



The above mural honoring our Veterans through the era's is on display in our hallway and was created by local artist Galen McCarthy

VICTOR SIERRA OSCAR COMMO CHECK!

Vol 3 Number 11 | "America's Veterans embody the ideals upon which America was founded." | November 2020

This publication is for Veterans, their families and their communities, The information provided herein is to keep you informed of events, newsworthy items and historical data of interest.

Proud member of



MN and National Associations of Veteran Service Officers



"In the aftermath, we are because they were." R.J. Heller,

OFFICE INFORMATION

The Jackson County Veterans Service Office is located at:

402 White St. (Door 6)
Jackson, MN 56143
507.847.4774

CVSO@co.jackson.mn.us

Monday 8am-4:30pm
Tuesday 8am-4:30pm
Wednesday 8am-Noon
Thursday 8am-Noon
Friday Closed

(Available for after hour & weekend appointments case-by-case)

First Monday monthly we are at the Lakefield library 1PM-3:30PM

Hours may be flexed without notice due to meetings and trainings. Please call for an appointment!

Do a friend a favor, do a "Buddy Check" regularly

something New

BEGINNING JANUARY 1ST!

If you are a military retiree with TRICARE health insurance the information below is VERY IMPORTANT for you to continue your health coverage age 60-65.

If you're a Group A retired beneficiary, you and your family must pay a monthly TRICARE Select enrollment fee to maintain your TRICARE Select coverage. (You're in Group A if your initial enlistment or appointment or that of your uniformed services sponsor began before Jan. 1, 2018.)

The open enrollment period begins November 9th and ends December 14th

Only those family members enrolled in TRICARE Select (with a Group A retiree sponsor) pay the new enrollment fee. If enrollment is only for one family member, then they would pay the individual enrollment fee, not the family enrollment fee.

For example, if one family member is enrolled in TRICARE Prime and another is enrolled in TRICARE Select, you'll pay the appropriate enrollment fees for both plans. Remember that you pay TRICARE Prime and TRICARE Select individual and family fees separately. (If you are a family with family coverage you must add the individual plan fee to the family plan fee for the total monthly premium cost.)

Individual	\$12.50	• For individual, you'll pay \$12.50 per month or \$150 annually.
Family	\$25.00	• For family, you'll pay \$25.00 per month or \$300 annually.
Total	\$37.50	• The catastrophic cap will increase from \$3,000 to \$3,500.

NOTE: Your TRICARE Select enrollment fees will apply towards your catastrophic cap.

The best means to set up your TRICARE enrollment fees is to go online to your DFAS retiree account and create an allotment.

If you have TRICARE Select, you must pay enrollment fees, unless you're:

- An active duty family member
- A transitional survivor
- A medically retired retiree or family member

www.tricare.mil/selectenrollmentfees

NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF THE VETERAN!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!!!!

TO THOSE IN UNIFORM SERVING TODAY AND TO THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED IN THE PAST, WE HONOR YOU TODAY AND EVERY DAY.

SPECIAL DAYS THIS MONTH

NOVEMBER IS: Child Safety Protection Day Month;
Native American Heritage Month;
National Diabetes Awareness Month;
National Veterans Small Business Week is 2-6 Nov

- 1 – All Saints Day
- 2 – All Souls Day
- 3 – **ELECTION DAY! BE COUNTED, VOTE!!!!**
- 9 – World Freedom Day
- 10 – **US Marine Corps Birthday**
- 11 – **VETERANS DAY / Armistice Day**
- 14 – Operating Room Nurses Day
- 17 – World Peace Day
- 19 – Great American Smoke-out!
- 26 – **THANKSGIVING DAY**
- 29 – Advent Begins



Your Jackson County
CVSO will be on the KKOJ
Morning Show the 2nd

Tuesday of every month. Tune in but don't tune out! The show begins at 8:50AM. Question & answer, interesting information, VA Program updates fun facts, straight talk and announcements. This will be geared for all Veterans, their families and Veteran Organizations...



STAY TUNED - STAY INFORMED!



Through the vehicle of radio, Thomas Lyons of the MN Military Radio Hour provides information pertinent to today! He has a guest most every week and discusses upcoming events important to you as the Veteran or military family. The MN Military Radio Hour is on KKOJ radio at 3PM Sundays.

FIRST MONDAY MONTHLY IN LAKEFIELD

Don't forget that the Jackson County Veteran Service Office is located at the Lakefield Library the first Monday of every month, 1-3:30PM. C'mon down and visit! Recommend that you call for an appointment first at 507-847-4774 or just walk in...

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT



Looking for work or know a Veteran who is? CareerForce, Minnesota's Career Resource can help! CareerForce's dedicated Veterans Employment Representatives can help Veterans and eligible spouses with

- individual career planning,
- job search,
- resume writing assistance
- much more.

Current or former military members and spouses are encouraged to contact **Rebecca Kaas**, Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialist at **507 401-4266** or email rebecca.kaas@state.mn.us.

