

VFW POST 10125 WOMEN VETERANS

FEBRUARY 2023

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Women Veterans Make History



Maj. Della Rainey. U.S. Army Women's Foundation.

Maj. Della Raney checked off multiple firsts during her time with the U.S. Army: **first African American accepted to the Army Nurse Corps; first African American commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps; and first African American nurse with the Army Air Corps promoted to captain.**

Born in Suffolk, Virginia to George and Willie Raney on January 10, 1912, Della Raney was the fourth of 12 children. She graduated from the Lincoln Hospital Nursing School in Durham, North Carolina in 1937. After graduating, Raney stayed at Lincoln Hospital and worked as an operating room supervisor.

When the United States entered World War II, Raney applied to the Army Nurse Corps. Her first application was denied based on her race. Not deterred by the rejection, Raney continued to apply. An Army Nurse Corp candidate needed to be a member of the American Red Cross, a graduate of a nursing school, a registered professional nurse, and a member of a national nursing organization. Raney wrote about her fight to join the military later in life: "When I entered nursing more than forty years ago, it was serious business with me. It was a commitment to give my life for a cause—that of caring for those who were ill...

...Once Raney returned, she became Director of Nursing for the base hospital at Camp Beale, California (now Beale Air Force Base). Read the whole story: [National Museum United States Army](#)

Did you know February is National Recreation Therapy and Creative Arts Therapy Month? VA Recreation Therapists and Creative Arts Therapists all across the country are doing great things for Veterans! #Sports4Vets #Arts4Vets



ADAPTIVE SPORTS AND ARTS - U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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VFW WOMAN VETERAN OF THE MONTH:

**ROBIN D. HARDER, SERGEANT FIRST CLASS (RET.)
U.S. ARMY / VFW POST 7108**

"Afghanistan was an interesting place. I was a senior enlisted female Russian Cryptologic Linguist and I felt that I didn't really have an impactful job. I volunteered where I could to leave the Forward Operating Base (FOB). I was finally given a mission to serve in a remote area called FOB Tillman, which was on the Afghanistan/Pakistan border. My team of Low Level Voice Intercept (LLVI) operators and I were attached to an Infantry company who was in control of the FOB.

Arriving on site, I already had two strikes against me before I even spoke to the command. First, I was Military Intelligence (MI). The infantry didn't think that MI had anything worth contributing to their missions. Second, I was a female. They didn't want a female with them on missions. I had to prove that MI could significantly contribute to their missions. And I had to prove that, as a female, I could handle anything that they threw at me.

The missions that this unit went on were all on foot. We did not have vehicles. We walked out of the gate, did our missions in the hillside and mountains of the area, and then we would return on foot. I had to carry just as much gear as the Infantry guys, plus all of my MI equipment. It was hard work, but I was bound to prove that "I could hang..."

Read complete story here:
[VFW - Our Stories](#)



Robin D. Harder, Sergeant First Class (Ret.)

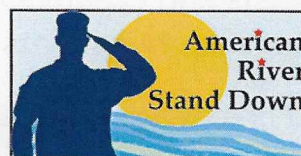
Women Veterans Health & Wellness Retreat

In celebration of Women's History Month, please join us for a day of connection, relaxation, and education with many opportunities to participate. Lunch will also be available.

**Sat. Mar 4, 2023, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm PT
Sacramento VA Medical Center
Cost: Free**



**ORANGEVALE SUMMER PALOOZA
FEATURING RED WHITE & BLUE 5K FUN RUN
AND PARADE
JUNE 17, 2023**



**SEPTEMBER 15 & 16 2023
ORANGEVALE**

IN NEED OF COORDINATORS/VOLUNTEERS:

Security Coordinator
Media/Fundraiser/Public Events (This can be broken up if necessary)
New Clothing
Child Care
Massage Therapy

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