

# Nebraska Veterans Coalition



Leading the way for Nebraska's Veterans

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## A Volunteer Organization Bringing Awareness To Veteran's Issues

Volume 4, Issue 4, April 1, 2023, Newsletter

This is about us:

### The Nebraska Veteran's Coalition

The Coalition has led the way in Nebraska since 2014 to persuade the Nebraska Unicameral to enact legislation designed to improve the lives of veterans, active-duty military personnel, and their families to attract and retain Veterans as a means of increasing the size of the Nebraska Work Force. We continue to follow Nebraska state and federal veteran-related legislation along with joining several veterans group Facebook pages. We provide considerable information to veterans on various topics and guide them toward agencies that can help them.

If you are not already a member of our group of over 5,000 friends, please check us out on Facebook (Nebraska Veterans Coalition) and 'Friend' us. We also have a Twitter account - @VetsCoalitionNE. The Grapevine containing both Nebraska and National News and links to websites of interest to veterans. <http://www.nebraskaveterans.org/>,

We are members of a program for the Nebraska Governor's Challenge managed by the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs. The Governor's Challenge has many states and territories participating in the challenge. They are working to develop and implement state-wide suicide prevention best practices for SMVF, using a public health approach. SAMHSA has partnered with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) ([See Governors Challenge Section Below](#))

Our mission statement can be found on our Facebook and website  
We do not ask for, solicit, or accept funding/donations for our efforts.

Join our  
Newsletter



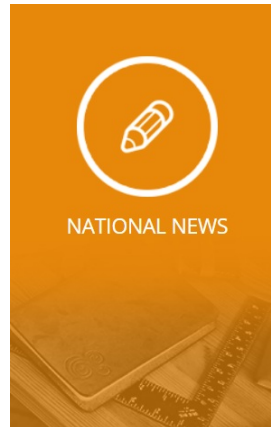
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***Open To America's #1 Veterans Magazine***

***The Grapevine***

***Click on Publication of Your Choice***

<https://veteransgrapevine.com/>

Find the previous Nebraska Veterans Coalition Newsletters here



***Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs***

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/>

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***Benefits and Services Overview***

Part of our mission is to help veterans identify and access benefits. There is a wide range of county, state, and federal benefits related to education, employment, finance, health care, housing, legal assistance, recreation, taxes, and more. Use our Benefits Expert to help guide you to the benefits you're interested in or learn about some of the most-used benefits. If you have additional questions, don't hesitate to contact your County Veterans' Service Officer or a State Service Officer.

***Nebraska Veterans' Gateway***

Welcome to your gateway to career and employment resources for Nebraska veterans. We've

gathered resources and tools to help shine the way for veterans and their families to find meaningful employment, receive training and education, and get assistance transitioning from military service to civilian life.

### [Nebraska Veterans' Homes](#)

#### [Our Homes](#)

Nebraska's state veterans' homes offer top-of-the-line domiciliary, intermediate, and skilled nursing care for the men and women who have served our country, as well as eligible family members. The four homes are located in Bellevue, Norfolk, Kearney, and Scottsbluff to provide care to veterans across the state. Click on the homes below to learn more about them. Our homes offer top-of-the-line health services, a range of recreational activities, friendly communities for veterans and their families, and so much more. Click here to view our State of Nebraska Veterans' Homes brochure.

#### [Military & Veterans' Registry Application](#)

Applicants must submit a DD-214 or NGB-22 indicating the length and character of services.

- If the name of the DD-214 is different from the veteran's current legal name, documentation of the name change is required.
- If you are currently on active duty, please provide a military ID card. This does not include retirement ID cards or VA service cards.

A paper application is available if you prefer to mail in your application. Download Paper Application

### [News & Events](#)

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/news>

[VA to award \\$16 million in grants to help Veterans and service members...](#)Posted: February 24, 2023

[How one Veteran shares his aphasia diagnosis with the world...](#)Posted: February 24, 2023

[NDVA Receives Abraham Lincoln Pillars of Excellence Award for Virtual Claims Clinic Initiative](#) Feb. 21, 2023

[NDVA Military Documentary Grant Application Opens](#) Jan 31 Jan. 27, 2023

### [NDVA in the News Newsletter April 2023](#)

[Tweets by NEVetsAffairs](#)

[Tweets by DeptVetAffairs](#)

[Tweets by VANWIHCS](#)

[Tweets by VAVetBenefits](#)

Other VA social media:

[U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs](#) [U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs](#) [Nebraska Western Iowa Health Care System](#)  
[Nebraska Western Iowa Health Care System](#)

### Social media

[NDVA Twitter https://twitter.com/NEVetsAffairs?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Etfw](https://twitter.com/NEVetsAffairs?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

[VA Nebraska Western Iowa Health Care System https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaIowaVA/](https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaIowaVA/)

