

RETIREE LUNCHEON NOTES – FEBRUARY 2026

SICK CALL: Milton Banks, Chuck Boehnke, Bohdan Cholach, Steven David, Ted Fafinski, Nick Grzymkowski, Bob Helmes, Sally Kent, David Pupo, Michael & Josie Rhodes, and Otis Robinson are on our sick call list. Please keep each of them in your prayers. To **add or remove** someone from the sick call list (they must agree to be listed) email MilitaryRetireeLuncheon@gmail.com

FINAL SALUTE: *(PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE FOR THE FAMILIES OF OUR DECEASED COMRADES)*

JUDITH E. “JUDY” SAFFORD, wife of SGM (U.S. Army, Ret.) Sherman “Sherm” Safford, Greece, NY passed away on February 1, 2026 at the age of 85. Go to <https://www.farrell-ryan.com/obituaries/judith-safford/> to read her obituary and to leave a message of condolence. (Note: Sherm meets and greets attendees at the registration table for the monthly military retiree luncheons).

MSG MICHAEL R. MAIURI, U.S. Army Ret., Greece, NY passed away on February 19, 2026 at the age of 78. Go to <https://www.newcomerrochester.com/obituaries/michael-maiuri> to read his obituary and to leave a message of condolence. (Note: Mike was a regular attendee at our monthly luncheons)

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS & WEBSITES FOR MILITARY RETIREES’ FAMILIES AND SURVIVORS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 7

TAX SEASON IS HERE !!

It's time to check your myPay account at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>

Your myPay account provides convenient access to information about your pay and allows you to easily update your contact information, manage your pay, and download or print your tax statement IRS forms 1099-R or 1095-B (for retirees only). **IRS Forms 1099-R are now available on line.** You can also use myPay to change your federal tax withholding and update your bank account information.

TAX SEASON GUIDANCE FOR VETERANS

Maximizing benefits, accessing free assistance and avoiding scams

Veterans may qualify for special tax breaks and [free assistance programs](#) to help them navigate the filing process and maximize their returns. Read an important VA news article at <https://news.va.gov/138085/tax-season-guidance-for-veterans/>

TAX PREP WITH VOC - FEB 24th

See page 2 under Events for details

98TH DIVISION ALUMNI GATHERING - APRIL 11TH, WEBSTER, NY

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064653043298&sk=events> for additional information. **See flyer on page 9.**

U.S. NAVY BANDS COMING TO NEW YORK

21 Feb – Buffalo State Performance Center, Buffalo, NY

22 Feb – The Hochstein School, Rochester, NY

23 Feb – Greece Performing Arts Center, Rochester, NY

24 Feb – North Syracuse Junior High School, North Syracuse, NY

26 Feb – Capitol Theatre, Rome, NY

27 Feb – Queensbury, High School, Queensbury, NY

10 Mar – **(Sea Chanters)** Roberts Wesleyan University, Rochester, NY

Go to <https://www.navyband.navy.mil/events/tour/concert-band-2026> for complete details and for additional locations

NEXT MILITARY RETIREE LUNCHEON

The next Military Retiree Luncheon will be on **Thursday, March 19, 2026** at the **Grand Super Buffet**, 1100 Jefferson Road, Rochester (Henrietta), NY 14623. Registration will begin at 11:15, with announcements beginning around 12:15. The price of the luncheon is \$16.00. **Please be sure to email MilitaryRetireeLuncheon@gmail.com to let us know if you will be attending.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEB 21 – MAY 30 – ARMY RESERVE RETIREMENT SEMINARS: Virtual and in-person seminars are scheduled throughout 2026. They are designed to ensure Retired Soldiers, current Soldiers, and their families receive information and referrals on benefits and entitlements. Retired Soldiers awaiting retirement pay at age 60 are encouraged to attend. Seminars are scheduled throughout the U.S., its territories, and online, with additional seminars to be posted throughout the year. Go to <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/Resources/Retirement-Events/USAR-Retirement-Planning-Seminars> to find a retirement seminar near you.

FEB 24 – DEC 8 - JOB HIRING FAIRS: *Hiring Our Heroes Employment Workshops and Job Fairs*, including spousal fairs and net-working functions, around the country, overseas, and virtually (on-line). Go to <https://www.uschamberfoundation.org/events/hiringfairs> to find a location near you. Dates and locations are subject to change, and additional dates will be posted, so refer to the website often for current information.

FEB 24th – TAX PREP WITH VOC (SEMINAR): 2-3 pm. Veterans Outreach Center, 447 South Ave., Rochester, NY 14620. Prepare to file in 2026 - Do more with an IRS Online Account; Understand refund timing and how to avoid delays; Learn about free filing options; Learn about other key updates and essential tips. Contact Jeff Klein for more information or to sign up at 585-295-7804 or jeff.klein@vocreon.org.

MAR 4th – BLOOD DRIVE: 1-6 pm. Spencerport American Legion, 691 Trimmer Rd, Spencerport, NY 14559. Details at <https://www.facebook.com/events/25989315367339460> Although walk-ins are always appreciated, please go to www.redcross.org/blood to make an appointment. This will help maximize our donations which are desperately needed.

MAR 19th – MILITARY RETIREE LUNCHEON: See bottom of page 1 for details.

