



The Wounded Warrior Voice

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April 24, 2009

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WHAT'S NEW?: AW2 Staff Training 2009

AW2 staff will be involved in annual training between April 27 and May 1. We ask that you please be patient during this time for AW2 staff to return your calls and emails. If you need immediate assistance, please call the AW2 Contact Center (800) 237-1336 (8 a.m. – 7 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday) and they will assist you.

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WHAT'S NEW?: AW2 Symposium 2009

The 2009 AW2 Symposium is quickly approaching. The Symposium is scheduled to be held in San Antonio, Texas, July 8-14, at the Grand Hyatt. AW2 conducts annual symposiums to identify and develop recommendations regarding issues which impact the health, recovery, rehabilitation, transition, and welfare of AW2 Soldiers, Family members, and caregivers. The Army has learned over the years that supporting the Family is essential to a Soldier's recovery and is illustrated in the Army's "Family Covenant."

AW2 is now accepting issue submissions and delegate applications from all AW2 Soldiers, Family members, and caregivers. This is your opportunity to influence and change policies, planning, and procedures related to warrior care and transition for severely wounded, injured, and ill Soldiers and their Families. Issues selected at previous symposiums have been brought to the attention of government, Army, and veterans' organizations resulting in positive changes and ongoing dialogue. If you would like to become a delegate or submit an issue please visit www.aw2.army.mil and fill out the Issue Submission and Delegate Application forms.

There are many exciting events planned for this year's symposium. There will be opportunities to meet with veterans' service organizations and nonprofits that can help you and your family. Also, AW2 is teaming up with the National Military Family Association (NMFA) to host Operation Purple©—an urban adventure camp for children ages 6-17. Daycare will be provided for children under the age of six. Both daycare and Operation Purple© are provided at no cost and children's airfare will be paid by NMFA.

For more details on the AW2 Symposium 2009, visit www.aw2.army.mil or contact your local Advocate.

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WHAT'S NEW?: TRICARE Beneficiaries Have Access to DoD Self-Service Logon

The Department of Defense (DoD) Family member account to access the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) has a new name and the Web site has a new look. It is now called "DS Logon." A DoD Self-Service Logon—or "DS Logon"—is a secure credential issued to uniformed service members, spouses, and other family members 18 and older who are eligible for benefits in the DEERS system. It allows access to secure DoD web applications. A DS Logon electronically links a TRICARE beneficiary's identity to their medical records, pay and human resource systems, and allows them to access different web applications, such as the beneficiary web enrollment Web site at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/bwe/>.

To create a DS Logon, sponsors may use their CAC or MyPay personal identification number (PIN) in the DS Logon Access Manager at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dsaccess>. Sponsors may request a DS Logon for themselves or a Family member. A PIN will be mailed along with

instructions on how to activate the DS Logon. Family members can also request a DS Logon for themselves at a RAPIDS station when they are getting an identification card and the one-time PIN will be mailed to them. For more information about requesting a DS Logon, visit the DEERS Web site at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/dsaccess/pub/FAQ.do>.

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CAREERS: In Search of a Career

By Rose Marie Tinker, Career Coordinator

AW2 Soldiers and Family members have an advantage that the average job seeker does not—the AW2 Career and Education Section working on their behalf. Created in May 2008, the Career and Education Section works to expedite career and education opportunities for AW2 Soldiers and Families by removing the roadblocks. To date, nearly 400 AW2 Soldiers and Family members have been assisted by the Career and Education Section. AW2 Soldiers and Families now work for federal and private agencies, and many AW2 Soldiers have gone back to school to enhance their current or future careers.

Obtaining assistance from the AW2 Career and Education Section is easy. AW2 Soldiers and Family members may give their Advocate a copy of their resume and ask them to contact the Career and Education Section. An AW2 Career Coordinator will contact the AW2 Soldier and/or Family to start the process. The length of time it takes to obtain employment varies depending on the qualifications of the AW2 Soldier or Family Member, agencies' vacancies, and the economy—the right Soldier, the right time, and the right location. For additional information on the AW2 Career and Education Section visit www.AW2.army.mil/CareerandEducation or email AW2careerprogram@conus.army.mil.

