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Time's Running Out

* **FASFA for 2013-2014**

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

* 9 March- 17 March: Spring Break

* **15 April: TAXES DUE**

* 3 May: Last day of Classes

* 6 May – 9 May: Spring Exams

* 11 May: Spring

!NEW CLUBS ON CAMPUS!



Honor Society for Military and Veteran Students



Physical Fitness Club

From the Registrar

If you have any questions or concerns about using your GI Bill benefits, please do not hesitate to contact the VA Certifying Official on campus in the Registrar's Office.

Gail Wright
VA Certifying Official
gwright@radford.edu
540.831.6131



Editor: Ms. Debbie Robinson
Founder & Developer: Ms. Natalie Kiddie
Developer: Mr. James Whorley

Stop by the MRC

Article By: James Whorley

The MRC, Radford University's Military Resource Center, has been gaining momentum here on campus as it has been fighting for the military and veterans on campus. Ms. Natalie Kiddie, a graduate student here at RU, has worked closely with Mrs. Tracey Mattson, head of the Learning And Resource Center (LARC), to establish the MRC. The MRC is here to address the needs and concerns of our military and veteran scholars both academic and non-academic.

Just in the past couple semesters, the MRC has grown substantially. We have grown from having just one transition coach to three, allowing more time slots available to assist our military and veterans. This semester has been one of transition as Ms. Kiddie will be graduating, which will allow the other Senior Transition Coach, Mr. Whorley, to accept responsibility and run the MRC office.

Mr. Whorley served 6 ½ years with the US Army, both active and with the VA National Guard. In this time, he served two tours in Northern Iraq and helped train personnel from the 29th ID. Mr. Whorley is currently pursuing a double major here at Radford University, Computer Science and Geospatial Science. As a father, husband, and student, Mr. Whorley has learned the importance of time management in a hectic non-traditional student's world. He is very enthusiastic about continuing the legacy of the MRC while here at Radford University and looks forward to helping the department grow.

Military and veterans can contact the MRC for more information, or to set up an appointment, by email: military@radford.edu or by phone: (540)831-5002.



Mr. Whorley, James



Ms. Kiddie, Natalie

Looking for Employment Post-Graduation: Pathways Program

The Pathways Program is for students and recent graduates to transition into Federal Careers. This Program is a Federal initiative to help students become Federal Service employees. The Program has three tiers. The first tier is the Internship Program. The Second tier is the Recent Graduates Program. The final tier is the Presidential Management Fellows Program. This Program is for entry level advanced degree candidates and was created over three decades ago via Executive Order. This Program has a narrow focus and is highly competitive. Internships and job opportunities may be accessed through USAJobs.gov. Students are required to create a USAJobs.gov account in order to apply for most positions. For additional information please visit:

<https://www.usajobs.gov/StudentsAndGrads>.

SVA Testifying Before Congress About G.I. Bill Processing Delays

On February 14, 2013, the Executive Director of the Student Veterans of America, Mr. Michael Dakduck, testified before the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity Committee on Veterans Affairs U.S. House of Representatives. He testified on behalf of Student Veterans and the delay in G.I. Bill processing. With the incorporation of new technology systems being continuously "rolled out," there appears to be a lack of real-time information to Student Veterans about the status of their claims. At this point in time, Student Veterans and Dependents utilizing G.I. Bill benefits are only able to track the status of their claims by calling the G.I. Bill hotline or via their institutional VA Certifying Official. While the hotline is an excellent resource, it often has long wait times due to heavy call traffic. The "Call Back at a Later Time" system, while initially a convenient resource, appears to be slipping calls through the cracks and is becoming highly inefficient. While school certifying officials have a private line to the Educational Office with the VA, this is only a short term solution since it still requires the certifying official to call into the hotline to verify the status of a claim. This process requires a more streamlined system with easier and real-time status updates for Student Veterans.

SALUTE at RU Honor Society

Article By: James Whorley(Founder)

We recognize military and veterans for their service to their country so they know we are proud to have them fighting for our freedoms. The G.I. Bill encourages military and veterans to continue their education at an institution for higher learning. But just as we are proud of their service, we should show our pride in the military and veteran scholars who achieve academic excellence. This is where the SALUTE Honor Society has stepped up to the challenge.

