



RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)

Invites you to its meeting **June 20, 2018 at 11:00**

First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT

Dr. Michael Simberkoff

Why is the VA in the News and Why is it Often Bad News?



Military veterans are a highly respected segment of American society. Providing lifetime medical care for service-connected disabilities has been historically honored. President Lincoln hand wrote multiple copies of the Gettysburg Address to be sold at auction, with the proceeds used to defray the medical costs of wounded Union soldiers. The Veterans Bureau began in 1921 and the Veterans Administration was established by President Hoover in 1930. Over the years, the domiciliary and medical benefits have improved. But what is the most efficient way of providing effective medical care for our veterans today? This has become a particularly fraught controversy over the past year.

Dr. Michael Simberkoff has worked within the VA system for close to 50 years, including 19 years as the Chief of Staff of the Manhattan VA Hospital. A full professor of medicine at the NYU School of Medicine, he has authored or co-authored well over 100 medical articles and 20 books or chapters of books in the area of his specialty, infectious disease. Since "retiring," he has continued to work as a volunteer physician in the Infectious Disease clinic of the VA hospital, teaching medical students, medical residents and I.D. fellows. He continues to serve on the Veterans Benefits Administration advisory committee.

His talk at the RMA will focus on VA healthcare: its strengths and weaknesses, the VA budget, the electronic health record, measures of VA performance. He will also address the topic of VA Choice - the use of outside medical providers if the patients cannot get convenient access to the primary or specialty care that they need.

Next Week: June 27, Larry Kantor, Economist, "Financial Markets and the Business Cycle- Where Do We Go From Here?" *The Greenwich Retired Men's Association offers a free program every Wednesday that is open to the public, both men and women; no reservations are required. Our social break starts at 10:40AM followed promptly by our speaker at 11:00AM. Programs are at the First Presbyterian Church, 1 West Putnam in Greenwich. For additional information see www.greenwichrma.org or contact info@greenwichrma.org*