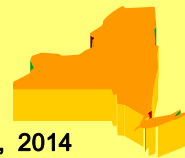




# In a New York Minute

"All the News you Need to Know – In a NY Minute"



July 3, 2014

## Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program (RIRP)

The Fall 2014 window for RIRP aka "State TA" applications is now open! Applications will be accepted through 15 AUGUST 2014.

The Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program (RIRP) is a New York State program designed to recruit and retain quality members for the State Military Forces (Army and Air National Guard, and Naval Militia). This competitive program will pay the cost of tuition up to a maximum of \$5,870 per calendar year for eligible qualified applicants. Soldiers who apply by the deadline have an additional 60 days to forward any and all pertinent financial aid documentation to the Education Office. Applications must be submitted electronically to [ng.ny.nyarng.list.rirp-ny@mail.mil](mailto:ng.ny.nyarng.list.rirp-ny@mail.mil). **No paper copies, faxes, etc will be accepted.**

Learn more about this important benefit at [https://www.milsuite.mil/wiki/Portal:NYARNG - MNP\\_Procedural\\_Guide/MNP-EDU](https://www.milsuite.mil/wiki/Portal:NYARNG_-_MNP_Procedural_Guide/MNP-EDU)

Soldiers can apply for RIRP by filling out the PDF provided in the link

below and e-mailing it to the RIRP email address: <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/doc/42771438>

**\*\*Please note\*\*** RIRP or "State TA" is a separate program from Federal

Tuition Assistance (FTA) which is accessed at [www.goarmyed.com](http://www.goarmyed.com)

If you have any questions please email us at [ng.ny.nyarng.list.rirp-ny@mail.mil](mailto:ng.ny.nyarng.list.rirp-ny@mail.mil)

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



Welcome Home!

## VETERANS NIGHT

Wednesday July 16, 2014 7PM First Pitch  
Joseph L. Bruno Stadium

Free tickets available on a first-come first-serve basis for Veterans!



VA HEALTH CARE Defining EXCELLENCE in the 21st Century

For more information and tickets, please contact:

Leah MacDonald, Albany VA Medical Center, (518) 626-6962

## Welcome Home Veterans Night!

Event Date: Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup> 2014

Time: 7pm First Pitch

Place: Joseph L. Bruno Stadium

**For more information about this event please see above.**

**For tickets through the Family Programs Office please contact.**

**Jake Wicks**

Latham, NY

518-786-0390

[jacob.w.wicks.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:jacob.w.wicks.ctr@mail.mil)

**Jenn Tabankin**

Troy, NY

518-285-5830

**Tickets are limited in supply and are first come first serve.**

*You're Invited to*  
**Operation Salute: 2014**  
Saturday July 19

At the Syracuse Nationals, NYS Fair Grounds  
Special admission for OEF/OIF/OND Veterans between 9am and 12 noon

Pre-Registration is Required by July 7, 2014  
A Limited number of tickets are available.  
Call (315) 425-4426 today!

VA HEALTH CARE Defining EXCELLENCE in the 21st Century  
Visit the VA tent for information and giveaways!

# In a New York Minute

The Resilience topic for July is Social Fitness (Self awareness). Some components for good social fitness are citizenship, community involvement, healthy relationships, being a good role model, personal courage, and respect.



Operation P.A.T.H. = Parents and Teens Hanging  
Lake Placid Olympic Venues ♦ July 30, 2014  
Patriot Hills of NY



It's an opportunity for combat Veterans and their Teenage Children to spend quality, uninterrupted time together having fun and enjoying the Lake Placid Olympic Venues. Sponsored by Patriot Hills of NY the trip is free of charge to all participants

**Included: Transportation, Breakfast snack, Lunch, Dinner and a VIP Olympic Pass Who: Veterans with Teenage Children**

**Where: Lake Placid, NY and the Olympic Venues**

**When: Wednesday, July 30, 2014**

Bus leaves from Sam's Club parking lot in Latham Farms, Latham NY @ 7:00 am returning by 9:30 pm

**Interested: Contact Patriot Hills of NY for information by emailing:**

Operationpath@nycap.rr.com

[www.patriothills.org](http://www.patriothills.org)

## Family Summer Fun Activities

Here are some family fun summer activities that are free or at a discounted price for you and your family to enjoy!

**Barnes & Noble Kids Club** – 3701 McKinley Parkway, (Mommy and Me sing-alongs) 5 & younger every Friday at 10:30AM in the Children's Department. Call 716-822-0832. Amherst location 1565 Niagara Falls Blvd, host Baby Lap time Stories for parents and children ages 2 & younger on Tuesdays at 10:30AM and Pre-School Story time and crafts every Wednesday and Thursday at 10:30, call 716-837-7209. 4401 Transit Rd, host children's stories every Thursday and Saturday at 11:00AM call 716-634-1011.

