



Veterans Affairs Committee

Tuesday, October 1, 2024 2:30PM

40 McMaster Street, Ballston Spa, NY

Chair: Ian Murray

Members: J.D. Arnold VC, Dave Ball, Bill Peck, Sandra Winney

Agenda

- I. Welcome and Attendance
- II. Approval of the minutes of the May 8, 2024 meeting
- III. Veterans Service Agency Report
- IV. Veterans Trust Fund Update
- V. Upcoming Honor Deceased Veterans Ceremonies
- VI. Other Business
- VII. Adjournment



SARATOGA COUNTY AGENDA ITEM REQUEST

TO: Steve Bulger, County Administrator
Ridge Harris, Deputy County Administrator
George Conway, County Attorney
Therese Connolly, Clerk of the Board
Stephanie Hodgson, Director of Budget

CC: John Warmt, Director of Purchasing
Jason Kemper, Director of Planning and Economic Development
Bridget Rider, Deputy Clerk of the Board
Matt Rose, Management Analyst
Audra Hedden, County Administrator's Office
Samantha Kupferman, County Attorney's Office

DEPARTMENT: Veterans Service Agency

DATE: 9/26/24

COMMITTEE: Veterans' Affairs



This column must be completed prior to submission of the request.

County Attorney's Office
Consulted

1. Is a Resolution Required:
2. Proposed Resolution Title:
Veterans Service Agency Report
3. Specific Details on what the resolution will authorize:

4. Is a Budget Amendment needed: YES or NO
If yes, budget lines and impact must be provided.
Any budget amendments must have equal and offsetting entries.

County Administrator's Office
Consulted Yes

Please see attachments for impacted budget lines.
(Use ONLY when more than four lines are impacted.)

Revenue

Account Number	Account Name	Amount
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Expense

Account Number	Account Name	Amount
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Fund Balance (if applicable): (Increase = additional revenue, Decrease = additional expenses)

Amount:

5. Identify Budget Impact (**Required**):

- a. G/L line impacted
- b. Budget year impacted
- c. Details

6. Are there Amendments to the Compensation Schedule?

YES or NO (If yes, provide details)

a. Is a new position being created? Y N

Effective date

Salary and grade

b. Is a new employee being hired? Y N

Effective date of employment

Salary and grade

Appointed position:

Term

c. Is this a reclassification? Y N

Is this position currently vacant? Y N

Is this position in the current year compensation plan? Y N

Human Resources Consulted

7. Does this item require the awarding of a contract: Y N

a. Type of Solicitation

b. Specification # (BID/RFP/RFQ/OTHER CONTRACT #)

c. If a sole source, appropriate documentation, including an updated letter, has been submitted and approved by Purchasing Department? Y N N/A

d. Vendor information (including contact name):

e. Is the vendor/contractor an LLC, PLLC, or partnership:

f. State of vendor/contractor organization:

g. Commencement date of contract term:

h. Termination of contract date:

i. Contract renewal date and term:

k. Is this a renewal agreement: Y N

l. Vendor/Contractor comment/remarks:

Purchasing Office Consulted

County Administrator's Office
Consulted

8. Is a grant being accepted: YES or NO

a. Source of grant funding:

b. Agency granting funds:

c. Amount of grant:

d. Purpose grant will be used for:

e. Equipment and/or services being purchased with the grant:

f. Time period grant covers:

g. Amount of county matching funds:

h. Administrative fee to County:

9. Supporting Documentation:

Marked-up previous resolution

No Markup, per consultation with County Attorney

Information summary memo

Copy of proposal or estimate

Copy of grant award notification and information

Other Copy of Report

10. Remarks:
Activity Report

May-July 2024 – Veterans Committee Report

1. Veteran Service Officer Summary Report

- a. 225 Claim Forms submitted for May-July
- b. Conducted scheduled appts :31-May, 36-June, 37-July, 37- Aug, 34-Sept
- c. Walk In's: 29-May, 41-June, 44-July 53-Aug, 48-Sept
- d. DSS Referrals: 16
- e. Local Assessor inquiries: 0
- f. Records Request: 35

2. Veterans Events and Trainings Attended

- a. 5/9- VA Virtual Training
- b. 5/10-5/18 NCVSO Conference
- c. 5/14 Virtual Town Hall
- d. 5/17- Senior Lunch assist
- e. 5/21- Chaleng Meeting VA
- f. 5/24- Outreach @ Commissary
- g. 5/28- Paul O'Keefe Induction
- h. 5/28- VSO Conference
- i. 6/8- Halfmoon Veterans Breakfast
- j. 6/10- AUSA Golf Tournament
- k. 6/13- VA Virtual Training
- l. 6/14- Mental Health 1st Aid Training
- m. 6/21- Benefits Review Class
- n. 7/9- Gansevoort Farmers Market
- o. 7/11- VA Virtual Training
- p. 7/12- Benefits Review Class
- q. 7/12- Hadley Veterans Visit
- r. 7/18- Greenfield Farmers Market
- s. 7/23-7/26 Saratoga County Fair Week
- t. 7/28- Battlefield Tour and BBQ
- u. 8/8- VA Virtual Training
- v. 8/16- Benefits Review Class
- w. 8/22- Military Day at Track
- x. 9/6- Senior Picnic Assist
- y. 9/12- VA Virtual Training
- z. 9/19- VCHC Meeting
- aa. 9/20- Benefits Review Class
- bb. 9/26- Car Award Ceremony

3. Saratoga County Veterans Transportation

- a. Van transportation provided May:43 June:36 July:27 Aug: 39 Sept: 39

4. Peer to Peer Summary

- a. Coffee Hour at: Bubbles(Mechanicville) & Old Saratoga Eatery (Schuylerville) & Lakeside Farms (Ballston Lake)
- b. See Attached calendars for Monthly events

