



VETERAN TALON



USI Honors Veterans with Campus Activities

Please see the list of events both on campus and in the community surrounding Veterans Day.

Monday, November 5 - Thursday, November 8

USI Dental Hygiene Clinic to repeat free dental cleanings for veterans.

The University of Southern Indiana Dental Hygiene Clinic will provide free dental cleaning, fluoride and X-rays for military veterans on November 5, 7 and 8, 2018. In an attempt to serve more veterans, the USI Dental Hygiene Program will schedule appointments during both day and evening hours again this year.

8:30 a.m., Tuesday November 6 Children's Learning Center to host Veteran's Day Ceremony

The University of Southern Indiana Children's Learning Center (CLC), in partnership with the USI Veteran, Military and Family Resource Center, will present a Veteran's Day Ceremony at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, November 6 in the Griffin Center. The presentation will include the singing of the national anthem and reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance, programs from the CLC students, the presentation of colors and remarks from USI veterans.

Saturday, November 10 Four Freedoms Veteran's Day Parade

The Veteran, Military and Family Resource Center, Student Veteran of America and Army ROTC will participate in the 2018 Four

Freedoms Veteran's Day Parade on Franklin Street. The parade begins at 2:00 p.m. Read More below.

10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Monday, November 12

Free lunch for student veterans to celebrate Veteran's Day

The Veteran, Military and Family Resource Center and USI Dining Services will provide one free meal to all USI student veterans, for any on-campus vendor. Veterans can check in to receive their meal coupon at the welcome table outside of The Loft and next to the Sweet Spot in University Center West. While supplies last. Limited to one per qualifying student. See Page 2 for details.

Priority Registration Open to VA Beneficiaries

If you are a VA Education Benefit recipient, you qualify for priority registration for Spring and Summer 2019.

Registration is now open and is available to students based on the number of earned and attempted hours.

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.

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.

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.

Student Veterans & Families needed to Ride Veterans Day Parade Float

The Four Freedoms Veterans Parade will host the 9th annual parade on Saturday, November 10th at 2:00 p.m.

The USI VSS, SVA and American Legion Post 324 will ride the USI float again this year and will meet at the staging area in front of Fulton's on Franklin Street, west

of the rail road tracks at 1:00 p.m.

If you or your family would like to ride or walk behind the float and hand out candy to the spectators, please contact the SVA in EC 0114 as soon as possible so seats can be accounted for.

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.

For more information, please contact Mr. Alfonso Aldana in the Veteran Office in the Education Center 0114.



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Veteran and Military Services Supervisor
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Evansville Wartime Museum to Offer Special Days and Events

The upcoming Veterans' Day Weekend, Saturday, November 10 and Sunday, November 11 the Evansville Wartime Museum will offer free admission to the museum for all veterans in appreciation for their service to our country. There will also be a very special event at the museum on that Sunday.

There will be a book signing by the author of "The Medal with a Heart" a book about the Purple Heart and how it was created by George Washington.

The author, Karen Kulinski and team including the publisher Mark Thompson from Evansville, will be at the museum during the hours the museum is open on Sunday from noon until 4:00 PM. She will also be giving two short programs to talk about the book and her research at 1:00 and 2:30.

Back matter include author's notes, stories of the three Badge of Military Merit recipients, information on Continental Army life, time-line and notes on the modern Purple Heart, and a bibliography.

THE MEDAL WITH A HEART will be released in both book and ebook form on December 1, 2018, and is available now through M.T. Publishing Company, Evansville, Indiana, mtpublishing.com



Such a thing as a FREE LUNCH?

American Legion, SVA and Sodexo Team Up to Honor Veterans

For the fifth 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 without having to leave campus and classes to attend" said Joel Matherly, Manager of the USI Veteran Military and Family Resource Center.

Students can receive their tickets for the meal at the student desk in front of the Sweet Spot in the University Center West, 2nd Floor on November 12, from 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. This is limited to one per student while supplies last. Offer is only good on November 12th.



