



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 22, 2012

Veterans' Event Features VA Info, Free Music, Family Fun

OMAHA, Neb. — Information about Department of Veterans Affairs services and benefits. Music by nine Lincoln-area bands. A fun-filled day that culminates with the patriotic sounds from the Nebraska Army National Guard's 43rd Army Band.

This and more is in store June 23 at the historical VA clinic grounds at 600 S. 70th Street, Lincoln, Neb., from 9:45 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The event is the VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System's Welcome Home event combined with the Veterans Freedom Music Festival and 43rd Army Band concert.

The Welcome Home event being held in the Lincoln VA auditorium features information about VA and other veteran-related benefits and services. Staff from the VA's health care system and regional benefits office will be available to assist veterans apply for benefits if they are not already enrolled or to answer questions. Assistance will also be available from other community resources including the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs, county veteran service offices, colleges and universities, employment assistance and veteran service organizations.

Lincoln VA's Veterans Advisory Council is hosting the Veterans Freedom Music Festival to celebrate America's heroes and to recognize their sacrifices. The day kicks off at 9:45 a.m. with an opening ceremony with a full color guard, presentation of the colors and national anthem.

Nine bands perform throughout the day. Performers include the Kramer Sisters, Salt Creek Symphony, Bolzen Band, Rockerfellers, Oasis Bluegrass, the 21st Century Band, and Sandy Creek Bluegrass.

Capping off the day is a performance by the Nebraska Army National Guard's 43rd Army Band. Their performance features music that celebrates America and inspires patriotism.

The concerts are held outside on the historical Lincoln VA grounds. Veterans and the community are invited to bring their chairs or blankets for seating on the lawn.

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The event also features children's activities. Food will be available for purchase onsite.

Free parking for the event is at Lincoln East High School. Free shuttle busses will operate between the high school and the VA several times each hour during the event.

Limited parking is available for people with official handicapped parking permits on the VA grounds.

No coolers or alcohol are permitted.

For more information and details about the event, visit www.nebraska.va.gov/Veterans_Freedom_Music_Festival.asp.

The VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System's mission is to honor America's Veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being. VA NWIHCS employees serve more than 161,000 Veterans in Nebraska, western Iowa and portions of Kansas and Missouri. The system includes a tertiary medical center in Omaha and a Community Living Center in Grand Island, Neb. Community-based outpatient clinics are located in Lincoln, Grand Island, North Platte, Norfolk, and Bellevue, Neb., and Shenandoah, Iowa; and a contract outreach clinic in O'Neill, Neb. For more information, visit www.nebraska.va.gov.

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