



Lewis & Clark Chapter

TRI-CITIES, WASHINGTON



December 2025

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Richard Misener

Chapter email
moaa.tricities@charter.net

Chapter Website
tricitiesmoaa.org

Project Guardian For those with special needs



Our December meeting will feature a speaker from the Kennewick Police Department. Jesus Contreras, the Community Relations Officer, will talk about Project Guardian, a program developed to help keep your loved one with special needs, including autism, safe. Police often don't know whether or not individuals they encounter have special needs because there aren't any telltale physical signs. What may seem like a simple interaction with police could be a very traumatic situation for a person with special needs and confusing to officers. This program gives officers the information they need ahead of time to ensure safety for all concerned.

Officer Contreras grew up in eastern Oregon and graduated from Hermiston High School, continuing his education at Treasure Valley Community College and later at Eastern Oregon University earning a B.A. in Sociology and Anthropology. In 2018, he joined the Kennewick Police Department, working as a gang officer on patrol, a trainer in less-lethal options, a patrol training officer, and a drone pilot, among other responsibilities. In 2023 he was honored as Officer of the Year and received an award from the Kennewick Kiwanis Club that same year. In December 2024, he stepped into the Community Relations position.

Zintel Creek will provide another outstanding meal for our meeting. **Bob will be traveling, so please note the earlier date to make reservations.** You can make them from the website, but keep in mind that will cost you an extra \$5 per person.

Dues

It's time renew memberships. Dues are \$25, unchanged since 2014, what a deal! Send your dues to

Paul Seipt
381 Clovernook St
Richland WA 99352



Attendees at the November meeting enjoyed the Tri City Tappers performance. And Bob Parr won the door prize, provided by the Visiting Angels in Kennewick. Watch for a door prize in December.

Make your check out to "L&C Chapter," pay it on the website, or better yet, bring it to the December meeting.

HqMOAA sends . . .

COLA for Retirees

Starting in January 2026, military retirees will see a 2.8% cost of living increase in retirement pay. This is based on the average increase from last fiscal year's base in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers for July, August, and September. Those increases were 2.5%, 2.8% and 3.0%, respectively. Social Security recipients will also see a 2.8% increase, although this will

be offset by an increase in the Medicare Part B premium of \$15/month for most of us.

Fertility treatment under TRICARE

[Probably not a concern for most of our chapter members]

TRICARE beneficiaries seeking fertility treatments have fewer options than those under many private-sector plans, including plans available to lawmakers and federal workers. Language in both the House and Senate versions of the FY 2026 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) would change that ... if it survives the conference process. The proposed legislation

would fund up to three cycles of IVF treatment across all TRICARE beneficiary categories.



Zintel Creek
314 N Underwood St
Kennewick

Social hour: 5:30
Dinner: 6:30
\$30 per person members
\$35 per person on the web

***A reservation made
is a reservation paid***

December Meeting

Tuesday, December 16

Reservations by
Monday Dec 8 to
Bob Allen
Text: (509) 554-6992
Email:
moaa.tricities@charter.net
On line:
<http://www.tricitiesmoaa.org>

Menu

Cranberry Apple Pork Loin
Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Seasonal Vegetables
Green Salad & Rolls
Dessert: Panna Cotta
Beverages