**NOVEMBER 10,
2018
PARADE BEGINS AT
2:00P.M.
ON WEST FRANKLIN
STREET**





Happy Birthday USMC
244 Years of Service to This Great Nation

Evansville Mission BBQ in Search for Singers

Mission BBQ, Evansville location is searching for an Active Duty Military or Military Veteran to sing the National Anthem for Mission BBQ on Veterans Day!

If you know of anyone that could or would want to sing it, please contact them. Lots of incentives come along with the gig!

You have an extensive list of military members that may have - the talent (range and volume), the williness, and the knowledge base to sing the Star Spangled Banner for Mission BBQ on Veterans Day. The contact for Mission BBQ is:

Alesha White
Community Ambassador
Mission BBQ
Evansville, IN
awhite@mission-bbq.com
812.629.3945

Please either canvas your contacts for an interested member or supply nominations to Alesha. I'm sure some if not all of you already know Alesha through her position as Mission BBQ's Community Ambassador. If you do not, you should - she is exceptional as the Community Ambassador Mission BBQ and is wonderful to work with.

I've added the qualifications as you can tell from the above request. That said, if those qualifications are considered I'm guessing that when it comes to their importance I believe this would be the ranking:

- Williness.
- Knowledge base of lyrics.
- Talent.



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 your 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

File Your DD214 for FREE:
Vanderburgh County Chief Deputy Recorder at 1 NW Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Rm 231
Evansville IN 47708
812.435.5215

Why This New Veterans Museum is Like No Other- National memorial and museum in Ohio honors and tells the stories of those who serve- *By: Retired Lt. Gen. Michael Ferriter -Military Times*

It was always written in the stars that I would serve in the military — at least if my dad, who spent 27 years in the U.S. Army, had anything to do with it. When it came to deciding whether I would attend The Citadel, Dad had two votes and I had one. That fateful nudge led to my 35-year career in the Army, followed by four fruitful years as an entrepreneur.

Now I have a new assignment that is a singular honor: leading the first and only memorial and museum recognizing the men and women from every state who serve, or have served, in every branch of military service. Established by an act of Congress this June, the National Veterans Memorial and Museum brings a deeper understanding to the U.S. veteran experience. The majestic structure in Columbus, Ohio, which opens its doors on Saturday, houses the stories of veterans and their families beginning with our country's founding through today, in wartime and peace, during and after military service.

Veterans need this place, and so does the country. While America has hundreds, perhaps thousands, of war memorials, we've never had an institution that showcased our stories of service and sacrifice as part of the whole picture of our lives.

Started as a passion project by John Glenn — the late U.S. senator from Ohio who also served in the U.S. Navy and the Marine Corps, and as a pioneering astronaut — this new museum was meant to replace the old Franklin County Veterans Memorial. But it grew in scope as the original founders heard from more and more veterans. They wanted a place that

connects America to its veterans and veterans to each other, somewhere the entire country could turn to in honor and respect.

You might expect such a museum to be erected in Washington, but Columbus — in what some call “the beating heart of America” — is a fitting home, accessible within a day's drive to more than half the country. Every state's flag proudly flies here because veterans provide a portrait of the nation.



The museum takes visitors through the familiar pathway every veteran has followed, yet experienced in his or her own way. One day, we raised our right hands, repeated the military oath and suddenly became members of the armed forces. When we deployed, we bid an emotional farewell to family and friends. We traveled to new places and met new challenges even as we were united in our mission. When we returned to civilian life — after two years or two decades — we remained a family, connected by our service, our dedication to country and the Constitution. We continued — and continue — to serve throughout our lives, whatever new, post-military roles we took on.

Walking the circular halls of the museum, one encounters the famous — George Washington, the late Sen. John McCain, the golden-age-Hollywood actor Jimmy Stewart — and the less well-known, like World War II vet Ernest Uno; Bonnie Vargas, founder of a nonprofit that assists surviving family and loved ones of those who died in service; and Jason Dominguez, chief of staff for Nationwide Funds in Columbus.

