

# Operation Welcome Home



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## Black Bears – Military Appreciation Night

Operation Welcome Home and the West Virginia Black Bears are proud to announce that we will be hosting a military appreciation night on Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>! This event is sponsored by the Local Rotary District 7530, and coordinated by the West Virginia Black Bears. If you're interested in purchasing tickets for the game in advance, click [HERE](#) and if you're a current or prior service member you can receive a discounted ticket cost by typing in Promo Code "military".



The Black Bears will go up against the State College Spikes at 7:05pm wearing military style jerseys as seen on Operation Welcome Home's Facebook.

All proceeds will go towards helping our local heroes continue to receive the wide array of services found at Operation Welcome Home. Make sure you come out to support our local baseball team, and all of our local veterans.

\*\*\*In order to receive the discount ticket you will likely need to show proof of service at the gate before entering the stadium\*\*\*

### DO YOU HAVE JOB VACANCIES? WE HAVE VETERANS WITH THE SKILLS YOU WANT

We are reaching more Veterans! Through a combined effort of attending Job Fairs, the Home Show, Job Listing Sites and Community involvement, we've been able to reach over 50 new Veterans that need employment in less than six months. The number will only grow in the coming months so stay tuned!

Since we have more

Veterans as Job Candidates with Operation Welcome Home, we need more jobs!

Our Goal is to have at least one major employer in the Morgantown and/or the surrounding areas come to Operation Welcome Home for Open Interviews. With the success of events like the Mylan Pharmaceuticals open interviews and the WVU Medicine Open

interviews, we need more employers that want to hire a hero. If you have a connection with or are an employer in the area, please let us know.



## “Night At The Ballpark”



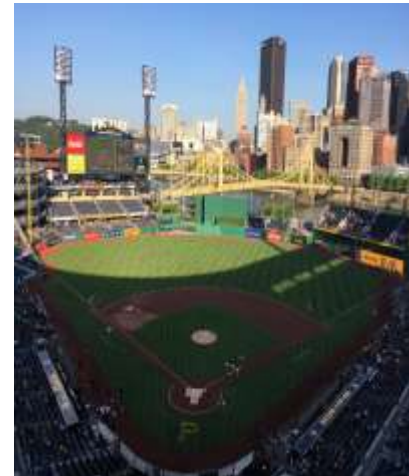
The group in front of PNC Stadium before the game.

Operation Welcome Home would like to extend a heartfelt “Thank you” to the Fraternal Order of the Elks for their indispensable help in providing transportation for our annual trip to see the Pirates play in Pittsburgh. We’d also like to thank the Clarksburg VA for bringing their inpatient crew along with us again this year.

Thanks to the Pirates Commissioner’s Program, We were able to provide over 140 veterans and their families a free, safe, and fun outing.

We celebrated two birthdays, sang along with the crowds, and groaned with the other fans

The Pirates fell to the Washington Nationals. Despite the loss, everyone had a great time and we’re proud to have been able to be part of a small thank you to our veterans.



A Beautiful day for Baseball at PNC Stadium.

## Need a Ride to OWH?

Operation Welcome Home is pleased to announce Mountain Line Transit service to our facility at Mylan Park. Thanks to the levy passing, the Green line Route 3 travels to Mylan Park several times a day Monday through Saturday. This is a great opportunity for Veterans and Dependents that need more flexibility with travel arrangements.



For more information on Bus routes and times, visit [www.busride.org](http://www.busride.org) or download the bus rider mobile app.

## Mock Interviews

On Thursday, May 18th, Operation Welcome Home hosted a Mock Interview Session with Mylan Pharmaceuticals, Workforce WV, and WVU Medicine. The Interview Process is always a nerve-racking experience since it can make or break a potential career. This event gave veterans the opportunity to practice their interviewing skills and receive feedback from some of West Virginia’s top employers.

Operation Welcome Home is always grateful to have the support of these organizations in our fight to provide



## Ironworkers Informational Class

Sean Currey from the Ironworkers Local 549 came to the Operation Welcome Home facility to teach a group of interested veterans about being an ironworker and how to apply for a phenomenal apprenticeship program. The class went over the stages of the apprenticeship from learning how to tie rebar,

welding, and putting in place giant panes of glass. All of this training is free for applicants, and the instructors work hard to ensure all applicants work hard in order to graduate. Sean, a veteran himself, stated that veterans make some of the best ironworkers due to initiative and leadership skills.

At the end of the session, our group of veterans applied for the program and will be testing for the program in July. We’ll be in contact to see how our veterans are doing, and help others through the process. Thank you to the Ironworkers Local 549 for presenting such a great opportunity.