APR 1-9 – PASSOVER: A Jewish Holiday

APR 5th – EASTER SUNDAY: A Western Christian Holiday

APR 11th - 98th DIVISION ALUMNI GATHERING: Webster, NY: See flyer on page 9

APR 16th – MILITARY RETIREE LUNCHEON

APR 18 – NOV 7 – RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS (RAD): Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) is a program that connects the retired community to resources for their benefits and entitlements. Content varies, but many include guest speakers, medical information, and ID card services. Schedules are subject to change, so check <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/Resources/Retirement-Events/Retiree-Appreciation-Days> for updates.

MAY 2nd - 98TH DIVISION MILITARY BALL: Columbus, GA. **Save the date!** - Details coming soon.

MAY 23rd – HONOR FLIGHT ROCHESTER FUNDRAISER: DeWolf Brewery, 60 Maple Ave., Victor, NY 14564. Door Prizes & 50/50 Raffle

JUN 20th – 401st CIVIL AFFAIRS BN REUNION PICNIC: Webster, NY. See flyer on page 11.

RECURRING EVENTS CAN BE FOUND BEGINNING ON PAGE 12

MORE EVENTS AT <https://www.rocveterans.org/events> The website connects veterans and their families with events in the Finger Lakes area, including Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates counties. If your group is missing, send email details to rocveterans585@gmail.com

DATES TBA – YOUR FUNCTION: Have your military/veteran-related function listed here. Send complete information to MilitaryRetireeLuncheon@gmail.com no later than the 10th of the month for insertion in the notes. Please include a flyer if available as well as a link to a website or Facebook page.

If you're a Veteran in crisis, or you're concerned about a Veteran who is, call the Veterans Crisis Line now to reach caring, qualified VA responders. Dial 988 then Press 1. Help is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

VA SCAMS

Scams continue in all forms, and the VA is no exception. See flyer on page 10 for more information.

ATTENTION ARTISTS: THE 2026 NATIONAL VETERANS DAY POSTER CONTEST

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Veterans Day National Committee are now accepting submissions for the 2026 Veterans Day Poster Contest. This contest is open to everyone—professional and amateur artists alike. Your design should reflect this year’s theme: “Veterans Helping Veterans and Their Families.” Deadline: All entries must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. (EDT) on April 1, 2026. Full details at <https://news.va.gov/144968/attention-artists-the-2026-national-veterans-day-poster-contest-is-now-open/>



PROTECT YOUR PROFILE & YOUR FINANCES

Social media is where we share life’s highlights — but it’s also where fraudsters look to take advantage. From misleading ads to impersonation tactics, fraudsters are finding new ways to manipulate, deceive and steal your personal information.

The good news? A little awareness goes a long way.

Common Scams to Watch Out For:

Fake ads and listings: Tempting offers for popular products that never arrive.

Phony investment tips: Promises of fast returns that lead to fraudulent sites.

Impersonation attempts: Fake profiles built to earn your trust and request money.

Malicious messages and links: Direct messages or surveys that can steal your personal data.

Protect Yourself with These Simple Steps:

Keep your personal information private and your posts limited to trusted audiences.

Use strong passwords and enable multi factor authentication.

Be cautious with messages from unknown accounts.

Think before you click on links or fill out online forms.

Never send money to someone without first verifying their identity.

Trust your instincts — if something feels too good to be true, take a step back and double-check before you respond or take action.

EDUCATION BENEFITS FOR SURVIVORS

If you know a child or spouse of a Veteran or service member who has died, is captured or missing, or is rated permanently and totally disabled, you may be able to get help paying for school or job training through the Survivors’ and Dependents’ Educational Assistance (DEA) program, also called Chapter 35. Find out eligibility for DEA at <https://www.va.gov/family-and-caregiver-benefits/education-and-careers/dependents-education-assistance/>

VA HOMELESS PROGRAMS

If you know of a Veteran who is homeless or on the verge of homelessness, have them contact the National Call Center for Homelessness Among Veterans for immediate housing crisis needs at **877-424-3838**. HUD-VASH is a collaborative program that pairs HUD’s Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance with VA case management and supportive services. These services are designed to help homeless Veterans and their families obtain permanent housing and access the health care, mental health treatment, and other supports

2026 MEDICARE & YOU eHANDBOOK

Check out the new *2026 Medicare & You eHandbook*. The eHandbook is easy to search or download, so you can quickly find what you're looking for. Click on <https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you>

NEW TRICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COPAYMENTS EFFECTIVE JAN 1, 2026

TRICARE Home Delivery (Up to a 90-day supply)

Tier 1 Generic Formulary drugs increased from \$13 to \$14.

Tier 2 Brand-Name Formulary drugs increased from \$38 to \$44.

Tier 3 Non-Formulary drugs increased from \$76 to \$85.

Retail Network pharmacies (Up to a 30-day supply)

Tier 1 Generic Formulary drugs remained at \$16.

Tier 2 Brand-Name Formulary drugs increased from \$43 to \$48.

Tier 3 Non-Formulary drugs increased from \$76 to \$85.

Go to <https://militaryrx.express-scripts.com/blog/changes-your-tricare-prescription-drug-copayments-2026> for information on retail Non-network pharmacies, and for additional information on express-scripts changes.

