

VA



- Phoenix • Tucson • Prescott
- Phoenix Regional Office

STAKEHOLDERS REPORT

June 2026



Elijah Ditter, MHA
Medical Center Director
VA Phoenix Arizona Health Care



Leslie Lockridge, DNP, RN
Medical Center Director
VA Southern Arizona Health Care



Steve Sample, MS, FACHE, CHC
Medical Center Director
VA Northern Arizona Health Care

Nurses Week 2026

The Phoenix VA Health Care System proudly celebrated Nurses Week, May 4–8, honoring the essential role our VA nurses play in caring for Arizona’s Veterans and supporting the health and well-being of our Nation’s Heroes. Nurses Week recognizes the expertise, compassion, leadership, and unwavering dedication our nurses bring to every interaction—whether at the bedside, in clinics, throughout the community, or through system-level leadership.



Caregiver Support Resource Fair

This year's Caregiver & Family Resource Fair brought together multiple programs offered by the Phoenix VA as well as programs offered by many of our community partners to the Phoenix 32nd Street VA Clinic, so that Veteran caregivers could learn that there are many different opportunities to help them on May 20.

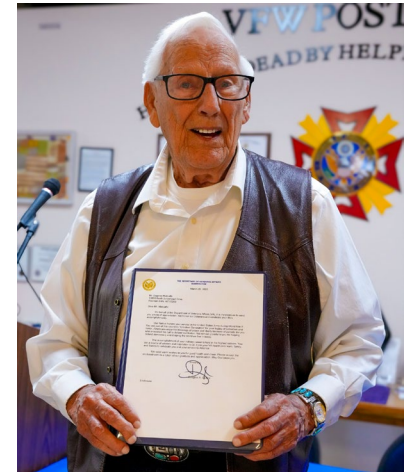


Centenarian Coins presented

Feliciano “Felix” Fortuna, who will turn 102 years old in June, was recognized for his service with a Centenarian Coin from the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs at the Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center, May 7.



Surrounded by fellow Veterans, family, and friends, Eugene Metcalfe — a World War II paratrooper and prisoner of war — was honored April 29 with the Centenarian Award at VFW Post 7507 in Fountain Hills.



Creative Arts Festival

The Phoenix VA Health Care System partnered with the American Legion Auxiliary to host its 20th Annual Creative Arts Festival at the Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center, Thursday, May 7, 2026. The annual celebration showcased the creative talents of enrolled Veterans and highlighted the therapeutic impact of the arts in healing and recovery in Phoenix VA's Recreation Therapy Clinic.



Veggies for Vets

Phoenix VA kicked off another successful Veggies for Veterans, May 14. We are once again proud and thankful to be able to provide 600 bags of fresh produce to local Veterans to alleviate income disparities and increase access to nutritious produce. To date, the Phoenix VA—through our partnership with Gregory's Fresh Market—has served more than 24,000 Veterans through this initiative. We look forward to continuing this important effort with four additional events scheduled for July 9, Sept. 10, Nov. 5, and Dec. 10 of this year.



Respect, Honor and Acknowledge – The Self-Sacrifice of the Fallen

The Phoenix VA Health Care System in partnership with the Phoenix Indian Center recognized and honored the rich history, culture and significant contributions of Indigenous people, American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans to our nation at Steele Indian School Park, May 22. This is the third year this event has been held.



Memorial Day at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona



2026 VA2K Walk & Roll

The Phoenix VA Health Care System held our 16th annual VA2K Walk & Roll, May 20. This event, a national VA voluntary event that encourages Veteran and employee wellness through a brief, two-kilometer activity while supporting homeless Veterans with water donations was held at the Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center, Northwest VA Clinic, and Staff Sergeant Alexander W. Conrad VA Clinic.



