

Dear Friend,

May 2015

As I am writing this letter to you, communities across our state and nation are preparing to celebrate Memorial Day. It is a time for us to reflect and remember. We certainly owe our veterans and brave servicemen and women a huge debt of gratitude for what they have done and sacrificed for all of us, our communities, our state and country. I know there are no words I could ever say that could do justice to convey the deepest gratitude and thanks to all of these incredible heroes.

Without the sacrifices of these brave men and women, and that of their families, none of us would enjoy the freedoms that we all cherish today. I would like all of us to take a moment to pause and remember these heroes. Take a moment to say a prayer for our veterans, servicemen and women, and their families. And if you can, please try to take some time to continue to show your appreciation and thanks to these heroes throughout the year.

You may ask, "What can I do?" It can be a simple act or gesture to say "thank you" or "we are thinking of you." Stop in and visit a veteran in his or her home in your neighborhood or town. Take some time to volunteer or visit our veterans at the Bath or Canandaigua VA. Teachers and their students can make cards or care packages for our veterans and troops serving in harm's way. It can be as simple as walking up to one of our many heroic men and women, whether on the street or in a store, and just say to them, "Thank you for your service and for keeping us safe." Information enclosed will also explain how you can get involved through the American Red Cross and other veterans service agencies and organizations.

Why are these little gestures so important to remember? Because these brave men and women are willing to lay down their lives for you and your family. We honor the memories of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice to keep us free and safe.

This brochure is designed to inform our veterans, servicemen and women and their families of an upcoming military and veterans event at Watkins Glen International and to provide information on available programs. If you are not a member of the military or a veteran but you know one, please take the time to share this information with them.

Once again, thank you to all of our veterans who have sacrificed so much to keep us safe. If I can ever be of any help to you, please don't hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,



Phil Palmesano

# Veterans' Path to Employment

## VETERAN JOB ASSISTANCE

### MY NEXT MOVE - FOR VETERANS!

Search, Browse, find Careers!  
<http://www.mynextmove.org/vets/>

### VETERAN JOB SEARCH RESOURCES

Helmet to Hardhats  
[www.helmetstohardhats.org](http://www.helmetstohardhats.org)  
**866-741-6210**

Troops and Teachers  
**800-231-6242**

Small Business Administration  
**800-827-5722**

Hire Vets First  
**877-872-5627**

VetBiz: Center for Veterans Enterprise  
**866-584-2344**

United States Department  
of Veterans Affairs Career Center  
<http://www.oefoif.va.gov/employment.asp>

New York State Jobs Express  
[www.jobs.ny.gov](http://www.jobs.ny.gov)

Military Hire  
[www.militaryhire.com](http://www.militaryhire.com)

### GI Bill Benefits

Federal On-the-Job Training and  
Apprenticeship Training benefits may be  
available to eligible veterans through the GI  
Bill. Additional information may be found by  
visiting [www.veterans.ny.gov](http://www.veterans.ny.gov)

### MILITARY BUSINESS OWNERS

Veteran-Owned Businesses  
[www.veteranownedbusinesses.com](http://www.veteranownedbusinesses.com).



# The Red Cross – Serving our Troops and Vets

## LENDING A HELPING HAND

Two critical Red Cross programs provide important services to our troops when they are protecting our freedoms overseas and help them find stability when they come home to their families and communities.

## EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM

Twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year, the Red Cross relays urgent messages containing accurate, factual, complete and verified descriptions of the emergency to service members stationed anywhere in the world, including on ships at sea and at embassies and remote locations. Even if the service member receives an email or phone call from home, Red Cross-verified information assists the member and his/her commanding officers with making a decision regarding emergency leave.

The American Red Cross Emergency Communications Center is available to help 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The number to call is as follows:

Call **(877) 272-7337** (toll-free)

When calling the Red Cross be prepared to provide as much of the following information

- Full legal name
- Rank/rating
- Branch of service (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard)
- Social Security Number
- Date of birth
- Military unit address
- Information about the deployed unit and home base unit

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Red Cross partners with all branches of the service through the Military Aid Society by providing financial assistance to military personnel, their families, and retired veterans. Eligible participants can receive financial assistance through a Military Aid Society in the form of interest free loans or an outright grant gift that can be used to pay for back rent or mortgage payments, utility payments, food, burial and funeral expenses, medical and dental expenses, vehicle payments and repairs.

Eligible parties include **a)** active duty military personnel and their immediate families, **b)** reserve and National Guard activated under Title 10, U.S. Code, and their immediate family members, **c)** a military retiree or spouse of retiree, **d)** widow(er) of deceased service members – active or retired.

For additional information or to apply please call **(877) 272-7337** (toll-free).

