



Media Contacts

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6th Annual Carolina Veterans Appreciation Expo

Fayetteville, NC (April 16, 2019) The weekend of July 26-28, 2019, Support HER B.O.O.T.S., NABVETS of America, Embassy Suites by Hilton and the historic campus of Fayetteville State University will host these signature events catered to veterans and the community. We cordially extend a warm invitation for your sponsorship and participation in the weekend's events. For ticket information and details please contact Joie Cook at 704.380.7686 or follow us on social media, Instagram@supportherboots220 and Facebook/aherosball. We welcome the support of the military and the community at large. This weekend of events is open to the public to attend.

Friday-Embassy Suites by Hilton, 7pm-11pm. We will kick off the weekend with a night of elegance, honor, live entertainment, impressionable guest speakers and recognition of outstanding veterans!

This year our keynote speakers are: **Captain Lindsay Jefferies of Raleigh, NC** the first African-American female Blackhawk Helicopter Pilot in the North Carolina Army National Guard, **Captain Donnie L. Cochran, former commander of The Blue Angels**, the first African-American aviator selected to the United States Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron in 1986. Cochran later assumed command of the Blue Angels in 1994 and **Dr. Sidney Jacobs**, a Fayetteville State Alumni, Air Force Veteran, poet and expert on re-entry issues. We will also have a special briefing by a suicide survivor **Mrs. Venessa D. Abram, MBA**. Tickets prices range from \$50-\$175, please visit www.shbgala2019.eventbrite.com for details.

Saturday-Fayetteville State University-Capel Arena, 12noon-6pm. We invite all families, communities, and especially veteran's, spouses and dependents. This event is designed to bring out the entire family for a day of food trucks, music, fun, and entertainment!!! The atmosphere will be filled with over 30 vendors, and exhibitors, along with workshop presenters that are anticipating your arrival!

This event is **FREE** to attend! We will provide the following workshops: Why the VA denies your claim? presented by Chas Sampson, Government Relations Consultant at Seven Principles Consulting Group and former VA Claims Representative, and Spring Lake, NC resident.; What's Eating You? presented by Executive Chef/Owner of Vegan's Cuisine, and best selling author of Awaken Your Wellness, LLC, Shonda Caines; Learn the benefits and origin of Kemeti Yoga taught by Air Force Veteran and Asheville resident Joy Ma'at and all clergy are invited to attend a special mental health and veteran reintegration workshop, taught by Dr. Joy Carrington. Join attorneys, nonprofits, and court officials as they look at Stripes Behind Bars, an in-depth discussion to provide solutions to employment and entrepreneurship for formally incarcerated veterans.

Sunday-Fayetteville State University-Seabrook Auditorium-7pm. Salute to Soldiers Jazz & Inspirational Benefit Concert, this inspiring event is the finale to our weekend. Our concert will feature award winning jazz artist Dant'e Lewis, actress best know for her appearance in Tyler Perry's stage play Madea's Family Reunion and singer D'atra Hicks, gospel hip-hop artist J. Locke and neo soul gospel artist, Via. This is a night of ministry through various forms and a night filled with surprise performances.

*These events are in memory of Nathaniel S. Cook (2nd Lt- USMC) Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc and graduate of Fayetteville State University.

