WE WILL NOT FORGET

29th Rolling Thunder demonstration roars into D.C. this weekend

Hundreds of thousands of motorcyclists ride for full accountability of POW/MIA from all wars

A Special Report Prepared by The Washington Times Advocacy Department
Rolling Thunder rides into D.C. for the 29th time

By Jennifer Harper

Listen. It’s the collective roar of motorcycles on a mission, their faithful riders on the same route, to the same cause to draw public attention to the needs of military veterans, and the unanswered question surrounding prisoners of war and those still missing in action. Welcome to “Rolling Thunder” — the perfect name for one of those most patriotic events on the planet. These riders do roll, and there will be thunder during the 29th “Ride for Freedom,” set for Sunday in the nation’s capital.

“Never forget all of our prisoners of war and those still missing in action from all wars, and never forget our veterans of all wars. That’s our message, and that’s our mission,” said Artie Muller, who served in the U.S. Army 4th Infantry Division in the jungles of South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos at age 20. Years later, he went on to found the feisty group that took its name from a combat operation.

Operation Rolling Thunder was the U.S. military code name for the long-term bombing of North Vietnamese targets in the mid-1960s.

This year, the ride comes with added star power. Presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump will make an appearance at the event; the candidate is a favorite with the “biker” demographic — and the feeling is mutual. Mr. Trump has praised the riders as both loyal Americans and a never and formidable political force.

And when the time comes for them to ride, the hundreds of thousands of bikers will assemble in the vast parking lot of the Pentagon Sunday morning. It will take five hours to coordinate the procession — rows after rows of motorcycles that range from full-dress, old-school Harleys and all — in the driveway of the White House. The event became somewhat of a ritual over the years; Mr. Bush was finally inducted into Rolling Thunder as an honorary member and accepted a cowhide biker vest.

President Obama has also met with the group’s representatives during his term of office; the encounters were described as “brief but cordial.”

This weekend’s activities get underway Friday with a formal blessing of the bikes at Washington National Cathedral, followed by a candlelight vigil at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. There’s a barbecue supplied by a very supportive local Harley-Davidson dealer on Saturday, followed by a major evening meeting and cheerful banquet — then that very early call to assemble at the Pentagon the next morning. It is a group effort. Instructions to participants specify “no attitude.” Helmets are required.

“We are committed to helping American veterans from all wars,” said Mr. Muller. “Everyone donates his or her time because they believe in the POW/MIA issue.”

Artie Muller, who served in the U.S. Army 4th Infantry Division in the jungles of South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos at age 20, founded Rolling Thunder years later.

Participants in the Rolling Thunder annual motorcycle rally ride across Memorial Bridge near the National Mall during the Memorial Day weekend. The organization’s mission is to bring awareness to the POW/MIA issue and to educate the public of the fact that many American prisoners of war were left behind after all past wars.

Cheryl Wetzstein
SPECIAL SECTIONS MANAGER
Advertising Department:
202-636-3002

Patrick Crofoot
SUPERVISOR, GRAPHICS

Special Sections are multipage tabloid products that run in The Washington Times daily newspaper and are posted online and in PDF form on its website. Sponsors and advertisers collaborate with The Times’ advertising and marketing departments to highlight a variety of issues and events, such as The Power of Prayer, North Korea’s Nuclear Threat, Gun Rights Policy Conference and Rolling Thunder Memorial Day Tribute to Veterans. Unless otherwise identified, Special Sections are prepared separately and without involvement from the Times’ newsroom and editorial staff.
RUSS BROWN
MOTORCYCLE ATTORNEYS
1-800-4-BIKERS

ROLLING THUNDER®
XXIX
MAY 29, 2016

GO TO RUSSBROWN.COM TO GET YOUR
FREE Limited Edition ROLLING THUNDER STICKER

RUSS BROWN MOTORCYCLE ATTORNEYS
THE ORIGINAL ATTORNEYS WHO RIDE • 1-800-4-BIKERS
Mobile health clinic for vets on display

BY JENNIFER HARPER
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

W hen thousands of patriotic motorcyclists arrive in the nation’s capital for the annual Rolling Thunder “Ride for Freedom” over Memorial Day weekend, another wheeled vehicle will be in the mix. A state-of-the-art mobile medical clinic will glide into town on 18 wheels, meant to draw attention to the medical care and health care challenges of military veterans in rural or remote communities — particularly female veterans.

The cause is shared by Rolling Thunder organizers, who have long called for improved benefits for veterans, and continued vigilance about the fate of prisoners of war and those missing in action.

The big “concept vehicle” — outfitted with the same medical and diagnostic tools of a stationary facility — will be situated Sunday on the National Mall not far from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and will be open to curious visitors.

The hospital-grade clinic is a joint project of DMS Health Technology, a health care equipment provider, and TrillaMed, a hospital supply company owned and managed by a trio of combat veterans who served as U.S. Army Airborne Rangers. The two companies have a new mission.

“It’s distressing that so many of our country’s service women and men are not able to find and receive appropriate health care when they return home due to a strained VA health system,” said William Vogel, CEO of North Dakota-based DMS.

The company has outfitted the mobile units to care of chronic conditions such as diabetes and heart ailments, or for “population specific” health care needs in urban and rural settings, among American Indians, and for the homeless.

Frank Campanaro, CEO of TrillaMed, prefers to think of himself and his two partners as “veterpreneurs” who understand what their fellow veterans are up against.

“We serve the war fighter and veterans through the highest quality service and medical products within the health care industry. As veterans, we use the VA health care system ourselves,” Mr. Campanaro said. “Unfortunately, our sister veterans do not have the same level of access to quality of care, so to uphold our promise to never leave a fallen comrade, we continue to fight on behalf of our female soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines.”

Lawmakers on both sides of the aisle, along with the Rolling Thunder organization itself, continue to pay keen attention to progress in improving health care for veterans.

“Two years after a Veterans Affairs scandal that revealed patients were dying waiting for health care, veterans continue to endure weeks and even months of delays before they first see a medical provider,” said Rep. Raul Labrador, Idaho Republican.

He cited a new Government Accountability Office report revealing that veterans newly enrolled for health care could wait up to 71 days to see a health care provider.

