

A Volunteer Organization Bringing Awareness To Veteran's Issues

Volume 7, Issue 10, October 1, 2026, Newsletter



REQUEST TO JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1001038876574340/>

Current Information to share with Veterans in Nebraska.

We at the Nebraska Veterans Coalition continue to provide information to military members currently serving and veterans who have served in the Active, National Guard, and Reserve. We publish monthly Event Newsletters and post them on the Coalition Website, Facebook, and (X), removing events after they conclude.

We strongly suggest that you forward the Newsletter to your mailing list and friends. You can post events on our Facebook page (Nebraska Veterans Coalition). "Friend us," and encourage others to join.

COALITION MISSION

WHAT WE DO AND WHAT OUR GOALS ARE: UPDATE

The Nebraska Veterans Coalition is a nonpartisan and/or bipartisan group. It was formed to raise veterans' awareness of what is happening in the Nebraska Unicameral. It informs veterans about their elected officials and the status of legislation on veterans' benefits moving through the Nebraska Unicameral. To keep Veterans, Active, Reserve and National Guard personnel updated on the latest military information.

1. Purposes:

- a. Encourage members to discuss issues on Coalition social media directly related to Veterans.
- b. Convince the Nebraska Legislature to provide incentives to attract and retain Veterans in Nebraska.
- c. Increase Nebraska revenue by increasing the veteran population.
- d. Improve the medical treatment of veterans.
- e. Encourage Coalition administrators and members to provide information to veterans and family members about available benefits from the VA and the State of Nebraska.
- f. Share information about efforts within the VA, the United States Congress, and the Nebraska Legislature to improve the support of veterans and their families.
- g. Share information with veterans, their families, and those who support veterans-related information and events on Nebraska Veterans Coalition's Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1001038876574340/>) (Website www.NebraskaVeterans.org, Twitter (X) @VetsCoalitionNE <https://x.com/VetsCoalitionNE>, and Nebraska Veterans Coalition Monthly Newsletter.
- h. Persuade Veterans to be more involved in the process of Democracy.

2. Primary Efforts:

- a. Advocating methods to improve retention of veterans in Nebraska.
- b. Working with the Legislature to gain support for increasing the number of veterans in Nebraska.
- c. Establishing more effective collaborative efforts to attract talent to Nebraska to respond to current and future workforce needs.
- d. Working with business leaders to inform them about the value of hiring veterans.
- e. Promote the options available for veterans to start a business and get government assistance.
- f. Encourage legislators and business leaders to market Nebraska to the Nation
- g. Working with Veteran Service Organizations.
- h. Working with the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs to improve services to veterans..

Gregory E. Larson

Greg was an original member of the Nebraska Veterans Coalition and served on its leadership team in 2015. His contribution and support helped the Coalition's mission to support veterans

Greg was a proud veteran of the U.S. Army, serving for 24 years. He became a commissioned officer shortly after being drafted in 1966 and retired from the military in 1993 as a Lieutenant Colonel. Entered into Rest September 7, 2026

<https://www.marcysvoboda.com/obituaries/Gregory-E-Larson?obId=49585615>
RIP Greg

Find our Website



[Join Our Newsletter Distribution](#)

Nebraska Veteran Service Organizations and Veteran Service Groups

If you are a Commander or on the organization's board, please forward our newsletter to your membership and reference us in your newsletter and website. When approved, we now post the newsletter and frequent articles on some of the organization's or group's Facebook pages . We would like your assistance in informing members of your organization via email or Facebook.

Health Care

[Health Care](#) » [VHA Office of Rural Health](#) » Enterprise-Wide Initiative (EWI) - Specialty Care

VHA Office of Rural Health

Enterprise-Wide Initiative (EWI) - Specialty Care

National TeleHospital Medicine Program Background

The National TeleHospital Medicine (Tele-HM) Enterprise-Wide Initiative (EWI) was created in 2024 to address serious shortages of inpatient providers across the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), especially in rural areas. In 2024, 86% of VHA facilities reported critical inpatient provider shortages, with rural and low-complexity medical centers being affected the most. Traditional ways of filling staffing gaps, such as MORE >>>>>>>>

https://www.ruralhealth.va.gov/enterprise-wide-initiatives/Specialty_Care/National-Tele-Hospital-Medicine-TeleHM.asp

Rural Health - Navigation

- Enterprise-Wide Initiative (EWI) page: <https://www.ruralhealth.va.gov/Enterprise-Wide-Initiatives-EWI.asp>
- Veterans Rural Health Resource Center (VRHRC) page: <https://www.ruralhealth.va.gov/Veterans-Rural-Health-Resource-Centers-VRHRC.asp>

Q&A: Learn the basics of TRICARE For Life coverage

<https://newsroom.tricare.mil/News/TRICARE-News/Article/4609991/qa-learn-the-basics-of-tricare-for-life-coverage>

NWI Current | News from your local VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care