Fisher House Updates





U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Phoenix VA Health Care System





ADAPTIVE SPORTS EXPO 2026



JUNE 11, 2026 9 AM - 1 PM
Hosted by Prescott Valley Parks & Rec
Prescott Valley Mountain Valley Park
8525 E Loos Drive, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

Come Enjoy Beautiful Prescott Valley as we bring Adaptive Sports to the High Country

Vendors Include

- Phoenix VA Adaptive Sports
- National Veterans Sports Programs & Special Events
- Move United
- AZ PVA
- Arizona Veterans Adaptive Sports Association
- Applied VR
- Arizona Adaptive Watersports
- Heroes on the Water
- High Country Adaptive Instruments 4 Success
- Arizona Disabled Sports
- Arizona Veterans Fly Fishing
- Ability 360

Featuring

- ✓ VA Resources
- ✓ VR Demos
- ✓ Sports Demos
- ✓ Adaptive Equipment
- ✓ Vendors
- ✓ Food & Fun

Questions

Phoenix VA Adaptive Sports
VHAPHOAdaptiveSports@va.gov
602-277-551 x3371

Adaptive Sports Expo

June 11

When: 9 – 1 pm, Thursday, June 11th

Where: Prescott Valley Mountain Valley Park

8525 E Loos Drive, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314





Women Veterans Tele-Town Hall

August 6

When: 4 – 5:30 pm, Thursday, Aug. 6th

Where: Streamed Online

More Information: More details to come





— Honoring —
**THE SERVICE.
THE SACRIFICE.
THE STRENGTH.**

**WOMEN'S
VETERANS DAY**

JUNE 12, 2026

★ **4PM TO 8PM** ★

★ **FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED!** ★

AMERICAN LEGION
6272 E CAVE CREEK RD
CAVE CREEK, AZ 85331

Live Music!
**CAVE CREEK
LEGENDS**
BAND
with *Angela
Tinker*
AS LEAD SINGER

AMERICAN LEGION
US

HONORING HER SERVICE. • CELEBRATING HER IMPACT. • INSPIRING OUR FUTURE.

Women's Veterans Day

June 12

When: 4 – 8 pm, Friday, June 12th

Where: American Legion

6272 E Cave Creek Rd
Cave Creek, AZ 85331

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★ **SAVE THE DATE!** ★

PHOENIX VA

★ **AMERICA 250** ★

— Honoring America's 250th Anniversary —

★ **DATE** ★
JULY 1, 2026
9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

★ **LOCATION** ★
Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center
(650 E. Indian School Rd.,
Phoenix, AZ 85012)

★ *More details to come!* ★

va.gov/phoenix-health-care/events/



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Phoenix VA Health Care System

Phoenix VA Celebrates America 250

July 1

When: 9 – 2 pm, Thursday, July 1st

Where: Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center

More Information: va.gov/phoenix-health-care/events/

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VSO MIXER

Third Tuesday of
the month
1-2 p.m.

Refreshments will be provided

- The event is open to current VSO's and those interested in partnering with Phoenix VA.
- An agenda will be distributed one week prior to each meeting.
- You are welcome to send questions, comments, suggestions, and discussion topics to prphoenix@va.gov at any time throughout the month. We look forward to your continued partnership and participation.

To RSVP, please email:
prphoenix@va.gov

Phoenix VA 32nd Street
Outpatient Clinic
and
Teams ([Click Here](#))

Or call in:
[+1 205-235-3524](tel:+1205-235-3524)
Conference ID: 746 788 251#



June 16

When: 1:00 – 2:00 pm, Tuesday

Where: Phoenix 32nd Street VA Clinic

More Info: Agenda will be distributed prior to each meeting. You are welcome to send questions, comments, suggestions, and discussion topics to prphoenix@va.gov at any time prior to the next meeting.

Phoenix - PVAHCS

Questions?

Get Connected!

