

AT A GLANCE BULLETIN



Army Community Service 61 Quebec Street, BLD 683 Fort Devens, MA 01434—4479 Serving the Military in New England

JUNE 2016

June 2016 Army Community Service







Fort Devens Welcome Center

61 Quebec Street, Building 683 ACS Hours of Operation

0730-1600 Monday -Friday

https://www.devens.army.mil ACS TELEPHONE NUMBERS

978-796-3023/3119 DSN 256-3023/3119

MILITARY ONE SOURCE

1-800-342-9647 Available 24/7/365

www.MilitaryOneSource.mil

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ACS DIRECTOR

ARMY BIRTHDAY - When the American Revolution broke out, the rebellious colonies did not possess an army in the modern sense. Rather, the revolutionaries fielded an amateur force of colonial troops, cobbled together from various New England militia companies. They had no unified chain of command, and although Artemas Ward of Massachusetts exercised authority by informal agreement, officers from other colonies were not obligated to obey his orders. The American volunteers were led, equipped, armed, paid for, and supported by the colonies from which they were raised.

In the spring of 1775, this army was about to confront British troops near Boston, Massachusetts. The revolutionaries had to re-organize their forces quickly if they were to stand a chance against Britain's seasoned professionals. Recognizing the need to enlist the support of all of the American seaboard colonies, the Massachusetts Provincial Congress appealed to the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia to assume authority for the New England army. Reportedly, at John Adams' request, Congress voted to "adopt" the Boston troops on June 14, although there is no written record of this decision. Also on this day, Congress resolved to form a committee "to bring in a draft of rules and regulations for the government of the Army," and voted \$2,000,000 to support the forces around Boston, and those at New York City.

Moreover, Congress authorized the formation of ten companies of expert riflemen from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, which were directed to march to Boston to support the New England militia. These were the first troops Congress agreed to pay from its own funds, and later became the 1st Continental Regiment.

George Washington received his appointment as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army the next day, and formally took command at Boston on July 3, 1775. John R. Maass, Historian US Army Center of Military History

This Year: The Army's 241st Birthday: Two hundred forty one years ago, our nation's leaders established the Continental Army. Today, the Army is the strategic landpower of the joint force; called upon to prevent, shape, and win against our adversaries.

This year, we celebrate 241 years of selfless service to the nation. Selfless service is at the core of what it means to be a Soldier – putting the welfare of others ahead of oneself. The willingness of our Soldiers – to place themselves in harm's way and to protect our nation's freedoms – is what makes us the premier all-volunteer force. The Army has served proudly, faithfully, and selflessly for 241 years, and we remain steadfast in our commitment.

14 June 2016



FINANCIAL

There are good debts — money prudently spent on items such as an education or a roof over your head — but the best debts are those you can speak of in the past tense. That's particularly true of credit card debt. Unfortunately, many people carry month-to-month balances on their credit card accounts. Those can be crushing sources of stress — financial and otherwise. Estimates abound for how much credit card debt the average American carries, but the number that matters is your number. Let's just say it's \$5,000. Here's a five point plan to crush that \$5,000 of debt over the next 12 months.

1. Freeze your credit use

If not easy, this is simple: just don't use it. Struggling? Put your cards in a bowl of water and really freeze them. No matter how you do it, the first step is to stop adding to the problem.

- **2. Develop a spending plan**: If you only make the minimum payments over the course of the year, you'll end up about where you started. That means you need to free up or find money so you can increase those payments. To be specific, if you want to pay off your debt in a year, you'll need to come up with \$350 or \$400 a month above your minimum payment(s). Scrutinize where your money goes and find ways to cut back or cut out expenditures. Canceling the cable, eating out less or clipping coupons are all changes that can help.
- **3.** Create a safety net: If you haven't already, set aside \$1,000 in a savings account before you start to go full force at your debt. You might ask, "Wouldn't it make more sense to use the \$1,000 to pay off debt?" Nope. Having a cash cushion will help ensure you don't have to use credit if you have a financial emergency. Getting rid of debt is all about habits and this step will help you kick the credit card habit. Consider selling some stuff or using money found during step two to come up with that \$1,000.
- **4. Execute the plan to kill your debt**: This is your road map out of debt. If you've got one credit card, your path is simple. Simply apply all the extra monthly cash in your new spending plan toward that credit card until it's paid off. If you've got more than one card start by paying as much as you can on the card with the highest interest rate and minimum payments on the rest. When that card is paid down, work on the next one. The linchpin of your success will be developing a spending plan and supersizing your payments.
- **5. Don't pay more interest than necessary**: Call your credit card(s) company and request a lower interest rate. It could also make sense to consolidate your credit cards into a single zero or low interest rate card or consolidation loan. Remember, though, consolidation alone doesn't solve the problem.

