



VETERAN TAILOR



Such a thing as a FREE LUNCH? American Legion, SVA and Sodexo Team Up to Honor Veterans

For the third year in a row, the American Legion Post 324, USI Student Veterans Association and Sodexo have teamed up to honor our veterans.

Sodexo will offer one FREE meal to all current and former military at one of their venues. At the Loft, veterans can receive their entree, three sides and one drink. At all other venues, the veteran will receive their entree, one side and one drink. This offer is limited to one ticket per veteran and applied to the

veteran only.

"This is a great way to honor our veterans on campus and



will allow them to participate in the free meals going on across the city without having to leave campus and classes to attend" said Joel Matherly, Manager of the USI Veteran Military and

Family Resource Center. Additionally, the on-campus American Legion Post 324 and USI Student Veteran Association will give out FREE gifts to our student veterans that day.

Students can receive their tickets for the meal and gift in the student veteran lounge from November 5 - 10 and at the student desk in the University Center West on November 11, from 10 am - 2 pm. This is limited to one per student while supplies last.

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2	FALL 2016
NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
1- Election Day	1 - Veterans Council Meeting - 6 pm - Evansville Coliseum
2, 7, 9 - USI Veteran Dental Hygiene Days - (See story on page 3)	8-13 FINAL EXAMS
10- United States Marine Corps Birthday	10 - Commencement
11- Veterans Day - (See special offers)	15-St. Mary's Mobile Mammography Day-HP1041
12 - Military Stand Down - Franklin Park - 10:00 am - 1:00 pm (See back page)	24 Dec - 2 Jan - University Closed
12 - Veterans Day Parade - Franklin Street - 2:30 - 4:00 pm (See story below)	
18-19 - Army Medical Command Simulation Center - HP Lawn - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (See page 3)	

Priority Registration Opens to VA Beneficiaries November 7th at Noon

If you are a VA Education Benefit recipient, you qualify for priority registration for Spring and Summer 2017.

This will begin on Monday November 7, 2016 and is available to students based on the number of earned and attempted hours.

Students given permission to register early through group affiliation will be able to sign up for classes via myUSI beginning on November 7 at noon.

If you have any questions regarding this procedure, please contact the VMFRC. This is

still considered a new program and we are aware that not all advisors are informed that students on VA Benefits receive priority registration. If you have any problems, please let us know as soon as possible so we can assist you in getting this completed.

YOUR VETERAN HOLD WILL COME OFF FOR REGISTRATION FOR SPRING AND SUMMER ONLY! You will not be able to change your current semester. This is your time to register, please take advantage of it. The VA hold will not be a factor during this time period.

This option of priority registration puts you in the front of the line for your classes. Please do not let this pass.

Because your time with VA benefits is limited, this ensures you get your classes unless you have additional holds at that time.

Please check your account and make sure the only hold you see is the "Veterans Administrative Hold". If you have other holds, please see those departments before priority registration so you have no issues at the time of your registration.



Mr. Joel Matherly, Manager
(812) 461-5302
jsmatherly@usi.edu



Mrs. Debra Mabern, Associate
(812) 461-1857
dlmabern@usi.edu

Did You Know?

INDIANA DISABLED VETERAN LICENSE PLATES

Disabled veteran license plates are the same as handicap plates in the State of Indiana. These are strictly limited to those individuals who have a serious mobility impairment due to a service-connected disability. Applications may be obtained from either the Bureau of Motor Vehicles or the Indiana Department of Veteran Affairs. The Indiana Department of Veteran Affairs must verify the veteran's eligibility.

USI Dental Hygiene Clinic to Offer FREE Dental Cleanings for All Veterans of All Era's Again for the Third Year

The University of Southern Indiana Dental Hygiene Clinic will provide free dental cleaning, fluoride and X-rays for military veterans on November 2, November 7 and November 9, 2016. This year, the USI Dental Hygiene Program has expanded its schedule to include evening hours to serve more veterans.

"In the past, these dental cleaning appointments have booked very quickly," said Joel Matherly, manager of the Veteran, Military and Family Resource Center at USI. "The huge response points to the need in our community for veterans to have access to this type of care. We appreciate how the USI Dental Hygiene Clinic has responded to the veterans."

