



Veterans-*For*-Change Newsletter

A Voice of the Veterans

Week Ending Sunday, February 15, 2015
Volume 6, Issue 07

This-N-That

As most if not all of you know by now that there are big talks about “trashing” the entire Tricare program and in those talks are the trashing of ChampVA too!

We can express strongly enough that every single Veteran, spouse, friends of Vet need to take this seriously and also know that most if not all of the “Nationally Chartered Veteran Service Organizations” are not saying a word, not speaking out, and not looking out for Veterans which means it’s up to YOU again, to fight for yourselves!

Toward the bottom of the newsletter as in every newsletter are the phone numbers to call your Congressman and both Senators and tell them to leave your Tricare and ChampVA alone. Then put the information into an E-Mail and send to your entire list of friends and family and ask they too do the same thing, and ask they forward on to their own personal lists as well.

What not taking action means is not just loss of benefits and medical care, but to those who retired with 20+ years all know your enlistment contract promised this to you for life, and what the means is you will be forced to pay for your own care placing a very heavy financial burden on you and your family!

If the VA, Congress and the POTUS want to save billions of dollars there are several other solutions to the problems.

- 1) Fully computerize the Veterans Benefits Claims system and process claims much faster and far less errors and in that same process integrate all active duty military and medical records including VA Medical records and stop forcing Veterans to obtain and provide those documents, sometimes many times over.
- 2) Hire and require that all licensed medical personnel be licensed in the state in which they work, and carry malpractice insurance, removing the burden of financial responsibility off the Taxpayer and the VA.
- 3) Develop and maintain a CENTRAL PURCHASING system and use the buying power they have for all VA Medical Centers vs letting them act as independent Hospitals with regional warehouse and delivery services which would cut over head costs by billions annually.

Just to give you an idea on how the central purchasing system would work, a top of the line, best piece of equipment on the market is a multi-diagnostic EKG with Defibrillator unit which most hospitals have no less than five if purchased individually and needs to be replaced every 3-5 years would cost \$5,775.00, but if purchased in mass quantity of 500 units would drop to \$2,375.00 LESS than 50% of individual purchase costs. That amounts to a savings of \$1.7 million dollars and this is just one piece of equipment.

Now if you went and did every single item a hospital uses or consumes down to medications, band aids, 2x2 gauze squares, etc imaging the entire total annual savings that would produce.

Another problem we found out about was a Veteran who was in his late 70's, involved in a car accident and was taken to the VA Emergency Room, then forced to sit in the waiting room for THREE hours before he was seen.

To make matters worse, much worse, not only was he injured but his leg was deformed due to broken bones and you could visibly see this and I'm sure he was in extreme pain, but the ER Staff felt he could wait.

This is another problem in the VA Healthcare system, if you can't or won't do a job you're hired for and treat all those who come in with dignity, respect, and proper medical care, then those need to be terminated immediately, no questions asked, just terminated!

This kind of medical care is inexcusable and should never be tolerated!

Finally both the Senate and House came to a meeting of the minds so-to-speak and passed the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention Act and Obama signed into law.

Additionally Obama has proposed a \$168.8 Billion dollar budget for the Veterans Affairs.

Although the VA does need the money and badly they need to seriously reduce the discretionary spending portion of that budget and put it more into programs and services.

This is another area in which YOU can help! When talking to your Reps in DC about Tricare and ChampVA, let them know that money needs to go directly to Veterans, healthcare and programs!

As we mentioned last weekend we've upgraded to a newer version of software and with that has come a few improvements on the User side of the system making it even more user friendly. We still have a very few minor bugs to work on, but they're coming across quickly and being addressed immediately.

We've opened up 95% of the system so you don't have to subscribe except to use many of the forums that are era and gender specific and can only be seen and accessed once you subscribe.

We did add 1,167 new documents in various libraries and all the new documents have a "NEW" flag on them so they will be easily found! Hopefully we will be adding yet another 800-1,000 more in the next two weeks. So visit often and the announcement will be seen on the front page.