One more consideration: During next 12 months, be on the lookout for windfalls that could help knock out your credit card debt. If you get a tax return, a bonus at work or an inheritance, make the most of it by paying down your debt.

SOLDIER AND FAMILY

Blue Star Museums 2016: Blue Star Museums is a collaboration where more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to the nation's active duty military personnel including National Guard and Reserve and their families from Memorial Day, May 30, through Labor Day, September 5, 2016. Military members are allowed up to five (5) family members!

NO limit on how many museums you can visit! Go to https://www.arts.gov/ to find out more information and locations in your state.

Operation Baby Shower:



OPERATION SHOWER IS HOSTING A BABY SHOWER IN NORTON, MA week of August 29, 2016

WHAT: Operation Shower will be hosting a baby shower honoring military moms-to-be

whose spouses/partners are deployed during their pregnancies.

FOR WHOM: Boston area moms-to-be with due dates on or after May 29, 2016 and who meet one of the following criteria are encouraged to apply:

 have a spouse or partner who is deployed or deploying (or other official duty separation) at some point during their pregnancies;*

- are active duty moms or moms-to-be with a group that is deploying*
- have a spouse or partner who was injured during deployment*
- are active duty moms or moms-to-be*

* Please note, due to regulations, all recipients of Operation Shower must be E-6 and below

WHERE: Norton, MA – location to be announced to invited guests

WHEN: A weekday the week of August 29, 2016 from 11am-1pm (DATE TBD)

ABOUT US: Operation Shower is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to celebrating and honoring military families by hosting joyful baby showers to ease

the stress of deployment. You can find out more about Operation Shower at

www.operationshower.org.

HOW TO APPLY: Contact Amy Belle Isle at amy@operationshower.org by May 2, 2016

SPACE IS LIMITED

This event is by invitation only and nominations are not considered official until a mom receives an invitation from Operation Shower.



<u>Website Streamlines Legal Assistance Needs Commentary</u> by Capt. Jonathan D. Wohlwend 66th Air Base Group Legal Office

HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE, Mass. - The Air Force Legal Assistance website streamlines the military legal assistance process and improves customer service. With more than one million visitors and counting, the website continues to help minimize the number of trips a client must make to obtain legal information and documents. The website, found at https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil/, provides user-friendly 24/7 access without the need of a Common Access Card. Through the website, clients have the ability to discuss important legal matters in the privacy of their own home prior to coming to the Hanscom Legal Office.

Additionally, the website provides clients access to preliminary information about legal documents, and saves valuable time in expedited office visits without sacrificing thoroughness.

Steps for using the Legal Assistance website

Step 1: Select the worksheet that meets your needs, then enter first and last name.

Step 2: Begin filling out the appropriate worksheet; categories include: Wills, Advanced Medical Directives (Living Wills), General Power of Attorneys, Special Power of Attorneys

Step 3: A progress bar will show the steps toward completion. The worksheets do not have to be completed all at once, progress can be saved, and the information can be completed at another time. After answering all questions, a ticket number will appear along with options to email and print out answers. The user should email the ticket number to themselves first, then call the 66th Air Base Group Judge Advocate office at 781-225-1410 and provide the ticket number to schedule an appointment.