MAY

RSVP TO ERIN FOR ALL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND.
ECASSIDY@SARATOGACOUNTYNY.GOV OR 518-884-4999 OR 518-605-2899

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1st Coffee Hour Bubbles	2nd	3rd MWR's FREE Comedy Event	4th Women in War Symposium
5th	6th New Member Briefing & Mentor Training	7th Nutrition Class Mediterranean Diet & Heart Health	8th Coffee Hour & Self Defense Class	9th Book Club & Chorus	10th	11th Elevance Health Volunteer Day w/ THS
12th Happy Mother's Day	13th Incarceration Program & Guest Speaker from Homeward Bound!	14th Fireside Chat w/ Schoharie County & Mental Health Training	15th Coffee Hour Bubbles	16th	17th Round Table Discussion BHBL Hight School	18th Town of Malta Parade
19th	20th Incarceration Program	21st	22nd Coffee Hour Bubbles & Book Club	23rd Chorus	24th	25th Volunteer Opportunity Flag Placement National Cemetery
26th	27th Office Closed Memorial Day	28th MST Support Group & Free Rabies Clinic	29th Coffee Hour Bubbles	30th	31st	

May 1st – 31st We will be continuing our Book Club This month we will be reading *Masters of the Air* by Donald L. Miller again because this book is a larger book. We are all out of books. Sorry for the inconvenience. All Veterans are welcome to join our book club at any time. Book Club will be meeting on **May 9th & 22nd at 12pm** via Zoom to discuss what we've read so far. I will send out the link when it gets closer. **Book Club is for Veterans only please.**

May 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th Coffee Hour at a NEW LOCATION! Every Wednesday from 8-9:30am Veterans can join us for breakfast at Bubbles Restaurant 150 S Central Ave. Mechanicville, NY 12118. We will be at this location for April, May, and June. **This is a Veterans only event!**

May 3rd Join NSF Saratoga Springs MWR and Gov X on Friday, May 3rd from 6-8pm at the Field House on base (19 JF King Dr. Saratoga Springs) for a comedic spin on the ancient art of magic. This is a FREE Comedy event **for Veterans, their significant others, and their teens.** Please no children under the age of 15. No need to register or RSVP just come a few minutes early to get your seat. There is no guard at the guard shack. Just drive through to the Field House. If you have a valid military ID, retiree ID, spouse/dependent ID, or a Veteran ID please bring it. If not, meet me outside the Field House at the front door and I will be your sponsor. Please see the flyer for more details.

May 6th New Member Briefing **for any Veterans** who are interested in learning more about our Veterans Peer Connection Program. The briefing will be given at our office, 2144 Doubleday Ave. Ballston Spa. Contact Erin to set up a time. Mentor Training will also be given this day. If you are interested in becoming a Mentor or if you are already a Mentor and would like a refresher please contact Erin to set up a time. See the flyer for more details.

May 7th Nutrition Presentation: Mediterranean Diet & Heart Health presented by Cornell Cooperative Extension. The presentation will start promptly at 5:30pm here at our office, 2144 Doubleday Ave. Ballston Spa. RSVPs are needed for this event by May 3rd. If you have questions or would like to RSVP contact Erin. This presentation is **open to all Veterans plus one guest.**

May 8th Self Defense Class - Join us on Wednesday, May 8th for an empowering self-defense class exclusively for veterans. The 1-hour class will consist of a classroom portion and a physically active portion where you'll have the opportunity to practice and apply what you've learned. **All veterans are welcome:** Whether you have prior experience in self-defense or are a complete beginner, this class is open to veterans of all skill levels. We will make necessary modifications for veterans with physical disabilities. The class will start promptly at 6:45 PM. Please arrive by 6:30pm. We'll be meeting at Battleground Fitness: 426 Maple Ave Unit 3, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Wear comfortable clothing that allows for ease of movement. We recommend athletic shoes and bringing a water bottle. You must RSVP for this class no later than May 6th and it is limited to 20 participants. A waiver is also required to attend the class.

May 9th & 23rd Our friends, the Saratoga Veterans Chorus will be meeting at Post #70 American Legion 34 West Ave. Saratoga Springs at 7pm for rehearsal. **All Veterans are welcome to join them,** no experience necessary. Spread the word! Please see the flyer for details.

May 10th Caregiver Appreciation Event – More information will follow soon.

May 11th Volunteer Opportunity! Jonathan Ciprian is organizing a volunteer day at Therapeutic Horses of Saratoga 683 RT 29 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. The volunteer day is for the wonderful folks at Blue

Cross/Blue Shield and their associates from the Latham office! This is an opportunity for us to come together and show folks what THS does for Veterans. If you would like to attend to speak about what THS has done for you or attend as a participant with your family, you are welcome. The event date is Saturday, May 11th and there are 2 shift times available. Please RSVP to Erin with the shift you would like to attend. Shift 1: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM or Shift 2: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM. **Age Requirement: All ages - THS will have kid-friendly volunteer projects suitable for ages 5 and above.**

May 13th & 20th (because the 27th is a holiday and our office will be closed) Incarceration Program 1pm. Contact Erin to learn more. May 3rd & 17th (females only)

May 13th Guest Speaker Night! Join us here at the office for a presentation given by James from Homeward Bound. Homeward Bound offers specialized services to include: Suicide Prevention, Nature Retreats, Peer Mentoring, Crises Outreach, Screening and Assessments, Case Management, Linkage and Transportation, Referral Services, and more. Please RSVP for this presentation as I will need a head count for dinner and drinks. Thank you!

