

# CHECKPOINT

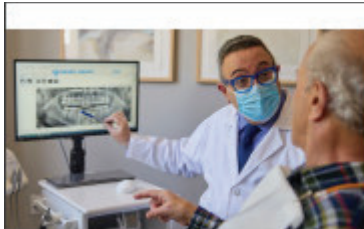


MAY 2026

## Greetings, Checkpoint readers! Enjoy this installment of Checkpoint.

Please take this opportunity to see what other Posts around the world are doing to better their communities. Be sure to share the valuable information you get here with your fellow VFW members. If you know someone who is not receiving Checkpoint, encourage them to

email [magazine@vfw.org](mailto:magazine@vfw.org) and get signed up. Most importantly, be sure to let us know what your VFW Post is doing in your community. Email [jdyhouse@vfw.org](mailto:jdyhouse@vfw.org) your suggestion, and you just might see it in Checkpoint.



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FOR UNIFORMED SERVICE RETIREES  
AND THEIR FAMILIES.**



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## IN THIS ISSUE

VFW Member Celebrates 109th Birthday

Get Your America 250 Merch at VFW Store

Publication Contest Winners Announced

Protect Summer Vacation with Travel Insurance



## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT PURSUES PH.D.

Veteran Brandi Douglass is using the VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" to earn her Ph.D. in social work education. Her passion is to help others get better access to mental health and substance use services. [She also hopes to continue advocating for veterans and their families.](#)





WHERE VETERANS SHOP  
TAX-FREE FOR LIFE!



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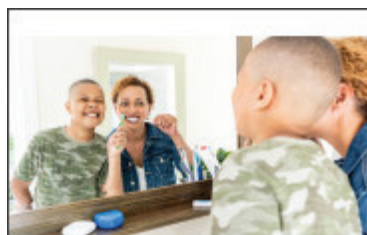
## VFW DAY OF SERVICE PROJECT AIMS TO UNIFY WITH PRAYER

In Florida, VFW Post 7909 hosted its first National Day of Prayer event for its Day of Service project. More than 100 people of all faiths and walks of life joined VFW members. [Post leaders felt the event promoted unity.](#)



## VETERAN CELEBRATES 109TH BIRTHDAY

Last month, World War II veteran Gus Preno turned 109. To celebrate, members of VFW Post 10804 in North Myrtle Beach, S.C., along with other veterans and first responders, held a parade for Preno. [More than 200 people celebrated him.](#)



**ONE DENTAL CARRIER TRUSTED BY  
THOUSANDS OF UNIFORMED SERVICE  
RETIREES AND THEIR FAMILIES.**



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## PUBLICATIONS CONTEST SEES 'HIGH-QUALITY' WORK

While the VFW National Publications Contest saw fewer entries than last year, judges noted the "high-quality" of work. Additionally, the results were much closer than ever before. [Winners awards are being mailed to their Department headquarters for presentation.](#)

HELP A HERO LIVE WITHOUT BOUNDARIES  
Supporting Partner AMERICA 250

AMERICA'S VETDOGS  
EST. 2003  
VetDogs.org/Checkpoint

Free Service Dogs for Veterans & First Responders with Disabilities

APPLY VOLUNTEER DONATE



## VFW STORE FEATURES AMERICA 250 MERCHANDISE

July Fourth marks the country's sesquicentennial. With that in mind, the VFW Store offers an impressive selection of merchandise to recognize this momentous occasion. [As a reminder, if you are attending the VFW National Convention in Reno, the VFW Store booth will be entirely cashless.](#)



## NEW JERSEY VFW HONORS ONE OF ITS OWN

Members of the VFW Department of New Jersey presented a VFW overseas cap to New Jersey Governor Mikie Sherrill in March. The gesture was done in an effort to recognize the governor as well as continuing to cultivate the relationship between the VFW and lawmakers. [New Jersey is one of the most active VFW Departments, particularly with its legislative advocacy.](#)



## BE PROTECTED DURING YOUR SUMMER TRAVELS

Don't let out-of-pocket hospital bills catch you off guard — enroll in the Hospital Help Plan [here](#).