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From: McCrory Communications [mailto:mccrorycommunications@nc.gov] **Sent:** Tuesday, November 11, 2014 7:04 AM

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To: ncmortgageking@hotmail.com

Charlotte, NC 28205.

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Governor McCrory's Veterans Day Newsletter November 11, 2014

Today we thank those who risk their lives to protect the freedoms we hold so dear. Our nation's veterans make profound sacrifices, and for that we are forever grateful.

- Governor Pat McCrory

Governor McCrory celebrates Veterans Week

In honor of all United States veterans, Governor Pat McCrory will spend the week traveling around the state attending a series of veteran-centered events. The governor, who proclaimed Nov. 9-15 "Veterans Week" in North Carolina, participated in the N.C. Veterans Parade and Ceremony in downtown Raleigh on Saturday to kick off the week of celebrations.



Governor McCrory was in Salisbury yesterday afternoon to wish a happy 103rd birthday to WWII-era Veteran Claude Lyerly, and to attend a Marine Corps birthday celebration at the N.C. State Veterans Home. After recieving thanks from the governor for

his service to the United States, Mr. Lyerly, who was also celebrating his 74th wedding anniversary with his wife, bet Governor McCrory a pack of diet Cheerwine that his alma mater, Lenoir-Rhyne University, would defeat Catawba College, the governor's alma mater, in football this weekend. Whoever's team loses plans to make good on the bet in the upcoming months.



Governor McCrory and Mr. and Mrs. Lyerly

Today the governor will travel to Butner for a major announcement on a new veterans facility as well as attend the town's ceremony honoring veterans at the Soldiers Memorial Sports Arena

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Notable and Quotable

"I am proud to work for a governor who shares this "solemn pride" in the more-than 700,000 veterans living in North Carolina today. One of Gov. Pat McCrory's priorities has been a focus on the military since his very first day of office. He and his wife, first lady Ann McCrory, have hosted military families at the Executive Mansion on Easter and at Christmas, when 375 families created a military-themed tree with about 500 beautiful, handmade decorations."

("Kluttz: North Carolina honors its veterans" by Susan Kluttz, Fayetteville Observer, November 9, 2014)

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More News

Seen on the Web

@NCDOA: @PatMcCroryNC Administration Broke Ground on a New #Veterans Cemetery in Wayne County



-p-.

Tomorrow, the governor will make his way to Lillington to participate in the one-year anniversary of the District 11A Veterans Treatment Court. There, Governor McCrory will witness a graduation ceremony for the programs of the Court, the first of its kind in the state. The governor was in Lillington last year for the opening of the Court, which was one of his administration's initiatives.

On Thursday the governor will host the 4th Annual Kangaroo Express' Salute Our Troops Campaign for a donation check presentation.

Governor McCrory urges all North Carolinians to celebrate and appreciate one of our state's greatest assets, the veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces.



 @NatalieHEnglish: Enjoying Carolinas Freedom Foundation breakfast w/
 @PatMcCroryNC honoring our veterans, sponsored by



McCrory Administration pushes veteran-friendly legislation and initiatives through first two years

Governor McCrory's administration has worked tirelessly to ensure that veterans are connected with jobs, education and a better quality of life so that they may call North Carolina their permanent home.

As a way to acknowledge the many accomplishments of our veterans and their military training, Governor McCrory signed several pieces of legislation into law:



Senate Bill 761: Allows active duty members, veterans and military spouses to have selected training and experience converted into college credit and/or professional licenses (IT specialists, mechanics, etc.) Read more here.

House Bill 767: "Brass to Class" bill - Gives credit for years of military experience when determining placement on the salary schedule for veterans serving as principals, assistant principals and teachers.

An initiative included in this year's budget passed in August included giving veterans the equivalent of in-state tuition at our state's community colleges and universities.

In addition to legislation, Governor McCrory has supported initiatives from the Department of Public Safety and Office of State Human Resources that will educate employers and HR managers on the benefits of hiring veterans.

