



Warren County Veterans Service Officer's Report for July 2010

1340 State Route 9 Lake George, NY 12845 ☀ Phone: 518-761-6342 Fax: 518-761-7683

Claims Easier and Faster-

The VA has reduced the amount of paperwork and made the process quicker and easier to file a claim. For service disability and pension benefits for the first time claims, use a shortened VA Form 21-526 or use VA Form 21-526b for an increased disability with the correct supporting paperwork, which will be more clearly described. These new forms will produce a much quicker process and will allow for a fast decision. For assistance with these claims contact your local Veterans Service Officer (VSO).

1-877-4AID VET –

The Department of Veterans Affairs' implemented a 24/7 hotline for homeless veterans. The National Call Center for Homeless Veterans will be along side the VA's Suicide Prevention Hotline, 1-800-273-TALK (8255). The responders will assist with food, clothing, medical care and housing, short and long term. All responders will be able to provide referrals for help in these areas as well as psychological health issues. "It is unacceptable for a single veteran to spend the night on the streets of America," said Eric K. Shinseki.

Increase in Copay for Some-

- Those with higher income and no service connected disabilities will have their copay increase \$1.00 from \$8.00 to \$9.00
 - Most in need will not be affected
 - Priority Groups 2-6 will continue to pay \$8.00 per 30-day prescription
 - Out of pocket expenses will be capped at \$960.00 for the year's prescriptions
 - Priority Group 1, those who have a 50% or greater disability, will not be responsible for a copay
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**For all information and forms on the previous topics, please contact
Denise A. Di Resta at (518) 761-6342 or direstad@co.warren.ny.us**