Coming to the legal Office: The normal business hours for the Hanscom legal office is Monday through

Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Appointments for general legal assistance are available on Monday from 1 to 3 p.m., and Tuesday from 9 to 10 a.m. Will appointments are available from 1 to 3 p.m. on Wednesdays. Power of Attorney and notary services are available without an appointment from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. throughout the week. After a client has scheduled an appointment, or if they come to the office during walk-in hours, the client should be sure and bring a copy of their ticket number, military ID and appropriate signatories.

Online Survey: The website also contains individualized feedback options with questions concerning wait time, quality of visit, and overall helpfulness. Providing feedback about appointments and services will help the legal office better serve clients in the future.

For additional information about legal assistance at Hanscom AFB, visit the Judge Advocate Office website at http://www.hanscom.af.mil/units/legal/index.asp or call Capt Jonathan Wohlwend at 781-225-1445.

Free Fun Fridays:

FREE FUN FRIDAYS!

8 SITES OPEN FOR FREE EACH FRIDAY

10 FRIDAYS, 100% FREE.

Lyric Stage Company of Boston

Clark Art Institute MASS MoCA

Worcester Art Museum

Children's Museum at Holyoke International Volleyball Hall of Fame The Mount: Edith Wharton's Home

Boston Children's Museum The Sports Museum

Heritage Museums & Gardens Falmouth Museums on the Green Cape Cod Maritime Museum

Amelia Park Children's Museum Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival Wenham Museum

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston Plimoth Plantation

Peabody Essex Museum Cape Ann Museum

Buttonwood Park Zoo Children's Museum in Easton The Hall at Patriot Place Provincetown Art Association and Museum

Edward M. Kennedy Institute **Boston Athenæum** Larz Anderson Museum

Cape Cod Children's Museum **Edward Gorey House** Danforth Art Museum\School

Spellman Museum of Stamps & Postal History Fitchburg Art Museum

Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University New Bedford Whaling Museum

Cape Cod Museum of Art Pilgrim Hall Museum The Eric Carle Museum Fruitlands Museum

Museum of Russian Icons

John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum

Commonwealth Museum

Battleship Cove

Marine Museum at Fall River Sandwich Glass Museum

Nantucket Whaling Museum

Tower Hill Botanic Garden

Commonwealth Shakespeare Company

Harvard Museum of Natural History

AUGUST The Old State House The Greenway Carousel Springfield Museums

Historic Deerfield Hancock Shaker Village

The Old Manse, The Trustees Worcester Historical Museum

The Museum of the NCAAA

Concord Museum

Garden in the Woods Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center

Naumkeag, The Trustees

Emily Dickinson Museum The Metropolitan Waterworks Museum

The Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston

USS Constitution Museum The Discovery Museums

EcoTarium

The Children's Museum of Greater Fall River

New England Historic Genealogical Society

Fuller Craft Museum Griffin Photography Museum

Franklin Park Zoo

Old Sturbridge Village

Freedom Trail Foundation

Museum of African American History

Norman Rockwell Museum

Berkshire Museum

Ventfort Hall Mansion and Gilded Age Museum Cape Cod Museum of Natural History



See More Summer



Please visit HighlandStreet.org or call 617.969.8900 for more information.

facebook.com/HighlandStreet

The Boston Globe

<u>DD214 Request:</u> Veteran needing a copy of their DD 214, need to access the following web page. Request a copy on line. http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/

TICKETS & TOURS: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. | Sat. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 781-225-6505 Hanscom's Tickets & Tours office offers tickets to professional sporting events, concerts and limited engagements at some Boston-area theaters, including the Wang Center, Wilbur Theater, Lowell Memorial Auditorium and Boston Opera House. Join us on trips to Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, New York and more. We provide information, brochures and maps for nearby attractions. We also carry a wide variety of resale merchandise, including caps, shirts and sweatshirts, Hanscom pottery, themed afghans and much more.