Veterans Health Administration sent this bulletin at 08/18/2026 05:33 PM EDT

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVHA/bulletins/4259a48>

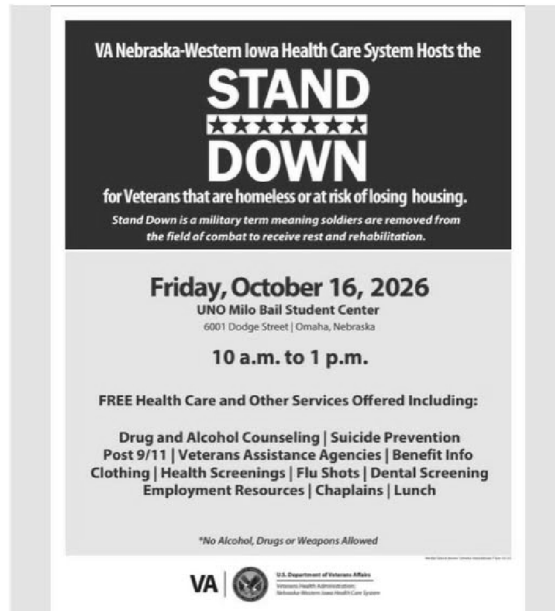
Medical appointment coming up? Some guidance to help you prepare

By TRICARE Communications

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – When you have a medical appointment on the calendar, it's best to prepare ahead of time. It doesn't take long, and the benefits will help you make the most of your healthcare appointment.

It's important to know what your TRICARE plan covers. You should have all the necessary documents available and be ready with questions for your provider before you go to your appointment," said Dr. Ross Colt, Medical Director, Clinical Oversight and Integration, TRICARE Health Plan, at the Defense Health Agency. "Whether you're meeting with a primary care provider or specialist, being prepared can help streamline the check-in process and maximize your time with your provider."

<https://newsroom.tricare.mil/News/TRICARE-News/Article/4592515/medical-appointment-coming-up-some-guidance-to-help-you-prepare>



TRICARE Dental Coverage Updates for Military Retirees: What Changes in 2026

Military retirement brings a new set of dental decisions that can affect monthly costs, provider choices, and coverage continuity. The 2026 changes create important questions about enrollment timing, plan options, and long-term protection.

LEGISLATION

The Nebraska Unicameral

The 110th Legislature will convene in January 2027 for its first session, featuring significant turnover, with at least 12 new senators.

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

It's that time of year again. Students have returned to classes, college football has returned to my TV for 12 hours straight on Saturdays, and neon postcards notifying taxpayers of property tax increases will soon be returning to mailboxes across the state.

Those postcards are part of Nebraska's Truth in Taxation process, something the Platte Institute has championed since its passage in 2021.

The idea behind Truth in Taxation is simple: if your local government wants to collect more property tax revenue, taxpayers deserve to know about it and have an opportunity to make their voices heard.

That transparency is especially important because tax increases are not always presented as tax increases.

Over the last month, we've seen political subdivisions propose collecting more property tax revenue while pointing to flat or even lower levy rates. But, as we know, a flat levy does not automatically mean a flat tax bill. When property valuations rise and local governments keep their levy rates the same, they can collect millions of dollars in additional revenue without ever voting to raise the rate. For taxpayers, the distinction is pretty simple. If your property tax bill was \$4,000 last year and climbs to \$4,300 this year, your taxes went up. Telling you the levy stayed flat does not make that extra \$300 any easier to pay.

That is exactly why Truth in Taxation matters.

And thanks to legislation passed during the most recent legislative session, Nebraska's process will be even stronger next year.

One of the shortcomings we have identified with the original law is timing. By the time joint public hearings are held, many budget decisions have already been made. Taxpayers can show up, speak their minds, and ask questions, but there is only so much opportunity to influence a budget that is already largely set in stone.

Beginning next year, those hearings will take place earlier in the process, giving taxpayers a greater opportunity to weigh in before final budget decisions are made. It is an important improvement and one we were proud to help secure.

But that change does not take effect until next year, and taxpayers still have an important role to play this fall.

When that neon postcard arrives in your mailbox, take a few minutes to read it. Pay attention to how much additional property tax revenue your local governments are proposing to collect and what that means for your own tax bill. And, of course, consider attending the joint public hearing and speaking directly to your elected representatives.

Truth in Taxation does not guarantee that property taxes will go down. What it does provide is greater transparency. It makes it harder for government to quietly spend valuation windfalls and easier for taxpayers to see who is collecting more of their money. And history has already shown that your elected officials want to avoid these hearings if possible, and that generally means a greater chance your taxes won't go up.

Granted, we have work to do to lower the amount of burden you are paying and we know it's steep, but this is an important civic process and opportunity.

Next year, Nebraskans will have an even better process for making their voices heard. This year, we still need to use the one we have.

Thanks for reading,

Jim

P.S. - If you want to know when and where your joint public hearing will be held, don't hesitate to reach out to your county clerk. They should have the details available if you want to mark your calendar rather than wait for the postcard to arrive in the mail.