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CAREERS: Ways to Explain Why You Haven't Worked in Years

By Rose Marie Tinker, Career Coordinator

One of the challenges for AW2 Soldiers and Family members wanting to return to work is explaining the time spent away from the job market. Recovering from wounds, injuries, and illness; or caring for someone with wounds, injuries, or illness takes longer than expected, sometimes years. But all is not lost. The best approach is to handle the employers' concerns upfront and honestly. The following tips from JobShop, Inc. will help Soldiers and Family members prepare for an interview.

- Don't dodge any issues. A potential employer has the right to be concerned about any lapse in employment. Most want to hire veterans.
- Don't be defensive. Even if a question seems insulting, don't get emotional. Answer the question truthfully and in a way that puts the employers' anxiety at ease.
- Don't apologize. If you were a stay-at-home mom or stayed at home to care for your Soldier, discuss your time away as a choice, not something you were forced into.
- Do be positive. Talk about the value of your time off as it relates to your job. Remember, you were learning a skill while you worked at home or pursued a personal goal while you cared for your Soldier.
- Do show commitment to working. Don't leave the impression you are testing the job market or this is a temporary lark for you. Be very open about your desire to work and your long-term goals.

To learn more about AW2 Career and Education, visit www.aw2.army.mil/CareerandEducation.

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EDUCATION: Harvard University Financial Aid

By Rose Marie Tinker, Career Coordinator

Through the Harvard Financial Aid Initiative (HFAI), students from Families with less than \$60,000 who are accepted into Harvard under the regular application and admissions process will have no expected parent contribution for their education over four years. Additionally, Families that make less than \$80,000 will see their expected parent contributions significantly reduced. In order to benefit from the initiative, a student must apply to Harvard and for financial aid; if accepted, he or she will receive a financial aid package that meets the demonstrated need. Harvard does not look at whether or not a student can pay for college when they determine whether or not the student is accepted.

Harvard Financial Aid meets 100% of all Families' demonstrated need; for the 2008-2009 school year, need-based scholarships are expected to total over \$120 million. Admissions requirements, as well as forms, are available at www.admissions.college.harvard.edu. In order to apply for financial aid, visit www.collegeboard.edu. If there are any special circumstances that affect how applying for financial aid, visit www.fao.fas.harvard.edu or call (617) 495-1581. To talk to current students about life at Harvard or the admissions process, call (617) 384-8213.

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EDUCATION: Supportive Education for the Returning Veteran (SERV)

SERV is a new program at Cleveland State University (CSU) that is designed to assist military veterans with their transition from Soldier to civilian to student. Classes have been designed specifically for veterans to help them in that very important first year of college. In addition, support is provided for veterans who have taken college-level coursework previously at CSU or elsewhere. The program is open to veterans only. Visit <http://www.csuohio.edu/academic/serv/> for more information.

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EDUCATION: Crane Learning & Employment Center (CLEC)

By Rose Marie Tinker, Career Coordinator

The Crane Learning and Employment Center for Veterans with Disabilities has created a pilot program in association with the Naval Surface Warfare Center at Crane, IN. The pilot utilizes the Student Education Employment Program—a year-round program in which students may work full-time, part-time, or alternate work time with school time. The program provides work experience that is directly related to the student's academic program and career goals.

AW2 Soldiers interested in becoming part of the pilot must be an honorably discharged veteran or an active duty servicemember awaiting discharge; eligible for Chapter 31 VA Vocational Rehabilitation; willing to be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a degree-seeking student in an accredited two or four year college or university, graduate or professional school; and be willing to relocate to Southern Indiana, near Bloomington to start a new career.

For more information, contact Victoria Baker, CLEC Program Coordinator, at (812) 863-5003 or vbaker@optionsfbl.com, visit www.crane.navy.mil to learn more about Crane's education and

support programs for veterans, or contact Scott Cox, AW2 Career Coordinator, at (703) 325-6925.

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EDUCATION: Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program

The Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program (Yellow Ribbon Program) is a provision of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. This program allows institutions of higher learning (degree granting institutions) in the United States to voluntarily enter into an agreement with VA to fund tuition expenses that exceed the highest public in-state undergraduate tuition rate. The institution can waive up to 50 percent of those expenses, and VA will match the same amount as the institution.

