

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 6, June 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.

Find this on our website

Join our
Newsletter



Find our
Website



[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>

[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

NDVA Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/VeteransAffairs/>

VA Nebraska Western Iowa Health Care System<https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaIowaVA/>

Legislation

2023 Nebraska Military & Veterans Legislation Bill Tracker

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

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

Iowa Legislature.

The 2023 legislative session has ended. [See the full list of enrolled bills.](#)

Reynolds signs bill providing \$100 million in property tax relief

Gov. Kim Reynolds signed a bill into law on Thursday that would provide an estimated \$100 million in property tax relief.

Reynolds signed the bill surrounded by lawmakers on the final day of the legislative session. It would limit local government spending by requiring cities and counties to lower their property tax rates if they see more than 3% growth in taxable valuation.

The bill also targets more than \$50 million in property tax relief to veterans and seniors and requires local governments to provide detailed information to taxpayers about what their money is being used for.

Reynolds says it's the most significant property tax reform in state history.

"Hardworking Iowans have been asking for property tax relief, and today we're delivering on that ask."

<https://www.iowapublicradio.org/live-updates/2023-legislative-session-bill-tracker-government-reorganization-bill-sent-to-reynolds-desk#property-tax-relief-bill-sent-to-reynolds-desk>

Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs

<https://mn.gov/mdva/>

State Bill Tracker

<https://mn.gov/mdva/news/legislative-updates/state-bill-tracker/>

The following bills of interest to Veterans have been introduced in the Minnesota Legislature. A bill must pass through both chambers and is assigned a file number for each body. A short description of the bill and its current status follow.

Please note that each column is searchable, the file numbers are linked to the file's House & Senate page and a further discussion of the bills can be found in our [Legislative Updates](#).

If you experience issues with the information displayed below, a [spreadsheet version](#) is also available.

Updated: May 10, 2023

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNDVA/bulletins/35a7e86>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 4, 2023 Contact: GovPress@wisconsin.gov Gov. Evers, DVA

Announce Grants for Community-Based Organizations Supporting Veteran Mental Health

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers, together with Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) Secretary James Bond, announced today that applications are now being accepted for the Veteran Mental Health Community-Based Organization Grant program. Gov. Evers initially announced the grant funding as part of a [\\$10 million investment](#) directed by the governor and supported by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to support veteran services across the state.

The Veteran Mental Health Community-Based Organization Grants are open to nonprofit organizations that promote positive mental health through activities, programs, and services that enhance the emotional, psychological, and social well-being of Wisconsin veterans. Each nonprofit can receive up to \$50,000 to support its efforts in providing mental health support for veterans. Applications must be received by **4 p.m. on Wed., May 31, 2023.**

MORE: [https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIGOV/bulletins/3582a03?](https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIGOV/bulletins/3582a03?fbclid=IwAR0DljkkOs0HHMga6Cf5eLcpBupMJaphHQRQxnRGRvEhduNPjDGoudteZnl)

[fbclid=IwAR0DljkkOs0HHMga6Cf5eLcpBupMJaphHQRQxnRGRvEhduNPjDGoudteZnl](https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIGOV/bulletins/3582a03?fbclid=IwAR0DljkkOs0HHMga6Cf5eLcpBupMJaphHQRQxnRGRvEhduNPjDGoudteZnl)



CENTER for
RURAL AFFAIRS

Farm Bill Bulletin: Center tracks conservation legislation ahead of next farm bill

By [Kate Hansen](#) on May 15, 2023

Policy

This is the first installation in a new series, “Farm Bill Bulletin” which will provide intermittent updates on the development and status of our nation’s next farm bill. Future versions will cover topics such as small meat processing and local foods.

Approximately every five years, the U.S. Congress passes a package of legislation with a consequential impact on rural America: the farm bill. The current farm bill was enacted in December 2018 and is set to expire on Sept. 30, 2023.

The farm bill consists of 12 sections—called titles—that set funding levels and guidelines for a wide range of programs, including conservation, rural development, crop insurance, credit, and nutrition. Developed by the House and Senate agriculture committees, farm bill legislation goes through rigorous debate as lawmakers work together to address their constituents’ needs.

Conservation, specifically on working agricultural lands, has remained a top priority for the Center for Rural Affairs. In addition to conserving valuable natural resources, such as water and soil, conservation practices implemented by producers offer risk management and economic benefits, particularly in the face of a changing climate. **MORE”:**

[S.1016, H.R.1840](#) : [S.732, H.R.1645](#) e.; [S.720, H.F.1459](#) ;[S.719, H.R.1495](#) ; [S..834](#) ; [S.658](#) - ;[S.900, H.R.2719](#) - [S.1400, H.R.3036](#) - ; [H.R.1824](#) - ; [S.179, H.R.651](#) - ; [S.98](#) - ; [S.1509](#) :

145 MAIN STREET, PO BOX 136 | LYONS, NE 68038 | 402.687.2100 | CFRA.ORG FARM BILL FOR RURAL AMERICA:

2023 FARM BILL PLATFORM

BY KAYLA BERGMAN,
WITH SUPPORT FROM JOHNATHAN HLADIK, KATE HANSEN, KALEE OLSON, AND KELSEY WILLARDSON

I. INTRODUCTION

The Center for Rural Affairs (CFRA) has been at work for nearly 50 years with a mission to establish strong rural communities, social and economic justice, environmental stewardship, and genuine opportunity for all while engaging people in decisions that affect the quality of their lives and the future of their communities. The farm bill is an important legislative vehicle that can be used to support this work.

