

# WVI Newsletter



December 2019

## UToledo Veterans Breakfast & Resource Fair

UT Savage Hall was filled with veterans and family members for the annual Veterans Day Breakfast and Resource Fair on November 11 from 9:00am - 11:00am. The morning was filled with military ceremony, patriotic music, good food and veteran information. United States Vets, Inc shared their table with WVI members Denise Schantz and Carolyn Nagy. 2019 was a record year as WVI was able to add 18 new women veterans to the roster.



WVI Members  
Picture provided by Kurt Nielsen Photography

## Holiday Party

- ◆ Tuesday, December 10, 2019
- ◆ 6:00pm - 9:00pm
- ◆ Charlies at 1631 Toll Gate Drive, Maumee
- ◆ Snacks provided by WVI. Beverages on your own
- ◆ Merriment - Gifts- Door prizes
- ◆ Bring another women veteran with you
- ◆ RSVP: By December 5 to [cenagy@bex.net](mailto:cenagy@bex.net)



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## Ohio Women's Veterans Day—Update

It was announced on November 11, 2019 that the Ohio Legislature passed the bill designating June 12 as Women Veterans Day. The significance of this date is that on June 12, 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed into law the Women's Armed Services Act allowing women to serve as regular members of the military. The final step will be the governor's signature.

## American Legion Welcomes all Veterans



On July 30, 2019 President Trump signed the Legion Act which redefines the American Legion's membership eligibility dates. The new membership eligibility now spans from December 7, 1941, until a time Congress determines that the United States is no longer at war. The Legion Act encourages honorably discharged veterans who served after December 7, 1941 to become a member.

The American Legion is committed to mentoring youth, sponsorship of wholesome programs, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security and continued devotion to our fellow service members. Contact information: American Legion Department of Ohio: 740-362-7478 or email [lgion@ohiolegion.com](mailto:lgion@ohiolegion.com) or visit [legion.org](http://legion.org). (News release: S. Heller, Ohio Department Adjunct)

# WVI Members in the News



Major Grosjean  
Picture provided by C.Nagy

**Lourdes University** invited Major Melanie L. Grosjean (Logistics Readiness Squadron Commander to the 180th Tactical Fighter Group) to speak at their Veterans Day event. Major Grosjean spoke about “her story” and women in the military.

**Mature Living** interviewed Becky Ohm (Air Force Fighter Pilot) and Jennifer Wakefield (Navy) for their November Salute to Veteran issue. (Note: Becky Ohm is the owner of *The Flying Joe* at Levis Commons—stop in for a refreshment break during your holiday shopping.

## Veteran Art Exhibit

The Veteran Art Exhibit at the Way Public Library (Perryburg) opened with a reception held at the Way Library on November 10 at 2:00pm. Heather Seymour, MSW, LSW, Columbus VA ACC Veterans Art Initiative, Creative Arts Coordinator, National Creative Arts Representative, spoke about art being a benefit to veterans and their mental health. Ms. Seymour briefly described the research being done with veterans with suicidal tendencies. There was also a presentation and book signing by author William Hunt, “Reflections on the Vietnam War: A Fifty-year Journey”. Attendees had the opportunity to enjoy the exhibit, refreshments, music and speeches.

Several WVI members contributed to the art exhibition, they are: Wanda Murrell (Army) sang the national anthem, Claudia Jones (USAF) and Meghan Michael (USN) loaned uniforms, Denise Schantz (USN) contributed bootcamp memorabilia and Carolyn Nagy (Army) has two photographs on exhibit.

The Veteran Art Exhibit is located in the lower level of the Way Public Library and is open to the public during normal library hours. The exhibit runs



Wanda Murrell  
Picture provided by C. Nagy

until January 5, 2020.  
Stop in and check out the art exhibit.

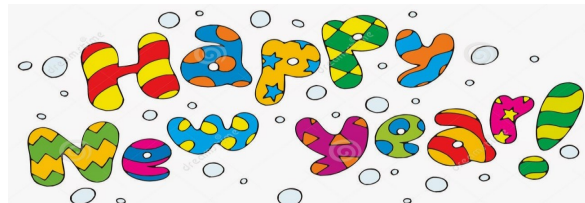


ODVS Dir. D. Ashenurst, M. Hanna,  
Gov. M. DeWine  
Picture provided by David Ridenour

## Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame

Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame inducted *Mary Hanna* (USAF). The induction ceremony was held November 7, 2019 for the 20 inductees at the Radiant Life Church in Dublin.

Ms. Hanna served during the Vietnam War and was a nurse at Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines from 1968 to 1972. She is currently the executive director of the Wood County Veterans Assistance Center.



## 2020 Calendar

**March 14 (Saturday)** morning conference to celebrate Women Military History month. This free event will be held at Genesis Village.

**March** in the Lucas County Memorial Day Parade. E. Sepeda has challenged all of us to bring, at least, one women veteran for the march.

A Veteran Art Exhibit will be held in **May** at the American Frame (Arrowhead Park). The exhibit will focus on women artists. Start thinking about what you would like to exhibit.

Summer picnic (usually **July**) for veterans and their families will be held at a local metro-park. This free event is sponsored by United States Vets, Inc.

**NOTE: Fliers will be forwarded for all events when details are available.**