There’s positive movement on Capitol Hill, however. The Senate last week approved the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, which contains $85 billion in funding — over $3 billion above the fiscal year 2016 level — including increases for veterans’ health care, benefit claims processing, the Board of Veterans Appeals, the VA Inspector General, medical and prosthetic research, and information technology.

A state-of-the-art mobile medical clinic will join the Rolling Thunder cause to draw attention to the medical care and health challenges of military veterans in rural or remote communities — particularly female vets. (Image courtesy of DMS Health Technology)

Answers sought on Bibles removed from ‘Missing Man’ displays

BY THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Some 41 members of Congress have asked the Veterans Affairs secretary to explain why Bibles have been removed from the “missing man” tables in several VA clinics.

One of the ways the nation recognizes prisoners of war and those missing in action is the Missing Man Table and Honors Ceremony, Sen. James Lankford, Oklahoma Republican, and Rep. J. Randy Forbes, Virginia Republican, said in an April 28 letter signed by 39 more lawmakers.

“The National League of POW/MIA Families provides a script for this ceremony and a description of the table,” the members said in their letter to Secretary Robert McDonald of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

A Bible, which represents “the strength and courage we have as a nation under God,” is expressly requested to be part of the display.

However, officials in VA clinics in Houston and Youngstown, Ohio, and Akron, Ohio, as well as at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio, have removed the Bibles from the displays, the lawmakers wrote.

“It is our understanding that the individual facility directors at the three VA clinics made the decision to remove the Bibles following complaints issued by the Military Religious Freedom Foundation, and that the November 7, 2014 Guidance on Religious Exercise and Expression in the VA Facilities and Property Under the Charge and Control of VA was used to justify the removal,” their letter said.

“We request an explanation as to why the Bibles were removed from the three VA facilities, as well as any policy that will be applied going forward, including a summary of who will be responsible for implementing it,” said the letter.

“The mere presence of a Bible coerces no one,” the letter said, noting that the Establishment Clause does not require government to “scrub all references of religion from the public square.”

Mr. Lankford and Mr. Forbes are co-chairmen of the Congressional Prayer Caucus; many of the lawmakers who signed the letter are part of the caucus. The lawmakers have yet to receive a response, a congressional aide said Tuesday.

According to the National League of POW/MIA Families, the Missing Man Table and Honors Ceremony has six empty chairs, representing the five branches of the military and civilians. The table should be round, covered with a white tablecloth, and have a single red rose, yellow ribbon, lit candle, a copy of the Bible, a slice of lemon to symbolize the bitter fate of being captured and missing in a foreign land and a pinch of salt to symbolize the tears of the missing and their families who long for answers after decades of uncertainty.

A final element is an inverted glass, symbolizing the inability to share a toast with loved ones.

The “remembrance table” was started decades ago by a group of U.S. fighter pilots, dubbed “River Rats,” who flew dangerous missions along the Red River near Hanoi. When the pilots held a reunion, they set up a table for their missing or fallen comrades, and the idea became a tradition.

A “missing man” table was set up at a 2015 memorial luncheon held by the USS Helena organization. (www.usshelena.org)
Happy Memorial Day.

In honor and recognition of their service to our country, we are proud to pay tribute to all of the dedicated men and women of the United States military who sacrificed their lives in the name of freedom.

Hadeed
ORIENTAL RUG CLEANING & IN-HOME SERVICES

Visit our website for special savings
JoeHadeed.com
ROLLING THUNDER
Memorial Day weekend

MAIN EVENT SCHEDULE
Some of the top events from the 29th Rolling Thunder rally:

Friday
9 p.m. Candlelight vigil at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Saturday
9 a.m. Thunder Alley opens. The official vendor site for Rolling Thunder XXIX is on 22nd Street and Constitution Avenue Northwest.

Sunday
6 a.m. Wake-up call for all riders taking part in the Rolling Thunder XXIX Run. Bikers rally in the north and south Pentagon parking lots at 7 a.m. for a noon departure.
9 a.m. Thunder Alley opens.
Noon Rolling Thunder XXIX First Amendment Demonstration Run departs.
1:30–5:00 p.m. Speakers and Musical Tribute Program near the Lincoln Memorial.
8 p.m. Memorial Day Concert at the Capitol.

Monday
9 a.m.–5 p.m. Thunder Alley is open.
11 a.m. Wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Arlington National Cemetery.
2 p.m. Memorial Day observance at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.
2 p.m. National Memorial Day Parade.
3 p.m. National moment of remembrance.

After the ride come the tributes

By The Washington Times

After Sunday’s powerhouse Ride for Freedom, spectators and riders will be treated to the soaring sounds of pipes and drums as well as inspirational remarks from men and women who have long stood up for veterans.

Speakers at the program, held near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, include:
⦁ Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, who has promised he will “take care of our vets” and has enthusiastic supporters in Bikers for Trump.
⦁ Former New York Rep. John LeBoutillier, an activist on POW/MIA issues since the 1970s. During his years in Congress in the 1980s, he served on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and pressed for investigations as a member of the Special House POW/MIA Task Force.

Today, he is an author and political commentator who writes at Boot’s Blasts at JohnLeBout.com.
⦁ Actor Robert Patrick, a lifelong supporter of the military and USO. Famous for his roles in “Terminator 2,” “Cop Land,” “The X-Files” and “Scorpion,” Mr. Patrick has shined a light on veterans, going on countless USO hospital visits and joining four USO tours to seven countries.
⦁ Nicolette Rose, who was raised in the POW/MIA issue due to the 1967 loss of her uncle, U.S. Air Force Major Victor J. Apodaca Jr., in North Vietnam on June 8, 1967. Ms. Rose’s aunt and mother were founding members of the National Alliance of Families, and she has spoken about the issue since she was a child.
⦁ Christian Walters, Harley-Davidson managing director for the United States. A West Point graduate, Mr. Walters held significant leadership positions as an officer in the U.S. Army in aviation and special operations assignments overseas before joining Harley-Davidson in 2005.
⦁ Country singer-songwriter Rockie Lynne, co-founder of Tribute to the Troops, which raises money for college funds for children who have lost a parent in active duty. His debut single, “Lipstick,” was No. 1 on Billboard’s Country Sales chart; many of his performances are for patriotic and military events.
⦁ Country singer Gordon Painter, a strong supporter of veterans and Rolling Thunder.
⦁ Musician, pianist and composer Ben Mason, who writes for film and other media, as well as choirs, bands and orchestras.
⦁ Loch Rannoch Pipes and Drums, a full-fledged Scottish pipes-and-drums unit that has been participating in Rolling Thunder events since 2008.
At least 1,620 Vietnam-era service members still sought

BY THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Since it was formed in 1970, the National League of POW/MIA Families has sought three things: the return of all POWs, the fullest possible accounting for those still missing and the repatriation of all recoverable remains of those who died serving the United States during the Vietnam War.