REPLACING LOST OR MISSING MILITARY MEDALS, AWARDS & DECORATIONS

Have you lost or not yet received any military medals, awards or decorations? Watch the short video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3gqWkouN29Q>

MILITARY RETIREE RESOURCES

Military retirees can find valuable service-specific resources at the following websites:

Army - <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/>

Army (Retirement Planning Guide) -

<https://soldierforlife.army.mil/Documents/2020%20US%20Army%20Retirement%20Planning%20Guide.pdf>

<https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/>

Air Force - <https://www.retirees.af.mil/>

Navy - <https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Career-Management/Retirement>

Marine Corps - <https://www.hqmc.marines.mil/Agencies/Manpower-Reserve-Affairs-MMSR-6/>

Coast Guard - <https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Human-Resources-CG-1/Pay-and-Personnel-Center-PPC/>

Fort Drum Retiree Newsletter *Mountain Honors* – Read the most recent issue at

https://home.army.mil/drum/8617/5215/9545/Summer_2025_FDRC_Digital_Newsletter_S.pdf

Veterans Resources Newsletter – Read the most recent issue at <https://www.va.gov/VetResources>

Veterans Benefits - <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage>

Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents & Survivors Handbook -

https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp

Military Records - <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>

Military forms and publications - <https://www.marines.mil/News/Publications>

DFAS Retiree Newsletter - <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/newsevents/newsletter/>

Army Echoes - <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/Army-Retirement/Post-Retirement/Army-Echoes-Newsletter>

Army Echoes Podcast - <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/Resources/SFL-Podcast>

APPLY FOR VA HEALTH CARE AT <https://www.va.gov/health-care/apply/application>

THE VETERANS CRISIS LINE IS HERE FOR ALL VETERANS NO MATTER WHAT, NO MATTER WHEN

The Veterans Crisis Line is a critical resource offering free, 24/7 crisis support by phone, chat, or text to all Veterans, no matter when or where they served and **no matter what kind of discharge they received**. Friends and family members can also call, chat, or text at any time, day or night. Dial 988 then Press 1, or Chat online: VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat or Text 838255 A real person will be on the other side ready to talk and help. You are never alone. Reach out if you need help. Full details are available in the VA news article at <https://news.va.gov/144081/veterans-crisis-line-prevents-veteran-suicide/>

MILITARY ID CARD/DEERS - OFFICES OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Rochester: Army Reserve Center, 49 Jetview Drive, Rochester, NY 14624, phone (910) 598-7773.

Retirees and dependents can also make an appointment to obtain ID cards at the Navy Reserve Support Center (NRSC), 439 Paul Road, Rochester, NY through the Rapids Site Locator at <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/> (reservations at the NRSC cannot be made by phone).

Buffalo & Niagara Falls: You can obtain ID cards at the Connecticut Street Armory in Buffalo, NY by calling 716-888-5764, 5759 or 5787 for an appointment. At Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station call the 914th Air Refueling Wing, at (716) 236-2197; or the 107th Attack Wing, NY Air National Guard, at (716) 236-2435. Go to <http://www.niagara.afrc.af.mil/Portals/142/Documents/ID%20CARDS%20AND%20DEERS%20IMPORTANT%20INFORMATION%20w%20schedule.pdf> for schedules and additional information.

Around the U.S.A. and the World: Find the nearest ID card office on the Rapids Site Locator at <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco>

RENEW ID CARDS ONLINE

Uniformed Services ID cards may now be renewed online. See the on-line USID card renewal page at <https://www.cac.mil/Next-Generation-Uniformed-Services-ID-Card/Renewing-Online/> for complete information. This page provides details on how to renew your USID card online. Sponsors may request Uniformed Service ID (USID) Card renewal online, which, if approved, are mailed directly to the card recipient; no in-person appointments necessary. Click on the link above for details on how to renew your USID card online.

VA COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIP COORDINATOR

Ashley Smith, LCSW, is the coordinator at the Finger Lakes VA (Canandaigua, NY). Her role is an extension of the VA's suicide prevention efforts. She takes a public health perspective to engage with all veterans in the community and their support systems. Ms. Smith works with a wide variety of organizations to provide any assistance they would find helpful to further their suicide prevention efforts. She can provide suicide prevention training, Veterans Crisis Line materials, and gun locks – all free of charge. Contact Ms. Smith at 585-364-9783, or email her at ashley.smith14@va.gov

FIND VA LOCATIONS AND HEALTH CARE SERVICES NEAR YOU

The VA has added 25 new locations since January 2025

Search for your nearest VA medical center and other health facilities (including approved Urgent Care facilities and pharmacies), benefit offices, cemeteries, community care providers and Vet Centers on line at https://www.va.gov/find-locations?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=VAntage??

DIRECTORY OF VETERANS SERVICE AGENCIES

Every county in New York State has a Veterans Service Office. Go to <https://www.ny.gov/counties> to find your county, and then navigate to the Veterans Agency or Veterans Service Agency. **For other states**, check your state and/or county website to see what is available locally.

MONROE COUNTY (NY) VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY OFFICES

The main VSA office is located at 125 Westfall Rd., Rochester, NY 14620, (585) 753-6040. The Greece satellite office is located in the Greece Ridge Mall, Inline Space F5, 271 Greece Ridge Center Dr., Rochester, NY, 14626, (585) 753-2802. The Penfield/Webster office is in BayTowne Plaza, Suite 645, 1900 Empire Blvd., Webster, NY 14580, (585) 753-2812. Go to <https://www.monroecounty.gov/vsa> for more information

RETIREMENT SERVICES OFFICES

Talk to a Retirement Services Officer. Whether you're **Regular Army, Army National Guard, or Army Reserve**, you have an assigned Retirement Services Officer (RSO). Find yours at the interactive RSO maps at: on the Army Retirement Services website at <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/About-Us/Contact-Your-RSO>

WEBSITE ACCESS FOR VA ONLINE SERVICES

The VA moved to only using **Login.gov** or **ID.me** sign-in options on February 1, 2025, eliminating the use of user names and passwords for My HealtheVet and DS Logon. Go to <https://news.va.gov/133159/prepare-for-vas-secure-sign-in-changes/> to learn how to create a new account to ensure access to VA online services.

