

News from the Nebraska Veterans Coalition 1 March 2020

Information addressed in this newsletter and Twitter are linked to our Website. You are also invited to our Facebook page with over 4,100 friends. Our twitter page @VetsCoalitionNE, has our posts, those from the Nebraska Departments of Veteran Affairs, Labor and Economic Development, Nebraska Small Business Administration and other informative followers.

We follow:

Nebraska government website^[OBJ-TOBJ]

Nebraska Departments of:

Veteran Affairs, Labor, Economic Development

Nebraska Chamber of Commerce

NE Small Business

Grow Nebraska

Nebraska Medal of Honor

NE Tourism

John Hilgert

Nebraska Business Development Center

Veterans Administration

Our website contains both Nebraska and National News events and links to websites of interest to veterans. <http://www.nebraskaveterans.org/>,

WHAT WE DO AND WHAT OUR GOALS ARE: UPDATE 11-1-2019

The Nebraska Veteran's Coalition is a non-partisan and/or a bi-partisan group. It was formed in order to bring awareness to veterans about what is going on in the Nebraska Unicameral. To inform veterans of their elected officials, and what the status legislation is pertaining to Veteran's benefits that are going through the Nebraska Unicameral.

1. Primary purposes:

- a. Convince Legislature to provide incentives to Attract and Retain Veterans in Nebraska.
- b. Increase Tax revenues for Nebraska by increasing its veteran population.
- c. Establish more effective collaborative efforts to attract talent to Nebraska to respond to current and future workforce needs
- d. Improve the retention of highly skilled leaders and technicians retained in Nebraska who are separating from the military.
- e. Persuade Nebraska to improve the medical treatment of veterans by working more closely with the Veterans Administration and by persuading Nebraska to establish a Home Base Program similar to other states.
- f. Persuade Nebraska to market itself to Veterans
- g. Admins and members providing information to veterans and family members about available benefits from the VA and the State of Nebraska.
- h. Share information about efforts within the VA, the United States Congress, and the Nebraska Legislature to improve support of veterans and their families.
- i. Share information to veterans, their families, and those who support veterans about efforts to attract and retain veterans in Nebraska.
- j. Persuade Veterans to be more involved in the process of Democracy

2. Primary Efforts:

- a. Communicate with Legislators, the Governor's Office, and numerous other community leaders concerning the need and benefits of persuading Veterans to remain in Nebraska.
- b. Establishing and maintaining information distribution efforts through Facebook, web site, e-mails and meetings.
- c. Working with Chambers of Commerce to gain their support.
- d. Advocating methods to improve retention of veterans in Nebraska.
- e. Working with the Legislature to gain support for increasing the number of veterans in Nebraska.
- f. Working with Veteran Service Organizations
- g. Provide ongoing information to Legislators about the benefit of using veterans to expand the work force in Nebraska.
- h. Establishing ongoing dialogue with Nebraska Legislators to provide them with information about veterans needs.
- i. Work with the Nebraska Veterans Commission to provide them with information about the needs of veterans in Nebraska.
- j. Make ongoing efforts to increase the number of veterans and supporters on our Facebook page.
- k. Encourage posting on our Facebook, veterans events in Nebraska
- L. Working with the Nebraska Department of Labor And the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs to improve services to veterans.



Flights of Honor

Traveling Exhibit



We are excited to announce a new exhibit being created to cherish and re-live the countless memories from the Flights of Honor. This exhibit will include hundreds of photos from the flights, providing opportunities for veterans, family members, volunteers and patriots of all ages to reminisce and educate others about the importance of thanking and honoring our veterans and their families.

Flights of Honor

**Unveiling Ceremony
Thursday, April 16, 2020
5pm**

Lobby of Pinnacle Bank Arena in Lincoln

You are welcome to wear your Honor Flight shirt.



Underwriting Sponsor

Flights of Honor

Tour

Following the unveiling, ***Flights of Honor*** will travel to communities throughout Nebraska in 2020 at no cost to host communities, thanks to the following

2020 Tour Sponsors:

Norfolk Iron & Metal Company
Michael & Lois Wilke
Leonard Marolf Charitable Trust
First National Bank
Joseph Fehringer
Monica "Lil Sis" Harvey Memorial

If you would like to host in your community, call Bill at **402-612-0210**, or email to: info@PatrioticProductions.org. This exhibit will require an **indoor** room approximately 36' x 40' or 24' x 70'. It should fit in a room similar to the size of most church fellowship halls, and can be laid out in a variety of ways, as each frame is independent. Electricity is necessary for each frame.

