With winter break only days away, there are still plenty of resources available for you, your family, or any Veterans you may encounter over the break. Not only does the Erie community provide resources to Veterans in many forms, but there are also numerous general events that you may be interested in between the end of classes on 15 December and the beginning of spring classes on 22 January. The guide below acts as a reference for these resources and activates.

Use the links below to navigate:

- Pg. 1 – General Veterans Resources
- Pg. 2 – Material Support for Veterans
- Pg. 4 – Veterans Activities
- Pg. 5 – Listing of General Activities by date Dec 17 to Jan 19
- Pg. 14 – Listing of Veterans Social Groups

**Veterans Resources for Break**

As the winter break begins on 18 December 2017, there are numerous resources in the community for Veterans who may need some assistance. Whether you need a friendly person to talk to, company during the holidays, or assistance making ends meet, there plenty of resources in the Erie region to assist you. You may also encounter Veterans in need over the holiday, and the resources found below could provide major assistance to a fellow Veteran in need.

**Veterans Success Center**

The Veterans Success Center here on campus is open during the winter break. From 18 December to 21 December we will be open from 8am to 5pm daily. On 22 December and during the Christmas week we will be closed. The Veterans Success Center will reopen on 2 January and remain open from 8am to 5pm until the start of classes on 22 January. If you need assistance with your benefits, financial aid, registering for classes or any Edinboro University related needs feel free to stop by. All of our other standard services, including career assistance and writing workshop will also be available during the winter break.

**Erie Vet Center**

The Erie Vet Center provides transition assistance to Veterans in need of assistance adjusting to civilian life. Group and individual counseling session are available through the Vet Center. In addition to these counseling sessions, the Vet Center provides assistance with applying for Veterans benefits and finding career opportunities.
The Erie Vet Center will also be open over the break. The Vet Center is closed on all Federal Holidays and on Saturdays and Sundays. Its normal hours of operation are 8am to 4:30pm Monday and Friday, 7am to 4:30pm Tuesday thru Thursday. You can also call the Vet Center if you need to make an afterhours, weekend, or holiday appointment. The contact information for the Vet Center is below:

240 W 11th Street, Erie Metro Center, Suite 105  
Erie, PA 16501  
814-453-7955 or 877-927-8387

**Veterans Crisis Line**  
If you encounter a Veteran who requires immediate mental health assistance call the Veterans Crisis Line at 800-273-8255 (press 1). This line is open 24-hours a day in order to assist Veterans who may be contemplating suicide. Friends or family members of Veterans in crisis can also call the line in order to get assistance in supporting with a Veteran they know.

**Material Support**

**Veterans Miracle Center of Erie**  
Veterans Miracle Center Erie is a military-style exchange that provides basic life necessities such as clothing, hygiene products, and housewares at **NO COST** to homeless, at risk or low income Veterans in Erie, Crawford, and Venango counties. To qualify for VMCE services, Veterans must provide proof of Veteran status and have a demonstrated need (low income, homeless, or at-risk). Veterans can “self-refer” via the VMCE website (www.vmcerie.org), or can be referred from other Veterans organizations and programs such as the Erie VAMC. If you or a Veteran you know is in need of clothing, hygiene products, or other goods this holiday season, contact the Veterans Miracle Center for assistance. The Veterans Miracles Center can provide anything from simple Christmas presents to children, coats, or even furniture and household appliances.

Veterans Miracle Center of Erie  
1573 W 39th St.  
Erie, PA 16509  
814-796-4200

**Second Harvest Food Bank**  
The Second Harvest Food Bank is the largest nonprofit food distribution organization in Northwestern PA and the only food bank in the region. With a support network that serves all of Northwestern PA, Second Harvest is able to help Veterans and students anywhere in the region around Edinboro. Second Harvest regularly supports Veterans with specific Produce Express programs that provide food to qualified Veterans at no cost. While there are no
specific Veterans events scheduled this month with Second Harvest, they are hosting regular Produce express events throughout the month. For those struggling to put food on the table, these events can be a big help. If you encounter a Veteran in need, please let them know about these events that occur throughout the region.

Produce Express Events:

December 16 – Sugar Grove Free Methodist Church, 210 Jamestown St., Sugar Grove – Warren County. 10 am. Sign up at the event.

