



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
Www.rensco.com

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KATHLEEN M. JIMINO
County Executive

PETER K. GOEBEL
Director

Military Medals and Records

Receiving or Replacing Military Medals:

Medals awarded while in active service are issued by the individual military services if requested by veterans or their next of kin. Requests for replacement medals, decorations, and awards should be directed to the branch of military in which the veteran served. However, for Air Force (including Army Air Corps) and Army veterans, the National Personnel Records center (NPRC) verifies awards and forwards requests and verification to appropriate services.

Requests for replacement medals should be submitted on Standard Form 180, "Request Pertaining To Military Records," which may be obtained at your local VA office.

When requesting medals, type or clearly print the veteran's full name, include the veteran's branch of service, service number or Social Security number and provide the veteran's exact or approximate dates of military service. The request must contain the signature of the veteran or next of kin if the veteran is deceased. If available, include a copy of the discharge or separation document.

Receiving or Replacing Military Records:

If discharge or separation papers are lost, veterans or the next of kin of deceased veterans may obtain duplicate copies by writing the National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, One Archives Drive, St. Louis, MO 63138-1002. Specify that a duplicate separation document is needed. The veteran's full name should be printed or typed so that it can be read clearly, but the request must also contain the signature of the veteran or the signature of the next of kin, if the veteran is deceased. Include branch of service, service number or Social Security number and exact or approximate dates and years of service. Use Standard Form 180, "Request Pertaining To Military Records"

You may also request a copy of military records via the internet at www.archives.gov/research/index.html. If you choose this method, we strongly suggest that once the records are received by the veteran, that they register a copy with their local Veterans Service Agency.

Van Transportation...

- * Don't drive and need to get to the Albany VA Medical Center ?
- * We offer complimentary van transportation to and from the Albany VAMC for most morning medical



VETERANS CRISIS LINE

1-800-273-8255
PRESS 1

Confidential chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net or text to 838255
TTY service 1-800-799-4889

Confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, for veterans and their loved ones.

Lifetime Liberty Pass

New York State created a new Lifetime Liberty Pass to permit qualified New York State Veterans with disabilities discounted use of state parks, historic sites, and recreational facilities operated by the Office Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (State Parks) and the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

Once issued, the Lifetime Liberty Pass will never have to be renewed! The Lifetime Liberty Pass benefits includes free vehicle entry to state parks and DEC-operated day-use areas, as well as numerous state boat launch sites, historic sites, arboretums and park preserves; free golf at 28 State Park golf courses; free swimming pool entrance at 36 State Park pools, and discounted camping and cabin rentals at all 119 State Park and DEC campgrounds.

To qualify for the pass, the Veteran must be a resident of New York State and provide State Parks with written certification from the United States Veterans Administration or the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs that the applicant is a war Veteran with a *40% or greater service connected disability* as certified by the United States Veterans Administration, or who has at any time been awarded by the Federal government an allowance towards the purchase of an automobile or who is eligible for such an award. Note: New York State Veterans with disabilities who currently hold a valid Access Pass may continue to use their pass for its duration. Prior to expiration, the pass-holder will only need to send in a new picture and a copy of their valid NYS driver's license or non-driver ID.

To apply for the Lifetime Liberty Pass, Veterans should submit a Lifetime Liberty Pass Application (attached) and indicate they are a Veteran using the Veterans Administration/Veterans Affairs certification. They will be issued their own distinctive Lifetime Liberty Pass. For more information, contact 518-474-2324 during normal business hours. Please allow 2-4 weeks for processing of this application.

See more at: <http://nysparks.com/admission/lifetime-liberty-pass.aspx#>

RETURN THE F.A.V.O.R. VETERAN DISCOUNT PROGRAM

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

Eligibility for the Rensselaer County Veterans' Discount Program is for Veterans or the widows/widowers of Veterans.

Eligibility for a Veterans ID Card is dependent on being an honorably discharged Veteran of the United States Military.

The Veteran or widow/widower MUST apply for the card in person.

Receipt of the Veterans FAVOR card is dependent on the Veteran or widow/widower's filing of an original Discharge (DD-214 / Report of Separation) at the Rensselaer County Clerk's Office.

