



Rensselaer County Veterans Newsletter

Volume 16, Issue 6
Nov./Dec. 2021

STEVEN F. McLAUGHLIN
County Executive

PETER K. GOEBEL
Director

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

Van Transportation...

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

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



NYS Certified Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Business

On May 12, 2014 the Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Act was signed into law to increase the participation of Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Business (SDVOB) in New York States contracting opportunities.

Who is eligible:

- Any business with a significant business presence in NYS where Service-Disabled Veteran (with a current VA disability rating of 10% or greater);
- Own 51% or more of the business;
- Veteran ownership is real, substantial and continuing;
- National Guard Veterans with a service related disability may also apply.

How to apply:

- Go to www.ogs.ny.gov/veterans
- Download and fill-out the Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Certification Application
- Print and sign the application
- Gather all supporting documentation, as specified in Part X of the application
- Mail the application and supporting documents to the OGS Division of Service-Disabled Veterans' Business Development as specified in the Submission Instructions (page 9)

EMAIL: VeteransDevelopment@ogs.ny.gov CALL: 518.474.2015

A Message From Our County Executive

Fall has arrived and winter is coming soon. A time to reflect on the previous months and what has been accomplished and what is left to resolve. For Rensselaer County, our commitment to veteran services remains strong and consistent, regardless of the season.

My administration is proud to have provided some important support to veteran organizations, donating \$5,000 in funding to each of the operating veteran organizations with buildings during an event this fall. The funding comes from savings my administration achieved during 2020. We recognize the enormous service of our veterans and families, and know the pandemic caused many organizations to lose opportunities for fundraising.

We greatly appreciate the support and the gratitude expressed by veterans for this contribution. Please know that we appreciate you - all that you have done, all that you have contributed and all that you still and will do for our county and our country. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Steven F. McLaughlin

Purple Heart Community

Are you interested in your City, Town or Village becoming a Purple Heart Community?

The purpose and meaning of a city/community to being called a Purple Heart City is to honor and remember military personnel wounded or killed in combat with hostile forces. The Purple Heart is specifically a combat decoration and it is our nation's oldest military medal. It was first created by General George Washington in 1782 and was then known as the Badge of Military Merit. It is the nation's oldest military medal.

For more information on how your City, Town or Village can become a Purple Heart Community, please contact your NYS Senator's office.

Free Dental Cleanings for Veterans at Hudson Valley Community College Dental Hygiene Clinic

Services Include

- Oral evaluation, periodontal screening, patient education, dental prophylaxis (cleaning), polishing, fluoride treatment
- Radiographs for a low-cost including bitewings, full-mouth series, and Panorex
- Sealants for a low cost
- Dental Nutritional Counseling

For Appointments Call, Hudson Valley Community College Dental Hygiene Clinic: 518-629-7400
www.hvcc.edu/dept-academic/health/dhy-clinic

Upcoming Events...



Call our office to inquiry about listing your event

November 6th...Stephentown Veterans Day Ceremony at 11am at the Veterans Memorial Park (Rt. 43)

November 7th...Annual Veterans Breakfast and Medal Presentation, Melvin Roads American Legion Post #1231, 200 Columbia Turnpike, Rensselaer. Breakfast 8am-10am, Medal Presentation at 10:30am

November 8th...Honor-a-Deceased Veteran Ceremony in the Legislative Chambers, 8:15 am,

Nathan J. Snyder—USA, SPC-Afghanistan

November 11th...**VETERANS DAY – OFFICE CLOSED**

November 11th...Annual Memory Walk in Troy, 9am at Monument Square

November 11th... Melvin Roads American Legion Post #1231 Veterans Day Ceremony at 1pm

November 11th...Free car wash at Hoffman Car Wash and \$9.99 signature oil change at Jiffy Lube for Veterans

November 13th...Veterans' Law Day, 9am-4pm, by appointment. For more info or to register:

alumni.albanylaw.edu/veterans2021 or call 518-445-2328

December 7th...Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

December 13th...Honor-a-Deceased Veteran Ceremony in the Legislative Chambers at 8:15 am,

Thomas S. Ostrowski- USN, DM2-Vietnam Era

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR VETERANS AT STRATTON VA MEDICAL

The following list is provided to assist you in making donations to the Stratton VA Medical:

TOILETRIES: body wash, full size toothpaste, single toothbrushes, shaving gel (not cream), disposable razors (at least 2 blade), small packages of Q-Tips, stick deodorant.