## GET INVOLVED

The American Red Cross is seeking volunteers to help active duty military personnel and veterans right here in our community. Opportunities are available in the following areas:

- Military Family Caseworkers
- VA volunteers
- Homeless veteran outreach
- Program Presenters
- Event Coordinators

There are numerous organizations in our region that provide volunteer opportunities in support of our local veterans. Please feel free to contact your local Veterans Service Agency, which is listed in this brochure. You can contact your local American Legion, V.F.W. or New York State Division of Veterans Affairs to find more ways to show your support and appreciation.

To learn how to volunteer, contact Jim Love at **585-241-4418** or visit [redcross.org/volunteer](http://redcross.org/volunteer) .

# HONORING OUR HEROES



*State Sen. Tom O'Mara and Assemblyman Phil Palmesano present a resolution honoring Philip J. Swaney of Schuyler County for his induction into the "Honor Our Heroes" Program*

Assemblyman Phil Palmesano is encouraging those who know a brave veteran to nominate them for the "Honoring our Heroes" Program. Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, a Distinguished Flying Cross or a Bronze Star Award recipients can receive a decal that shows a copy of the Silver or Bronze Star Medal and the words "Proud Recipient" of the given award.

- The Distinguished Service Cross is second only to the Congressional Medal of Honor. It is given for extreme gallantry and risk of life in actual combat with an armed enemy force. It is awarded to persons in recognition of exceptional meritorious service to the government of the U.S. in a duty of great responsibility. The Navy Cross and the Coast Guard Cross are equivalent to the Distinguished Service Cross.

■ The Silver Star, officially the Silver Star Medal, is the third highest military decoration for valor awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces. Justifying the award a veteran must have been involved in military operations concerning conflict with an opposing foreign force against an enemy of the United States.

■ The Distinguished Flying Cross is a military decoration awarded to any officer or enlisted member of the U.S. Armed Forces who distinguishes himself or herself in support of operations by heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight.

■ The Bronze Star Medal is the fourth highest military combat award for bravery, heroism or meritorious service not involving participation in aerial flight.

**Applications can be secured at Assemblyman Palmesano's District Office.**

ASSEMBLYMAN

PHIL  
**PALMESANO**

723 Legislative Office Bldg. • Albany, NY 12248

(518) 455-5791

105 East Steuben Street • Bath, NY 14810

(607) 776-9691

 Like "Assemblyman Phil Palmesano" on facebook

\*Feel free to contact me with any state question or issue.

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS FOR VETERANS ASSISTANCE

NYS Division of Veterans Affairs ..... 888-838-7697  
 Chemung County Veterans Affairs..607-737-5445  
 Schuyler County Veterans Service...607-535-2091  
 Seneca County Veterans Service...315-539-1798  
 Steuben County Veterans Service ..607-664-2528  
 Yates County Veterans Services ..... 315-536-5196  
 NYS VA Counselor..... 888-838-7697  
 VA Health Care Benefits and Services.....  
 ..... 877-222-8387  
 VA Information on Health Care Eligibility.....  
 ..... 800-929-8387  
 VA Education Benefits ..... 888-442-4551  
 VA Insurance..... 800-669-8477  
 VA Home Loan Guarantee ..... 888-244-6711  
 National Center for Post Traumatic Stress  
 Disorder ..... 802-296-6300  
 National Coalition for Homeless Veterans .....  
 ..... 800-838-4357  
 Bath VA..... 607-664-4000  
 Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery .....  
 ..... 607-379-0197  
 Canandaigua VA..... 585-394-2000



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ASSEMBLYMAN

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# Military & Veterans Appreciation Event At Watkins Glen International

in conjunction with Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen  
 June 25 – 28, 2015

## *Military and Veteran's Appreciation Day*

Sunday, June 28  
 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
 Lots 3 and 5 Parking Areas

### Offer Information:

- Military personnel and veterans will be admitted into facility free of charge from Lots 3 and 5 areas on Sunday, June, 28
  - Spouse/significant other will also be allowed into the facility free of charge
- Guests will need to show their Military ID at facility entrance in order to receive their "Free Admission." Veterans can show their DD214 or discharge papers.
- Additional guests who arrive with Military and Veterans will be able to purchase admission at gate entrance as well.
  - One guest will be admitted into facility free of charge with Military/Veteran person
- **Go to ticket booths at Gate 4A or Gate 5 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. on Sunday to receive complimentary ticket for military person/veteran.**

**THIS OFFER IS ONLY FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 28**

Please contact Rob Roessel with questions or for more information.

607-535-3351  
 rroessel@theglen.com

2015 Veterans/Military Bulletin