On the Web



www.phoenix.va.gov

On Social Media



linktr.ee/prphoenix



VA



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Southern Arizona VA Health Care System receives top marks in 2026 CMS Report



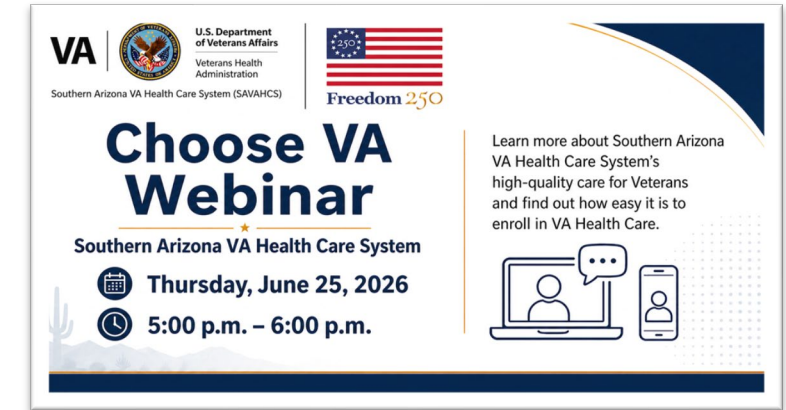
We're proud to announce that the Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS) has been awarded a 5-star rating in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' annual Overall Hospital Quality Star Rating report. This top rating reflects the dedication of our entire SAVAHCS team—clinicians, support staff, and volunteers—who work every day to provide world-class care to the Veterans we serve in southern Arizona.

To learn more, check out the following VA news article: [Southern Arizona VA Health Care System receive top marks in 2026 CMS report.](#)



Choose VA Enrollment Event

Join us for our Choose VA Enrollment Event on Thursday, June 25, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. We'll be sharing key updates, highlighting important resources, and providing information on VA eligibility and enrollment. This is a great opportunity for Veterans to learn more about the benefits available and get connected with the support they deserve. Click [here](#) to register for the event.



Veterans and Caregiver Resource Fair

Join us for our Veterans and Caregiver Support Resource Fair on Thursday, June 25, from 9 a.m. to noon. Veterans and caregivers are invited to explore a wide range of social work resources, meet with support teams, and learn about services designed to help them thrive.



Do not pay for VA or Community Care Appointments up front.

Protect yourself from a recent scam targeting Veterans.

A Veteran recently received a fake letter claiming he had a VA appointment and was asked to pay for the visit.

- VA later confirmed he was not enrolled in VA health care, and no appointment had been scheduled.
- The letter and payment request were fraudulent.

Remember:

- ❑ Veterans should never pay for any VA or Community Care appointment before or at the time of the appointment.
- ❑ VA does not charge upfront fees for appointments.
- ❑ VA does not send payment requests by email, text message, or phone.
- ❑ Community Care appointments are authorized by VA.

If you receive a suspicious letter, call, or message:

- ❑ Do not send money or share personal financial information.
- ❑ Contact your local VA medical center directly to verify any appointment.
- ❑ Report suspicious activity to the Integrity and Compliance Helpline at (866) 842-4357 or VHAOICHelpline@va.gov, VSAFE at 1-833-388-7233 or the [VA OIG](https://www.va.gov) Hotline at 1-800-488-8244.





VA Secure Messaging

Skip the phone lines and connect with your care team directly using VA Secure Messaging! With just a few clicks from your My HealtheVet account, you can send non-urgent questions, request prescription renewals, and manage appointments anytime.

It's fast, convenient, and puts your health at your fingertips. Log in today at www.va.gov and take charge of your care!

If you or the Veterans you serve have questions, please call the SAVAHCs Virtual Health Resource Center at (520) 629-1713 or send an email to TucsonVHRC@va.gov.

Make a Difference as a Volunteer Driver or a Volunteer Visitors

We are seeking volunteer drivers around Sierra Vista and Yuma areas to help transport Veterans to their medical appointments in Tucson.

To apply or for more information, contact the Tucson VA CDCE Office at (520) 629-1822 or email TucsonCDCE@va.gov.

Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCs)

VA Secure Messaging

Your Direct Link to Your Care Team

Skip the phone lines—message your VA provider anytime!

