



Hello fellow Routt County Veterans,

APRIL 2017 ISSUE

Spring has sprung, WOW, can't believe it is April already! Do your rain dance so that we get some more precipitation soon or it won't be called "mud season". Time to prep for upcoming summer months and many activities. In this issue I have included some events and info on how to sign up for some veteran privileges. I look forward to continuing to serve you in whatever capacity that I can. We will be celebrating a very spectacular Memorial Day weekend with many concurrent ceremonies happening across Routt County in May.

Please call me **970-870-5469** or email me at nbreitung@co.routt.co.us to set up an appointment with me and please continue to help pass on my contact info to other fellow veterans young and old in Routt County. My hours are as follows: Mon: 7:30am-6pm, Tues: 7:30am-6pm. For **EMERGENCYs ONLY** please call **651-226-4345** my mobile phone.

TOPICS THIS QUARTER:

HEALTHCARE

New Denver VA Hospital

I know that our veterans here in Routt are assigned to Grand Junction VA Hospital based on location. As a veteran you can go to any VA hospital in the country you so choose. Currently because we are rural veterans here we will get better care and quicker appointments at the GJ VA. Jim Stanko stays closely in touch and plays a role in what is happening at the State of Colorado with everything that affects Veterans. Here is an update from him, "All funding for the Denver VA hospital has been approved by congress so there will be no hold up there. Construction on the hospital is now 85% completed, with two of the buildings already turned over to the VA from the contractor. Opening is still on schedule for some time in the summer or early fall of 2018."

Veterans With PTSD

Dear Veterans in Routt, I am very aware that we have limited PTSD counseling facilities here in Routt County, two as a matter of fact. I have just recently been introduced to a woman who is a certified Psychologist and has great experience helping counsel many COMBAT VETERANS with PTSD. Her name is Sandra Ellis Papp. She is located out in the Clark area. She sees veterans at NO CHARGE and wants to continue to do so. I have asked Sandra to provide me with some references from veterans she has worked with, which she has. If you are a veteran diagnosed with PTSD, I ask that you reach out to her and schedule some sessions with her at your earliest convenience. She is a God Send that we need to utilize here in our community. Sandra Ellis Papp, MA, LPC.

Email: sandraellispp@gmail.com

Phone: 970-879-3522

Mail Address: PO Box 882525, Steamboat Springs, CO. 80488

Physical Address: 49525 County Rd. 129, Steamboat Springs, CO. 80487

EMPLOYMENT / EDUCATION

Cyber Security

Cyber Security jobs are becoming a very hot opportunity for separated military veterans. A lot of veterans come out of the military with some type of security clearance, and if not just being a veteran with an honorable discharge gives you a one up on the next person applying for the same job. Here are some steps of how to obtain a security clearance if you are hired by a company that requires one. <http://www.military.com/veteran-jobs/security-clearance-jobs/how-to-gain-security-clearance.html> With the event of online learning there are also a bunch of colleges that now offer courses in Cyber Security as well. Having a major or minor degree in this profession can be extremely lucrative right out of college. Here is a list of some of the top colleges that offer these courses.

<http://www.bestcolleges.com/features/top-online-bachelors-in-cybersecurity/>

Job Fairs

<https://recruitmilitary.com>

<http://jobfairsin.com/colorado>

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdle/jobfairs-events>

<https://www.eventbrite.com/d/co--denver/job-fairs/>

UPCOMING COLORADO VETERAN FUNDRAISERS / EVENTS

<http://www.thehomefrontcares.org/news-events/events>

<http://theveteransrally.org/>

<http://www.visitcos.com/events-calendar/festivals-events/salute-to-american-veterans-rally/>

<http://www.pprairshow.org/>

<http://www.memorialdaymarch.com/>

<https://www.gofundme.com/rocky-mountain-vets-emergency-fund>

SPECIAL PRIVILEGES FOR VETERANS

As a veteran and or a disabled veteran you are granted certain privileges and access licenses or discounts. In order to obtain the appropriate preference letter from the VARO certifying your eligibility for the following below, please make an appointment with me to complete a **Form CVA12**. This form is then mailed to state office and can take up to 3 months for you to receive the selected preference letter.

- Monthly VA compensation amount
- Commissary Privileges ID Card (DD-1173)
- Colorado Disabled Veterans License Plates
- Colorado Small Game and Fishing License
- Colorado State Park Pass
- Colorado State Tax Purposes
- Civil Service Preference Letter

- Civil Service Preference Letter for Spouse/Survivor/Dependent

TRANSPORTATION

If you are interested in being a volunteer driver for 2017-18 to help drive other veterans to their appointments, please email me so that I can add you to my list.

My current VTF Grant transportation reimbursement funds are depleted until the next awarded amount in July of 2017. If you make a trip to a VA please see the Pay Window to get reimbursed for your travel.

If you are a Routt County veteran needing transportation to either Grand Junction or Denver VA hospital or clinic in Craig please complete the online request form. You may find information, the forms that need to be completed and the request form at:

<http://co.routt.co.us/index.aspx?NID=507> and submit these forms to county VSO for reimbursement after July 1, 2017.

TOPICS OF INTEREST TO YOU

Please email me any specific topics of interest to you and I will do my best to uncover the latest up to date information possible of your topic and include it in upcoming issues of my newsletter.