IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS FOR VETERANS ASSISTANCE

NYS Division of Veterans' Affairs 888-838-7697
Steuben County Veterans' Service . 607-664-2527
Yates County Veterans' Services 315-536-5196
NYS VA Counselor 888-838-7697
VA Health Care Benefits and Services
VA Information on Health Care Eligibility
VA Education Benefits 888-442-4551
VA Insurance
VA Home Loan Guarantee 888-244-6711
National Center for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
National Coalition for Homeless Veterans
Bath VA 607-664-4000
Canandaigua VA 585-394-2000

Military & Veterans Appreciation Event At Watkins Glen International

in conjunction with Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen Sunday, July 1, 2012, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. (Gate opens at 9 a.m.)

Includes:

- free admission for Military/Veteran and one guest over 18 years of age (18 and under are free as well). Proper identification required and can be in the form of a Military ID, DD214, VA card, American Legion Card, VFW Card or picture in uniform, etc.
- free picnic style foods while supplies last
- static displays (military and civilian vehicles)
- community partner information booths learn about benefits & services available
- children's activities
- special guests AND MORE

Enter: GATE #3 ONLY, Watkins Glen International 2790 County Route 16, Watkins Glen, NY 14891

Hosted by: Odessa American Legion Post 676, American Red Cross, Watkins Glen International, and Various Veterans and Community Service Organizations.

For questions or additional information, contact **Dawn** Smith, event coordinator, at 607-329-0720 or 607-535-9713; dawn@celestial-knights.net







2012 Veterans Bulletin



2012 Veterans Bulletin

A S S E M B L Y M A N Phil PALMESANO

Programs for Our Veterans

2

3

New York Patriot Plan

New York Patriot Plan is a package of benefits and protections for active duty service members, with the majority of provisions applying only to residents of the State of New York. For a complete list of benefits, please visit http://www.dmna.gov/benefits/patriots. php.

Veterans Tuition Awards

Veterans Tuition Awards (VTA) are awards for fulltime study and part-time study for eligible veterans matriculated at an undergraduate or graduate degree-granting institution, or in an approved vocational training program in New York State.

NYS Veterans' Property Tax Exemption

NYS Veterans' Property Tax Exemption provides a partial exemption on real property taxes to veterans of defined periods of war, veterans who received expeditionary medals or certain family members, as allowed by law. An Application for Veterans Exemption from Real Property Taxation (Form RP-458a for war-time vets or form RP-458b cold war, nonwar-time vets) must be filed with the local assessor. Evidence of Military Service (DD214/copy of a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) is required. You may only apply for one exemption.

Yellow Ribbon Program

The Yellow Ribbon Program is designed to provide redeploying Soldiers and families a robust support network of information and services available from county, state, federal and private outreach

Operation Recognition

Operation Recognition certifies that World War II, Korean War and Vietnam veterans whose education was interrupted are entitled to receive their high school diplomas.

There is no fee for this service and no additional requirements beyond having attended a New York State school and served in the armed forces during wartime. Please note: A veteran can receive the diploma even after they have died — the child or spouse of a veteran may apply on the veteran's behalf and accept a posthumous diploma.

Qualifying veterans must present one of the following as evidence of their service and service dates:

DD214. This is the Defense Department discharge form. WD AGO Form 53-55 is also acceptable.

Honorable Discharge Certificate. For persons discharged prior to the implementation of the DD214, this may be the only evidence.

Special Discharge from the Coast Guard or Merchant Marines. Recently, individuals who served as merchant mariners in World War II were recognized as veterans of that war. They are included in this legislation.

To inquire, veterans or their families should contact the NYS Education Department at 518-474-8940.

organizations upon their return home. The 30 and 60 Day Yellow Ribbon Events are an important part of the reintegration process. Please visit **http://www. dmna.state.ny.us/family/reintegration.php** for more information.

VA Medical

Centers

VA Medical Centers are part of VA Health Care Upstate New York, which provides inpatient and outpatient care to veterans living in Upstate New York. They also provide numerous health care programs and services for veterans.