Today, the organization says 1,621 people are still missing and unaccounted for since 1975, when the Vietnam War ended.

Some 90 percent of these POW/MIA service members were lost in Vietnam or in areas of Laos and Cambodia that were under North Vietnamese military control. These include 466 people in North Vietnam, 798 in South Vietnam, 301 in Laos, 49 in Cambodia and seven in local waters, the league said in April.

According to the Defense Department’s POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), two Vietnam-era service members have been accounted for this year: U.S. Air Force Major Dean A. Klenda, who was lost Sept. 17, 1965, and identified March 1; and Army Sgt. First Class Alan L. Boyer, who was declared missing in action March 28, 1968, and identified March 16.

Another long-missing officer’s remains may have been recovered in Vietnam, but an analysis has not been completed, the league said.

In 2015 13 Vietnam-era service members were identified, including three Army officers lost in Cambodia in 1970; two U.S. Air Force officers lost in Laos in 1966 and 1970; and eight officers from several military branches lost in Vietnam between 1965 and 1971, according to the DPAA.

Secretary of State John F. Kerry, who traveled to Vietnam this week with President Obama, said last month that the accounting of POW/MIA service members is “absolutely a prerequisite and nonnegotiable” part of the ongoing normalization talks with Vietnam.

“Literally, we have people over there still today … to complete that task of accountability,” Mr. Kerry said April 27, recalling how archaeologists were looking for human remains at a C-130 crash site in Vietnam.

According to the families’ organization, as of May 19, the state-by-state breakdown of Americans who are POW/MIA are as follows:

- Alabama 31
- Alaska 2
- Arizona 15
- Arkansas 15
- California 166
- Colorado 24
- Connecticut 25
- Delaware 4
- District of Columbia 8
- Florida 57
- Georgia 29
- Hawaii 7
- Idaho 8
- Illinois 66
- Indiana 51
- Iowa 25
- Kansas 24
- Kentucky 14
- Louisiana 24
- Maine 11
- Maryland 23
- Massachusetts 39
- Michigan 49
- Minnesota 33
- Mississippi 12
- Missouri 36
- Montana 17
- Nebraska 17
- Nevada 6
- New Hampshire 6
- New Jersey 42
- New Mexico 12
- New York 106
- North Carolina 39
- North Dakota 8
- Ohio 75
- Oklahoma 32
- Oregon 35
- Pennsylvania 90
- Rhode Island 7
- South Carolina 27
- South Dakota 7
- Tennessee 27
- Texas 104
- Utah 14
- Vermont 5
- Virginia 45
- Washington 38
- West Virginia 17
- Wisconsin 26
- Wyoming 5

*Another 15 Americans did not list a home state or were based outside the United States.

Rolling Thunder co-founder Artie Muller and other members of Rolling Thunder were personally welcomed to the White House several times by President George W. Bush. (Images courtesy of The White House).
Robert McDonald, VA secretary, faces calls for resignation after ‘Disneyland’ gaffe

By Dave Boyer

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Tapped by President Obama less than two years ago to fix the scandal-ridden Department of Veterans Affairs, VA Secretary Robert McDonald is now facing calls for his resignation amid persistent agency mistakes and his own highly publicized gaffes.

Mr. McDonald’s latest misstep, dismissively comparing veterans’ wait times at VA clinics to lines for rides at Disneyland, further eroded goodwill toward him among lawmakers and veterans groups, prompting a Tuesday evening apology after a whole day of refusals.

“Secretary McDonald’s preposterous statement is right out of Never-never Land,” Sen. Roy Blunt, Missouri Republican, said on the Senate floor Tuesday. “I call on him to resign because it’s clear he cannot prioritize getting our veterans the health care they deserve and have earned in a timely manner.”

The lawmaker said Mr. McDonald’s comment trivializing wait times — when veterans often wait months for an appointment with a doctor — “is negligent and a clear sign that new leadership is needed at the VA.”

Sen. David Vitter, Louisiana Republican, also called for Mr. McDonald to step down.

An official at one veterans group said Mr. McDonald is now soft-pedaling the problem of wait times at VA facilities because he hasn’t been able to fix it in two full years.

“You can make a pretty compelling argument that things are actually worse than when he took over,” said Dan Caldwell, a retired Marine who is vice president for legislative and political action at the Concerned Veterans for America. He said VA data show that the number of appointments for veterans that are scheduled more than 30 days in advance has increased by about 20 percent nationwide since 2014.

A Government Accountability Office report last month found that the VA has not done enough to prevent schedulers from manipulating appointment wait times, and the agency’s wait-time data are still misleading the public on how long veterans wait for care.

“One ongoing problem continues to affect the reliability of wait-time data,” the GAO said of its audit that ran from January 2015 to March. The report blamed the VA for a “piece-meal approach” to correcting problems since the wait-time scandal broke in 2014 in Phoenix, where schedulers created phony wait lists and at least 40 veterans died awaiting care. In the auditors’ review of six VA medical centers, they found improper scheduling in 25 percent of veterans’ appointments.

Mr. Caldwell noted that it was the Phoenix wait-time scandal that led to the forced resignation of VA Secretary Eric K. Shinseki and the president’s selection of Mr. McDonald to lead the agency.

“This is the very practice that got his predecessor fired,” he said. “Whoever the next president is should not retain Secretary McDonald. Were it not for the fact that we have no faith in the Obama administration to appoint a competent, reform-minded secretary, and the fact that Mr. McDonald’s deputy, Sloan Gibson, is just as bad as him, CVA would likely be calling for Secretary McDonald’s resignation today.”