Jim Vokal

Senate Agriculture Committee passes Farm Bill

Key Takeaways

On September 16, the U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee passed the Agricultural Act of 2026, the Senate version of the 2026 Farm Bill. The bill passed out of committee on party lines, moving the bill to the full Senate floor. The Senate is expected to vote on the bill when Congress returns in November, after the midterm elections

MORE.....

[https://www.naco.org/news/senate-agriculture-committee-passes-farm-bill?](https://www.naco.org/news/senate-agriculture-committee-passes-farm-bill?fbclid=IwY2xjawUeZQdwZG9mAWV4dG4DYWVtAjEwAGJyaWQRMU5OSXg0TFpHd0V1OUIQMvVzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzKxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEemgnZ8E9TZyPT5QdCY9zaZ1IJXZftPgDCni2UJfYLrzpEFoaZqKYL9LT3GE_aem_etieXw3xKk6cBfWbUSy0CA)

[fbclid=IwY2xjawUeZQdwZG9mAWV4dG4DYWVtAjEwAGJyaWQRMU5OSXg0TFpHd0V1OUIQMvVzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzKxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEemgnZ8E9TZyPT5QdCY9zaZ1IJXZftPgDCni2UJfYLrzpEFoaZqKYL9LT3GE_aem_etieXw3xKk6cBfWbUSy0CA](https://www.naco.org/news/senate-agriculture-committee-passes-farm-bill?fbclid=IwY2xjawUeZQdwZG9mAWV4dG4DYWVtAjEwAGJyaWQRMU5OSXg0TFpHd0V1OUIQMvVzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzKxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEemgnZ8E9TZyPT5QdCY9zaZ1IJXZftPgDCni2UJfYLrzpEFoaZqKYL9LT3GE_aem_etieXw3xKk6cBfWbUSy0CA)

About the Nebraska State Treasurer's Office

The Nebraska State Treasurer serves as the state's chief financial officer and is responsible for the safekeeping and management of Nebraska's public funds. The office administers the Nebraska Educational Savings Trust (NEST 529) and the Enable Savings Plan; returns unclaimed property; collects and disburses child support payments; promotes transparency in state spending; and advances financial literacy.

Mission Statement: To safeguard and protect the State of Nebraska's financial resources, provide transparency in state spending, empower individuals to save for what's important, and strengthen Nebraska's financial future.

Miscellaneous Information

Disabled Veterans National Foundation (DVNF)

YOUR SUPPORT IS WHAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

Help us change lives and give hope back to our heroes.

<https://www.dvnf.org/resource-fair-sponsorship/>

The Disabled Veterans National Foundation (DVNF) provides critically needed support to disabled and at-risk veterans who leave the military wounded—physically or psychologically—after defending our safety and freedom

Health & Comfort for Veterans Across America

Every veteran deserves access to the essentials that we take for granted.

With your help, our programs help ensure they get the attention and care they've earned.

DVNF VETERANS EVENTS

Browse our past and upcoming events.

Andy Kohlan

Nebraska Veterans Coalition Admin Group All-star contributor

· [11 hours ago](#) ·

In 1814, Francis Scott Key wrote the Star-Spangled Banner while observing the battle. Francis Scott Key used "In God We Trust" as a motto in his poem as he watched the British bombard Baltimore during the War of 1812. Francis Scott Key wrote in what is now the 4th verse of the United States national anthem, "Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation. Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just, And this be our motto, In God is Our Trust."

The earliest recorded usage of the motto in English was in January 1748, when The Pennsylvania Gazette reported on the colors of Associators' regiments, namely that of Benjamin Franklin's Pennsylvania militia, one of which said: "IX. A Coronet and Plume of Feathers. Motto, IN GOD WE TRUST."

The capitalized form "IN GOD WE TRUST" first appeared on United States coinage with the two-cent piece in 1864. A law passed in July 1955 by a joint resolution of the 84th Congress (Pub.L. 84-140) and approved by President Dwight Eisenhower requires that "In God We Trust" appear on all American currency. Two years later, the phrase was used on paper money for the first time. The Supreme Court has upheld this usage as our national motto, and it has appeared on paper currency since 1957.

Again, "In God We Trust" is the official motto of the United States of America. While it was officially adopted by Congress in 1956, as I have shown here, it appeared much earlier. All the primary Founders of the United States believed in the Judeo-Christian God (the God of the Bible), and at least 175 total Founders believed as well. The number is likely much higher when one includes the wives and families.

GREEN STAR Families of America

Mike Molon Labe Peterson

How Military Family Flags Evolved

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1001038876574340/permalink/28971328199118699>

AI content · [a day ago](#) ·

Military family recognition has a history.

The Blue Star Service Flag began during World War I to represent families with a loved one serving. When a service member died, the Gold Star became the symbol of that loss. Over the decades, Gold Star recognition expanded through national observances, legislation, lapel buttons, survivor recognition, and changes in eligibility.

That history is worth understanding. Because many of the symbols and recognitions we know today did not all begin at the same time, and they did not all remain exactly the same.

Green Star Families of America began in 2020 to recognize families of Veterans lost to suicide.

> Not to replace Gold Star.

> Not to redefine Gold Star.

> Not to diminish any existing military family recognition.