VA Secure Messaging lets you send non-urgent questions, request prescription renewals, and manage appointments—all from your My HealtheVet account.

✓ Safe ✓ Convenient ✓ Free

Log in today: www.va.gov

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCs)



Expand and Renovate Clinics Bldg. 80: The General Contractor has built the base on the second floor near the elevator area to support the steel framework for the new addition. They are now installing the under-floor soffit, interior/exterior framing, and under-floor and second floor utilities. Roof installation will begin in June. The East entrance of Building 80 will be closed until later half of July.

Please use the West entrance near the Emergency Department for patient access to the Cholla, Ocotillo, and Saguaro Clinics. We know this is inconvenient, but it's necessary for everyone's safety during the construction.

Emergency Department (ED) Renovations and Expansion: The General Contractor completed the floor slab which will eventually add another 8,000 square feet to the Existing ED. They are now installing drywall, med gas piping, water piping, supports for patient lifts, insulating ductwork and piping, and pulling wire for power. Please use the designated sidewalks for pedestrian travel.



We had the honor of welcoming [The Honorable Doug Collins, Secretary of Veterans Affairs](#), to our Northwest Tucson Community-Based Outpatient Clinic.

During his visit, Secretary Collins met with Veterans, toured the clinic, met with our frontline teams, and heard firsthand about the work happening every day to support the health and well-being of Veterans across Southern Arizona. Our leadership and staff had the opportunity to highlight local innovations, discuss challenges, and showcase the dedication that drives Veteran care in our region.

A highlight of the visit was an Employee Coin Recognition, where several outstanding team members were honored for their exceptional service and contributions to SAVAHCS. Click [here](#) to read more.





SAVAHCS celebrated [Nurses Week](#) by honoring the dedication, compassion, and resilience that nurses brought to caring for Veterans. The week highlighted the calling Florence Nightingale spoke of through a variety of meaningful and uplifting activities. Staff enjoyed a May the fourth Star Wars themed award ceremony, a lively Cinco de Mayo fiesta with Mariachi Los Caballeros, and several opportunities to recharge, including a Sunday breakfast cart, Wellness Wednesday, and dessert cart deliveries.

This year's red Nurses Week shirts carried the message Remember Everyone Deployed, serving as a reminder of the commitment nurses showed to Veterans each day. The Southern Arizona Nursing Honor Guard also provided a Blessing of the Hands, offering a heartfelt tribute to the important work nurses carried out. The week reflected deep appreciation for everything nurses do in service to our Veterans.



May was [Stroke Awareness Month](#), a time to promote prevention, early recognition, and access to important health resources. We had a great turnout at our [Freedom 250 Health Fair](#) at the Tucson VA Main Campus, where resource tables filled the Rose Garden Courtyard and created a welcoming space for Veterans, families, and caregivers.

Visitors explored a variety of VA services, including health care programs, eligibility and enrollment support, Whole Health resources, VA Community Care information, and virtual tools. It was a community-focused event aimed at helping Veterans learn about the benefits and support available to them.

Click [here](#) to watch the video highlights.





We hosted our [16th annual VA2K Walk and Roll](#), an event dedicated to promoting employee wellness through physical activity while supporting Veterans in need. Our theme this year was ["It's Always Sunny at SAVAHCS,"](#) and everyone brought their sunniest smiles. We are so grateful to everyone who came out to participate and to those who donated to the Homeless Clinic.



A huge thank-you to [Christ Presbyterian Church](#) for their generous support of our Veterans! Their donation of food items to the SAVAHCS Patriot Pantry will make a meaningful difference for those we serve. If you're interested in donating, please contact our Center for Development and Civic Engagement office at (520) 629-1822 or TucsonCDCE@va.gov.

Welcome new SAVAHCS employees!



