



# RENSSELAER COUNTY VETERANS NEWSLETTER

Rensselaer County  
Unified Family Services  
Veterans Service Agency  
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KATHLEEN M. JIMINO  
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Commissioner

County Executive  
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Director

## Programs for Veterans with Service-Connected Disabilities

**Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment:** The Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) Program assists veterans who have service-connected disabilities with obtaining and maintaining suitable employment. Independent living services are also available for severely disabled veterans who are not currently ready to seek employment. Additional information is available on VA's web site at <http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/>.

**Eligibility:** A veteran must have a VA service-connected disability rated at least 20% with an employment handicap, or rated 10% with a serious employment handicap, and be discharged or released from military service under other than dishonorable conditions. Servicemembers pending medical separation from active duty may also apply if their disabilities are reasonably expected to be rated at least 20% following their discharge.

**Entitlement:** A VA Counselor must decide if the individual has an employment handicap based upon the results of a comprehensive evaluation. After an entitlement decision is made, the individual and counselor will work together to develop a rehabilitation plan. The rehabilitation plan will specify the rehabilitation services to be provided.

**Services:** Rehabilitation service provided to participants in the VR&E program are under one of five tracks. VA pays the cost of all approved training programs. Subsistence allowance may also be provided. The five tracks are:

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### Van Transportation...

- \* Don't drive and need to get to the VA Medical Center or the Troy VA Clinic!?
- \* We offer complimentary van transportation to and from the VAMC and Clinic for most morning medical appointments.

For more details call 270-2760.



### CHINA BEACH LZ-15

Remembering Forty Years  
1968-2008

Saturday, 2 August 08

11 a.m. till Dusk

Local 190 Laborers'  
Training Center

Wemple Rd., Glenmont, NY

Couples \$30

Adults \$20

Under 16 FREE

More Info call (518) 465-6829

## A Message From Our Director

Hello All-

I would like to tell all of you about a monthly ceremony that we have for deceased veterans. This ceremony is called the Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony and is conducted every second Monday of the month.

One deceased veteran is chosen monthly and a ceremony is held in his/her honor, where we reflect on their personal life, as well as their military career.

The family is presented with a flag that has been flown over the nation's capital in memory of the veteran, and then we fly that flag over the County Office Building for 30 days in honor of the veteran. At the conclusion of the

30 days, the flag is returned to family.

The family is also presented with proclamations and a pamphlet that includes the bio on the veteran being honored.

This is a very honorable ceremony and a very fitting one for a person who served their country unselfishly.

There are guidelines to submitting a deceased veteran to be honored:

- 1) The veteran must have been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable;
- 2) Must have resided in Rensselaer County during some part of their life to have a

connection to the county;

- 3) Can only be honored once;
- 4) Must have been deceased at least one year prior to being honored.

We in Rensselaer County Government strongly believe that all our deceased veterans and their families deserve the honor of this fitting ceremony. With that in mind we are asking for your assistance in identifying those qualified for our Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony. If you know of someone, please contact my office so that we may begin the process.

Yours in Patriotism,  
*Bob*

## Programs for Veterans with Service-Connected Disabilities (cont'd Page 1)

- **Reemployment with Previous Employer:** For individuals who are separating from active duty or in the National Guard or Reserves and are returning to work for their previous employer.
- **Rapid Access to Employment:** For individuals who either wish to obtain employment soon after separation or who already have the necessary skills to be competitive in the job marketplace in an appropriate occupation.
- **Self-Employment:** For individuals who have limited access to traditional employment, need flexible work schedules, or who require more accommodation in the

work environment due to their disabling conditions or other life circumstances.

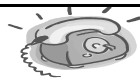
- **Employment Through Long-Term Services:** For individuals who need specialized training and/or education to obtain and maintain suitable employment.
- **Independent Living Service:** For veterans who are not currently able to work and need rehabilitation services to live more independently.

**Period of a Rehabilitation Program:** Generally, veterans must complete a program within 12 years from their separation from military service or within 12 years from the date VA notifies them that they have a com-

pensable service-connected disability. Depending on the length of program needed, veterans may be provided up to 48 months of full-time services or their part-time equivalent. These limitations may be extended in certain circumstances.

**Work-Study:** Veterans training at the three-quarter or full-time rate may participate in VA's work-study program and provide VA outreach services, prepare/process VA paperwork, work at a VA medical facility, or perform other VA-approved activities. A portion of the work-study allowance equal to 40 percent of the total may be paid in advance.

## Upcoming Events:



*Call us by the 15th of the month and we will list your event.*

August 2...China Beach, starts at 11 a.m. till Dusk, Donations are: 16 & under FREE, Adults \$20, Couples \$30-more info call 465-6829

August 11...Honor-a-Deceased Veteran Ceremony in the Legislative Chambers, 8:15 a.m. **George A. Randall III, US Army, WWII**

August 27th thru September 1st...Schaghticoke Fair, come see us at our booth.

September 1...Labor Day-**OFFICE CLOSED**

September 7...33rd Uncle Sam Birthday parade in Lansingburgh, start time 1:00 p.m.

September 14...Honor-a-Deceased Veterans Ceremony in the Legislative Chambers, 8:15 a.m. **Joseph F. Salmon, Sr., US Army, Korea**



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