After extensive outreach and relationship building in rural communities across our priority states, including Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Kansas, we developed this list of farm bill priorities. We have had dozens of one-on-one conversations with agricultural producers, several round tables, a paper survey sent to nearly 5,000 individuals, and numerous conversations with organizations and individuals participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) program

<https://www.cfra.org/2023-farm-bill-platform>



H.R. 333, the Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act

On January 12, 2023, Rep. Sanford Bishop (Ga.) introduced H.R. 333, the Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act.

This bill would permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated 40% and below to receive concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation. The bill would also make permanent the eligibility for concurrent receipt for Chapter 61 disability retirees who retired with less than 20 years of service.

DAV supports H.R. 333, as it would end the unfair policy of requiring certain military retirees to forfeit some of their retired pay in order to receive equal amounts of disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs or, in the case of Chapter 61 retirees, having them choose between the two benefits. This legislation is in accordance with DAV Resolution No. 092 and would eliminate the bar to concurrent receipt of these benefits for all retirees.

Please use the prepared letter or draft your own to urge your representative to support and cosponsor H.R. 333. As always, we appreciate your support for DAV and thank you for participating in the Commander's Action Network

<https://dav.quorum.us/campaign/45950/>



Dear Dean,

I recently had the opportunity to host Jonathan Williams, Chief Economist at the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), on the Nebraskanomics podcast. Williams, co-author of the renowned "Rich States, Poor States" report, has spent his career analyzing the economic policies of all 50 states. Jonathan brings a wealth of knowledge to the table, and I'd encourage you to take the time to listen to the [full episode](#). Our discussion delves into the direct correlation between lower taxes, migration patterns, and economic activity, with a particular focus on Nebraska. This episode not only provides an introduction to the "Rich States, Poor States" report, but also gives insight into Platte Institute's overall philosophy on how we make Nebraska more competitive.

A clear theme in the episode is the profound impact of lower tax burdens on states' economic competitiveness. Drawing on academic studies and real-world examples, Jonathan showcased the positive outcomes that arise from embracing competitive tax, regulatory, and economic policies. Notably, states that prioritize lower tax burdens, especially on income taxes for individuals and businesses, tend to rank higher in economic competitiveness.

Understanding the importance of this correlation, it becomes clear that Nebraska has an opportunity to enhance its economic landscape through strategic tax reforms. By reducing tax burdens, particularly on income taxes, our state can foster a business-friendly environment, attract talent, and stimulate economic growth.

While much of our conversation focused on Nebraska's tax reform initiatives, we also touched upon the success story of Utah, a state that has consistently topped the rankings in the "Rich States, Poor States" report. Jonathan highlighted the remarkable achievements of Utah, which has maintained its leading position in the report for over a decade and a half.

Utah's success can be attributed to several key factors. Firstly, Utah implemented a flat tax system over 15 years ago, which has proven to be instrumental in their economic growth. By continuously lowering tax rates and making prudent spending decisions, Utah has struck a balance that ensures both tax relief and fiscal responsibility. Additionally, Utah pioneered Truth in Taxation, making it a model for other states to follow, including Nebraska.

The state's commitment to financial readiness, including analyzing federal aid and avoiding onerous regulations, has positioned Utah as a model for the nation. Their forward-thinking policies and avoidance of policy mistakes have contributed to their sustained success.

As we reflect on Utah's achievements, it becomes evident that Nebraska has an opportunity to learn from their experiences. By embracing transformative tax reforms and strategic economic policies, we can enhance our state's competitive edge, secure economic growth, and build a brighter future for generations to come. While we still have tax policy work left to do to catch up to Utah, most notably to end the state's inheritance tax, the opportunity to move closer to them comes this week with the expected final passage of LB754 and LB243, Nebraska's income and property tax reform legislation. Let's follow Jonathan's advice and continue to take steps to make Nebraska the best place in the country to live, work, and raise a family.

Thanks for reading,

Jim

P.S. - The Nebraskanomics podcast serves as a platform for insightful conversations, and I hope you take the opportunity to check out this latest episode. I'm grateful to thought leaders like Jonathan who've dedicated their careers to advancing prosperity in states across the country.

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

OpenSky Policy Institute

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Adding up the costs of tax bills still on the agenda

State senators have passed a budget that outlines \$10.7 billion in General Fund expenditures over the next two years. In the few days that remain – Tuesday marked Day 83 of the 90-day session – the Legislature will consider spending priorities that will impact the state's bottom line for years to come.

