







**CONGRESSMAN
RANDY HULTGREN**
Proudly Representing the 14th District of Illinois
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June 2, 2012

All About Veterans:

Hultgren on Honoring Commitments and Helping with the Transition Back Home

Job Fairs Just for Vets

Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America Windy City Smart Job Fair:
June 6, 2012. 9:00am-1:00pm. Chicago Hilton- 720 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL

IAVA, in partnership with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, will host a job fair designed to connect veterans with critical transition resources, like resume reviews, interview skills training and more to help veterans transition from combat to career. Most importantly, they're connecting veterans to employers who are actively looking to hire veterans. For more information and to register, visit <http://iava.org/blog/iava-gathers-midwest-vets-windy-city-job-fair>.

National Veteran Hiring Fair and Small Business Conference/Expo:
June 26-29, 2012. 10:00am-7:00pm. Detroit's COBO Center- One Washington Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48226

Three key events are to be featured: a three-day hiring fair, a three-day open house and the annual National Veteran Small Business Conference and Expo. These events will provide one-stop access to benefits, health, business, and employment services for our nation's heroes. For more information and to register, visit www.nationalveteransconference.com.

Job Retraining Assistance: Applications Open

The Veterans Opportunity to Work (VOW) to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 provides seamless transition for Servicemembers, expands education and training opportunities for Veterans, and provides tax credits for employers who hire Veterans with service-connected disabilities. VRAP applications are being accepted right now; visit <http://www.benefits.va.gov/VOW/> for more information on how to use your GI Bill benefits successfully.

Veterans' Affairs Bill- A Breath of Bipartisanship

Fiscal Year 2013 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill (H.R. 5854) passed the House of Representatives late Thursday night by a vote of 407-12. I was pleased to support the bill, and applaud both parties for their hard work in crafting it.



The bill will provide crucial help for returning soldiers- programs such as disability compensation, post-911 GI bill education benefits, and vocational rehabilitation and employment training. I spoke out in support of the bill earlier this week-click on the picture above to watch the video.

One Soldier's Inspiring Gradeschool Essay- Lost for 50 Years

In closing, take a look below at the extraordinary story of a veteran whose family my office was able to help recently. It's always an honor to help the families of those who have given so much for our freedoms in any way.

In Service,



COMING UP...

TWITTER Q&A:

Tweet your questions @RepHultgren before or during the Q&A. You may get a real-time answer!

(If you don't have a Twitter account, you can still follow along with the conversation at <http://www.twitter.com/rephultgren>.)

Tuesday, June 5th, 3-4pm

TOWN HALLS:

Spend an evening this summer sharing your thoughts with Congressman Hultgren, and getting an update from Washington.

Batavia City Council Chambers

100 North Island Avenue

Thursday, June 14, 7-8pm

Oswego Village Council Chambers

100 Parkers Mill

Monday, June 25, 7-8pm



Randy

By Phil Wieland, Northwest Indiana Times

VALPARAISO | An unusual ceremony will be held in Carlsbad, N.M., on July 17 to honor John Lloyd Silliman, a Marine killed in Vietnam in 1969, who is buried in Valparaiso.



It was while John Silliman was in the seventh grade in 1961 in Powder Wash that he wrote an essay for a national contest based on President John Kennedy's "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country." Silliman's essay on "What I can do for my country" was chosen as the best in the state.

As the state winner, he was flown to Washington, D.C., met Kennedy and got to read his essay in the House of Representatives. It was thought the essay was included in the Congressional Record, but when his sister, Kathy, tried to obtain a copy of it for the family, nothing could be found.

Finally, Bobby Lee, who lives in Mount Vernon, Ill., wrote his congressman, Mike Bost, asking for help locating the essay written more than 50 years ago. The request eventually ended up in Illinois Rep. Randy Hultgren's office, where it was determined, with the help of the Legislative Information System staff, it was not made a part of the Congressional Record...

For the rest of the story, click [here](#) or on the picture of John Silliman in his uniform.

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