The firestorm of criticism began Monday, when Mr. McDonald told attendees at a Christian Science Monitor breakfast with reporters that questions over delays in care distracted from overall satisfaction rates.

“When you go to Disney, do they measure the number of hours you wait in line or what’s important? What’s important is, what’s your satisfaction with the experience?” Mr. McDonald said. “And what I would like to move to, eventually, is that kind of measure.”

“Look, we get it, wait times are important,” Mr. McDonald said. “There’s no question wait times are important. But there’s more to the veteran experience than just wait times.”

Under Mr. McDonald’s stewardship the agency has failed to fulfill Mr. Shinseki’s promise, issued in January 2013, to cut the number of unresolved veterans’ disability claims that were 125 days old or older to zero by Sept. 30, 2015. As of this week the backlog stood at 74,452 claims, down from a peak of 611,000 in March 2013.

“Zero for us is not an absolute zero,” said Allison Hickey, a top VA official who resigned last October rather than face a congressional hearing into mismanaging a taxpayer-funded employee-relocation program.

As the claims backlog has been reduced, veterans groups point out, the appeals backlog has soared to more than 400,000 cases, up from about 167,000 in 2005. Veterans are allowed to appeal decisions about their disability payments endlessly.

The agency says about three-fourths of veterans are already receiving some benefits when they appeal seeking greater benefits. But the backlog means that some veterans never receive a final answer — agency records show that about 32,000 veterans have died since 2009 with appeals unresolved.

Some lawmakers, including administration allies, blame Congress for contributing to problems with wait times at the VA. Sen. Mark R. Warner, Virginia Democrat, and other lawmakers of both parties called on the Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee Tuesday to approve leases of more than $1 million each for 18 major medical facilities in 12 states that have been awaiting congressional authorization for more than one year.

Mr. Warner said among the projects stuck in limbo is a 155,000-square-foot outpatient facility in Hampton Roads, Virginia.

“The simple fact is the wait times can and will go back up unless Congress does the right thing and authorizes a new outpatient facility for Hampton Roads, which has one of the fastest-growing veterans populations in the country,” he said.

The growing number of critics of Mr. McDonald also say the secretary is sometimes his own worst enemy, making unforced errors in his public pronouncements. He has overstated to Congress the number of VA employees disciplined for wrongdoing in the wait-time scandal and even was caught on camera last year falsely telling a veteran that he once served in the U.S. Special Forces.

The top Democrat on the Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Sen. Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut, called the secretary’s remarks “unfortunate” and said they don’t reflect Mr. McDonald’s intention to improve the VA’s delivery of services.

“Part of delivery is doing it without delay,” Mr. Blumenthal said. “Time is a critical factor, as well as the quality of service.”

Douglas Ernst contributed to this report, which was published on May 25.
Trust the Roofing Experts!

- 50 Year Warranty
- Many Colors and Options
- FREE Estimates
- Flat Roofing Now Available

Value of up to $4,000!

CALL NOW!
888-202-3092
LongFenceandHome.com

License, Bonded, Insured. MHIC 51346, VA 2705048183A, DC 67006785

* per month. Expires 7/15/16. Valid initial visit only. Min. purchase required. Cannot be combined with other offers. 7.99% APR for 144 months, $11.10 per $1000 with 10% down, on approved credit thru GreenSky.
Presidential Proclamation for National POW/MIA Recognition Day 2015:
America has long stood tall as a beacon of freedom, thanks to the women and men of our Armed Forces who safeguard our country and our ideals with courage, honor and selflessness.

While our heroes and their families continue to give of themselves for us all, we must recognize the unthinkable pain that remains with the loved ones of those who have not returned home.

Today, we honor them, as a Nation forever indebted. We rededicate ourselves to our ironclad commitment to never leaving one of our own behind, and we pay tribute to those patriots known to God and never forgotten.

To further uphold our eternal promise, we established the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. This Agency will help recover and account for prisoners of war and those missing in action, work to better anticipate family needs, and ensure that timely, accurate information is communicated to loved ones. Bringing home Americans who have been taken prisoner or who have gone missing is a sacred mission, and my Administration is increasing our efforts to ensure every service member knows with absolute certainty that — should they ever find themselves in that position — ours is a country that will never give up on retrieving them.

As a grateful Nation, we owe it to all who put on the uniform of the United States to remain unwavering in our promise to them. With hearts full of love, families carry on with an unfillable void, and we stand beside them — one and all — acutely aware of the cost at which our liberty comes. Today and every day, let us renew our pledge to never stop working to bring home the ones they love to the land they risked everything to protect.

On September 18, 2015, the stark black and white banner symbolizing America's Missing in Action and Prisoners of War will be flown over the White House; the United States Capitol; the Departments of State, Defense, and Veterans Affairs; the Selective Service System Headquarters; the World War II Memorial; the Korean War Veterans Memorial; the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; United States post offices; national cemeteries; and other locations across our country. We raise this flag as a solemn reminder of our obligation to always remember the sacrifices made to defend our Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim September 18, 2015, as National POW/MIA Recognition Day. I urge all Americans to observe this day of honor and remembrance with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fortieth,

BARACK OBAMA
Senate leader calls for action on VA bill by Memorial Day

By The Washington Times

The Senate leader of the veterans' affairs committee said a sweeping reform bill should be brought up for a vote by Memorial Day.

"Every time we turn around, there's been no accountability in the VA," Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs Chairman Johnny Isakson, Georgia Republican, said on the Senate floor April 28.

Mr. Isakson and ranking committee member Sen. Richard Blumenthal, Connecticut Democrat, introduced the Veterans First Act (S. 2921) on May 11, with 30 original co-sponsors. It passed out of the Veterans' Affairs Committee on May 16, but no floor action had been taken as of May 25.

The omnibus reform is intended to "change the culture of corruption" at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Mr. Isakson said in April, by improving accountability, health care services, education and employment opportunities and burial benefits, among other things.

Mr. Isakson said he wanted to see the Veterans First Act brought to the Senate floor for a vote before Memorial Day. The House has already passed its VA reform bill, and the chambers need to conference on them, Mr. Isakson said.