This is a place that aims to honor, connect, inspire and educate.

Veterans' stories will encourage a generation of children to serve and impress upon our fellow Americans the qualities that make veterans special: Our commitment, innovation, creativity, team spirit and refusal to quit, and above all, our love of this nation.

I hope the museum and its grounds will make veterans and their families feel someone cared enough to construct a magnificent tribute to their lives.

For my own part, I find inspiration and opportunities for reflection in the “ultimate sacrifice” exhibit honoring the fallen; in the sound of “Taps” playing on the second floor; in the meal kits and other everyday objects carried during service and the letters sent home; in the windows striped with colors of military service ribbons through history; in the stories of transition to civilian life; in the leafy Memorial Grove outside.

But my favorite part of the museum is the front door where the veterans walk through. That's what this museum is ultimately about: the people who've given of themselves to protect and lift our nation.

VFW Scholarship Helps Veteran Continue His Studies at Military College- 'As an immigrant, serving the United States of America is the most honorable duty one can have' - VFW Magazine



Juan Campana was born in Ecuador and immigrated to the United States at a young age. Entering the United States Marine Corps after September 11, 2001, he spent four years as a Combat Engineer. He served two tours in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom and at Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, N.C.

Once Campana retired from the military, he continued to work in other capacities for the United States government. Campana then enrolled into The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina and wants to use his Intelligence and

Security Studies major to return to work in the federal government after graduation.

As he was receiving a free haircut at Sport Clips on Veteran's Day, Campana heard about the VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" for the first time. When his GI Bill was exhausted two years later, he was recommended to apply by his campus chapter of Student Veterans Association. The scholarship has made all the difference to Campana's future.

"I cannot be more grateful and honored to receive this award. I am able to continue my studies at The Citadel. Without this, I would not be able to

graduate," he said.

After experiencing the transition from military to civilian life, Campana has advice for other service members and veterans considering pursuing education. "Don't be afraid to take a leap of faith in leaving the military. It may be a culture shock immersing yourself into a civilian role, but higher education is a nexus to veteran/civilian transition," he advised.

"Remember, self-improvement is the key to success and education cannot be taken away from you," Campana concluded.

Learn more about the VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship."

5 ways companies can help veterans transition to corporate America- By: Bryan Zawikowski, Military Times

Change is never easy in life, and one of the toughest transitions anyone can go through is a significant career shift. Not all career changes are created equally, though, and one of the most challenging can be the move from active duty military to corporate America.

I've also seen my fair share of mistakes from organizations that fail to recognize some key differences between someone coming from corporate America, compared to someone with a military background. As a result, I've assembled a list of five critical ways companies can help to transition military personnel into the private sector more effectively.

1. Don't ghost during the interview process.

Companies need to structure their interview process to be attractive to military personnel, who are used to people who do what they say and say what they do. That means when companies interview a military candidate and promise to follow up by a certain date, they need to follow through and stay in touch. While a disorganized interview process

may be the norm for traditional candidates, veterans are often turned off by companies they perceive to be fundamentally disorganized.

2. Have a thorough onboarding process.

One common characteristic many veterans share is a deep sense of pride and a fear of ever appearing weak. For that reason, it's critical for employers to create a clear onboarding process so that the majority of the "dumb questions" that might get asked are already answered. Beyond that, it's also helpful to provide a mentor for a new military hire that creates a safe space to ask any and all questions without judgment.

3. Establish a clear power structure.

Veterans are used to following rank and knowing exactly who they report to in every instance, as the alternative can be extremely dangerous. While companies in the private sector are rarely going to mirror this precision in leadership structure, it is important to clearly lay out direct reports to new military hires, who see this structure as critical to their success.