RETIREE AND ANNUITANT PAY DATES

The following schedule shows the dates when you should expect to see the payment deposited into your account. For more information, go to <https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/manage/payschedule.html>

*VA education, compensation, pension, and survivor’s benefits are paid on the same dates as retiree payment dates below.

Entitlement Month	*Retiree Payment Dates	Annuitant Payment Dates
January 2026	January 30, 2026	February 2, 2026
February 2026	February 27, 2026	March 2, 2026
March 2026	April 1, 2026	April 1, 2026
April 2026	May 1, 2026	May 1, 2026
May 2026	June 1, 2026	June 1, 2026
June 2026	July 1, 2026	July 1, 2026
July 2026	July 31, 2026	August 3, 2026
August 2026	September 1, 2026	September 1, 2026
September 2026	October 1, 2026	October 1, 2026
October 2026	October 30, 2026	November 2, 2026
November 2026	December 1, 2026	December 1, 2026
December 2026	December 31, 2026	January 4, 2027

NEW RETIREMENT ACCOUNT LIMITS FOR 2026

-401(k) limit increases to \$24,500 - IRA limit increases to \$7,500

Go to <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/401k-limit-increases-to-24500-for-2026-ira-limit-increases-to-7500> for the full news release.

RETIREMENT & ANNUITANT PAY

Everything you need to know about retirement pay and annuitant (survivors) pay can be found at <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/>

YOUR MYPAY ACCOUNT:

If you need to create a *myPay* account, or if you have problems remembering your account login ID or password, customer service is available Mon-Fri, 8 am to 5 pm ET. Call 1-800-321-1080, option 6. Go to [myPay Web Site \(dfas.mil\)](https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/Quick-Tools-for-Retirees-SBP-Annuitants-Survivors) for 24-hour service.

MANAGING RETIRED OR SBP PAY ACCOUNT - CHANGES TO DFAS

Click on <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/Quick-Tools-for-Retirees-SBP-Annuitants-Survivors> to see the improvements to DFAS that will help you manage your retired pay or SBP pay.

DFAS RETIREE NEWSLETTER

The December 2025 issue of the quarterly Retiree Newsletter is now available online at <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/newsevents/newsletter/> This issue contain a lot of important information for all military retirees.

SHARE YOUR STORY AND LEGACY

Veterans can now share their story through the Veterans Legacy Memorial’s “[Living Veterans](#)” feature. Add images, personal tributes, milestones, and historical documents. After your passing, your page will be published on the nation’s largest online memorial dedicated to honoring America’s Veterans. To access the “Living Veterans” page, start by submitting a [VA pre-need burial eligibility application](#) online. Once approved, you will receive an email to set up your personal VLM page.

Watch a short video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8fzPhgALh1I> to learn more about creating your personal legacy. Future generations of your family will be grateful that you did. **See flyer on page 9.**

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS & WEBSITES FOR RETIREEES' FAMILIES AND SURVIVORS

THE SURVIVORS OUTREACH SERVICES OFFICE (SOS): Learn about what the SOS can do to assist survivors at <https://www.usar.army.mil/ARFP/SOS/> Locate your nearest SOS coordinator at https://dcsq9.army.mil/sos_staff_Locator

TO REPORT THE DEATH OF A MILITARY RETIREE: Call DFAS at 1-800-321-1080. When you call, be prepared to provide the retiree's name, social security number and date of death. It is important to report the death as soon as possible to preclude overpayments. Go to [March2024 Prepare Your Loved Ones \(dfas.mil\)](https://www.dfas.mil/march2024/prepare-your-loved-ones) for more information regarding overpayments.

VA: 1-800-827-1000 <http://www.va.gov>

Social Security: 1-800-772-1213 <http://www.ssa.gov>

Update ID cards: 1-800-538-9552; <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>

Nearest Retirement Services Office: <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/rso> 99th Readiness Division JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey (609) 562-1696/7055/7425/1688 RSO email: Army99RSO@mail.mil services the following states: CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VA, VT, and 7th MSC (Europe).

RETIRED SOLDIER CASUALTY ASSISTANCE CHECKLIST

(Fill it out now and keep it in a safe place where your loved ones can find it):

https://soldierforlife.army.mil/Documents/static/Post/Retired_Soldier_Casualty_Assistance_Checklist.pdf

MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS

At a family's request, every eligible veteran will receive military funeral honors, to include the presence of a military funeral honors detail that will oversee folding and presenting the U.S. flag and playing "Taps". **Your funeral director is responsible for making the necessary arrangements.** Go to https://iris.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/183/~how-do-i-arrange-for-military-funeral-honors%3F for details. The funeral director who handles the veteran's service will request the honors. You will need to provide the veteran's discharge papers to verify eligibility. If you need a copy, either you or the funeral director must submit an **emergency request** for military records to the National Archives at <https://download.militaryonesource.mil/12038/MOS/Misc%20Files/mos-mfh-nara-form.pdf>

PLAN TODAY, HONOR FOREVER

A nationwide campaign designed to help you understand your options and plan ahead.

