

Warren County Veterans Service Officer's Report for March 2016

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Care and Benefits for Veterans Strengthened by \$182 Billion VA Budget: WASHINGTON – In his FY 2017 budget, President Obama is proposing \$182.3 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Funding will continue to support the largest transformation in VA history; expand access to timely, high-quality health care and benefits; and advance efforts to end homelessness among Veterans. “VA has before it one of the greatest opportunities in its history to transform the way it cares for our Veterans who nobly served and sacrificed for our Nation,” said VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald. “As we work to become a more efficient, effective and responsive, Veteran-centric Department, we can’t do it alone; we need the help of Congress. This year, VA submitted over 100 legislative proposals, including 40 new proposals to better serve Veterans. Our goal is provide the best care to our Veterans while removing obstacles or barriers that prevent them from getting the care they deserve.” The entire presser can be found at the following link: <http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2746>

Home Depot Foundation: The Home Depot Foundation’s (THDF) Veteran Housing Grants Program awards grants to nonprofit organizations for the development and repair of veterans housing. To date, the Foundation has awarded more than \$80 million, and has helped impact more than 17,000 units of housing for veterans. Awards typically range from \$100,000 to \$500,000.

No Barriers: No Barriers is taking applications for their 2016 Veteran Expeditions:

OUR EXPEDITION PROGRAMS; At its core, our program is one part adventure, one part curriculum, and one part physical challenge. Each No Barriers Warriors expedition is designed to push you mentally and physically in some of nature’s most incredible playgrounds. After arriving, you’ll gear up and set out on your new mission with your team. You pushed hard during your time in the service, so we know you’re ready for the challenge. These epic adventures include airfare, any gear you need to borrow, ground transportation, and all your meals, including better backcountry cuisine than a MRE.

Our expeditions range in length from four days to 21 days. Some programs run multiple times per year, others are offered once per year. Explore our specific program dates to learn about dates, eligibility, application process and FAQs. Visit the following link for more information and on instruction for how to apply: <http://www.nobarriersusa.org/warriors/programs/expeditions/>

Job Fair(Albany, NY): Upcoming job fair being held at the Albany Stratton VAMC on April 7, 2016, 10am – 2pm. Veterans interested in a career at the VA call 626-JOBS. If you are a Veteran who would like to enroll in VA Healthcare call 626-MyVA today.