

News and stories

VA hosting renaming ceremony Sunday

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[The Herald Dispatch](#)

HUNTINGTON — The Hershel "Woody" Williams VA Medical Center will be officially renamed during a ceremony at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 9, at the center's campus at 1540 Spring Valley Drive in Huntington.

The former Huntington VA Medical Center was renamed earlier this summer through U.S. House Resolution 3363, giving the center's namesake to the 94-year-old Medal of Honor recipient and veterans and family advocate.

Williams, a West Virginia native who has lived in Ona for more than 40 years, received the Medal of Honor for his action against the Japanese during the Battle of Iwo Jima in World War II's Pacific Theater. He is one of three surviving Medal of Honor recipients from World War II, the last surviving recipient from the Pacific Theater, and the last surviving Marine recipient of the war.

"The community is invited to join us in celebrating the dedication," said Brian Nimmo, medical center director. "Staff members are excited about the name change honoring Mr. Williams.

"I'm thrilled; he's a hero in West Virginia. We will use his legacy as motivation to meet his high standard of service for others."

Speakers are expected to include both U.S. Sens. Shelley Moore Capito, R-W.Va., and Joe Manchin, D-W.Va.; West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice; and U.S Reps. Evan Jenkins, R-W.Va., and Alex Mooney, R-W.Va.

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