



Veteran Talon

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA |
VETERAN MILITARY & FAMILY
RESOURCE CENTER

Veteran Parade

Saturday, November 9, 2019 - 2 p.m.
Franklin Street, Evansville, Indiana

USI Honors Student Veterans with Campus Activities

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

Monday, November 4 - 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 4-8, 2019. In an attempt to serve more veterans, the USI Dental Hygiene Program will schedule appointments during both day and evening hours again this year.

HAPPY VETERANS DAY

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. See Page 2.

Other great reads in this issue:

STUDENT VETERAN OF THE MONTH Anthony Farina - 2

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ROTC Scholarship Payments Delayed- 4

Friday, November 8, 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

USMC Birthday Celebration and Free Lunch for Student Veterans to Celebrate Veteran's Day

The Student Veteran Association will celebrate the birthday of the United States Marine Corps (Nov 10) with a birthday cake. A table will be set up in front of the Sweet Spot, UC-West, 2nd Floor to serve cake to students. This is open to all students and available while supplies last.

Sodexo and the Veteran, Military and Family Resource Center will provide one free meal to all USI student veterans good

at 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.

Saturday, November 9

Four Freedoms Veteran's Day Parade

The Veteran, Military and Family Resource Center, Student Veteran of America and Army ROTC will participate in the 2019 Four Freedoms Veteran's Day Parade on Franklin Street. The parade begins at 2:00 p.m.

Priority Registration Open to VA Beneficiaries

If you are a VA Education Benefit recipient, you qualify for priority registration for Spring and Summer 2020.

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.

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 OF THE MONTH: Farina Focusing Aim on Assisting Veterans



This year we are opening a spotlight on student veterans to celebrate their achievements and educational goals.

November's Student of the Month is Anthony Farina. Anthony is a member of the USI Student Veteran Association and is majoring in Philosophy.

Anthony began his military career in the United States Marine Corps and eventually continued his service in the United States Army.

Q: Why did you choose your major?

A: I have been fascinated by the teachings of ancient scholars most of my life. I wanted to know what set their thinking apart from the rest of the greats in history. I found the answer in philosophy. The answer, as I understand it, is to first learn logic. Then, search for truth using that logic. The search for truth is not something you arrive at, it is rather, the road one takes while pursuing truth which makes someone wise.

Q: How did service translate to a degree?

A: First, about 95% of electives were covered through various types of military training and schools. The military taught me the discipline needed to stick to scheduled due dates, backward planning, and pushing through the mental fatigue that is commonly found at the end of each semester.

Q: What do you hope to achieve with your major?

A: I want to use what I have learned, to write a book and create a blog that will help those struggling with depression, to defeat the suicide mindset. This is my way of giving back to society, by letting others know they have been in the darkness long enough, and it is time to return to the light.

The Student of the Month is a great way of showcasing our Student Veterans. If you know someone who should be considered for this, please contact our Student Veteran Association President, Mr. Alfonso Aldana (aaldana@eagles.usi.edu).

A poster for the Veterans 10th Annual Celebration Parade. At the top, the word "VETERANS" is written in large, bold, white letters on a red background. Below it, "10TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION" is written in smaller white letters, flanked by two white stars. The central image is a classic illustration of Uncle Sam, wearing his iconic top hat with stars and stripes, and pointing directly at the viewer. Below the illustration, the text "NOVEMBER 9 - 2 P.M." is written in white on a blue background. Underneath that, "WEST FRANKLIN STREET, EVANSVILLE, INDIANA" is written in white on a red background, also flanked by two white stars. At the bottom, "REGISTER YOUR ORGANIZATION WWW.USI.EDU/FFVP" is written in white on a blue background, and "PARADE" is written in large, bold, white letters on a red background.

Such a thing as a FREE LUNCH?

American Legion, SVA and Sodexo Team Up to Honor Veterans

For the sixth year in a row, the 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.

