Greetings and welcome to this the July 2015 edition of Front Lines, the unofficial newsletter of Cuyahoga Community College’s Veteran Services & Programs. Here’s a very full look at what’s happening…

**Fall 2015 Registration…:** It’s hard to believe but registration for Fall Session 2015 is underway. For those of you planning on attending classes during FALL Session 2015, now is the time to begin getting things in order particularly if you plan on using the GI Bill. The earlier you register, the earlier your paperwork gets to the VA, and the better chance you have that your GI Bill checks arrive in time to avoid be dropped from classes. Check-in with your respective Veterans Campus GI Bill Certifiers will be able to assist you if needed. Here’s the contact information:

WEST, WEST SHORE & BRUNSWICK Campuses: **Damian Thorkelson and Krystie Igancio.** Their office is located in WSS G220 in the Admissions and Registration Office. Damian’s direct line is 216-987-5203.

METRO Campus: **Della Hilbert.** Her office MSS G23 is located in the basement of the Student Services Building down the hall from the Business Office. Della’s direct line is 216-987-4164.

EAST Campus: **Vanessa Traylor.** Vanessa is located in East3 Room 1609. Her direct line is 216-987-2009.

In all cases, it is recommended to call first to schedule an appointment with the Certifier/Coordinator at your campus. Remember that you must see your respective GI Bill Certifier any time you register for classes, add classes, or drop classes.

**New Campus Coordinators:** Thanks to the generosity of donors to the College to include The Lerner Family Foundation and RPM Corporation of Medina, the Veterans Initiative has been able to add campus staff to better support you. At East, Air Force veteran Alaina Foster joins the team as the Coordinator running the new Alfred Lerner Veteran Service Center. She can be reached at 216-987-2013 or Alaina.foster@tri-c.edu Joining our west side team to add bench strength is Marine Corps veteran Mick Munoz. Mick will be splitting his time between Brunswick and Westshore. Mick can be reached at 216-987-3536 or michael.munoz@tri-c.edu. Matt Miller, who had been covering all three west side campuses now moves to the West Campus in Parma five days a week. For those of you at Metro Campus your Coordinator is ONG SGT Ashley Gorbulja. She is at 216-987-6137 or ashley.gorbulja@tri-c.edu.

**Veterans Upward Bound – Fall 2015:** Attention Veterans…

- Do you have fewer than 30 credit hours?
- Still taking remedial math and English?
- Never been through Veterans Upward Bound?
- Not taking classes this summer or fall?

If you answered “yes” to all of these questions, consider enrolling in Tri-C’s Veterans Upward Bound program this fall. Veterans Upward Bound is a FREE academic refresher program, designed to provide academic support to help you succeed in college. Our sessions meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Metro campus. Can’t make those days? Ask about our Individual Study Plan option! Veterans Upward Bound provides tutoring services as well. **ASK ABOUT OUR NEW SATURDAY SESSIONS!!** Call 216-987-4938 for more information!

**Ohio Department of Veterans Services (ODVS) News:** Please take the time to check out the ODVS social media pages at [www.ohiovet.gov](http://www.ohiovet.gov) and encourage other veterans to subscribe to our news updates. If you’d like to see past editions of the ODVS newsletter, here is the link to our archive: [http://dvs.ohio.gov/home/monthly_newsletter.aspx](http://dvs.ohio.gov/home/monthly_newsletter.aspx)

**Connect to the Ohio Department of Veterans Services online**
ODVS web: [http://dvs.ohio.gov/](http://dvs.ohio.gov/)
Facebook: [http://www.facebook.com/ohiodepartmentofveteransservices](http://www.facebook.com/ohiodepartmentofveteransservices)
Twitter: [http://twitter.com/#!/OhioVets](http://twitter.com/#!/OhioVets)
Legal Aid Society of Cleveland; U.S. Veterans Legal Clinic: A free advice clinic for low-income military veterans with civil legal issues related to shelter, safety, consumer rights, health, education, work or income issues will be held August 5, 2015. For more information, call 888-817-3777 or http://lasdev.org/event/08052015/

USO Northern Ohio Golf Outing and Clambake – scheduled for Friday, September 11, 2015. Check the following link for additional information: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1NiwCZ_V-9iMnprTGNNU3vTXc/view?usp=sharing

53rd All Ohio Airborne Days: Celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Airborne in Cleveland, the Rock and Roll Capital 1-3 OCT 2015. Hosted by the John Towle MOH, Cleveland Chapter. Contact Vice Chairman Sean Jennings at jennsea3@yahoo.com telephone (440) 915 8223 or Chairman Gary Rezabeck at garyrezabek@yahoo.com telephone (216) 310 4872. For more information: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1NiwCZ_V-9ZEFXbC03yk13elWm9View?usp=sharing

The Amputee Recreational Support Group of Central Ohio regularly schedules recreational activities for amputees – Veterans and non-Veterans, including Yoga for Amputees, shooting events, and recreational swimming. For more information, contact Robert Hass at (614) 288-5105 or Ampulsee@columbus.r.com

Volunteers Needed

Cleveland Municipal Court’s Veterans Treatment Docket needs volunteers – preferably military veterans to help Veterans transition to a successful life. If you are interested in volunteering to help our veterans successfully re-enter civilian life, please contact Derek Moore at (216) 664-4712 or via email at moored@cmcoh.org for additional information.