A college participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program, Robert Morris University (RMU) in Moon Township, PA, announced that it will give veterans free tuition for graduate and undergraduate degrees. With its newly created RMU Military Service Award, the private university will cover the difference between its full-time tuition and a federal tuition subsidy offered to veterans under the Post- 9/11 GI Bill. The offer is open to all veterans, not just Pennsylvania residents. The university is also opening a Veterans Education and Training Center to help veterans and their Families with transition services and to assist with enrollment. For more information, visit the Robert Morris University Web site at <http://vets.rmu.edu/> or call Heather Jericho at (412) 397-3933.

Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program:

http://www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/CH33/Yellow_ribbon.htm

Yellow Ribbon Program, Robert Morris University Article:

<http://williamsport.wordpress.com/2009/02/27/college-to-participate-in-vas-yellow-ribbon-program/>

To find more military friendly schools, visit Military.com's School Finder:

<http://schools.military.com/schoolfinder/search-for-schools.do?esrc=mr.nl>

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EDUCATION: Purdue-based Program to Help Indiana Colleges Serve Student Veterans

Operation Diploma, which will be administered by Purdue's Military Family Research Institute and the Center for Families, will have its own staff dedicated to helping colleges address needs in the areas of admissions, academic advising, financial aid and veterans' benefits, student services, and counseling and disability support services. For more information, visit http://media-newswire.com/release_1087780.html.

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MONEY MATTERS: The Economic Recovery Payment

The new American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 included a one-time Economic Recovery Payment of \$250 to be made in 2009. If you are a retiree, disabled individual or a Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipient, you will receive your Economic Recovery Payment directly from the Social Security Administration. If you receive disabled veterans benefits, you will receive your Economic Recovery Payment from the Department of Veterans Affairs. If you receive Railroad Retirement benefits, you will receive your Economic Recovery Payment from the Railroad Retirement Board. VA estimates issue of payment should begin in

June 2009. You do not have to file a tax return to get your Economic Recovery Payment. For further information on this one-time Economic Recovery Payments please contact the agency that pays your benefit.

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MONEY MATTERS: Introduction to the Veterans' Aid and Attendance Special Pension *By Dexter B. Friday Donations Program/Finance Support Specialist*

The Veterans' Administration offers a Special Pension with Aid and Attendance (A&A) benefit that is largely unknown. This special pension (part of the VA Improved Pension program) allows for veterans and surviving spouses who require the regular attendance of another person to assist in eating, bathing, dressing, undressing, or using the restroom to receive additional monetary benefits. It also includes individuals who are blind or a patient in a nursing home because of mental or physical incapacity. Assisted care in an assisted living facility also qualifies.

This most important benefit is overlooked by many Families with veterans or surviving spouses who need additional monies to help care for ailing parents or loved ones. This is a "pension benefit" and is not dependent upon service-related injuries for compensation. Most veterans who are in need of assistance qualify for this pension. A&A can help pay for care in the home, nursing home or assisted living facility. A veteran is eligible for up to \$1,632 per month, while a surviving spouse is eligible for up to \$1,055 per month. A couple is eligible for up to \$1,949 per month.*

The A&A is considered to be the third tier of a VA Improved Pension program. The other two tiers are basic and housebound. Each tier has its own level of benefits and qualifications. While the objective of this site is to disseminate information about the A&A, we urge you to read an important document prepared by the American Veterans Institute that clearly explains the Improved Pension program, its levels of benefits and the qualifications for each. If you or your loved one does not qualify for A&A, you may want to check to see if you qualify for another level of the pension. For further information, visit www.veteranaid.org/.

*Figures are from the veteran's Administration as of December 1, 2008. Please contact the VA to verify current Aid and Attendance monthly payments.

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FAMILY: Sesame Street Helps Military Families Cope with Change

Talk, Listen, Connect™ aims to provide support and significant resources for military Families with children between the ages of two and five who are experiencing the effects of deployment, multiple deployments, and combat-related injuries. In 2006, Sesame Workshop launched a groundbreaking, bilingual (English/Spanish), multi-phase, multimedia initiative for young children and their military Families called *Talk, Listen, Connect™: Helping Military Families During Deployment*. In 2009, *Talk, Listen, Connect's™* second phase, *Deployments, Homecomings, Changes*, was launched to bolster the overall project and provide further resources for Families on the path to discovering a "new normal" in their daily lives. The second television special called, "Coming Home: Military Families Cope With Change" was a primetime special that allowed Families to share their stories not only with other military Families, but also with the general public. This new installment featured AW2 Soldier Michael Martin and his Family and will be available on DVD in the summer.