To help you better prepare Veterans-For-Change provides [Tax Deduction Finder & Problem Minimizer](#) you can download, print out and locate all the documents you need for tax preparation.

Have you lost a loved one, friend, buddy who served our Country? We'd like very much to honor them by placing their picture and what ever information you'd like to have others know in our memorial pages.

Visit today <http://veterans-for-change.org/gallery3/> and do let us know how we can best honor your loved one or friend.

If you're a member on Face Book, be sure to visit our Faced Book Page for Veterans-For-Change and like us, and spread the word! If you're a fan of Twitter, be sure to visit us there and follow us!

And if you have not been to or visited our website lately, take a visit today. It's 100% free. You do need to subscribe to view all the Forums, to post freely, and a few of the libraries which are restricted. Visit today: www.veterans-for-change.org

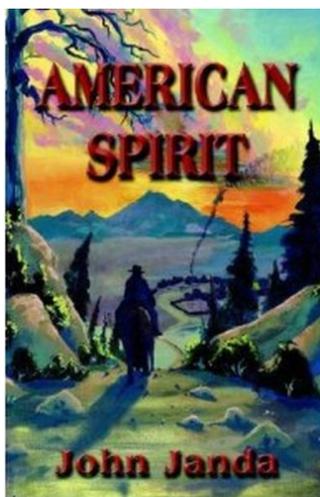
On behalf of the Board of Directors, Advocacy Group Members and Volunteers nationwide, we wish you and your family good health and everyone have a very Happy Valentine's Day!

Respectfully,
Jim Davis
Founder & CEO
Jim.Davis@Veterans-For-Change.org

The President has proposed a \$168.8 billion budget for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in fiscal year 2016. The budget includes \$73.5 billion in discretionary funding, largely for healthcare, and \$95.3 billion for mandatory benefit programs such as disability compensation and pensions. In the coming months, the Administration will submit legislation to allow the Department to reallocate a portion of unused funding from the Veterans Choice Program to support essential investments in the VA system. Highlights from the President's 2016 budget request for VA are available on the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) website at www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2675.

Black History Month

Black History Month, or National African American History Month, is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans. African Americans have made a profound impact on America that continues in many areas including history, education, entertainment, literature, science, sports, politics, culture, and the military. A list of contributions made by African Americans through the years is available on the [Robins Air Force Base website](#). For more information, visit [Military.com's Black History Month page](#), the [National Museum of the U.S. Air Force website](#) and the Library of Congress [website](#). Read the [President's Proclamation](#).



We all suffer bumps in the road. True literary fiction has been known to help us face and overcome those struggles. American Spirit is a work of true literary fiction about a civil war veteran who makes full recovery from losses. Read it and you might find it will help you as well.

Arizonaterritory1878.com Academypressca.com

<http://www.amazon.com/American-Spirit-John-Janda/dp/1601450311/>

TRICARE Increases Rx Copays

New copayments for prescription drugs covered by TRICARE went into effect February 1, 2015. Most pharmacy copays will increase by \$3. Drugs from military pharmacies and generic drugs from TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery still cost beneficiaries \$0. Copays at non-network retail pharmacies will also change, based on the changes to retail copays. For more details, visit the TRICARE pharmacy costs webpage at www.tricare.mil/pharmacycosts. These changes overrule previous rules that connected TRICARE pharmacy copays to the retiree cost of living adjustment (COLA).

Sound Off on Pay and TRICARE Proposals

The Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission offered [sweeping reforms to military pay and benefits](#). Let the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) know what you think about some of the more controversial proposals. [Take MOAA's brief survey](#).

The VA unwittingly scares PTSD victims



This next article, "The VA unwittingly scares PTSD victims" by the Pensacola News Journal, really puts the nail in the coffin here. It was written by Marketta Davis and Rob Johnson on October 13, 2014.

"Doctors and mental health counselors face several frustrations in treating PTSD besides the malady itself, including government bureaucracy and the stigma surrounding the disease."

