



Butler County Veterans Service Commission

Veterans Serving Veterans

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2019 Veteran of Year

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The Butler County Veterans Service Commission held its Veterans' Day ceremony on November 11th, 2020 and James Carl "JC" Lewis, a 73-year-old Air Force veteran from Milford Twp., was named 2019 Veteran of the Year.

During his service, Lewis was awarded National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor, Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze stars, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm and Vietnam Campaign-Medal.

Lewis recounted stories of his service in Vietnam from 1967 to 1971. "When I came home there were protests, name calling everywhere I went, no welcome home," Lewis said. "I finally got my welcome home when I went on the honor flight last year. When I got back from Washington, D.C. at the Dayton airport, there were fans and thousands of people (who) welcomed me home. It was very emotional."



News from the Department of Veterans Affairs

Current Operating Status

As of November 17, 2020

BUTLER COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION: Due to the Health Restrictions and the COVID19 (Coronavirus), we are not currently taking face to face appointments. We are conducting all appointments via phone contact.

We are accepting veterans in person who are: Picking up checks/vouchers, or Dropping off documents for a staff member.

CINCINNATI VA: We are conducting a gradual reopening of face-to-face appointments. Many appointments where clinically appropriate can be done virtually. Masks must be worn. Please call your provider to schedule an appointment and to talk about virtual appointment options. For more information about VA's Connected Care technologies, visit connectedcare.va.gov.

DAYTON VA: Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) under the operation of the Dayton VA will temporarily move to virtual care only. Veterans who have questions about routine medical care, pharmacy refills, or to speak to a medical provider, please call your local CBOC. Veterans may change their appointments to a telehealth appointment. Please call your provider to ask if this is an option. If telehealth is not available, providers may be able to do a telephone appointment. Not all appointments will be ideal for telehealth or phone call, discuss with your provider if it's the best option for you. Please check with your provider for more information.

COVID19 stats as of November 23, 2020

- ⇒ Butler County total cases: 14,138—Deaths: 144
- ⇒ Ohio total cases: 351K—Deaths: 5,596
- ⇒ United States total cases: 12.4M-Deaths: 257K



The Department of Veterans Affairs announced partnerships with other agencies in an effort to prep for a possible COVID-19 vaccine distribution.

If and when an authorized COVID-19 vaccine arrives, the Veterans Affairs Department aims to be ready to distribute it.

VA announced that it will work with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other federal partners to ensure the prompt development of a COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan.

According to a press release, the plan will be a “phased approach based on scientific and historical evidence, lessons learned from past pandemic vaccine plans and input from scientific experts” within and outside VA.

“In October, staff at VA medical facilities conducted important planning exercises in preparation for the vaccine,” VA Secretary Robert Wilkie said in a statement. “These exercises help us to address vaccine distribution, allocation, safety monitoring and supply tracking.”

In recent weeks, two drugmakers—Pfizer and Moderna—have announced promising early results for possible vaccine candidates, though neither has yet received authorization by the Food and Drug Administration necessary for mass distribution.

According to VA, vaccine distribution would occur in two phases: an initial limited-supply phase and a general implementation phase, where larger supplies of the vaccine could be available to veterans who wish to receive it.

Focus on Staff: Receptionist Anita Lewis



Anita Lewis joined the Butler County Veterans Service Commission in March 2020 as a Transportation Scheduler/Receptionist.

Anita came from Synchrony Financial, where she retired after 36 years. She is married to a proud Airforce Vietnam veteran, James Carl Lewis. James is the Financial Officer for AMVETS Post 1983 and Anita is the Public Relation Officer for the Ladies Auxiliary.

Anita is proud to be serving the veterans of Butler County.



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Veterans Service Commission



The Butler County Veterans Service Commission is an agency that provides veterans and their dependents reliable and professional service in providing advocacy and assistance in obtaining veterans benefits, temporary financial assistance, and transportation to VA appointments. The Butler County Veterans Service Commission works closely with our community partners to best meet the needs of the veteran families that we service, thus helping to improve the lives of veterans and their families residing within Butler County.

Upcoming Events:

Office Closed:
December 24/25, 2020

Butler County Veterans Service Commissioners meeting on December 9, 2020. You can watch on live on Facebook: www.facebook.com/bcvets

Honoring the Fallen:



Army Staff Sgt. Kyle Robert McKee

Died November 12, 2020

35, of Painesville, Ohio, died Nov. 12, 2020, in a helicopter crash while on a peacekeeping mission on Egypt's Sinai Peninsula. McKee was a UH-60 helicopter repairer assigned to Task Force Sinai's aviation company. McKee enlisted in 2003 and arrived in Egypt this July. His previous overseas tours include time in Korea, Afghanistan and Iraq.