December 18 – Federated Church, 11995 Main Street, E. Springfield – Erie County. 10:00 am distribution. Call the church at 922-3655 to pre-register.


December 20 – Pleasantville Fire Hall, 157 S. Main Street, Pleasantville – Venango County. 12pm distribution. Pre-register by calling the church at 814-589-7385.

December 21 – First Lutheran Church, 109 W. 3rd Avenue, Warren – Warren County. 2:00pm distribution. Pre-register by calling 814-726-2400.

For more information visit:
http://nwpafoodbank.org/

or visit:

Edinboro Food Pantry
150 Perry Lane
Edinboro, PA 16412
Community Activities

Veterans Activities

**Hope on Horseback**
Hope on Horseback offers Veterans the opportunity to receive free riding lessons. Generally meeting on Saturday mornings, the Hope on Horseback program is a no cost way to learn how to handle and ride horses. No prior experience is necessary and riders of any skill level are welcome. The program is located nearby in Fairview, PA at the Tailwind Equestrian Center.

Hope on Horseback  
7252 Sterrettania Road  
Fairview, PA 16415

Contact Kimberly at 814-474-5276 or program@hopehorseback.org or visit their site http://www.trecreie.org/veterans.aspx for more information.

**Donuts with Santa**
Santa is coming to the Erie Vet Center! On 16 December from 9:00am to 11:00am Santa will be visiting the Erie Vet Center. Donuts and coffee will be available for families during the visit. Meet and get pictures with Santa and talk to the Vet Center team.

The Erie Vet Center  
240 W 11th Street, Erie Metro Center, Suite 105  
Erie, PA 16501  
814-453-7955

**National Wreaths Across America Day**
Wreaths Across America Day will be held on 16 December at noon all across the country. In the Erie region there are three locations where wreath layings will take place. This is a great event where families get to recognize local heroes who are laid to rest in the Erie region.

Locations:

Pennsylvania Soldiers’ & Sailors’ Home  
560 E 3rd St  
Erie, PA 16507
This ceremony will honor the approximately 1,300 Veterans laid to rest in the Veterans Memorial Cemetery on the home’s grounds. The event will take place in the Personal Care Dining Hall. If interested contact Volunteer Resource Coordinator Ken Vybiral at 814-878-4961.

Mount of Olives Cemetery at St. Boniface  
9367 Wattsburg Rd.  
Erie, PA 16509  
All Veterans and families are invited to attend.

Wesleyan Cemetery  
Sugar Grove, Warren County, PA  
All Veterans and families are invited to attend. Contact Location Coordinator Judy Fry at 814-688-2864 with any questions.

**General Activities**

**December 17:**
- **Pizza with Santa**  
  10:00am – 12:00pm  
  expERIEnce Children’s Museum  
  420 French Street  
  Erie, PA  
  Admission is $14, children under 2 are free.
- **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever**  
  2:00pm  
  Villa Maria Academy Auditorium  
  2403 W. 8th Street  
  Erie, PA  
  Admission is $5 for students and seniors, $7 for adults
- **The Nutcracker**  
  2:30pm  
  Warner Theatre  
  811 State Street  
  Erie, PA  
  Admission is $10 with student ID, tickets vary by seat and day.
- **Annie**  
  2:00pm  
  Erie Playhouse  
  13 W. 10th Street  
  Erie, PA  
  Admission varies by date.
- **The Voices of Christmas**  
  2:00pm  
  Our Lady of Peace  
  2401 W. 38th Street  
  Erie, PA  

- **A Broadway Holiday**  
  2:00pm  
  The Academy Theatre  
  275 Chestnut Street  
  Erie, PA  
  A revue of the best Christmas song to come off of Broadway.  
  Admission price varies $16, $18, $20  

- **Christmas Memories**  
  2:30pm  
  Station Dinner Theatre  
  4940 Peach Street  
  Erie, PA  
  A heartwarming musical about the true meaning of Christmas.  
  Admission is $39.00 for adults and $23.00 for children, includes price of dinner.  

**December 18:**  
- **Ho Ho Holiday Bingo**  
  1:00pm to 3:30pm  
  Lifeworks Erie  
  406 Peach Street  
  Erie, PA  
  Play bingo to win cash. All players receive a goody bag and snacks.  
  Cost to play is $10 per person.  