"I know I have had veterans ask us if they are at risk for losing their benefits if they undergo treatment. And yes, I have to tell them, ethically," said Dr. Candace Drake, a psychologist at Pensacola's Joint Ambulatory care Center, where hundreds of PTSD patients are treated.

I know that when I quit all of my medications and decided to help myself heal naturally, since my doctors were only just medicating me and ruining my health, the first thing out of my doctor's mouth was that she wanted to take me completely off of my benefits, benefits that I clearly, and justifiably, earned fighting for my country. I had no job, no way to pay bills or eat; however, that did not seem to concern my doctor.

When I originally filed my claim they told me it would be almost two years before it was completed (so I was supposed to go that long without a place to live or any way to procure food). Well, it did in fact take that long. I also had to see a whole other set of doctors whom would make a decision on my claim, if I had PTSD or not, even though I was already seeing one of their own VA doctors whom was, at the time, already prescribing me several different medications for PTSD!

"Even though psychological help through the Department of Veterans Affairs is free through the Veterans Healthcare Administration segment for which Drake works, decisions on eligibility for disability payments on which many PTSD patients heavily rely are made by a separate arm of the VA, the Veterans Benefits Administration."

The article then goes on to say that there are many other frustrations that face these mental health care providers at the VA, such as the agencies "lack of control over monitoring the effectiveness and possible impact of its prescriptions, including powerful anti-depressants." Even though, after six years of taking several of these medications, my PTSD was not getting better and my health declining in the sense that I was 80lbs heavier, now in a wheelchair, and had obvious problems with skin rashes that wouldn't heal, my doctor completely ignored the impact these drugs were having on me.

It is quite understandable why Veterans do not wish to go to the VA for healthcare and also willing to just stay on their medications even if they are causing them other health problems they may not even have had before they began treatment with prescription drugs. They were more than willing to cut my benefits completely off when I quit the medication I was on because they were causing me serious health issues I never even had before. Not only

does the VA have a seriously tarnished image, as we were previously discussing, but their whole system appears to be so completely bifurcated that any sort of control or oversight is impossible.

Happy health!
Robert Serocki, Jr.
23rd Veteran
www.robertserocki.com



America's Veterans United

Is an advocacy group on Yahoo Groups developed to fight for the benefits, care, facilities, caring and compassionate fully licensed medical professionals, updated and properly operated VA Medical Facilities.

Are you sick and tired of the “business as usual” attitude, or the “delay, deny, until they die” attitude?

Are you able to give 30-60 minutes of your time per month to help develop and send letters to all 535 members of Congress each month in an attempt to force Congress into getting off their seats and actually doing something for Veterans vs. their usual lip service?

And are you sick and tired of all the other organizations who say they are fighting for you, but have shown decades of really not doing much for you?

Then join us, we do more than use membership numbers to fight, we actually have you working with us in the fight. Take control of your health and medical care and help us fight for you.

If interested, check out our page on Yahoo Groups:
https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Americas_Veterans_United/info

If you're not a member of any Yahoo Group, and not familiar with the system but want to join in the fight, you can do so via E-Mail as well:
americas_veterans_united-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

One really good thing about America's Veterans United, it won't cost you one thin dime, no membership dues, not postage costs, just your time and your computer.

Help us to help you and your fellow Veterans in the fight!

WWII Museum: Campaigns of Courage

From faltering first battles in North Africa to the bloody struggle at Germany's doorstep, the immersive galleries in *Road to Berlin* recreate actual battle settings and villages--complete with crumbling walls, bomb-torn rooftops, icy pathways, and a chillingly realistic soundscape. The result is a richly layered, multimedia journey that recreates the citizen soldier's experience with striking immediacy and impact: Visitors walking in the shadow of Normandy's brutally dense hedgerows can imagine the challenges that followed D-Day; attending a mission briefing with the Bomber Boys brings visitors inside America's all-important Air War strategy; seeing personal artifacts--cigarette boxes, photographs--scattered over real Normandy sand offers a touching perspective on the human cost of the war.