But to recognize a group of military families whose loss has too often gone unseen.

A Veteran's last day does not erase every day they served before it.

Their circumstances are different. Their service is not.

[#GreenStarFamilies](#) [#MilitaryFamilies](#) [#GoldStarFamilies](#) [#BlueStarFamilies](#) [#Veterans](#)

[#VeteranSuicide](#) [#MilitaryHistory](#)

SBA ODR&R Flyers NE-20029 & NE-20030 (Sec Ag) (#21872 & 21875) SBA Disaster Assistance Available for Nebraska Businesses and Private

Attached are the announcement flyers for the two recent Secretary of Agriculture declarations in Nebraska. All information on these declarations is available online at <https://lending.sba.gov/search-disaster/?disaster=NE-20029> and <https://lending.sba.gov/search-disaster/?disaster=NE-20030>.

NE-20029: Eligible Counties - Nebraska: Dakota, Dixon, and Thurston

NE-20030: Eligible Counties - Nebraska: Burt, Cuming, Dakota, Dixon, Thurston, and Wayne



<https://www.ateaseusa.org/>

At Ease USA was founded in 2009 because wounded warriors often don't receive the treatment they need when they return home.

We support veterans, active-duty service members, frontline healthcare workers and their loved ones with confidential, research-supported, cost-effective treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS), moral injury, thoughts of suicide and trauma.

What is Offered

Trauma Counseling; Wellness Services; Peer & Family Support; SSG Fox Grants; Attention Training Software

Resource Directories <https://www.ateaseusa.org/resources>

Emergency & Crisis Support; Health & Wellness Support; Housing & Homelessness Support; Employment & Financial Support; Education & Training Support; Legal Support & Advocacy; Community Organization Support; Leisure & Recreation Groups

(X) [https://x.com/intent/follow?](https://x.com/intent/follow?original_referer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ateaseusa.org%2F&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Ebuttonembed%7Ctwterm%5Efollow%7Ctwgr%5Eateaseusa&screen_name=ateaseusa)
[original_referer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ateaseusa.org%2F&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Ebuttonembed%7Ctwterm%5Efollow%7Ctwgr%5Eateaseusa&screen_name=ateaseusa](https://www.facebook.com/ateaseusa/followers)
FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/ateaseusa/followers>

988.273.TALK (8255)
(531) 247-4040
info@ateaseusa.org
610 N 109th Plaza, Omaha, NE 68154

Newsletter

Stay Connected

<https://www.ateaseusa.org/newsletter>

At Ease USA supports veterans and their families on their path to healing—and our newsletter is one way we stay connected with our community. By signing up, you'll receive occasional emails with program updates, upcoming events, veteran stories, and ways to get involved.

Dignified transfer held in Omaha for World War II soldier captured by Japanese forces in 1942

https://www.ketv.com/article/omaha-dignified-transfer-world-war-ii-soldier/73642326?utm_campaign=snd-autopilot&fbclid=IwY2xjawUNeRRwZG9mAWV4dG4DYWVtAjEwAGJyaWQRMW8zbGhhcFJHWEF6NjV4NE1zcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjIwMzIxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEiKnSjQCVIPOcuOpgC_aTeaEVskafZebs1n1kRsdEvC_IBS1xk3XnTnzeR5M_aem_K_Eyge4CfFsiLpp8zx2qFg

Lincoln, Nebraska Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird

August 31 at 4:32 PM · Light On · Maggie Rogers ·

Our Veterans Need Homes here is an opportunity for our veterans to be housed.
Please call the Lincoln City Mayor's office for inquiries. Thank you to those who have
served to uphold the Constitution of the United States of America

With the opening of Porchlight Apartments, 125 new affordable homes become part of the South of Downtown neighborhood, bringing greater stability, opportunity, and well-being to individuals and families in Lincoln. That's partly because this development includes the new home of Clinic with a Heart, which offers free health and dental care, and community spaces designed to bring neighbors together.

The City supported this project with \$2.77 million in financial assistance, working alongside an incredible group of federal, state, community, and neighborhood partners to bring it to life. Since setting the goal to create or rehabilitate 5,000 affordable housing units by 2030, the City has supported 3,270 units across Lincoln. With each new project like Porchlight, we're helping more neighbors enjoy the comfort, security, and opportunity that come with a wonderful place to call home. **MORE:**.....,

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1001038876574340/permalink/28833640519554135/>



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jerry Kane
Public Information Officer | jerry.kane@nebraska.gov | 402.471.5008

Explore the parks with these events in October

Spend some time this fall in Nebraska's state parks. While history and hiking are major themes at October park events, other events are scheduled, too.

Don't forget that a Nebraska Vehicle Park Entry Permit is required at Nebraska state parks.

Get one at OutdoorNebraska.gov or at state park entrances.

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/NEGPC/bulletins/42bc8d78>

Explore the parks for Halloween fun in October

State park areas are wonderful places to celebrate Halloween in Nebraska, with many hosting family-friendly activities on weekends in October. Plan your opportunity for fun at several park locations.

