



# RENSSELAER COUNTY VETERANS NEWSLETTER

Rensselaer County  
Unified Family Services  
Veterans Service Agency  
1600 Seventh Avenue  
Troy, NY 12180  
Phone: (518) 270-2760  
FAX: (518) 270-2956  
Www.rensco.com

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KATHLEEN M. JIMINO  
County Executive

PETER K. GOEBEL  
Director

## Service-Connected Disability Compensation

### Van Transportation...

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

For more details call:  
270-2760.



### VETERANS CRISIS LINE

1-800-273-8255  
PRESS 1

\*\*Confidential chat at Veterans CrisisLine.net or text to 838255\*\*  
TTY service 1-800-799-4889

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

### Disability Compensation

Disability compensation is a monthly tax-free benefit paid to Veterans who are at least 10% disabled because of injuries or diseases that were incurred in or aggravated during active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training. A disability can apply to physical conditions, such as a chronic knee condition, as well as a mental health conditions, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

### Benefit

The benefit amount is graduated according to the degree of the Veteran's disability on a scale from 10 percent to 100 percent (in increments of 10 percent). Compensation may also be paid for disabilities that are considered related or secondary to disabilities occurring in service and for disabilities presumed to be related to circumstances of military service, even though they may arise after service. Generally, the degrees of disability specified are also designed to compensate for considerable loss of working time from exacerbations or illnesses.

If you have dependents, an additional allowance may be added if your combined disability is rated 30% or greater. Your compensation may be offset if you receive military retirement pay, disability severance pay, or separation incentive payments.

### Eligibility

- Service in the Uniformed Services on active duty, *OR*
- Active duty for training, *OR*
- Inactive duty training, *AND*
- You were discharged under other than dishonorable conditions, *AND*

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### **Service-Connected Disability Compensation (Continued from Page 1)**

- You are at least 10% disabled by an injury or disease that was incurred in or aggravated during active duty or active duty for training, or inactive duty training.

**Note:** If you were on inactive duty for training, the disability must have resulted from injury, heart attack, or stroke.

#### **Evidence Required**

Medical evidence of a current physical or mental disability, AND

Evidence of a relationship between your disability and an injury, disease, or event in military service.

Medical records or medical opinions are required to establish this relationship.

**Note:** Under certain circumstances, VA may conclude that certain current disabilities were caused by service, even if there is no specific evidence proving this in your particular claim. The cause of a disability is presumed for the following Veterans who have certain diseases.

#### **Presumed Disability**

- Former prisoners of war
- Veterans who have certain chronic or tropical diseases that become evident within a specific period of time after discharge from service
- Veterans who were exposed to ionizing radiation, mustard gas, or Lewisite while in service
- Veterans who were exposed to certain herbicides, such as by serving in Vietnam
- Veterans who served in Southwest Asia during the Gulf War

#### **Example 1**

During a weekend drill, an Army Reservist injures her knee while participating in a physical training class. She is eligible for compensation for residuals of the knee injury.

#### **Example 2**

An individual enlisted in the U.S. Navy on June 10, 1988, and served for a period of 3 years. He was honorably discharged on June 9, 1991. During his active duty, he fell from a bunk and injured his back. Based on his active service, he is entitled to service-connected benefits for the residuals of his back injury.

Please contact our office at (518) 270-2760, if you have any questions.

## VETERANS JOB FAIR

October 18, 2016

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

10AM-2PM

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

Dress for success and bring your

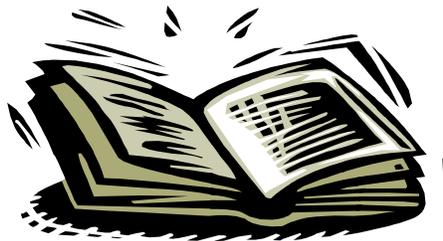
Resume, VA / Military ID and / or your DD214

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

Our 18th Annual Veterans Day Breakfast will be held on Sunday, November 6th at the *Veterans of Lansingburgh*, 777 1st Avenue, N. Troy. You may place your ad in our program at the following rates:

Full Page.....\$100  
1/2 Page.....\$ 60  
1/4 Page.....\$ 30  
Booster.....\$ 10

Please send your ad layout and payment by October 7, 2016  
**NO EXCEPTIONS!**



We need this lead time in order to get the program "press" ready and would appreciate it if every effort would be made to adhere to this deadline.

Please make your check payable to:

*Rensselaer County Veterans Fund,*  
1600 Seventh Avenue, Troy, NY 12180

If you have any questions contact our office at 270-2760.

## HONOR-A-DECEASED VETERAN CEREMONY

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

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

The following criteria applies to the honorees:

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

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

For an application, please call us at 518-270-2760 or download an application at [www.rensco.com](http://www.rensco.com)

### *A Message From Our County Executive*

On November 6<sup>th</sup> Rensselaer County will celebrate its 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Breakfast and Medal Presentation Ceremony. This year's event will be held at the Veterans' of Lansingburgh beginning at 8:30 am for breakfast and noon for the Medal Presentation Ceremony.

The ceremony is another way we honor our veterans for their service and recognize them for their dedication to our nation. Veterans are presented the medals and citations they have earned through their service to our nation during this moving ceremony. Taking part in this ceremony is without question one of the most rewarding aspects of being the Rensselaer County Executive.

The breakfast is free to all veterans and their immediate families and I am hopeful that we will once again have a full house as we honor all those who have served in our armed forces. Please help us and spread the word about this event!

Sincerely,

*Kathleen M. Jimino*

### **Sullivan Jones VFW Post 7466 - "Heroes Banner Program"**

#### **Eligibility Requirements**

The Sullivan Jones VFW Post 7466 "Heroes Banner Program" is being established to proudly display and recognize veterans from the Town of Poestenkill.

To qualify, honorees must meet the following requirements:

- Born in Poestenkill, was or is current resident
- Served or is serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard.

As an ongoing program, application will be accepted at any time by those who wish to sponsor a banner. Banners may be sponsored by individuals or organizations and are responsible for the full cost of the banner.

Banners shall be displayed every year, from mid-May until mid-November for as long as the banners will last. They will be displayed on a rotating basis on Main Street in Poestenkill.

**Custom Banner Total Cast \$140.00**

**For additional information, please contact Gail at (518) 283-4890 or email [lbentley2@nycapp.rr.com](mailto:lbentley2@nycapp.rr.com)**

### **Upcoming Events:**

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

October 10th...COLUMBUS DAY—OFFICE CLOSED

October 11th...Honor-a-Deceased Veteran Ceremony in the Legislative Chambers, 8:15 a.m., *Allen Mac Roberts, US Navy, Vietnam*

November 6th... 18th Annual Veterans Day Breakfast at the Veterans of Lansingburgh

November 8th... ELECTION DAY—OFFICE CLOSED

November 11th...VETERANS DAY—OFFICE CLOSED

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

November 14th...Honor-a-Deceased Veteran Ceremony in the Legislative Chambers, 8:15 a.m., *Raymond Diamond, Sr., USMC, Korea*