Government Accountability Office (GAO) Reports

Prenatal Drug Use and Newborn Health: Federal Efforts Need Better Planning and Coordination.
<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-203>

Medicaid: Additional Federal Action Needed to Further Improve Third-Party Liability Efforts.
<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-208>

Critical Technologies: Agency Initiatives Address Some Weaknesses, but Additional Interagency Collaboration Is Needed. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-288>

Land-Use Agreements: Improved Data Reliability and Monitoring Needed for Department of Veterans Affairs
<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-134T>

Defense Business Transformation: DOD Has Taken Some Steps to Address Weaknesses, but Additional Actions Are Needed. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-213>

Building Partner Capacity: DOD Should Improve Its Reporting to Congress on Challenges to Expanding Ministry of Defense Advisors Program. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-279>

High-Risk Series: An Update. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-290>

Mental Health: HHS Leadership Needed to Coordinate Federal Efforts Related to Serious Mental Illness
<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-375T>

High-Risk Series: An Update <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-290>

Small Business Contracting: Opportunities Exist to Further Improve HUBZone Oversight.
<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-234>

Financial Audit: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Funds' 2014 and 2013 Financial Statements.
<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-289>

African Growth and Opportunity Act: Eligibility Process and Economic Development in Sub-Saharan Africa.
<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-300>

Hazardous Waste: Agencies Should Take Steps to Improve Information on USDA's and Interior's Potentially Contaminated Sites. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-35>

Defense Health Care: Better Tracking and Oversight Needed of Servicemember Separations for Non-Disability Mental Conditions. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-266>

4 Dangers of Increasing Your Credit Card Limit

It can be quite flattering when your credit card company sends you a notification in the mail saying you are eligible for a credit line increase. Obviously, the company thinks you're doing a great job managing your credit card -- or, at the very least, you're paying the minimum balance. However, before you get too flattered by your credit card company's approval of a higher spending limit, figure out if it's the right decision for your finances. For more details, see [this Military.com article](#).

Combat-Related Special Compensation

The [Air Force Combat-Related Special Compensation program](#) (CRSC) is managed by the USAF Physical Disability Division of the Air Force Personnel Center. The CRSC board is made up of former military and civilian personnel whose experiences include war-time duties, flying duties and medical training. The review board

conducts a detailed analysis of your application to determine if in-service evidence exists to confirm your conditions were the direct result of a combat-related event or injury. If so, the board will authorize a special monthly payment to you called CRSC. For more information, visit the [Combat-Related Special Compensation webpage](#).

GI Bill Likely To Change

The recent [Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission](#) (MCRMC) report once again highlights the fact that the current, amazingly generous Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits aren't guaranteed to remain so glorious. Historically, educational benefits have shrunk during times of military downsizing, and we are in the middle of a serious downsize. Plus, I've said since day one that the current Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits are more than our country can afford to sustain. If you have earned the Post 9/11 GI Bill, and you think you have a plan to maximize the benefit to your family, then you might want to consider having a plan B. You might also need a plan C and a plan D. For more details, see this [Paycheck Chronicles post](#).

Group Calls for Accurate Vet Portrayals

A group dedicated to the entertainment industry's realistic representation of veterans has announced a new seal of approval for portrayals of military men and women in films and television shows. Called "6 Certified," the program is launching with the support of First Lady Michelle Obama. The campaign seeks to shift perception of veterans in pop culture. Studios, producers and other content creators will be eligible for the certification badge if the work contains "a representative and balanced depiction of veterans" and fulfills at least one of six pledges. For more information, visit the Got Your 6 website at www.gotyour6.org/6-certified/.

Veterans fought for us; we continue to fight for our veterans!

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Call to Action

Colleagues and Fellow Veterans,

Last week I was at a ceremony where the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, and the Joint Chiefs signed a letter that will go to all transitioning service members, urging them to continue serving the nation as civilians in their communities and in their new jobs. The 32-Star letter recognizes the great potential of the post-9/11 generation, even after they take off the uniform. With a nod to previous generations of veterans, the letter challenges today's transitioning service members to follow the example of older veterans in continuing to serve the nation and to help guide our country's destiny.

