

RENSSELAER COUNTY VETERANS NEWSLETTER

Rensselaer County
Unified Family Services
Veterans Service Agency
1600 Seventh Avenue
Troy, NY 12180
Phone: (518) 270-2760
FAX: (518) 270-2956

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KATHLEEN M. JIMINO
County Executive

Joseph W. Cybulski
Commissioner

Robert M. Reiter
Director

Armed Forces Retirement Home

Veterans are eligible to live in the Armed Forces Retirement Home located in Gulfport, Mississippi (scheduled to open in the fall of 2010), or Washington, D.C., if their active duty military service is at least 50 percent enlisted, warrant officer or limited duty officer if they qualify under one of the following categories:

- 1) Are 60 years of age or older; and were discharged or released under honorable conditions after 20 or more years of active service.
- 2) Are determined to be incapable of earning a livelihood because of a service-connected disability incurred in the line of duty.
- 3) Served in a war theater during a time of war declared by Congress or were eligible for hostile fire special pay and were discharged or released under honorable conditions; and are determined to be incapable of earning a livelihood because of injuries, disease or disability.
- 4) Served in a women's component of the armed forces before June 12, 1948; and are determined to be eligible for admission due to compelling personal circumstances.

Eligibility determinations are based on rules prescribed by the Home's Chief Operating Officer. Veterans are not eligible if they have been convicted of a felony or suffering from alcohol, drug or psychiatric problems. Married couples are welcomed, but both must be eligible in their own right. At the time of admission, applicants must be capable of living independently.

The Armed Forces Retirement Home is an independent federal agency. For information, call 1-800-332-3527 or 1-800-422-9988, or visit their Web site at <http://www/afrh.gov/>.

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.





VETERANS STAND-DOWN
Saturday, October 18, 2008
8 a.m.—1 p.m.
At the
Colonic BPO Elks #2192
11 Elks Lane, Latham, NY

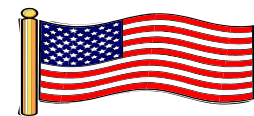



Noting that there is no dedicated memorial for all veterans from Rensselaer County who served in WWII, the Troy City Council, on February 3, 2005 unanimously voted for Resolution 6, appointing members of the WWII Memorial Committee of Rensselaer County, established to design, fund and locate a WWII Memorial in the City of Troy.

The committee has held and will continue to sponsor various fundraising activities, if you would like to contribute, please send you donation to:

WWII Memorial Committee of Rensselaer County

P.O. Box 1135, Troy, NY 12180



10th Annual Veterans Breakfast
Sunday, November 9, 2008
8:30 am-11:30 am

Noontime Medal Presentation Ceremony
Free Breakfast at the Brunswick Elks
665 Brunswick Rd, Eagle Mills
(Free to all Veterans & Immediate Family Members only please)

For more information, please call 270-2760

A Message From Our Director

October is a bold month of color; with the seasons changing the trees are just bountiful. It won't be long before the cold of winter sets in and we're all concerned over the high cost of heating our homes. I urge all low income veterans' and widows to check with our county's Department for the Aging to see if you qualify for aid.

VIETNAM VETERANS, we can't stress enough the affects Agent Orange has had on so many veterans' lives. There are other areas where this was used in, other than Vietnam, like the DMZ in Korea and Guam to name a few. Many veterans think that you have to prove that you were

sprayed with this and that is not the case. All the proof needed is to show ONE day stationed in an area where it was used and one of the following conditions:

- Chloracne
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Multiple myeloma
- Respiratory cancers: lung-trachea- bronchus
- Prostate cancer
- Soft tissue sarcoma
- Hodgkin's disease
- Porphyria cutanea tarda
- Peripheral neuropathy (acute or subacute)
- Type II Diabetes
- Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS)
- Spina bifida in children of veterans

Many veterans have passed away from the above Agent Orange related health issues; and if they were married at the time of their passing, their widows are due Dependency and Indemnity Compensation which is over \$1,000.00 per month, along with health insurance. If you know of any persons you believe fit these criteria, please have them call our office.

Yours in Patriotism,

Bob

Commissary and Exchange Privileges

Unlimited exchange and commissary store privileges in the United States are available to honorably discharges veterans with a service-connected disability rated at 100 percent, unmarried surviving spouses of members or retired members of the armed forces, recipients of the Medal of Honor, and their dependents and orphans. Certification of total disability is done by the VA. Reservists and their dependents also may be eligible. Privileges overseas are governed

by international law and are available only if agreed upon by the foreign government concerned.

Though these benefits are provided by DOD, VA does provide assistance in completing DD Form 1172, "Application for Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card." For detailed information, contact the nearest military installation.

For ID cards, call for an Appointment at the following:

- Albany Reserve Center: 489-5441
- Glens Falls: 792-6368
- Latham DMNA: 786-4406
- Stratton ANG: 244-2115
- Watervliet Arsenal: 266-5290

Commissary:

- Scotia Commissary: 370-5935
- Hours of Operation: 370-5913
- Navy Exchange: 377-6440

Upcoming Events:



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

October 13...Columbus Day observed—**OFFICE CLOSED**

October 14...Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony—County Legislative Chambers at 8:15 a.m., Marjorie R. Sislowski, USAF, Vietnam Era

October 18...Capital Region **Veterans Stand-Down** 8 a.m.—1 p.m. at the Colonie Elks

November 4...Election Day—**OFFICE CLOSED**

November 9....Free Veterans Day Breakfast at the Brunswick Elks, 8:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m., medal presentation at Noontime

November 10...Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony—County Legislative Chambers at 8:15 a.m., Ret. Lt. Col. Charles J. Werger, USMC, Korea

November 11....Veterans Day- **OFFICE CLOSED**

November 11...Veterans Day Walk in Troy, meeting at Troy City Hall at 9 am

November 11.....Free car wash at Hoffman's Car Wash for all veterans

November 27...Thanksgiving Day—**OFFICE CLOSED**

November 28...**OFFICE CLOSED**

December 8...Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony-County Legislative Chambers at 8:15 am, Frank J. Molloy, Jr., US Army, WWII