Bath VA Medical Center 76 Veterans Avenue Bath, NY 14810 607-664-4000 Or 877-845-3247 http://www.bath.va.gov/

Canandaigua VA Medical Center 400 Fort Hill Avenue Canandaigua, NY 585-394-2000 http://www.canandaigua.va.gov/



Savona resident, Warren Thompson, is congratulated by Assemblyman Phil Palmesano during the village's recent Memorial Day celebration. Thompson, a longtime community leader, was honored for his U.S. Army service during WWII as a pilot and Prisoner Of War. A Senate and Assembly proclamation was presented to Thompson in recognition of his service to his country and community.

Benefits For Veterans And Their Families Brochure

If you would like more information on a variety of programs and services available for veterans and their families, please contact my office to request a copy of this brochure. It contains a variety of information useful to veterans such as education, career advancement, counseling, disability and survivor benefits, and much more.

I encourage you to contact my office to request a brochure by calling my district office at 607-776-9691, emailing me at palmesanop@ assembly.state.ny.us or return by mail to: Assemblyman Phil Palmesano, 105 E. Steuben Street, Bath, NY 14810.

ASSEMBLYMAN 723

A S S E M B L Y M A N PHIL PALMESANO 723 Legislative Office Bldg. • Albany, NY 12248 (518) 455-5791 105 East Steuben Street • Bath, NY 14810 (607) 776-9691

*Feel free to contact me with any state question or issue.

2012 VETERANS BULLETIN

Dear Friend,

Just last month, communities across our state and nation celebrated Memorial Day. It was a time for us to reflect and remember. We certainly owe our veterans and brave servicemen and women a huge debt of gratitude for what they have done and sacrificed for all of us, our communities, our state and country. I know there are no words I could ever say that could do justice to convey the deepest gratitude and thanks to all of these incredible heroes; recognition they so very much deserve.

Without the sacrifices of these brave men and women and that of their families, none of us would enjoy the freedoms that we all cherish today. I would like to ask all of us to take a moment to pause and remember these heroes. Take a moment to say a prayer for our veterans, servicemen and women and their families. And if you can, please try to take some time to continue to show your appreciation and thanks to these heroes throughout the year.

You may ask, "What can I do?" It can be a simple act or gesture to say "thank you, or "we are thinking of you." Stop in and visit a veteran in his or her home in your neighborhood or town. Take some time to volunteer or visit our veterans at the Bath or Canandaigua VA. Teachers and their students can make cards or care packages for our veterans and troops serving in harm's way. Or, it can be as simple as walking up to one of our many heroic men and women, whether on the street or in a store and just say to them, "Thank you for your service and for keeping us safe."

Why are these little gestures so important to remember? Because these brave men and women have and will continue to lay down their lives to protect our families.

This brochure is designed to inform our veterans, servicemen and women and their families of an upcoming event on July 1st and to provide information on available programs. If you are not a veteran but know one, please take the time to share this information with them.

Once again, thank you to all of our veterans who have sacrificed so much to keep us safe. If I can ever be of any help to you, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

The a. C.L.

Phil Palmesano



At 2011 Veteran and Military Appreciation Event. Phil is pictured here with local Veteran Service Officers Joan Scott – Schuyler County; Dan McRae – Steuben County; and Earle Gleason – Yates County.

Veterans' Path to Employment

VETERAN JOB ASSISTANCE

MY NEXT MOVE -FOR VETERANS!

Search, Browse, find Careers! http://www.mynextmove.org/vets/

VETERAN JOB SEARCH RESOURCES Helmets to Hardhats www.helmetstohardhats.org 866-741-6210

Troops and Teachers **800-231-6242**

Small Business Administration 800-827-5722

VerteransJobBank

Image: State S

Hire Vets First 877-872-5627

VetBiz: Center for Veterans Enterprise **866-584-2344**

United States Department of Veterans Affairs Career Center http://www.oefoif.va.gov/employment.asp

New York State Jobs Express www.jobs.ny.gov

Military Hire www.militaryhire.com

GI Bill Benefits

Federal On-the-Job Training and Apprenticeship Training benefits may be available to eligible veterans through the GI Bill. Additional information may be found by visiting www.veterans.ny.gov

MILITARY BUSINESS OWNERS Veteran-Owned Businesses www.veteranownedbusinesses.com