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## LEGISLATIVE

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<https://mailchi.mp/nebraska.gov/2023tracker-week12?e=64def6304a>

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### [Legislative Calendar](#)

<https://nebraskalegislature.gov/calendar/calendar.php>

### [Legislative Issues](#)

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/legislative-issues>

### [2023 Military & Veterans Legislation](#)

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/sites/veterans.nebraska.gov/files/doc/2023%20Legislation.pdf>

<https://mailchi.mp/nebraska.gov/2023tracker-week12?e=64def6304a>

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## Legislative Bill Process

**Regular Session** - the annual legislative session that begins the first Wednesday after the first Monday in January. Regular sessions generally last 90 legislative days in odd-numbered years and 60 legislative days in even-numbered years.

**Legislative Bill (LB)** - a proposal to create, change or delete one or more laws. See also act

**Introducer's Statement of Intent** - see Statement of Intent.

**Priority Bill** - a bill that has priority status and generally is considered ahead of other bills in debate. Each senator may select one priority bill, each committee may select two priority bills, and the speaker may select up to 25 priority bills.

**Fiscal Note** - a statement prepared by the Legislative Fiscal Office estimating the effect a bill would have on state and/or local expenditures and revenue.

**Hearing** - a regularly scheduled committee meeting to receive public comment on proposed bills and resolutions.

**General File** The first stage at which a bill is considered by the full Legislature. Bills on General File may be amended, returned to committee, indefinitely postponed, or advanced to Select File

**Enrollment and Review Initial** - the Enrollment and Review process that a bill undergoes after it is advanced from General File.

**Select File** - the second stage at which a bill is considered by the full Legislature. Bills on Select File may be amended, returned to committee, indefinitely postponed or advanced to Final Reading

**Enrollment and Review for Engrossment** - the Enrollment and Review process that a bill undergoes after it is advanced from Select File. During this stage, the bill is engrossed and engrossed and reprinted for Final Reading.

**Enrollment and Review (E & R)** - the process of incorporating adopted amendments into a bill, reviewing the bill for technical and grammatical accuracy, and making recommendations relative to arrangement, phraseology, and correlation.

**Final Reading** - the third and last stage at which a bill is considered by the full Legislature. The clerk reads the entire bill aloud, unless the final reading is waived, and senators vote without debate on whether to submit the bill to the governor.

**Floor** - the area of the legislative chamber where the senators sit. When a committee advances a bill "to the floor," that means the bill is being sent to the full Legislature for consideration.

**Veto** - the power of the governor to reject bills passed by the Legislature. The governor has five days, excluding Sundays, to veto a bill. The Legislature has a chance to override the veto. Also, see Line Item Veto.

**Veto Override** - the power of the Legislature to pass a bill over the governor's veto. A veto override requires the approval of three-fifths (30 members) of the Legislature.

Glossary of Legislative Terms

[nebraskalegislature.gov](http://nebraskalegislature.gov)



Dear Dean,

The 108th legislative session kicked off in January with enormous potential for significant tax relief. As part of his new administration's agenda, Governor Pillen presented a solid plan to address Nebraska's dated and unfair tax structure and partnered with key legislators to introduce legislation countering Nebraska's unattractive and uncompetitive tax codes. But as the legislature hit its halfway mark this past week, there has been a brief lull before the full legislature is given the opportunity to debate and vote on key elements of the tax reform package. This is not to say, however, that events of the last week were not meaningful ... by any measure.

Last Thursday, the legislature took a major step forward to make Nebraska more competitive with our neighbors when taxing income.

This year's tax package, LB754, was brought out of the Revenue Committee on a 7-1 vote, signaling strong support as it now advances to the full legislature for consideration. The proposal would bring Nebraska's top income tax rate to 3.99%, accelerate the phase out of taxes on Social Security benefits, and make other

reforms allowing us to compete with our neighboring states.

Keeping our foot on the gas with lower income taxes is vitally important to staying in the game as we compete with other states. Several of Nebraska's neighboring states are also considering tax relief efforts this session. These states include North Dakota, Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Iowa, and Colorado. Other states considering transformative relief include Arkansas and West Virginia. The volume of states considering tax relief this year should give the legislature a state of urgency as this package moves towards full debate. For a more in-depth analysis of other state's purposed tax relief legislation, check out Platte Institute's Michael Lucci's recent blog titled "[The state tax revolution sweeps across the Great Plains.](#)"

The current package advanced by the Revenue Committee is not a fix-all for all of Nebraska's tax issues, but it does aim to provide meaningful relief and it deserves to be celebrated. One area where there's an opportunity for further tax relief is on the property tax side of the equation, and all indications from the Revenue Committee are that some is coming. Be sure to follow along with the Platte Institute as we inform and engage on proposals that advance opportunity in Nebraska.