May 14th Schenectady County has invited us to participate in their Mental Health First Aid training at the Schenectady Public Library. This is an all day, in person class. It is **open to Veterans only**. Please see the flyer for more details.

May 14th Schoharie County has invited us to their Fireside Chat. They will supply the seating, the wood, and veterans from their county. If you would like to join them for a fireside chat please RSVP to Erin and I'll send you more info. This is an evening event **open to all veterans**.

May 18th Town of Malta Military, Veterans & First Responders 14th Annual Appreciation Parade. The Town of Malta Veterans Committee has a special salute to the military and first responders by holding their annual parade on Saturday, May 18, 2024 – “Armed Forces Day” and we hope they can count on you to make it a successful event. They will start at Town Hall and travel south to the roundabout. They will then travel north on rt 9 and make a left on Bayberry to end the Parade at The Malta Community Center. They are reaching out to the community, military and families of veterans, groups and organizations, troop and military family support groups to join us.

May 25th Volunteer Opportunity! Join us on Saturday, May 25th at the Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery 200 Duell Rd. Schuylerville, NY 12871 to help place the flags before the ceremony. We will be meeting at **SECTION 12!** The cemetery map is attached. If you can stay for the ceremony afterwards to honor and remember the brave souls who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country, that will start at 11am. Arrive early for parking.

May 28th If you have experienced military sexual trauma (MST) and would like to join our support group contact Erin for more details. **This is for Veterans only;** males and females are welcome.

Lastly, we have **FREE workout clothing** here at the office for anyone who would like a few items. Just drop in during business hours to pick out your size. We have Men's sizes sm, md, lg left and Women's size lg only.

JUNE

RSVP TO ERIN FOR ALL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND.
ECASSIDY@SARATOGACOUNTYNY.GOV OR 518-884-4999 OR 518-605-2899

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2nd Mini Golf & Icecream	3rd	4th New Member Briefing & Mentor Training	5th Coffee Hour at Bubbles	6th	7th Monster Truck Show	8th Upstate NY Outdoor Expo
9th Upstate NY Outdoor Expo	10th Incarceration Program	11th	12th Coffee Hour at Bubbles & Women Veteran Recognition Day	13th Chorus FREE Baseball Game in Albany	14th Mental Health First Aid Awareness Training	15th
16th	17th	18th	19th Coffee Hour at Bubbles	20th	21st Benefits Review	22nd Paintball Event!
23rd	24th Incarceration Program	25th MST Support Group	26th Coffee Hour at Bubbles	27th Chorus	28th	29th JAZZ Festival at SPAC
30th JAZZ Festival at SPAC				July 4th Office Closed		

All RSVPs should be made to Erin at ecassidy@saratogacountyny.gov or 518-884-4999

For the month of June we will be taking a break from our **Book Club** for folks to finish reading **Masters of the Air**. We will continue **Book Club** in July with a new book.

Sunday, June 2nd Join us for a round of **Mini Golf and an ice cream**. Meet at the Wind-Chill Factory, 3 Trieble Ave. Ballston Spa around 10:30am. We will play one round of mini golf starting at 10:45am and then enjoy an ice cream afterwards. If the weather is bad our back up date will be June 23rd, same place and same time. This event is for Saratoga County veterans and their immediate family members. Please RSVP to Erin by May 30th for a head count.

Tuesday, June 4th New Member Briefing for all veterans who are interested in learning more about our Veterans Peer Connection Program. The briefing will be given at our office, 2144 Doubleday Ave. Ballston Spa. Contact Erin to set up a time. **Mentor Training** will also be given this day. If you are interested in becoming a Mentor or if you are already a Mentor and would like a refresher please contact Erin to set up a time. See the flyer for more details.

Wednesdays, June 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th Coffee Hour from 8:00 – 9:30am veterans can join us for a **FREE** breakfast at Bubbles Restaurant 150 S Central Ave. Mechanicville, NY 12118. We will be at this location for April, May, and June. This is a Veterans only event!

Friday, June 7th Versus Monster Truck Show is coming to the Saratoga County Fairgrounds, 162 Prospect St. Ballston Spa. Start time is 7pm, get there a little early to find parking. Gates open at 5pm. I have a few **FREE** tickets for this show. Contact Erin if you are interested in the **FREE** tickets; first come first serve. Flyer attached.

Saturday, June 8th and Sunday, June 9th Upstate NY Outdoor Expo Leonard Gilbert Farm 640 Robinson in Mohawk, NY 13407. Saturday is open from 9am – 6pm and Sunday is open from 9am – 3pm. They will have tons of vendors at this event; from hunting, fishing, camping to kayaking, grilling, and more! There's something for everyone! Contact Erin for your **FREE** entrance ticket. This event is open to the public.

Caregiver Appreciation Event has been postponed. We need more nominations for caregivers! Contact Erin to get the nomination link.

Mondays, June 10th & 24th Incarceration Program (males) 1pm.

Fridays, June 7th & 21st Incarceration Program (females only) 12pm.

Wednesday, June 12th Women Veteran Recognition Day and Women's Health Department Meet & Greet at the Albany VA Women veterans join us at the Empire State Plaza in Albany from 1-4pm. You will need to register for this event. You can find the registration link on the attached flyer. Make sure you choose the "Albany" location. If you can also RSVP to me I will put you on our list of attendees so we know to wait for you. After the recognition day you are welcome to join us as we head over to the Albany VA for a meet & greet of the women's department and their service providers/specialists. You can read more about this [HERE](#). We will

be meeting on the 3rd floor to start off with a tour of the place. I will be tabling at this event so don't forget to swing by our table! The meet & greet takes place from 5-7pm. I will be attending both events so please reach out to me if you would like to join our women veterans group.