HANSCOM AIRMAN AND FAMILY READINESS CENTER June 2016

To RSVP to a class: 781-225-2765 or email: 66.fss.fsfr.cmb@us.af.mil

CHANGES TO Hanscom AFB Airman and Family Readiness Center: Please note that the A&FRC is in transition and will be relocating to building 1240 (the former Enlisted Club near the Minuteman Commons). We will be closed June 13-17 to move. Please note that some classes have been changed and/or rescheduled due to our move. The changes have been outlined below:

- -Bundles for Babies has been rescheduled to 5 July
- -Capstone for 14 June has been cancelled
- -Pre-Separation counseling for 15 June is cancelled
- -Federal Resume Writing has been changed from 15 June to 14 June, same time but at the Education Center (Classroom H)

We apologize for this inconvenience. Please call 781-225-2765 if you have any further questions. Thank you!

Weekly Programs

Individual Transition Plan Checklist - Capstone Verification Every Tuesday | 1-2:30 p.m. Please call the A&FRC at (781) 225-2765 to schedule an appointment with a consultant. All AF service members who completed Pre-separation Counseling and TAP/GPS are required to complete DD Form 2958, Service Member's Individual Transition Plan Checklist (referred to as "Capstone"), prior to separation/retirement. This is a mandatory requirement for out-processing.

Pre-separation Counseling Every Wednesday | 9-11 a.m. Weekly sessions for separating and retiring service members to complete the mandatory DD Form 2648, Pre-separation Counseling. This counseling MUST be provided at least 90 days prior to date of separation or retirement and is a prerequisite for attending the Transition-GPS Workshop.

Pre-deployment Briefing Every Friday | 2-3 p.m. Mandatory for personnel tasked with a TDY/Deployment of 30 days or longer. Spouses are highly encouraged to attend. Briefings are held every Friday at the A&FRC. Please call the A&FRC to sign up.

Family Welcome - Anytime! Stop in after you arrive at Hanscom for a personal welcome to the community and a tour of the A&FRC! Learn what services and information we have for newly arrived service members and families. Children welcome. **Private Sector & Federal Resume Critique -** By "in person" appointment only

Resumes are reviewed by an employment specialist with HR experience. Receive feedback to improve your format and content. Email your resume to 66.fss.fsfr.cmb@us.af.mil and receive a response within 7 business days. Prior attendance at an A&FRC Resume Writing class is recommended.

SOMEONE TO TALK TO when you need it: Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC) provide free, short-term, non-medical, solution-oriented counseling on a range of issues. For service members and their families – no records are kept. Call (781) 879-7654 and leave your first name only for an appointment!

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides a confidential, free counseling service on a wide range of personal & work concerns for DoD civilian, NAF & DECA employees as well as their family members. The EAP offers Financial & Legal services as well. Contact Ina Bachman, LICSW, CEAP at 1-800-222-0364 for an appointment & check out the website www.FOH4you.com . ** On site every Monday!!

VA BENEFITS ADVISORS *are available.* Please contact them at 781-225-2624/2625 or 508-847-9985. Located in Bldg 1217.

VETERANS AFFAIRS DISABILITY CLAIMS REVIEW

Fridays (By Appointment Only) A representative from AMVETS, a veterans' service organization, will assist you in processing your disability claim and answer questions. Appointment is required. Call the AMVETS Service Representative at 617-980-8400.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. CALL (781) 225-2765 or email us at 66.fss.fsfr.cmb@us.af.mil www.facebook.com/Hanscom.AFRC www.hanscomservices.com/AirmanAndFamilyReadinessCenter.asp

covers the application process, how to use certification finder Web tools and other internet resources that identify licensed occupations, and military occupational code translator. Technical training experts and VA vocational education counselors will be available to meet individually with Service members, as needed.

Family Advocacy Outreach

CELL PHONE COLLECTION: The Family Advocacy Program collects used and old cell phones, and distributes them to local domestic violence agencies. Drop off phones, batteries, and chargers to the Family Advocacy Program, Bldg 1217. Please put each phone and its accessories in a sealed, plastic bag.

WIC, a nutrition and education program for income-eligible expectant parents or parents with children age birth to five is located on base. * WIC is located in Bldg 1507 *. WIC is on base the first and third Wednesday of each month from 0800 to 1530. For WIC appointments or information, call (617) 312-9974.