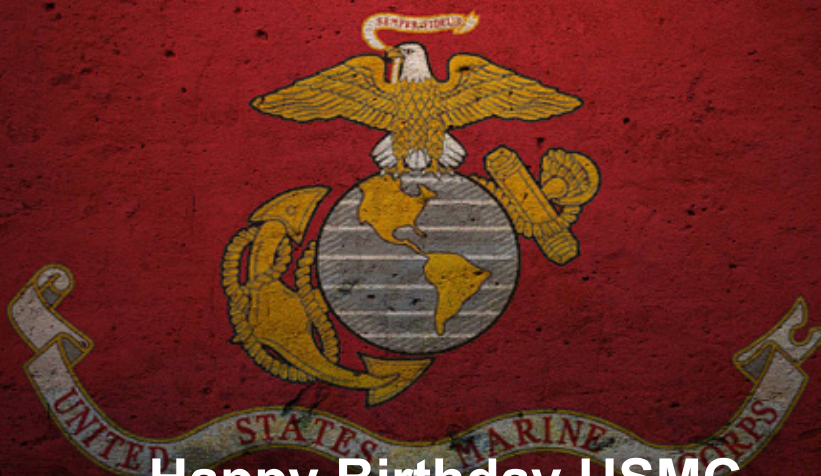
At the Loft, veterans can receive their entree, three sides and one drink.

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 8, 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 8th.



Happy Birthday USMC
244 Years of Service to This Great Nation

USI Veteran Dental Days Offer FREE Hygiene for Veterans of All Eras

The University of Southern Indiana Dental Hygiene Clinic will provide free dental cleaning, fluoride and X-rays for military veterans on November 4-8.

The USI Dental Hygiene Program has expanded its schedule to include morning, afternoon and 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.

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



Delayed Payments on Outstanding USACC Scholarship Payments

Due to the Continuing Resolution through 21 NOV, US Army Cadet Command (USACC) is constrained on the amount of cash they have to pay outstanding Scholarship payments. This includes tuition and fees payments to schools and universities, and room and board and book payments to Cadets.

Our Higher Headquarters (TRADOC) is aware of our shortfall. They are working to realign cash within the command, but as of today they are unable to provide all of the cash we need to cover our outstanding Scholarship payments.

For context, as of yesterday afternoon we had ~ \$52M worth of outstanding Scholarship payments impacting 3,000+ Cadets.

Unless and until there is an Appropriation, USACC expect to receive funding on an incremental basis, so we will process scholarship payment requests as additional cash becomes available from TRADOC.

Payments will be processed from oldest to most recent, with priority going to room and board and book payments to Cadets. However, for school that is causing a hardship to a Cadet because of lack of payment (preventing registration, charging late fees, not allowing to Cadet to graduate after Fall Term, etc. . .) , that is Commanders Critical Information Requirement (CCIR for us and we will prioritize payments to that school as funding becomes available.

Cadets may continue to submit payment requests through GoArmyEd.

Although payments will continue to be delayed through the CR period, all Cadets and schools will ultimately receive their due payment.

A similar message has been sent out to your ROTC Programs personnel (HRAs and PMSs) informing them of the current situation.

This will remain a fluid situation through the current CR period. We will keep you all updated as the situation develops.

If this effects you or to receive more information, please reach out to your individual Army ROTC



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USI selected to host The Wall That Heals in September, 2020 - Erin McCracken Merris

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) announced The Wall That Heals, a three-quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall and an accompanying Education Center, will be displayed at the University of Southern Indiana on September 10-13, 2020 as part of its 2020 season of exhibitions. The wall is being brought to Evansville by Rolling Thunder Indiana Chapter 6 in conjunction with the University of Southern Indiana. "We are honored to have The Wall That Heals on campus next fall," said Joel Matherly, assistant director of the USI Veteran, Military and Family Resource Center. "In the 25-year history of the wall it is the first time it has been hosted on a college campus. We look forward to sharing this incredible experience with our students, faculty, staff and local community."

USI was selected as one of the 35 sites out of 116 applications to host The Wall That Heals in 2020. The traveling exhibit honors the more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces in the Vietnam War and bears the names of the 58,276 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam. It will be displayed on the Quad at USI and open to the public 24 hours a day, including during the 19th commemoration of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

"The Wall That Heals mobile exhibit replicates The Wall experience in Washington, D.C. and provides veterans and their family members the chance to experience The Wall in their own community," said Jim Knotts, president and CEO of VVMF. "Hosting the exhibit provides the opportunity to honor and remember those who have served and sacrificed and offers an educational experience for visitors on the impact of the Vietnam War on America."

The Wall That Heals is generously sponsored by USAA and transported thousands of miles across the country each year through a partnership with the Truckload Carriers Association and the trucking industry.

