

Thank you to all of our veterans, active duty servicemen and servicewomen and your families for your courage, commitment, service and sacrifice. There are no words we can ever say or actions we can ever take that would do justice to the incredible debt of gratitude we all owe to you. Thank you again so very much, and may God bless each and every one of you.

Assemblyman Phil Palmescano



## VOLUNTEER TO HELP OUR VETS

The American Red Cross Military and Veteran Caregiver Network provides structured peer support to caregivers from all eras, all relationships and across all locations to increase connection, engagement, knowledge, skills and hope.

- 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 the New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs to find more ways to show your support and appreciation.

**To learn how to volunteer, contact:**

**Zachariah Riley**  
[Zachariah.Riley@redcross.org](mailto:Zachariah.Riley@redcross.org)  
**607-321-4015**

## 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's to Hardhats  
[www.helmetstohardhats.org](http://www.helmetstohardhats.org)  
**1-866-741-6210**

Small Business Administration  
**1-800-827-5722**

VetBiz: Center for Veterans Enterprise  
**1-866-584-2344**

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).

# NY Veteran Gold Star Families Can Enter NYS Parks For Free

Veterans and Gold Star Families who are NY residents can now get into state parks, campgrounds, day-use areas and historic sites for free through the expansion of the Lifetime Liberty Pass Program.

Members of the Lifetime Liberty Pass Program receive free vehicle entry into state parks, DEC campgrounds, day-use areas, boat launches, historic sites, arboretums and park preserves, free green fees at state park-operated golf courses and free swimming pool entrance at pools operated by state parks.

Benefits can be accessed by presenting a photo ID with a veteran status.

## Gold Star Families should apply for a Lifetime

**Liberty Pass at [parks.nys.gov/admission/lifetime-liberty-pass.aspx](https://www.nys.gov/admission/lifetime-liberty-pass.aspx).**

**1-518-474-2324**

# Do you have concerns regarding exposure to airborne hazards such as burn pits?

Did you serve or do you know someone who served in Operations Desert Storm/ Desert Shield (ODS), New Dawn (OND), or Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom (OIF/OEF)? This includes deployment to countries in the Southwest Asia theater of operations any time after August 2, 1990, or Afghanistan or Djibouti after September 11, 2001. Please consider completing your Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry exam, which is conducted in two parts: 1) the online portion followed by 2) in-person portion.

**Steps for completing the online portion of the exam are listed here:** <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/docs/exposures/Registry-Steps.pdf>

**For additional FAQ's:** <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/burnpits/faqs.asp> and <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/burnpits/>

Be sure to request the in-person portion of the exam once you complete the online portion. You can be scheduled by calling **Kerri-Ann Messecar at the Bath VAMC at 607-664-4609**. For additional information or questions, please contact **Kerri-Ann Messecar at 607-664-4609**.

# Expanded Eligibility for VA Health Care

Under an expansion of the **PACT Act**, veterans who were exposed to toxins and veterans of any combat zone since 9/11 are now eligible.

If you have never applied for VA health care, please apply. If you have been declined in the past, reapply and see if the new tools they have can help you.

## For more information, contact:

**[www.va.gov/health-care/apply-for-health-care-form-10-10ez/introduction](https://www.va.gov/health-care/apply-for-health-care-form-10-10ez/introduction)**

**Bath VAMC: 1-607-664-4000**  
**76 Veterans Ave., Bath, NY**

**Canandaigua VAMC: 1-585-393-7100**

**Rochester Outpatient Clinic: 1-585-463-2600**

**Health Eligibility Center: 1-877-222-8387**

A S S E M B L Y M A N

PHIL

# PAIMESANO

444 Capitol Bldg. • Albany, NY 12248

1-518-455-5791

105 East Steuben Street • Bath, NY 14810

1-607-776-9691

2 0 2 6 V E T E R A N S B U L L E T I N

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

# UPCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES TO SUPPORT OUR TROOPS AND VETERANS

## Veterans Stand Down

August 27

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Dunn Field:

546 Luce St., Elmira, NY

Military surplus items available while  
supplies last

Proof of Veterans status required

This is a free event

For more info, call the VA Fingerlakes Homeless  
Program: 607-794-3481

## Women Veterans Whole Health Retreat

September 10

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Camp Cory YMCA

140 East Lake Rd., Penn Yan, NY

This free event is open to women  
Veterans enrolled in VA Healthcare.

**RSVP by September 4**

Call Kimberly Robinson to register: 585-393-7520

Join us for a day of whole health  
activities including guided yoga  
imagery, openings are limited and  
RSVP is required.

## Wreaths Across America

December 19, 2026

Bath National Cemetery  
San Jaun Ave., Bath  
Noon

New York State Veterans Cemetery-Finger  
Lakes (Sampson)  
6632 NY-96A, Romulus  
10 a.m.: wreath laying for families.  
Noon: ceremony

For more information, go to:  
[wreathscrossamerica.org](http://wreathscrossamerica.org)

# Military & Veterans Appreciation Event At Watkins Glen International

in conjunction with Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen

**Sunday, June 28**

**8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**Lot 5 Parking Area**

NextEra and Watkins Glen International are offering the first 325 guests (veteran or military personnel, plus one guest) complimentary facility admission on Sunday, June 28 only.

**Offer Information:**

- The first 325 military personnel and veterans will be admitted into facility free of charge on Sunday, June 28
- One guest will also be allowed into the facility free of charge
- Military personnel 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.
- Go to ticket booths at Gate 5 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. on Sunday to receive complimentary ticket for military person/veteran and guest.

**For more information, email:**  
[racing@theglen.com](mailto:racing@theglen.com)

**866-461-Race (7223)**



2026 Veterans/Military Bulletin

A S S E M B L Y M A N

**PHIL PALMESANO**

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY, ALBANY, NY 12248

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## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS FOR VETERANS ASSISTANCE

- NYS Division of Veterans' Services..... 1-888-838-7697
- Chemung Co. Veterans Services..... 1-607-737-5445
- Schuyler Co. Veterans Services ..... 1-607-535-2091
- Seneca Co. Veterans Services..... 1-315-539-1633
- Steuben County Veterans Services..1-607-664-2528
- Yates County Veterans Services ..... 1-315-536-5196
- NYS VA Counselor ..... 1-888-838-7697
- VA Health Care Benefits and Services..... 1-877-222-8387
- VA Information on Health Care Eligibility ..... 1-800-929-8387
- VA Education Benefits ..... 1-888-442-4551
- VA Insurance ..... 1-800-669-8477
- VA Home Loan Guarantee ..... 1-877-827-3702
- National Center for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder..... 1-802-296-6300
- National Coalition for Homeless Veterans ..... 1-800-838-4357
- Bath VA ..... 1-607-664-4000
- Canandaigua VA..... 1-585-393-7100
- New York State Veterans Cemetery-Finger Lakes (Sampson) 1-607-379-0197
- Veterans' Crisis Hotline ..... 1-800-273-8255, press 1



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