Questions

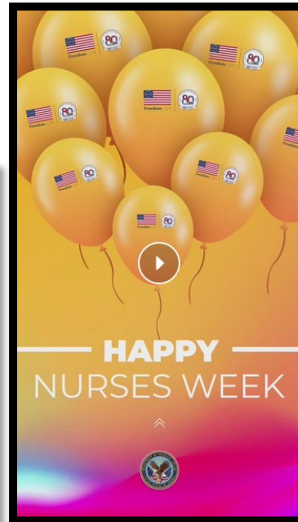
Follow us on social media for the latest updates and to stay informed

- ☐ Website: va.gov/southern-arizona-health-care
- ☐ Facebook: facebook.com/VATucson
- ☐ Instagram instagram.com/vatucson
- ☐ X/Twitter: x.com/TucsonVA
- ☐ YouTube: [Subscribe now](#) and join the SAVAHCS community!

Nurses Week

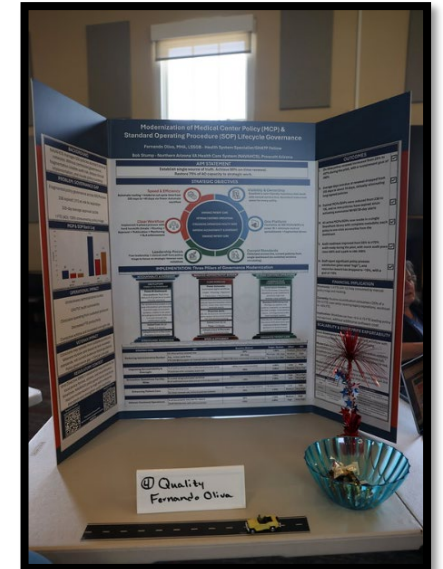
May 6-12

[Click to watch!](#)



Employee Picnic/Quality Fair

May 19



- To celebrate our invaluable nurses, we cheered our staff on as they drove into work; picked a theme for each day (superhero/fun scrubs/team color); provided picture opportunities; and organized fun activities (i.e., scavenger hunt, pet therapy, blessing of the hands).

- We host picnics for our entire staff twice a year to thank them for their hard work and devotion in serving our Veterans.
- We coupled the spring picnic with a Quality Fair to showcase the incredible process improvement projects our staff have completed so far this year.



VA2K

May 18-21



- Our staff and Veterans participated in the 16th Annual VA2K at several of our locations between May 18 and May 21. We were blessed with beautiful weather, which encouraged a lot of folks to come out to enjoy a short walk and support our homeless Veterans with donations.
- Overall, we received \$1,003 in monetary donations and a great deal of donated items to give to our homeless Veterans when in need.



Kingman Veteran Resource Fair

Kingman, May 8



- Host: Jerry Ambrose Veterans Council
- 81 Veterans attended
- 60 resource providers were there
- 5 NAVAHCS Programs provided resources/services

High Country Stand Down

Flagstaff, May 15



- Host: Arizona Veterans StandDown Alliance
- 148 Veterans attended
- 10 Veterans reported experiencing homelessness; 9 in transitional housing; 10 at risk of homelessness





Prescott National Cemetery Memorial Day Ceremony

Prescott, May 25



- Rain didn't stop the community from coming out to support this solemn event.
- The ceremony featured a Posting of the Colors, flag-folding ceremony, Gold Star family wreath presentation, and guest speakers.



Hopi Tribal Outreach

May 5-7



Navajo Nation Outreach

May 12-14



Combined Totals

- 25 Attendees
 - 3 Enrollments/Registrations
 - 1 Veteran VA Healthcare ID
 - 7 Mobile Medical Appts.
-
- We visited Polacca, Sichomovi, and Shungopavi.



- We visited the four corners region, Red Valley and Teec Nos Pos.

Combined Totals

- 92 Attendees
- 10 Enrollments/Registrations
- 4 Veteran VA Healthcare ID
- 14 Mobile Medical Appts.