The reforms advanced by the Revenue Committee last week put Nebraska on the path towards competing with our neighbors like never before. Bringing Nebraska's top income tax bracket to 3.99% is a meaningful change and I applaud the leadership from Chairwoman Linehan and members of the committee in their pursuit of tax relief. As the session continues, stay tuned for further updates and analysis from the Platte Institute.

Thanks for reading,

Jim

Jim Vokal, CEO of the Platte Institute and host of Nebraskanomics.

□ It's time to stop the status quo. Let's remove economic barriers and make Nebraskans proud.

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**The Nebraska Income Tax for U.S. Servicemembers, Their Spouses, and Civilians Working with U.S. Forces Information Guide has been updated to reflect no election is needed to exclude military retirement benefits from the Nebraska taxable income for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2022.**

This includes military retirement benefits attributable to uniformed services reported on a Form 1099-R issued by the United States Department of Defense (DOD) or the United States Office of Personnel Management (OPM). The military retirement benefits include retirement and annuity payments received by a spouse or former spouse provided the benefit is reported on the taxpayer's Form 1099-R issued by the DOD or OPM.

**Download the pdf**

<https://tinyurl.com/yz4sh8rf>

The guide also clarifies when the nonresident's income received for his or her uniformed services in the Nebraska National Guard is not taxable in Nebraska.

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Nebraska Income Tax for U.S. Servicemembers, Their Spouses, and Civilians Working with U.S. Forces  
Nebraska Income Tax for U.S. Servicemembers Information Guide, March 27, 2023, Page 1 Overview  
The federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA) provides that compensation received by a servicemember from his or her uniformed service can be taxed only by the state in which the servicemember has his or her legal residence. The place of residence at the time of entry into the service is presumed to be the state of legal residence or domicile and remains so until legal residence in another state is established. The Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018 (VBTA) added an election to allow the military servicemember spouse to claim the military servicemember's state of residency for tax purposes for any taxable year of the marriage beginning with tax year 2018. Nebraska recognizes the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) designations of "combat zones" and allows the same income exclusions, filing extensions, suspension of audits, collection activities, and notices for servicemembers outside the U.S. Also, Nebraska extends the same provisions to civilians working with the U.S. Forces in combat zones, as allowed to civilians for federal tax purposes. Military retirement benefits are excluded from Nebraska taxable income for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2022. This guidance document is advisory in nature but is binding on the Nebraska Department of Revenue (DOR) until amended. A guidance document does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal operations of DOR and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules and regulations made in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this guidance document imposes additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may request a review of the document. This guidance document may change with updated information or added examples. DOR recommends you do not print this document. Instead, sign up for the subscription service at [revenue.nebraska.gov](https://revenue.nebraska.gov) to get updates on your topics of interest

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## ***VA health care news you can use***

There's a lot going on in VA health care. Here are some of our latest stories about Veterans and for Veterans. Find out [how to apply for VA health care benefits](#).

### **Three paths to consider when applying for toxic exposure benefits**

To help you navigate your earned benefits and resources, VA created the Accessing PACT Act Benefits and Services map. Download it, share it, follow it.

### **An advance directive ensures your care wishes are respected**

### **VA celebrates 100 years of advancing health care for women Veterans**

### **Life insurance coverage increases for service members and Veterans**

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVHA/bulletins/34d9f26>

## ***VA releases 2022 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report***

The report shows a decrease in suicides among Veterans

**2022 September 2022**

### **Introduction**

VA's latest annual report shows encouraging downward trends in Veteran suicide counts and rates, yet ongoing critical work remains. The [2022 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report](#) analyzes Veteran suicide data from 2001-2020. Containing the most comprehensive set of data about Veteran suicide mortality to date, the report is the first to evaluate Veteran suicide during the initial period of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Key report findings**

- In 2020, there were 6,146 Veteran suicide deaths, which was 343 fewer than in 2019. The unadjusted rate of suicide in 2020 among U.S. Veterans was 31.7 per 100,000.
- Over the period from 2001 to 2020, age- and sex-adjusted suicide rates for Veterans peaked in 2018 and then fell in 2019 and 2020. From 2018 to 2020, age- and sex-adjusted suicide rates for Veterans fell by 9.7%.
- Among non-Veteran U.S. adults, age- and sex-adjusted suicide rates also peaked in 2018 and fell in 2019 and 2020. From 2018 to 2020, age- and sex-adjusted suicide rates for non-Veteran adults fell by 5.5%.
- From 2019 to 2020, the age- and sex-adjusted suicide rate for Veterans fell by 4.8%, while for non-Veteran U.S. adults the adjusted rate fell by 3.6%.
- From 2019 to 2020, among Veteran men, the age-adjusted suicide rate fell by 0.7%, and among Veteran women the age-adjusted suicide rate fell by 14.1%. By comparison, among non-Veteran U.S. men, the age-adjusted rate fell by 2.1%, and among non-Veteran women the age-adjusted rate fell by 8.4%.
- Comparisons of trends in Veteran suicide and COVID-19 mortality over the course of 2020 and across Veteran demographic and clinical subgroups did not indicate an impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Veteran suicide mortality. **MORE:** <https://news.va.gov/108984/2022-national-veteran-suicide-prevention-annual-report/>

