

VETERANS VOICE

2013 KEWAUNEE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

The 2013 Kewaunee County Veterans Annual Report is now available. The past year brought millions of dollars of veterans' benefits into Kewaunee County. Benefits were increased over 2012 by \$1.3 million dollars to \$11.2 million dollars in 2013. The economic impact also was increased over 2012 by \$2.7 million dollars to \$15.2 million dollars for 2013. The total cost to provide these benefits to the veterans and dependents of Kewaunee County is less than \$5.00 per year for each property taxpayer in Kewaunee County. If you would like a copy of the report, you can stop in or call the office at 920-388-7198 or find it online at this link: <http://tinyurl.com/o6d7hjs>

10 VETERANS BENEFITS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT

Many veterans know about the basic health care and education benefits available to them through the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Post 9/11 GI Bill. While these benefits alone are substantial, numerous other programs help provide more benefits to veterans and their families. Even within the health care and education programs are little-known benefits to improve the lives of veterans and help ease the financial burden of medical care or other expenses. Here are 10 veterans' benefits you haven't heard about that all veterans should see if they qualify for through the Kewaunee County Veterans Service Office:

1. Aid and Attendance and/or Death Pension

Long-term care is expensive, but often necessary to provide care for aging relatives. Through the Aid and Attendance program, many veterans are eligible to receive money to cover the cost of nursing homes, assisted living programs and other long-term care options. With the ability for couples to receive up to \$25,000 a year, the pension will help take care of a significant portion of long-term care costs. Spouses of deceased veterans are also eligible to receive up to \$13,000 a year to cover their long-term care costs.

2. Caregiver Support

If you choose to take care of an ailing Veteran at home, the Department of Veterans Affairs offers a caregiver support program. While this program does not offer any monetary support to caregivers, they are provided with a free support line and a caregiver support coordinator to help navigate military benefits and the stress of care giving.

3. Death Benefits

When a veteran dies, families have a few unique benefits available to them. A U.S. flag may be requested to drape over the casket and families may request a Presidential Memorial Certificate to honor the deceased loved one's service. The Department of Veterans Affairs also provides free headstones or grave markers and free replacements for damaged headstones or grave markers.

4. Certification Programs

In addition to receiving credits to use toward a college degree, the GI Bill offers up to \$2,000 to help cover the cost of certification courses or other vocational training programs. This benefit will work well for veterans who wish to change careers or pursue a career path that does not require a college degree.

5. Transferring Post 9/11 GI Bill Credits

Unused credits through the GI Bill may be transferred to spouses and dependents of veterans. There are service limits required to transfer the benefits. This transfer must occur while on active duty.

6. WI GI Bill

There is a 100% tuition waiver for veterans and 100% waiver for dependents of veterans who have at least a 30% service connected disability. This benefit can only be used at UW colleges and technical schools, up to 128 credits.

7. Life Insurance

Many veterans have trouble obtaining traditional life insurance, particularly if they sustained an injury during their time of service. With the Service members' and Veterans' Group Life Insurance program, veterans may receive up to \$400,000 in life insurance through the program which offers competitive premium rates. 1-800-419-1473. www.benefits.va.gov/insurance

8. Mortgage Help

Veterans having trouble making their mortgage payments are eligible for repayment assistance through the Department of Veterans Affairs. Options for help include special repayment plans, loan forbearance and loan modification programs. Additional benefits are available for veterans with VA loans and homeless veterans. 1-800-827-0611. www.benefits.va.gov/stpaul/regional-loan-center.asp

9. VA Foreclosures

The VA maintains a list of homes serviced by VA loans that have gone into foreclosures. Veterans have the ability to search the list of VA acquired properties and purchase homes at a discount. You do not have to be a veteran to search the properties, but all properties qualify for VA financing. listings.vrmco.com

10. American Corporate Partners

American Corporate Partners connects veterans with top companies to help them obtain a job after their time of service. Along with being connected to job opportunities, veterans have the opportunity to receive one-on-one mentoring and other career development services. See this link: www.acp-usa.org

KEWAUNEE AMERICAN LEGION POST 29 BRAT AND BURGER FRY

Kewaunee American Legion Post 29 will have a brat, burger, hot dog, soda and beer stand at the Kewaunee Marina pavilion Sunday, July 20th, Friday, July 25th, Saturday, July 26th, and Sunday, July 27th. Proceeds are used to assist the Post and support programs within the community. Come out for some good food and beautiful weather. For more information contact Claude Stangel, Post Commander, at 388-2662

HEALTH CARE BENEFITS OVERVIEW BOOKLET

The new UPDATED version of the Health Care Benefits Overview booklet is now available. The booklet is designed to provide veterans and their families with the information they need to understand the VA's health care system and eligibility requirements, the health benefits and services available to help veterans, and co-payments that certain veterans may be charged. Also, inside you will find helpful information about the new Healthcare Law, also known as the Affordable Care Act (ACA), My HealtheVet, and obtaining clinical appointments. Make sure to stop in or call the office to obtain a FREE copy today.