<u>First Connections-</u> Is a non-profit, family support organization that provides comprehensive services to families with young children birth through age five. First Connections serves a large geographic

area that encompasses twelve metro-west communities, including Hanscom Air Force Base. All programs are free or low cost. More information is available on their website www.firstconnections.org or by calling 781-287-0221.

EMPLOYMENT READINESS



<u>USA JOB HELP CENTER:</u> Applying for government jobs can be challenging. The new <u>USAJOBS</u>
<u>Help Center</u> at <u>https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/</u> An official webswite of the US Goverbnebt

It can guide you through every task. The updates to this resource include a frequently asked questions section (FAQs), a "How to" section that guides you through the steps of the job application process, and more on what it's like to work for the government. For more information related to employment, visit <u>USA.gov</u>.

Military to Civilian Transition Peer Support: The Veterans Inc. Post 9/11 program provides peer support and specialized career services for Post 9/11 veterans. Veterans Inc.'s Peer Specialists, all Post 9/11 veterans themselves, offer one-on-one support and will connect you with all of the resources you need to ensure a smooth transition back into civilian life. If you are a Post 9/11 veteran looking to connect with Veterans Inc., email: Post9-11Program@veteransinc.org or call 800-482-2565.

<u>Hire Veterans First</u> is a listing of jobs for veterans and a resume posting service - including a focused list of jobs recruiting wounded warriors. <u>www.hireveteransfirst.</u>com Any participation is solely the responsibility of the individual.

<u>Transitioning the Service?</u> Find Out About Your Veterans and Retirement Benefits, How To Conduct a Job Search and other <u>MANDATORY</u> Transition Training.

Dates: 25-29 July 2016, 3-7 October 2016 All workshops start at 0800 in Building 676, Ft Devens, MA

To attend a workshop at Fort Devens? Call John AT (609) 562-1761. **SPOUSES ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND** "Personnel separating from the service may attend this workshop up to 18 months prior to their discharge date and retirees may attend up to 2 years prior to their retirement date."

"Congress requires that ALL personnel must start transition training NLT 12 months prior to their discharge date"

<u>From Army Times on Web</u>: This new eBenefits feature incorporates numerous tools and resources for job seekers, as well as employers who want high quality applicants. Veterans, service members and their spouses or dependents, who are looking for work, transitioning out of the military or changing careers are encouraged to utilize the Veterans Employment Center. Users can access the Skills Translator function to translate military terms to civilian skills or just go right to the Resume Builder tool. Resumes created on the site will be available to private and public sector employers who specifically want to hire veterans. Veterans Employment Center is found at http://www.ebenefits.va.gov.

eBenefits Fact Sheet http://www.nvti.ucdenver.edu/home/buzz_xtra/eBenefits_factsheet.pdf

LENDING LIBRARY: The ERRC offers a large selection of library resources including books, CDs and DVDs. Employment topics include resume writing, interviewing skills and applying for federal jobs. Relocation topics include moving overseas, moving with children, and having fun in New England - family and pet-friendly activities. Other printed resources include atlases, fliers, and magazines.

HOT JOB BOARD, JOB LISTINGS AND OTHER RESOURCES: The Hot Jobs Board is updated on a daily basis and includes up to the moment federal, contractor, AFFES and NAF positions located in and around Hanscom. Listed Jobs are filed by sector and searchable by date. Other posted notices include local area job fairs, job fair guidance and six-month job search instruction schedule.

<u>Free Vocational Training for Veterans:</u> The Veterans Training School (VTS) is recruiting unemployed and under-employed Veterans for the following vocational free vocational programs: Apply today! Email Andrew Moyseowicz or call 617-371—1810. Find more online at www.nechv.org

<u>Career Opportunities:</u> An update that we now have a "Career Opportunities" link on our website which will have all the information regarding our current job opening, description, and how to apply... http://www.veteransinc.org/about-us/career-opportunities/

The Federal Resume Database:



<u>USA JOB:</u> JOB OPPORTUNITIES ON THE BASE - Remember to go to <u>www.USAJOBS.GOV</u> and search for Newport, RI if you are interested in finding out and applying for positions open onboard the Naval Station. Current opportunities include a Motor Vehicle Operator that's open through next week. Spread the word! USAJOBS - The Federal Government's Official Jobs Site <u>www.USAJOBS.GOV</u> This is a United States Office of Personnel Management website. USAJOBS is the Federal Government's official one-stop source for Federal jobs and employment information.