## ***How Does PTSD Affect Others?***

**Stigma** can sometime cause people to have negative views about things they don't know much about, such as mental illness. If you have PTSD, you may find that people treat you differently. Some people may shy away from you because of your **symptoms**, and finding work or a place to live may be hard.

However, helping others in your community learn more about PTSD can improve your own life. You can create a better professional or personal environment by talking with others and showing them how you want to be treated. [Learn to manage the stigma in your life.](#)

### Trauma, Emotions, and Social Skills

If you've experienced trauma, you may struggle with managing your emotions and relationships. Dr. Marylene Cloitre and Dr. Annabel Prins describe how STAIR therapy can help build up these skills, and available digital resources for support.

VA's National Center for PTSD and the Coaching Into Care program have partnered to study telephone coaching methods to help spouses and intimate partners of Veterans with untreated PTSD get their Veteran into mental health care. The study will provide free telephone coaching and, if assigned, access to an online educational materials. Participants will be compensated up to \$170 for participating.

Visit <https://www.familycoachingstudy.org> to learn more about the study and complete a brief screening quiz to see if you are eligible to participate. For participant's rights questions, contact [1-866-680-2906](tel:1-866-680-2906)

MORE:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVHA/bulletins/34a7aa5>



## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

[Edward Boone](#) shared a post.

[March 3 at 1:48 PM](#) ·

### ***Nebraska Military and Veterans***

[March 3 at 9:09 AM](#) ·

ATTENTION NEBRASKA VETERANS AND THOSE STILL SERVING: the Nebraska Legislature approved a new program this year, allowing for anyone who has served, or is still serving, in the armed forces to lead the senators in the Pledge of Allegiance at the start of each legislative day. If you are interested in doing this, please contact your state senator. (If you are still serving, you may need to receive approval from your chain of command)



### ***At Ease USA Offers Self-Defense Classes***

Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu originated as the ultimate form of self-defense. It's the very reason why the founders (the Gracie family) created the Ultimate Fighting Championship. Your instructor, Jason Minor, is a 20-year Air Force veteran and black belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. He has trained extensively under the original Ultimate Fighting Champion—and the world's leading self-defense expert—Royce Gracie. Jason will be assisted by two of his training partners Jennifer Herber and Nikki Fernandez.

In this class, you will learn proven self-defense skills and strategies. Jason will empower you to be proactive in order to prevent predatory assaults. In the unfortunate and rare event of an assault, he will also provide you with a plan of action, and several essential techniques, to successfully defend yourself and get away.

Here are 6 questions that this class will answer:

- What is a "predator?"
- What is "victim potential?"

- What is a predator's worst fear?
- What are the "Three Levels" of self-defense?
- What is the core strategy behind each level?
- What are techniques which can be applied for each level?

**Sunday Afternoons-- 12:00- 1:30 pm**  
**April 23, May 21, June 25, July 23, and August 27**

To Register

Contact: Beth Kramer (531) 247-4040 or [beth@ateaseusa.org](mailto:beth@ateaseusa.org)

At Ease 10605 Burt Circle, Omaha NE

### Service Member & Veteran Dialectical Behavior Therapy Skills Group\*



**Tuesday Evenings, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm** | **February 21 through May 9, 2023**

**At Ease USA**  
**10605 Burt Circle • Omaha, NE 68114**

Groups will run for 90 minutes with a 10 minute break.

\*DBT is used to treat traumatic stress-related issues, including PTSD. This class will improve your relationships, reduce emotional suffering, help manage anxiety and rediscover hope for the future. Class is free to military service members and is limited to 12 members. Workbook included.

**AtEaseUSA.org**

Contact: Beth Kramer  
 531-247-4040  
 or [beth@ateaseusa.org](mailto:beth@ateaseusa.org) to register

### Service Member & Veteran Dialectical Behavior Therapy Skills Group

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**Tuesday Evenings, 6:00- 7:30 pm**  
**February 21-May 9, 2023**

**At Ease USA**  
**10605 Burt Circle**  
**Omaha, NE**

### Veterans Peer Support Group



Meetings will be held  
every Monday

**6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

**At Ease USA - Café**  
**(enter through gym)**

**10605 Burt Circle**  
**Omaha, NE 68114**

For more information contact:  
 At Ease USA clinical manager,  
 Laura Fischer, at 531-247-4040 ext 2.