The USI Dental Hygiene Program collaborates with Southwest Indiana Area Health Education Center (SWI-AHEC) and USI's Veteran, Military and Family Resource Center to offer the special clinic hours for veterans. USI Dental Hygiene faculty will supervise the students who will be working in the clinic.

Appointments are required and can be made by calling 812-464-1706. Proof of military affiliation and a picture identification is required.

The USI Dental Hygiene Clinic is located on the USI campus in the Health Professions Center Room 1040.

From the Desk: American Legion Post 324 - Mr. Pete Snowden



The House of Representatives passed the VA Accountability First and Appeals Modernization Act of 2016 Wednesday, a bipartisan legislation that would reform the U.S. Department of Veterans

Affairs appeals process and reduce wait time for veterans' claims.

At the press conference, the Legion, other veterans service organizations, and 10 senators and representatives from both sides of the aisle called on Congress to pass legislation to fix the

VA's broken appeals process.

Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., more than 450,000 veterans are awaiting claim appeals decisions and 80,000 veterans have appeals that are older than five years. By 2027, that will grow to more than two million if the process is not modernized.

Rep. Ryan Zinke, R-Mont., a former Navy Seal commander, emphasized the importance of the reform as a veteran himself. He stressed veterans are not just numbers, but faces.

The legislation is currently awaiting a vote in the Senate.

Community Stand Down and Parade Take Franklin Street

The Evansville Vet-Center is hosting a stand down day of service to recognize veterans contributions to our country. In partnership with the DAV, Evansville VA and other community organizations, this collaborative community effort will provide services to service members and their families.

This event will take place prior to the Four Freedoms Veterans Day Parade and will be held at Franklin Park from 10 am - 1 pm.

Following that event, the USI VSS, SVA and American Legion Post 324 will participate in the Four Freedoms Veterans Day Parade.

SVA was able to get the USI float again this year, but still need Student Veterans to ride or walk behind the float and hand out candy to the spectators. This event is open to families and is a first come, first served basis for space on the float. Sign up sheets are located in the VSS office.

The parade has a new route and will go down Franklin Street this year. Staging area is located in the Case Engineering parking lot 1:30 pm.

For more information, please contact Mr. Chaze Patrick in the Veteran Office in the Education Center or clpatrick@eagles.usi.edu.



Since GI Bill benefits typically expire after 36 months of use, the VMFRC office is constantly being asked what other options are available to students who exhaust their benefits.

I wanted to follow up and provide some additional information about upcoming opportunities in the student veteran's community with a special emphasis on the Fall 2016 Scholarship Cycle.

Student Veterans of America's National Conference, the largest gathering of student veterans in the world, will occur on January 5th, 2017 at the beautiful Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, California! The focus of this year's conference is "Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders". We are gathering a list of SVA Officers to attend this conference. If you are interested, please see us.

The Fall Scholarship season is here and SVA is awarding more than \$250,000 in funding to eligible student veterans everywhere. Read more here. Whether you are attending a Community College

or getting your PhD in Computer Science there is something for everyone. Visit <http://studentveterans.org/programs/scholarships> and apply today!

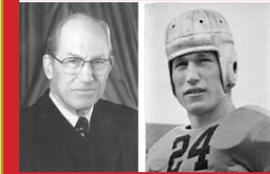
*The VFW/SVA Legislative Fellows Program is an exciting opportunity to earn college credit and participate in the democratic process by educating their legislators on the issues facing today's student veterans while receiving mentorship and guidance along the way. Expenses covered include airfare, lodging, transportation, and a per diem. Interested applicants can learn more at <http://studentveterans.org/programs/vfw-sva-legislative-fellowship>

Veterati is an on-demand mentoring program that features one hour sessions, fast matches, and short term assignments. These assignments can turn into separate long term mentorship arrangements, with a focus on quickly addressing needs and allowing exposure to many people. You select the person you want to speak with, make an appointment, and then have a session. Both mentees and mentors can participate.

HISTORY

TRIVIA:

Which Supreme Court justice is also in the College Football Hall of Fame?