WHERE DO I APPLY?
Rensselaer County Clerk's Office
105 Third Street
Troy, NY 12180
(518) 270-4080

VETERANS JOB FAIR

October 23, 2017

**ALBANY STRATTON VAMC
113 HOLLAND AVENUE, ALBANY, NY
3RD FLOOR AUDITORIUM**

10AM-2PM

Open to Active Duty Service Members, Reservists, National Guard, Veterans of all Eras and their spouses

Dress for success and bring your

Resume, VA / Military ID and / or your DD214

Participating employers include: Public (Federal, State/Local) & Private

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

A SALUTE TO VETERANS

19TH ANNUAL VETERANS BREAKFAST

Sunday, November 5, 2017 8:30 am– 11:30 am

Noontime Medal Presentation Ceremony

Free to all Veterans & Immediate Family Members

777 1st Avenue, North Troy, New York

Sponsored by County Executive Kathleen M. Jimino and the Rensselaer County Veterans Service Agency

For more information, please call (518) 270-2760

A Message From the Veterans Service Agency Director

A special thank you to everyone who honored and recognized our departed service members at the numerous ceremonies and parades throughout Rensselaer County last Memorial Day. It was another memorable weekend despite the weather.

As summer ends in upstate New York, let us not forget that there are many deceased Veterans for our Rensselaer County Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Committee to honor. Please submit:

- Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Application; and
- Veteran's DD-214, Report/Notice of Separation or Report of Casualty; and
- Obituary.

These documents will allow the committee to schedule a ceremony in the Rensselaer County Legislative Chambers on the second Monday of each month, except in October when it will be held on the second Tuesday. Please join us as we honor a special Veteran each month.

Living Veterans can now be honored by the Rensselaer County Legislature. Applications are available in the County Office Building. Our office is always available to assist veterans and families in obtaining military discharge documents, and, as always, the benefits which the veteran earned.

The great Schaghticoke Fair was a wonderful experience. Thank you to all who joined us and also visited the Vet Hall in the Freihoffers Building, to view some of the mementos of our Rensselaer County Veterans throughout all of our Nations Wars. Thanks again for all of your service to our Veterans!

Please join us for all of our upcoming Veterans Day events.

Sincerely,

Peter K. Goebel

HONOR-A-DECEASED VETERAN CEREMONY

Every second Monday of the month, Rensselaer County honors a deceased veteran in a very moving and respectful ceremony in the County Legislative Chambers.

If you have a loved one who was a veteran from Rensselaer County and would like to have them honored, please contact the Rensselaer County Veterans Service Agency at 270-2760 for an application.

The following criteria applies to the honorees:

- Must have personal tie to Rensselaer County (born, raised, or resided in);
- Must have been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable and discharge must accompany application;
- Copy of obituary must accompany application;
- May only be honored once;
- Submitted applications must be legible and have a family contact (name, address and telephone number);
- List of all medals, campaigns, and battles;
- Include civilian history (all community services and organizations);
- Be as detailed as possible, the entire ceremony is dedicated to this one particular veteran and it is their life story;
- Completed applications and supporting info must be turned into:

Rensselaer County Veterans Service Agency, 1600 Seventh Avenue, Troy, New York 12180

For an application , please call us at 518-270-2760 or download an application at www.rensco.com



2017 CAPITAL REGION HOMELESS VETERAN'S STAND DOWN



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2017
8AM-1PM**

At the Colonie BPO Elks, #2192, 11 Elks Lane, Latham, NY

Albany (518) 447-7710
Rensselaer (518) 270-2760
Schenectady (518) 377-2423
Fulton (518) 265-7345

Columbia (518) 828-3610
Saratoga (518) 884-4115
Washington (518) 746-2470
Montgomery (518) 265-7345

Saturday Only Number (518) 785-3557



Upcoming Events:

Call us at (518) 270-2760 to have your event listed in the newsletter.

October 9th...COLUMBUS DAY—OFFICE CLOSED

October 10th...Honor-a-Deceased Veteran Ceremony in the Legislative Chambers, 8:15 a.m., Elton G. Cook, Sr, US Army, PFC-WWII

October 14th...2017 Capital Region Stand Down at the Colonie Elks, 7am-1pm

October 23rd...Veterans Job Fair at the Albany Stratton VAMC, 10am-2pm

November 5th... 19th Annual Veterans Breakfast at the Veterans of Lansingburgh 8:30am-11:30am, Noontime Medal Presentation

November 7th... ELECTION DAY—OFFICE CLOSED

November 11th...VETERANS DAY

November 11th...Veterans Day Memory Walk in Troy, meet at the Old Troy City Hall near Monument Square, 9 a.m. start time