



## American Legion Post 201

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[www.legion201.org](http://www.legion201.org)

Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024

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### **Hurricane Disaster Resources Available for Georgia Veterans**

*Editor's Note: This past Monday the Veterans Administration published an email which should help answer questions about VA disaster assistance. While we do not think many in the Post 201 Family need this information, it may be of value to some, or you may know a veteran who might find the information helpful. We have decided to publish the full text of the email. If it helps any veteran, then doing this has value. - hdh*

This email will help answer your questions about VA disaster assistance. If you need help determining where to go for care or have questions about VA resources available to you, call 1-800-MyVA411 ([1-800-698-2411](tel:1-800-698-2411)).

Natural disasters may impact your ability to reach us by phone. If you think your life or health is in danger, call **911** or go to the nearest emergency room. If you have non-urgent questions, you can reach VA through the [VA Health & Benefits App](#) or [My HealthVet](#) secure messaging to schedule an appointment, refill prescriptions, and access your medical records.

You can also send us your questions through the secure [Ask VA](#) online tool. A VA representative who's familiar with the topic you're asking about will respond.

### Health Care

**Check the operating status of VA facilities** in the Georgia Area. If your health is impacted by a disaster, please **contact your local VA**.

### VA Southeast Network (VISN 7) Clinical Contact Center (VA Health Connect) 1-855-679-0214

The VISN 7 Clinical Contact Center provides 24/7/365 virtual urgent and tele-emergency care to Veterans enrolled for VA Health Care in Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina. Veterans who receive care in the network can call **1-855-679-0214** around the clock to get their health questions or concerns addressed from the comfort and convenience of their home, or wherever they may be. Services include general administrative support, nurse triage, pharmacy, virtual visits with a doctor or nurse practitioner, and more.

**Veterans Crisis Line:** Dial 988 then Press 1, text to 838255, **chat online**. Support for deaf and hard of hearing: 1-800-799-4889.

### Housing

If you or a Veteran you know needs immediate housing assistance in the aftermath of a natural disaster, call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans (available 24/7): **1-877-424-3838**. The **VA Specially Adapted Housing Program** may be able to assist you in funding home repairs after a disaster. VA can ask home loan lenders to put a 90-day freeze on foreclosure or encourage waiving late charges for VA home loans. Visit the **VA home loans webpage** to learn more.

### Compensation and Claims

If you're unable to receive a benefit payment after a disaster, contact the VA National Call Center at **1-800-827-1000** to request a special one-time payment. *Note: If natural disasters disrupt the timeliness of receiving your claims paperwork or gathering information from you, you won't be penalized for subsequent mail delays. You can also submit claims and upload other relevant information through your [VA.gov](#) account.*

### Employment

If you're a displaced Veteran and receive VA employment services, you may qualify for two additional months of Employee Adjustment Allowance. **Contact your local VA regional office** to speak with a Veteran Readiness & Employment specialist to learn more.

### Education

If your school closes temporarily due to a disaster, VA may continue payments. Contact GI Bill specialists Monday–Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. CT at **1-888-442-4551**.

- Students using Chapter 33 (Post-9/11 GI Bill) or Chapter 35 (Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance Program): If the enrollment was submitted prior to the recent disaster, no further action is necessary to continue to receive benefits.
- Students Using Chapter 30 or 1606 (Montgomery GI Bill) and students using Chapter 33 who are attending Non-College Degree programs and receive monthly housing allowance or kickers should continue to **verify their attendance** as if the school did not close to ensure benefits are not affected.

*Note: If your school remains open, but you're unable to attend (i.e., if you had to relocate because of the natural disaster), VA is unable to continue GI Bill benefit payments. When you're no longer pursuing classes, your school must report the termination to VA as soon as possible.*

### **Insurance**

VA assists those affected by a natural disaster through such options as instant loan approval online and expedited same-day processing for policy loans. In addition, we expedite same-day processing and approval for:

- Withdrawals from dividend credit and deposit accounts.
- Extension of premium payment grace period.
- Extension of reinstatement deadlines.

### **Processing Death Claims**

The Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (OSGLI) follows disaster alerts issued by each state's Department of Insurance in the event of natural disaster. These alerts generally provide a moratorium on lapsing or extending premium payments. To learn more, call VA's Insurance Center at [1-800-669-8477](tel:1-800-669-8477).

### **Fraud**

Unfortunately, some predators use natural disasters and emergencies—including disaster response imposters and scammers claiming they are charities to fake emergency loans— as opportunities to target Veterans. Protect yourself and others by reviewing these [fraud prevention tips](#), calling the VSAFE fraud hotline at [1-833-388-7233](tel:1-833-388-7233) or visiting the [VSAFE website](#).

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## **~ ~ Post 201 News Notes ~ ~**

**8th Annual Cruz-In Special Planning Meeting Tonight** - Cruz-In chair Tommy Youngblood has called a special meeting tonight for his "hit team" of volunteers who are visiting a dozen or more car shows in the greater metro Atlanta area between now and the Post's Cruz-In on Saturday, Nov. 9 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The hit team members visiting the car shows are soliciting participation in the Post's show, seeking sponsorships for the Cruz-In, and looking for raffle donations. Tonight's meeting will be one of Tommy's "how are we doing and what else do we need to do" meetings. And he's always looking for volunteers to help on Cruz-In day. Give him a call at 678-462-9023, or drop him an email at [youngbloodtom@att.net](mailto:youngbloodtom@att.net) if you can help. [Click here](#) for more information on this year's Cruz-In.