The agenda will include tax cut bills that would likely **benefit the wealthy and out-of-state corporations**.

Later this week, the Legislature is expected to vote on **LB 754**, a package of personal and corporate income tax cuts that would cost the state \$3.32 billion in revenue over the next six years, including \$379 million in the next biennium. Senators are expected to consider **LB 243**, which calls for property tax breaks with a \$1.76 billion price tag over the next eight years, including \$180 million in the next biennium.

Add in the projected costs of **LB 753**, a bill providing state tax credits for donations toward private school scholarships, and **LB 727**, an omnibus bill diverting state sales tax revenue to back expansion of Nebraska Crossing among other proposals, and senators are considering a commitment of \$667 million over the next two years to fund four bills. That's money coming from the nearly \$900 million that the Appropriations Committee set aside for spending priorities by the full Legislature.

The four bills alone, in the following biennium, have a cost of \$1.7 billion, which represents nearly one-third of Nebraska's annual spending from the General Fund. That's significant revenue that won't be available for a future Legislature to maintain long-term commitments to education funding, to repair roads and bridges and pay for other programs that all Nebraskans rely on.

Wednesday is Give to Lincoln Day

Tomorrow, on Give to Lincoln Day, you can support the work of OpenSky Policy Institute to provide engaging and understandable analysis of tax and budget policy in Nebraska. All donations will grow through a match fund and help OpenSky to reach its goal of \$50,000.

Donate to OpenSky through Give to Lincoln Day

<https://mailchi.mp/openskypolicy.org/adding-up-the-costs-of-tax-bills-still-on-the-agenda?e=dd22186504>

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Our mailing address is:

OpenSky Policy Institute, 1327 H St., Suite 102, Lincoln, NE 68508

[Update your email preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#).

Transportation bill amended to include repeal of state's motorcycle helmet law

[May 25, 2023](#) [Sen. Ben Hansen](#), [LB138](#) [LB199](#) [LB91](#)

A [Transportation and Telecommunications Committee](#) clean-up bill on final reading was amended to repeal the state's helmet law for riders age 21 and older after lawmakers voted to return it to select file May 24.

MORE: <http://update.legislature.ne.gov/>

HEALTH CARE

Service Members, Veterans, and Their Families Technical Assistance Center

SAMHSA's National Helpline

Main page content

<https://www.samhsa.gov/smvf-ta-center>

- SAMHSA's National Helpline is a free, confidential, 24/7, 365-day-a-year treatment referral and information service (in English and [Spanish](#)) for individuals and families facing mental and/or substance use disorders.
- [Also visit the online treatment locator.](#)
-

Frequently Asked Questions

[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

SAMHSA's National Helpline, [1-800-662-HELP \(4357\)](tel:1-800-662-HELP) (also known as the Treatment Referral Routing Service), or TTY: [1-800-487-4889](tel:1-800-487-4889) is a confidential, free, 24-hour-a-day, 365-day-a-year, information service, in English and Spanish, for individuals and family members facing mental and/or substance use disorders. This service provides referrals to local treatment facilities, support groups, and community-based organizations.

Also, visit the [online treatment locator](#), or send your zip code via text message: [435748](tel:435748) (HELP4U) to find help near you. Read more about the [HELP4U text messaging service](#).

<https://t.e2ma.net/message/m1dz6e/mx6qkxsb>

Suggested Resources

- [What Is Substance Abuse Treatment? A Booklet for Families](#)
- Created for family members of people with alcohol abuse or drug abuse problems. Answers questions about substance abuse, its symptoms, different types of treatment, and recovery. Addresses concerns of children of parents with substance use/abuse problems.
- [It's Not Your Fault \(NACoA\) \(PDF | 12 KB\)](#)
-
- Assures teens with parents who abuse alcohol or drugs that, "It's not your fault!" and that they are not alone. Encourages teens to seek emotional support from other adults, school counselors, and youth support groups such as Alateen, and provides a resource list.
- [After an Attempt: A Guide for Taking Care of Your Family Member After Treatment in the Emergency Department](#)
- Aids family members in coping with the aftermath of a relative's suicide attempt. Describes the emergency department treatment process, lists questions to ask about follow-up treatment, and describes how to reduce risk and ensure safety at home.
- [Family Therapy Can Help: For People in Recovery From Mental Illness or Addiction](#)
- Explores the role of family therapy in recovery from mental illness or substance abuse. Explains how family therapy sessions are run and who conducts them, describes a typical session, and provides information on its effectiveness in recovery.
- For additional resources, please visit the [SAMHSA Store](#).