Communities Who Have Already Booked ***Flights of Honor:***

Hometown Heroes Event, Ashland
Patriotic Parade & Concert - The Durham Museum
Byron Community Center, Byron
Adams High School, Adams
150th Celebration, Schuyler
Christ Community Church, Omaha
4th of July Celebration, Seward
Douglas County Fair, Omaha
Beer Barrel Days, Prague
Nebraska State Fair
Stepping Up for Veterans, Papillion
N.P. Dodge Vets Appreciation Breakfast, Omaha

Want to be a part of it?

Volunteers will be the key to moving and setting up the ***Flights of Honor*** exhibit. It is too large to fit in most vehicles, so a Ford Transit will be provided to the volunteers who transport the exhibit.

If you are interested in being a part of this movement, please let us know.

TRAINING SESSION

Sunday, March 22, 2020
1pm
Embassy Suites, 12520 Westport Parkway, La Vista
I-80 and Exit 442 (Giles Road)

All volunteers who drive the Transit will need to provide a driver's license for approval by the insurance company.

We would appreciate an RSVP to know how many plan to attend, but if you decide last minute that you want to come, please do!

You may RSVP by calling 402-612-0210 or email:
info@PatrioticProductions.org

If you feel so compelled...

And, of course, we would be remiss if we failed to ask for a donation to help pay for the Ford Transit. All donations appreciated and help keep the tour moving free of charge.

Donate to Support the Flights of Honor Exhibit Tour

We hope you will have a chance to see this exhibit that is sure to inspire many memories. The most significant result of the flights has been the healing provided to our veterans; may that continue as this exhibit travels throughout Nebraska and stories are shared with family members, especially children and grandchildren, leaving a proud legacy that may not have otherwise been fully realized.

*A Picture is Worth a
Thousand Words.*

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THIS
PARADE IN DOWNTOWN OMAHA!**





Flights of Honor and Remembering Our Fallen are programs of Patriotic Productions, Inc., a non-profit organization with offices in Omaha, Nebraska and Laguna Niguel, California.

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Defense Secretary tours StratCom's new \$1.3 billion command center, aims to modernize nuclear arsenal

- [By Steve Liewer / World-Herald staff writer](#)
- Feb 14, 2020 Updated Feb 21, 2020
-



https://www.omaha.com/news/military/defense-secretary-tours-stratcom-s-new-billion-command-center-aims/article_c474f988-9d27-5823-9a57-79afe883791.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share

Offutt AFB, NE

About

In 2017, Offutt AFB, NE had a population of 5.14k people with a median age of 23.7 and a median household income of \$50,942. Between 2016 and 2017 the population of Offutt AFB, NE declined from 5,176 to 5,142, a -0.657% decrease and its median household income grew from \$47,439 to \$50,942, a 7.38% increase.

The population of Offutt AFB, NE is 66.7% White Alone, 13.5% Hispanic or Latino, and 8.44% Black or African American Alone. N/A% of the people in Offutt AFB, NE speak a non-English language, and 97.9% are U.S. citizens.

The median property value in Offutt AFB, NE is N/A, and the homeownership rate is 0%. Most people in Offutt AFB, NE commute by Drove Alone, and the average commute time is 15.1 minutes. The average car ownership in Offutt AFB, NE is 2 cars per household.

<https://datausa.io/profile/geo/offuttafb-ne?fbclid=IwAR2HQoMFjs5kODmrPNvExIcL1FIHxWf2Erd3JsFIJqZob6eq88UJ8KiANFM>

Population

5,142

0.657% decline

Median Age

23.7

Median Household Income

\$50,942

7.38% growth

Poverty Rate

6.42%

Number of Employees

1,573

5.71% growth

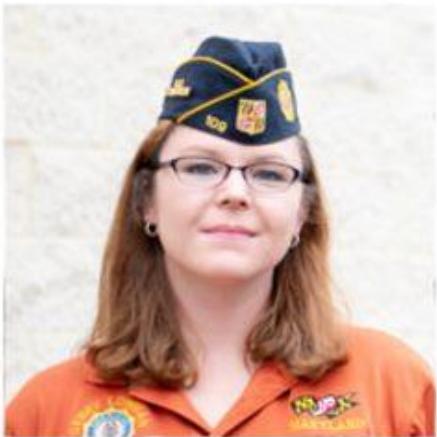
Join The American Legion

The Legion Act signed into law removes most restrictions. Allows military members that have served under federal orders to join. See the application and law in this post

<https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ35/PLAW-116publ35.pdf>

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

The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization, committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities.



Guardsmen and reservists could see big boosts in hazard pay, education benefits under new plans

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2020/02/19/guardsmen-and-reservists-could-see-big-boosts-in-hazard-pay-education-benefits-under-new-plans/>