4. Lay out a clear career path.

While enlisted, military personnel know where they can potentially advance and anticipate promotions based on rank, time and grade. When companies interview veterans, they should lay out potential opportunities for growth within the company and set rough expectations for when these might occur. Veterans know that promotions aren't guaranteed in either the military or the private sector, but they want to know that growth is possible in any role they accept.

5. Avoid overpromising and under-delivering.

At the end of the day, military personnel are used to giving and following orders. If you say you are going to do something to a subordinate or get a request from a superior, the expectation is that it will get done. When working with a veteran, especially someone who is early in their transition to corporate life, avoid overpromising and under-delivering as much as possible. The more consistently a company can follow through on its commitments, the more likely they are to keep military personnel engaged in the organization.

WHAT'S THE WORD: EDUCATION BENEFITS

VA's GI Bill Comparison Tool is a valuable resource in checking priority enrollment for Veterans and service members

Being first is good. So is being early. For Veterans and service members, being first and early to sign up for the classes you want is possible thanks to priority enrollment offered at many colleges and universities. So how do you find out if priority enrollment is offered at your school? Use the GI Bill Comparison Tool on VA's website.

Also called priority registration, priority enrollment allows Veterans and service members to schedule their classes ahead of the general student population. Using priority enrollment can be as simple as sending an email request to the campus Veterans outreach office.

While Veterans and service members can be given priority enrollment, it doesn't mean they're allowed to register for classes before all groups of students. For example, seniors may be given top priority, followed by Veterans and service members. The priority enrollment notification on the GI Bill Comparison Tool will go live in late May thanks to the Harry

W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017, known as the "Forever GI Bill," passed by Congress last summer.

Getting the classes you want with priority enrollment. Priority enrollment is particularly helpful for undergraduate students. This is especially true for general education classes such as math or foreign languages that have many students vying for a set number of classroom slots.

Situations do occur where priority enrollment doesn't work, but those should be rare. As one hypothetical example, a student who wants a class to fulfill the requirements for a minor may not get priority registration because other students who are seniors need the class to graduate.

Open your door to priority enrollment. If you haven't explored your options to use your GI Bill benefits, you can start by visiting the GI Bill Comparison Tool.

You can see how you can leverage your education benefits for maximum value and look up the college, training school, or even apprenticeship program you're interested in attending. You can also see how much your GI Bill benefits will pay for and if you'd have any out of pocket expenses.

If you have any questions, please call 1-888-GI-BILL-1 (1-888-442-4551). If you use the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf, the Federal number is 711. You can also visit the Forever GI Bill webpage.

As always, be sure to also follow up on social media on Facebook and Twitter so we can provide other quick and helpful updates.

For more information, please visit us in the Veteran Military & Family Resource Center in EC 0114 or visit: <https://www.va.gov/>

Understanding Your Chapter 33 (Post 9/11) Benefits

If you have at least 90 days of aggregate active duty service after Sept. 10, 2001, and are still on active duty, or if you are an honorably discharged Veteran or were discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days, you may be eligible for this VA-administered program. Purple Heart recipients, regardless of length of service, are qualified for Post-9/11 benefits at the 100% level. Certain members of the Reserves who lost education benefits when REAP was sunset in November 2015, may also be eligible to receive restored benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Whether you want to apply your GI Bill benefits to college classes or an on-the-job training program, the GI Bill Comparison Tool will help you make the most of them.

If you have eligibility for the Post-9/11 GI Bill and any other GI Bill program you must make an irrevocable election of the Post-9/11 GI Bill before you can receive any benefits.

Benefits and Eligibility

For approved programs, the Post-9/11 GI Bill provides up to 36 months of education benefits.

If your release from active duty was before January 1, 2013, there is a 15-year time limitation for use of benefits. For individuals whose last discharge date is on or after January 1, 2013, the time limitation has been removed.

The following payments may also be available:

Monthly housing allowance

Annual books and supplies stipend

One-time rural benefit payment

For more information, visit www.va.gov.