<u>Job Search:</u> Below please find a link to critical skills needed at Booz Allen Hamilton. Please share with your contacts and have all interested email me their resumes and I will submit on their behalf – this speeds up the review process. Also, applicants must identify the job skills qualification from the list. https://erp.bah.com/hotjobs.htm

Website: Career Resources for Veterans: The Defense Centers of Excellence (DCoE) recently collaborated with PBS to produce a handbook for military families. Created as a companion to the PBS series "This Emotional Life," A Handbook for Family & Friends of Service Members explores the stressors and feelings individuals may encounter throughout the different phases of deployment. The handbook aims to provide solutions for Service members and identifies outside tools and resources that may be useful to friends and family members before, during and after deployment. Topics include what to expect during deployment and how to strengthen or repair relationships. Order the handbooks from the Real Warriors Campaign website at http://www.sc.edu/career/Webresources/veterans.html

http://www.realwarriors.net/materials/order

Hanscom AFS: Resources http://www.hanscom.af.mil

Massachusetts Career Information System: http://masscis.intocareers.org/default.asp

Veterans Employment Services (978) 534-1481 x 117 www.wmoore@detma.org

Orion International: info@orioninternational.com

RELOCATION READINESS

ACS has listings for apartments or houses to rent. List is updated as housing is made available to us. Call 978-796-3023. ACS Electronic Welcome Packets https://www.devens.army.mil

Moving and Relocation Information: Terrific tips to make moving easier. Plan my Move at http://www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil/MOS/f?p=MI:ENTRY:0

TRICARE Information at Hanscom AFB: Hanscom AFB offers a monthly Newcomer Orientation Medical Clinic welcome to all new patients every Tuesday from 1300 to 1500. It is strongly recommended that Army personnel attend so they can find out about their provider, how to access emergency services, and referral. Telephone: 781-377-2120

FORT DEVENS SERVICES:

<u>Fort Devens Mail and Distribution</u>: Mail & Distribution Hours are as follows. The Door will be open for box pick up between the following hours.0730 AM to 1600 PM. Window pick up 0900 AM to 1200 PM 1230 PM to 1430 PM

Education Office: The 99th RSC Education Office is located at 30 Quebec Street, (Building 666) Fort Devens, in Rooms 328,326, and 324. Call 978-796-2331. Services include educational and career counseling, GI Bill questions and issues, tuition assistance, financial aid and scholarship information as well as test administration and test proctoring.

Police Services Division: Fingerprinting 0930-1030 / 1500-1600 or By Appointment.

Police: 978-796-3333

Physical Security: 978-796-3950

Carlson Wagonlit Travel/Veterans Travel: 800-945-0535 or 402-345-7596

Devens Legal: 978-796-2255 Education Office: 978-796-2331

AAFES / Clothing & Sales: 978-772-6838 / 2065

DA Photo: 978 796 2559

Fort Devens ID Cards 978 -796-2130, Building 683

Billeting: Bldg. 978-796-3201

Distance Learning Center: 978-796-3612 / 2605 / 2626

Transportation: Passenger 978-796-2722/ or 2393 Freight 978-796-2832/ or 2840

Vehicles: 978-796-2141

MASSACHUSETTS RESOURCES:

USO New England: http://www.uso-newengland.org/index.htm

Massachusetts Parks: www.state.ma.us/dem/forparks.htm
Massachusetts Wildlife: www.state.ma.us/dfwele/dfw

State of Massachusetts Child Care Finder: www.qualitychildcare.org Massachusetts Getaway Guide: http://www.mass-vacation.com/

Massachusetts's area Guides net: http://massachusetts.ags.myareaguide.com/

Boston and Local Area Concerts: http://www.bostonconcerts.com/

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