All the Resources You Need in One Place

Too many Veterans and families miss out on VA burial and memorial benefits simply because they don't know they're eligible. Whether you choose burial in a private cemetery or a VA national cemetery, these benefits are a meaningful part of end-of-life planning.

With **Plan Today, Honor Forever** you can:

- Learn what burial and memorial benefits you may be eligible for;
- Share important information with your family or caregivers;
- Check your eligibility for burial in a VA national cemetery; and
- Understand how VA burial allowances may help cover costs

Visit www.cem.va.gov/veterans-and-families to explore your benefits.

SURVIVORS AND BURIAL BENEFITS KIT

Help Your Loved Ones to be Prepared

The kit includes a guide through possible end-of-life and survivors' benefits eligibility and makes it easy to keep your personal information all in one place for you and your loved ones. The Kit gives a description of each burial benefit, instructions on how to apply, and where to go to get assistance.

Download the kit at <https://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/docs/VASurvivorsKit.pdf>

HOW TO WRITE AN OBITUARY

Writing an obituary is a meaningful way to honor a loved one's life, but it can feel overwhelming. This guide is designed to simplify the process, helping you craft a respectful tribute that both shares essential information and celebrates their unique story. You'll learn how to achieve these two goals with clarity and care, whether you choose to write it yourself or use Legacy.com's helpful ObitWriter tools. Go to Legacy's website at <https://www.legacy.com/memorial-writing/how-to-write-an-obituary> for a step-by-step guide.

USEFUL INTERNET LINKS

198th Army Band Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/198thArmyBand/?fref=ts>
391st Regimental Officers Association: <https://www.facebook.com/391st-Regimental-Officer-Association-501827566885313>
98th Division Alumni Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/98th-Division-Alumni-924978704255065>
AAFES Homepage: <https://www.shopmyexchange.com>
Access to Members of Congress: <https://www.congress.gov/members>
Air Force Retiree Newsletter *the Afterburner*: <https://www.retirees.af.mil>
Airman, Official Magazine of the U.S. Air Force <https://www.airmanmagazine.af.mil/Issues/Future-Airlift/>
All Hands, the official magazine of the U.S. Navy - <https://allhands.navy.mil/>
American Legion (Monroe County, NY) - <http://www.monroecountyal.org>
Armed Forces Vacation Club: <http://www.afvclub.com>
Army Bands: <https://www.bands.army.mil>
Army Reserve Family Programs: <http://www.arfp.org/skins/ARFP/home.aspx?mode=user>
Cell Phones for Soldiers: <http://www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com>
Commissary Locator: http://www.commissaries.com/store_locator.cfm
Compeer Corps – Vets Driving Vets: <https://www.compeerrochester.org/compeercorps>
Dogs on Deployment: <http://dogsondeployment.org>
DFAS: <http://www.dfas.mil>
DRAGONMAN Museum: <https://dragonmans.com/museum-videos>
Exchange (PX) Homepage: <https://www.shopmyexchange.com>
Federal Benefits for Vets, Dependents and Survivors: https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp
Federal Job Search: <http://www.fedjobs.com/index.html?id=68kVqxhF>
Fort Drum Home Page : <https://home.army.mil/drum/index.php>
Fort Drum Retirement Services : <https://home.army.mil/drum/index.php/about/Garrison/directorate-human-resources/MPD/retirement-services-office-rso>
Fort Drum Telephone Directory: <https://home.army.mil/drum/contact/phone-directory>
Genesee Valley Chapter, Military Officers Association of America: <http://gvcmooa.org>
Help Base Greater Rochester: <https://www.facebook.com/Hbrochester>
Honor Flight Rochester: <http://honorflightrochester.org>
Identity Theft (Federal Trade Commission): <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft>
Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America: <http://www.IAVA.Org>
Job Fairs: <https://www.uschamberfoundation.org/events/hiringfairs>
Military Forms and Publications: <http://www.marines.mil/News/Publications>
Military History Society of Rochester Museum: <https://www.rochestermilitary.com>
Military Lodging: <http://www.dodlodging.net>
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA): <http://www.moaa.org>
Military Retiree Appreciation Days (RAD): <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement>
myPay: <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>
National Museum of the United States Army: <https://www.thenmusa.org>
National Parks & Federal Recreation Lands Passes: <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/index.html>
National Resource Directory: <https://www.nationalresourcedirectory.gov>
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org>
New York State Real Property Tax Exemptions: <https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/exemption/index.htm>
Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station: <https://www.niagara.afrc.af.mil>
Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station Retiree Office: <https://www.niagara.afrc.af.mil/Units/Retirees.aspx>
Pets for Vets: <https://www.petsforvets.com>
Project New Hope: <http://projectnewhope.net>
Red Cross (Rochester, NY): <http://www.redcross.org/ny/rochester>
Reserve Officers Association: <http://www.roa.org/site/PageServer>
Rochester NY Veterans: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1426709074303176>
ROC Veterans: <https://www.rocveterans.org/events>
Scam Detector: <http://scam-detector.com>
Social Security Administration: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov>
TRICARE: <http://www.tricare.mil>
U.S. Militaria Forum: <http://www.usmilitariaforum.com>
Valor Radio: <http://www.valor-radio.com> and <https://www.facebook.com/ValorRadio>
VA Benefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage>
VA Vet Centers: <http://www.vetcenter.va.gov>
Veterans Administration (VA): <http://www.va.gov>
Veterans Crisis Line: <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help/hotline>
Veterans Organizations and Events: <https://www.rocveterans.org/events>
Veterans Outreach Center: <https://veteransoutreachcenter.org>
Veterans Ticket Foundation: <http://www.vettix.org/>
Veteran's Service Records (DD214/SF180): <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>
Virtual Wall Vietnam Veterans Memorial: <http://www.virtualwall.org/index.html>
WNYHeroes: <https://www.wnyheroes.org>