In July, the House passed the VA Accountability Act of 2015 (H.R. 1994) by a 256-170 vote, largely along party lines.

House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Jeff Miller, Florida Republican, has said the House bill properly permits sanctions, including firings, of "corrupt and incompetent bureaucrats."

Mr. Miller called the new Senate bill a "positive development," while Mr. Isakson has told reporters he is confident the two chambers can craft a joint bill that will resolve the accountability problems in the VA.

The VA, which has some 312,000 employees, has been embroiled in numerous scandals, including excessive wait-listing and subpar treatments for sick and injured veterans, and wasteful spending on facilities and personnel.

Advocacy groups representing federal workers are monitoring the bills to ensure that civil servants' due process rights are not eroded.

Falsified wait times persist at 40 VA facilities

By Dave Boyer

Senior Republican lawmakers called for more changes at the Department of Veterans Affairs after internal investigations found widespread falsifying of patient wait times at 40 VA medical facilities in 19 states and Puerto Rico.

On April 8, the VA's inspector general released two years of reports totaling 70 investigations, finding that VA supervisors ordered employees to cook the books on wait times regularly, despite a promised crackdown on mismanagement and data manipulation by Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert McDonald. In some cases, investigators found that VA facilities had been falsifying records for a decade.

Rep. Jeff Miller, Florida Republican and chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, said the reports "outline a host of serious scheduling issues that masked wait times at VA facilities around the country."

"And in classic VA fashion, almost no one has been seriously held accountable for any of this wrongdoing," Mr. Miller said. "In fact, according to VA's own data, the department has successfully fired just four low-level employees for wait-time manipulation. Right now, it's incumbent on VA leaders to explain why that's the case given the IG's findings of widespread the pending appointments and veterans' deaths, or to improve hospital and clinic wait-time statistics."

Mr. McCain also asked Attorney General Loretta Lynch to review potential criminal activity at the VA if the latest inspector general investigation uncovers wrongdoing.

"This weekend marks two years since the scandal in which veterans died waiting for care on nonexistent wait-lists first came to light," Mr. McCain said. "Despite the severity of this national scandal, whistleblowers in Arizona continue to report serious failures at the VA, including gross scheduling violations that closely resemble the widespread wait-time manipulation that led to the crisis of denied and delayed care in the first place. It's past time for this administration to root out wrongdoing at the VA by holding corrupt executives accountable and finally reforming the culture that is denying our veterans the care they deserve."

USA Today, which uncovered many of the inspector general's reports through the Freedom of Information Act, said the probes showed that VA supervisors ordered employees to manipulate wait times in Arkansas, California, Delaware, Illinois, New York, Texas and Vermont, giving the false impression that facilities were meeting VA performance measures for shorter wait times.

In some cases — Gainesville, Florida; White River Junction, Vermont; and Philadelphia, for example — investigators found VA employees kept lists of veterans needing care outside the scheduling system, a violation that also hid actual wait times, the paper said.

The VA said in a statement that many of the problems date back more than two years and that the department has taken many corrective steps since then.

The agency also announced April 8 that it is taking more steps to improve veterans' access to health care.

"We are working to rebuild the trust of the American public and, more importantly, the trust of the veterans whom we are proud to serve," said Dr. David Shulkin, VA undersecretary for health. "We are taking action and are seeing the results. We are serious about our work to improve access to health care for our nation's veterans. We want them to know that this is a new VA."

This article was originally published April 11, 2016.
The “link” between Hepatitis-C and “careless sex” and IV drug use has been given as a pass as the reason for the rampant and deadly spread of Hep-C by social engineering, and AIDS gets a pass.

From Jan., 1986 to July 1987, the CDC estimated that 94% of all AIDS patients in the U.S. were infected with HIV. Only one female case of AIDS was reported by the CDC during this time, and that case was not related by blood, needle, or any other bodily fluid. The AIDS epidemic has grown out of a disease spread exclusively by homosexuality about which there is why heterosexual taxpayers are irrelevant to politicians to spend the tax dollars to see what turns which belief most did not exist because it was so warily convinced God created AIDS as a punishment for those who engaged in same-sex acts.

By 1982, medical researchers knew that AIDS was a reovirus (RNA) disease and there were no cure or vaccine for the disease. The reovirus is a very primitive and ancient virus found in animal species as far back as some 400,000 years ago. This virus is a human pathogen only because there are no other species which can accommodate the virus.

AIDS was destined to become a “Terminator” that would “wait for no one” as it acquired the capability to “spread” itself from one person to another. The idea was to spread the virus via the “link” between Hepatitis-C and “careless sex” and IV drug use.

Hepatitis is a viral disease that attacks the liver, one of the most important organs in the human body. There are many forms of hepatitis, each caused by different viruses:

- **Hepatitis A** is caused by the Hepatitis A virus (HAV) and is spread through contaminated food or water. Symptoms include fatigue, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, jaundice, and dark urine. It is highly contagious and can be spread through fecal-oral contact.
- **Hepatitis B** is caused by the Hepatitis B virus (HBV) and is spread through blood-to-blood contact. Symptoms are similar to Hepatitis A, and the virus can cause chronic liver disease, cirrhosis, and liver cancer. Hepatitis B is highly contagious and can be spread through sexual contact, needle-sharing, or from mother to baby during childbirth.
- **Hepatitis C** is caused by the Hepatitis C virus (HCV) and is spread primarily through blood-to-blood contact, such as sharing needles or infected needles. Symptoms may not appear until several years after infection, and the virus can lead to chronic liver disease. It is estimated that 2.4 million Americans are living with Hepatitis C.
- **Hepatitis D** is caused by the Hepatitis D virus (HDV) and requires Hepatitis B to be transmitted. It can only be transmitted if a person is already infected with Hepatitis B. Symptoms are similar to Hepatitis C.
- **Hepatitis E** is caused by the Hepatitis E virus (HEV) and is spread through contaminated water or food. Symptoms include fever, fatigue, and abdominal pain, and it is typically shorter-term than other forms of hepatitis.