Thursdays, June 13th & 27th Our friends, the **Saratoga Veterans Chorus** will be meeting at Post #70 American Legion 34 West Ave. Saratoga Springs at 7pm for rehearsal. All Veterans are welcome to join them, no experience necessary. Spread the word! Please see the flyer.

Friday, June 14th FREE Mental Health First Aid training given by NY State Mental Health Association here at the VSA office, 2144 Doubleday Ave Ballston Spa. This is an all day, in person class. There is no virtual option. It is open to active duty military, reserve, national guard, veterans and their adult family members. 8:30 – 9:00am: Breakfast and registration. The class will start promptly at 9am. Lunch will be served at 12 noon and we will have breaks throughout the day. We ask that you remain on site so we can cover as much material as possible and we hope to close the training by 4:30pm. FREE JAZZ Festival tickets to SPAC or FREE Orchestra tickets to SPAC will be given to those participants who attend the full day of training when you receive your certificate. You must register and RSVP for this training. Register with the QR code or the link on the flyer. RSVP to Erin for lunch. Seats are limited so please register right away if you plan on attending. If we have more than 22 participants interested we will host another class later in the month. Please see the flyer for more details.

Saturday, June 22nd Paintball Game Veterans vs. Kids More info soon

Tuesday, June 25th If you have experienced **military sexual trauma (MST)** and would like to join our support group contact Erin for more details. This is for Veterans only; males and females are welcome.

Saturday, June 29th (11am) and Sunday, June 30th (11:30am) JAZZ Festival at SPAC If you have attended the FREE Mental Health First Aid training held on June 14th you will receive free tickets for either JAZZ Fest or the Orchestra at SPAC. If I have any left-over free tickets I will announce it via email and Facebook; first come first serve. This year JAZZ Fest is featuring Norah Jones and 22 electrifying artists from jazz to funk, blues, indie and pop.

Wednesday, July 31st Tchaikovsky Spectacular; The Philadelphia Orchestra start time 7:30pm. If you have attended the FREE Mental Health First Aid training held on June 14th you will receive free tickets for either JAZZ Fest or the Orchestra at SPAC. If I have any left-over free tickets I will announce it via email and Facebook; first come first serve. Conductor David Robertson, will be leading the orchestra in a dazzling evening of Tchaikovsky featuring the 1812 Overture with live cannon fire and a brilliant fireworks display. Pianist and International Tchaikovsky Competition silver medalist George Li makes his Philadelphia Orchestra and SPAC debut performing the Piano Concerto No. 1.

Lastly, we have **FREE workout clothing** here at the office. Just drop in during business hours to pick out your size. We have Men's sizes sm, md, lg left and Women's size lg only.

JULY

RSVP TO ERIN FOR ALL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND.
ECASSIDY@SARATOGACOUNTYNY.GOV OR 518-884-4999 OR 518-605-2899

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall July 24th-28th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th Office Closed	5th	6th
7th	8th Incarceration Program	9th Outreach at Gansevoort Farmer's Market	10th	11th Coffee Hour & Chorus	12th Benefits Review	13th
14th	15th Book Club Meeting	16th	17th	18th Coffee Hour & Greenfield Farmer's Market	19th	20th
21st	22nd Incarceration Program	23rd Volunteer Opportunity at Fair	24th Volunteer Opportunity at the Fair	25th Coffee Hour & Volunteer at the Fair & Chorus	26th Volunteer Opportunity at the Fair	27th Battlefield Tour & BBQ Event
28th Volunteer Opportunity at the Fair	29th Book Club Meeting	30th	31st Outreach at Halfmoon Farmer's Market			

All RSVPs should be made to Erin at ecassidy@saratogacountyny.gov or 518-884-4999

July 4th Our office will be closed due to the holiday.

July 8th & 22nd Incarceration Program 1pm start time

July 9th Come see us at the Gansevoort Farmer's Market from 3-6pm at Catherine St. Gansevoort, NY 12831. We will be tabling there to advertise our programs and interact with veterans but we will also have Fresh Connect Farmer's Market coupons. What is a Fresh Connect coupon? In collaboration with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, Veterans Benefits Advisors with the New York State Department of Veterans' Services are offering Fresh Connect coupons to Active Duty members, Veterans, and un-remarried surviving spouses of Veterans. You can read more about the program [HERE](#). Come visit us at our tent to get your coupons!

July 11th, 18, 25th Coffee Hour We have a new location for the months of July and August. We will be headed to the Old Saratoga Eatery at 112 Broad St, Schuylerville, NY 12871 on **THURSDAYS** from 8 – 9:30am. *Please note we will meet on Thursdays at this location, not on Wednesdays. This diner is a smaller place so when you arrive you might be asked to sit with other veterans to fill tables. Please do not sit 1 or 2 people to the booth we will need to fit 4 at each booth. Also, we are asking for folks to stagger arrival times. You do not need to come right at 8am. You may come anytime from 8am until 9:30am. You must order before 9:30am. Parking is limited at this location. Please reserve the street parking in front of the restaurant for those who have handicapped tags. Others please see the maps for parking directions. There are 2 parking lots to the rear of the restaurant on the opposite side of the alley. I will bring our large Saratoga County Veterans Peer Connection stand up banner and place it next to this parking lot so you know where to go. There is also free parking at the library and Ft. Hardy. Anything with a green circle or a green line is good for parking (see maps). **DO NOT park in the red X areas** on the map, located directly across the street from the restaurant. This is reserved parking only and they will ticket you. If you have questions or concerns about parking please call me. Coffee Hour is a veteran only event please; especially at this location because of the limited capacity.

