

Columbia County Veteran's Voice



News

VA Life Insurance: For veterans age 80 or younger and have a VA service-connected disability rating, you are eligible for VALife. With this coverage, there is no time limit to apply after getting your disability rating. With VALife, you can get up to \$40,000 in whole life insurance. VALife is guaranteed acceptance whole life insurance. There is no medical exam needed in order to obtain this coverage; the only requirement is that you have a VA disability rating. Even if you have a 0% disability rating, you will qualify for this coverage. Your full life insurance coverage will start 2 years after you apply. You must pay your premiums during those 2 years. If you pass during the 2-year waiting period, your beneficiaries will receive the total amount you paid in premiums, plus interest. The premium you pay will be based on your age at time of enrollment and your rate will never go up. If you would like to know the cost of your coverage, please visit [Veterans Affairs Life Insurance \(VALife\) | Veterans Affairs](#). This website has a chart with the monthly premium cost based on your age at time of enrollment.

There are also a few other types of life insurances for service members currently serving, veterans, and their family members.

SGLI (servicemembers' group life insurance) is a life insurance you pay for while you are serving. **FSGLI (family servicemembers' group life insurance)** offers coverage for the spouse and dependent children of service members covered under full-time SGLI.

TSGLI (traumatic injury protection) provides short-term financial support to help eligible service member recover from a severe injury.

VGLI (veterans' group life insurance) is a term life insurance policy for service members who leave service. **VMLI (veterans mortgage life insurance)** offers mortgage protection insurance to the families of veterans with severe service-connected disabilities who've adapted a home to fit their needs.

For a complete breakdown of these additional coverages, you can visit [About VA Insurance Options And Eligibility | Veterans Affairs](#).

Habitat for Humanity Grant: Habitat for Humanity of Wisconsin River area is offering a grant program for safer homes to disabled veterans who qualify. These grants will pay for home repairs and accessibility modification. They are also offering free home energy assessments for all households. To fill out a grant application either call (608) 448-2888 or visit www.hfhwisconsinriver.org. The deadline for these applications is March 10th.

Flag Drop: Now located in our office is a flag drop box. Bring in your flags that are worn, ripped, or tattered and they will be collected from our office by another organization that will hold a flag retirement ceremony.

Vet Center: Combat Veterans Services, Vet Centers help you and your family build meaningful connections and develop tools for achieving success in both your military and civilian lives. Services include Counseling, Referrals (medical, benefit, employment, and other VA and community services), and community engagement. **Call 1-877-927-8387**

Local Events and Other Important Dates

We have started a calendar with events listed. You will find these monthly calendars at the end of the newsletter. You can also find them on our website, www.co.columbia.wi.us/columbiacounty/veterans

- ❖ If there are any other community events that support the veteran community, and you would like it published, please email the information to veterans@columbiacountywi.gov

Contact Us

Phone: 608-742-9618

Email: veterans@columbiacountywi.gov

Mailing Address:

Columbia County Veterans Service Office

112 E. Edgewater Street

Portage, WI 53901

Veterans Resources

Suicide Prevention: If you or someone you know is thinking about harming themselves, say, "I'm going to get some help," and call **1-800-273-8255**, Press **"1" for Veterans**.

DAV Transport to VA Appointments: 608-772-4761 (for Columbia County Veterans)

Homeless Veterans: The National Call Center for Homeless Veterans hotline offers Veterans who are homeless or at risk for homelessness 24/7 access to trained counselors. The hotline offers information and assistance to Veterans and their families and other who work with or simply want to support our nation's Veterans. **Call 1-877-424-3838**



NEW Grant Opportunities for Safer Homes!



Grants for Disabled Veterans

Up to \$20,000 per household.

