

Warren County Veterans Service Officer's Report for February 2018

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Veterans Tax Exemption Deadline is March 1st~

- **15%** - Wartime/non-combat (to include Cold War Vets between 9/2/1945-12/26/1991)
- An additional **10%** - Combat Vets
- Another **additional %** = 1/2 of your VA disability (maximum 50%). *Note: If your disability has increased over the last year you will need to update that information with your assessor to receive the appropriate additional exemption percentage.*
- **NOTE: An un-remarried surviving spouse (Gold Star Parent) is also entitled to this benefit.**

Warren County's Veteran Discount Program, "Return the Favor....Thank You For Your Service", is currently participating with **179** business and has issued **2440** Veteran/Surviving Spouse cards to date! To learn more please contact our office.

Military Appreciation Night – Adirondack Thunder Hockey

Saturday, February 24th – 7pm Tickets \$15 (each ticket includes a hot dog & soda)

Contact Molly to book a group 518/480-3355 x315 or email her at mcoventry@echlthunder.com

Did You Know~

If you have a disability as a result of an injury or disease that occurred or got worse during active military service, you may be eligible to receive *tax-free* monthly benefits. No matter when or where you served, if you can answer "yes" to these questions, you **may** be eligible for service-connected disability compensation:

- Do you have a physical or mental disability?
- Did your injury or disease occur while in service?
- Is there a connection between your current disability and military service?

Find out more about disability compensation and all VA benefits by visiting Explore.VA.gov or by contacting us directly at the address or phone number listed above.

Additional benefits:

- 1) A Veteran is entitled to be paid at a higher amount if he/she is married and/or has dependent children listed on their award at 30% or more.
- 2) **Special Monthly Compensation (SMC)** is a higher rate of compensation paid due to special circumstances such as the need of aid and attendance by another person or a specific disability, such as loss of use of one hand or leg. For spouses and surviving spouses, this benefit is commonly referred to as aid and attendance and is paid based on the need of aid and attendance by another person.
- 3) **Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)** is a tax free monetary benefit generally payable to a surviving spouse, child, or parent of Servicemembers who died while on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training or survivors of Veterans who died from their service-connected disabilities or if the Veteran dies for any reason & prior to his death he is 100% s/c for 8 continuous years.

Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)

Periodically, VA makes cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) to VA compensation and pension benefits to ensure that the purchasing power of VA benefits is not eroded by inflation. Under federal law, the cost-of-living adjustments to VA's compensation and pension rates are the same percentage as for Social Security benefits.

Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) Information for 2018

Monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for more than 66 million Americans have increased 2.0 percent as of January 1, 2018.