Providing News to Our Veterans

October 2020

Virtually MOVE!

any programs, groups, and events have gone virtual this year, including the Butler VA's Be Active and MOVE! (BAAM) program. Marine Corps Veteran Richard "Rich" Bagay was the first Veteran to join the new, virtual BAAM class when it started up in August and has been regularly attending ever since along with his wife of 50 years, Marie.

Be Active and MOVE! known as "BAAM" consists of group activity (aerobic fitness, strengthening exercises, balance and flexibility training) along with education about the new skills all performed with the support of fellow Veterans. BAAM helps Veterans learn how to be more physically active through instruction and practice.

While it's too soon for Rich to notice any major changes from class, he has noticed the exercises getting easier for him, and that his balance has improved. Balance is just one of the many areas the class focuses on.

"They change it up every class. Today, we did a lot of high intensity aerobics. If you do the class right, you're wound up for a while, and sweaty and tired," he shared.

The focus of the BAAM class is to become more comfortable with different activities to improve fitness and health. Modifications also are provided for various fitness levels.

"Don't be afraid of doing it! You don't have to do it all, you can do what you can. We're not here to win medals,



we're here to improve our physical state as we get older. It can only help you as you get older!"

Rich and his wife highly recommend the class and encourage other spouses to join in too. "We're lucky that it's there for us. We really appreciate the people putting in the effort to help us."

Be Active and MOVE! (BAAM) is offered via VA Video Connect (VVC) Mondays at 9 a.m. and Thursdays at 8 a.m. To enroll, contact the Butler VA's MOVE! Office at 724-991-0897. To learn about other virtual fitness classes and resources, Veterans are encouraged to talk to their health care team.



We're not here to win medals, we're here to improve our physical state as we get older. 罗



- Richard "Rich" Bagay, Marine Corps Veteran



Convenient Locations!

The Butler VA has SIX convenient locations covering Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Lawrence, and Mercer Counties. And, virtual care is an option! Choose the Butler VA Health Care System. Enroll today!

www.choose.va.gov

HEALTHY LIVING **MATTERS** TRY YOGA!



The Butler VA offers a free, online yoga class every Wednesday at 9 a.m. All levels of physical activity are encouraged to join. Please call 878-271-6484 to participate.



IT'S TIME TO GET YOUR FLU SHOT!

accination is the surest way to protect against getting the flu. Get your flu shot at one of our October flu clinics:

- Saturday, October 3 10am-2pm Lawrence County VA Clinic Last names A-M: 9:00am-12pm Last names N-Z: 12:00-3:00pm
- Tuesday, October 6 | 1-7pm Lawrence County VA Clinic
- Thursday, October 8 | 12:30-3:30pm Cranberry Twp. VA Clinic Veterans with last name beginning A through J
- Friday, October 9 | 12:30-4pm Armstrong County VA Clinic Veterans with last name beginning A through M
- Tuesday, October 13 | 1-7pm Michael A. Marzano VA Clinic
- Wednesday, October 14 | 10am-2pm Parking Lot of Abie Abraham VA Clinic
- Thursday, October 15 | 12:30-3:30pm Cranberry Twp. VA Clinic Last names K-R only
- Friday, October 16 | 12:30-4pm
 Armstrong County VA Clinic
 Veterans with last name beginning N through Z only
- Saturday, October 17, 2020 Michael A. Marzano VA Clinic Last names A-M: 9:00am-12pm Last names N-Z: 12:00-3:00pm
- Tuesday, October 20 | 1-7pm Lawrence County VA Clinic
- Thursday, October 22 | 12:30-3:30pm Cranberry Twp. VA Clinic Last names S-Z only

- Friday, October 23 | 12:30-4pm Clarion County VA Clinic Last names A-M only
- Tuesday, October 27 | 1-7pm Michael A. Marzano VA Clinic
- Friday, October 30 | 12:30-4pm Clarion County VA Clinic Last names N-Z only

For more information or if you have questions about the upcoming flu clinics, please contact Ron Collett at (878) 271-6677.



CHECK UP, CHECK IN, CHECK OUT OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH (DVAM)

his October, the DVAM theme is: "Check Up, Check In, Check Out Relationship Health and Safety." A relationship health and safety Check Up is an opportunity for education, prevention and early intervention for Veterans, their partners, and VA employees. We encourage Veterans, their partners, and VA staff to Check In with their local IPVAP Coordinator and to Check Out available resources and services. Together, we can make a difference.

Find resources and support at https://www.socialwork.va.gov/IPV/ or by calling the national toll-free 24-hour domestic violence hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233).

Contact your local IPVAPC directly at 878-271-6124.

Thank you for your service CHUCK JENNINGS,

Vietnam Veteran U.S. Navy Veteran



SALUTE YO

1969-1972 Navy Corpsman

Butler VA Volunteer Veterans History Project (VHP) Volunteer Veterans, share your military story for the VHP by calling Chuck at 724-287-3132.

Let us "Salute You!" Contact the Butler VA Public Affairs Office for more information.





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