



Better Business Bureau®

# Trusted Scout

Better Business Bureau® Military Line® Consumer News and Alerts



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## RESOURCES

## MEMORIAL DAY EDITION: A SALUTE TO ALL WHO SERVE



BBB Trusted Scout is back! For more information on how BBB and BBB services assist our Military and Veterans Community, go to [BBB Military Line](#).

Like what you see in this newsletter? Have any feedback? [Please get in touch with us!](#)

Stay on the lookout for an upcoming Trusted Scout survey!



*The month of May is Military Appreciation Month, and it provides the opportunity for the general public to say thanks to all those who have contributed to the U.S. Military. On Memorial Day, we honor the memory of those who have sacrificed for this nation. For service members and veterans, Military Spouse Appreciation Day is a chance to pay tribute to supportive family members and partners. This May, BBBI expresses its gratitude to service members, veterans, and their supportive families for the important role they have played in the history and development of the country.*

## CONSUMER ISSUES

## MILITARY & VETERAN ISSUES

### Make Saving Automatic

By *Military Saves*

It can be difficult to find the money to put aside for savings, but there is an easy way to save money without ever missing it: make your savings automatic.

[Read More](#)

### Seven Tools to Help Control Your Privacy

By *Emma Fletcher, CIPP, Director, Scam and Fraud Initiatives, BBBI*

Expecting? How about those diaper coupons in the mail! Moving? Well,

### The ABCs of Financial Aid for Your Education

By *Military OneSource*

Going back to school can really pay off both in personal rewards and in the dollar figure on your paycheck. The U.S. Census Bureau says degree holders earn about 75 percent more in their lifetimes than those without a degree. The challenge is, you have to pony up for tuition and expenses first, and that's what stops a lot of potential students in their tracks. But don't give up your higher education dreams just yet - you can find financial help for school costs and start investing in yourself and your future.

[Read More](#)

### Military Education Benefits in the Palm of Your Hand

By *DoDLive*

Voluntary education is now available on mobile devices. The Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support, also known as, DANTES, is proud to announce the new "MyVolEdPath" mobile app, a tool aimed at increasing service member awareness of

what do you know, an ad for packing supplies pops up on your screen. We all react differently to marketing based on our purchase history or internet browsing activity- a welcome convenience to some may feel intrusive to others.\* On the other hand, we all want to protect our personal information from identity theft, but we may have different comfort levels when it comes to the conveniences we're willing to give up to secure our identities.

[Read More](#)

\*Some advertisements you see online are tailored to your interests based on your web browsing activity. These ads often are marked by a small blue triangle ▶ you can click on to go to options to opt out of interest-based advertising. You can also opt out by visiting [www.aboutads.info/choices](http://www.aboutads.info/choices). Platforms such as [Facebook](#) and [Google](#) also provide tools for customizing your advertising experience. Remember that you will still see ads after you opt out, they will just not be tailored to your interests.

## A New Way to Steal Chip Card Information

*By Hal Speisman, Manager, Social Media, CBBB*

The latest trend in credit card info theft being reporting is a "shimmer." Shimmers, not to be confused with skimmers, which we've written about previously on the blog, are similar in that they're able to record credit card information after consumers insert their card at the point-of-sales terminal. Much like skimmers, shimmers are able to gather information from the chip on the card but the main concern is how hard they are to detect.

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## Start an Emergency Fund

*By FINRA*

As you prepare to invest, it's important to set aside some money- about the equivalent of 3 to 6 months' of living expenses- in an emergency fund. There are times when people become ill or are injured

Defense Department's voluntary education programs and benefits, many of which are available to members at no cost!

[Read More](#)

## One-on-One Grief Counseling

*By TAPS*

Individual grief counseling is important to many survivors in our grief journeys. The opportunity to sit one-on-one with a skilled therapist who understands grief and trauma can help you work through some of the hardest parts of your loss. Finding the right fit is important, and we can help. The right grief counselor can help you discover strengths, develop your own coping skills, and help you work through questions, changes in relationships, and secondary losses.