[Visit the SAMHSA Facebook page](#) [Visit SAMHSA on Twitter](#)

New Strategy Outlines Five Priorities for Reducing Military and Veteran Suicide

<https://www.samhsa.gov/smvf-ta-center/news>

Problem Gambling among Service Members and Veterans: Education, Awareness, and Outreach

Date: June 9, 2023

Time: 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET

This webinar will provide attendees with information related to the prevalence of problem gambling among the service member and Veteran population. Attendees will also have an opportunity to learn about outreach strategies and available treatment options, as well as educational and awareness resources from the Department of Veterans Affairs, the National Council on Problem Gambling, and state-level problem gambling councils.

U.S. military Veterans have been found to likely have higher rates of gambling disorder as compared to the civilian population and are at an increased risk for problem gambling behaviors according to a systematic review of published literature. Gambling disorders often occur with other conditions, such as trauma-related conditions, substance use, and suicidality in the military-affiliated population (Etuk, Shirk, Grubbs, & Kraus, 2020).

<https://t.e2ma.net/webview/i2308e/969195333f90c22851d523445235a253>

Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs

WDVA's Veteran Outreach and Recovery Program (VORP) is committed to connecting struggling veterans to mental health and suicide prevention resources, substance use recovery/rehabilitation programming, and overall veteran wellness support. Recently, WDVA received more funding to expand our outreach coordinators from 11 to 16 regions to better serve those Wisconsin veterans experiencing homelessness or who are at risk for homelessness. VORP covers all 72 counties and the 12 tribal nations in Wisconsin – from rural areas to major urban areas. VORP has dedicated outreach coordinators to assist the veteran in achieving a better quality of life and setting them up for success.

If you or someone you know is in an immediate crisis dial 988, then press 1, to be connected to confidential professional crisis support 24/7 for veterans and their loved ones.

More info on VORP resources can be found here: <https://dva.wi.gov/Pages/benefitsclaims/VORP.aspx>

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- [Home](#) > [Service Animals](#) > Meet Javelan, help in its mission to aid military veterans

Meet Javelan, help in its mission to aid military veterans

If you didn't know already, there's a local, noble, and necessary non-profit organization, Javelan, dedicated to providing service dogs to enrich the lives of military veterans. By enabling independence and providing life-changing support, Javelan is doing important work to help our area military veterans.

Founded in January of 2017, Javelan supports the placement and training of service dogs for military veterans at no cost to its beneficiaries. "Our primary focus is partnering veterans with trainers so the vet can obtain a fully-trained service dog," said Tim McAlpine, President of Javelan.

<https://petsinomaha.com/meet-javelan-help-in-its-mission-to-aid-military-veterans/>

About First Responders Foundation

Mission

The mission of the First Responders Foundation is to serve and honor all our First Responders, Veterans, and their families; build appreciation and respect for their work; and enhance public safety.

Vision

Our 2025 Vision:

- By 2025, be an organization critical to the maintenance and enhancement of public safety in our communities. To serve as a recognized social impact organization supporting First Responders, Veterans, and Families.
 - This will be accomplished by providing caring support to communities and offering tailored individual and family wellness programs and services for First Responders, Veterans, and their families.
 - By 2030 critical services will expand programs and services through Chapter representation in multiple states and national strategic collaborations and alliances. **MORE:**
 - <https://firstrespondersfoundation.org/about/>
-



Veteran Population by State 2023

<https://worldpopulationreview.com/state-rankings/veterans-by-state>

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

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PROGRAMS

First Responders Support Team (FRST); JAVELAN; Physical Health / Fitness ; Support Blue;

National Society of St. Florian and St. Michael ; Home Safety Program ; Animal Heroes;

Awards of Excellence; Tri-County Fire Corps; Support Red; Masks for Many

Behavioral Health

Clinical Services

Behavioral health services are available for all first responders to include, fire, police EMS, dispatch, corrections, **and military (including vets)**. We also serve medical personnel and their families. Services is also available to significant others, partners, and family members of first responders.

Services are available on-site (in-person) and via telehealth throughout Nebraska. The behavioral health staff also serves Iowa residents.

Specialties

Our therapists specialize in dealing with a variety of issues such as, acute trauma, post-traumatic stress, trauma, anxiety, depression, sexual addiction, substance use, co-occurring disorders and significant persistent mental illness. Modalities used: Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), Brainspotting, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, and Cognitive Processing Therapy.

- **Cost:** All services are billed to private insurance, covered by workman's compensation, or private pay. If there is a situation where someone is not able to afford counseling services there are grants and donor funding that may cover the cost of services so please do not let this deter you from receiving help.

Contact Us

If you would like more information about the First Responders Foundation, sponsorship opportunities, or volunteer opportunities, please contact us.

[402-218-1234](tel:402-218-1234) Headquarters

[712-242-6926](tel:712-242-6926) Iowa Location

- contact@FirstRespondersFoundation.org

-

<https://firstrespondersfoundation.org/>

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

At Ease 10605 Burt Circle, Omaha NE



CENTER for
RURAL AFFAIRS

OUR MISSION

Establish strong rural communities, social and economic justice, environmental stewardship, and genuine opportunity for all while engaging people in decisions that affect the quality of their lives and the future of their communities.