- **Men’s Basketball vs. University of Charleston**  
  2:00pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  

**December 19:**  
- **Ugly Sweater Party**  
  Lifeworks Erie  
  406 Peach Street  
  Erie, PA  
  Wear your ugliest sweater or t-shirt and participate in a game exchange while enjoying refreshments.  
  Admission is $8
December 20:
- DiscoverE – Animals in Winter
  10:30am – 11:30am
  Tom Ridge Environmental Center
  301 Peninsula Drive
  Erie, PA
  Learn about how animals survive in PA over the cold winters.

December 21:
- Christmas Town
  6:00pm to 9:00pm
  Erie First Assembly of God
  8150 Oliver Road
  Erie, PA
  A drive through display with a Christmas theme.
- Night Hike on Dead Pond Trail
  Thompson Circle at Presque Isle State Park
  1 Peninsula Drive
  Erie, PA
  Enjoy a night hike at Presque Isle with park naturalist to celebrate the beginning of winter.
- Erie BayHawks vs. South Bay
  Erie Insurance Arena
  809 French Street
  Erie, PA

December 22:
- Gem City Jazz Ensemble Christmas Concert
  7:00pm
  Pennsylvania Soldiers’ and Sailors’ home
  Erie, PA
- Old Fashioned Christmas Caroling
  11:30am to 1:30pm
  LifeWorks Erie
  406 Peach Street
  Erie, PA
  Admission is $8 for non-members enjoy a nice lunch before embarking on caroling journey to the LECOM Nursing and Rehabilitation Center to sing carols.
- Christmas Town
  6:00pm to 9:00pm
  Erie First Assembly of God
  8150 Oliver Road
  Erie, PA
  A drive through display with a Christmas theme.
- **Live Nativity**
  6:00pm to 8:00pm
  Fairview United Methodist Church
  4601 Avonia Road
  Erie, PA

**December 23:**

- **Winter Stroll in the Park**
  Pine Tree Trail Head at Presque Isle State Park
  1 Peninsula Drive
  Erie, PA
  Enjoy a winter stroll at Presque Isle.

- **Live Nativity**
  6:00pm to 8:00pm
  Fairview United Methodist Church
  4601 Avonia Road
  Erie, PA

- **Erie BayHawks vs. Delaware**
  Erie Insurance Arena
  809 French Street
  Erie, PA

- **Festivus**
  Erie Ale Works
  416 W 12th Street
  Erie, PA
  Enjoy the traditions of the Festivus holiday.

- **1st Annual Old Skool Christmas Jam**
  Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel
  55 W. Bay Drive
  Erie, PA

**December 24:**

- **Christmas at the Warner 2016**
  1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm
  Warner Theatre
  811 State Street
  Erie, PA
  Great family friendly event with carols and Christmas music.
  Admission is free, first come first serve

- **Xmas Eve Party**
  7:00pm to 2:00am
  Scotty’s Martini Lounge
December 27:
- **Snowshoe Demonstration**
  Tom Ridge Environmental Center
  301 Peninsula Drive
  Erie, PA
  Learn how to use snowshoes to enjoy hiking in the winter snow.
- **Winter Wonderland at Ashbury Woods**
  6:00pm
  Ashbury Woods Nature Center
  Erie, PA

December 28:
- **Winter Wonderland at Ashbury Woods**
  6:00pm
  Ashbury Woods Nature Center
  Erie, PA
- **Erie BayHawks vs. Ft. Wayne**
  7:00pm
  Erie Insurance Arena
  809 French Street
  Erie, PA

December 29:
- **Erie Food Tours**
  11:00am to 2:00pm
  Like My Thai
  827 State Street
  Erie, PA
- **DiscoverE – Wild Animal Tracks**
  11:00am – 12:30am
  Tom Ridge Environmental Center
  301 Peninsula Drive
  Erie, PA
  Learn how to identify the tracks of different animals native to PA.
- **Winter Wonderland at Ashbury Woods**
  6:00pm
  Ashbury Woods Nature Center
  Erie, PA
- **Annie**
  7:30pm
  Erie Playhouse
13 W. 10th Street  
Erie, PA  
Admission varies $12.00 to $20.25.