The Sesame Workshop also created an informative kit in both English and Spanish to help parents talk to their children about the issues their Families are facing because of repeated deployments and injuries. These kits are available to military Families through Military OneSource and various military organizations. The Sesame Workshop Web site also offers a variety of resources, including printed material, videos, and music to help military Families communicate about issues affecting them. In the summer of 2009, the program will launch Sesame Street Family Connections, a social Web site that will enable deployed or injured Soldiers to interact more easily with loved ones when distance or disability makes everyday communication difficult. <http://www.militaryonesource.com/>
<http://www.sesameworkshop.org/home>

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OPPORTUNITIES:

- **First Swing Learn to Golf Program:** The National Amputee Golf Association's First Swing Learn to Golf program is presented by the Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command and the United States Golf Association. The purpose is to encourage wounded servicemembers to return to an active lifestyle as soon as they are able, by assisting them in adapting their golf game to compensate for their injuries. The First Swing tour has scheduled stops Fort Campbell, KY, May 10-11; Fort Lewis, WA, July 18-19; and Fort Jackson, SC, September 13-14. For more information, please contact Trace Kea at trace.kea@us.army.mil or (703) 681-5255.
- **Lakeshore Foundation's 2009 Lima Foxtrot Programs for Severely Injured Military:** As part of Lakeshore Foundation's Injured Military Initiative, Lima Foxtrot programs are comprehensive program of fitness, recreation, sport, and transition support for severely injured military personnel throughout the nation. Lakeshore Foundation has the experience and expertise to help severely injured servicemembers regain active and independent lives through recreation and sport. For more information, visit <http://www.lakeshore.org/index.php?src=gendocs&ref=Lima%20Foxtrot&category=Main>.
- **Paralyzed Veterans and U.S. Handcycling Muddy Mayhem:** Paralyzed Veterans and U.S. Handcycling Muddy Mayhem event, off-road clinic and race, have been set for July 9-11 in Fort Collins, CO. Paralyzed Veterans is offering a limited number of slots for Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans at no cost. If you know someone who may be interested in participating, please contact Geoff Hopkins at geoffh@pva.org or (202) 416-7736.
- **Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc.:** Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc., initiated and conducted by members of the Federation of Fly Fishers and Trout Unlimited, serves military personnel who have been wounded, injured, or disabled to aid their physical and emotional recovery by introducing or rebuilding the skills of fly fishing and fly tying and by using and enjoying these skills on fishing outings and as lifelong recreation. While initially focusing on the military personnel in the Washington, DC area, the Project has expanded nationwide and is offering its services and program to active military personnel and veterans in DoD and VA hospitals throughout the country. The Project's program provides basic fly fishing, fly casting, and fly tying classes and clinics for the wounded and injured personnel—ranging from beginners to those with prior fly

fishing and tying experience who are adapting their skills to their new abilities. All activities and services are provided to the participants at no cost. Fly fishing and tying equipment and materials are provided to the participants, including equipment that accommodates their special needs. For more information, visit <http://www.projecthealingwaters.org/>.

- **Wheeler for the Wounded (WFTW):** WFTW is an organization with the primary mission of providing a weekend of off-roading, camping, and in some cases fishing, to wounded military members all over the United States. They will traverse extreme terrain in a variety of the off-road capable vehicles. For more information and a schedule of events, visit Wheeler for the Wounded at <http://www.wheelersforthewounded.com/>.

