



Veterans Service Office - July 2024

"Your Gateway to Veteran Services"

Pottawattamie County

623 6th Ave, Council Bluffs, IA, 51501

(712) 328-5797

Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm

Find Your Fire



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www.pottcounty-ia.gov/departments/veteran_affairs/

Making The Most Of Your Money

Whether you're a veteran just getting out of service or you're ready to plan for retirement, it's important to have a financial plan in place. Federal VA offerings include more than just medical access and education incentives. They also offer resources on financial literacy topics such as creating a household budget, reducing debt, identity protection and more. Visit Benefits.va.gov/benefits/financial-literacy.asp to find budgeting guides and money management tools available to service members and veterans. The Department of Defense has a series of "financial readiness" videos on Youtube centered around budgeting and investing at www.youtube.com/@dodfinred/videos.



There are also resources outside of the system that are not related to the VA. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau offers informational resources on topics such as how to rebuild your credit, apply for auto loans, and how to select the right checking and savings accounts for you.

Thank you for your service

Matt Wyant, Director of Planning and Development for Pottawattamie County, was active duty from 1996-1999 in the Army as a Specialist in the 70th Transportation Company in Mannheim, Germany. He became the youngest instructor driver stationed in Europe at that time and trained newly enlisted soldiers on the ins and outs of navigating the autobahn system to safely deliver cargo across the continent. During his time with the "Road Warriors", he was deployed to Hungary to transport supplies in and out of Bosnia Herzegovina. Wyant logged over 150,000 miles accident free during his two and a half years there. His experiences lead to his sister switching to active duty and now his oldest son is a second Lieutenant in the Air Force, stationed at Offutt. He also has a nephew who recently made Staff Sergeant in the Army. Wyant said, "I am very proud of the time I spent in the Army and recommend it to everyone who asks...Military service is one of the greatest things a person can do."



VSO Service Notes

Any veteran who has had their DD214 recorded with the county can pick a copy up, free of charge, at our office or retrieve a certified copy from the Records office. A valid photo id will be required before the document is released. Any records requests, including DD214, can be submitted through our office. Call for an appointment.

Veterans who have recorded their DD214 can apply for the Honor Rewards program to receive discounts from local businesses. Visit www.honorrewards.com for more information.

Upcoming Events

- July 3 - VSO in Avoca
- July 4 - office closed for Independence Day
- July 10 - VSO in Carter Lake
- July 17 - VSO in Avoca
- July 24 - VSO in Carter Lake
- Aug 7 - VSO in Avoca
- Aug 14 - VSO in Carter Lake
- Aug 21 - VSO in Avoca
- Aug 28 - VSO in Carter Lake
- Sept 2 - office closed for Labor Day
- Sept 4 - VSO in Avoca
- Sept 11 - Patriot's Day
- Sept 11 - VSO in Carter Lake
- Sept 18 - VSO in Avoca
- Sept 25 - VSO in Carter Lake

Commissioners and Staff Spotlight - Paul Rosenberg

Paul Rosenberg has worked at the Veterans Service Office for four and a half years as a Caseworker and Outreach Coordinator. He joined the Marine Corps in 2007 and spent two years in Okinawa, Japan before returning to San Diego; his final duty station was the Marine Corps Recruit Depot. As the son of a retired state trooper, it was an easy slide into the roll of a Military Policeman. Paul says, "I wouldn't trade my time in the Corps for anything. God protected me all the way through and kept my head straight even through the long nights." Along with his service, other family members with military service include his grandfathers Steve Kisby, US Marine Corps, and Bernie Rosenberg, US Navy. Paul is a native of Council Bluffs and his family still lives here. He has been married to his wife, Jessica, for almost 14 years and they have two children: son Grayson, 9 years old, and daughter, Charley, 5 years old. Paul was able to take advantage of the GI Bill to obtain his Bachelor's degree in History and is now going through Voc Rehab to pursue his



Master's degree in Public Administration. In his spare time, Paul enjoys going to the gym regularly after work, playing with his kids every chance he gets, and coaching different sports throughout the year. The best part of his VSO duties is interacting with veterans as they share stories of their experiences and how much they appreciate the services we provide. When asked if there was anything he'd like to share with county veterans, he said, "When I first got out of the service, I had no idea what benefits were available to me. All it took was one trip to our county VSO and it really opened my eyes. Please take the time to come see us and we can show you everything you possibly could be eligible for. Veterans need to look out for each other and I'll do everything I can to help them."



Did you know?

The Iowa Revolutionary War Monument in Des Moines lists the names of Revolutionary War veterans who are buried in the state. It is near the Iowa Veterans and Korean War memorials.

Contacts

Military OneSource (free financial counseling for service members and their families) - 800-342-9647
www.militaryonesource.mil

Offutt Military & Family Readiness Center - 402-294-4329

Business Highlight - South Side Press

Owned by veteran Bryan Maschmeier and Lisa Maschmeier. Offers a variety of printing services including business cards, flyers, banners, yard signs, brochures, labels, and more.

1220 2nd Ave, Council Bluffs, IA, 51501
phone: 712-322-8228 fax: 712-322-8267
sales@southsidepress.com



Resources

Military Consumer.gov - Offers a Veterans page with information on how to stay on top of your finances.