Justice Byron "Whizzer" White

VETERAN HOLDS—Veteran holds are placed on the Monday following the 100% drop/add period and run until priority registration. They are reestablished after the PR period ends and will come off during finals.

PRIORITY REGISTRATION—If you are currently using VA Benefits (GI Bill), you qualify for priority registration regardless your academic alignment (Freshman—Senior). Plan you next semester before this date and schedule an appointment with your advisor.

VA CERTIFICATE OF ENROLLMENT FORM due EACH SEMESTER you plan to use benefits. Find this form at <http://www.usi.edu/reg/ssl/vaformlogin.asp>. Complete yours as soon as you register for classes.

VFW 1114 Dining Room Open to Public—Friday, Saturday, Sunday Brunch
Breakfast \$6.00 1st/3rd Saturday
Prime Rib 1st/3rd Saturday
Buffet Friday Night \$9.95

US Army Medical Command to Provide Training to Students



The University of Southern Indiana's College of Nursing and Health Professions and the Veteran Military and Family Resource Center is bringing a new innovative type of experiential learning to the students and community health care providers.

On November 18 and 19, the US Army Medical Command from Fort Knox, Kentucky will begin to offer hands on experience and subject matter experts in many fields to give our students an opportunity to gain valuable knowledge from soldiers that perform in their areas of military occupational specialties.

They will offer this unique training in the same environment that our service

members experience it. Mobile surgical tents will be placed on the lawn of the College of Nursing and Health Professions where students can tour, meet with these soldiers and ask in depth questions in their field of study. They will also be able to have hands on experiences in many areas to determine their skill level at that job.

"Students have often asked me about scholarships through the military that will pay for medical school where they would have an obligation to the Army, but have their school paid for, well, this is that opportunity" said Matherly.

For more information about these opportunities, contact James Ryherd at (502)423-7342 or james.w.ryherd.mil@mail.mil.

Become a Member of the On-Campus American Legion Post 324

The American Legion conducts many major programs and is a good way to remain active with your comrades in arms. Our Legionnaires participate in many community activities and is one of two on a college campus in Indiana. Like everything else, it lives off of participation and your help is needed. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month. Contact Pete Snowden, Post 324 Commander, at 812-464-1878.

SVA Help ITT Student Veterans Future Opportunities - *By SVA Media Release*



October 6, 2016 – Washington, DC – More than 6,000 student veterans were impacted by the recent closure of ITT Educational

Services, Inc. and now face the unexpected challenge of identifying a new educational institution to complete their degree. Student Veterans of America and College Factual are teaming up to help those veterans quickly build lists of potential future educational opportunities and make informed decisions about their next college or university.

Through the partnership, Student Veterans of America and College Factual have developed a free resource to help veterans navigate colleges and university options after gaining a thorough understanding of the veterans' strengths and interests, and comparing their preferences to colleges across the country. The program then matches veterans with a narrow list of schools ranked by location, majors, quality, academics, and financial information.

“We’re glad to partner with College Factual in this effort to help student veterans make informed decisions about their education. This resource will help many veterans as they consider their educational options, but it has become urgently necessary

with the recent ITT Tech closure and the uncertain status of Ashford University’s state approving agency approval,” said James Schmeling, executive vice president, strategic engagement of Student Veterans of America. “We’re standing by and ready to help those student veterans as they navigate the journey toward completing their degree. And with about 100,000 veterans entering higher education each year, this will be another resource in their search –