Governor McCrory also announced yesterday a new initiative to coordinate veterans services. NC4VETS will serve as a "Google" of sorts for North Carolina's nearly 800,000 veterans, their families and active duty military, Guardsmen and Reservists who call North Carolina home. The innovation resource will consolidate information about federal, state, local and nonprofit programs serving veterans, and make that information more readily available. Read more about this initiative here.

McCrory Administration honors veterans throughout the state

In staying true to Governor McCrory's goal of making North Carolina the most veteran-friendly state in the nation, administration officials will be celebrating veterans throughout North Carolina this week.

"My cabinet team and senior administration officials know how important supporting our veterans is to me, so I thank them for getting out there and celebrating those who have made sacrifices for us," said Governor McCrory.





Flags fly aboard the Battleship N.C. Memorial Day Observance May 26, 2014.

The N.C. Department of Cultural Resources will offer free admission to active duty and veterans with military ID and discounted admission for immediate family members at Tryon Palace in New Bern on Veterans Day. The N.C. Museum of Art in Raleigh is showing the special exhibition "Small Treasures: Rembrandt, Vermeer, Hals, and Their Contemporaries" and on Veterans Day admission to "Small Treasures" will be free to veterans, active duty military and their families, and the Battleship North Carolina will also be open on Veterans Day at regular prices. All other historic sites will be closed.

The N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources has made admission to all three N.C. Aquariums free to the public for Veterans Day.

For a complete list of department activities honoring veterans, click here.

Veterans hold key spots throughout McCrory administration

Several key leadership positions within the McCrory administration are held by veterans. Governor

McCrory extends his heartfelt thanks to them for their service to the United States and North Carolina, as well as their invaluable advice and leadership.



Brigadier General Tony Tata (U.S. Army, Ret.) serves as the governor's secretary for the N.C. Department of Transportation. As DOT secretary, General Tata helped create a Veteran Driver's license, making it easier for veterans to identify themselves.



Major General Cornell Wilson (U.S. Marine Corps, Ret.) serves as Military Affairs Advisor to Governor McCrory, and was recently appointed to serve on the <u>Veteran's Administration's Advisory Committee for Minority Veterans</u>. General Wilson had a major hand in establishing the <u>Governor's Working Group on Veterans</u>, <u>Service Members and Their Families</u>, which focuses on job creation, workforce enrichment, health and wellness, legal and financial services and veteran's benefits.



Ilario Pantano (former U.S. Marine Corps Lieutenant) serves as the Assistant Secretary for Veterans Affairs for the McCrory Administration. Lt. Pantano was a major contributor to the creation of NC4VETS, the initiative to coordinate veterans services in North Carolina.

A Look Back: Governor McCrory presents Marine Corporal keys to a new home; visits Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Governor McCrory attended a ceremony for injured combat veteran Marine Corporal Nathan Jakubisin on September 11th in Fuquay-Varina. The governor presented Cpl. Jakubisin, his wife and young child a set of keys to a new home as part of Operation: Coming Home, a joint volunteer project by the Home Builders Association of Raleigh-Wake County (HBA), the U.S. Veterans Corps, PulteGroup and various area nonprofits and businesses. Cpl.



"Cpl. Jakubisin's selfless service to our nation can never be repaid. Still, it is important that we continue to show men and women like him our continued gratitude and admiration. This 'Hero Home' is an incredible testament to what valor and courage can inspire in others. North Carolina should be proud not only of its service members returning home, but also its hardworking civilians and all that they do to support veterans," said Governor McCrory.



Jakubisin is a Purple Heart recipient. He suffered severe leg and hand injuries from an improvised explosive device (IED) while conducting patrols in the Kajaki District of Helmand Province in Afghanistan on June 9, 2012.

The governor visited Walter Reed National Military Medical Center April 2 as well. While there he met a true American hero, Sgt. James Pierce from High Point and his wife. SSgt Pierce is recovering from injuries he sustained from a suicide bombing while serving in Afghanistan. The governor also met Jenny (on the left), whose husband did nine tours abroad and came back safe and sound. Unfortunately, he is now recovering from serious injuries after being hit by a drunk driver in Fayetteville.



"My thoughts and prayers are with all of these great people as they make a strong recovery," said Governor McCrory.



To all veterans, active duty members and military families - thank you for your service to our country.

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