The Hepatitis viruses can cause acute (short-term) illness or chronic (long-term) infection. The latter can lead to liver disease, such as cirrhosis or liver cancer. The Hepatitis viruses can also interact with other liver-damaging conditions, such as alcohol use or other viruses like Hepatitis B. The Hepatitis viruses can lead to a variety of complications, including liver failure and death.

Hepatitis is spread through infected blood or body fluids, and can be spread through contaminated needles or HIV-infected blood products. The Hepatitis viruses can also be transmitted through sexual contact, sharing needles, or blood transfusions.

The Hepatitis viruses can be prevented through vaccination and the use of protective measures such as condoms. Treatment options vary depending on the type of Hepatitis and the stage of the infection.

The transmission of Hepatitis viruses is preventable through vaccination, such as the Hepatitis A and B vaccines. These vaccines are highly effective and can provide lifelong protection.

In addition to vaccination, it is important to practice good hygiene and follow safe injection practices. For example, sharing needles can transmit Hepatitis B and C, and it is important to use clean needles or to avoid sharing needles when they are not clean.

The Hepatitis viruses are a serious threat to public health, and it is important to be aware of the transmission routes and to take steps to prevent their spread.
Rolling Thunder’s ‘chair of honor’ coming to the Capitol

A commemorative chair in honor of POW/MIA service members — which will remain empty in perpetuity — will be soon placed in the U.S. Capitol, according to a newly passed law.

The National POW/MIA Remembrance Act of 2015, sponsored by Rep. Stephen F. Lynch, Massachusetts Democrat, and passed this spring with unanimous support in both chambers of Congress, was signed into law by President Obama on April 29.

The act, also known as H.R. 1670, directs the Architect of the Capitol to place a chair in a prominent location in the U.S. Capitol in honor of American military personnel who remain missing or prisoners of war. The chair will bear the logo of the National League of POW/MIA Families and will be paid for by privately raised funds; it must be established on Capitol grounds within two years.

Lawmakers praised Rolling Thunder leaders and members for their efforts to get a chair of honor into the U.S. Capitol.

“Each day, members of Congress and visitors to the U.S. Capitol will pass by the chair of honor and take a moment to pay respect to our prisoners of war and missing in action who bravely serve our nation with honor and valor,” Mr. Lynch said after the law was signed.

“It was the strong advocacy of Rolling Thunder that brought this bill to the finish line and on to the president’s desk,” he added, citing Rolling Thunder leaders Gus Dante and Joe D’Entremont and members of Rolling Thunder Massachusetts Chapter 1 for their advocacy for the issue.

House Administration Committee Chairman Candice S. Miller, Michigan Republican, who shepherded the bill to its unanimous voice vote on March 21, said, “Our heroes deserve to be honored, especially in the U.S. Capitol, which is itself a symbol of our American beliefs and the liberties and freedoms that they sacrificed to defend.”


“As the brother of a veteran and from a state with over 1 million veterans, I know firsthand the sacrifices that our men and women in uniform and their families make to keep our nation safe every single day of the year,” Mr. Rubio said after the Senate passed the measure by unanimous consent on April 14.

“Within the past year,” Mr. Rubio said, “multiple veterans service organizations, including Rolling Thunder, have visited my office to advocate for this bill on behalf of those who left this country to defend our freedoms abroad and never returned. I’m proud of the fact that when they visit, they are continually greeted by a black and white POW/MIA flag that always stands outside my office.”

“My three older brothers served in the military, and I appreciate the sacrifices our service members and their families make each day to keep our country safe,” said Ms. Warren. “This commemorative chair will serve as a lasting reminder to honor America’s missing service members and prisoners of war, and I thank the Massachusetts Chapter of Rolling Thunder and Rolling Thunder National for their hard work to get this bill passed and signed into law.”

Similar POW/MIA chairs of honor have been established in many major sports stadiums and other public places through a program with Hussey Seating Co., in Maine. The chairs are intended to be public reminders of the estimated 83,000 troops still missing in action or held as prisoners of war.

Cheryl Wetzstein, formerly a national news reporter, is manager of special sections for The Washington Times.

Chair to be a reminder of 83,000 missing U.S. service members

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 1670, the National POW/MIA Remembrance Act.

This bill actually comes from the recognition we all share that, in our country, oftentimes the families of POWs and MIAs suffer alone. And it is through the efforts of groups like Rolling Thunder and other veterans’ groups who have brought to the forefront the fact that we should carry more immediately the memory of the sacrifice of those families.

In my own life, I came to know a man named James Fitzgerald, who was a member of Operating Engineers Local 4 in Boston. I worked on a job with him. I remember at noon time, when everyone would go off to lunch, he would go off into his pickup truck and eat his sandwich by himself. Day after day, in his lap, he would have a tri-corner flag that this country gave him in remembrance of his son, who went down as a result of enemy fire in Vietnam in the early 1960s.

It was not until the late 1980s, early 1990s, that his son was actually recovered, returned to his family, and buried in Massachusetts. For many, many years, the Fitzgerald family carried that burden by themselves. They carried it alone.

I had a chance to travel with JPAC, the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, to Vietnam, to Korea and to the South

Heroes deserve to be honored, especially in the U.S. Capitol

Mr. Speaker, the measure before the House today directs the Architect of the Capitol to obtain a chair featuring the logo of the National League of POW/MIA Families and to prominently place it on display in the U.S. Capitol.

As members of Congress, certainly we each represent diverse congressional districts, but one of the things that ties us together are the many brave men and women we represent who stood on the battle lines in defense of our nation’s freedom, our liberty, and our way of life.

This legislation introduced by our colleague, Rep. Stephen Lynch of Massachusetts, honors American prisoners of war and Americans missing in action. The chair will serve as a permanent reminder of the enormous sacrifice made by those who served our country and were taken as POWs or listed as MIA.

The importance of remembering and honoring their great sacrifice can never be overstated. Our nation has a responsibility to them and to their families who have shared in their sacrifice, and we must never forget.

Our heroes deserve to be honored, especially in the U.S. Capitol, which is itself a symbol of our American beliefs and the liberties and freedoms that they sacrificed to defend.

This chair will honor veterans like...
Keep Your Finger on the Pulse of World Affairs

The Best of The Washington Times National Weekly

Get your one-year subscription to the National Weekly for only $59.95 with our exclusive Memorial Day weekend sale!