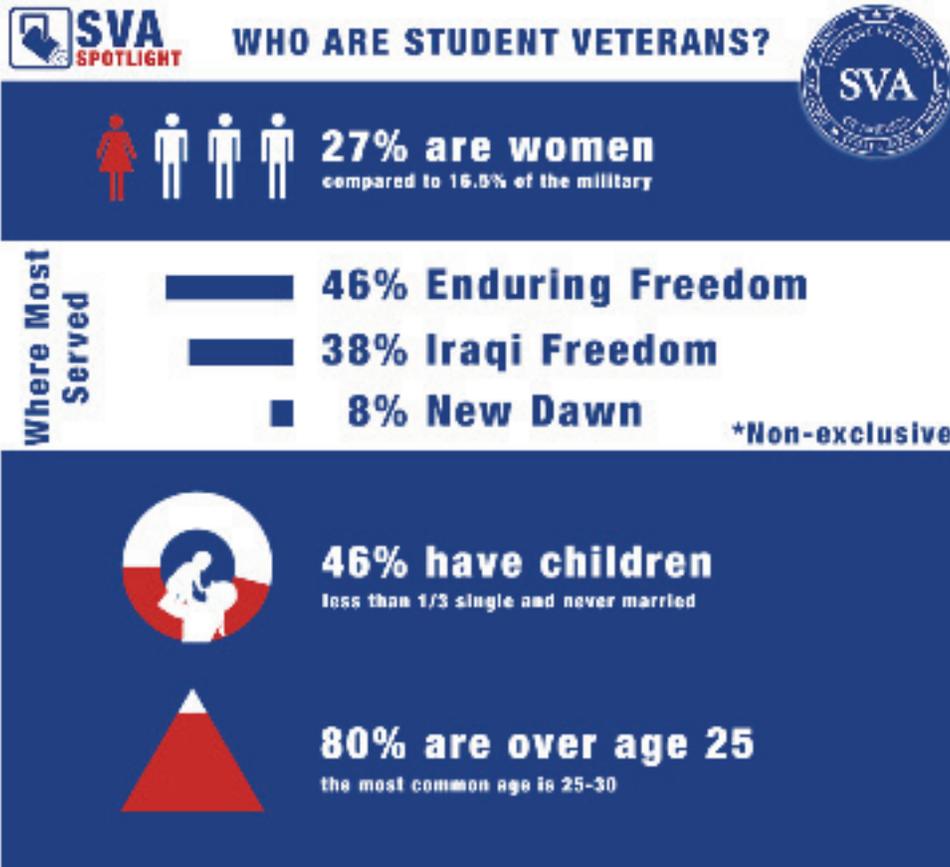
states with more than 123,000 active member veterans. The College Factual resource is available to all student veterans looking to make informed decisions about their education, and provides easy access to a Student Veterans of America advisor that can provide assistance or answer questions along the way.

“We are proud to support Student Veterans of America in their work assisting former ITT students to make solid educational choices,” said Bill Phelan, co-founder and chief executive officer of College Factual. “Through our joint efforts we are confident we can provide students with the finest choices available so they might continue their education and achieve great outcomes.”

College Factual provides the deepest resource available in the world today for insights on more than 60,000 potential educational

choices available at over 2,800 U.S. Colleges and Universities. These resources, along with the most advanced profiling and matching tools, enable Veterans to build the best “short list” of educational opportunities to focus on.

To learn more about the partnership and gain access to the resource, visit <https://collegefactual.clickfunnels.com/sva>.



one that is easily navigable, connects them to campus recruiters, and helps SVA help them in their decision making.”

Student Veterans of America fosters veterans’ successful transition from the military to higher education, while they are in school, and, as they become business and local leaders in American communities. SVA represents a network of 1,400 chapters on campuses in all 50

VA Offers Home Loan Guarantee Program - *By Curtis L. Coy, Deputy Under Secretary for Economic Opportunity*

Since 1944, VA has backed over 22 million home loans for Veterans and their families. The program provides a guaranty for mortgage loans made by private lenders to eligible Veterans. The guaranty backing effectively eliminates the need for a down payment, helping Veterans afford homeownership. No other major no-down mortgage program exists in the market today, and typically around 90% of VA loans are obtained with no down payment. As of September 30, we reached the milestone of over 700,000 home loans guaranteed for the fiscal year 2016. That 700,000+ figure is the most home loans guaranteed in one fiscal year in the history of the program.

VA continues to modernize the program, reducing time spent in the loan approval process while also improving the accuracy of benefit delivery, Veteran outreach

and communication. These improvements have allowed VA to maximize opportunities to promote the attractiveness of the program to lenders, builders, real estate agents and most importantly to our active duty Servicemembers, Veterans, and surviving spouses.

