YAVAPAI COLLEGE VETERANS SERVICES NEWS

IMPORTANT DATES

•VETERANS DAY 11-11-2011 YAVAPAI COLLEGE CLOSED

•SPRING 2012 SCHEDULE ONLINE 11-01-2011

•SPRING 2012 REGISTRATION Continuing Students 11-14-2011

New Students 11-21-2011

•WINTER BREAK All YC offices closed 12-19-2011 to 01-01-2012

•SPRING 2012 Semester begins 01-18-2012

VETERANS DAY 2011

At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month 1918 fighting between the Allied Nations and Germany ceased, ending the "War to End all Wars." The following year, President Woodrow Wilson declared November 11th as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with these words:

"To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

In 1954 Armistice Day became Veteran's Day.



This year, Yavapai College is closed in remembrance of Veteran's Day. We hope that this will allow our student, staff and faculty veterans to participate in the events of the day.

The 2011 Veterans Day Parade in Prescott takes place on the campus of Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Willow Creek Road, Prescott, AZ.

The following events are planned at Yavapai College:

Tuesday 11-08-2011

The Mobile Vet Center, information tables, raffle and donations table will be at the Prescott Campus 2-5 PM.

Wednesday 11-09-2011

Breakfast for the Brave in Building 1, Room 217 9 am to 11 am. – VUB and continued on page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	
Veterans Day	1
Veteran Connection Club	1
Registration Spring 2012	2
Veterans Upward Bound	2
In state tuition	3
BAH for Online Students	3
Welcome New VA Work Study	3
Editor's Message	4

VETERAN CONNECTION CLUB

Starting college is a huge step in anyone's life. Achieving your goal of earning a college degree is challenging on many levels. All college students need a support system but veterans in college, sometimes find it difficult to reestablish the sense of connection and cohesion they experienced in the military.

The Veterans Connection Club is dedicated to helping veterans build those connections again and find success in education and in life. The goal is to create a social network with other veterans at Yavapai College and promote professional and personal development. The club offers learning opportunities, networking and volunteerism. Veterans, including active and retired military, reservists and their families and others who support the United States Military branches are encouraged to join. If you are interested please email <u>VeteranConnec-</u> <u>tion@yc.edu</u> or ask for Andrew Meyers, club president at the Veterans Upward Bound office on the Prescott campus, building 1 room 209. Those interested in holding an office within the club and those who can volunteer are encouraged to come forward.

PAGE 2

Díd you know... New Student Group Advísing can help you understand program and degree requirements, learn about YC resources and meet with an Academic Advisor? For information go to http://www.yc.edu/ v4content/advising/ group-advising.htm Just as you are struggling through the second half of the fall semester, the spring schedule of classes is available online. Now is the time to prepare for the next step toward your goal of a college education. The important deadlines are listed on page one.

Schedule an appointment with your Academic Advisor for a time between November 1st and November 10th by calling 928-776-2106 now. Prepare your ideal schedule of classes and register as soon as registration opens for continuing students, Monday, November 14th at 12 midnight! If you know someone planning to attend Yavapai College for the first time in Spring 2012, please urge them not to delay. Now is the time to meet with an Academic Advisor, apply for

REGISTRATION SPRING

financial aid (www.yc.edu/ financialaid) and Veterans Education benefits (www.yc.edu/veterans).

2012

Yavapai College offices will be closed 12-19-2011 through 1-01-2012. Please submit your Benefits Request form before December 1st for the best chance to receive your first benefits payment during the first week of February.

VETERANS UPWARD BOUND (VUB)

We have found that many Veterans put off continuing their education due to academic fears or not understanding the educational process. The Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) program and staff are here to help you conquer your academic fears and successfully navigate through the educational process.

The Veterans Upward Bound program provides assessment and enhancement of basic skills through academic instruction in the core subject areas. The primary goal of the program is to increase the rate at which participants enroll in and continue in educational programs.

Come by our office today and tour the new Veterans Center study lab and classroom.

While you're there, make an appointment with Derek Yellowhair the VUB advisor and find out how Veterans Upward Bound can move you in the right direction with your education...forward. On the Verde campus call Linda Evans at 928-634-6596 for an appointment in building M room 125.

Modules now being offered include: Preparing for College Level Writing, Online College Level English Skills Review, Computers I, Advanced Pre-calculus, Math Study/Tutor Group. Also available, workshops on Learning Styles and Personal Finance. Díd you know... Tutoring is available through the Learning Center, Veterans Upward Bound or a private tutor paid with your Veterans Education benefits? www/yc/edu/ veterans



Andrew Meyers VUB representative Building 1–Window 1



Holly Molina VUB Administrative Assistant building 1— room 209



Derek Yellowhair VUB Advisor building 1—room 209

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

VETERANS DAY 2011 CONTINUED

Veterans Connection will be providing continental breakfast for veteran students, staff and faculty.

Movie Day – Fun Military Movies will be shown in building 1 room 216, 9 AM -5 PM

Thursday 11-10-2011

'Remembrance Day National Roll Call'- nationwide grassroots effort to honor American service men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq and Afghanistan during the past decade. Prescott Campus 7:30 AM-5 PM.

Volunteers to read the names are needed at 15 minute intervals throughout Thursday and for all other events. Please visit Veterans Upward Bound on the Prescott Campus building 1 room 209 or call 928-776-7686 to volunteer.