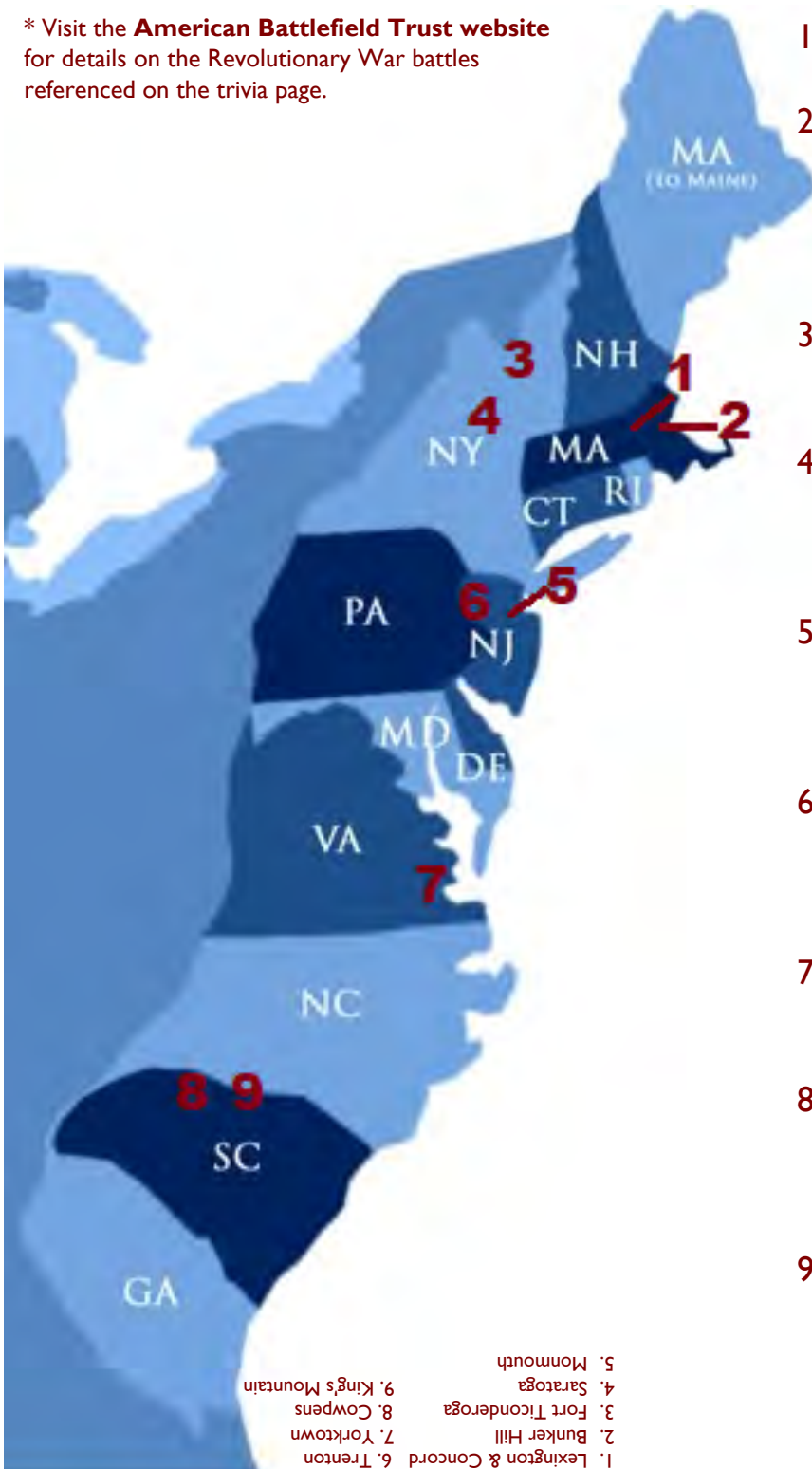
Consumerfinance.gov- Click on the link below for a factsheet with dozens of websites on issues such as choosing a bank account, applying for loans, creating a cash flow tracker, paying off debt, finding a financial counselor and more:
files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/cfpb_lifecycle-of-military-consumer_resources.pdf

Federal Student Aid - Veterans who are totally and permanently disabled may qualify for a TPD discharge of their federal student loans or TEACH grant service obligation.

History and Trivia



* Visit the **American Battlefield Trust** website for details on the Revolutionary War battles referenced on the trivia page.



- Answers:
1. Lexington & Concord
 2. Bunker Hill
 3. Fort Ticonderoga
 4. Saratoga
 5. Monmouth
 6. Trenton
 7. Yorktown
 8. Cowpens
 9. King's Mountain

1. The "shot heard round the world" was fired at this battle on April 19, 1775.
2. Though the outcome of this June 1775 battle was an American defeat, militia forces under Colonel William Prescott were able to withstand an attack by British forces twice their size.
3. Benedict Arnold and Ethan Allen joined the Green Mountain Boys of Vermont in a successful attack on this fort on May 10, 1775.
4. The American victory at this battle in October 1777 was considered a turning point in the war and convinced the French to support the revolutionary cause.
5. This battle on June 28, 1778 was a contested victory but proved that the Continental Army under Washington's leadership was capable of holding their own against British regulars.
6. Washington ferried over 2,000 soldiers across the frozen Delaware river to deliver a blow to a force of Hessian mercenaries during this battle in December of 1776.
7. General Cornwallis surrendered to American forces following this battle on October 19, 1781.
8. The American victory at this battle of the Southern Campaign in January of 1781 is widely believed to have secured the eventual British surrender that ended the war.
9. After suffering heavy losses at Charleston and Camden, American militia forces won a major victory at this battle on October 7, 1780 and convinced General Cornwallis to retreat back to South Carolina.

To sign up for the Pottawattamie County VSO quarterly newsletter,

email veterans@pottcounty-ia.gov or scan the qr code below.