The “best of” The Washington Times is put together under the toughest of deadlines every week and is delivered to the thousands of like-minded readers from California to New England and everywhere in between living “Outside the Beltway” who want the multi-page newspaper that contains everything their local paper is missing.

What is found within the pages of this weekly news publication is the best of the best news stories of the week from The Washington Times, which includes our unmatched national and international news coverage to compelling commentary from some of the best minds in conservative thinking.

Hurry, this offer expires Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at midnight. Call 800-277-8500 to subscribe today!
GAO: Delays still plague VA health care

By Dave Boyer

The Department of Veterans Affairs still has not done enough to stop employees from manipulating veterans’ appointment waiting times, and the agency isn’t giving an accurate picture of the delays in veterans’ health care, a nonpartisan watchdog report said in April.

The Government Accountability Office found that the Veterans Health Administration is plagued by “the lack of comprehensive scheduling policy” that makes it difficult for officials to identify and fix the problems.

GAO looked at 180 newly enrolled veterans at six VA facilities nationwide and found that 60 had not been seen by providers at the time of the review.

“Nearly half were unable to access primary care because VA medical center staff did not schedule appointments for these veterans in accordance with VHA policy,” the report said.

The 120 veterans waited 22 to 71 days from the time they requested appointments until they were seen by a provider, the study found.

“These time frames were impacted by limited appointment availability and weaknesses in medical center scheduling practices, which contributed to unnecessary delays,” GAO said.

The VA was rocked two years ago by a widespread scandal showing that employees manipulated wait times to make the agency’s performance appear better than it was. Dozens of veterans died while awaiting care. The problem surfaced in Phoenix but expanded to VA facilities across the nation and led to the resignation of Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric K. Shinseki.

VHA provided care to about 6.6 million veterans and spent about $58 billion for their care in fiscal year 2014. The report said that, over the past decade, the number of annual outpatient primary care medical appointments VHA provided through its medical facilities increased by 17 percent, from about 10.2 million to 11.9 million.

The VA said in a statement that it is “in the midst of the largest transformation in its history” with two new programs to give veterans greater access and control of their health care.

“We realize that there is more work to be done, but we have made progress and remain steadfast in our commitment” to veterans, the agency said.

White House press secretary Josh Earnest said President Obama and VA Secretary Robert McDonald are still committed to implementing reforms at the VA and that the agency’s problems have been “deeply entrenched” for more than a decade.

“Nobody’s right now that’s satisfied,” he said. “We know that there’s a lot more important work to be done.”

Nevertheless, he said, “There’s no denying that in this first seven years of the Obama administration that we’ve made remarkable progress in improving the service delivery system and drastically reducing the backlog in benefits claims.”

The report said the VA is evaluating its own performance for responding to veterans based on flawed data. In measuring how long veterans wait for care, the agency starts the clock when a VA employee responds to a veteran’s inquiry, not when the veteran calls for an appointment.

GAO investigators found that schedules at three of the six medical centers changed dates improperly 25 percent of the time, so the VA system falsely showed shorter wait times.

While the agency’s records showed average waiting times from four to 28 days, the actual wait times were 11 to 48 days, the GAO said.

This news article was originally published April 19, 2016.

LYNCH

From page C14

Pacific, the Philippines.

We have 83,000 — 83,000 — men and women from this country that died in the Second World War, in Korea and in Vietnam who are still there.

About 1,000 remain in Vietnam.

About 5,000 remain in North Korea up around the Chosin Reservoir. And then the great majority of those MIA are buried at sea as a result of the great naval battles in World War II. They are buried in place, and their resting places are our sacred ground.

We have an opportunity here to place within the Capitol a remembrance, a shrine, in effect, to their sacrifice in remembrance of their service to this country. H.R. 1670 would honor them by authorizing a placement of a POW/MIA Chair of Honor on the grounds of the United States Capitol.

That chair will forever stand unoccupied as a solemn reminder of the over 83,000 brave Americans from as far back as World War II who are still waiting to be brought home.

Chairs of honor carrying the POW/MIA insignia have already been placed in public spaces in cities and towns around the country. It is only fitting that the Capitol, the seat of the U.S. Congress, should do so as well.

And Mr. Speaker, when our fellow Americans go to war, we make them a promise never to leave them behind. That vow is sacred. When we pass this chair every day, we will be reminded of our commitment to our POW/MIA and their families that we have not forgotten them, we will never forget them, and we will not rest until they all come home.

I want to take a moment to thank Joe D’Entremont, who first approached me about undertaking this initiative a couple of years ago. He is a past president of Rolling Thunder of Massachusetts Chapter 1 and is now a Rolling Thunder, Inc., National member.

I want to thank all the members from all the chapters of Rolling Thunder from across the country who have kept this idea alive.

Joe D’Entremont is a passionate advocate on behalf of our veterans and our POWs and MIAs. Joe has worked with my office from the very beginning on this effort.

I also want to thank Gus Dante, also with Rolling Thunder National, who has worked steadfastly at Joe’s side to see this through.

Finally, I want to thank the members of Rolling Thunder Massachusetts Chapter 1 and all of the Rolling Thunder chapters around our nation. Their efforts were integral to bringing us here today.

After today, H.R. 1670 will move to the Senate for its consideration. I want to recognize and thank my Massachusetts colleague, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, for introducing her Senate companion bill and for making this truly a bicameral effort.

I look forward to continuing to work with her to get this past the finish line and have the National POW/MIA Remembrance Act signed into law.

Democrat Rep. Stephen F. Lynch represents the 9th District in Massachusetts. His remarks are excerpted from the Congressional Record of March 21, 2016.

MILLER

From page C14

Sam Johnson, one of our colleagues here in the House. Sam is one of the most stalwart protectors of those who have served and who himself endured nearly seven years as a POW, including 42 months in solitary confinement, in the infamous Hanoi Hilton.

Forty-three years ago, Sam Johnson returned to the United States to be reunited with his loved ones, and we are so honored to have the privilege to serve with him today here in this House.

In addition to Sam Johnson, Mr. Speaker, when I think about the meaning behind this memorial, I think about an individual who lives in my district. His first name is Donald, but we all call him Digger, Digger O’Dell.