The letter is a great reminder that today's veterans just need an opportunity to become leaders in civilian life.

"We trust that you will accept this challenge and join ranks with the business leaders, volunteers, and public servants in your communities. You have made your mark in uniform and represent the strength of our Nation," the letter read. "We know you will do the same as veterans, setting the example for the next generation of veterans to follow ... It has been our greatest privilege to serve with you, and we look forward with pride to what your future holds. We know it will be extraordinary."

The following link is a copy of the letter;

<http://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/docs/letters/Call%20to%20Continued%20Service%20Letter.pdf>

This link is a good article about this initiative;

<http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=128101&source=GovDelivery>

V/R

Curtis L. Coy
Deputy Under Secretary for Economic Opportunity
Veterans Benefits Administration
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

VFC Website Update

If you've not visited our website, maybe you should visit today! Since going on-line on 10/28/12 we have been averaging between 2,800 and 5,000 visitors per day and have had **2,015,376** visitors to date.

Visit today and subscribe, it's 100% **FREE** of charge to all! Just be sure to use a valid E-Mail address so the system can send you an authentication E-Mail.

We have the largest One-Stop-Shop Veterans website available that is user friendly, offers a host of information on many topics, Several forums, Frequently Asked Questions and Answers, a massive Documents Library with more than 9,000 documents, various VA and DoD forms, over 4,000 articles which is updated at minimum every one to two days and more.

www.veterans-for-change.org

- Documents Library with over **130** different libraries and over **11,836+** documents
- FAQ's (**1,362** on-line now)
- Forums (with Licensed Mental Health Worker Moderator)
- Memorial Pages (**Updated 12/04/14**)
- News (Updated almost daily, **4,256** articles on-line)
- Sponsors
- Web Links (**1,579** Active Links)(**Updated 02/04/15**)

The documents library has many different categories and will eventually house more than 50 million pages of information and forms.

There are forums for all Eras of service and one just for Women Veterans, which we'll lock to use by women only. Another for Men Veterans which is also locked to men only.

In the documents and forums we provide information pertaining to women and the ability speak freely in the forums to other women about the same issues and problems you face.

The Memorial Pages are open, and if you have a loved one or a buddy you've lost and would like for them to be added to our Memorial Pages, please send a photo, First and Last Name, Rank, Branch of Service, DOB and DOD, and allow us 2-3 days to install on the proper page. (Send to: Jim.Davis@veterans-for-change.org)

You also have the ability to comment and rate all NEWS articles which would be very helpful for us so we know the types of information you'd like to see on our website.

There is **NO charge** to use the site, or to become a member. Members have full access where non- members will have limited access approximately 45%.



Are you seeking employment? Been looking forever and not found the right job?

Well Veterans-For-Change is working very hard to bring you more information on Job Fairs and Job Postings available across the country.

For a couple of weeks now we did a separate posting of jobs available, and now we've made a library on the Veterans-For-Change web site just for that purpose.

Click on the link below, and find all the jobs available, Job Fairs coming up, locations, details, etc.

<http://veterans-for-change.org/documents-library/category/167-job-fairs-job-postings>

If you have a job position open, and are willing to hire a Veteran, please send an E-Mail to: JIM.DAVIS@VETERANS-FOR-CHANGE.ORG there is never any fee involved, this is a 100% free service in order to help thousands of Veterans nationwide to gain full time employment.

2015 AF Assistance Fund

The 2015 Air Force Assistance Fund Campaign has kicked off and will run until May 1. Air Force bases worldwide are participating in this fundraising event which raises money for four Air Force charities. The Air Force is using a three-campaign grouping where all Air Force bases are assigned to one of the following three six-week campaign periods: Group I -- Feb. 2 - March 13; Group II -- March 2 - April 10; and Group III -- March 23 - May 1. New this year is an updated [Air Force Assistance Fund website](#), which features information about all of the affiliate charities, a link to the donation forms, videos, assistance stories and FAQs.