DO YOU HAVE A USEFUL INTERNET LINK TO ADD? Please send useful links, as well as issues encountered with any of these links, to timstreb1@gmail.com

Check out the Stars and Stripes Flag Store E-Newsletter at <http://eflagstore.com>



98TH TRAINING DIVISION (IET)

ALUMNI GATHERING

On behalf of the Commanding General,
98th Training Division (IET),

You are cordially invited to attend a special Alumni Gathering
honoring our enduring legacy of excellence and dedicated service.

Who: 98th Training Division Alumni

When: 11 April 2026 | 1100 Hours

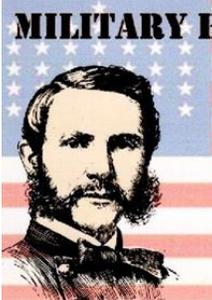
Where: MAJ D. W. Holleder USAR Center
515 Ridge Road
Webster, NY 14580

Why: To reconnect, strengthen our bonds, and celebrate
the proud history and continued future of the 98th
Training Division.

We look forward to welcoming you.

GREGORY C. GLASOW

Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Commanding General
98th Training Division (IET)



**MILITARY HISTORY SOCIETY
OF ROCHESTER**
250 N. Goodman St.
2nd Floor
Rochester, NY 14607
585/730-4041
*Chuck Baylis
Executive Director*

A Historical Society chartered by the Board of Regents of the State of New York
A Federal 501(C)3 organization.

Hours - Thurs, Fri, Sat - Noon—4
First Friday of each Month - Noon—10

Website: rochestermilitary.com
Email: acwartillery@rochester.rr.com

Preserving our community's military heritage
from the War of 1812 to the present.



Available weekends, holidays, evenings and nights
VA Nurses Helpline
(800) 877-6976
NY/NJ VA Health Care Network www.visn2.va.gov



New number. Same support.
Dial 988 then Press 1

SHARING SCAM INFORMATION

Yesterday the VA received several calls from Veterans stating that they had received texts from VA asking them to “update their information.” The text included a link that redirected the recipient to a very legitimate looking website where the unsuspecting could enter sensitive personal information for the “update.” **This is a scam!**

VA does send text messages to Veterans to offer updates on benefits, resources, and reminders for appointments. Veterans should be very cautious if they receive communications that ask for personal information or those that demand immediate payment.

If you received a suspicious text message (or email) please report it to VHA at (866) 842-4357. Scams related to VA benefits (VBA) should be reported to (833) 388-7233, and Non VA scams should be reported to the Federal Trade Commission at (877) 382-4357, or by contacting the FTC online at <http://reportfraud.ftc.gov/> These are all 24/7 contact resources.

Veterans are advised to block, delete, and report. **And most importantly, do not click that link!**

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs
VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System



20 JUNE 2026

1300-1700 HRS

401st Civil Affairs Battalion Reunion Picnic

VFW Post 8495 at 300 Macedon Center Road
Fairport, NY 14450

Families Welcome

Games, Door prizes, Raffles, Gift Baskets

401st Swag

Donations Appreciated

Each of us has a list of 401sters. Please reach out to them!

Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Chicken, Salad

Please bring a dish to pass

Please bring your favorite non-alcoholic beverage

Alcohol may be purchased inside the Post Bar

Door is open to all members – Especially **YOU!**

Please RSVP by 10 JUN (Call, Text, or e-mail)

Steve: 585-944-2236 majormac2002@gmail.com.

Heather: 585-478-4611 mcalpinheather@gmail.com.

Or Facebook: 401st CA BN Alumni Page



RECURRING EVENTS

(Note: All events were current as the time of this writing. We are not responsible for any schedule changes or cancellations. Please notify us at militaryretireeluncheon@gmail.com of any updates so we can keep the list of events current.)

SUNDAYS:

Every Second Sunday: **Breakfast**, 8 am.- Noon. American Legion Post 330, 691 Trimmer Road, Spencerport, NY 14559. Go to <https://www.fgpost330.org/site/eventscalendar.php> for more information. (open to the public)

Every Sunday: **Breakfast** 8-11 am. Rotates at different Livingston County American Legion Posts:

First Sunday - Avon Post 294, 5480 Avon E Avon Rd, Avon, NY 14414

Second Sunday - Lima Post 282, 2475 State Route 65, West Bloomfield, NY 14469

Third Sunday - Honeoye-Hemlock Post 1278, 4931 County Road 36, Honeoye, NY 14471

Fourth Sunday - Conesus Post 1779, 6317 Marshall Rd., Conesus, NY 14435

Select Sundays: **Miniature Golf**, 11 am. Whispering Pines, 4383 Culver Rd., Irondequoit, NY 14622. RSVP: ryoung@compeerrochester.org August 24, and September 14.

MONDAYS:

Every Monday: **Meditation Mondays** Experience the benefits of Neurodynamic Breathwork – Anxiety/Depression Relief, Trauma Relief, Increased Feeling in Your Body, Improved Romantic Relationships. For hours and more information, contact Jeff Klein at jeff.klein@vocroc.org or 585-295-7804.

