**Lt Gen (NE, ret.) Roger** is the Director for Military Affairs for Senator Mike Johanns. In this capacity he supports policy development and accomplishes case work for military veterans. As former Adjutant General for Nebraska he organized and led the Nebraska National Guard through its largest mobilization since WWII in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Roger was named the 2007 Nebraskan of Year by the Nebraska Rotary organization and honored as a Trailblazer by the Nebraskaland Foundation.

Roger was born and raised in Tecumseh, Nebraska, and graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1969. He and his wife Shirlee, also a Tecumseh native, have lived in Lincoln since 1979 and have two grown children and four grandchildren.

**Travis Karr** is the Director for the CENTRAL to VETERAN Student Success Grant at Central Community College. Mr. Karr provides Student Veterans, Service members, and their families with the resources, support, and advocacy need to be successful in the classroom and ultimately in life. He has created a Veterans Resource Center on each of the three main Campuses of Central; Grand Island, Hastings, Columbus.

Recently Central Community College was awarded by GI Jobs Magazine as a Top 20% Military Friendly School in the Nation.

Mr. Karr is an Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran who was Sergeant in the United States Marines Corps before attending Central Community College. He received an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Business Administration and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration through Bellevue University.

**Jill Champley, PhD** is a Speech Language Pathologist with the VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System. She is a graduate of Kansas State University, the University of Oklahoma, and Wichita State University. She currently works in the VA Polytrauma Support Clinic in Omaha. Prior to joining the staff at VA Nebraska-Western Iowa, she worked at the Robert Dole VA Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas. Dr. Champley has taught graduate courses in Communication Sciences and Disorders at both Wichita State University and the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and has extensive clinical experience in the rehabilitation of individuals with traumatic brain injury and stroke.
Bonnie Bessler is currently assigned as a contract employee by Harvest Personnel Service Company out of Austin, TX as the Transition Assistance Advisor (TAA) for the Nebraska Army and Air National Guard.

Bonnie’s responsibilities as the TAA are as follows:

1. National Guard liaison with the Department of Veterans Affairs and all services related.
2. Advisor to Joint Forces Headquarters Staff on VA
3. Work closely with wounded warriors and their families
4. Ensure all returning OEF/OIF veterans are connected to services and benefits.
5. Educate veterans and their families on services and benefits

Prior to her assignment as the TAA, Bonnie served the Nebraska National Guard for 26 years and retired as an E7 – Sergeant First Class. The last 21 years was as a fulltime employee in the Active Guard Reserve program. Bonnie spent most of her 26 years in the Human Resources field. Bonnie also deployed in Support of Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield in Saudi Arabia with the 24th Medical Air Ambulance Company.

Bonnie has a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Education from Kearney State College.

Sargent Trevor G. Stryker of the United States Marine Corps was born and raised in Grand Island, NE graduating high school from Grand Island Senior High school in May of 2002. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in March of 2002 and entered boot camp at MCRD San Diego in October 2002. His military occupation was 1345 heavy equipment operator.

Trevor’s first duty station was Okinawa, Japan with the 1st Marine Air Wing. From there he was deployed to Ie-shima Island off the coast of Okinawa where he spent 3 months rebuilding a coral runway and a Harrier landing pad. He was then deployed to Korea for approximately 4 months on a mission to practice packing up the air wing units and getting them deployed and set up in theater.

Trevor’s second duty station was with the 1st Marine Division with the 1st CEB (combat engineer battalion) in Camp Pendleton, CA. From Camp Pendleton he did 2 deployments to Iraq. His first deployment was to Ar Ramadi, Iraq with 3/5 (3rd Battalion 5th Marines). While deployed with 3/5 the combat engineer platoon that Trevor was attached to was in direct support of the infantry battalion. His platoon was responsible for fortifying all the Out Posts with Hesco, doing weapons cache searches, filling IED holes, and cleaning up the wreckage of the vehicle born IED’s. While deployed with a
company of Combat Engineers on his second deployment to Fallujah, Iraq in 2006 Trevor's platoon was responsible for providing direct HE support to anywhere from 3 to 6 battalions at one time.

Trevor's transition home from Iraq and out of the military has been very difficult and over bearing at times. After, returning home from Iraq Trevor began to drink very heavily and even more so when returning home to Nebraska. Trevor has struggled with the harsh effects of war in more than just physically but mentally and cognitively also. Trevor has been diagnosis with a mild TBI and PTSD from his deployments to Iraq.