Other ways to contribute now: Donate warm clothing & bedding for homeless veterans Write a comment to a soldier or a veteran – paper will be provided Donate a photo of those serving or of someone who has served

Donate pre-packaged breakfast items (doughnuts, danish, muffins, paper products, etc) for Breakfast for the Brave

Buy tickets for the Quilt Raffle to support the Yavapai College Veterans Connection Club

Verde campus Veteran's Day events are also planned. For details call 928-634-6596.



For the complete history of Veterans Day go to http://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/ vetdayhistory.asp

Díd you know... Vocational Rehabilitation student veterans who are eligible for Post 9/11 benefits can now choose the Post 9/11 housing allowance instead of the vocational rehab allowance?

VA NOW ONLY PAYS INSTATE TUITION FOR POST 9/11

The VA has recently made some major changes to it's tuition payments for Chapter 33- Post 9/11 students. Effective August 1, 2011 the VA will only pay in-state tuition rates. Because of this change the Veterans Services Office can only report the tuition and fees up to the in-state rate. The student is responsible for any fees in excess of the instate rates.

But don't give up hope! The state of Arizona passed a law to allow it's public colleges and universities to grant qualified veterans in-state status without the usual twelve month waiting period! To change your residency status, just submit a copy of your DD-214 and your Arizona drivers license OR your Arizona Voters Registration card to the Yavapai College Registration

Department.

For up to date changes and announcements please visit the VA's website at: www.gibill.va.gov/benefits/ post_911_gibill/ Post911_changes.html.

BAH FOR ONLINE STUDENTS

Effective October 1, 2011, The VA pays Basic Housing Allowance (BAH) to students who are solely taking classes online. The stipend for full-time online only students will be half the national average of BAH for an E-5 with dependents or \$673.50 a month for 2011. The other rules still apply: you must be enrolled more than half time and BAH will be prorated based on your rate of pursuit.

NEW VA WORK STUDY

Introducing Lani Hitchens our newest VA Work Study student. Lani is studying Graphic Design and Paralegal. She hails from the Northwest and is the spouse of a Vietnam veteran who has recently published a book about his experiences titled <u>Sitting</u> <u>With Warrior</u>, by Carl Hitchens.

Please stop by the Veterans Services window on Tuesday, Thursday or Friday to meet Lani and welcome her to our staff.



Lani Welcome to Yavapai College Veterans Services

YAVAPAI COLLEGE VETERANS SERVICES

life explored

PRESCOTT CAMPUS

1100 E. SHELDON ST PRESCOTT, AZ 86314 Phone: 928-717-7613 Fax: 928-776-2030

VERDE CAMPUS

601 BLACK HILLS DR. CLARKDALE, AZ 86324 Phone: 928-634-6564 Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. The Yavapai College Veteran Services office plans to publish a newsletter several times during each academic year providing information on events and issues of interest to student veterans and dependents throughout the year.

Being a student is a task in itself and we want to be sure that relevant information is available to our student veterans with just the click of a button or the reading of a newsletter.

We invite you to write in with topics for articles, questions or interesting stories, facts and information that you would like to read about in the newsletter. Please send your suggestions to <u>va.services@yc.edu</u> (Subject Line – "Veteran Services Newsletter")

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

I would like to welcome everyone to the Fall 2011 semester here at Yavapai College. I hope all our returning students are feeling well on their way to achieving their goals. New students, I hope you take advantage of all the resources that Yavapai College offers including myself and the staff of Financial Aid and Veterans Services and the outstanding staff and faculty of Yavapai College.

But more than all this, I hope that you will use this time to become part of the Yavapai College community. I hope that you will make this a time to forge lifelong friendships with people who will love and support you throughout the many stages of your life.

Although I worked throughout the summer, I too am returning after a two week early autumn vacation. I am writing this from a small cottage overlooking the Atlantic Ocean in New Hampshire. Over the last two weeks I have visited the lakes of Maine and New Hampshire, the coastal cities of Belfast, Camden and Castine, Maine and Portsmouth, NH and spent hours sitting on the dock of a small lake in rural New Hampshire. As I make my way back to Boston and Logan International airport for the long trip west, I am following the coast, the Atlantic Ocean, the rugged rock outcroppings and the working harbor and coastal towns. While this has been a renewal for me and a respite from daily work life and responsibilities, I have kept you all in my thoughts during this time.

When I arrived in Maine, I did one of my favorite things. I visited a thrift store with the intention of buying a book to read during my vacation. There were shelves and shelves of romance novels, self-help books, and biographies but the volume that kept catching my eye was <u>Flags of</u> <u>Our Fathers.</u> So, as is my habit when selecting books, I went with my intuition and purchased it.

For those who have seen the movie, as I have, the book is so much richer and more enlightening. After spending warm, foggy mornings reading on the dock of the lake and cool evenings in a tiny camp cabin, I have a much better understanding of the student veterans who make their way to Yavapai College after serving in the military and in combat. Although as a non-veteran I can never truly understand your experiences, reading this has helped me to understand the camaraderie that most of you speak of with longing and why returning to the United States and the bounty we enjoy here is so difficult. But this book was written about another time and a different war.

If anyone would like to share the name of another book that speaks more directly to your experience, please email me at Sandra.aldrich@yc.edu.