

Post 171 service officer's Bulletin Board

VA Home Loan Rules Change

Qualified veterans and active-duty military personnel have been able to buy a home for as much as \$417,000 without a down payment or private mortgage insurance for some time now. However the Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae) has changed its rules to allow larger VA loans if the veteran or service member is willing to make a down payment of at least 25 percent of the portion of the home's price that exceeds \$417K. Veterans can learn more about VA Home Loans at <http://www.military.com/Finance/HomeBuying/>.

American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund

The American Legion "American Legacy Scholarship" Fund was established for children who have lost parents on active duty since September 11, 2001. The American Legions Scholarship Fund's mission is that no child who has lost a parent to the War on Terror will be prevented from fulfilling dreams of an education. Country music artist Michael Peterson, the national spokesperson for The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund, has pledged to donate \$5 of every sale of his new DVD to The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund from his *irememberamerica.com* website. The American Legion invites everyone to join in helping to provide a legacy through scholarships for these children. For more information go to the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund website:

http://www.legion.org/support/?content=gi_amlegacysch.

Receive a limited edition "Ruptured Duck" Lapel Button for a donation of \$10.00 or more. You may make your tax-deductible contribution online, or mail a check to:

**American Legacy Scholarship
The American Legion,
PO Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206**

Purple Heart Stamped Rededicated on the 75th Anniversary of the Medal

The United States Postal Service recently rededicated its 41-cent Purple Heart Postage Stamp, marking the third issuance of the stamp. 2007 marks the 75th anniversary of the Purple Heart Medal. The stamp may be purchased online at the U.S. Postal Service's Postal Online Store, by calling toll-free 1-800-STAMP-24, and at local Post Offices. For more information on the Purple Heart Stamp, visit:

http://www.usps.com/communications/newsroom/2007/sr07_027.htm.

FROM PRIOR REPORTS :

1. To register an Honoree in the WWII Memorial Registry go to the following link:
http://www.wwiimemorial.com/registry/edit/donor_nameaddr.asp

2. To Obtain a Presidential Memorial Certificate:

Eligible recipients, or someone acting on their behalf, may apply for a PMC in person at any VA regional office or by U.S. mail or toll-free fax. Requests cannot be sent via email. Please be sure to enclose a copy of the veteran's discharge and death certificate to verify eligibility, as we cannot process any request without proof of honorable military service. Please submit copies only, as we will not return original documents. The application for the PMC is made on VA Form 40-0247. Which may be downloaded at the following link:

<http://www.va.gov/vaforms/va/pdf/VA40-0247.pdf>

3. To requested consideration for award of the Air Force Combat Action Medal (only for Air Force Personnel serving in combat after 9-11-2001). Active Duty and Active Reserve personnel should contact their flight personnel office. Discharged Air Force veterans must submit a packet request to the Board of Correction of Military Records. See a local service officer for assistance.

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VARO CLEVELAND 1-800-827-1000 * VAOPC COLUMBUS 614-257-5200**

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