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AW2 SOLDIER STORIES

- AW2 Soldier **Alan Babin**, featured on the VA Web site, participated in the 23rd National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic, in Snowmass Village, CO, co-sponsored by the VA and the Disabled American Veterans. Babin is this year's recipient of the Winter Sports Clinic's Linnie Howard Spirit Award which is one of the Clinic's highest awards given to a participant. The award is presented to one individual who captures the spirit of the event—serving as a role model for all veteran participants and staff.
<http://www1.va.gov/vetevent/wsc/2009/NewsRelease.asp?no=1>
- AW2 Soldiers **Brian Beem, Johnny Jones, Carlos Labarca, Thomas McNabb, Gary Sawyers, and Melissa Trotter** participated in the Soldier's Spring Ski Week 2009, a partnership between Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center and Wounded Warriors Disabled Sports Project, in Breckenridge, CO. <http://www.boec.org/2009/04/12/soldiers-spring-ski-week-april-12-19-2009/>
- AW2 Soldiers **1LT Brian Brennan and SPC Ryan Price** are receiving help from their communities to make their homes accommodate their special needs and are featured in *The Press-Enterprise* in an article about their injuries and road to recovery.
http://www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_S_wounded05.3fcdaf.html
- AW2 Soldiers **SGT John Botts, PVT Drew Goin, PVT Richard Samudio and Sean White**, featured on the North Lake Tahoe Bonanza Web site, participated in the Wounded Warrior Ability Camp at Alpine Meadows.
<http://www.tahoebonanza.com/article/20090313/NEWS/903139937/1061&ParentProfile=1050&title=Wounded%20warriors%20%20%91I%20can%20do%20this%92>
- AW2 Soldier **SSG Kenneth Butler** was featured in *Hilton Head Island Packet* for receiving a bike from the Troops First Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Maryland that uses sports and other activities to enhance the lives of Soldiers and their Families. The bike is specially adapted for Butler, who lost his right arm while serving in Iraq. <http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/story/814302.html>

- AW2 Soldier **Clayton Carver** is featured in *Fort Hood Sentinel* in an amazing story about saving someone's life during a fishing trip.
<http://www.forthoodsentinel.com/story.php?id=515>
- AW2 Soldier **SSG Guillermo (William) Castillo** was featured on the Building Homes for Heroes Web site because they plan to build a mortgage-free house for him and his Family. <http://www.buildinghomesforheroes.com/news/windermere.htm>
- AW2 Soldiers **Kortney Clemons, Jerrod Fields, Andrew Soule, and Melissa Stockwell** were among the AW2 Soldiers to visit the DC area to talk about their involvement in the U.S. Paralympics and are featured on the US. Paralympics Web site. AW2 Stratcom Marketing Specialist, Mary Grimes, attended the event and took photos of the team. http://usparalympics.org/multimedia/photo_galleries
- AW2 Soldier **Steven Cobb** and his wife had a ski weekend at Snowshoe Mountain through the Wounded Warrior Project. The Cobbs and 17 Soldiers and Families received free adaptive ski lessons, free lift tickets and rentals, as well as special programming, including an evening reception according to an article on the WOWKTV Web site. <http://wowktv.com/story.cfm?func=viewstory&storyid=52555>
- AW2 Soldier **Melissa Cramblett** and AW2 Advocate Chet Garretson worked together to arrange for Soldiers from the Portland Recruiting Battalion to visit AW2 Soldier **Jon Appel**. Portland Recruiting Battalion group, lead by MAJ Robert Volk, presented Appel with the Battalion Commander's Coin and reviewed Appel's many commendations received while on active duty. Far from being a onetime visit, members of the battalion plan on maintaining contact with Appel and accompanying him on future outings.
- AW2 Soldiers **Jeff Cole, Joe Jenkins, and Robert Kaminski** are featured in *Vision for Excellence*, a VA Healthcare veterans Integrated Service Network 4 publication, for attending an outreach event for at Heinz field on October 7 (pages 1, 6-7).
<http://www.visn4.va.gov/docs/Newsletter/VISN4Newsletter-Issue5.pdf>
- AW2 Soldiers **Roberto Cruz and SSG Ramon Padillamunguia**, featured in *DefenseLINK*, also participated in the 23rd National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic, in Snowmass Village, CO.
<http://www.defenselink.mil/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=53762>
- AW2 Soldier **Mary Dague**, featured on the Montana's News Station Web site, visited both the Montana House and the Montana Senate to talk to them about the difficulty in coming home and integrating back into life. Dague suggested that the government provide service dogs or other methods of treatment to help wounded Soldiers cope.
http://www.montanasnewsstation.com/Global/story.asp?S=10007750&nav=menu227_7
- AW2 Soldier **MAJ Tammy Duckworth** was unanimously confirmed by the Senate to be Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs at the Department of Veterans Affairs, story was featured on KGMB9 News. Additionally, she was featured in a The State Journal-Register article for speaking at one of 10 all-day workshops being held around Illinois to prepare Soldiers' loved ones for their return. She was also featured on the American Association of University Women Web site because she will be receiving a Women of Distinction award at this year's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). <http://kgmb9.com/main/content/view/16553/76/>, <http://www.sj-r.com/archive/x108137452/Families-learn-to-help-returning-troops-adjust>, <http://blog-aauw.org/>