First Monday: **Military Monday Dinner** Open at 5 pm. Veterans and one guest – Dinner, dessert, and non-alcoholic beverage provided. Hamlin VFW Post 6703, 1739 Lake Rd. N., Hamlin, NY 14464. Call (585) 964-2005 for information.

First Monday: **Women's Game & Craft Club** 2-4:30 pm. Offering support in working towards a deeper level of self-awareness and self-discovery in the company of other women. For more information, contact Annmarie Olson, annmarie.olson@vocroc.org or 585-295-7803.

First and Third Monday: **Salon Service, Sandy-Stylist**, 9 am – noon. Contact Jeff Klein at jeff.klein@vocroc.org or 585-295-7804 for to make an appointment.

Select Mondays: **Biking & Kayaking on the Erie Canal**. July 26, 6 pm; Aug 11, 11 am; Aug 25, 6 pm; Sep 8, 11 am, and Sep 22, 6 pm. RSVP or details contact Giovanna at ggutierrez@compeerrochester.org

TUESDAYS:

Every Tuesday: **Veterans Breakfast** 8-10 a.m. Rayson-Miller 899, 211 N. Main St., Pittsford, NY 14534. Open to all military veterans – free – RSVP not required – post membership not required. All veterans, any age, any length of service.

Every Tuesday: **Computer Basics** 9 am - Noon. Veterans Outreach Center, 447 South Ave., Rochester, NY 14620. Learn more about computer basic, email, job application assistance, resume management, printing, the Internet, MS-Office (Excel, Word, Powerpoint) and more. Appointment required – contact John Luce, 585-295-7832.

Second and Fourth Tuesday: **Salon Service, Arash-Master Barber**. 10 am – 1 pm. Contact Jeff Klein at jeff.klein@vocroc.org or 585-295-7804 for to make an appointment.

Second and Fourth Tuesday: **Veterans Cancer Support Group**. 5:30 - 7:00 pm, Gilda's Club Rochester, 255 Alexander St., Rochester, NY 14607. Register at <https://cscro.gnosishosting.net/Events> or call 585-423-9700, ext. 304.

Last Tuesday of the month: **Base Camp Outdoor Open Group** 10 am - 1 pm. For information and location contact Jeff Klein (585) 295-7804 or Jeff.Klein@vocroc.org

Last Tuesday of the month: **Journaling** 3:30pm. Location changes each month, as does the prompt being worked on for journal entries. RSVP to Liz at emedina@compeerrochester.org.

WEDNESDAYS:

First Wednesday: **Buffet Luncheon** 11 am – 1 pm. Wayne Masonic Lodge, 1932 Ridge Rd., Ontario, NY Free to all veterans and first responders.

First Wednesday: **Wednesday Warrior Dinner**. Free for Livingston and Monroe County Veterans. 6-8 pm. Location varies each month. Go to <https://www.livcovets.com/event-details/warrior-wednesday-dinner-26> for details and to request a seat.

First Wednesday: **Bingo** 1 pm. Compeer Rochester, 259 Monroe Ave., Rochester 14607. Parking and entrance in the back of the building. RSVP to emedina@compeerrochester.org

First Wednesday: **Male Veterans Group Luncheon** 3:30 pm. Golden Corral, 450 Jefferson Rd., Rochester NY 14623. Enjoy a meal with other Veterans and meet representatives from other organizations. Must RSVP to Rob at young@compeerrochester.org to reserve a seat.

First and Third Wednesday: **Trivia Night**, kitchen opens at 5 pm. American Legion Post 256, 454 N. Main St., Canandaigua, NY 14424. Enjoy a fun-filled night of trivia questions, food and beverages. Open to the public. Win a round, win a prize. \$100 cash final prize. 50/50 Raffle.

Second and Third Wednesday: **Art Therapy**, 10 am - 8 pm. For Veterans and First Responders. (by donation). For more information contact The Bread Box Art Studio, 4081 Ridge Rd., Williamson, NY 14589, 315-589-0046.

Second Wednesday: **Veterans Luncheon**, 11:30 am. Mertensia Lodge, 1394 Mertensia Road, Farmington, NY 14425. Hosted by AMVETS Post 332. All local veterans and significant others are invited. Contact Ed Hemminger 585-261-4502 or edhemminger@gmail.com for more information.

Second Wednesday: **Veteran +1 Guest Painting Activity**, 11:30 am. At Painting With A Twist, 1100 Jefferson Rd. Rochester NY 14623. RSVP to Liz at emedina@compeerrochester.org

Second Wednesday: **Free legal consultation** 9:30-10:30 am. Veterans Outreach Center, 447 South Ave., Rochester, NY 14620. "Lawyers for a Day" helps Veterans with civil legal issues, e.g. divorce situation, bankruptcy, credit issues, completing a will, or a health care proxy, etc. Go to <https://veteransoutreachcenter.org/legal-counseling> for details or for more information, contact Mark McCloskey at 585-295-7836 or MarkMcCloskey@vpcrpvc.org

Every Wednesday: **Flow Yoga** at VOC, 11 am – Noon. VOC Fitness Center, 447 South Ave., Rochester, NY 14620

Every Wednesday: **Bushcraft Workshops** 10 am – Noon. 3247 Rush-Mendon Road, Honeoye Falls, NY 14472. Learn outdoor skills at the farm. Enjoy brunch around a fire. Each week features hand-on topics like fire building, shelter making, and cooking, all led by wilderness experts and fellow veterans. RSVP to Elizabeth Brooks 585-369-8682 or ElizabethBrooks@monroecounty.gov.