2015 VA Loan Benefit Ready to Use

Now is the time to use your VA Loan. Rates are near historic lows and you don't have to pay PMI or have a large down payment. Plus you can get financing up to \$417,000. [Use your VA Loan Benefit today.](#)

2016 AF Budget Proposal

The Air Force presented its fiscal year 2016 President's Budget request following the Defense Department and sister services budget briefings. The Air Force fiscal year 2016 budget continues readiness recovery, and reduces the short-term capacity risk assumed in the fiscal year 2015 budget while placing significant investments in the nuclear enterprise, space, cyber, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and command and control capabilities. The Air Force requested a topline budget of \$122.2 billion in Air Force controlled funding that supports a total force end strength of 492,000 personnel. For more information, watch the video on the [C-Span website](#) and read the Overview of the U.S. Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2016 [Budget Request](#).

Veterans-For-Change on Facebook & Twitter

You can now track us, meet fellow vets and their families and friends on our [Veterans-For-Change](#) page, come "LIKE" us!



Come join us, follow us and friends, make new friends, share useful information and more!

Follow us on Twitter too: [@Veterans4Change](#)

Links to other Stories

- 1) [Bill would allow private employers to give preference to hiring Veterans](#)
- 2) [Care and benefits for Veterans strengthened by \\$169 billion VA budget](#)
- 3) [Clay Hunt Act Complements the VA's Ongoing Commitment to Veterans' Mental Health](#)
- 4) [District considers exemption for Veterans](#)
- 5) [For Many Veterans, 'American Sniper,' Right or Wrong, Starts an Important Conversation](#)
- 6) [GAO: Veterans' health care costs a 'high risk' for taxpayers](#)
- 7) [Hogan pushes plan to spare retired veterans from taxes](#)
- 8) [Man, 59, determined to secure valentines for Veterans](#)
- 9) [New Menlo Park housing for homeless Veterans](#)
- 10) [Obama signs measure to help Veterans](#)
- 11) [President Signs Veterans Suicide Prevention Bill](#)
- 12) [Search is on for Korean War Veterans](#)
- 13) ['StandDown in Phoenix' connects homeless and at-risk Veterans with services](#)
- 14) [Study Shows Veterans' Caregivers Vulnerable to Health Issues](#)
- 15) [VA reaches out to sexual trauma survivors via Facebook](#)
- 16) [Veterans' skilled-nursing proposal advances in House](#)
- 17) [Veterans speak out on proposed memorial at Tustin park](#)
- 18) [Vietnam Veterans visit Southside Elementary School](#)
- 19) [We Honor Veterans gives dignity to Vets at the end of life](#)
- 20) [What Veterans Think When the Media Gets it Wrong](#)

You can help Veterans-For-Change by reading the articles posted, and comment at the bottom and rank the article. If you don't have an account, sign-up today, it's **FREE**. Your comments and rankings help us to better determine the type of information you'd like most to see.

Check us out today: www.veterans-for-change.org

Upcoming Agent Orange Town Hall Meetings 2015

March 7, 2015
Davenport, Iowa
Time to be updated
Rogalski Center
St. Ambrose University Campus
518 W Locust St, Room 211
Davenport, IA 52803
(Lombard Street. Proceed to an alleyway for Visitor Parking Lot 7)
Contact: Greg Pauline
563-650-3055

March 24, 2015
Florida Highlands County
VVA Chapter 1097
More Details Upcoming
Contact : Rod Phillips 386-690-9553
Marvin Desselle 863-214-0601

2016 Navy Budget Proposal

The Department of the Navy (DoN) recently released its proposed \$161 billion budget for fiscal year 2016. This budget is part of the proposed \$534 billion defense budget. To view the proposed FY16 DoN budget documents, visit the Fiscal Year 2016 DoN Budget Materials webpage at www.finance.hq.navy.mil/fmb/PB/BOOKS.htm. For more information and to view the entire fiscal 2016 budget proposal, visit the Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Request website at www.budget.mil and download the "Overview - FY 2016 Budget."