<https://www.cfra.org/?emci=d6a86d3e-bbe9-ed11-8e8b-00224832eb73&emdi=7ca1b13c-c3e9-ed11-8e8b-00224832eb73&ceid=3524086>

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 (Updated 5/8/2023)

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

DUNDY COUNTY

Service Officer Mike Rosenfelt (308) 423-2584 dcveteran@bwtelcom.net

Fax: (308) 423-2325

Location 123 West 6th

Mailing Address PO Box 734, Benkelman, NE 69021

Hours TUESDAY ONLY 10:30 am to 3 pm

Website <https://dundycounty.nebraska.gov/offices>

FILLMORE COUNTY

Service Officer Nick Wollenburg (402) 759-3219 vso@fillmorecountyne.gov

Admin Assist Shaunde Graham Fax: (402) 875-6547 zoning@fillmorecountyne.gov

Location 1320 G St

(SW corner of Theater Bldg)

Mailing Address 1320 G St. Geneva, NE 68361

Hours Monday – Friday 8 am to 5 pm

Website http://fillmorecounty.org/webpages/veterans_services/veterans_services.html

Also CVSO for York County

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Service Officer Robert Wistrand (308) 425-3202 cvsofranklincounty@gmail.com

Assistant Marge Melroy marge.melroy@gmail.com

Location 405 15th Ave

Mailing Address PO Box 146 Franklin, NE 68939

Hours WEDNESDAY ONLY 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Website http://www.co.franklin.ne.us/webpages/veterans_services/veterans_services.htm/



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/>

Center for Women Veterans (CWV) Research for Women Veterans

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVA/bulletins/35c138e>

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>

On this page:

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VA does not endorse and is not responsible for the content of any external website links. These sites are provided for informational purposes only.

Sons of The American Legion - Detachment of Nebraska

Founded in 1932, the Sons of The American Legion exists to honor the service and sacrifice of Legionnaires. SAL members include males of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the U.S. military and were eligible for American Legion membership. Members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and Sons of The American Legion comprise the Legion Family, which has a combined membership of nearly 3 million.

Although SAL has its own membership, the organization is not a separate entity. Rather, SAL is a program of The American Legion. Many Legionnaires hold dual membership in SAL.

The SLA is a program of The American Legion. The Department Headquarters also houses the support staff for the Detachment of Nebraska.

PO Box 5205, Lincoln, NE, United States, 68505

Address

- (402) 464-6338
- Mobile
- nebraskasons@gmail.com
- Email

Websites and social links

- <https://www.legion.org/sons>

RENEW SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION MEMBERSHIP

This page is for renewing Sons of The American Legion membership only.

- To renew American Legion membership, [click here](#).
- To renew Auxiliary membership, [click here](#).

Please enter your Member ID and Last Name below. If you do not know your Member ID, [please sign in to renew your membership online](#).

What does 'Damn the Torpedoes' mean anyway?

Outside of the [Merrimack fighting the Monitor](#), the U.S. Navy doesn't get a lot of attention when it comes to histories of the Civil War. But it deserves some. And maybe its finest moment came at the 1864 Battle of Mobile Bay, where Adm. David Farragut forced his way through a Confederate minefield and fought the Confederate Navy to a standstill.

His victory over the last port on the Mississippi River completely cut the South off from moving cargo that could be sold abroad or importing critical weapons and supplies. It also helped secure an election victory for President Lincoln, ensuring the war would continue until the Federals won.

MORE: <https://www.wearethemighty.com/history/damn-the-torpedoes-origin/>

American Legion Family District 8, Department of Nebraska

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY District 8-Nebraska includes Posts in Douglas, Sarpy and Washington Counties.

<https://www.legion.org/riders/chapterlocator?>

[fbclid=IwAR29fIHDSrtoj2vS8MFZ6FzckpMHfGofsd7LawvGa4fjXiaOTRa5PLRQoew](https://www.legion.org/sons?fbclid=IwAR0YVHJMBbVM3mPa8vVzPKEs9n-ynmjwrtLjN5wmzO_fKCG54Zh3aOhdIYg)
https://www.legion.org/sons?fbclid=IwAR0YVHJMBbVM3mPa8vVzPKEs9n-ynmjwrtLjN5wmzO_fKCG54Zh3aOhdIYg
https://nebraskalegionaux.net/?fbclid=IwAR3Rkc1nQBUeZDJBbRfdqMDhUz-rCuqC6bsKv_Uugh8ZRsjQJmXmv3aZWrl
http://www.nebraskalegion.net/?fbclid=IwAR3gbrXCAq6R8PTVidAT4fTCPu_CH88RQfMn6GNtnqmRwVDb4ib-382JF3E