- AW2 Soldiers **Mark Ecker and Peter Rooney**, featured on *The Republican*, are slated to receive homes built for them by Homes for Our Troops.
http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/04/nonprofit_group_to_build_house.html?category=East%20Longmeadow
- AW2 Soldier **Brandon Erickson**, featured in the *Orange County Register*, is training for a triathlon in order to raise awareness and inspire other wounded veterans. Erickson is a law student at Chapman University.
http://www.oregister.com/oregister/news/local/orangevillapark/article_2327420.php
- AW2 Soldier **SGT Jerrod Fields** is featured on the Army Blog "The Year of Non-Commissioned Officers" for being a leader at home, on the track, and within the wounded warrior community. He was also featured in the photo of AW2 paralympians.
<http://nco.theopendemo.com/blog/?p=198>
- AW2 Soldier **SGT Bryan Florence, SGT Ryan Newell and SSG Juan Roldan**, featured in *New Hampshire Union Leader*, and about two dozen wounded military personnel received a hero's welcome when they arrived in New Hampshire for a weekend of skiing and snowboarding. The Wounded Warrior Disabled Sports Project sponsors the weekend and allows wounded troops to take part in sports activities as part of their rehabilitation.
<http://www.unionleader.com/article.aspx?headline=Wounded+Warriors+get+heroes'+welcome+in+NH&articleId=3016a915-f9fd-4707-ab61-b4e63904d472>
- AW2 Soldier **Ryan Kules**, project manager for the Wounded Warrior Project's Warriors to Work Program, participated in the DOD premiere of the Sesame Workshop *Talk, Listen, Connect™* television special "Coming Home: Military Families Cope With Change." This installment will be available on DVD in the summer.
<http://www.health.mil/MediaRoom/default.aspx?id=498&category=3>
- AW2 Soldier **Zachary Guill**, was hired to the U.S. House of Representatives for a job with Congressman Reichert and was featured on www.prnewswire.com and www.cao.house.gov. He attended a press conference where Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Members of Congress discussed the "House Wounded Warriors Program." Their initiative, begun by the Speaker during the 110th Congress, was established to create fellowships that provide employment opportunities for wounded or disabled veterans within the House of Representatives. <http://thehill.com/leading-the-news/pelosis-job-program-brings-in-9-wounded-vets-2009-03-09.html>
- AW2 Soldier **MSG Rick Haddad** is featured in *Stars and Stripes* describing the bombing where he was injured, the affect it had on the base and training that saved many.
<http://www.stripes.com/article.asp?section=104&article=60835>
- AW2 Soldier **Charles "Chuck" Isaacson** and his wife moved into their Sun Prairie specially-adapted house built through Homes for Our Troops.
<http://www.jsonline.com/news/wisconsin/41295972.html> Homes for Our Troops plans to build another home in Wisconsin for **SPC Jason M. Schulz**.
<http://www.jsonline.com/news/wisconsin/41295972.html>
- AW2 Soldier **Preston Jackson**, featured by *The Times-Tribune*, participated in a Hunts for Healing event at Ringneck Ridge Hunting Preserve, PA.
http://www.scrantontimes.com/articles/2009/03/16/lifestyles/sc_times_trib.20090316.c.pg1.tt16hunthealing_s1.2371764_fea.txt

