



VA Boston Healthcare System OEF/OIF Bulletin

"Your interest and participation is the strength of this bulletin."

September 2009



*****Welcome Home and Thank You for Your Service*****

Recently, I met John Mineli, founder of **Veterans First**. He spoke to me about Veterans First and their development, *Patriots Landing*. "Veterans First is a local community based non-profit organization planning the development of a transitional housing facility which will offer a hand up to local Veterans who have fallen on tough times. The facility will be called Patriots Landing, and will provide up to 40 Veteran-specific transitional beds coupled with support services including educational and workforce development training. The project is made possible by the VA's Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program. Veterans First is working on the development with support from the VA, Caritas Communities, and the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. To follow the progress of Patriots Landing visit www.supportveteransfirst.org."



Everyone knows a Servicemember/Veteran

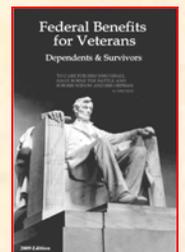


Jorge Pozo

I had the pleasure of being introduced to Jorge Pozo from John Mineli. Jorge Pozo is a 25 year old disabled Afghanistan Combat Veteran. He is a recipient of the Purple Heart, CIB (Combat Infantryman Badge), and Bronze Star with Valor. He will be graduating from Northeastern University in May 2010 with a BS in Biology. After Northeastern, Jorge will attend graduate school at Harvard University for Bio-Technology. Jorge commented that he attributes and acknowledges his success from the hard-work and dedication he has acquired through his life experiences. "Networking is also a great tool that has helped me meet some really great people- who have mentored me and helped me out tremendously."

Strength of the Bulletin: Readers' Submissions/Thoughts... FAQ's

Not too long ago, I received a personal e-mail from a friend who is an Iraq Combat Veteran. My friend was wondering when they go to visit any VA facility's Eligibility Department to "sign-up" for health benefits— is this where they can also pick-up a "Veteran's Benefits Book." I let my friend know that they are correct. When a Veteran is interested in registering (signing up) while at a VA campus or clinic (locations throughout the U.S. and the world are listed in the Benefits Book), Eligibility staff can provide them with a Federal Benefits for Veterans (Dependant and Survivors) Book.



2009 Edition

Photo of the Month:

I welcome what you believe is a great photo. There will be a vote on the best photo from the past year. I look forward to receiving your photo.

Before sending a photo:

Please contact me for photo requirements and specifications.



This Month's Photo:

Features a soldier demonstrating marksmanship techniques to a young visitor during a local community event. The photo was taken by Army Specialist Michael Broughey. Specialist Broughey serves with MA Army National Guard's Public Affairs Unit located in Milford.

Thank you for your photo contributions. I enjoy looking through them. Keep them coming in...and look to see if your photo appears in the next Bulletin!

This monthly bulletin is published courtesy of the Latest Generation Committee. Its purpose is to show support for returning OEF/OIF Veterans among Employees, their Families and Friends. If you would like to submit (info/photos/etc.) or have a question/concern send an e-mail to: Anthony.Falvey@VA.gov

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