**Pottery Barn** – Walden Galleria store hosts story time for preschoolers on Tuesdays 11-11:30, receive a book club passport. Call (716) 681-6448

**Lowe's Build and Grow** – Select Saturdays at 10AM, wooden craft and free apron, achievement patch and pair of goggles. Visit : [www.lowesbuildandgrow.com](http://www.lowesbuildandgrow.com)

**Boulevard Buddies** – 6 and younger can enroll. 730 Alberta Dr, Amherst or online [www.boulevardmall.com](http://www.boulevardmall.com) crafts held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the food court

**Movies** - Regal Theatres, **Family fun movies playing on Tuesdays & Wednesdays for the summertime** Admission to these movies during the Summer Movie Express is only \$1. Tickets must be purchased at the theater and all movies start at 10:00 am. A portion of the proceeds goes to the Will Rogers Institute. Search for a theater in your area to see where the Summer Movie Express is playing.

**NYS State Fair & County Fairs** – [www.countyfairgrounds.net/newyork/newyork.php](http://www.countyfairgrounds.net/newyork/newyork.php)

<http://www.nysfair.org> Note::Veterans Day discounts with Military ID, check events calendars.

**NYS Parks** – <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/military.html> Overview of the Annual Pass for US Military and Their Dependents

**Bowling** - [www.Kidsbowlfree.com](http://www.Kidsbowlfree.com) Kids Bowl Free is a program that lets kids in the U.S. and Canada bowl for free every summer. More specifically, they can play 2 free games every day during the summer! Hit New York State and look up your county to locate a participating bowling lanes near you!

**Fishing** - No license needed fishing days – [takemefishing.org/nfbw](http://takemefishing.org/nfbw)

**Theme Parks** – Hershey Park-Discounted tickets online, Disney World, Colonial Williamsburg , various parks see <http://www.wavesofhonor.com/index.html> [www.shadesofgreen.org/salute.htm](http://www.shadesofgreen.org/salute.htm)



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

26 Jul	53rd DLD, 133 <sup>rd</sup> QM Co, 37 <sup>th</sup> Fin, & 4th Fin During Yellow Ribbon Event, Fort Hamilton <a href="mailto:john.a.ross3.mil@mail.mil">john.a.ross3.mil@mail.mil</a>
14 Aug	Hiring Our Heroes Job Fair – Farmingdale, NY Farmingdale Armed Forces Reserve Center <a href="mailto:robert.w.vanpelt.ctr@mail.mil">robert.w.vanpelt.ctr@mail.mil</a>
18 Sept	Hiring Our Heroes Job Fair – Kingston, NY Kingston National Guard Armory <a href="mailto:robert.w.vanpelt.ctr@mail.mil">robert.w.vanpelt.ctr@mail.mil</a>
7 Oct	Hiring Our Heroes Job Fair – Saratoga Springs, NY SUNY Empire State College <a href="mailto:robert.w.vanpelt.ctr@mail.mil">robert.w.vanpelt.ctr@mail.mil</a>

## The Homes for Veterans Program

### \$50 Million Commitment from SONYMA for Homes for Veterans

On March 20, 2014, Governor Cuomo announced a \$50 million commitment from SONYMA to help provide affordable housing to Veterans and Military Families. SONYMA, in conjunction with the NYS Division of Veterans' Affairs, is offering \$50 million in mortgage financing at a 3.875% interest rate for:

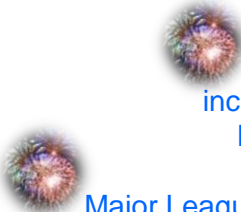
- Military veterans who have served in the active military, naval, or air service and who have been discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable; and First-time homebuyers who are honorably discharged National Guard and reservists as well as active military, National Guard, and reservists.

The Homes for Veterans Program features:

- Down payment assistance up to the greater of \$3,000 or 3% of the home purchase price, not to exceed \$15,000;
- Up to 97% financing;
- Only 1% of the home purchase price must come from the borrower's own funds; and
- Financing for home improvements can be incorporated under the Own It, Fix It New York Program or Remodel New York with no increase in rate
- To be eligible, a prospective homebuyer's income must be within the program's household limits and the sales price of the property (plus any home improvements) cannot exceed the program's purchase price limits. The capital pool contributed by SONYMA remains available between now and Veterans Day 2014, or until all available funds are used.

**For more information, please visit our website [www.sonyma.org](http://www.sonyma.org) or call (800) 382-HOME (4663)**

## Military Summer Discounts



Military.com offers a great round up of available military discounts including for amusement parks, museums, attractions, and travel such as hotels, cruises, resorts, etc. <http://www.military.com/discounts/travel>

Major League Baseball teams are showing their appreciation for service members, both past and present, with military discounts on 2014 game tickets. Many teams also hold military appreciation days to honor those who have served our country. Look for your favorite team and take advantage of the military discounts that can help get you to the ballpark for less  
<http://www.military.com/discounts/military-discounts-for-major-league-baseball-games.html>