



Veterans' Newsletter

November 2018

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform veterans of the various programs, workshops and services available to the veteran community, along with items of interest. Each issue will strive to keep veterans apprised of any changes in state and federal veterans' programs, along with events occurring locally. Your feedback on what you would like to see covered will always be welcomed.

News from the AD Works VETS Program

Veteran ONLY Networking Event at AD Works!

This monthly event is designed to place highly qualified veteran job seekers and military spouses in front of employers that are hiring. The environment is informal so that the veterans and spouses can be given immediate feedback on their networking skills, resume quality, and qualifications for the available jobs. It is less of a job fair, and more of an instructional job skill development workshop. The Networking Event for September will be held on November 30th from 9:30am to Noon at the Centennial offices of AD Works! Please contact Regional Veteran Employment Representative, Marty Bangert at 303 636-1253, to answer your questions and or to reserve a seat.

The Vets' Corner

The AD Works! Workforce Center has a designated area for veteran related information, to include, job fair postings, reading material from the various military related organizations, like the American Legion, VFW, and the DAV. Vets' can also find contact information for other resources in addition to employment opportunities.



VA News

Veterans' Caregivers get \$860 Million

By Dave Spiva

Signed into law, the VA Mission Act gives benefits to the caregivers of veterans from all eras. The VFW supported law will save money in the long run and encourage more people to serve as independent caregivers. The VA Mission Act expands caregiver benefits, which include a monthly stipend, health insurance, respite care and access to the VA Caregiver Support Program, to caregivers of veterans who served before Sept. 11, 2001. Before the law's enactment, the VA program was only available to post 9/11 veteran caregivers. To find out if you are eligible for the program go to:

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

Lawmakers Want Cannabis Research

By Stephanie Gaskell

Members of the House and Senate VA Committee sent VA Secretary Robert Wilkie a letter urging the VA to conduct medical research into the safety and efficacy of medicinal cannabis. The letter recommended that the VA focus on veteran patients with PTSD and chronic pain so providers can better understand the potential benefits or dangers of medicinal cannabis. Many veterans claim that cannabis is better at reducing and controlling their pain rather than prescription painkillers and opioids. Two bills have been introduced in the House and Senate, H.R. 5520 and S. 2796, called the VA Medicinal Cannabis Research Act of 2018.

VA to Provide \$200 Million to Support Homeless Vets

By Kayda Keleher

The VA plans to provide \$200 million in funding for its Grant and Per Diem Program to help end homelessness among veterans.



The funding is expected to support more than 13,000 beds for veterans in need across the country in 2019. Of the total, \$2.7 million will be awarded in the form of 12 special need grants to support homeless veterans with chronic mental illness, assist female veterans, and assist veterans taking care of minor dependents. This funding will go a long way to helping homeless veterans and their families at the community and local level.

VA's Decision Ready Claims Program is the fastest way to process a Claim

By US Dept. of VA Affairs Public Affairs Office

If you are submitting a claim for an increase in disability compensation or an initial claim, you need to know about VA's Decision Ready Claims (DRC) Program. Using this program, VA will deliver your decision within 30 days or less from receipt of the claim. The following steps will expedite your claim:

1. Appoint and work with an accredited Veteran Service Organization, i.e., VFW, American Legion, DAV, etc.
2. Gather all relevant and required evidence to support your claim, such as military service records and medical exams.
3. Attend a VA claim exam, if needed.
4. Submit your claim

Learn more about DRC by visiting [Explore.VA.gov](https://www.explore.va.gov)

In Other Veteran Related News

Knowing and Understanding PTSD

By Kris Galasso

For those suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), the world is an unsafe and scary place. Danger lurks in every corner and they are often unable to trust anyone. Many find themselves giving up activities that they once enjoyed because the anxiety and fear keep them trapped in a dark and scary place.

A graphic of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes, positioned on the left side of the page.

PTSD is a reaction that stems from trauma. The most common image that many of us call to mind is that of a combat soldier. The soldier has been overseas, faced combat and is now facing a series of adjustment issues as he or she acclimates to life at home. Inexplicable anger over seemingly insignificant events, such as road rage, can be indicative of PTSD. Refusal to attend events with large groups of people or discomfort in public can be another symptom. Flashbacks, nightmares, hyper vigilance and awareness are all the face of PTSD. PTSD is a family diagnosis. It is the entire family that is impacted. Do you or someone you know suffer from PTSD? You are not alone, 1 in 3 veterans suffer from PTSD and there are more resources and treatments available now than ever before. For more information about resources and treatments go to: <https://www.ptsd.va.gov>.

Honoring the Military Service of Native Americans

By MilitaryConnection.com

Plans are in the works for a National Native American Veterans Memorial at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC. The memorial will be built on the Mall. Congress approved the memorial in 1994, but did not authorize fundraising for it until 2013. The memorial is scheduled to be unveiled on Veterans Day in 2020.

Job Search Advice

Five Little Resume Mistakes that Tell Employers You Are a Risk

By Bill Branstetter

To the best of your knowledge, your resume is perfect. So why are you not getting the kind of responses you were hoping for? Check your resume for these all too common little mistakes tell employers you are a risky candidate.



1. You don't use a professional email address. Your resume makes the first impression of your caliber as a professional. When you use an email address such as angelofdeath@, or hotmama@ on your resume it directly reflects on your lack of professionalism. Your email should be as close to firstname.lastname@ as you can get.
2. You use a special email address for your job search. If you use an email address such as davesjobsearch@ or bobs.jobs@, it suggests you are on the job market so often that you need a separate account. Employers are looking for signs of stability and tenure. This sends the wrong message.
3. You don't include a phone number. You probably have a great reason for leaving your phone number off of your resume. Maybe you just want to be contacted by email. Unfortunately for you, top recruiters prefer to pick up the phone and talk to their top candidates. If the recruiter has a stack of resumes and yours is the only one without a phone number, you run the risk of being passed over
4. The position you really want and the position you are applying for are obviously different. When your objective statement says, "pursuing a cybersecurity position with the federal government", and you apply for a customer service job in the private sector, you come across as settling for any job you can get. The employer will know that you are going to keep looking for your dream job and will not be a long term employee.



5. You look like a quitter. Life happens. You started a degree program, ran out of money, and had to drop out, or you took the certification course, but can't pass the final exam. You place our incomplete degree or your certification courses on your resume thinking they will show employers that you value continuing education. But what you are really telling an employer is that you are not willing to finish what you start.

Your resume needs to send the message to the employer that you are professional, you are qualified for the position, and that you will be a long term fit for the job.

Significant days and observances for the United States Armed Forces in November.

November 10th – U.S. Marine Corps Birthday

November 11th - Veteran's Day



A vertical graphic on the left side of the page, featuring a blue field with white stars in the upper portion and red horizontal stripes in the lower portion, mimicking the US flag.

We are here for you

We view this newsletter as a way to talk to veterans and find out what their needs are. I, along with the other members of the Arapahoe/Douglas Works VETS team are here for you. If you would like more information on the veteran services available at our Workforce Center, please contact one of us:

Dave Alred DAired@arapahoegov.com
303 636-1596

Vince Columna VColumna@arapahoegov.com
303 636-1263

Lavade Lanier LLanier@arapahoegov.com
303 636-1302