Remember: A Nebraska Vehicle Park Entry Permit is required for each vehicle entering a state park area. Get yours at OutdoorNebraska.gov or at the park entry booth.

Additional state parks may schedule Halloween events in the coming days. They will be listed at Calendar.OutdoorNebraska.gov.

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/NEGPC/bulletins/42b38ba>

Department of Veterans Affairs **Center for Women Veterans**

Department of Veterans Affairs

Welcome all women Veterans, servicewomen, family members, caregivers, and advocates! The Center's mission is to advocate for improved outcomes and access to VA benefits, services, and opportunities for women Veterans through education, outreach, and collaboration.

Our Vision is to empower, enroll and encourage women Veterans to trust and choose VA.

The Center for Women Veterans was established by Congress in November 1994 by Public Law 103-446 to advocate for improved outcomes and access to VA benefits, services, and opportunities for women Veterans through education, outreach, and collaboration.

We are women Veterans proud to serve our sister Veterans and those who serve them. Stay in touch, sign up for emails, follow us on Facebook, X @VAWomenVets and Pinterest @DeptVetAffairs. We share information on benefits and services, events, stories, research and more. Thank you for your service!

Subscribe to receive weekly women Veteran-centric updates and news

<https://department.va.gov/center-for-women-veterans/>



<https://www.womenveteransalliance.com/>

Allies

Women Veteran Organizations Directory

[Become A WVA Ally](#)(opens in new tab)

Listings are for active: networking groups, local meetups, support groups, veteran service organizations, councils, and advisory committees that are specifically for women veterans. Women Veterans Alliance provides this information as a service to our members. We make every effort to ensure accuracy but are not liable for the information provided.

<https://www.womenveteransalliance.com/allies/?srsId=AfmBOopb9SkUYWZ3u9WKp2mkt7Y-hjKEONU-03HrS-CE5Gm5VSnm5IIQ>

Official Nebraska Government Page for the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Open this link to visit the NDVA website: <https://veterans.nebraska.gov/>

Follow NDVA Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/NEVetsAffairs?fref=nf&ref=embed_page
4.8K followers • 79 following

NDVA Twitter https://twitter.com/NEVetsAffairs?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw

Get Email Updates

[Subscribe to the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs email updates](#)
[SUBSCRIBE](#)

Benefits and Services Overview

Part of our mission is to help veterans identify and access benefits. A wide range of county, state, and federal benefits covers 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, contact your [County Veterans Service Officer](#) or a [State Service Officer](#).

BENEFIT EXPERT

Many benefits are available for veterans and their family members. Our Benefits Expert will guide you through all the county, state, and federal benefits available to help you find just the ones you are eligible for or interested in.

MOST POPULAR BENEFITS AND SERVICES

[NEBRASKA VETERANS AID](#)

[WAIVER OF TITRION](#)

[DD2-214 REQUEST](#)

[APPLY TO THE VETERANS REGISTRY](#)

[INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES](#)

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

Nebraska's state veterans' homes offer top-of-the-line assisted living, skilled nursing, and memory 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.

Military & Veterans' Registry Application

If the name of the DD-214 is different than 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.

If applying for a Disabled Veteran License Plate, submission of a benefit summary showing at least 10% service-connected rating is required.

If you plan on applying for a Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption, a DD-214 is required, as well as submission of a benefit summary that shows a service-connected disability rating (0-100%) or demonstrates the veteran is in receipt of compensation, disability retirement benefits, or pension from VA.

Please allow at least 48 hours for information to be electronically transferred to the DMV's database.

An email message will be sent to confirm receipt.

If you are missing documentation or have questions about this form, please use our [DD-214 Online Request](#) or contact us at ndva@nebraska.gov or 402-471-2458.

September NDVA Newsletter

<https://mailchi.mp/nebraska.gov/ndva-newsletter-september-2026?e=64def6304a>

NDVA Calendar of Events

- October 3 - [Harvest of Harmony Parade](#) - Grand Island
- October 8 - Bryan Mental Health Fair - St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Lincoln
- October 16 - Veteran Stand Down - Omaha
- October 17 - VFW Post #2280 Info Fair - Bellevue
- October 20 - [Project Connect](#) - Baxter Arena, Omaha
- October 22 - [Project Connect](#) - Pinnacle Bank Expo at Fonner Park, Grand Island
- October 23 - [Veterans Homes Board Meeting](#) - Norfolk Veterans' Home, Norfolk
- October 23 - [National Guard Haunted Armory](#) - Spirit of 76 Armory, Lincoln
- October 24 - [National Guard Haunted Armory](#) - Norfolk Armory, Norfolk

County Veterans Service Offices Directory

Contact your County Veterans Service Officer and offer your help

Help with providing transportation for fellow veterans

Offer your business as a place for Buddy Check Meetings

This video is provided by the Nebraska Association of County Officials

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=bqhlwylZv2c>

A County Veterans Service Office staff member provides confidential counseling and assistance to Veterans and their families applying for Federal, State, and County Veterans programs and benefits. Federal Veterans Benefits include education, vocational rehabilitation, service-connected disability compensation, non-service-connected disability pension, healthcare, and burial benefits. Nebraska Veterans programs include a tuition waiver, admittance to a Nebraska Veteran's home, and emergency financial assistance from the Nebraska Veterans Aid Fund.