The VA Home Loan program benefit is not a one-time benefit-- it's reusable. VA loans can be obtained for up to the full appraised value of the home (100% loan-to-value). In addition, there is the potential for these loans to include up to \$6,000 towards improvements for energy efficiency, AND the loan funding fee can be rolled right into the loan balance. VA waives that funding fee for Veterans who receive VA compensation benefits, those who are service-connected disabled, but serving on active-duty, or those drawing retirement pay. Some surviving spouses are also

exempt from the funding fee.

We are proud to say that our VA Home Loan program can also help Veterans who are current homeowners. Many borrowers are now looking to take advantage of historically low interest rates to refinance their homes. Just 5 years ago, the average interest rate for a 30-year fixed mortgage was 6%; today that same rate is around 3.5%. Veterans can reuse their VA benefit to streamline refinance an existing VA loan, often with no money out of pocket. On these streamline refinance loans, VA requires no appraisal and no credit underwriting, which can be of great assistance to Veterans who may have suffered a minor credit setback, or whose home values may have declined during these past few years. Last year, a streamline refinance decreased the average Veteran's interest rate 1.4%, and saved \$202 a month in mortgage

FALL SCHOLARSHIPS

DEADLINE
NOVEMBER 4



Eli Lilly and Company Student Veterans Scholarship
One \$10,000 Scholarship

Google - SVA Scholarship
Eight \$10,000 Scholarships

LMI Student Veterans Scholarship
Five \$10,000 Scholarships

NBC Universal - SVA Scholarship
Two \$12,000 Scholarships

PNC Serving With Integrity Scholarship
Two \$10,000 Scholarships

Raytheon - SVA Scholarship
Five \$10,000 Scholarships

Rockwell Collins - SVA Community College Scholarship
Six \$2,500 Scholarships

The Walt Disney Company STEM Scholarship
Two \$10,000 Scholarships

For more info: bit.ly/svascholarships2016

ANNOUNCEMENTS & FAMILY EVENTS



ATTENTION all service members, veterans and family members of veterans:



STAND DOWN

WHERE: Franklin Park
2000 West Franklin Street
Evansville, IN 47712

WHEN: Saturday, Nov. 12, 2016
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The Evansville Vet Center invites you to join us for a day of service to recognize your contribution to our country. This annual Stand Down is a community event organized by your Vet Center with support from the Disabled American Veterans, the Evansville VA Health Care Center and other community organizations. A Stand Down is a collaborative community effort to provide much needed relief to our service members, veterans and military families.

A range of services, such as the following, are typically available free of charge:

- Clothing
- Benefits Counseling
- Food
- Hygiene Kits
- Haircuts
- Financial/Legal Assistance
- Spiritual Counseling
- Blankets
- Health Screenings
- Job Hiring Assistance

You may also receive referrals to a variety of other necessary services, such as:

- Housing assistance
- Employment counseling
- Healthcare enrollment

For more information please contact your County Veterans Service Office:

Eric McDaniel
Evansville Vet Center
Eric.McDaniel@va.gov
812-473-5953



Please bring your DD-214 or other proof of service for priority service



ARMY MEDICINE
Bringing Value...Inspiring Trust

November 18-19

USI Health Professions Building



OVER 200 YEARS OF SERVICE
EVANSVILLE - NOVEMBER 12, 2016

Please make plans to help us honor our veterans!

Parade starts at 2:30 pm

West Franklin Street from Pigeon Creek to 12th Street



Parade Chairmen: Garry & Tammy Hisel
(866) 511-8712

522 N. Khuemper Rd., Jasper, IN 47546

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/FFVparade

www.thunderboltclub.org

Family Fun activities prior to the parade:
Sidewalk Chalk Art
Face Painting Artist

SMILE WITH THOSE WHO SERVED

Announcing
FREE DENTAL CLEANING FOR VETERANS
November 2, 7 & 9

Free cleaning, x-rays and fluoride for all eligible veterans. Must bring proof of service. A medical history form will need to be completed prior to your appointment.

Please plan on approximately 3 1/2 hours being devoted to your care. If you have a medical condition that requires consultation with a physician, dental hygiene treatment may be delayed until written approval is received from your physician.

Call for details. Appointments required.
812-464-1706

University of Southern Indiana Dental Hygiene Clinic
Health Professions Center, Room 1040
8600 University Boulevard Evansville IN 47712