December 30:
- **Winter Wonderland at Ashbury Woods**  
  6:00pm  
  Ashbury Woods Nature Center  
  Erie, PA  
- **Annie**  
  7:30pm  
  Erie Playhouse  
  13 W. 10th Street  
  Erie, PA  
  Admission varies $12.00 to $20.25.  
- **Erie BayHawks vs. Santa Cruz**  
  7:00pm  
  Erie Insurance Arena  
  809 French Street  
  Erie, PA  

December 31:
- **New Year’s Eve Walk**  
  11:00pm to 12:30am  
  Presque Island State Park  
  301 Peninsula Drive  
  Erie, PA  
  Learn how New Year’s is celebrated around the world, while walking the park with a trained naturalist.  
- **Presque Isle Downs and Casino New Year’s Eve Party**  
  10:00pm  
  Presque Isle Downs and Casino  
  81199 Perry Highway  
  Erie, PA  
  $20.00  
- **New Years at the Baldwin**  
  9:30pm  
  Baldwin Reynolds House Museum  
  Meadville, PA  
  Admission is $30  
- **New Year’s Eve Ball 2018**  
  9:00pm  
  Resolution Nightclub
28 N Park Row  
Erie, PA  
Admission is $10 per person  
- **New Year’s Elegant Eve – The Groove**  
  9:00pm  
  Perry Hi-Way Hall  
  8281 Oliver Road  
  Erie, PA  
- **Brew Year’s Eve**  
  9:00pm to 1:00am  
  The Brewerie at Union Station  
  123 W. 14th Street  
  Erie, PA  
- **Boogie On the Bay**  
  9:00pm  
  Bayfront Convention Center  
  1 Sassafras Pier  
  Erie, PA  
  Admission is $50  
- **Annie**  
  7:30pm  
  Erie Playhouse  
  13 W. 10th Street  
  Erie, PA  
  Admission varies $12.00 to $20.25.  
- **Erie Otters vs. Kingston**  
  6:30pm  
  Erie Insurance Arena  
  809 French Street  
  Erie, PA  
- **The Polar Express**  
  1:30pm  
  Hirt Auditorium in the Blasco Memorial Library  
  160 E Front Street  
  Erie, PA  
  Bring the kids to a viewing of **The Polar Express**

**January 3:**

- **Erie Otters vs. Mississauga**  
  7:00pm  
  Erie Insurance Arena  
  809 French Street  
  Erie, PA
- **Men’s Basketball vs. Seaton Hill University**  
  7:30pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  
- **Women’s Basketball vs. Seaton Hill University**  
  5:30pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  

**January 6:**
- **Men’s Basketball vs. Kutztown University**  
  3:00pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  
- **Women’s Basketball vs. Kutztown University**  
  1:00pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  
- **Wrestling vs. Bloomsburg University**  
  7:00pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  

**January 8:**
- **Men’s Basketball vs. University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown**  
  7:30pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  
- **Women’s Basketball vs. University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown**  
  5:30pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  

**January 10:**
- **Men’s Basketball vs. Gannon University**  
  7:30pm  
  Gannon Hammermill Center  
  Gannon University  
  Erie, PA  
- **Women’s Basketball vs. Gannon University**  
  5:30pm  
  Gannon Hammermill Center  
  Gannon University  
  Erie, PA
January 13:  
- **Men’s Swimming vs. Shippensburg University**  
  11:00am  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  
- **Women’s Swimming vs. Shippensburg University**  
  11:00am  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  
- **Men’s Basketball vs. Indiana University of Pennsylvania**  
  3:00pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  
- **Women’s Basketball vs. Indiana University of Pennsylvania**  
  1:00pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA

January 17:  
- **Men’s Basketball vs. Clarion University**  
  7:30pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  
- **Women’s Basketball vs. Clarion University**  
  5:30pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA

January 19:  
- **Men’s Swimming vs. Gannon University**  
  6:00pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  
- **Women’s Swimming vs. Shippensburg University**  
  6:00pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA  
- **Wrestling vs. Virginia Tech**  
  7:00pm  
  Edinboro University of Pennsylvania McComb Fieldhouse  
  Edinboro, PA
Veterans Social Groups