**AtEaseUSA.org**

### Veterans Peer Support Group

At Ease USA continues to offer a peer support group. These opportunities are free for our service members and healthcare workers. -

**Every Monday night from 6:00 - 7:00 pm**

### Now YOGA!

At Ease USA offers yoga classes. Taught by Sarah Lively of the Veterans Yoga Project, active military, veterans and their families are welcome to participate. Training will consist of five tools: Breath, Meditation, Mindful Movement, Guided Rest, and Gratitude

**Sunday Afternoon 2:00-3:00**  
**April 30- May 21, 2023**

## [The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act - SCRA](#)

[Benefits Directory](#)

[Military Legal Matters Topics](#)

[Most Popular Benefits Articles](#)

[Military Benefits Updates](#)

[Most Popular VA Loan Articles](#)

<https://www.military.com/benefits/military-legal-matters/servicemembers-civil-relief-act-overview.html>

[The New VA mission statement recognizes sacred commitment to all Veterans, their](#)



WASHINGTON — Today, the Department of Veterans Affairs announced an updated version of its 1959 mission statement. The new mission statement is: "To fulfill President Lincoln's promise to care for those who have served in our nation's military and for their families, caregivers, and survivors." The new mission statement is inclusive of all those who have served in our nation's military — including women Veterans — as well as Veteran families, caregivers, and survivors. VA currently serves more than 600,000 women Veterans, the fastest-growing cohort of Veterans. VA also serves more than 50,000 Veteran caregivers, more than 600,000 Veteran survivors, and millions of Veterans who did not serve in combat.....

**MORE:** <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5867>

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### ***National Vietnam War Veterans Day***

March 29th is my day. Actually, it is our day. We who served in the Vietnam War have the opportunity to be honored

and remembered on the special day signed into law in 2017 by President Trump, the National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

It is common knowledge that our homecoming was less than a warm welcome. We returned to a society that was torn apart by the debate over the Vietnam War and instead of being honored with parades, we were greeted with hostility and anger and protests and hatred, and insults. We were humiliated, cried out, hid, withdrew from society, and suffered.

I've often wondered whether this day of honor will somewhat disappear in about 15 years when the majority of us have passed on. According to the Veterans Administration's Veteran Population Projection Model, the median age of Vietnam War-era veterans is approximately 73 years old and there are some startling statistics about many who survived the war. More than 300,000 were wounded, 75,000 severely disabled, 23,214 were 100% disabled, 5,283 lost limbs and 1,081 sustained multiple amputations. Also, as of November 2020, nearly 1.6 million Vietnam Veterans were being served by various programs of the Veterans Benefits Administration. Including an additional 320,000 surviving spouses and nearly 5,000 children. I believe, considering our age and that another three years have now passed since those numbers were released, less than half of us who did survive the war are now

alive.....**MORE** <https://nebraskaveterans.org/news.htm> (*Vietnam War Veterans Day*)

"Welcome Home!"

John Stewart is a retired Air Force Chief Master Sergeant and disabled Vietnam War veteran. In 2016 he was inducted into the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame. His columns are sourced from public, government, and private information. Content is checked for accuracy as best as possible; however, you have the responsibility to confirm content validity before committing any related actions.

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[WoVeN I Women Veterans Network I \(wovenwomenvets.org\)](https://www.wovenwomenvets.org)

## **Our Story**

### ***As Women Veterans, each of us is unique.***

We come from different families, different communities, and different backgrounds from around the world. But one thing we share—we are women who served our country. The sacrifices we made, as servicemembers and as women, are immeasurable. Yet we live in a society that doesn't often recognize us as Veterans.

- Know that you're not alone.
- We see you.
- We're here for you.
- And it's our mission to make sure others are, too.

Women's History Month gives us the opportunity to remind the world that We Served Too. We invite you to spend the next 11 minutes watching and sharing this new heartfelt documentary that does just this. You may recognize some of your experiences in this story.

Use this form to sign-up for the WoVeN Newsletter and stay informed about upcoming events, member interviews, and more! <https://www.wovenwomenvets.org/>

The Center for Women Veterans is proud to release this film in partnership with the Million Veteran Program (MVP), which studies how genes, lifestyle, military experiences, and exposures affect our health and wellness as Veterans.

You can join MVP online at [mvp.va.gov](https://mvp.va.gov) or sign up at a participating VA. Call [866-441-6075](tel:866-441-6075) to make an appointment. All Veterans can participate, you don't need to receive care at VA.