Eligibility for State financial assistance requires an Honorable or General (Under Honorable Conditions) discharge from active duty. This requirement is not met by active duty for training only. (Specific residency and service dates are required for some State Benefits)

County Veterans Service Offices Directory (Updated Monthly)

(OPEN) <https://veterans.nebraska.gov/cvso>

Veterans

SBA supports veterans as they enter business ownership, including funding programs, training, and federal contracting opportunities. SBA has resources for every part of the veteran entrepreneurship journey!

<https://www.sba.gov/veterans/>

Veteran Small Business Certification (VetCert) program

Growing your business

Counseling and guidance for veterans

Veteran contracting assistance programs

Veteran Small Business Certification (VetCert) program

How to apply

Eligibility requirements

Benefits of SBA Certification: <https://www.sba.gov/veterans/>

Certification transfer from the VA and one-year extension

Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) program

Program Benefits:

The federal government aims to award at least 5% of all federal contracting dollars to SDVOSBs each year.

Certain federal contract opportunities are limited to businesses that participate in the SDVOSB program.

Joining the SDVOSB program makes your business eligible to compete for the program's [set-aside and sole source contracts](#).

You can view the full eligibility requirements in the [final rule published in the Federal Register](#).

Surplus Personal Property for Veteran-Owned Small Business programs

SDVOSBs and VOSBs can get federal surplus property from certain agencies in the state in the state where the property will be primarily located and used.

Program benefits

Eligibility requirements

Resources Need help?

About the U.S. Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration helps power the American dream of entrepreneurship. As the leading voice for small businesses within the federal government, the SBA empowers job creators with the resources and support they need to start, grow, and expand their businesses or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov.

Services we provide

Our office provides help with SBA services, including funding programs, counseling, federal contracting certifications, and disaster recovery. We can also connect you to our partner organizations, lenders, and other community groups that help small businesses succeed.

Areas we serve

The Nebraska District Office serves the entire state of Nebraska.

Jo Eckert

Economic Development Specialist/Public Information Officer

Nebraska District Office

10675 Bedford Avenue, Suite 100

Omaha, NE 68134

U.S. Small Business Administration

(402) 221-7200 (office) (402) 660-5428 (cell)

Jo.Eckert@sba.gov [National Resource Guide](#) | [U.S. Small Business Administration](#)

[Make Onshoring Great Again Handbook](#) | [U.S. Small Business Administration](#)

October 2026 SBA & Resource Partner Events

Events from the SBA and our Resource Partners. Explore the wide range of courses and join us for an informative month of training you won't want to miss. For your convenience, click the registration links to view the full list, sign up as needed, and join us!

[SBA \(Nebraska\)](#) , [SCORE \(Nebraska\)](#), [\(VBOC\) veterans-business-outreach-center-vboc](#), [NBDC](#)

[\(Nebraska Business Development Center, UNO\)](#),

[CFRA \(Center for Rural Affairs Nebraska\)](#), [NEF \(Nebraska Enterprise Fund\)](#),

[GROW \(The GROW Nebraska® Foundation\)](#), [GNWBC \(Grow Nebraska Women Business Center\)](#)

Find free in-person upcoming events: <https://www.sba.gov/events?istrict=49&page=0>

Not all events listed here are on the SBA Nebraska District Office calendar:

<https://www.sba.gov/district/nebraska>

Most webinars are recorded: <https://www.score.org/recorded-webinars>

Note: Additional SCORE Webinars can be found at: <https://www.score.org/twincities/local-workshops>.

For those interested in food businesses: If you are [getting into cottage food sales](#), you must take an accredited food safety training required per LB 304, part of the Nebraska Pure Food Act. Nebraska Extension offers a "Cottage Food Law Training Course" - a Self-Paced Online Class. This \$25 online course fulfills the accredited training requirement and is endorsed by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, and the Douglas County Health Department. Register and pay for the course: <https://marketplace.unl.edu/extension/cottage-law.html>

For more information on SCORE, visit the Greater Omaha SCORE Chapter at <https://omaha.score.org/>
To find an SBA Resource Partner near you, go to <https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance>

Things to Do in Nebraska

<https://tinyurl.com/ysb3nw4j>

Interesting Local Events

(OPEN) <https://tinyurl.com/2vawzbj>

True American Legends

A Ranger force was trapped in a fierce firefight near the Afghanistan-Pakistan border, and the helicopters coming to extract them were taking significant battle damage. First Lieutenant Lindsay Gordon Heisler and her Apache pilot made a dangerous decision: they put their helicopter between the Rangers and the enemy and drew fire toward themselves.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=122134765845341735&set=a.122120011497341735>

Welcome to Boots to Business

(OPEN) <https://tinyurl.com/55nyv7em>

The Boots to Business Programs consist of Boots to Business (B2B), Boots to Business Reboot (B2BR), and Military Spouse Pathway to Business Courses. These courses are entrepreneurial education and training programs offered by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

Contact info: This field is used for email or phone number

eswarik@nebbiz.org Phone number (402) 685-5503 ext 503

Businesses or Non-Profits Supporting Veterans

Are you a veteran-owned business, hiring veterans or giving veteran discounts?