SALUTE National Honor Society was founded in 2009 at Colorado State University with the help of funding through the ACE/Wal-Mart Success for Veterans Grant. Like all military organizations, there are certain acronyms assigned to each one. SALUTE represents the values Service, Academics, Leadership, Unity, Tribute, and Excellence which this organization strives to uphold.

So, how does this apply to the military and veterans studying here at Radford University? There is now a chapter of SALUTE at RU. SALUTE recognizes the excellence of military and veteran students who hold a GPA of 3.0 or higher. In order to promote hard work and to raise their GPA, SALUTE has established four tiers of academic excellence: Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta. Recognition for excellence is shown through a Certificate of Academic Excellence from the national chapter and a challenge coin. The RU chapter includes the honor to wear a red, white, and blue honor cord on graduation. Most of all, this organization gives recognition where it is due. For more information about the organization or to find out how to apply, email the organization at salute@radford.edu.

The Radford University Community Music Group:

Are you looking for a fun social community to be a part of?

Do you have a love for all aspects of music?

If you have answered yes to both of these questions, the Radford University Community Music Group is the right place for you!

The Radford University Community Music Group was established to create a "heartbeat" for veterans and non-veterans. Through the musical experience (i.e. learning an instrument, song writing, music discussion, creating an ensemble, etc.), members will not only enhance creativity and well-being but also gain a sense of community and integration. The community is what the group makes it, and it has the ability to utilize the resources that participating individuals have to not only support the group but broaden it. Most importantly, no musical experience is needed!

So when and where is this group?

Where: The Porterfield building at Radford University, Room 149

When: Every Wednesday night from 7-8pm

Still want more information?

Contact either Nicole Drozd (ndrozd@radford.edu) or Laura Streit (lstreit@radford.edu)

Come join us and enhance your experience at Radford University!

Warriors at RU

Article By: Ian Jennings(President)

A new club is now available to military men and women on campus, Warriors of RU. The purpose of the organization is to give military oriented students the option to better themselves physically, build comradery, and make Radford University more military friendly. This club is still in its beginning stages but has already attracted the attention of a variety of students. However, Warriors of RU will need more members in order to reach its fullest potential.

So far, members of the club have been conducting daily physical training at Greenhill, usually at 1700. The exercises include a variety of methods such as cross fit, swimming, trail running, MARSOC short cards, and other highly rigorous workouts. If you are interested in this club, you are encouraged to contact the President, Ian Jennings, whose contact information is below.

Contact Information

Ian Jennings
(434)665-2278
ijennings@radford.edu

RU Student Veterans Research Team

The Mission of Radford University's Student Veterans Research Team is to gain a better understanding of the evolving needs of Student Veterans at Radford University.

In an effort to meet the ever changing needs of Student Veterans, this team aims to promote awareness and understanding of benefits and services available, reduce stigma associated with seeking services, and encourage a positive campus climate. It also provides valuable information to Radford's faculty and staff, and other colleges and universities, about the needs of Student Veterans. We also strive to showcase the strengths associated with having Student Veterans as a valued member of the university's community.

If you are interested in more information about the RU Student Veterans Research, contact VetResearch@radford.edu or check out the Lab's [Facebook](#) page.



Mr. Dave, the RU Student Veterans Research Team's Official Mascot

RELIGIOSITY STUDY SHOWCASE

The Radford University Student Veterans Research Team is conducting a research study investigating the influence of life experiences on current religious beliefs, examining how religion can be supportive and a coping tool, and determining how important religion is to student veterans.

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes of your time to complete. If you are interested in participating in this survey please contact the principle investigator, Dr. Leake at vleake@radford.edu or at (540) 831-6112.

Thank you in advance for your interest and participation!

RU's ROTC UPDATE

Cadets, especially the juniors, have been training hard this semester as the time for them to go to LDAC this summer quickly approaches. They are modifying their training to fit the new changes that are happening at LDAC this year. They put in the dates they wish to go and, for now, they anxiously train and wait to go. They plan on having a "Mini-LDAC" in RAAP Dublin after school is over to get a better feel for what this summer has in store. The mini-LDAC was started last year and helped the current seniors improve their skills and land navigation before heading out.

If you would like more information please contact CPT Blanc or talk to Mike in the Military Resource Center.

Visit us online at our RU [website](#) or on [Facebook](#).



Picture of Radford University's ROTC Spring 2013 Semester. ROTC Update by Cadet Breslin Fitch.

