

Rensselaer County Veterans Newsletter

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County Executive

Rensselaer County
Unified Family Services
Veterans Service Agency

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Van Transportation...

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

For more information please call (518) 270-2760.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR COUNTY EXECUTIVE

There are a number of important holidays and observances on the calendar every year. None more important than Veterans Day and the recognition of the service and sacrifice of our veterans and their families. From the start of our nation's history to today, Rensselaer County residents have answered the call to duty and stood on the frontlines of the fight for our freedom.

As County Executive, I have vowed that Rensselaer County will never forget our veterans and their families, and we have made important investments to ensure that service is always remembered. Our new Veterans Park at the new county offices at 99 Troy Road in East Greenbush is prominently located and clearly visible from Route 4, reminding all who pass by of the enormous legacy of service of our veterans. The county veterans office is located conveniently in the new county offices at 99 Troy Road and other county support services located nearby.

We are readying other changes that will further help enhance our service and support for veterans and ask that you stay tuned for important announcements in the coming weeks and months. Thank you for your service to our nation!

Steven F. McLaughlin

Gerald B. H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery Wreaths Across America 2024

It may only be October but here at the Gerald B. H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery we are already preparing for the 2024 Wreaths Across America (WAA) Day, held nationwide on Saturday, December 14th.

How can you, your business, civic group, school, church or organization help?

Consider joining the Sponsorship Group Program at wreathscrossamerica.org and start a wreath sponsoring group today!

WAA offers two great options depending on your group's vision. If your group is looking for a fundraising opportunity, there's the \$5 Back Plan, for every \$17 wreath sponsorship, your group will get \$5 back.

The second plan gifts a third wreath for every 2 wreaths sponsored through your group to Saratoga National Cemetery, it's called the 3-for-2 Plan. A perfect option for groups not looking to fundraise but to simply be part of a meaningful community service.

Last year 16,100 wreaths were laid at Saratoga National Cemetery, for the 7th year in a row we were able to honor every Veteran interred in these hallowed grounds. This year our need is 17,000 wreaths.

There's no door to door selling, simply post your group on your media page, Wreaths Across America takes care of everything and we at Saratoga National Cemetery can't say thank you enough.

Gerald B. H Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery 2024 Veteran's Day Ceremony

It is with great honor that the Gerald B. H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery invites everyone to its 2024 Veteran's Day Ceremony: Monday, November 11th at 11:00am at the Cemetery Flagpole Assembly Field, 200 Duell Road, Schuylerville.

This ceremony is an honored tradition, held every year across our country on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of the year. It was this month, day and hour in 1918 that the fighting in WWI was officially stopped after Germany signed an armistice agreement with Allies earlier that day.

We are privileged to have as our Keynote Speaker this year, Ret. Lt. Col. Diana Clark, USAF. Clark was commissioned in 1988 as an ICU Field Nurse in the Army Reserves, after 8 years transferring to the Air Force Reserves as a Flight Nurse/Medical Crew Director.

Deployed in 2004 with the 379th Expeditionary Wing in Qatar, this wing provided intense mission, operational and medical support efforts for US and coalition forces in Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa. Completing 16 combat air evacuation missions during intense fighting in Fallujah and Mosul, Clark earned the prestigious Air Medal, awarded for single acts of heroism and/or meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight.

Clark completed her service in the USAF in Washington DC as Liaison Officer, coordinating air evacuation support.

Please mark your calendar, bring the kids, family, friends and lawn chairs! This special Veteran's Day program of Lt. Col Clark's story should not be missed. Come spend your morning as the day is intended, to honor all our Veterans.

As former President Ronald Reagan was spoke, 'Veterans know better than anyone else the price of freedom, for they have suffered the scars of war. We can offer them no better tribute than to protect what they have won for us.'

Upcoming Events...



Call our office to inquiry about listing your event

November 5th...Election Day—OFFICE CLOSED

November 9th... Veterans of Stephentown Veterans Day Ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park at 11am

November 10th...25th Annual Free Veterans Breakfast at Melvin Roads American Legion, 8am-10am

November 11th...Veterans Day Observed—OFFICE CLOSED

November 11th...Veterans Day Ceremony at Saratoga National Cemetery at 11am

November 11th...Veterans of Sand Lake Veterans Day Ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park at 11am

November 11th...Annual Memory Walk in Troy, starting at Monument Square at 9am

November 11th...Veterans Day Ceremony at Melvin Roads American Legion Post at 1pm

November 11th...Veterans Day Ceremony at Chandler Young VFW Post #8162 at 1pm

November 11th...Free car wash at Hoffman's Car Wash (all locations)

November 12th...Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony in the Legislative Chambers at 8:15am,

Kenneth M. Wilson-US Army-Cpl.-WWII

November 15th... Annual Pro Bono Veteran Law Day at Albany Law School 9am-4pm,

December 7th...Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

December 9th...Honor-a-Deceased Veteran Ceremony in the Legislative Chambers at 8:15 am,

Warren J. Winne, Sr.-US Army-Cpl.-Korea

FREE event for all Veterans, service members, and their families.

2024 ANNUAL PRO BONO
**VETERAN
LAW DAY**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15
9 AM - 4 PM

- Free legal consultations with licensed attorneys
- Free resources from veteran service organizations
- Free info on benefits, housing, business and law
- Free lunch (Noon - 1PM)




Albany Law School
2000 Building
2 Notre Dame Drive
Albany NY, 12208





Register by clicking this link or
by emailing probono-veterans@albanylaw.edu

WALK-INS WELCOMED

Program Partners

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THE JUSTICE CENTER

**HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED
A SALUTE TO VETERANS**



**NOV
10**

**8am-
10am**

VETERANS



FREE



BREAKFAST

**Melvin Roads American Legion Post #1231
200 Columbia Turnpike, Rensselaer, NY**

Free to all Rensselaer County Veterans and their immediate family members

Sponsored by Rensselaer County Executive Steven F. McLaughlin
and the Rensselaer County Veterans Service Agency

For more information please call 518-270-2760