American Legion Post 211 & Auxiliary Unit 362, Elkhorn/West Omaha NE

If you live in the Eastern Nebraska-Western Iowa area and have a talent...ENTER!
FORMS: Submit your entries to Cati DeMasi at VA Medical Center-CDCE, 4101 Woolworth Ave, Omaha NE 68105-1850. <https://www.va.gov/.../veterans-creative-arts-competition/>
QUESTIONS? Call Catherine DeMasi, Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist at 402-995-6600. Submit by AUGUST 26TH, and a local exhibition is being planned. Area Winners go on to the National Event.
<https://www.facebook.com/American.Legion.Auxiliary.NEUnit362/posts/pfbid037ndFd4ftWsCcqhbgz2bw8p2f8LhikEQFRfiPjcD4D5QqAwgvEpSNMXWbQqp5bkqYl>

Federal Hall National Memorial: NYC's Forgotten Attraction

Right in the center of Wall Street sits one of America's most significant landmarks. No, I'm not talking about the New York Stock Exchange — this is the Federal Hall National Memorial.
This historic building is often overshadowed and overlooked by many, even locals. That's why it's my favorite stop on any [Wall Street tour](#) here in Lower Manhattan. Every tour guide dreams of teaching people something they didn't know before, and almost nobody knows the amazing story of Federal Hall or why it is worth a visit. **MORE:**
https://www.thewallstreetexperience.com/blog/history-behind-federal-hall/?fbclid=IwAR2U7k_34DKz9vnzVyqhArdm0rCP759iJsiKW_e6N3V8UNZ11k67Y2Qv_gQ#0

[fort cavazos](#)

Fort Hood Redesignated Fort Cavazos, Named for Texas-Born War Hero

[Fort Hood](#) in Central Texas was redesignated Fort Cavazos on Tuesday, renamed after Gen. Richard Edward Cavazos, a Texas-born hero of the Korean and Vietnam wars who was the first Hispanic to reach the rank of four-star general in the U.S. Army.
<https://tinyurl.com/2qfq77wy>

Aerotech News PCS Special Publication – May 19, 2023

by Aerotech News • May 19, 2023 12:00 am - Updated May 18, 2023 4:02 pm

Welcome to a special Aerotech News and Review publication – PCS: Home Is Where You Are Sent. Within DOD, summertime is known as PCS Season because of the large number of service members on the move from one base to a new assignment.

In this special issue, we have lots of helpful information so you can make your PCS move as smooth and hassle free as possible. From what to do when you first get orders, to how to file claims once your PCS is done, we have it covered.

Some topics of interest include **MORE:** <https://www.aerotechnews.com/blog/2023/05/19/aerotech-news-pcs-special-publication-may-19-2023/>

RMA Armament – 100% American-Made Body Armor

RMA Armament is a manufacturer of American-Made ballistic body armor and tactical gear supplier. We utilize ultra-light and ultra-strong body armor technologies previously only available to government agencies and make them available for all law enforcement, military personnel, and law-abiding citizens. If you're looking for ballistic body armor, plate carriers, ballistic helmets, and other tactical gear at affordable pricing, then you're in the right place.

Founded by a US Marine and former law enforcement officer, RMA's manufacturing and quality control are second to none. We're proud to build the world's finest armor products for protecting your home, your community and your country. Don't bet your life on anything less than the best!