Thursdays, July 11th & 25th Our friends, the **Saratoga Veterans Chorus** will be meeting at Post #70 American Legion 34 West Ave. Saratoga Springs at 7pm for rehearsal. All Veterans are welcome to join them, no experience necessary. Spread the word! Please see the flyer.

July 12th Benefits Review Frank, Director of Veterans Service Agency will be giving a one-hour benefits review from 11am – 12pm. If you are interested in learning more about the benefits you are entitled to please call our front desk at 518-884-4115 to add your name to the list. The benefits review is open to all veterans and spouses who reside in Saratoga County.

July 15th & 29th Book Club For the month of July we will be reading one of our Peer Connection member's new book titled *Unmuted*, by R. White. *Unmuted: From Silence to Song, Pain to Poetry, Fear to Freedom* offers a poignant journey through the chapters of R. White's life,

revealed through raw and unfiltered poetry. Each poem is a testament to the author's personal growth and healing journey living through domestic abuse, PTSD, religious apostasy, sexual assault, and motherhood. Interested in reading more? Contact Erin to borrow a copy of the book for our book club. Meetings will be held both at the office/ over Zoom at 12pm.

July 18th Come see us at the **Greenfield Farmer's Market** from 4-7pm at 428 Middle Grove Rd, Middle Grove, NY 12850. We will be tabling there to advertise our programs and interact with veterans but we will also have Fresh Connect Farmer's Market coupons. What is a Fresh Connect coupon? In collaboration with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, Veterans Benefits Advisors with the New York State Department of Veterans' Services are offering Fresh Connect coupons to Active Duty members, Veterans, and un-remarried surviving spouses of Veterans. You can read more about the program [HERE](#). Come visit us at our tent to get your coupons!

July 23rd – 28th Volunteer Opportunity Saratoga County Fair We are looking for volunteers to man our table and talk to folks about the Saratoga County Veterans Peer Connection program and give out information about how our Saratoga County Veteran Service Agency supports and serves veterans. Our office will table sporadically throughout the week but we need some volunteers to fill in the gaps. Please contact Erin to sign up for a specific day and time slot.

July 24th – 28th Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall at American Legion Hudson Falls. The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall will be coming to the American Legion Post 574 at 72 Pearl Street in Hudson Falls. Follow American Legion Post 574 on [Facebook](#) to stay updated.

July 27th Battlefield Tour & BBQ Event for veterans and family members [Sign up](#) today! Saratoga County Veterans Service Agency and Peer Connection invite you to join us Saturday July 27, 2024 for a guided bus tour of the Saratoga Battlefield 10-12:30, followed by a BBQ at the Therapeutic Horses of Saratoga 1-4pm. We will be taking buses to both events. Meet us at the WSWHE BOCES parking lot 15 Henning Rd, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 at 9am. If you need help signing up or have questions please reach out to me. Registration will close on July 22nd.

July 31st Come see us at the **Halfmoon Farmer's Market** from 2-5pm at 2 Halfmoon Town Plaza Halfmoon, NY 12065. We will be tabling there to advertise our programs and interact with veterans but we will also have Fresh Connect Farmer's Market coupons. What is a Fresh Connect coupon? In collaboration with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, Veterans Benefits Advisors with the New York State Department of Veterans' Services are offering Fresh Connect coupons to Active Duty members, Veterans, and un-remarried surviving spouses of Veterans. You can read more about the program [HERE](#). Come visit us at our tent to get your coupons!

Lastly, we have **FREE workout clothing** here at the office. Just drop in during business hours to pick out your size. We have Men's sizes sm, md, lg left and Women's size lg only.

AUGUST

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1st Coffee Hour & Mentor Training (New or Refresher)	2nd Incarceration Program (females)	3rd
4th	5th New Member Briefing	6th	7th	8th Coffee Hour	9th	10th
11th	12th Incarceration Program (males)	13th	14th	15th Coffee Hour	16th Benefits Review & Incarceration Program (females)	17th
18th	19th	20th Jumpin Jacks Water Ski Show w/ Schenectady	21st	22nd NO Coffee Hour Saratoga Race Track Military Day	23rd	24th
25th	26th Incarceration Program (males)	27th Guest Speaker Problem Gambling	28th Saratoga Springs Farmer's Market	29th Coffee Hour & Saratoga Race Track Event	30th	31st

All RSVPs should be made to Erin at ecassidy@saratogacountyny.gov or 518-884-4999

August 1st, 8th, 15th, 29th Coffee Hour We have a new location for the months of July and August. We will be headed to the Old Saratoga Eatery at 112 Broad St, Schuylerville, NY 12871 on **THURSDAYS** from 8 – 9:30am. *Please note we will meet on Thursdays at this location, not on Wednesdays. This diner is a smaller place so when you arrive you might be asked to sit with other veterans to fill tables. You must order before 9:30am. Parking is limited at this location. Coffee Hour is a veteran only event please; especially at this location because of the limited capacity. We will **NOT** be meeting on August 22nd because we already have a full day prior engagement. Come see us at the Saratoga Race Track on the 22nd instead! See attached flyer.

August 1st Mentor Training (New or Refresher) Join me for a Mentor Training from 1-2pm at our office. Veterans interested in becoming a Mentor and veterans interested in getting a refresher of our guidelines and overview of our Mentoring Program are welcome. Please bring a copy of your DD214 if I do not yet have a copy. This is for veterans only please.

August 2nd & 16th Incarceration Program (females)

August 5th New Member Briefing Please spread the word to all veterans who haven't heard of our Peer Connection Program. I'd love to meet with them on August 5th (any time) to talk about our program. Please have them call me to set up a time 518-884-4999. Spouses are welcome.