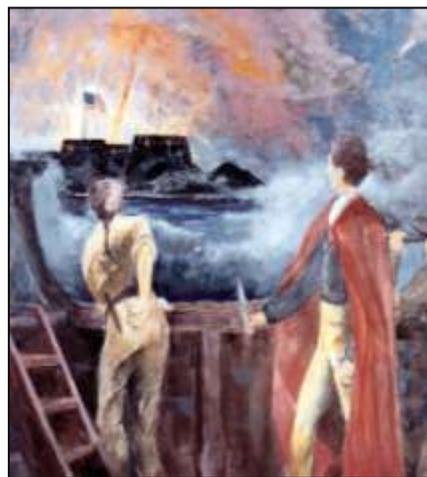
This Month in Military History

In March of 1931, Congress approved “The Star Spangled Banner” as the official national anthem. Unofficially, Americans had been singing Francis Scott Key’s song since the War of 1812.

In March 1943, the U.S. 2nd Corps opened its drive toward Gabes, Tunisia, in a series of diversionary blows intended to distract the Germans from Field Marshal Montgomery’s major assault on the Mareth Line. The new commander of 2nd Corp, Lt. Gen. George Patton, revitalized the beaten troops of Kasserine with his insistence on discipline and soldierly pride.

In March of 1945, The U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima destroyed the last enemy resistance and occupied the island. This bloody month long campaign cost the United States more than 20,000 casualties, and almost the entire Japanese garrison of 23,000 was annihilated. Admiral Nimitz said, “ Among the Americans who served on Iwo Island, uncommon valor was a common virtue. More Marines received the Medal of Honor for their bravery on Iwo, than any other campaign or battle in history.

In March 15, 1973, Headquarters, US Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV) closed in Saigon. Southeast Asia Operations would transfer to Thailand. On March 29th of that same month, the last U.S. combat troops left South Vietnam. Meeting the deadline set by the Paris Peace Talks, the last of the 2500 American servicemen left Saigon’s Ton Son Nhut Air Base for home.



Painting (by LTJG James Murray) of Francis Scott Key



Memorial of the Marines at Iwo Jima



Members of the Spike team Idaho at MACV

RESOURCES ON CAMPUS

- Military Resource Center (MRC) in the LARC
129 Walker Hall 540-831-5002
- Campus Directory 540-831-5000
- Career Services 540-831-5373
- Disability Resource Office 540-831-635
- Dean of Student's Office 540-831-5321
- New Student Programs 540-831-5923
- Office of the Registrar 540-831-5721
105 Heth Hall
- Public Relations 540-831-5182
- Radford University Clinics 540-831-7660
- Radford University Human Resources
540-831-5421
- Radford University Police 540-831-5500
- Substance Abuse and Violence Support Services
540-831-5709
- Student Counseling Services 540-831-5226
Tyler Hall, Lower Level
- Student Health Services 540-831-5111
Moffett Hall, Ground Floor

Resources OFF Campus

- Leanna Craig
Veterans Resource Specialist
New River Valley Community Services
lcraig@nrvc.org
- Virginia Wounded Warrior Program
804-371-4675 or [Wounded Warriors](http://WoundedWarriors.org)
- National Mental Health Association
1-800-969-NMHA (6642)
- National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse
Counselors
1-800-548-0497
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-273-8255
- Salem Veterans Affairs Medical Center
1970 Roanoke Blvd, Salem VA 540-982-2463
www.salem.va.gov
- Veterans Benefits Administration 800-827-1000
- Virginia Department of Veterans Affairs
804-786-0286
Dvs.virginia.gov
- Veterans Claims Agent
540-597-1730
Ronald.kotz@dvs.virginia.gov
- Aurora Foundation Veteran Internships
202-436-0678
[American Women Veterans](http://AmericanWomenVeterans.org)
email
- New River Valley Veterans Outreach Group
540-357-1113
Wearevirginiaveterans.org
- Troops to Teachers Office
Greg Cohen – ODU
757-683-3327
gcoogan@odu.edu
- Veterans Employment Representative
John Rupe
540-831-5980
Johnny.rupe@vec.virginia.gov

Thank you for your service. Now, it is time for Radford to serve you! If you have any questions, please feel free to email jwhorley2@radford.edu/ tmattson@radford.edu or call 540-831-5002/ 540-831-6855.

