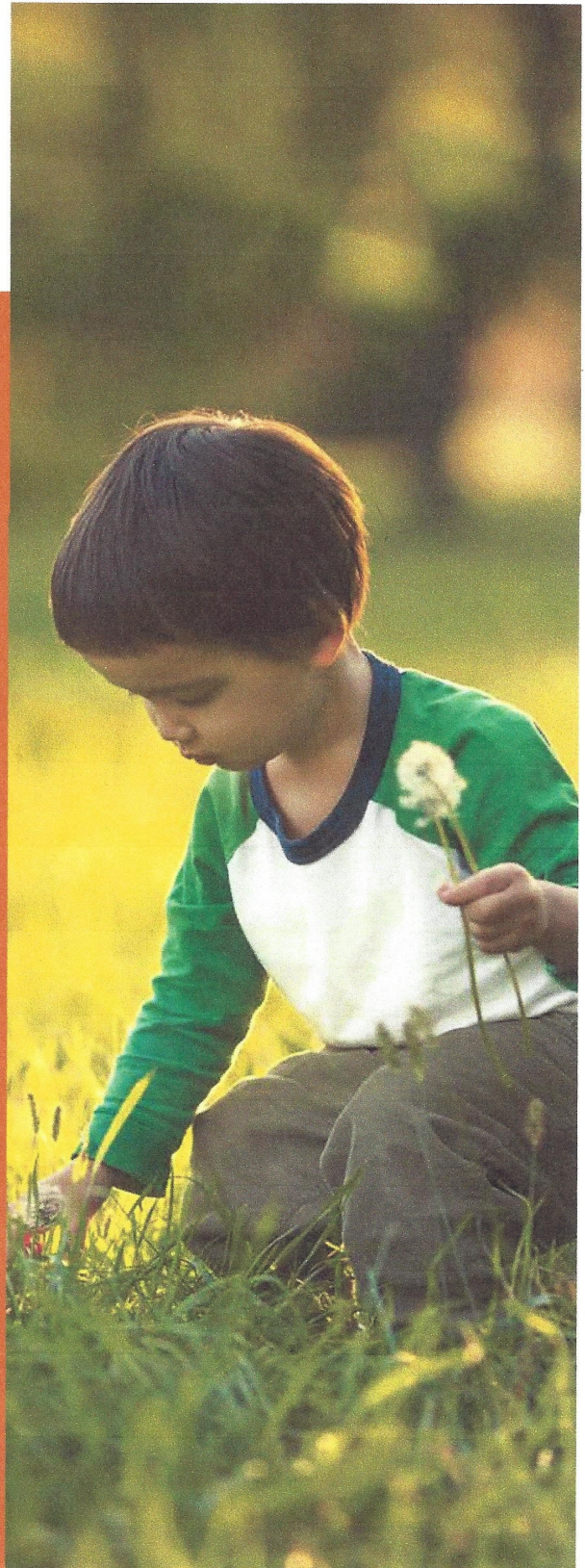
Helpful Information

What purchases qualify?

Just about everything you purchase during your regular shopping trips! The only exclusions are alcohol, tobacco, postage stamps, Smith's Gift Cards, re-loadable Gift Cards and debit cards, lottery and promotional tickets, Western Union, fuel and sales tax.

Remember, there's no cost to participate in this program, and you'll still earn fuel points on eligible purchases every time you shop.

*0.5% based on eligible purchases.
See Helpful Information for exclusions.



Thank You!

Donor Spotlight Elks Lodge #1468

Donor List

Amazon Smile
Bank of America
The Si Redd & Tamara Redd Charitable Foundation
Donors through United Way of Southern Nevada Campaign
Donor's through Truist
Donors through Benevity
Causecast
The Engelstad Family Foundation
Network for Good
NV Energy Foundation
The Patriot Law Firm
Race 2 Erase 22
Society of Industrial and Office Realtors
Karen & Terry Estabrook
Clyde McElrath
Carma Richens
Mr. & Mrs. James Gregory
Beatrice Cordell
Smith's
Total Wine & More

**Help support veterans
Make a donation today!**

Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization.