- AW2 Soldier **SGM Brent R. Jurgensen**, featured in *Army Times*, discussed a new Army Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operation Center Web-based multimedia tool to address and help Soldiers discuss mortality with their Family members before they deploy that includes short, informative videos, and other items that coach Families in getting prepared for a tough subject.
http://www.armytimes.com/news/2009/02/army_casualty_prep_022209w/
- AW2 Soldier **Matt Keil** and his wife, featured in *Reader's Digest*, received assistance from several organizations which included a house built for his needs.
<http://www.rd.com/your-america-inspiring-people-and-stories/volunteers-help-repay-a-disabled-veterans-sacrifice/article115293.html>
- AW2 Soldier **CPL Wesley Leon-Barrientos** and his mother were featured in The Bakersfield Californian about assistance they received from Wounded Heroes Fund.
<http://www.bakersfield.com/102/story/699939.html>
- AW2 Soldier **SPC Hunter Levine** and his friends formed their own nonprofit foundation to help other Soldiers develop their own Web sites so they can tell their stories and have the same flood letters, support, and thanks help them, just like they helped Levine. His story is featured on KHOU-TV at
http://www.khou.com/news/local/montgomery/stories/khou09030331_mp_wounded_soldier.8e84a50b.html
- AW2 Soldier **Michael Martin** and his Family were featured in the new Sesame Workshop *Talk, Listen, Connect™* television special "Coming Home: Military Families Cope With Change." <http://www.sesameworkshop.org/initiatives/emotion/mission>
- "The Health of War Parts 1 & 2" is a two part series that examined the care veterans with brain injuries receive. AW2 Soldier **PVT Vincent Mannion** and his father are featured in the article. <http://www.thepoliticus.com/print/269>
- AW2 Soldier **J.R. Martinez** is featured on the CNN Web site about starring in a popular daytime soap opera. <http://www.cnn.com/2009/LIVING/02/16/jr.martinez/index.html>
- AW2 Soldier **SFC Daniel Metzdorf** was featured in the *DC Examiner* for "real grit" by being fitted for a computerized prosthetic leg, many hours of tough rehab, remaining a paratrooper in the Active Duty Army, being the first 'wounded warrior' graduate to join the elite U.S. Army Parachute Team, Golden Knights—with whom he proudly serves as Recruitment Liaison on the Black Demonstration Team. <http://www.examiner.com/x-6767-Miami-Military-Health-Examiner~y2009m4d13-Roboticcomputerized-prosthetic-legs-enables-an-82nd-ABN-Paratrooper-to-advance-his-career>
- AW2 Soldier **Kevin Miller Jr.**, featured on the Capital News 9 Web site, skied and snowboarded at Jiminy Peak Mountain in the Berkshires as part of a STRIDE event.
http://capitalnews9.com/content/your_news/134567/wounded-warriors-weekend/Default.aspx
- AW2 Soldier **Roy Mitchell**, featured on the Army MWR Web site, is striving to regain his golf form on a prosthetic leg and tinkering with a specialized golf cart.
http://www.armymwr.com/portal/news/display.asp?NEWS_ID=923
- AW2 Soldier **Matt Nicodemus** and wife are featured in *The Gazette*, discussing his long road to recovery with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and her creation of a nonprofit agency, the Cognogenesis Brain-injury Resource Research Advocacy and Integration Network (BRRAIN) Center that has been gaining momentum in the past year.
http://www.gazette.com/articles/nicodemus_49284___article.html/soldiers_ptsd.html

- AW2 Soldier **CPT Ray O'Donnell** was featured on the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Web site for participating in the Extremity War Injuries Symposium and speaking about the care he received.
<http://www.aaos.org/news/aaosnow/mar09/cover2.asp>
- AW2 Soldier **SSG Josh Olson**, featured on www.health.mil, is an internationally ranked shooter with the Army's World Class Athlete Program and he's aiming for a spot on the U.S. shooting team at the 2012 Paralympics in London.
<http://www.health.mil/Press/Release.aspx?ID=613>
- AW2 Soldier **Jonathan Pruden** was featured in a *Denver Post* article about his injury, road to recovery, and his involvement in the Wounded Warrior Project with helping wounded soldiers navigate the military medical system.
http://www.denverpost.com/sports/ci_11968836
- AW2 Soldier **MAJ David Underwood** was featured in an *American-Statesman* article about his injury, road to recovery, and involvement in the Wounded Warrior Soldier Ride's Lone Star Challenge in Austin, TX.
<http://www.austin360.com/recreation/content/recreation/stories/2009/03/0323fitcity.html>
- AW2 Soldier **SSG Dameon Wilson**, featured on FOX 21, is the first to graduate with a degree earned via the Wounded Warrior Scholarship Program.
http://www.coloradoconnection.com/news/news_story.aspx?id=276118
- AW2 Soldier **SPC Don Woodard**, featured on *Buffalo News* and armed with his sense of humor, is making a recovery and plans to go to college and get a degree to teach history at the high school level. <http://www.buffalonews.com/home/story/622419.html>

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