More than 300,000 people visited The Wall That Heals exhibit in 2019. Since its debut in 1996, the exhibit has been on display in nearly 600 U.S. communities in addition to an April 1999 tour of the Four Provinces of Ireland and a visit to Canada in 2005. The Wall That Heals is a program of VVMF, the nonprofit organization that built the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. in 1982. The Wall That Heals is the only traveling exhibit officially affiliated with The Wall in Washington, D.C. and includes the largest Wall replica that travels the country. Two VVMF staff members lead volunteers on site, educate visitors and students, and ensure the reflective atmosphere of The Wall. More information can be found at: www.thewallthatheals.org.

About The Wall That Heals

The three-quarter scale Wall replica is 375 feet in length and

stands 7.5 feet high at its tallest point. With the replica at this size, visitors are able to experience The Wall rising above them as they walk towards the apex, a key feature of the design of The Wall in D.C.

Like the original Memorial, The Wall That Heals is erected in a chevron-shape and visitors are able to do name rubbings of individual service member's names on The Wall. The names are listed in order of date of casualty and alphabetically on each day. Beginning at the center/apex, the names start on the East Wall (right-hand side) working their way out to the end of that wing, picking up again at the far end of the West Wall (left-hand side) and working their way back in to the center/apex. The first and last casualties are side by side at the apex of the Memorial.

The replica is constructed of Avonite, a synthetic granite, and its 144 individual panels are supported by an aluminum frame. Modern LED lighting from the top of The Wall provides readability of The Wall at night.

About the Mobile Education Center

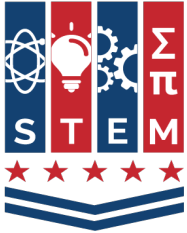
The Wall That Heals is transported from community to community in a 53-foot trailer. When parked, the trailer opens with exhibits built into its sides, allowing it to serve as a mobile Education Center telling the story of the Vietnam War, The Wall and the divisive era in American history.

The mobile Education Center exhibit includes: digital photo displays of "Hometown Heroes" – service members whose names are on The Wall that list their home of record within the area of a visit; digital photo displays of Vietnam veterans from the local area honored through VVMF's In Memory program which honors veterans who returned home from Vietnam and later died as a result of their service; video displays that teach about the history and impact of The Wall; educational exhibits told through items representative of those left at The Wall in D.C.; a replica of the In Memory plaque; a map of Vietnam and a chronological overview of the Vietnam War. The exhibits tell the story of the Vietnam War, The Wall and the era surrounding the conflict, and are designed to put American experiences in Vietnam in a historical and cultural context.

About VVMF

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) is the nonprofit organization that built the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall) in Washington, D.C. in 1982. VVMF continues to lead the way in paying tribute to our nation's Vietnam veterans and their families. VVMF's mission is to honor and preserve the legacy of service in America and educate all generations about the impact of the Vietnam War and era through programs, ceremonies and education materials. To learn more about VVMF, visit www.vvmf.org or call 202-393-0090.

Helping Post-9/11 GI Bill STEM Students Cross the Finish Line



Beginning in August 2019, the Rogers STEM Scholarship will provide up to nine months of additional Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits (or a maximum of \$30,000) to qualifying Veterans and Fry Scholars.*

The Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship is a provision of the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act (Forever GI Bill) that gives extra benefits to students training in the high demand fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Training in these areas typically requires more credit hours than other fields. The Rogers STEM Scholarship provides support for this additional training, offering students the opportunity to finish their STEM degree program or teaching certification with significantly less student debt or out-of-pocket costs.



Who is eligible for the Rogers STEM Scholarship?*

Students enrolled in an undergraduate STEM program

- You are pursuing a degree in a STEM field;
- You have completed at least 60 standard or 90 quarter credit hours toward your degree;
- You have or will soon (within 180 days of application) exhaust your entitlement for the Post-9/11 GI Bill program;
- Your postsecondary degree program requires at least 120 semester (or 180 quarter) credit hours for completion in a standard, undergraduate college degree

Students seeking Teaching Certification

- You have earned a postsecondary degree in a STEM field;
- You have been accepted or are enrolled in a teaching certification program;
- You have or will soon (within 180 days of application) exhaust your entitlement for the Post-9/11 GI Bill program

**Priority will be given to individuals who are entitled to 100% of Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits and to those who require the most credit hours. Yellow Ribbon may not be used with this extension. These additional benefits cannot be transferred to dependents.*

For additional information including how to apply, please visit the Rogers STEM Scholarship website at: <https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/fgib/stem.asp>.

Our Education Call Center is available at 1-888-442-4551 (Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. CST) for any questions about GI Bill® benefits.