PTSD Awareness Walk & BBQ

Prescott, June 7



- **When:** 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Sunday, June 7
- **Where:** Watson Lake Upper Ramada, [3101 Watson Lake Road, Prescott, AZ 86301](#)
- **More Info:** 928-445-4860 Ext. 4834

Adaptive Sports Expo

Prescott Valley, June 11

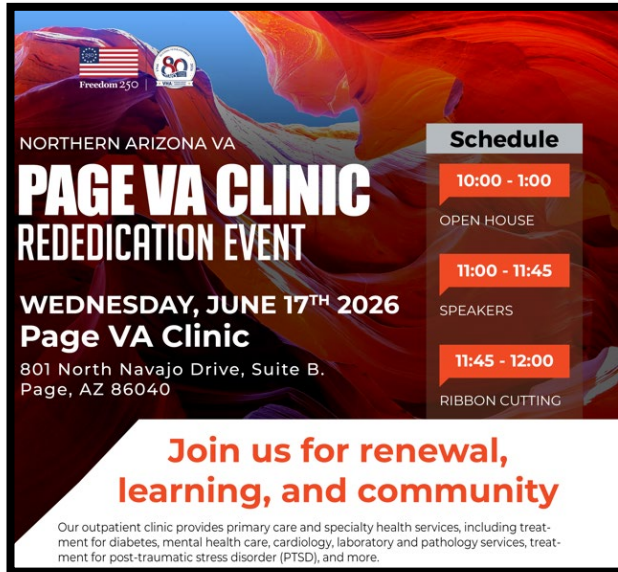


- **When:** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, June 11
- **Where:** Prescott Valley Park Mountain Valley Park, [8525 E. Loos Drive, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314](#)
- **Questions:** VHAPHOAdaptiveSports@va.gov, 602-277-5551 Ext. 3371



Page Clinic Rededication

Page, June 17



- **What:** As of June 1, our Page Clinic began providing in-person primary care services M-F. This is to celebrate the expansion of services.
- **When:** 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Wednesday, June 17
- **Where:** Page VA Clinic, [801 N. Navajo Drive, Suite B, Page, AZ 86040](#)
- **Contact:** Josh Wear, 928-458-8713

Freedom 250 Celebration

Prescott, June 26



- **What:** Family-friendly resource fair and BBQ with guest speakers, music and fun activities for all ages.
- **When:** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Friday, June 26
- **Where:** Bob Stump VA Medical Center, [500 AZ-89, Prescott, AZ](#)
- **Contact:** Josh Wear, 928-458-8713





N.N. District 1 VETERAN SERVICE EVENT

All Veterans and Veteran family members welcome
VA ENROLLMENT SERVICES, VA BENEFITS SERVICES,
& OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS

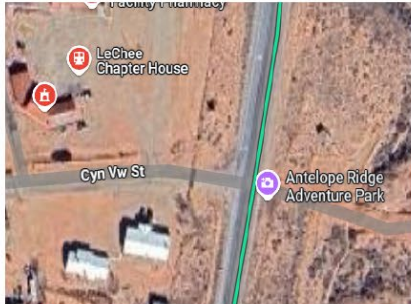
Lechee Chapter House

Tuesday June 9th, 2026 0900-1500 DST

Enroll to begin receiving VA health benefits.
VA service connection and pension claims services.
Native American Direct Loan program information.
Learn more about VA and community program.
VA Medical Services.

Veterans bring copy of DD 214 and/or medical evidence for claims. LeChee Chapter House (36.8577, -111.4452)

Contact Joshua Wear (928) 458-8713 for more information.



- **Lechee Chapter House – Tue, June 9**
 - [Details](#)
- **Shonto Chapter House– Wed, June 10**
 - [Details](#)
- **Kayenta Chapter House – Thu, June 11**
 - [Details](#)
- **Chinle Agency Office – Tue, June 30**
 - [Details](#)
- **Lukachukai Chapter House– Wed, July 1**
 - [Details](#)
- **Tachee Chapter House – Thu, July 2**
 - [Details](#)

Questions?

Visit our website or follow us on social media for the latest updates and to stay informed

- Website: <https://www.va.gov/northern-arizona-health-care/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/VAPrescott>
- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/va_prescott/?ig

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