PROVIDE US A LINK TO YOUR WEBSITE OR FACEBOOK PAGE

We will post it to the Newsletter at no cost

FREE

This business listing is for informational purposes only. We do not promote, endorse or sponsor any products, businesses, contractors, suppliers, medical professionals, legal or other professions or engineers. This is not an exhaustive list.

Please do your own research before contacting, engaging or using any of these vendors or their products and services. You are responsible for doing due diligence, etc.

There is no statement of warranty or representation implied or otherwise by the Nebraska Veterans Coalition as to warranty, merchantability, fitness for use, capacity to do the work or engage and/or any representation that might or could be associated with any references listed herein below. nevetscoalition@outlook.com

Nebraska Stain & Seal

(402) 819-8776

Military Discount

We stain and seal your deck or fence so you don't have to

We help busy homeowners in Omaha & Lincoln gain peace of mind knowing their deck or fence will look good and last a long time. [Get your free estimate](#)

Please message or call us to schedule your free estimate. We'll answer all questions within 24 hours. (OPEN) <https://nebraskastain.com/>

ABS Construction Provides Expert Concrete Services in the Omaha, NE Area

Transforming Omaha With Expert Concrete Solutions

We're committed to using high-grade materials and advanced techniques to deliver lasting results.

ABS Construction is your trusted partner for all things concrete in Omaha, NE. We're not just pouring slabs; we're laying the foundation for your dreams: sealing, Tear-outs, Caulking, Driveways, Patios & Stoops, Sidewalks, and Stamped Concrete. We stand behind our concrete work. All work is guaranteed in writing. Plus: With our 1-year warranty option and written guarantees, you can trust our craftsmanship. **Contact us** at **(402) 205-0621** for a free, in-person estimate, and let's build something great together. We also prioritize emergency snow removal requests. Our team is available 24/7 during winter months and typically responds within 1-2 hours of receiving an emergency call.

ABS Construction honors our local heroes. First Responders receive a 10% discount on all concrete services. Call ABS Construction today to claim your discount! Not valid with any other offers or promotions. Restrictions apply. Must mention this coupon at the time of scheduling. **(402) 205-0621** . <https://www.omahaconcretecompany.com/concrete-services>

Offutt AFB PCS Pay-it-Forward®

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/234709767253230/>

PCSing to Offutt AFB? Making Bellevue home as a military family? Or getting ready to move to your next base?

This support group for Offutt AFB military spouses and families is built for you.

Life near the Missouri River and the Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum is unlike any other duty station — and we're here to help you make the most of it.

Who is incoming in the next 30-120 days, working through on-base, rent, or buy options, and needs a custom home search to help you and your family choose the right option?

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/pcsoffutt/permalink/2063667974357391/>

For a list of homes to buy, visit Savvy Omaha Homebuyers®. This is our sister page where we go deeper into buying, selling, and education.

Here are the weekly rentals: https://zsvc.paragon.ice.com/s/goto/Z_XNhExNOyd

Pet-Friendly rentals: https://zsvc.paragon.ice.com/s/goto/IUuf_y20tJU

Here's what you'll find in Offutt AFB PCS Pay It Forward

This support group for Offutt AFB ...See more ABOUT:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/234709767253230/>

Kim Johnson

Private Only members can see who's in the group and what they post.

Anyone can find this group. Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska

Thursday October 22

11am-9pm



**Omaha National Cemetery
Support Committee
Caring & Sharing**

EARN
20%
DRIVE THRU
OR
DINE-IN

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 24
11 am - 9 pm

Grab your family and friends and join us at Don & Millie's! Twenty percent (20%) of every dollar spent on great food and drink will go right back to our group!...See you there!

Please tell the cashier

144th &
Harrison
991-9112





Team Rubicon - Nebraska

This is a Private Group for Nebraska TR members only. Before joining the Group, please register with Team Rubicon at:

Want to know more? Reach out to NE State Admin Bobby at <https://teamrubiconusa.org/>

william.smith@teamrubiconusa.org

Team Rubicon is a veterans-based relief organization that pairs the experience, work ethic, and ingenuity of our vets with the knowledge and service of emergency personnel on both a small and

large scale to bridge the gap between when a disaster occurs and the time when the government can step in and maintain a long term recovery program.

We are also dedicated to creating a community of support for our veterans so that we know that none of us are ever alone.

As military members, we served a purpose; we dedicated our lives to a higher cause. When we get out, many feel that we have lost that purpose. At Team Rubicon, we are taking the country by storm, proving that we are still valuable assets to our communities, our country, and the world.

Three Paths to Impact.

People and communities need support year-round. So for us, there's no start or end to our service: we implement mitigation efforts before disasters and provide immediate response plus long-term rebuild and recovery support after.