Every Wednesday: **Soup & Sandwich** Lunch 11:30 am – 1 pm. American Legion Post 294, 5480 Avon-East Avon Rd., Avon, NY 14414. Free for veterans, \$5 for supporters. Proceeds to benefit veterans in need.

Every Wednesday: **Bingo**, doors open at 6:15 pm. Perinton VFW Memorial Post 8495, 300 Macedon Center Rd., Fairport, NY 14450. Lots of fun and amazing prizes.

THURSDAYS:

Every Thursday: **Disabled Veterans Outreach Program** 9 am – 4 pm. Veterans Outreach Center, 447 South Ave., Rochester, NY 14620. Meet with outreach program specialists from the New York State Dept. of Labor. Learn about employment service specifically for veterans. Get help with job referrals, resumes, training programs and more. Contact Nena Siverd, 585-295-7818.

Every Thursday: **Hiking Group**, 10 a.m. – Noon. Meet at VOC, 447 South Ave., Rochester, NY 14620. Contact Jeff Klein (585) 295-7804 or Jeff.Klein@vocroc.org

Every Thursday: **Bowling**, Noon – 2:30. ABC Gates Bowl, 645 Spencerport Rd., Gates, NY 14606. Friendship, support, camaraderie. RSVP to Rob at young@compeerrochester.org Note: outside food and beverages are not allowed; a few vending machines are available.

(Continued on next page)

THURSDAYS: (Continued from previous page)

Every First and Third Thursday: **Reboot & Restore Wellness**, 3-4 pm. VOC, 447 South Ave., Rochester, NY 14620. Contact Mark McCloskey at 585-295-7836 or MarkMcCloskey@vpcrpvc.org for more information on learning about the *8 Domains of Wellness*: Physical, Emotional, Social, Intellectual, Spiritual, Occupational, Environmental, and Financial.

Every Second Thursday: **Trivia Night**, 7 pm. American Legion Post 954, 6444 Buffalo Rd., Churchville, NY 14428. Details at <https://www.harveycnoonepost954.org/>

Every Second Thursday: **Women Veteran Connections Group**, Canandaigua Pavilion-VA Courtyard, 3-5 p.m. Create connections to other women veterans; explore connections to your personal purpose; connect with VA and local resources. Contact Kristy Prine (585) 393-7621 or Kristy.prine@va.gov or Kay Rathke (585) 364-9276 or Kayrathke@va.com

Every Third Thursday: **Female Veteran Coffee Group**, 3 – 4:30 pm. Boulder Coffee, 100 Alexander St., Rochester, NY. Contact Annmarie Olson (585) 295-7803 or annmarieoldon@vocroc.org

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS:

Every Friday: **Job Workshops**, 9 am to Noon. Resume editing, job searching, career counseling, developing new skills, etc. from *Rochester Works*. VOC, 447 South Ave., Rochester, NY 14620. Appointment is required. Contact Nina Siverd, 585-295-7818.

Every First and Third Friday: **Art Group**, 1-3 pm. VOC Morale Center, 447 South Ave., Rochester, NY 14620. A chance for veterans to work on the art that matters to them, no matter what the medium. Contact Jeff Klein (585) 295-7804 or Jeff.Klein@vocroc.org

Every Second & Fourth Friday: **Music Group**, 1-3 pm. VOC, 447 South Ave., Rochester, NY 14620. Contact Jeff Klein (585) 295-7804 or Jeff.Klein@vocroc.org

Every Second Friday: Beginning April 10, 2026 - **Veteran Women's Coffee House**, 5:30 – 8:30 pm. Gates Town Hall, Annex Room, 1605 Buffalo Rd., Rochester, NY 14624 To confirm/RSVP or for additional information contact Dory or Nancy, Co-Chairs of Women's Vet Coffee House at (585) 210-9881 or email: BlueStarMothersROC@gmail.com

Every Third Friday: **VA Connection Cafe**, 8:30-10:30 am. Rochester Calkins VA Clinic, 260 Calkins Rd., Rochester, NY 14623, in the Susan B. Anthony Conference Room. Connect with other local Veterans, build VA connections, and learn about available resources. Open to all Veterans enrolled in VA Finger Lakes Healthcare. RSVP is NOT required. For more information call Gillian Olson at 585-463-2608.

Last Friday: **Female Veteran Dinner** 5:30. Salvatore's Saloon, 352 Jefferson Rd., Rochester, NY 14623. Connecting through camaraderie. Enjoy a meal with fellow Veterans and meet representatives from other organizations. Seating is limited. A CompeerCorps activity. Must RSVP to emedina@compeerrochester.org

Every Second Saturday. **PTSD Support Group**, 10:30 am – Noon. Goodwill Community Space, 4119 Lakeville Rd., Geneseo, NY 14454. Contact bthrasher@mharochester.org or 585-333-6013.

Every Third Saturday. **Boater Safety Certificate Course**. 9 am – 5 pm. \$35 per adult, \$20 for anyone under 18 and Seniors - **free for Veterans and Active Duty**. Ewing Community Center of the Salvation Army, 124 Saltonstall St., Canandaigua, NY 14424. Go to www.abs47.org for more information and to register for this mandatory course.

For More Events, Resources & Information:

