



# The Veterans' View

BEATING THE ODDS, PROPELLING OUR NATION'S HEROES FORWARD

JANUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2020

## The Sixth Branch of the Military: The United States Space Force

by Julie Sanders



If you're picturing the Space Force as galactic battles and blasts into light speed, you're getting a bit ahead of yourself. The Space Force was signed into law on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in response to the demands of an ever-expanding frontier of military engagement and protection of assets within these potential warfront galleries, and the continuous need to strive for superiority in the space domain. "Going to be a lot of things happening in space, because space is the world's newest warfighting domain," President Trump said to military members gathered for the signing at Joint Base Andrews Air Base in Prince George's County, Maryland.

While the Space Force has not yet launched any missiles, it has launched its website: <https://www.spaceforce.mil/>

Preluding the Space Force was the Pentagon's activation of the U.S. Space Command in August of 2019, a subset of the Air Force designed to integrate the Space Force, once inducted, more fluidly. The headquarters of the Space Force will be at the Air Force Space Command (AFSPC)

within Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, where the 21st Space Wing is already established. There are currently 16,000 airmen and civilians previously assigned to the Space Command, who were reassigned to the Space Force as a matter of protocol once it was signed into law. For those persons, nothing about their duties, uniforms, rank structure and insignia, training or fitness requirements will change yet.

"The United States Space Force will ensure that we compete, deter and win from a position of strength in securing our way of life and our national security," said Air Force Gen. John "Jay" Raymond, head of Air Force Space Command and U.S. Space Command. Congress has allowed 18 months for the building of this new branch, and Gen. Raymond is working hard on getting the integration right; it will take some time to iron out the kinks in this transformative venture.



GEN JOHN W. "JAY" RAYMOND, AFSPC/CC

The principle duties of the Space Force as defined today will be:

- To Protect and Defend U.S. and Allied Space Assets
- To deter aggression in, from, and to space
- To conduct space operations

"The launch of an independent U.S. Space Force propels us into a new era dedicated to protecting U.S. National interests and security in space." - Barbara M. Barrett, Secretary of the Air Force



Authorities say new Space Force troops won't be recruited for some 18 months. The cost of creating the Space Force is estimated to be near \$2 billion over five years. •



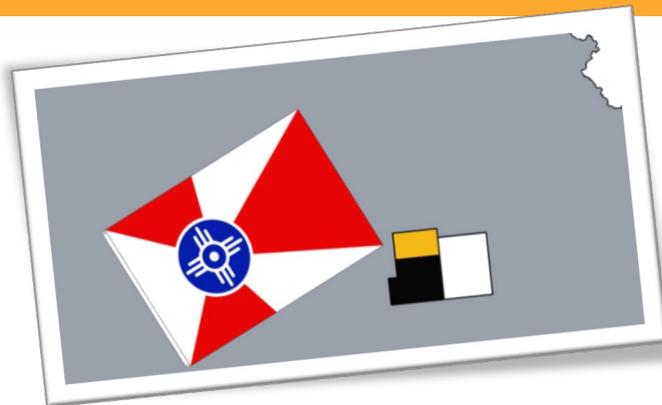
## New Faces in the Ranks

We have a new face at VUB! Meet Julie Sanders, Program Specialist. Julie served on active duty in the U.S. Army from 95-99 in the Military Intelligence Corps. She went on to obtain her Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management and Leadership from Friends University and is currently pursuing her Executive Master of Business Administration at Wichita State University. She is very eager to know you and determine how we can best help you to fulfill your educational goals.

Congratulate Stacia Lyday on her promotion to Director, Veterans Upward Bound! Stacia has a seven-year history with VUB and we are very proud to have her in the lead.

## Look Out for your Battle Buddy

The post-holiday season can be a rough time for a lot of people. Be sure to check in on your battle buddies who suffer from seasonal depression. A simple kind word or gesture may mean a great deal to them. In the words of the Soldier's Creed, "I will never leave a fallen comrade."



VUB is federally funded to serve Wichita and surrounding communities in Sedgwick, Butler, and Harvey Counties

# Community Connection

Here are some upcoming events in the community targeted to veterans:

## January

26th: Department of Kansas Veterans of Foreign Wars - District 5 Mid-Winter Meeting

VFW Post 112  
1560 S Topeka St, Wichita, KS

10:00 am

ALL veterans who served honorably overseas are welcome!

## February

28th: Dole VA Veteran Art Show

Calling all Veteran artists! The Veterans Art Show at the Robert J. Dole VAMC is seeking entries for the 2020 show.

Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center  
5500 E. Kellogg, Wichita, KS 67218

10:00 AM  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/255941530764511/>

## March

Kansas Honor Flight State-wide Pancake Feed.

A fundraiser for the KHF. **More details coming soon.**

[https://kansashonorflight.org/kansas-honor-flight-events-calendar/khf-state-wide-pancake-feed/?mc\\_id=334](https://kansashonorflight.org/kansas-honor-flight-events-calendar/khf-state-wide-pancake-feed/?mc_id=334)

## April

25<sup>th</sup>: Tunnel 2 Towers Wichita 5k Run/Walk

08:00-12:00

Wichita's first ever Tunnels to Towers will be held in the Veteran's Memorial Park on Saturday, April 25th. The Steven Siller Tunnel 2 Towers Foundation was formed as a fund raiser to honor the sacrifice of firefighter Stephen Siller who laid down his life to save others on September 11, 2001 through runs/walks and climbs held in cities all over America.



The foundation has three programs that honor these heroes:

- Smart Home Program
- Fallen First Responder Home Program
- Gold Star Family Home Program

The Event Director is looking for additional chairpersons, committee members, runners & walkers, volunteers, and donors. Find out more at the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/veterans-memorial-park/tunnel-to-towers-wichita-5k-runwalk/1498531473645650/>

<https://tunnel2towers.org/>

# We're Hiring!

Veterans Upward Bound is looking to fill a position for a second Program Specialist.

Duties include (but are not limited to):

- Recruitment of veterans for the VUB program
- Community Outreach
- Academic instruction, academic development, development of individualized educational plans

This position requires a bachelor's degree or higher in Education, Business, Social Sciences or other appropriate field.



***We want YOU for the VUB!***



If you or someone you know might be a good fit, the position description and application can be found here:

<https://jobs.wichita.edu/postings/17416>

***This posting closes on January 15, 2020***

## Introducing Letters to the Editor

Each season we'll select a few short letters to publish that reflect the current needs, concerns, or accolades of and for veterans in the community.

Please submit your letters to our email address or by mail using the information below.

Remember to be respectful and just in your wording; also remember not all letters will be selected for publication. This newsletter is published quarterly in January, April, July, and October, so if you haven't seen a response to the letter you submitted a long time ago...

***Hurry up and wait!***

### MAIL OR EMAIL YOUR LETTERS TO:

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