NOVEMBER – MONTH OF THE VETERAN

State of Minnesota Veterans Day Program, Nov. 11

For the past 15 years, the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs has hosted a live Veterans Day event, typically held at the Veterans Memorial Community Center in Inver Grove Heights, MN, with sponsorship by the Minnesota Commanders' Task Force and supported by state and local partners.

This year, in accordance with state-wide limitations on large group gatherings as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we will not be holding an in-person event.

Instead, we will be producing a 30-minute video to honor our state's Veterans on this cherished day. The video will be available on MDVA's website starting Veterans Day at MinnesotaVeteran.org/VeteransDay2020.



MILITARY SPECIALS AND DISCOUNTS!

Veteran's Day is a special day and many businesses honor Veterans on this day by offering discounts and freebies. There are several sites online which list these but when it comes to the outstate area it's probably easier to "just ask".

As you go in to a business don't be shy, go ahead and ask, "Do you offer any discounts for Veterans?" All they can do is say no if they don't but in so many cases the answer is yes!

Some of these are Veteran's Day specific but many others are year around like Home Depot and Lowe's 10% instant savings when you purchase. Many hotels and resorts offer discounts as well as amusement parks, zoo's and museums. All you need to do is have proof of military service?

There are several documents which will prove military service and they range from an actual copy of your DD form 214 (NGB form 22 for Guard), VA Health Card, Retired ID card and possibly a service club membership card (VFW, American Legion, etc.).

However, you can apply for an official Veterans ID Card (VIC) through the VA. All you have to do is go online: www.va.gov/records/get-veteran-id-cards/vic/ and follow the instructions.

For more information and instructions see the article below. If you have any further questions call your local CVSO.

US GOV'T VETERANS ID CARD!



You may be eligible if you meet both of the requirements listed below.

Both of these must be true. You:

- Served on active duty, in the Reserves, or in the National Guard (including the Coast Guard), **and**
- Received an honorable or general discharge (under honorable conditions)

If you received an other than honorable, bad conduct, or dishonorable character of discharge, you're not eligible for a Veteran ID Card. If you have an uncharacterized or unknown discharge status, we'll have to verify your eligibility before we approve your application.

How do I apply for a Veteran ID Card? You can apply online now!

Please sign in at

www.va.gov/records/get-veteran-id-cards/vic/
to apply for a Veteran ID Card

Try signing in with your **DS Logon**, **My HealtheVet**, or **ID.me** account. If you don't have any of those accounts, you can create one now from that site, sign in or create an account.

You'll need this information

When you apply, be sure to have these on hand:

- Your Social Security number
- A digital copy of your DD214, DD256, DD257, or NGB22 that you can upload. This could be in a .pdf, .jpeg, or .png file format.
- A copy of a current and valid government-issued ID, such as a driver's license, passport, or state-issued identification card.

You'll also need a digital color photo of yourself from the shoulders up. The photo should follow all these standards:

- Show a full front view of your face and neck (with no hat, head covering, or headphones covering or casting shadows on your hairline or face), **and**
- Be cropped from your shoulders up (much like a passport photo), **and**

- Show you with your eyes open and a neutral expression, **and**
- Be taken in clothing you'd wear for a driver's license photo, **and**
- Be a square size and have a white or plain-color background (with no scenery or other people in the photo), **and**
- Show what you look like now (a photo taken sometime in the last 10 years), **and**
- Be uploaded as a .jpeg, .png, .bmp, or .tiff file

How do I acquire digitized copies? There are a couple of means you can use to get the required documents or pictures digitized...

- 1) If you have the document at home and have access to a scanner you can do it from there.
- 2) Bring it to someone or a business who could scan it for you.
- 3) Ask your CVSO, they may already have it digitized.
- 4) You may also use the same method to get a digitized copy of your current and valid government-issued ID, such as a driver's license, passport, or state-issued identification card.
- 5) Take a digital picture of it careful to be sure it's full sized, fits the screen and can be clearly read.
- 6) You can have a new picture of yourself (head shot) taken with a digital camera or SmartPhone.

Once all of the above criteria are met the card will be mailed to you at your home address. You may be able to check the status of the card online to see how long it'll be before it arrives.

DID YOU KNOW?



National Parks, wildlife refuges and other federal lands will all be free for veterans and Gold Star family members to use starting Veterans Day 2020, Interior Department officials announced today.

The change extends to veterans and Gold Star families the existing free admission policy already in play for active-duty troops and their families, as well as Guard and Reserve members. It waives both entrance and day use recreation fees for lands managed by the Department of the Interior nationwide.

REGISTRATION TO MY HEALTHEVET



I talk about the VA's "My Health-e Vet" website a lot and urge Veterans to use it!

My HealtheVet is an online Personal Health Record that empowers Veterans to become informed partners in their health care. You are welcome to visit My HealtheVet to access trusted and secure health information, and get facts about VA benefits and services. Access is easy and convenient anywhere the Internet is available.

To use My HealtheVet, you do not have to enter any personal information or register. However, there are several benefits to registering:

- Registering is free and easy to do.
- You manage your profile, including your password and personal details.
- Your registered account gives you access to a vast set of information and tools that are only available to those who register. These tools can help you track your health measures such as your blood pressure, blood sugar, weight, pain and so on.
- You can keep personal health journals.
- You can self-enter your over-the-counter medications. This includes your vitamins, supplements and herbals. You can also self-enter medications prescribed from non-VA providers.
- If you get your medications through the VA, you can refill your prescriptions online.