To Contact your Members of Congress

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| To Call your Representative: | 202-225-2305 |
| To call your Senator: | 202-224-3841 or 202-224-3553 |
| To call different members of Congress: | 202-224-3121 |
| Toll FREE Number: | 866-272-6622 |

Army Reserve Is Hiring

The Army Reserve needs 5,000 more soldiers to meet this year's end-strength objective. While Soldiers with valuable skill sets -- engineers, doctors, lawyers and so on -- are sought after, there are other skills needed by the Reserve. Soldiers should see their career counselors or an Army Reserve representative at least a year before separation to determine if they are a good fit. Even if Soldiers do not have high-demand skills, there could be opportunities to retrain for a different military occupational specialty while still on active duty. For more information, visit the Army Reserves webpage at www.army.mil/news/reserves/ and the Army Reserves newspaper at www.usar.army.mil/Pages/default.aspx.

Suicide Intervention Training

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) is for everyone 16 or older -- regardless of prior experience -- who wants to be able to provide suicide first aid. The ASIST model teaches effective intervention skills while helping to build suicide prevention networks in the community. During the two-day interactive session, participants learn to intervene and help prevent the immediate risk of suicide. Over 1,000,000 people have taken the workshop, and studies have proven that the ASIST method helps reduce suicidal feelings for those at risk. To get involved: (1) attend an ASIST workshop in your area, (2) organize or sponsor an ASIST workshop, or (3) learn how to become an ASIST trainer and provide workshops to others. For more information, visit the [ASIST website](#).

Veteran Careers in Manufacturing

As the U.S. manufacturing resurgence grows, veterans will play a critical role in strengthening the core of the manufacturing and technical service industries, which are poised to hire 230,000 workers over the next five years. Vet2Tech is a non-profit organization helping military veterans find employment in manufacturing and technical service careers. With the help of Military.com, Vet2Tech was able to train and employ numerous veterans this year. The goal for 2015 is to find great career opportunities for more than 150 veterans. For more details, see [this article](#).

Registration Open for Washington DC Job Fair

The American Legion's Veterans Employment & Education Division will host a series of events Feb. 19-20 at the Washington Hilton to help veterans, service members and spouses find meaningful careers in the civilian workforce. The events will take place in conjunction with the Legion's annual Washington Conference. On Thursday, Feb. 19, The American Legion will be hosting its Employment and Empowerment Summit from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. This full day of workshops and educational sessions will include opportunities for one-on-one career coaching and resume review, corporate panels and benefits discussions. Additionally, programs tailored towards women veterans and spouses will be offered. For more details, see [this Military.com article](#).



If you received this Newsletter as a forward or as a Courtesy Copy and would like to continue to receive this FREE weekly newsletter, click on link below:

<https://app.expressemailmarketing.com/survey.aspx?sfid=121170>

Complete all information, and select the appropriate box at the bottom of the form. You will then receive an automated authentication E-Mail, follow the instructions and you will then be added to the weekly distribution list.

Or if you prefer you can sign up to the Yahoo Groups VFC-News page and receive our weekly newsletter by sending an E-Mail to: VFC-News-subscribe@yahooogroups.com

Our mailing list is never sold, traded or shared with anyone ever, and is held in the strictest of confidence.

With your help, America's Veterans United and you can make a difference!

[We Can Win!](#)

Better benefits, care, facilities, medical professionals and equipment!

Unite with [America's Veterans United](#) today!



Veterans-For-Change Newsletter is a once weekly publication deadline for submission is 5:00 PM PST on Thursday!



Victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror, victory however long and hard the road may be; for without victory, there is no survival.

~Winston Churchill~

Veterans-For-Change, Inc.

Riverside County, CA

Visit our website today

www.veterans-for-change.org

Serving those who served!

Please pass to all your Veteran friends and family!

| Distribution | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Express Mail: | 14,405 |
| Face Book Pages: | 11,566 |
| Yahoo: | 81 |
| Twitter: | 21 |
| Linked-In: | 17,117,130 |
| Courtesy Copies: | 3,500 |
| | 17,146,703 |