August 12th & 26th Incarceration Program (males)

August 16th Benefits Review Frank, Director of Veterans Service Agency will be giving a one-hour benefits review from 11am – 12pm. If you are interested in learning more about the benefits you are entitled to please call our front desk at 518-884-4115 to add your name to the list. The benefits review is open to all veterans and spouses who reside in Saratoga County.

August 20th Jumpin Jacks Water Ski Show w/ Schenectady County Dwyer Program Join us at Jumpin Jacks for a bite to eat and enjoy the Water Ski Show from 5:30pm onwards. RSVP to Erin by August 16th. This event is open to all veterans plus 1 guest. See attached flyer.

August 22nd Saratoga Race Track Military Day Military Appreciation Day presented by Rivers Casino and NYRA will pay tribute to active military members and veterans in appreciation of their sacrifice and service to our nation. All veterans and active-duty military will be honored with a special ceremony in the Winner's Circle and receive free admission with military ID. Come down and see us at the Saratoga Race Course 267 Union Ave, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. We will be tabling at the Community Center starting at 11am.

August 27th Guest Speaker from Problem Gambling Join us at our office at 5:30pm for a presentation given by the representatives from Problem Gambling. Dinner will be served. RSVP to Erin by August 23rd. This presentation is open to all veterans and their adult family members!

August 29th Veterans Event at Saratoga Race Track more info to come soon

We are **OUT of Farmer's Market coupons!** We ran out mid-July this year. NY State has agreed to send us more but we don't know when we will be getting them. When we get the new coupons, we do intend on tabling at a few of our local Farmer's Markets (Saratoga, Halfmoon, Ballston Spa) once again to issue them to veterans and widows of veterans. Keep checking our [Facebook page](#) or our [website](#) for more details.

Lastly, we have **FREE workout clothing** here at the office. Just drop in during business hours to pick out your size. We have Men's sizes sm, md, lg left and Women's size lg only.

SEPTEMBER

RSVP TO ERIN FOR ALL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND.
 ECASSIDY@SARATOGACOUNTYNY.GOV OR 518-884-4999 OR 518-605-2899

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1st	2nd Office Closed Labor Day	3rd	4th	5th Coffee Hour & Ballston Spa Farmer's Market	6th Mentor Training	7th Landscaping Project *Need Volunteers
8th Yoga	9th Buddy Check	10th Guest Speaker Financial Literacy	11th Halfmoon Farmer's Market	12th Coffee Hour & Chorus	13th DEC BOW Program	14th DEC BOW Program
15th DEC BOW Program & Yoga	16th Buddy Check	17th	18th	19th Coffee Hour	20th Benefits Review & Operation Song Event	21st Operation Song Event
22nd Yoga & Walk For RITA	23rd Buddy Check	24th	25th Suicide Prevention & NY State Gun Laws	26th Coffee Hour & Chorus	27th	28th
29th Yoga	30th New Member Briefing					

All RSVPs should be made to Erin at ecassidy@saratogacountyny.gov or 518-884-4999

Thursdays September 5th, 12th, 19th, 26 and October and November Coffee Hour We have a new location for the months of September, October, and November. We will be headed to Lakeside Farms at 336 Schaubert Rd. Ballston Lake NY 12019 on **THURSDAYS** from 8:30 – 10am. You can order any time from 8:30 – 10am but no later than 10am. The county can cover up to \$15 per veterans, please keep your order at or under the \$15 mark. There is ample parking at this location. They have parking in the front of the restaurant and in the back off of Lake Rd. Coffee Hour is a veteran only event. See attached flyer.

Thursday, September 5th Ballston Spa Farmer's Market 4-7pm We have received more **Farmer's Market coupons!** Please come and see me at our tabling on September 5th at Ballston Spa Farmer's Market or September 11th at Halfmoon Farmer's Market. If you can't get to either of those locations you can always drop by our office during normal business hours to pick them up. Please remember the veteran must sign for the coupons; the veteran needs to be present. Keep checking our [Facebook page](#) or our [website](#) for more details. Flyer is also attached.

Friday, September 6th Mentor Training (New or Refresher) Join me for a Mentor Training from 9-10am at our office. Veterans interested in becoming a Mentor and veterans interested in getting a refresher of our guidelines and overview of our Mentoring Program are welcome. Please bring a copy of your DD214 if I do not yet have a copy. This is for veterans only please.

Saturday, September 7th Landscaping Project *Need volunteers One of our veteran members is moving into a new home! Our program has teamed up with the Malta Veteran Appreciation Program and Brookside Nursery to do the landscaping in front of her house. We need your help! Can you join us Saturday, September 7th anytime from 8am – 12pm to help the team plant and beautify the front of the house? Contact me to lend a helping hand.

Sundays, September 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th Yoga Yaddo Gardens is hosting "The Art of Wellness" Yoga on Sundays. We are inviting Veterans to join us, Saratoga County Veterans Peer Connection program, for Yoga at Yaddo in September. Meet at the garden at 9:30am – parking is limited so I am asking you come early. Please RSVP to Erin for your entry. Please note: This is a 1-hour event and is **OUTDOORS**. It will happen rain or shine. Bring your own mat and your own water bottle. This event is for veterans only.

Mondays – Buddy Checks Please take this time to check in on your fellow veterans. Call them up to chat, ask them to go for coffee, swing by to see if they need anything, send them a note to know you are thinking of them. Anything is appreciated. If you don't have a veteran buddy or would like to help contact more veterans with our buddy check ins please contact Erin. If you participate in this event send me a message to let me know. This counts as an activity. So let me know and I can get you your honor beads.

Tuesday, September 10th Guest Speaker from Navy Federal Credit Union Join us at our office at 5:30pm for a presentation given Senior Customer Service Representative Virgie Cole. Dinner

will be served. RSVP to Erin by September 6th. This presentation is open to all veterans and their adult family members!