Tax ID #31-1647467. Your gift is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Donations can be made in any amount. They will accumulate from January 1—December 31. Donors will be printed in our monthly newsletter unless otherwise requested. To make a donation go online to www.nevadapva.org or call 702-646-0040.

Community Partners

MGM Foundation

Elks Lodge #1468

Ability Center

Altenburg Studios

Bank of America

Capability Health & Human Services

Catholic War Veterans

City of Las Vegas Parks and Recreation

Help Genesis Apartments

Mobility Works

Nevada Council on Problem Gaming

Paralympic Sports Club

The Siegel Group

Smith's

Race 2 Erase 22

The NV Energy Foundation

Total Wine & More

United Way of Southern Nevada



Las Vegas VA Medical Center Locations

Mailing Address: VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System, 6900 North Pecos Road, North Las Vegas, NV 89086

Main Number: 702-791-9000 **Toll-Free Phone:** 1-888-633-7554 **VA Pharmacy:** 702-791-9076

Toll-Free Nurse Advice Line: 1-877-252-4866

	Northeast Primary Care Clinic 4461 East Charleston Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89104	702-791-9050
	Northwest Primary Care Clinic 3968 North Rancho Drive North Las Vegas, NV 89130	702-791-9020
	Pahrump Community Based Outpatient Clinic 2100 East Calvada Boulevard Pahrump, NV 89048	775-727-7535
	Southeast Primary Care Clinic 1020 South Boulder Highway Henderson, NV 89015	702-791-9030
	Southwest Primary Care Clinic 7235 South Buffalo Drive Las Vegas, NV 89113	702-791-9040
	Community Resource and Referral Center 926 West Owens Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89106	702-791-9077
	Mike O'Callaghan Federal Medical Center 4700 North Las Vegas Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89115	702-653-2227 EMERGENCY CARE ONLY
	Psychosocial Rehab Recovery Center 3525 W. Cheyenne Avenue North Las Vegas, NV 89032	702-791-9060
	Vet Center - Las Vegas 1919 South Jones Boulevard, Suite A Las Vegas, NV 89146	702-251-7873
	Vet Center - Henderson 400 North Stephanie Street, Suite 180 Henderson, NV 89014	702-791-9100
	Women's Health Center Temporarily at Northeast PCC 4461 East Charleston Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89104	702-791-9050

Getting Paralyzed Veterans Walking Again with Indego®



New VA Program offers eligible veterans an Indego® Exoskeleton at no cost.

What is Indego?

A robotic device that enables veterans to walk again.

Indego is an FDA-approved exoskeleton worn around the waist and legs that enables individuals paralyzed from spinal cord injuries to stand and walk, offering a new level of independence.

Indego can currently be used with spinal cord injury levels of T3 to L5 in community or home settings. The device offers:

- Lightweight, modular design
- Slim profile compatible with most wheelchairs
- Rapid setup and breakdown for easy transportation
- Can be used with forearm crutches or walker

Contact us today to find out if you are eligible to receive an Indego exoskeleton.

Email: support.indego@parker.com

Phone: 844-846-3346



Watch Marine Veteran Steve Holbert's story at www.indego.com/veterans



Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America
704 S. Jones Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89107
-702) 646-0040
Fax: (702) 646-3712
Toll Free: 1-866-638-3837
www.nevadapva.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Las Vegas, NV
Permit #333

Or Current Resident



DONATE YOUR VEHICLE

TO SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORTED US

THE NEVADA PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

HIGHER TAX DEDUCTION

ASK US WHY! (702) 545-8044

Same Day Donation Pick Up! Free Towing!

- We turn your plates into the DMV for you
- We provide IRS & DMV forms as needed
- We take vehicles - running or not • Funds support local Vets
- We help with lost or problem titles • Call for a Free Deduction Estimate
- We Pickup Cars, Trucks, RV's, Motorcycles, Boats, Airplanes & Construction Equipment

Visit us at www.npvaauto.com



Some Restrictions Apply

To advertise in your local Money Mailer call 702-360-1757
333-22-1489-074F_05286

4

Get more money online @ www.moneymailer.com