Sean Currey instructing veterans about Ironworking

### GMS Open Interviews



Dustin Armstrong, a veteran and HR Rep of GMS Mine Service came into our office to conduct Open Interviews for the



certifications at a discounted rate. We're always thankful to have such caring community members such as GMS Mine Repair and Maintenance to help us find the best employment

### Business After Hours

Operation Welcome Home partnered with the Chamber of Commerce in Morgantown to hold "Business After Hours" for members of Monongalia County on June 21st. Over 60 members of the business community attended this event with food catered by Schmitt's Saloon.

Saloon, PACE Enterprises, and the Chamber of Commerce for making this event such a success!

The rain briefly made an attendance, but didn't stop everyone from learning about the mission of Operation Welcome Home and having a great time. Thank you to Schmitt's

*Jamie Summerlin, CEO of Operation Welcome Home, addressed the business community about all the great work done by the organization.*

### Home Loan Class



Everyone wants their dream home, but navigating the complexity of the home buying process can turn into a nightmare. All honorably discharged veterans are eligible for a VA Home Loan, but aren't sure how to use it. On June 29<sup>th</sup>, Sierra Pacific Mortgage came to the Operation Welcome Home site to help these veterans. They were able to answer a wide range of questions over

how to refinance a loan, how to use the loan for building your home, and the intricacies of choosing an interest rates.

Operation Welcome Home would like to thank Jennifer and Amanda for giving their time to help our local veterans.

### Open Interviews with Lowe's

Operation Welcome Home hosted an Open Interview Session with Lowe's on Venture Drive on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

As gardening season reaches its apex, Lowe's always needs reliable and intelligent workers to help their customers find exactly what they need to make the perfect home.

Ralphie and Donna interviewed over 12 people for a variety of positions leading to over 3 veterans receiving an employment offer.

Operation Welcome Home would like to extend a sincere thank you to the HR representatives and Lowe's for taking the time to come out to our site, and making such an important impact of the lives of our local veterans.

## Operation Welcome Home

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See us at:

welcomehomewv.com

or follow us



@welcomehomewv

## Golf Tournament Update

Get your tees ready! Operation Welcome Home's Annual Golf Scramble will be held again at Lakeview Resort on September 29<sup>th</sup>. This year's honorary chair will be Billy Hahn the former assistant basketball coach for the West Virginia Mountaineers. Cost of play will be \$500 for a team of four or \$125 for an individual. This will include a Welcome Luncheon, 18

holes of golf, Refreshments on Course, an Awards Reception, Dinner, Prizes, and a very unique gift at the end of the day. All proceeds will go to Operation Welcome Home to continue providing veterans with free career and benefit services for all veterans in our area. We hope to see you out there!

## Pest Control and Lawn Care

Operation Welcome Home is always looking to put student veterans to work to gain a little extra cash during their Summer vacation. Even if you're not a student but are looking for some full or part-time seasonal work getting a free sun tan and

some solid muscles while earning a good wage, we're prepared with some suitable options for you in lawn care and landscaping with a great business where you can work hard while still having fun working alongside a great crew.

## Gear Up!

Grab some gear! Show the world you support Operation Welcome Home and our veterans by wearing a shirt and/or hat. Operation Welcome

Home Ogio Hats and long sleeve shirts are available for \$20.00. Short Sleeve Shirts are available for \$15.00. Contact us to purchase yours today!



## Got an Active Clearance?



Did you just leave the service or a contractual position with a TS/SCI clearance? If you did and are looking for one of many great paying jobs in the technical or consulting field look no further! We may have just what you need to make a great salary while enjoying yourself and taking care of your family! Contact Brett at [bsimpson@welcomehomewv.com](mailto:bsimpson@welcomehomewv.com) for more information!

Additionally, if you aren't scared of critters and crawl-spaces we have a great opportunity for you! Might not sound glorious, but with the certifications you'll receive and the ability for fast upward mobility this is something to look in to. Contact Brett ASAP for further information!

## Mountain Fest

MountainFest is a three-day entertainment experience of music, bikes, and great food. This year Mountain Fest will be held at Mylan Park and will feature Hank Williams Jr, George Thorogood & The Destroyers and others! This event has contributed over \$800,000 non-profit organizations in the past twelve years. We hope to see you there this Summer to celebrate the best of WV. Check MountainFest on the web @

[www.wvmountainfest.com](http://www.wvmountainfest.com)

## About Our Organization...

Operation Welcome Home is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that is always here to help Veterans find a job in a field that will suit their needs to the best of our ability. Last year alone we were able to place 38 Veterans in full-time employment out of about 45 who were looking for our help. We also provided countless Veterans with Seasonal or event-specific work to put a little extra cash in their pockets. We have monthly hiring events and connections in the community to help our Veterans become gainfully employed. We also offer other events to support the Veteran community such as: Resume Workshops, Hang Outs, Sports Outings and Volunteer Events.