- [Disaster Response](#)
- [Long-Term Recovery](#)
- [Workforce Development](#)
- [International](#)
- Working with international agencies, we respond to global disasters and conflicts, providing WASH services and medical assistance with EMT Type 1 Mobile where it's needed most.

[Disasters Big or Small, We're Here to Serve.](#)

Team Rubicon deploys where help is needed, whether it's a single flooded ranch across town or a wildfire-stricken village 10,000 miles away. While the media focuses on the most sensational stories, we focus on our most vulnerable neighbors and our greatest opportunities to rebuild and reinforce communities.

NEBRASKA LINK: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/nebraskagreyshirts/>

This link is for National!!!<https://teamrubiconusa.org/>

About First Responders Foundation

<https://firstrespondersfoundation.org/about/>

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. The First Responders Foundation does not solicit donations by phone or employ outside companies to do so. You can donate by mail, by phone or through our [website](#).

Vision

- Be an organization critical to maintaining and enhancing public safety in our communities. To serve as a recognized social impact organization supporting First Responders, Veterans, and families.
- We will accomplish this 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.

(402) 218-1234 contact@firstrespondersfoundation.org

In Steakhouse Country

This Veteran-Owned Omaha Spot Proves BBQ Is King

Smokin Barrel BBQ is trading Nebraska's beef house traditions for low-and-slow burnt ends. Smokin Barrel BBQ operates out of a small storefront in Omaha, Nebraska, run by Air Force veteran Wayne Dinges and his wife Karla. Dinges started the business as a food truck before opening a brick-and-mortar location in late 2018, bringing Texas-style barbecue to a city better known nationally for its steakhouses. The restaurant is on South 132nd Street and keeps the same menu and small-scale, family-run approach that built its following.

The restaurant offers a standing discount for military members and first responders who bring in a patch, reflecting Dinges's Air Force background and keeping the restaurant closely tied to the community it serves.

That connection has helped Smokin Barrel become as much a neighborhood fixture as a barbecue destination.

Smokin Barrel BBQ earned a spot in [Only In Your State's list of the 50 best barbecue spots in the U.S.](#) for the cult following built around its burnt ends. The dish is available with rotating glazes like bourbon or caramel apple, alongside more traditional options for purists.

What to Order

Smokin Barrel is best known for burnt ends, sold by the half pound, as a sandwich, or loose, with brisket, sausage links, pork spare ribs, and pulled pork rounding out the regular menu.

Chad - stock.adobe.com

Rotating specials add real variety on top of the standards: smoked brisket meatloaf, smoked pastrami, tri-tip tacos, and a Reuben built on smoked pastrami have all made appearances, alongside

homemade potato salad and coleslaw regulars specifically call out in reviews.

Veteran-Owned and Community-Minded

Dinges built the business the traditional way, starting small with a food truck and reinvesting in a permanent location once the following justified it, a slower path than many restaurants take but one that let him build genuine relationships with regulars first.

Plan Your Visit

Smokin Barrel Craft Barbecue is at 2457 South 132nd Street in Omaha, open for lunch Tuesday through Saturday and sometimes into Friday evenings. The kitchen often sells out by early afternoon, so arriving close to opening is the safest bet.

Open to America's #1 Veterans Magazine

The Grapevine

Published by John Stewart

Click on Publication of Your Choice

Veterans Pages: <https://veteransgrapevine.com/>

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Find the previous Nebraska Veterans Coalition Newsletters here

Open To America's #1 Veterans Magazine

The Grapevine

Published by John Stewart

Click on Publication of Your Choice

1. Veterans Pages: <https://veteransgrapevine.com/>

About The Grapevine

I began this publication 25 years ago for a Veterans of Foreign Wars Post to help me recover from a serious health condition impacting my memory, numerous cardiac problems and cancer. Doing this project has been extremely helpful in my recovery or ability to deal with them. As a result, I have been able to help many, many veterans and family members around the world. I am truly blessed over these two decades to have this project during my fight against many Agent Orange-related diseases from the Vietnam War. In addition to the publications, I have added hundreds of links to veteran-related websites.

Click On the Publication of Your Choice

Florida

Virginia

Nebraska Newsletter

Click Here For a Variety of Veterans Website Links

U.S. Government Websites National Guard and Reserve Websites

Websites by War: National Organizations, Military Branch Websites, GI Bill Information, Locate People, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), DoD Websites, State Homebuyer Programs, Military Health Websites, Military Spouse Assistance, VA Websites and Information, Veterans Affairs

Websites <https://veteransgrapevine.com/>

John Stewart Post from Facebook

Received an invitation to this. I tried to get one of these started in Nebraska but gave up. Now living in Florida, we meet Monday with County Commissioners who have proposed placing a plaque in their main hallway to honor our Florida Veterans Hall of Fame inductees from the county. I am one of those down here and a great honor. One that should be given to recognize those in Nebraska who give back after military service. But heads of almost all veterans organizations up there said "I'm too busy" or some other excuse for not taking the initiative. Sad.



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