



# NETWORK NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 4

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## Special points of interest:

- 44 Communities
- 14 Businesses

For a current listing visit:

[ndcares.org/  
communityprograms](http://ndcares.org/communityprograms)

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## Hunter - ND Cares

Hunter, North Dakota, became an ND Cares Community in May 2016 and has contributed in many ways to support its Service Members, Veterans, Family and Survivors.

Leading the effort for Hunter is Carol Siegert, a Hunter resident since 1957. Carol and the ND Cares Committee take great strides to ensure Service Members, Veterans, Families and Survivors are honored and remembered, no matter what day of the year it is.

Some of the events/activities the Hunter ND Cares team developed include sending a Thank-you card to Hunter Veterans on Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Fourth of July and any other holidays they can think of. During their Memorial Day Celebration, the team place flags on each Veteran's grave and have flowers planted at their Veterans Memorial on Main Street. Additionally, they make every effort to include the Gold Star parents living in Hunter in all military planned events.

Carol also has a personal mission of her own — to hug the Veterans. Her mission is to hug the Veterans and thank them for their service and for saving our freedom and keeping us safe. Carol says she hugged a Veteran at Walmart who stood crying. She asked "did I offend you," and he replied, "No, ma'am you did not. Nobody has ever thanked me before and I was having a really bad day until now."

"It works," she said. "I have even hugged a Vietnam Veteran traveling from Arizona. Most of the time my family just looks at me, but they too are very supportive."

Carol also is an associate member of the North Dakota 164th Infantry. Her Uncle James was with the 164th Company L, out of Hillsboro, and was wounded at Guadalcanal. The 164th was one of the first units called on by President Roosevelt during WWII for the Pacific. She also participated in the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the 164th, in Bismarck, where surviving members described what they had endured at Guadalcanal.

"That sure hit home and was very impressive and heartwarming", Carol said.

As you can see, Hunter ND Cares, is alive and doing something good.



Carol Siegert receives the ND Cares certificate from Darcie Handt, Executive Director for ND Cares



As you enter Hunter ND you will see their ND Cares sign

## Bells of Peace gaining new participants nationwide

By Aaron Rosenthal, Staff Writer

More than sixty community participants have joined the US World War I Centennial Commission's initiative, "Bells of Peace". Americans across the nation will toll bells on November 11, 2018 at 11:00 AM, in honor of the service and sacrifice of the nation's World War I veterans, led by tolling at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC.

Joining the national bell tolling is an easy way for you to honor those who fought and died in World War I, and to learn about the Commission's mission to build a World War I memorial in Washington DC. The Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, started tolling bells in 2014, and we are proud to link our efforts with theirs.

You or your organization can be a part of history to commemorate the centennial as well: just log on to [ww1cc.org/bells](http://ww1cc.org/bells) and click "participate." We will feature your organization's logo on the page, and you can see more content by the World War I Centennial Commission. Resources include the Dispatch Newsletter, the Commission's podcast, World War I related events, films, music, and more.



1918-2018

# BELLS OF PEACE

### Factoid

#### WWI Facts:

US entered the war on April 6th, 1917

More than 9 million troops died

More than 21 million troops were wounded

WWI included the first know use of chemical weapons (mustard Gas)

## Upcoming 2018 Tele-Conference

**Who: Steering Committee  
Members  
All POC's  
(Community &  
Business)**

**What: Teleconferences**

**When: October 18th**

**Where: Via Phone  
Dial in information  
will be published**

**Why: Exchange ideas  
Address issues**

## Coalition Meeting October 4th

**We're on the web:  
NDCARES.ORG**

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Bismarck, ND 58506-5511

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Veterans . . . Having trouble finding the job that is “just right” for you?

If you're a Veteran struggling to find or maintain employment that's important to you, Job Service North Dakota can help!

Job Service North Dakota has a Veterans' Employment Team that exclusively serves Veterans. As Veterans themselves, the Team understands the many transitions Veterans like you experience as you transition from military to civilian life. They are trained and ready to provide one-on-one assistance to help you work through employment barriers.

One of the biggest hurdles Veterans face is “selling” their military experience to civilian employers who may not understand military lingo. The Veterans' Employment Team will help you translate your military skills and experience into civilian terms so employers can understand all you have to offer and how your skills can benefit their businesses.

In addition, the Veterans' Employment Team can:

- **Provide labor market information**
- **Offer career guidance and planning**
- **Make referrals to training opportunities**
- **Offer resume writing and interview techniques training**
- **Help you apply for the Work Opportunity Tax credit (WOTC)**
- **And more!**

Veterans and eligible spouses of Veterans receive access, on a priority of service basis, to the full range of employment and training services Job Service North Dakota offers. Veterans and eligible spouses who meet all the eligibility requirements for a program or service, will receive access to that program or service either before or instead of persons who are not eligible for priority of service.

You are the Veterans' Employment Team's top priority. Take advantage of the expansive and knowledgeable network of support service resources they have to offer. Visit [jobsnd.com/veterans](http://jobsnd.com/veterans) to find a Team member near you.

## Harry W. Colmery Educational Assistance Act of 2017

The VA implemented 15 more provisions of the Harry W. Colmery Educational Assistance Act of 2017, also referred to as the Forever GI Bill.

These provisions, in addition to the 13 implemented since the law was signed less than a year ago, will have an immediate and positive impact on Veterans and their families using VA benefits to pursue their educational goals.

Some of the provisions that began Aug. 1 include:

- \* **Recipients of a Purple Heart awarded on or after Sept. 11, 2001, are now eligible for full Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits for up to 36 months, if not already entitled.**
- \* **Military and Veteran families who have lost a family member can now reallocate transferred Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.**
- \* **Additional Guard and Reserve service now counts toward Post-9/11 GI Bill eligibility.**
- \* **Post-9/11 GI Bill students may now receive monthly housing allowance for any days they are not on active duty, rather than having to wait until the next month; and**
- \* **Expansion of the Yellow Ribbon Program [https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/yellow\\_ribbon.asp](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/yellow_ribbon.asp), which makes additional funds available for GI Bill students, now covers more students. For more information, visit <https://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/FGIBSummaries.asp>.**

More provisions are scheduled related to science, technology, engineering and math benefit extensions; increased benefit levels; a pilot program for high-technology training geared toward “upskilling” Veterans to enter the workforce quickly; and another expansion of the Yellow Ribbon Program, which will be implemented by Aug. 1, 2022.