Northwestern PA Regional VFW Posts

1. VFW Jesse G. Greer Post 1835
   Address: 411 9th St, Franklin, PA 16323
   Phone: 814-432-7744

2. VFW John Krol Post 6773
   Address: 23 East High Street, Union City, PA 16438
   Phone: 814-438-3448

3. VFW Lt Archie W Thompson Post 264
   Address: 1151 Mead Ave, Corry, PA 16407
   Phone: 814-664-7150

4. VFW Ronald R Martin Post 3390
   Address: 2517 Ash St, Erie, PA 16503
   Phone: 814-455-3691

5. VFW Tri-Borough Clark Fluegel Memorial Post 4965
   Address: 13755 Chestnut St, West Springfield, PA 16443
   Phone: 814-992-3080

6. VFW Billy Simpson Post 470
   Address: 1808 West 26th St, Erie, PA 16508
   Phone: 814-456-1339

7. VFW Clayton O Ball Post 2341
   Address: 11411 Route 6 N, Albion, PA 16401
   Phone: 814-756-4655

8. VFW Edinboro Mckean Memorial Post 740
   Address: 10613 Pennsylvania 98, Edinboro, PA 16412
   Phone: 814-734-2797

9. Post 169 James D. Bowers Memorial Post
   Address: 20268 Gospel Hill Rd, Venango, PA 16440
   Phone: 814-39808214
10. Post 2006 Harm Jan Huidekoper Post  
   Address: 1045 S Morgan St, Meadville, PA 16335  
   Phone: 814-333-8444

11. Post 7842 SSG Albert E. Moss Jr. Memorial Post  
   Address: 6913 Gehrton Rd, Linesville, PA 16424  
   Phone: 814-683-5404

12. Post 4789 Heiden-Craig-Fromyer Post  
   Address: 28 Vine St, North East, PA 16428  
   Phone: 814-725-4388

13. Post 5958 Bruce Shorts Post  
   Address: 206 Saint John St, Titusville, PA 16354  
   Phone: 814-827-6223

14. Post 8803 Pequignot-Yeager Post  
   Address: 93 Main St, Tidioute, PA 16351  
   Phone: 814-484-7717

15. Post 2836 Conneaut Post  
   Address: 514 Harbor St, Conneaut, OH 44030  
   Phone: 440-593-1898

16. Post 2769 Ripley Memorial Post  
   Address: 14 North Main St, Ripley, NY 14775  
   Phone: Not available

Northwestern PA Regional American Legion Posts

1. American Legion Orville H. Frank PA Post 742  
   Address: 8 Maple Dr Fairview PA 16415  
   Phone: 814-474-3442

2. American Legion PA Post 771  
   Address: 260 East 3rd St Erie PA 16507  
   Phone: 814-455-4892
3. American Legion Barney Smith Post 700  
   Address: 1938 Buffalo Rd Erie PA 16510  
   Phone: Not Available

4. American Legion Carl Neff PA Post 571  
   Address: 1917 Eastern Ave Wesleyville PA 16510  
   Phone: 814-898-1015

5. American Legion Elmer C Carrier PA Post 365  
   Address: 1460 Scioa Rd Corry PA 16407  
   Phone: 814-663-1790

6. American Legion LeBaron PA Post 237  
   Address: 9225 US Hwy 6, Union City, PA 16438  
   Phone: 814-438-2312

7. American Legion Oakley K Cobb PA Post 567  
   Address: 93 East State St Albion PA 16401  
   Phone: 814-256-0974

8. American Legion PA Post 439  
   Address: 200 Fairway Dr Edinboro PA 16412  
   Phone: 814-734-3014

9. American Legion PA Post 494  
   Address: 42 Wall Street Girard PA 16417  
   Phone: 814-774-3326

10. American Legion PA Post 773  
    Address: 4109 West 12th St Erie PA 16505  
    Phone: 814-838-3980

11. American Legion Rogers Israel Post 11  
    Address: 2123 Peach St Erie PA 16502  
    Phone: 814-452-4256

12. Pennsylvania American Legion District 29  
    Address: 734 Gasteiger Road Meadville PA 16335  
    Email: rehick@aol.com  
    Phone: 814-336-4610