VA Benefits & Health Care Utilization		Updated 02/03/2023
Number of Veterans Receiving VA Disability Compensation (as of 12/31/2022):	5.48 M	
Number of Veterans Rated 100% Disabled (as of 12/31/2022):	1,150,747	
Number of Veterans Receiving VA Pension (as of 12/31/2022):	169,908	
Number of Spouses Receiving DIC (as of 12/31/2022):	464,772	
Number of Total Enrollees in VA Health Care System (FY 22):	9.07 M ¹	
Number of Total Unique Patients Treated (FY 22):	6.75 M ¹	
Number of Veterans Compensated for PTSD (as of 12/31/2022):	1,367,675	
Number of Veterans in Receipt of IU Benefits (as of 12/31/2022):	377,549	
Number of VA Education Beneficiaries (FY 22):	834,460	
Number of Life Insurance Policies Supervised and Administered by VA (as of 12/31/2022):	5.59 M	
Face Amount of Insurance Policies Supervised and Administered by VA (as of 12/31/2022):	\$1.22 T	
Number of Veterans Participating in Voc Rehab (Chapter 31) (FY 22):	124,437 ³	
Number of Active VA Home Loan Participants (as of 12/31/2022):	3.70 M	
Number of Health Care Professionals Rotating Through VA (Academic Year (AY) 21-22):	118,455	
Number of Veterans with Major/Minor Amputations Utilizing VA Health Care (FY 22):	96,769 ²	
Source: VBA Office of Performance Analysis and Integrity; Health Services Training Report; VBA Education Service; ¹ VHA OABI and VSSC (10E2A); ² VA VSSC Amputation Cube; ³ Includes 1,471 Veterans in interrupted case status over one year. Produced by the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics. http://www.va.gov/vetdata/pocketcard/index.asp		
Veterans Demographics		
Projected U.S. Veterans Population:	18,592,457	{Female 2,049,649 11.0%}
Projected Number of Living WW II Veterans:	167,284	
Estimated Number of WW II Veterans Pass Away Per Day:	180	
Percentage of Veteran Population 65 or Older:	45.9%	
Veteran Population by Race:	White 79.4%	Black 12.7%
	Asian/Pacific Islander 2.1%	Other 5.1%
	American Indian/Alaska Natives 0.8%	Hispanic 8.3%
About VA		
Number of Full Time VA Employees Employees in Pay Status:	441,401 416,396	
Number of Total VA Care Sites:	1,324 ¹	
Number of VAMC with Outpatient Acute Inpatient Care Sites:	172 144	
Number of VA Outpatient Only Care Sites:	1,141	
Number of VA Vet Centers:	300	
Number of VBA Regional Offices:	56	
Number of VA National Cemeteries:	155	
FY2021 Appropriations (enacted)²		
VA:	\$245.4B	
VHA:	\$93.9B ³	
VBA-GOE:	\$3.2B ⁴	
NCA:	\$352M	
OIT:	\$4.88B	
FY2022 Appropriations (enacted)^{2,5}		
VA:	\$272.5B	
VHA:	\$102.16B ³	
VBA-GOE:	\$3.45B ⁴	
NCA:	\$394M	
OIT:	\$5.44B	
FY2023 Appropriations (requested)²		
VA:	\$313.59B	
VHA:	\$123.57B ³	
VBA-GOE:	\$3.9B ⁴	
NCA:	\$430M	
OIT:	\$5.78B	
Source: Veteran Population (VP 2020) as of 9/30/2022; VA Employ Pay Status Count 12/31/2022; Veterans Affairs Site Tracking (VAST) 12/31/2022 ¹ Does not include temporarily deactivated sites; NCA as of 12/31/2022; Office of Budget; ² Includes MCF and Transformation Fund; ³ Medical Care w/ MCF, joint, medical research; ⁴ Discretionary Spending Only; ⁵ Does not include COVID supplemental funding received via P.L. 116-127/116-36 or P.L. 117-02.		

Special Forces Soldiers Reveal First Details of Battle With Russian Mercenaries in Syria

May 11, 2023 | [Kevin Maurer](#)

<https://thewarhorse.org/special-forces-soldiers-reveal-first-details-of-battle-with-russian-mercenaries-in-syria/?fbclid=IwAR1eqUtlQ9pXI4xHwL88TIXv1nizbcW31ytTVI3ryQWc1E0kku7RXqfupGs>

Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Nebraska 16-1

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1272323743359787/>

Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, IA Chapter 39-4, reg TM public

EVENTS



CENTER *for*
RURAL AFFAIRS

A Year in the Life of a Poultry Producer - virtual and Douglas, Neb.

June 24, 2023 - October 14, 2023, 1pm - 3pm

Lending

Farm and Food

About: Are you a military veteran interested in agriculture? Join us as we navigate a year in the life of a local veteran farmer. In 2023, we will rotate between online classroom sessions and on-farm sessions with an online option.

In our classroom sessions, participants will hear from experts and learn business and financial skills and resources applicable to any type of agricultural operation. In the on-farm sessions, an experienced farmer will go through the ins and outs of poultry production, as they demonstrate knowledge of a particular enterprise on their farm.

Cost: Free for active military service members and military veterans.

Participant stipends are available to cover approved expenses such as travel, meals, and child care.

Individuals are welcome to attend with family members. For on-farm events, physical accommodations may be made upon request.

When: Feb. 22 at 6:30 p.m., Feb. 25 from 1 to 3 p.m., March 1, 8, 15, 22 at 6:30 p.m., April 22, May 6, June 24, July 22, and Aug. 26 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Where: Online and at Neal Family Farm near Douglas, Nebraska

Registration required by Feb. 15: [Click here to register](#)

Questions/assistance with registering: Contact Kirstin Bailey, kirstinb@cfra.org or 402.870.2390

Hosted by: Center for Rural Affairs

Programming is funded through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. NIFA USDA fund Award #2020-77028-32890.

All Center for Rural Affairs events and activities are open to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities and/or persons with limited English proficiency (LEP) will be made if requested in advance.



FIRST
RESPONDERS
FOUNDATION

About First Responders Foundation Mission

The mission of the First Responders Foundation is to serve and honor all our First Responders, Veterans and their families; build appreciation and respect for their work; and enhance public safety.

Vision

Our 2025 Vision:

- By 2025, be an organization critical to the maintenance and enhancement of public safety in our communities. To serve as a recognized social impact organization supporting First Responders, Veterans, and Families.
- This will be accomplished by providing caring support to communities and offering tailored individual and family wellness programs and services for First Responders, Veterans and their families.
- By 2030 critical services will expand programs and services through Chapter representation in multiple states and national strategic collaborations and alliances.

JUNE EVENTS CALENDAR

<https://firstrespondersfoundation.org/events/month/2023-06/>

OUTDOOR NEWS

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/NEGPC/bulletins/35b0e0b>



The 13th Annual Veterans Freedom Music Festival!

