



October 2019

The Husky Vet Gazette

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Upcoming Events

October 26th – VSO Bar Crawl

November 1st – Colossal Colors & Military
Appreciation Football Game

November 1st – Vets Rock at Mohegan Sun

November 4th – Annual Care Package Drive
begins

November 10th – Marine Corps Birthday / Painting
the Rock

November 11th – Veterans Day Ceremony (Storrs)

November 14th - Veterans Advisory Council
Meeting

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COLOSSAL COLORS



UConn VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

- **WHO?** - UConn students, faculty, and staff.
- **WHAT?** – Join other volunteers in carrying the Colossal Colors Flag onto the field during pre-game, then enjoy the game for free!
- **WHERE?** – Pratt & Whitney Stadium, East Hartford
- **WHEN?** – Friday, November 1st UConn vs Navy (volunteers please arrive by 5pm)

Volunteers will receive a FREE ticket to the game, and FREE BBQ!

If you're interested in volunteering, please register online at <https://veterans.uconn.edu/>

Questions? Call Paul Hanlon at (860) 486-1175



Vets Rock!

Mohegan Sun will be hosting its 5th annual event benefiting veterans, active duty military, and their families at its Earth Expo & Convention Center on November 1st from 10:00am – 6:00pm.

The event will feature:

- Over 50 veteran services organizations
- A career fair presented by *Hiring Our Heroes*
- Mohegan Sun's military discount at more than 40 of the shops and dining in the area.

Visit <https://mohegansun.com/vets-rock.html> for more information!



Don't Forget the Form D!

If you are joining UConn for another exciting semester, then you need to fill out your Form D to get Educational Benefits. This form **MUST** be filled out EVERY semester. After registering for Spring 2020 classes, go to <http://veterans.uconn.edu/form-d/> and submit it online. Form D must be completed to use the following benefits: VA Educational benefits, National Guard Tuition Waiver, or the State of CT Veterans Tuition Waiver.



VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

The Veterans History Project of American Folk Life Center collects, preserves, and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans to better understand the realities of war.

Stories are needed! Veterans are encouraged to share:

- Personal Narratives (audio or video recording, written journals)
- Correspondence (Letters, postcards)
- Photos, drawings, or scrapbooks

All interviews are video-taped and sent to the Library of Congress. If you are willing to share your story, please contact Alyssa Kelleher at alyssa.kelleher@uconn.edu

Visit:

<https://veterans.uconn.edu/veterans-history-project-2/>

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Veterans Day Ceremony

November 11th, 10:00am – 11:00am

**Ultimate Sacrifice Memorial outside
Wilbur Cross Building (Storrs)**

Our National Anthem will be performed by fellow UConn student Rebekah Mizener. The Director of the Office of Emergency Management at UConn, William Shea, will be this year's guest speaker. Additionally, two performances will be made by two members of the Connecticut Army National Guard Band.

Reception immediately following the ceremony in the North Reading Room of the Wilbur Cross Building. Light refreshments will be served.

Rain Location: In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be moved indoors to the North Reading Room in Wilbur Cross.

Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Thursday, November 14th

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Hawley Armory Rm. 204

The Veterans Advisory Council is comprised of students, faculty, and staff at UConn who are Veterans, and who want to ensure a positive impact on the lives of fellow Veterans at UConn. Any student Veterans are welcome to attend any of the Veterans Advisory Council Meetings.

If you're interested in serving on the Council, please contact Nikki Eberly at Nikki.eberly@uconn.edu.

UNCLE SAM WANTS YOU



**To donate to those
in need this holiday
season!**



**Drop off items in the collection box or in Hawley 100B
from Nov 4th to December 6th!**

The UConn Office of Veterans Affairs and Military Programs has initiated its 7th annual care package drive. Collected items will be donated to shelters which provide housing, training, job placement, and other services to the homeless and those in need with a focus on veterans. Create a team name and attach it to your donations if you want to compete for the trophy! Contact Camden.Craigie@UConn.edu for more info.

Recommended Collection Items

General Hygiene Items: Soap, shampoo, razor blades, shaving cream, feminine hygiene products, deodorant, etc
Household Supplies: cleaners, batteries, paper towels, plastic utensils, Ziploc bags, detergents, toilet paper, etc
New Clothing: Winter Clothing, socks, hats jackets, sweats, underwear, undershirts, sizes M-XXXL preferred
Food: Canned goods, ground coffee, condiments, peanut butter, jelly, powdered creamer, sauces, etc

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During that time, he was on the USS Mississippi, then PCU Mississippi. Thus, Sam was part of the commissioning crew, also known as a plank owner, and they completed systems turnover for the Navy from Electric Boat and took the boat on initial sea trials. It was a stressful, but incredible experience that not many people get the chance to be a part of.

Having left the Navy, Sam was concerned about going from active duty to being a full time student. He graduated high school early to pursue music before he joined the Navy, and he thought he lacked a lot of educational skills required for college. So, Sam first completed one semester at Three Rivers Community College before coming to UConn. It wasn't until Sam started taking classes that he realized the training he received in the military helped prepare him and acquire better skills for learning. Also, being an electronics technician going into electrical engineering didn't hurt either.

After coming to UConn Sam was amazed at the network and resources for veterans. Having the Oasis and the weekly bar night (coordinated by the VSO) really helped Sam to get involved and fostered good relationships instead of just commuting in for classes and leaving. That was definitely one of the things that helped Sam the most in transitioning back to civilian life and he encourages everyone to come out to bar night, even if they don't drink, simply for the social aspect. Sam shares, *"the Veteran Organization and resources are a large part of what I enjoy about going to school at UConn. I think it is unique what we have here."*

If you would like to nominate a student, faculty, or staff member for "Veteran of the Month," please contact Nikki Eberly at Nikki.eberly@uconn.edu with the name of the person and reasons for your nomination.

October Veteran of the Month

Sam Pevsner

The office of Veterans Affairs & Military Programs (VAMP) at UConn is pleased to honor Sam Pevsner as our Veteran of the Month for October 2019. Sam currently serves as a Peer Mentor for the Veterans Section of the FYE (First Year Experience) Class this semester. He is pursuing a degree in the Engineering program and is involved with the Veteran Students Organization (VSO) on-campus.

Sam served in the Navy for 5 years as an electronics technician (navigation) on submarines.