In addition to the Cleveland Municipal Court Program, the Court of Common Pleas Veteran Treatment Court also needs volunteers

Needed: ‘A few good – mentors’: The Cuyahoga Common Pleas Veteran Treatment Court (VTC) is a judge-monitored treatment program for military veterans. A key component of the program is volunteer Veteran Mentors who volunteer their time to help veterans re-adapt to civilian life. For more information or to sign up, visit the following: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1NiwCZ_V-9ITF8wYX0qEP4yWm9View?usp=sharing


Veterans Treatment Courts: Veterans Treatment Courts seek to treat veterans suffering from a substance abuse and/or mental health disorder, while helping ensure public safety. These special courts combine rigorous treatment and personal accountability, with the goal of breaking the cycle of drug use and criminal behavior.

Veterans Treatment Courts are modeled after drug courts, which promote collaboration among the judiciary, community corrections agencies, drug treatment providers, and other community support groups. Drug courts have a remarkable track record over the course of their 20-year history. During times of difficult economic conditions for State and local governments, drug courts still prove to be a smart, cost-effective investment that helps put offenders on the road to recovery, effectively reducing recidivism.

For more information: https://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/ondcp-fact-sheets/veterans-treatment-courts and https://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp

Employment Opportunities / Links

VA JOBS Home: http://www.va.gov/jobs/

USAJobs: https://www.usajobs.gov/Veterans


Stars and Stripes; Veteran Job Center: http://veteranjobs.stripes.com/

USERRA: The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) protects service members’ reemployment rights when returning from a period of service in the uniformed services, including those called up from the reserves or National Guard, and prohibits employer discrimination based on military service or obligation. The U.S. Department of Labor’s (DOL) Veterans’ Employment and Training Service (VETS) administers USERRA.
Information Links

Veterans Business Support Center:  https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1NiwCZ_V-9iS0NiUjQ3cnFLTE0/view?usp=sharing

Ohio National Guard Employer Advisory Council: The ONG Employer Advisory Council was developed to provide military-friendly employers with useful resources and guidance to help them success with military retention and recruitment initiatives.  https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1NiwCZ_V-9ibUNOOGo2S2gybWc/view?usp=sharing

Columbus Honor Flight:  www.honorflightcolumbus.org

Honor Flight Cleveland:  www.honorflightcleveland.com

Justice for Veterans:  http://www.justiceforvets.org/

Google for Veterans:  http://www.googleforveterans.com/

Ohio Veterans Memorial Park:  http://www.ovmp.org/

Cold War Recognition Certificate: the Cold War Recognition Certificate is a recognition certificate awarded by the Secretary of Defense to all U.S. Armed Forces personnel and qualified federal government civilian personnel who faithfully and honorably served the United States anytime during the Cold War era, which is defined as September 2, 1945 to December 26, 1991. Anyone who served in the military or the Federal Government during this period is authorized to receive the certificate. Congress established the Cold War certificate in Section 1084 of the fiscal 1998 National Defense Authorization Act. The Department of Defense designated the Department of the Army as the executive agent for the Cold War Recognition Certificate program.  http://usmilitary.about.com/cs/genmedals/ht/coldwar.htm

Veteran Resources:  http://www.veteransresources.org/

Cleveland VA Regional Benefit Office:  http://www.benefits.va.gov/cleveland/


Joint Veterans Council of Cuyahoga County:  www.jvcocc.org

Equal Honor for All:  www.equalhonor.org

Greater Cleveland Fisher House:  http://greaterclevelandfisherhouse.org/

Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center: http://www.cleveland.va.gov/?wvsessionid=fe802d6620da402484b74ac24a6f1650

Greater Cleveland Veterans (GCVM) Memorial:  www.clevelandvetsmemorial.org

GCVM Honor Roll: The Citizens of Cuyahoga County have served the nation well, and paid a heavy price. When America needed defenders the men and women of Greater Cleveland have answered the call. From 1899 to 2014, a span of 115 years, 5,552 patriots of the county have fallen in military service during time of war. Search the honor roll:  http://www.clevelandvetsmemorial.org/GCVM-honor-roll-search.asp

My HealtheVet:  www.myhealth.va.gov

Rewards for Justice Website: The Rewards for Justice program continues to be one of the most valuable U.S. Government assets in the fight against international terrorism. Established by the 1984 Act to Combat International Terrorism, Public Law 98-533, the Program is administered by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Diplomatic Security.  http://www.rewardsforjustice.net/english/most-wanted/all-regions.html

Locating Veterans and Service Members:  http://www.archives.gov/veterans/locate-service-members.html

Military News:  www.military.com

The American Legion:  http://www.legion.org/

Veterans of Foreign Wars USA:  http://www.vfw.org/

Stars and Stripes Veterans Link:  http://www.stripes.com/news/veterans

Air Force Times:  http://www.airforcetimes.com/

Army Times: http://www.armytimes.com/

Marine Corps Times:  http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/

Navy Times:  http://www.navytimes.com/


Veterans Benefits Administration:  http://www.vba.va.gov/

GI Bill website:  http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/

Veteran Resources:  http://www.veteransresources.org/

Explore VA Benefits:  www.explore.VA.gov

Ohio VFW:  http://www.ohiovfw.org/

Ohio Legion News:  http://ohiolegionnews.com/

That’s it for now… More as I get it…

CDR Rick DeChant, USCG (ret)  
Executive Director  
Veteran Services & Programs  
Cuyahoga Community College