CLOTHING: Winter Coats (L, XL & 2xl sizes), hats, gloves, warm socks, hoodies, thermal underwear, boots, undershirts, briefs & boxers (M, L, XL, 2X sizes), Sweatshirts and sweatpants (XL, 2X, 3X sizes).

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS: Canned tuna, chicken, veggies, fruit, heart soups, ravioli. Ramen, rice, cereal, granola bars, peanut butter, jelly, pasta, sauce, And individually wrapped snacks.

GIFT CARDS FROM: Small denomination gift cards of \$25 or less for Wal-Mart, Target, Price Chopper, Hannaford, Shop-Rite, etc. for emergency purchases of clothing, toiletries and food items.

Please, all DONATED items MUST BE BRAND NEW WE CANNOT ACCEPT USED ITEMS!

Thank You for supporting our veterans! For additional information please contact:
Michael Fitzpatrick, Interim Chief, Voluntary Service (518) 626-5506 or
Dom Dominguez, Voluntary Service Specialist (518) 626-5507

MONETARY NEEDS - GENERAL POST FUND LISTING

The following list is provided to assist you in making monetary donations to the Stratton VA Medical Center for the benefit of OUR Veteran's care. Our funds most in need of donations are:

Personal Comfort Items - GPF 1312: Provides clothing, toiletries and personal comfort items for indigent and inpatient Veterans in need.

Veterans Holiday Fund - GPF 1325: Provides holiday and special occasion events, services and gifts for our inpatient Veterans.

Social Work Emergency Fund - GPF 1304: Provides indigent Veterans with food, transportation, and stays in local shelters.

Homeless Veterans Assistance - GPF 1315: Provides funding FOR supplies and services for HOMELESS Veterans.

Stratton Inn - GPF 1327: Provides comfort items for Veterans requiring overnight accommodations.

Adaptive Sports Program - GPF 1328: Provides funding to send Veterans to PARTICIPATE IN adaptive sporting events.

Recreation & Music Therapy Programs - GPF 1329: Provides funding for Veterans to perform/exhibit music, drama and art.

General Purpose - GPF 1337: Provides Rehab, recreation equipment, and other Veteran needs not covered by VA budget funds.

If you or your organizations are interested in providing financial assistance, please contact:
Michael Fitzpatrick, Interim Chief, Voluntary Service, at (518) 626-5506

100% of all donations received directly benefit our VETERANS

The Internal Revenue Service has announced that under the Tax Code, donations to Department of Veterans Affairs General Post Funds are deductible from federal income taxes in the manner and to the extent allowable. Donations to support any of the Department's programs are deductible, whether the donor directs that the donated funds be used for a specific purpose or allows the Department to decide how the donated funds will be used.



WREATHS *across* AMERICA

Wreath Sponsorship Form

Sponsored wreaths are placed on grave markers at state and national veterans' cemeteries, as well as at local, community cemeteries each December. Wreaths may also be sponsored online at www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org. If you wish to make your sponsorship with a credit card, please visit our website for a secure online transaction.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Please make checks payable to:
Wreaths Across America
 PO Box 249
 Columbia Falls, ME 04623

Call 877-385-9504 with any questions.
 Thank you for your sponsorship and joining us in our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach!

Sponsorship Type	Price	Quantity	Total
Individual = 1 Wreath	\$15.00		
Mailed "In Honor" card = If you wish to send a physical honor card telling someone of your sponsorship, please see "In Honor" section below. The \$2 fee is required for this mailing.	\$2.00		
Family = 4 Wreaths	\$60.00		
Small Business = 10 Wreaths	\$150.00		
Corporate = 100 Wreaths	\$1,500.00		
		Grand Total	

GRAVE SPECIFIC REQUESTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED ON THIS FORM

In Honor of:

Below, please provide email or mailing address of "In Honor of" recipient so we can notify them of your sponsorship in their honor. If you have a specific message please write it on the back of this sheet.

Email address: _____
 Mailing address: _____

In Memory of:

This name will be listed on our online memory wall. Below, please provide name, rank, branch of service and state resided.

Branch of Service: _____
 Rank: _____
 State: _____

Please note, ALL sponsored wreaths are shipped directly to the location and NO wreaths are sent to the individuals purchasing sponsorships.

Location ID: **NYGSNS** Fundraising Group ID: **NY0057**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Cash: _____ Total: _____ Date Received: _____
 Total No. Checks: _____ Reconciled: _____
 MO: _____ GEN: _____
 Entered: _____