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***The American Legion Department of Nebraska***

**P.O. Box 5205 Lincoln, NE, 68505-0205 402-464-6338**

**Department Commander Department Adjutant Don Suchy Dave Salak**

**NEWSLETTER**

**Legionnaire Newspaper**

- **March 2023** -

**Department Newsletter**

March 2023

- February 2023

- January 2023

<http://www.nebraskalegion.net/About/News.html>

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**Our Mission**

To enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness. The American Legion's vision statement is "The American Legion: Veterans Strengthening America." The American Legion's value principles are as follows:

A VETERAN IS A VETERAN - which means The American Legion embraces all current and former members of the military and endeavors to help them transition into their communities.

SELFLESS SERVICE - which means The American Legion celebrates all who contribute to something larger than themselves and inspires others to serve and strengthen America.

AMERICAN VALUES AND PATRIOTISM - which means The American Legion advocates for upholding and defending the United States Constitution, equal justice and opportunity for everyone and discrimination against no one, youth education, responsible citizenship and honoring military service by observing and participating in memorial events.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - which means The American Legion meets the unique needs of local communities.

ADVANCING THE VISION - which means The American Legion educates, mentors and leads new generations of Americans.

HONOR THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE US - which means The American Legion pays perpetual respect for all past military sacrifices to ensure they are never forgotten by new generations.

The American Legion's motto is "Veterans Strengthening America." .....**MORE**

<https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Find-a-Post>

<https://www.legion.org/vsa>

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**Benson VFW Post 2503 POST AUXILIARY MEETINGS Honor Guard Meeting**  
**3RD Thursday both 2nd Thursday every month**  
**7 pm 7 pm**

<https://vfwpost2503.org/?p=5783> (402)-571-8397

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**About Millard VFW Post 8334**

The Millard VFW permanently closed its canteen on 11/30/21. We still have a post charter and your membership is still active. We are holding our monthly meetings at 7pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month in the Millard American Legion 13913 S St, Omaha, NE 68137. We still hold a mission to our veterans, families, and to the community. Please contact the commander, Greg Kleve at (402) 850-3864 with any and all questions regarding the Millard VFW. Thank you.

## *VFW Urges POTUS to Support Repeal of Concurrent Receipt Policy*

January 18, 2023

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WASHINGTON — In a letter sent to the White House, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) National Commander Tim Borland urged President Biden to support the repeal of concurrent receipt policy, which denies veterans receiving both retirement pay and VA compensation if they were forced to retire early from military service because of battlefield injury or illness.

"I write to request your urgent support in ensuring our nation's veterans receive the benefits they have earned by defending the ideals our nation holds sacred," opened Borland in his letter addressing the policy.

"This policy is nothing more than a way to save money on the backs of veterans."

As it stands the current compensation rule imposes what is known as an offset, requiring veterans forfeit all or part of one benefit to pay for or pay back another. Congress justifies the policy as a way to prevent veterans from "double-dipping" from the federal government, a justification which Borland says is erroneous.

"Military retirement pay is earned for years of vested service, while VA disability compensation is awarded as supplementary income for reduced earning potential of disabled veterans who incur lifelong illnesses and injuries from their service," wrote Borland. "These are two fundamentally different benefits earned for two entirely different reasons."

The Major Richard Star Act (H. R. 1282/S. 344), which would provide total offset relief to veterans who suffered combat injuries or illnesses who were medically retired with less than 20 years of service, garnered overwhelming bipartisan and bicameral support from members of the 117th Congress. Despite this, the bill did not get enough votes to make it to the president's desk.

"It has become clear that political will is lacking, warranting the White House's leadership," wrote Borland.

"The VFW — and by extension the entire veteran community — is looking to you, President Biden, to lead from the front on this issue."

The letter concluded by pressing the President to make repealing the concurrent receipt policy one of his legislative priorities in the fiscal year 2024 Department of Defense budget request.

"No veteran should question the value of their service to our country due to an unethical budget gimmick," wrote Borland. "By repealing concurrent receipt, you will let them know that Every Veteran Counts."

.....**MORE:** [Read the official letter sent to President Biden](#)

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### *Marine Corps League Cpl Douglas Zoerb Detachment #1466*

@MCLGretna · 5 reviews · Nonprofit organization

We meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the American Legion Hall in Gretna at 7PM

<https://tinyurl.com/2pnd7r9q>

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*This month's*

**FEATURED COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER INFORMATION**

*Extracted from*

**Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs**

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/>

**County Veterans Service Offices Directory 03/14/2023**

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/cvso>

#### **DAWES COUNTY**

Service Officer Gary Bridges Jr. (308) 432-0119 [dawesvso@dawescounty.ne.gov](mailto:dawesvso@dawescounty.ne.gov)

Secretary Martha Quay Fax: (308) 432-8105 [vsostaff@dawescounty.ne.gov](mailto:vsostaff@dawescounty.ne.gov)