Deadline is **March 10th**

**Rolling grants are also available.*

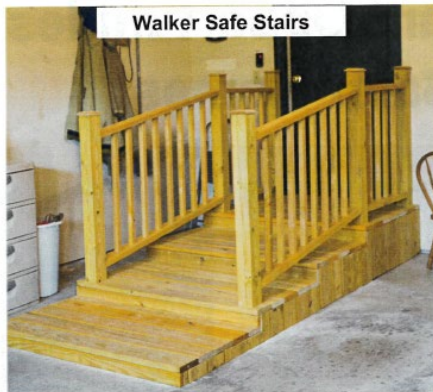
Grants for Older Americans (Age 62+)

Up to \$5,000 per household.

Project oversight by OT.

Zero interest loans also available.

PLUS FREE HOME ENERGY ASSESSMENTS for all households



Grants help to pay for home repairs & accessibility modifications.

Income should be below \$57,500 for household of 2*

**Veteran grants may exceed income threshold.*

Veteran disability does *not* have to be service-connected or VA rated.

Call (608) 448-2888 or hfhwisconsinriver.org

2ND ANNUAL Special Olympics

Cornhole Tournament

FUNDRAISER

Saturday, March 30, 2024
REGISTRATION NOON | BAGS FLY AT 1 PM

Last year you helped raise funds for Silver Lake SO cornhole boards, bags, & jerseys. This year money raised supports all Silver Lake Special Olympics sports!

For more information contact Diane Woodard at 608.683-1521 or on Facebook.

Connell's Cedar Shack
2248 State Hwy 13, Adams, Wisconsin

Compete in Cornhole and raise funds for Silver Lake Special Olympics.

- **Nearly 100 raffle baskets***
*in 2023. Bring your raffle basket donation that day!
- **Team registration \$40**
Two-person teams. Half of fee goes to fundraiser.
- **50/50 raffles**

Download the Scoreholio App to sign up or join a team! Click on TOURNAMENTS, then type in Special Olympics. Navigate to the 2nd annual Special Olympics Bags Fundraiser. Pay Registration Fee the day of the event.

Special Olympics
SILVER LAKE

Silver Lake Special Olympics volunteers work together with state staff to provide year-round sports training and competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports, free health screenings, unified experiences and community events to support children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

RISE UP FOR RECOVERY!

JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY EVENT OF FREE FOOD, MUSIC, ACTIVITIES AND FELLOWSHIP @ THE HARBOR RECOVERY CENTER

FRIDAYS 6-8PM

**JANUARY 19
FEBRUARY 16
MARCH 15
APRIL 19**

Those In Recovery & Their Allies Are Welcome

Event Located @
The Harbor Recovery Center
1505 New Pinery Road
Portage, WI

THE HARBOR RECOVERY CENTER

www.theharborrecoverycenter.com (608) 697-7163

Women Veteran's Community Social

at

Nautical Coffee Co.

108 3rd St
Baraboo, WI

First WEDNESDAY of the Month @ 1400

For more information about Peer Support, contact:
Local Recovery Coordinator
Rhae Vacha, LCSW - (608) 332-1628

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Portage VFW meeting – 1800 Columbus VFW meeting- 1900 Cambria Am. Legion meeting – 1900 Poynette Am. Legion meeting – 1830	2	3
4	5 Rio Am. Legion meeting – 1900	6 Pardeeville Am. Legion meeting - 1830	7 Lodi Am. Legion meeting – 1300 WI Dells Am. Legion meeting - 1900	8	9	10 Fall River VFW meeting - 0900
11	12 Portage Am. Legion meeting -	13 Pardeeville VFW meeting - 1830	14	15 Randolph VFW meeting – 1900 Columbus Am. Legion meeting - 1800	16	17
18 Columbus Am. Legion Monthly Breakfast	19 Pardeeville Am. Legion Aux. meeting – 1330 @Pardeeville Methodist Church	20	21 WI Dells VFW meeting- 1900	22	23	24 Columbus Am. Legion Euchre @1300
25	26	27	28	29		

March 2024

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31						