Wednesday, September 18th Halfmoon Farmer's Market 3-6pm We have received more Farmer's Market coupons! Please come and see me at our tabling on September 5th at Ballston Spa Farmer's Market or September 18th at Halfmoon Farmer's Market. If you can't get to either of those locations you can always drop by our office during normal business hours to pick them up. Please remember the veteran must sign for the coupons; the veteran needs to be present. Keep checking our [Facebook page](#) or our [website](#) for more details.

Friday, September 20th Benefits Review Frank, Director of Veterans Service Agency will be giving a one-hour benefits review at 11am. If you are interested in learning more about the benefits you are entitled to please call our front desk at 518-884-4115 to add your name to the list. The benefits review is open to all veterans and spouses who reside in Saratoga County.

Saturday, September 21st Operation Song Concert 6-9pm Operation Song empowers veterans, active-duty military members, and their families to tell their stories through the process of songwriting. Those they serve need no musical or writing skills, only a willingness to share their stories and, with the help of professional songwriters, transform them into song. One of our Saratoga County Veterans Peer Connection members has been selected. He is ready to tell his story. I hope you can join us for the event and support our fellow veteran member. I have purchased 10 free tickets for this concert. Please let me know if you are interested in attending and I will send you more details. First come, first serve. This is for veterans only.

Sunday, September 22nd Walk for R.I.T.A. Saratoga Spa State Park, Orenda Pavilion Walk For R.I.T.A is one of the longest-running suicide prevention walk fundraisers. It's named in honor of Saratoga Springs Doctor Rita Leighton who died by suicide in 2004. R.I.T.A an acronym that stands for Remembrance, Intervention, Together we can, Raise Awareness. The program starts at 11am, the walk with start shortly after that. However, I will be there at 9am setting up our table. Come sit with me at our table, talk a walk around to check out the other tables, and definitely join me for the walk. Don't forget to wear your beads! RSVP to me by September 20th. This event is open to ALL family members.

Wednesday, September 25th NY State Gun Laws & Suicide Prevention Presentation Join the Albany Stratton VA Medical Center from 1:30 - 3:00pm for an in person briefing on Suicide Prevention and New York State Gun Laws Presented by: NYS Department of Veterans' Services. I will be driving the van down to this event. If you would like to attend and/or ride in the van please contact me by September 23rd. This is for veterans only.

Monday, September 30th New Member Briefing Please spread the word to all veterans who haven't heard of our Peer Connection Program. I'd love to meet with them on September 30th (any time) to talk about our program. Please have them call me to set up a time 518-884-4999. Spouses/significant others are welcome.



SARATOGA COUNTY AGENDA ITEM REQUEST

TO: Steve Bulger, County Administrator
Ridge Harris, Deputy County Administrator
George Conway, County Attorney
Therese Connolly, Clerk of the Board
Stephanie Hodgson, Director of Budget

CC: John Warmt, Director of Purchasing
Jason Kemper, Director of Planning and Economic Development
Bridget Rider, Deputy Clerk of the Board
Matt Rose, Management Analyst
Audra Hedden, County Administrator's Office
Samantha Kupferman, County Attorney's Office

DEPARTMENT: Veterans Service Agency

DATE: 9/26/24

COMMITTEE: Veterans' Affairs



This column must be completed prior to submission of the request.

County Attorney's Office
Consulted

1. Is a Resolution Required:
2. Proposed Resolution Title:
Trust Fund Update
3. Specific Details on what the resolution will authorize:

4. Is a Budget Amendment needed: YES or NO
If yes, budget lines and impact must be provided.
Any budget amendments must have equal and offsetting entries.

County Administrator's Office
Consulted Yes

Please see attachments for impacted budget lines.
(Use ONLY when more than four lines are impacted.)

Revenue

Account Number	Account Name	Amount
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Expense

Account Number	Account Name	Amount
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Fund Balance (if applicable): (Increase = additional revenue, Decrease = additional expenses)

Amount:

5. Identify Budget Impact (Required):

- a. G/L line impacted
- b. Budget year impacted
- c. Details

6. Are there Amendments to the Compensation Schedule?

YES or NO (If yes, provide details)

a. Is a new position being created? Y N

Effective date

Salary and grade

b. Is a new employee being hired? Y N

Effective date of employment

Salary and grade

Appointed position:

Term

c. Is this a reclassification? Y N

Is this position currently vacant? Y N

Is this position in the current year compensation plan? Y N

Human Resources Consulted

7. Does this item require the awarding of a contract: Y N

a. Type of Solicitation

b. Specification # (BID/RFP/RFQ/OTHER CONTRACT #)

c. If a sole source, appropriate documentation, including an updated letter, has been submitted and approved by Purchasing Department? Y N N/A

d. Vendor information (including contact name):

e. Is the vendor/contractor an LLC, PLLC, or partnership:

f. State of vendor/contractor organization:

g. Commencement date of contract term:

h. Termination of contract date:

i. Contract renewal date and term:

k. Is this a renewal agreement: Y N

l. Vendor/Contractor comment/remarks:

Purchasing Office Consulted

County Administrator's Office
Consulted

8. Is a grant being accepted: YES or NO

a. Source of grant funding:

b. Agency granting funds:

c. Amount of grant:

d. Purpose grant will be used for:

e. Equipment and/or services being purchased with the grant:

f. Time period grant covers:

g. Amount of county matching funds:

h. Administrative fee to County:

