Coalition Update



About 250,000 veterans sign up for new Exchange benefit

Military.com

About 250,000 people have registered for a new benefit from the military exchanges that allows all honorably discharged veterans to shop online, officials with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) said Monday. The new benefit allows all honorably discharged troops to access the exchange services' online stores, regardless of how long they spent in uniform. Users will be able to access online stories for AAFES, the Navy Exchange, the Marine Corps Exchange and the Coast Guard Exchange. **READ MORE**

Shulkin calls for advisory board on VA benefits programs

Military.com

Veterans Affairs Secretary Dr. David Shulkin has called for a new approach to dealing with the department's vast array of compensation programs while stressing again and again that he is not looking to cut benefits. A new Veterans Benefit Advisory Board would "bring clarity to what we're trying to do for veterans and what's best and how we can do that in the best way," Shulkin said in an address Monday at the National Press Club. **READ MORE**

VA announces Veterans Day 2017 events for this week

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

"Veterans Day has a special place in the lives not only of our Veterans, but for all citizens as we pay tribute to the service of those past and present who have contributed so much to our nation's history," said VA Secretary David Shulkin. "President Trump has proclaimed, for the first time, that November is Veterans and Military Families Month and we are seeing nationwide events that will showcase Veterans." READ MORE

"I just happened to be a guy in a place"

Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

MOAA had the opportunity for an exclusive interview with Capt. Gary "Mike" Rose, USA (Ret), shortly before he was awarded the Medal of Honor Oct. 23 for his heroic actions as a medic during the Vietnam War. A transcript of the interview, edited for length and clarity, follows. **READ MORE**

3 things veterans want you to know on Veterans Day

SpouseBuzz

We spend a lot of time hearing about what other people think we should do and say on Veterans Day. But what do veterans themselves actually want us to know? These three tips by veterans from different branches, jobs and ranks will help us to remember what is at the heart of Veterans Day and how we can honor our veterans this November 11th, READ MORE

ESPN visits USS Freedom for 'A Salute to America's Heroes'

U.S. Department of Defense

ESPN's show "First Take" was broadcast live from the flight deck of the littoral combat ship USS Freedom, Nov. 6. More than 150 sailors, veterans, families and friends attended the live broadcast of "A Salute to America's Heroes," in celebration of Veterans Day. "What better a ship to do a Veterans Day show on, than on the USS Freedom," said Navy Cmdr. Michel Falzone, the ship's commander. READ MORE