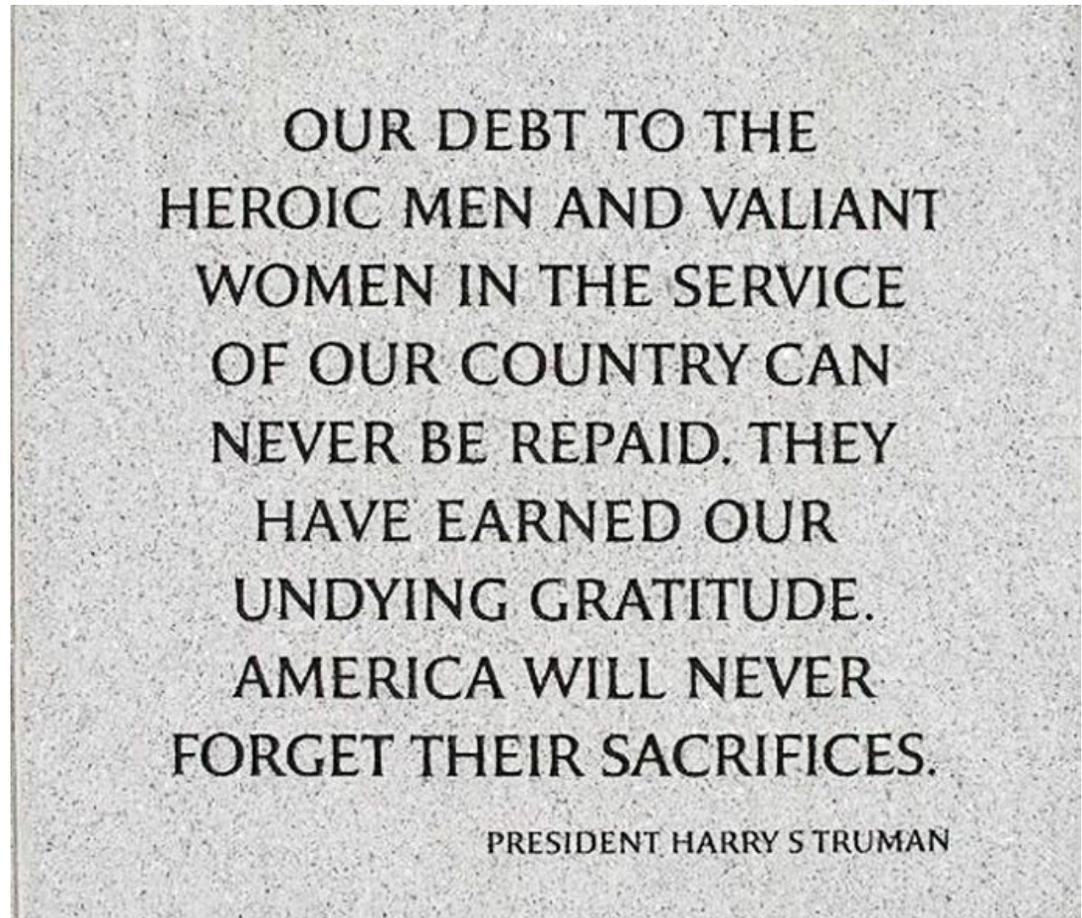
[Read More](#)

## Military Spouse Mental Health Profession Pipeline

*By National Military Family Association*

The National Military Family Association (NFMA) and Give an Hour, with the support of United Health Foundation, have teamed up to ease spouses' transitions from graduate school through licensure to jobs in behavioral health.

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in accidents. Employers lay off workers. If something unexpected happens to you, having the money you need to pay the medical bills or see you through the weeks or even months of being out of work will help to keep you out of debt. If you already have investments, an emergency fund also will help you meet your expenses without disrupting your investment plan.

[Read More](#)

## **Protecting Against Fraud and Financial Exploitation**

*By Consumer Financial Protection Bureau*

Older people often have regular income, accumulated savings, or equity in their homes. This makes them attractive targets for exploitation by con artists, unscrupulous family members, caregivers and others. And they may not recognize warning signs or know where to turn for help.

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### BBB Military and Veterans Initiative

brings BBB consumer education and services to military personnel (including Reservists and National Guard), retirees, veterans, DoD civilians, and their families.