Mailing Address 342 Main St, Chadron, NE 69337

Hours Monday – Friday

8:30 am to 4:30 pm Closed from noon to 1 pm

Website <http://dawes-county.com/county-offices/veterans-service>

#### **DAWSON COUNTY**

Service Officer Steve Zerr (308) 324-3041 [steve.zerr@dawsoncountyne.org](mailto:steve.zerr@dawsoncountyne.org)  
Assistant Mark Wigstone Fax: (308) 324-9839 [mark.wigstone@dawsoncountyne.org](mailto:mark.wigstone@dawsoncountyne.org)  
Toll-Free (844) 387-8387  
Location Courthouse, Ground Flr.  
Mailing Address 700 N. Washington, Lexington, NE 68850  
Hours Monday – Friday Room V 8 am to 5 pm  
Closed from noon to 1 pm  
Website [http://www.dawsoncountyne.org/administrative/veterans\\_service/index.php](http://www.dawsoncountyne.org/administrative/veterans_service/index.php)  
Also CVSO for Frontier County

## DEUEL COUNTY

Service Officer Dwight Smith (308) 874-2705 [vetdeuel@gmail.com](mailto:vetdeuel@gmail.com)  
Location 171 Vincent Ave  
Mailing Address PO Box 327, Chappell, NE 69129  
Hours 8 am to 4 pm THURSDAY ONLY Closed from noon to 1 pm  
Website [http://www.co.deuel.ne.us/webpages/veterans\\_services/veterans\\_services.html](http://www.co.deuel.ne.us/webpages/veterans_services/veterans_services.html)



### *Heartland of America Chapter --*

***We Never Stop Serving -- We Are One Powerful Voice -- for Every Officer at Every Stage of Life and Career***

**Open the link below and see the Newsletter**

The Bulletin Board is the Newsletter of the Heartland of America Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. Content is from members, MOAA's Take Action, Legislative Action Center, and other military-oriented sources. The material used is public domain or attributed as to source and copyright. Our editorial policy is the same non-partisan policy as MOAA

(Open link for MORE <http://www.heartlandmoaa.us/>)

### *MOAA Home Page*

Link

[MOAA - MOAA Home Page](#)

## Mission

MOAA is the nation's largest and most influential association of military officers. It is an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization.

With more than 350,000 members from every branch of service - including active duty, National Guard, Reserve, retired, former officers, and their families - we are a powerful force speaking for a strong national defense and representing the interests of military officers at every stage of their careers.

MOAA's highest priority is providing first-class service to our members. We are the leading voice on compensation and benefit matters for all members of the military community. We provide expert advice and guidance to our members.

Purpose More.....

History More .....

Leadership More .....

## Membership

Membership is open to active duty, National Guard, Reserve, retired, and former commissioned officers and warrant officers of the following uniformed services: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Memberships also are available for surviving spouses of the deceased officers.

## Upcoming Events

NEWS AND INFO

ADVOCACY

MEMBER BENEFITS



### **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Women Veterans CWV -**

#### **Center for Women Veterans (CWV)**

<https://www.va.gov/womenvet/>

Welcome, all women Veterans, family members, caregivers, and advocates! The Center for Women Veterans' (CWV) mission is to monitor and coordinate VA's administration of health care, benefits, services, and programs for women Veterans. We serve as an advocate for cultural transformation and to raise awareness of the responsibility to treat women Veterans with dignity and respect to #BringWomenVeteransHome2VA.

Today's VA is focused on the needs of women Veterans and cultural transformation. We aim to provide an environment free from harassment. VA has introduced White Ribbon, a national call to action to eliminate sexual harassment, sexual assault, and domestic violence. VA Secretary McDonough is making accountability of those who commit harassment or sexual assault an important part of creating a culture that is free from harassment and sexual assault, without fear of retaliation.

We are women Veterans proud to serve our sister Veterans and those who serve them. Stay in touch, sign up for email, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter @VAWomenVets. We share information on benefits

<https://www.va.gov/womenvet/>

#### **Women Veterans Outreach**

<https://www.va.gov/womenvet/outreach/index.asp>

### **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs CWV - News Update**

#### ***We want to hear from women who have served in the military***

In Case You Missed It: The Center for Women Veterans is sharing recent news stories that may interest women Veterans, military women, and their supporters every week. Share your thoughts about them on social media @VAWomenVets.

Women Veterans NOT using your earned VA Benefits & Services, we would love to hear from you. Please take our survey; it takes 5 minutes and is anonymous. <https://survey.voice.va.gov/?cwv-women-veterans>

### **Center for Women Veterans (CWV) Research for Women Veterans**

<https://www.va.gov/womenvet/research/index.asp>

On this page:

[Participate in VA Research](#) | [VA Reports and Research](#) | [Special Volumes](#) | [PubMed.gov Resources](#)





#### Group rules from the admins

1 Women ONLY who are serving or served in the military

This group is only for women who are currently serving or have previously served in the U.S. military or uniformed services.