KEWAUNEE CVSO AND MOBILE VET CENTER

COMING TO ALGOMA NIGHT OUT

On July 22, 2014 from 6:00 p.m. to 8 p.m., the Kewaunee County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO) and Mobile Vet Center will be at the Algoma Night Out event. Come out and see what VA benefits are available to those who served in the military and what the Mobile Vet Center is all about.

BUGLERS NEEDED

The Algoma Honor Guard is looking for Buglers interested in playing Taps at military funerals and other Veteran functions. There is an incentive, \$25.00 for each event, \$30.00 for each



Ed Sticka a WWII veteran, participated in the Badger Honor Flight experience on May 17, 2014 seeing the WWII memorial and meeting Bob & Elizabeth Dole were highlights. Tommy Thompson was one of many that wrote him a mail call letter. Ed is surrounded by his family and friends after his return. If you are a WWII, Korean, or Vietnam veteran and have not taken an Honor Flight, contact the Kewaunee County Veterans Service Office at 388-7198 for an application or go on-line at www.oldgloryhonorflight.org

bugler (two maximum) on Veterans Day, and \$50.00 each bugler (two maximum) on Memorial Day. The money is applied toward tuition for their continuing education after High School.

Please direct any questions to Marvin Dequaine, Commander, Algoma Honor Guard, at 920-487-2248 or 920-255-0612.

REMAINING KEWAUNEE COUNTY PARADE SCHEDULE FOR 2014

The parade and event schedule for 2014 is listed below. The uniform for each parade will be full uniform with tie, jacket and cap. If the weather is hot, we will usually shed the jacket and tie. Bring everything to each parade so that you will not be out of uniform. If you do not have a uniform, wear your military uniform or white shirt and black or dark blue pants. If you served in the military, you are welcome to march, membership in a service organization is not necessary, but encouraged. If you cannot march, vehicles are provided to ride along. Plan on being at each event at least 1/2 hour before the parade starts. Come out and support your comrades.

July 20th	Sunday	Luxemburg - Fair Parade	11:00 AM
August 9th	Saturday	Algoma Shanty Days	12:00 Noon
August 17th	Sunday	Casco Lions	11:00 AM

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 21	Luxemburg	American Legion Post 262 and American Legion Auxiliary (3rd Mon)	7:00 p.m. 365-6155
July 22	Algoma	Night Out - Mobile Vet Center and Kewaunee County Veterans Service Officer	6:00 p.m. 388-7198
July 17-20	American Legion State Convention	Radisson Hotel, Appleton, WI	
July 20, 25-27	American Legion Brat, Burger, and Hot Dog Fry	hosted during the Kewaunee Salmon Tournament at the Kewaunee Marina Pavilion	388-2662
Aug 2	American Legion Auxiliary Fund Raiser	at IGA in Luxemburg	845-5033
Aug 5	Kewaunee American Legion Post 29	(1st Tue) 7:30 p.m.	388-2662
Aug 7	Kewaunee VFW Post 3392	(1st Thur) 7:30 p.m.	388-0217
Aug 11	Casco American Legion Post 319	(2nd Mon) 6:30 p.m.	255-3344
Aug 13	Robinson American Legion Post 538	(2nd Wed) 8:00 p.m.	776-1136
Aug 18	Luxemburg	American Legion Post 262 and American Legion Auxiliary (3rd Mon)	7:00 p.m. 365-6155

Paradise Estates LLC would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our Veterans and their spouses and to offer assistance in receiving your full benefits you deserve for any assisted living needs you or your spouse have earned.

Thank you,
Mike & Kathy Paral

★ APARTMENTS NOW AVAILABLE! ★

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Wed Baked Chicken Special July 30, Aug 6

Sat & Sun Family Style Chicken \$8.25

FRIDAY FISH SPECIALS
 Wed - Friday Happy Hour 3-6:30
TROUT BOIL July 25, Aug 1

THURSDAY \$1.25 Burger
\$1.50 Cheeseburger

Summer Hours
 Sunday 11-close • Monday-Tuesday Closed
 Wednesday - Saturday 3-close

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Kewaunee County Veterans Organizations, their Auxiliaries, and the Sons of American Legion Want You!

AMERICAN LEGION

- Kewaunee Post 29
- Algoma Post 236
- Luxemburg Post 262
- Casco Post 319
- Carlton Post 538

VFW

Kewaunee Post 3392

AMVETS

Kewaunee County Post 42

SQUADRON POST 538

Sons of the American Legion



To apply or obtain more information, contact **Joe Aulik** at the County Veterans Service Office at 388-7198 or e-mail at aulikj@kewauneeco.org to sign up for the veteran benefit e-mail list to keep up-to-date on benefits. Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/KewauneeCVSO.