4/26/2016 Did you make it?



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#### Dear Friend,

My staff and I have been throughout the 14th District over the past couple of weeks to meet with you, to help you with issues you have had with the federal government and to listen to what's on your mind so I can better serve you. Missed my Traveling Help Desk? See below for upcoming events in your area.

In this issue of the Hultgren Huddle:

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# I Grew Up in a Small Business\_

Some of you may know I grew up in a small business. My parents started a family funeral home, and I am familiar with the struggles small businesses face in starting, growing and hiring more workers.

Small businesses are the engine of America—in Illinois, they employ more than 2.4 million workers. Nationwide, it's half of all jobs and two-thirds of new jobs created. As small businesses goes, so goes the American economy.

When I talk to small business owners throughout the district, they tell me there are three main obstacles to hiring and thriving:

- 1. Crippling taxes
- 2. Job-killing regulation

3. Stifling lack of access to capital

Click the picture below to hear my story and discussion with Hugh Hewitt about why we need to bring small businesses back through smarter policies that get government out of the way:



(Click picture to listen)

## Traveling Help Desk Hits Geneva, Sugar Grove

Government and staff experts were able to assist residents near Geneva and Sugar Grove last week in two separate events. Residents were able to hear from Cristina Mancini of the Illinois Comptroller's Office regarding identify theft, credit card protection, fraud alerts, and other related issues. Bernice Brewer of the Chicago U.S. Passport Agency presented an overview and answered questions regarding what residents need to know when applying for a passport.

My staff was on-site and available to help constituents as they interact with various federal agencies.

"I want to thank [staff member] for her assistance in getting the problem handled in a very timely manner. Without [her] help, I'm afraid I'd still be waiting for the Post Office to respond."

--Mark from Plano

"We are so grateful and appreciate everything you did for us.

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#### Once again thank you very much."

--Robert from Aurora

(Actual quotes from 14th Congressional District constituents after receiving help from my office)

## <u>Upcoming Events</u>

Missed these? See what events are coming up near you. As always, my office is available as your resource—don't hesitate to contact me.

- 1. Congressman Peter Roskam and I will be hosting a Service Academy Day on April 16 at St. Charles East High School. Service Academy Day provides interested families with essential information as they consider serving our country through military service. <u>Click</u> here to learn more.
- 2. My Traveling Help Desk will be in Yorkville on Friday, April 29. Click here for details and to learn more about what types of assistance are available.

# Survey: Veterans Priorities

What do you think is the most pressing issue facing veterans today?

- Inadequate access to mental health care
- Transitioning into civilian workforce after service
- Backlog in disability claims
- Availability of independent living/housing
- CLevel of benefits
- Delayed doctor visits
- **C**Educational opportunities

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# Community College Grant will Focus on Veterans' Transition from Soldier to Civilian

Our veterans returning home from conflict overseas face a myriad of difficulties when transitioning back to life in the United States. That's why I'm excited to hear that McHenry County College has been awarded the federal Humanities grant for 'The Journey Home.' Focused on the veteran experience, this grant will allow MCC to continue to best serve our veterans returning home from war who seek gainful employment and full reintegration back into the communities of Illinois.

I look forward to hearing from student veterans and professors about program's success. <u>Learn more here</u>.

# Speaking of Community Colleges...

The Kishwaukee Education Consortium (KEC) is a combined effort of Kishwaukee College and local school districts working together to promote a program of hands-on career and technical education programs.

My staff visited their aviation class, which offers both classroom and simulator instruction in an effort to prepare students for the FAA Private Pilot written exam. Instruction consists of aerodynamics, FAA regulations, primary navigation, GPS navigation, the use of flight computers, weather, radio navigation, flight instrumentation, performance and limitations, and the ATC environment.

First-year students (juniors in high school) are clearly excited about the career possibilities this type of learning opens up to them. In fact, several students that have graduated from this program have gone on to the Air Force Academy or have become commercial pilots, air traffic controllers, aviation mechanics, airport managers, or flight instructors.

Learn more at their website: <a href="http://www.kecprograms.com">http://www.kecprograms.com</a>.

If you haven't already, be sure to <u>like my Facebook page</u>, follow me on Twitter (@RepHultgren), or <u>check out my YouTube page</u> to stay informed on everything I'm doing on your behalf in Washington and in Illinois.

As always, thank you for the honor and privilege of serving you.

In Your Service,

Randy Hultgren Member of Congress 14th District, Illinois

# Randy in the News

<u>D.C. pizza war erupts! Roskam, Hultgren v. CNN's Tapper</u> (Crain's Chicago Business)

McHenry County College project aims to help veterans transition to civilian

<u>life</u> (Northwest Herald) <u>Noshtalgia: Digging Into Chicago-Style Pizza</u> (Roll Call) <u>Twitter Wars With Jake Tapper</u> (Roll Call)

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