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**RELEASE DATE:**

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## **BAY PINES VA ANNOUNCES WOMEN VETERANS' RECOGNITION WALL**

BAY PINES, Fla – Today, Bay Pines VA Healthcare System unveiled plans to install Women Veteran Walls at all locations throughout the healthcare system in recognition of the 100th year of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs providing health care services to women Veterans.

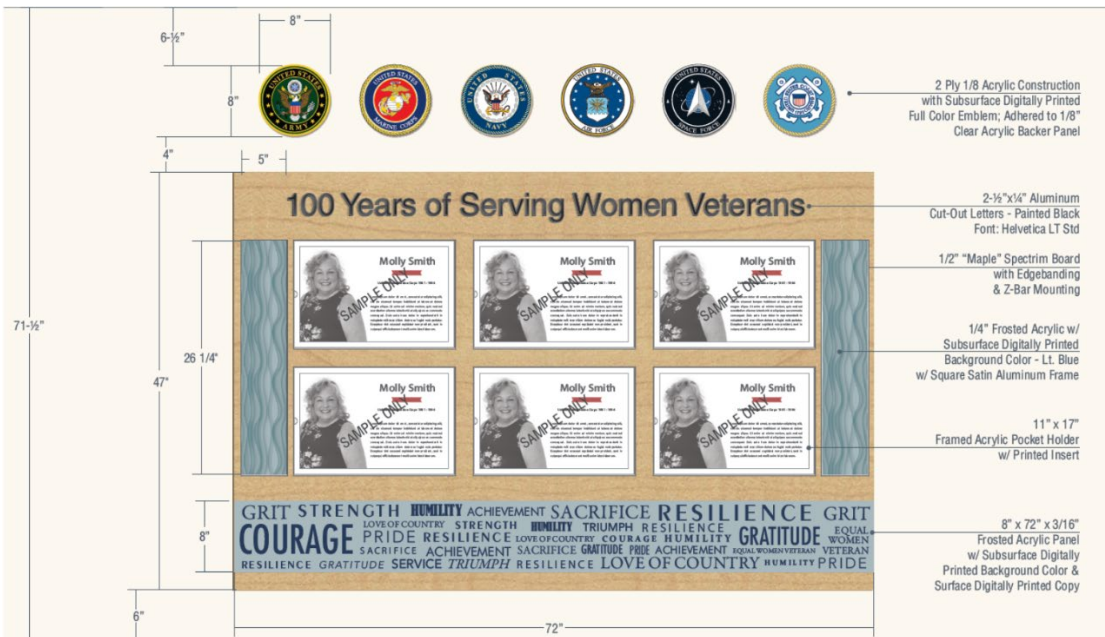
“We look forward to providing Veterans, caregivers, family members, and employees with a dedication that highlights the legacy of women Veterans,” said Bay Pines VA Director/CEO Paul M. Russo. “In our 90th year, we are *Honoring a Legacy of Service*, and we cannot think of a better way to reflect that message than the establishment of a Women Veterans’ Wall during VA’s centennial celebration of service to this population.”

The C.W. Bill Young VA Medical Center and Lee County Healthcare Center will be the first two locations for the displays. The remaining VA Clinics within the healthcare system in Bradenton, Naples, North Pinellas, Port Charlotte, Sarasota, Sebring, and St. Petersburg are scheduled to have their displays complete by 2024.

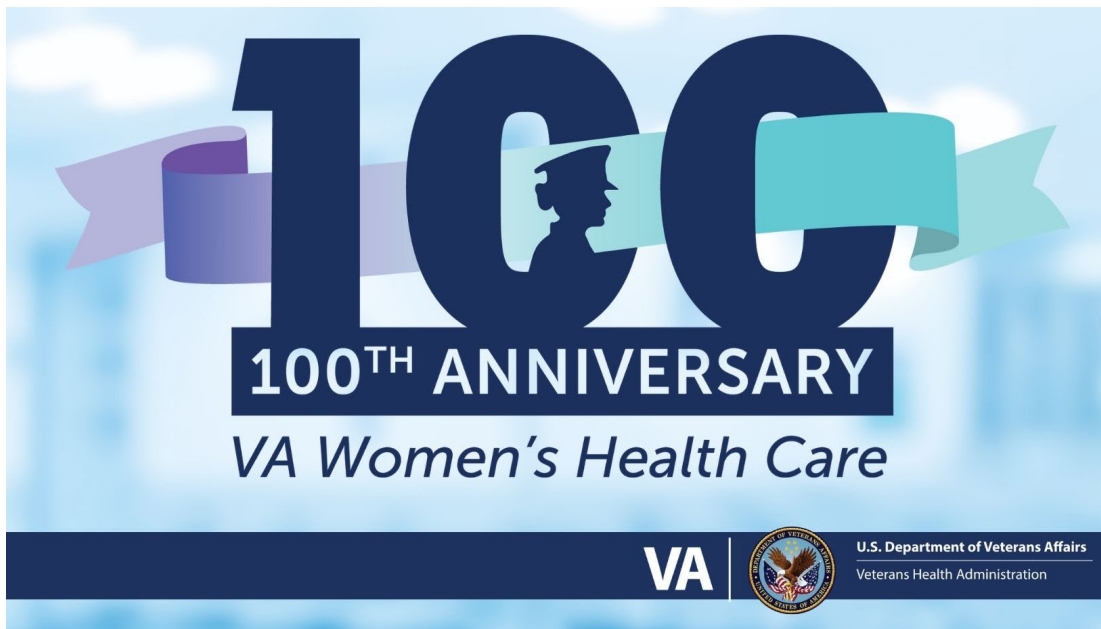
Creative Signage has been chosen as the designer for the 4-foot by 6-foot maple spectrum displays. The design features all six military service seals and aluminum letters that read *100 Years of Serving Women Veterans*. A frosted acrylic panel collage of key words and phrases from women Veterans that epitomize their service will be placed at the bottom of each wall. The center features six frames that will include portraits of women Veterans, their branch of service, and a brief bio for each honoree.

“While the displays will be permanent, we asked for the ability to easily update the six frames in order to create more opportunities to feature women Veterans from across Bay Pines VA,” added Russo. “We look forward to honoring these dedicated women who have made an impact through their service in support of freedom at home and around the world.”

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Bay Pines VA Healthcare System’s Women Veteran Wall, designed by Creative Signage. The walls, which will be displayed at every facility throughout the healthcare system, will honor women who have made an impact through their service in support of freedom at home and around the world.



The official logo from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs reflects the centennial milestone recognition of VA health care services for women Veterans.

**For additional information on this event or future coverage opportunities:**

Contact Bay Pines VA Healthcare System’s Public Affairs Officer Rob Frazier at [Robert.Frazier1@va.gov](mailto:Robert.Frazier1@va.gov) or 727-317-8120. See the latest news, stories, and Veteran health care information available on our official website at [www.baypines.va.gov](http://www.baypines.va.gov) and on our official social media accounts at [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).