Digger enlisted in 1952 into the Air Force. He was shot down in October of 1967, and he, like Sam, was a prisoner in the Hanoi Hilton, in Digger’s case, for five and a half years.

Digger made it home, as Sam did, after all of those years in a North Vietnamese camp. He is now in his 80s and serves as a member of our local air base community council and chairs a fundraising event for the Special Olympics. Digger is a remarkable man. He is one of many who selflessly served our nation facing enormous adversity.

I might even mention my husband, who was a fighter pilot and is a proud member of Vietnam Veterans of America and is now a proud member of Chapter 154 of the VVA in Macomb County, which is actually one the largest chapters in our entire nation.

Again, Mr. Speaker, these heroes who so bravely served our nation deserve to be honored, especially in the U.S. Capitol, and certainly this chair with the MIA/POW logo on it will forever demonstrate that we will never forget.
THE MEDAL OF HONOR

Created during the American Civil War and signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln, the Medal of Honor is bestowed on those in military service who display valor above and beyond the call of duty. Since the medal was created, there have been fewer than 3,500 Recipients.

Sponsored by the Welkeroth Family, a proud supporter of the Medal of Honor Foundation
TIBOR RUBIN, CORPORAL US ARMY

On May 5, 1945, Rubin clung to life in Mauthausen. Among thousands of Jews in Hungary rounded up by the Nazis, as the U.S. Army liberated the camp, Rubin made a promise that if he could ever immigrate to the U.S. he would join the Army and become a “GI Joe”.

Rubin came and fulfilled his dream by joining the U.S. Army in 1950. He was assigned to the 8th Cavalry Regiment and sent to Korea. On one of his first engagements, he stayed behind, covering his company on a nighttime redeployment. In the dark, he stocked empty foxholes and when the North Koreans attacked the next morning he ran from foxhole to foxhole firing his rifle and lobbing grenades. Rubin single handedly held the hill throughout the next day. On another occasion, when Chinese forces attacked his unit in a massive night assault, Rubin took over a .30-caliber machine gun, and continued to man it while his unit retreated, staying at his post until he ran out of ammunition, was injured, and ultimately captured. As a POW for the next two and a half years, Rubin employed everything he had learned surviving the Holocaust to keep himself and others alive, saving more than forty lives during his captivity.

Finally, after the cease-fire and his repatriation to America, Rubin received his long awaited U.S. Citizenship. He was awarded the Medal of Honor by President George W. Bush.

Rubin’s story exemplifies the selfless sacrifice, courage, and humility of the Medal of Honor Recipients. They are true heroes.

Sponsored by the Welteroth Family, a proud supporter of the Medal of Honor Foundation
Tibor Rubin (1929 - 2015)
Corporal, U.S. Army, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division

Sponsored by the Welteroth Family, a proud supporter of the Medal of Honor Foundation
Sponsored by the Welteroth Family, a proud supporter of the Medal of Honor Foundation
MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS ESTABLISHED
A FOUNDATION WITH A UNIQUE MISSION

The Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation was chartered by Recipients in 1999. The Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to perpetuating the Medal of Honor’s legacy through awareness, outreach, and education.

The Foundation strives through its programs and initiatives, and the personal contributions of the Recipients in communities across America, to promote the behaviors and values shared by servicemen and Recipients.

Today the number of living Medal of Honor Recipients is at its lowest point in history. And the Foundation faces a tough challenge, maintaining a heritage that is quickly vanishing.

While each of the Recipients is quick to point out that, since the Medal can only be received for war-time heroism, they hope that there will be no new Recipients, we as Americans are rapidly losing some of our greatest heroes and role models.

Read the stories of the Recipients in the book, "Medal of Honor: Portraits of Valor Beyond The Call of Duty" (2011). And living history videos can be found on the Foundation website. The Foundation is dedicated to preserving their memory and inspiring generations of Americans young and old. But more must be done.

Sponsored by the Welteroth Family,
a proud supporter of the Medal of Honor Foundation

Congressional Medal of Honor Society
www.cmohs.org

Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation
www.cmohfoundation.org

GW New York MOHF Advertising Program
www.gwnewyork.com/moh
They do so through speaking in public, in schools and at private events and by recognizing fellow Americans (not in military service) who emulate the values they so strongly believe in with a citizen medal -- recognizing them for their personal acts of heroism and selfless sacrifice.

The 76 living Recipients of the Medal of Honor believe that the mark of a true hero is to have the moral courage to do what needs to be done because it is the right thing to do. They believe that every person can change fate by acting on their convictions with selflessness and courage. It is the mission of the Foundation to spread this message.

The Character Development Program was initiated by Medal of Honor Recipients specifically to take their message to the schools. This unique curriculum is available free from the Foundation. Stories of these great men are shared in the book, “Choosing Courage: Inspiring Stories of What It Means To Be a Hero” (2015).

The Citizen Honors Program is managed by the Foundation and receives nominations from across the country regarding acts of heroism. Medal of Honor Recipients consider all those who are nominated and ultimately select the few most deserving to bestow upon them the Citizen Honors Medal.

Sponsored by the Welteroth Family, a proud supporter of the Medal of Honor Foundation
Sponsored by the Welteroth Family, a proud supporter of the Medal of Honor Foundation
OUR TRUE HEROES NEED HELP TO SPREAD THEIR MESSAGE

The Medal of Honor Foundation strives to reach the American public. Too many are unaware of the Medal of Honor and the values it really stands for.

Help is needed to increase their reach, so Recipients can touch more Americans and inspire the kind of selfless courageous acts that average people can take part in every day when extraordinary circumstances call for action.

Individuals can change fate. They can change America and change the world for the better. It’s a powerful message and one that deserves our support.

For more information on supporting The Medal of Honor Foundation contact:
CMOHF
cmohf@cmohfoundation.org
+1-703-469-1861

To find out more about how your organization can become a corporate sponsor of the Medal of Honor advertising program contact:
moh@gwnewyork.com
+1-212-335-0362

“Any nation that does not honor its heroes will not long endure.”

Abraham Lincoln

Sponsored by the Welteroth Family,
a proud supporter of the Medal of Honor Foundation