The 13th Annual 2023 Veterans Freedom Music Festival will be held at the Antelope Bandshell in Antelope Park from 11:00 AM until 5 PM on Saturday, June 10, 2023.

FREE Parking and Admission. Visitors should bring their own chairs and coolers. There are no alcohol or pets (other than service dogs).

[Learn More...](#)

The Veterans Advisory Group of Lincoln Welcomes You!

The Veterans Advisory Group of Lincoln is a group of Veterans helping Veterans. Known as VAG Lincoln, the purpose of the Veterans Advisory Group of Lincoln is to honor Veterans by providing ongoing events and support.

Due to property renovation at the Lincoln VA, most VAG Lincoln events are now held at the Auld Pavilion in Antelope Park, or at other locations throughout the city.

Want to Help Honor Our Veterans?

The Veterans Advisory Group of Lincoln Needs Your Help and Expertise. Here are a few things you can consider in helping to honor our Veterans:

- Become a Volunteer to help in the many events sponsored throughout the year.
- Contribute a dollar amount (no matter how big or small) to help fund activities. Note that ALL funds donated are used 100% for the purpose you designate!
- Become a Business Sponsor by helping fund our events, including the Veterans Freedom Music Festival, Monthly Coffee Haus Events, Art Show, Classic Car Show-n-Shine, Buddy Check, and the Staff Lunch.
- Be a Guest at most events and enjoy the experience!
- <https://vaglincoln.org/>

Lincoln's LARGEST Outdoor Music Festival ***

FREE Parking and Admission!***

2023 Condensed Band Line-Up and Events

<https://vaglincoln.org/music-festival>

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2023 AT 1 PM – 4 PM

Memorial Park's 75th Anniversary Event

Memorial Park

Join us for a free community celebration of Omaha's most iconic park! Sunday, June 4th from 1:30-4:00pm at Memorial Park

1:30pm Live Music Begins Heartland of America Band - Raptor 1:45pm Skydivers 2:00pm Program Begins

2:04pm Flyover 3:00pm Celebration Eve

Also at the celebration: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1272323743359787/>



AIRBOAT RIDES!!

FREE FOR VETERANS & THEIR FAMILYS
SECOND ANNUAL NEBRASKA AIRBOATERS
ASSOCIATION VETS RIDE!
WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU TO OUR
VETERANS BY OFFERING AIRBOAT RIDES!

BRING A BEVERAGE & JOIN US FOR SOME
FOOD & EXPERIENCE A FREEDOM WE
ENJOY BECAUSE OF YOUR SERVICE

JULY 15 th. 11:00 AM -5:00 PM
AT OUR NORTH BEND HOMEFRONT!

IF YOU'D KINDLY RSVP TO
NAA@AIRBOATNE.COM
Or Call/Text 402-276-0437



Scan QR Code For
Our Website



Scan QR Code For
Directions



July 27-29, 2023

10AM - Saturday, July 29, Memorial Park, Omaha

Korean War Veterans will be honored at this event. If they are no longer with us, we would like to honor their spouses and family members. Re-enactors will be camped at the park from Thursday evening through Saturday afternoon, with military gear, equipment and vehicles. A half-size replica of the Korean War Memorial in Washington, D.C. will arrive July 27 and remain for the ceremony.

<https://www.patrioticproductions.org/living-history>

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2023 AT 2 PM

2023 Lincoln Veterans Parade

Nebraska State Capitol

2023 Lincoln Veterans Parade

VETERANS IN BUSINESS

K street from S 21st to S 14th Street

Sunday, Nov. 12th at 2 PM

On Sunday afternoon everyone is invited to line K Street to see so many great sponsors, businesses, organizations, vehicles, and people in salute to our American heroes. This year we are giving special recognition to our military veterans in the workforce as business leaders, entrepreneurs, or employees. Our heroes continue to move forward after service.

The parade will start at 2 PM on 21st and K Street, moving westbound to S 14th. The parade line will stop at the Capital Building for the opening ceremony. We have 2 stations along the route of radio hosts providing emcee support. The parade will have a Live TV and Streaming Broadcast of the entire event. Expecting to last 60 to 90 minutes.

Getting involved and helping others is not just in the military but is what Nebraskans do. Send a message or visit the website to find more information. From joining the Planning Committee, helping setup on parade day, or just posting a sign in the yard.

2023 VETERANS IN BUSINESS

This year's parade will be honoring veterans in business. 2021 saw one of the highest numbers of new business starts in the US – more than 5.4M. 10.7% of new business owners in 2021 were veterans. Veterans are playing a bigger role in driving the economy forward, translating military training to business success. Veterans are significantly more likely to start a business in Goods-Producing/Logistic sectors (construction, manufacturing, utilities, transportation, and warehousing) than all new business owners.

[#VeteransInBusiness](#) [#lincolnpatriotic](#) [#LNKvets](#)

www.lincolnveteransparade.org

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