**Bingo is Back - - Last Rehearsal** – The Auxiliary has scheduled its final Bingo 'practice game' before the Sunday, Oct. 13 'open to the public' game for 1 p.m. this Sunday in the Ballroom. The practice session is open only to members of the Post 201 Family (Legionnaires, SAL and Auxiliary). Those who want to play should plan to arrive in the 12:30 p.m. time frame since they will need to purchase cards/machines. Cash prizes may be awarded at Sunday's practice session if a sufficient number of cards are purchased.

**Chillin' and Grillin' Update** - Although UGA fans could only celebrate being in the lead for 13 seconds at this past Saturday's Chillin' and Grillin' dinner in the Clubroom/Bar - - - and Alabama fans took the victory - - - the real winner of the evening was the Post. Bar sales (which includes both bars) were slightly in excess of \$1,200 compared to a regular Saturday evening when sales

generally average somewhere between \$500 and \$600. And a special thanks to the SAL for providing the food and doing the cooking!

**Bourbon and Cigar Night Final \$\$\$** - While the Chillin' and Grillin' income numbers were really strong for the Post, on a per capita basis DiAna Casale's Bourbon & Cigar night wins the grand prize. Income after expenses for her Friday, Sept. 13 evening was \$878.77 for 30 people. Do the math! That's a great number.

**Receives National Award** - Post 201 Legionnaire Geoffrey Chandler, who lives in Peachtree City, was recently presented the Civil Air Patrol's National Historian of the Year award.

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## Upcoming Post 201, Other Veteran Related Activities

*Every Sunday at 7 p.m. - - Karaoke in the Clubroom/Bar.  
Lots of Laughs, Good Times, and even Greater People.  
Libations at a much better price than downtown!*

### VIEW FEATURED POST EVENTS

**Tuesday, Oct. 1, 6 p.m. House Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, Oct. 3, 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting**

**Saturday, Oct. 5., 11 a.m. Vietnamese-American War Memorial Dedication**, Brook Run Park, [4770 North Peachtree Road, Dunwoody](#) (near the existing DeKalb Veterans Memorial). [Click here for more information](#) and to see a photo of the statue.

**Saturday, Oct. 5 & Friday, Nov. 1 We CARE Vet Fairs** - - United We Care ([www.unitedmilitarycare.org](http://www.unitedmilitarycare.org)), an East Cobb County-based veterans service organization has scheduled two We CARE Vet Fairs this fall. The first will be at Ebenezer Baptist Church, [101 Jackson St. NE, Atlanta](#) on Saturday, Oct. 5, 2024. The second will be at the Cobb County Civic Center, [548 S. Marietta Pkwy., Marietta](#) on Friday, Nov. 1, 2024. [Click here](#) for more information on the Ebenezer Baptist Church event; and [click here](#) for more information on the Cobb County Civic Center event.

**Saturday, Oct. 5, All Day. Need An Oil Change But Low on Funds?** Christian Brothers Automotive, [5690 Bethelview Rd., Cumming](#), is offering a free oil change, car wash and interior vacuuming to those in need. You must be scheduled so call for an appointment at 470-253-7376! Enjoy a bounce house for the children, breakfast, lunch, treats, golf simulator and more!

**Monday, Oct. 7, 6 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.** *Note: This meeting was changed from Tuesday, Oct. 8 to Monday, Oct. 7.*

**Sunday, Oct. 13, 2 p.m. Bingo is Back!** Post 201 Ballroom. \$1,000 Jackpot. [Click here for details.](#)

**Sunday, Oct. 13. U.S. Navy Birthday.** On Oct. 13, 1775, the Continental Congress established a naval force, hoping that a small fleet of privateers could attack British commerce and offset British sea power. To honor the Navy's birthday, the price of any rum-based drink served at the bar will be reduced by \$1 for any veteran from any branch of service. In the U.S. Navy the daily rum ration was one-half U.S. pint of distilled spirits until 1842, when it was reduced to one gill (1/4th of a U.S. pint). The ration was abolished in 1862.

**Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m. General Membership Meeting.** Dinner service scheduled to start at 6 p.m.

**Wednesday, Oct. 16. 7th Annual Rick Gimpel Memorial Golf Tournament.** The Golf Club at Bradshaw Farm, 3030 Bradshaw Drive, Woodstock. 9:30 a.m Shotgun start. 8 a.m. Registration. For more information contact Derek Garmon, [derekgarmon@yahoo.com](mailto:derekgarmon@yahoo.com), 770-294-4259 or Bruce Hay, [hayville@att.net](mailto:hayville@att.net), 309-657-8528.

**Saturday, Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Haunted Voices Halloween Party,** Post Clubroom/Bar. [Click here for more information.](#)

**Monday, Nov. 4, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Veterans Day Lunch Celebration** at Preston Ridge Community Center, [3655 Preston Ridge Rd., Alpharetta](#). Hosted by the City of Alpharetta Recreation Parks & Cultural Services. *Reservations need to be made by Friday, Oct. 25.* [Click here](#) to make reservations.

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CLUB 201 DANCE - LEARN MORE

## VETERANS RESOURCES

Visit the [Resource Page](#) at Post 201's website, [www.legion201.org](http://www.legion201.org) for a significant amount of information concerning various resources available for veterans. You'll find a Survivor Assistance Checklist, Benefits for Georgia Veterans, Burial at Sea Information, Veteran's License Plates Information, Emergency Housing Information Guide and many other resources.

Past Issues of the Post's E-newsletter - [Click here.](#)

VA Telephone Hotline - 1-877-222-8387

Veterans Crisis Line - 1-800-273-8255 Press 1

Post 201 Service Officer Hotline for Vets-at-Risk - 631-720-6022

Legion      SAL      Auxiliary      More  
Veterans Resources      Photo Gallery

**POST 201 - SERVING VETERANS SINCE 1947**



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