2 Be kind and courteous We're all in this together to create a Welcoming environment. Let's treat everyone with respect. Healthy debates are natural, but kindness is required.

3 No hate speech or bullying Make sure everyone feels safe. Bullying of any kind isn't allowed, and degrading comments about things like race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, gender or identity will not be tolerated.

4 No Spam. Products and Services where specified.

Give more than you take in this group. Businesses that support women warriors will be allowed to post ONLY in THE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES thread at the frequency of one post per month. If anyone posts more often or posts about businesses that do not benefit women warriors, they will be deleted and blocked.

[Women Warriors Connect | Facebook](#)

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## Events

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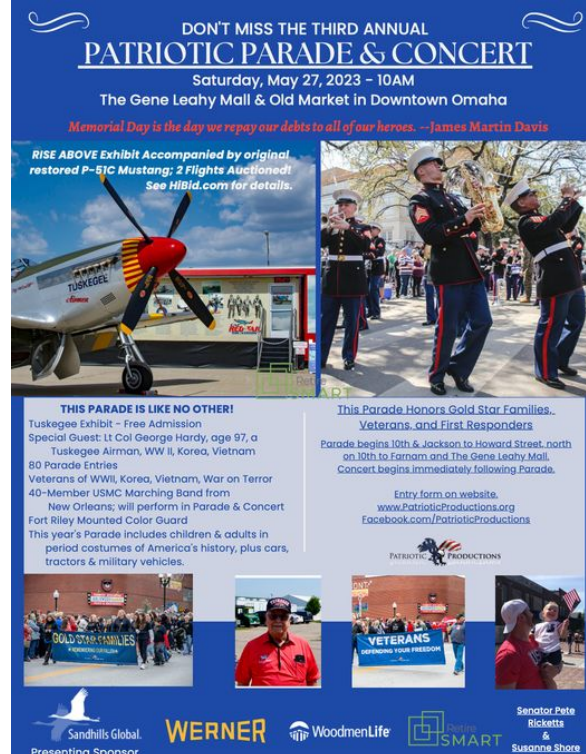
CENTER *for*  
RURAL AFFAIRS

### **Upcoming Events**

From small business training to beginning farmer learning circles to town hall events with lawmakers and more, we strive to connect you with resources and peers across rural communities.

<https://www.cfra.org/events>

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SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023 AT 11 AM

### ***Patriotic Parade & Concert***

Memorial Day, previously called Decoration Day, often becomes another three-day weekend for many. Although a Parade may seem too jovial for such a somber day, the Parade and Concert (with Roll Call of the Fallen spoken by Gold Star families present), is an attempt to educate children and young folks about the debt we owe to those who paid the ultimate price.

Veterans are invited to walk or ride in the Parade. If not part of a group, please arrive at the Parade lineup area east of 10th & Jackson at 9 am and you will fall in line with the veteran peers of your era. We will have wagons or trailers for those who prefer a ride.

THE PARADE BEGINS WESTBOUND FROM 10TH & JACKSON TO THE OLD MARKET AND BACK TO 10TH STREET AND NORTH TO FARNAM.

CONCERT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWS THE PARADE AT GENE LEAHY MALL.

LET'S MAKE THIS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND POWERFUL, AS WE TEACH OUR YOUTH WHAT IT MEANS TO HONOR THOSE WHO SERVED AND DIED TO PROTECT AMERICA'S FREEDOM.

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY SIGNED UP FOR THE PARADE, THANK YOU! DAN & LORI FALCON, PARADE LINEUP ORGANIZERS, WILL CONTACT YOU IN EARLY MAY WITH LINEUP DETAILS.

Gene Leahy Mall

Already confirmed are 40 Marines of the USMC Marching Band, Fort Riley's Mounted Color Guard, and the "Rise Above" exhibit featuring the perseverance of the Tuskegee Airmen & Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). Accompanying the exhibit will be an original (restored) P-51C Mustang flown by the Tuskegee Airmen.

Two tickets will be auctioned for the very rare flight in this aircraft over Omaha! More information will be posted on the website and Facebook page, including an entry application to participate in the parade. If coming as an organization or group, please complete the entry application found under Parade Info on the website. <https://allevents.in/omaha/patriotic-parade-and-concert/200023889394921#> Parking will be available east of 9th & Jackson.



***Outreach and events***

VA proudly works alongside others to connect Veterans to the benefits they've earned. Explore resources for our outreach partners such as Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs), and sign up for events. VA benefits can help Veterans and their families buy homes, earn degrees, start careers, stay healthy, and more. Join an event for conversation and information.

Displaying 1through–10 of 74 results for All g [Outreach & Events](#) | [Outreach Events](#) | [Veterans Affairs \(va.gov\)](#)



**American  
Red Cross**

Military and Vetera  
Caregiver Network

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