

Not Much Change Since WW II

There are four Purple Hearts and one Silver Star in my family as a result of the deaths and injuries of family members of which two uncles were KIA five days apart from each other in the waning days of the Battle of the Bulge.

My father came home "shell-shocked" as they called it back then, and now it is referred to as PTSD or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. But whatever it is called, those friends and family members, like mine, know all too well the tragedies war brings to them with the returning veteran.

I also know all too well that although the vets pledged to risk their life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, they continued a much worse fight than on the battlefield after coming

home, wherever that may be.

Until I received a press release from Sgt. Gonzalo Duran, or G as I refer to him at times, I simply could not believe what I was reading! Soon thereafter, I contacted him for a meet.

After explaining his situation and handing me a voluminous stack of letters of support from all over the country, from various organizations and elected officials, what he was telling me sounded even more incredible!

And then there was the follow-up meeting last week that lasted for hours and out of all of it came solutions. Why? Because Sgt. Gonzalez Duran did what his Marine training taught him to do.

Until Sgt. Duran came along, I always knew

that "the more things change the more they remains the same" as is testament in my father's case. It took a letter from my Aunt Jean to President Roosevelt to get the help and monetary assistance my father required.

He was the Vet and the father I never knew. He went away to war with his brothers and friends happy go lucky and came back a broken man. And until now, I never thought I could make a difference because I had no proof.

Thanks to Gonzalo, there is something that I can now do about it. From this issue forward, and until I meet with all three of the members of Congress who represent me, the cover will remain the same



Bill Murawski, Publisher

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Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Homelessness

No, that is not Sgt. Gonzalo Duran in the photo at the left. The woman in the photo is used in this article to demonstrate that women die in war "just as good" as men do. As reported by AZ Central the woman at left is United States Army Pfc. Lori Piestewa, from the 507th Maintenance Company, who died after being captured in the aftermath of an ambush after near Nasiriyah in Iraq March 25, 2003. Piestewa, of Tuba City, Ariz. was found dead from a head wound during the rescue of Pfc. Jessica Lynch from an Iraqi hospital. Piestewa was the first Native American woman to die from combat in U.S. military history. The stark reality is that men, women, and innocent civilians and their children died in all the wars pictured on the front page of this issue from World War II to the most recent war in Afghanistan. And for what reason? That is a question that all members of the United States Congress will have to answer this coming November. I want to know why one man accomplished more in one weekend than the VA did for a lot longer than that? Why?

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And Another Bank Bites the Dust!

No, another major bank did not go out of business. How could they? The banks received billions in taxpayer dollars during the great bailout when the economy hit the toilet in 2008. If the mortgage crisis they created wasn't bad enough in America, they nonetheless continue their outlandish ways of legally stealing with the use of the overdraft charge that is set at \$35 a pop. All banks do it because it is a successful business strategy where the profit margins can be through the roof! For example, I could charge an item that would put my account in an overdraft situation and would be charged the fee, and if I continued to overdraft each time the overdraft fee is charged the fees could amount to hundreds of dollars. But there is more to it than that in at least one case. Mine.

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It's Here!

Hell's Kitchen and Its Rich History

Former NYC Mayor Koch knew what he was talking about when the 9th Ave International Food Festival came to life when he stated that *The Festival is also a celebration of one of New York City's most unique communities – a vibrant and vital neighborhood of more than twenty-five nationalities, which is an integral part of both its residential and business life and which imparts a unique character to the area. The great variety of restaurants and other businesses on the streets attest to its rich ethnic diversity. We have seen the Clinton area, which encompasses Ninth Avenue, continues working to develop into one of the city's most creative and harmonious neighborhoods. That spirit of brotherhood and cooperation permeates the Ninth Avenue International Food Festival, which is a joyous occasion for all who attend.* Unfortunately, all we hear during the nicer months of the year is about the Westies! There is more than the tour guides are willing to tell and some of it is the truth!

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Aiding and Abetting the 414 Scams?

There have been small fortunes lost because of the Nigerian scam given the number 414. EVERYONE knows about them so why is anyone - especially our elected officials - so surprised, shocked and up in arms at the 300 girls being kidnapped in Nigeria? It is a world wide problem and is spreading like wildfire mostly thanks to the advances in technology, namely the internet. But is anyone doing anything about it? I tried to report a Nigerian scam that I decided to involve myself with after a four year sabatticle to see if I still had the "touch" in solving a problem that seemed to be unsolvable. Although four exact geographical locations were identified and a number of persons who would pick up the money that was never sent were identified by name, no one came to the party who was invited. Not the FBI or the NYPD. But why not?

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Crimes in Time

Michael Flynn writes about the race riot that happened in Hell's Kitchen in 1898.

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Barry's Bar

If you are a visitor to the city and you want some advice, the best place to go is a bar with the head-shrink in charge (advice is free, drinks are not) namely, the bartender. Barry answers the question: Why is it called Hell's Kitchen?

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Tourists Beware! If you are here and want to take a carriage horse ride.

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Sign the petition to Save the Carriage Horses

at

www.HOORAA.org

About DeWitt Clinton Express

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