9. Supporting Documentation:

Marked-up previous resolution

No Markup, per consultation with County Attorney

Information summary memo

Copy of proposal or estimate

Copy of grant award notification and information

Other Copy of Report

10. Remarks:

Activity Report

VETERANS TRUST FUND

DATE	TRANSACTION DESCRIPTION	DISBURSEMENTS	DEPOSITS	ACTUAL BALANCE
	MONTH TOTAL: JANUARY 2024	\$ 156,382.90	\$ 292,842.89	\$ 136,459.99
2/12/2024	Malta Veteran Appreciation Progrsam	5000.00		
2/13/2024	Kenneth Thompson IMO B Drouin Trust		100.00	
2/27/2024	David Oliveira USAA	338.22	100.00	
		\$ 161,721.12	\$ 293,042.89	\$ 131,321.77
3/5/2024	Jeanise Richards IMO Richards		500.00	
3/12/2024	ADK Electric -	575		
		\$ 162,296.12	\$ 293,542.89	\$ 131,246.77
4/5/2024	Momentive Performance - 2023 5K race sponsorship		5,000.00	
4/25/2024	Ronalee J Myers IMO Robert Lang		100.00	
	MONTH TOTAL: APRIL 2024	\$ 162,296.12	\$ 298,642.89	\$ 136,346.77
5/3/2024	David Oliveira		100.00	
5/3/2024	Paul Stryjek		40.00	
	MONTH TOTAL: MAY 2024	\$ 162,296.12	\$ 298,782.89	\$ 136,486.77
	MONTH TOTAL: JUNE 2024	\$ 162,296.12	\$ 298,782.89	\$ 136,486.77
7/17/2024	Rowland Street Garage -	750		
	MONTH TOTAL: JULY 2024	\$ 163,046.12	\$ 298,782.89	\$ 135,736.77
8/28/2024	Military Day at the Track		272.00	
8/28/2024	David Oliveira		100.00	
	MONTH TOTAL: AUGUST 2024	\$ 163,046.12	\$ 299,154.89	\$ 136,108.77
9/24/2024	Greenfield Annual Veterans Tournament		3,146.00	
	MONTH TOTAL: SEPTEMBER 2024	\$ 163,046.12	\$ 302,300.89	\$ 139,254.77



SARATOGA COUNTY AGENDA ITEM REQUEST

TO: Steve Bulger, County Administrator
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CC: John Warmt, Director of Purchasing
Jason Kemper, Director of Planning and Economic Development
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Matt Rose, Management Analyst
Audra Hedden, County Administrator's Office
Samantha Kupferman, County Attorney's Office

DEPARTMENT: Veterans Service Agency

DATE: 9/26/24

COMMITTEE: Veterans' Affairs



This column must be completed prior to submission of the request.

County Attorney's Office
Consulted

1. Is a Resolution Required:
2. Proposed Resolution Title:
Upcoming Honor Deceased Veterans Ceremonies
3. Specific Details on what the resolution will authorize:

4. Is a Budget Amendment needed: YES or NO
If yes, budget lines and impact must be provided.
Any budget amendments must have equal and offsetting entries.

County Administrator's Office
Consulted Yes

Please see attachments for impacted budget lines.
(Use ONLY when more than four lines are impacted.)

Revenue

Account Number	Account Name	Amount
----------------	--------------	--------

Expense

Account Number	Account Name	Amount
----------------	--------------	--------

Fund Balance (if applicable): (Increase = additional revenue, Decrease = additional expenses)

Amount:

5. Identify Budget Impact (**Required**):

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- a. G/L line impacted
- b. Budget year impacted
- c. Details

6. Are there Amendments to the Compensation Schedule?

YES or NO (If yes, provide details)

a. Is a new position being created? Y N

Effective date

Salary and grade

b. Is a new employee being hired? Y N

Effective date of employment

Salary and grade

Appointed position:

Term

c. Is this a reclassification? Y N

Is this position currently vacant? Y N

Is this position in the current year compensation plan? Y N

Human Resources Consulted

7. Does this item require the awarding of a contract: Y N

a. Type of Solicitation

b. Specification # (BID/RFP/RFQ/OTHER CONTRACT #)

c. If a sole source, appropriate documentation, including an updated letter, has been submitted and approved by Purchasing Department? Y N N/A

d. Vendor information (including contact name):

e. Is the vendor/contractor an LLC, PLLC, or partnership:

f. State of vendor/contractor organization:

g. Commencement date of contract term:

h. Termination of contract date:

i. Contract renewal date and term:

k. Is this a renewal agreement: Y N

l. Vendor/Contractor comment/remarks:

Purchasing Office Consulted

County Administrator's Office
Consulted

8. Is a grant being accepted: YES or NO

a. Source of grant funding:

b. Agency granting funds:

c. Amount of grant:

d. Purpose grant will be used for:

e. Equipment and/or services being purchased with the grant:

f. Time period grant covers:

g. Amount of county matching funds:

h. Administrative fee to County:

9. Supporting Documentation:

- Marked-up previous resolution
- No Markup, per consultation with County Attorney
- Information summary memo
- Copy of proposal or estimate
- Copy of grant award notification and information
- Other Schedule of Ceremonies

10. Remarks:

As a reminder to the BOS, upcoing Honor Deceased Veterans Ceremonies to be read at full board meeting

May 21st	Mechanicville	Thomas J. Richardson	Mr&Mrs. Marcelle
June 18th	Moreau	Jesse Fish	TBD
July 15th	Providence	Sandra Winney	Timothy Vandenburg
August 20th	Milton	Scott Ostrander	Emily Adams
September 17th	Hadley	Arthur Wright	NO Ceremony
October 15th	Greenfield	Kevin Veitch	"Bill" Wilsey
November 19th	Saratoga	Ian Murray	Merrill S. Patrick
December 17th	Saratoga Springs	Veitch/Madigan	Nataleno J. Reo