Next Step:

If you are a Veteran and get your health care at a VA facility - the next step is to upgrade* your My HealtheVet account. With an upgraded account, you can view:

- Parts of your official VA health record as it becomes available
- Your DoD Military Service Information

*** To learn more about how you can get an upgraded account, check out the Quick Guide:
AUTHENTICATION:
Getting an Upgraded My HealtheVet Account
REGISTER: Getting Started with My HealtheVet**

1. Go to www.myhealth.va.gov
2. There are two ways to access the Registration page:
 - Select the **green Register Today Start Here button**, on the landing page, or
 - Select the **red REGISTER button** in the Member Login box on the right side of the screen, when you enter My HealtheVet
3. Complete the Registration Form:

Important: Do not skip over a field with a red asterisk (*) or My HealtheVet will not be able to complete your registration

- Identification – enter your full name, social security number, gender and date of birth exactly as it appears in your VA record
- Relationship to the VA – if you get care at a VA facility, you must select VA Patient in order for My HealtheVet to map your account with your VA health record
- Contact Information – select a preferred method of contact and provide the related information, for example: email address, phone/fax/pager number

- Account Information – Create a User ID that is unique and contains no spaces; it must be 6-12 characters – Create a Password that is unique, contains no spaces; must be 8-12 characters and have at least one letter and one number and one special character (such as !, #, %)
- Terms & Conditions and Privacy Policy – select the Terms & Conditions and Privacy Policy links, read and then Accept

4. Select the **RED SAVE button** at the bottom of the Registration form Congratulations! You can now go to the My HealtheVet homepage and login using your User ID and Password.

NEW SUICIDE EMERGENCY NUMBER!



Suicide is an epidemic in and of itself whether it's an Active Duty servicemember, a Veterans or someone who has not served. It affects all of us. We're all vulnerable as are our friends and families. Children too!

I cannot state the urgency enough of spreading awareness and education throughout our communities. It may never be eliminated but with education we can slow it down. It can no longer be a tabooed subject, it has to be faced for what it is.

On Saturday, October 17, 2020, the President signed into law:

S. 743, the "Merrill's Marauders Congressional Gold Medal Act," which provides for the award of a Congressional gold medal to the soldiers of the 5307th Composite Unit (Provisional), commonly known as "Merrill's Marauders", in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service in the jungles of Burma during World War II;

S. 785, the "Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act of 2019," which amends a number of VA authorities related to helping veterans transition from military to civilian life; suicide prevention; mental health care research and oversight; mental health care staffing; and health care for women veterans; and

S. 2661, the "National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020," which designates 9-8-8 as the universal telephone number of the purpose of the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system.

This number, 9-8-8 is easy to remember just like the familiar numbers 4-1-1, 9-1-1 and 2-1-1. Make sure we all keep that in our minds for a retrieval any time it's needed.

**"Don't try to win over haters,
you are not a 'jackass' whisperer."
~ Brené Brown**



EDITORIAL COMMENT

Jeffrey L. Gay, CVSO

THE ELECTION IS OVER! Finally...

This has been a long, arduous and contentious election period which will not soon be forgotten. 2020 has been quite a year for all of us regardless whether it's been in the political arena, Covid, jobs, business, and so much more.

I have always been one to weigh what is right from wrong or what is good from bad and all points in between before I make an informed choice. I don't remember ever voting strictly along a party line. I guess you could refer to me as a doggone **independent, tea drinkin', green, republican!** I can say that I represent the embodiment of the scourge of any party line politician, however staying self-informed and weighing what is right for our country and our citizens as opposed for a "party" or ideal. Besides our two parties they themselves are split into left, right and somewhere in between thus adding to the confusion.

This year things seem to have reached a fevered crescendo. This year I am embarrassed for America as others look on at our bickering, blaming, finger pointing, uncompromising and mud-slinging!

Are we doing what's best for our country? Worse yet, are we setting the correct example for our youth as we are teaching by example that it's ok to hate, to bully, to name-call and to riot and destroy? Shame on all of us in one manner or another!

In so many ways the United States has been a role model for the world. Our ingenuity, our commitment to freedom, our system of government and our pride in purpose. Our willingness to help others in trouble or in need and how we stand with one another during the good times and the bad times.

Let's not let that become our legacy, let's work to keep that alive. We all learn through example, let's us be that example for our upcoming generations and not let our petty political differences divide us, let them help us to grow with compromise and the ability to keep our eyes open and gazing into our future and our minds open to change.

Let us stand tall & stand united!

A sign someone had posted at a Legion lounge I once saw stated **"Welcome! But past these doors we do not talk politics, religion or ex-wives"**.

There is truth in the fact that these three subjects have the propensity to cause grief and disagreement because we become passionate about them. It's alright to become passionate but let us do so in a compassionate manner... Let's not lose friends or relationships over

things that change by the moment, let's rely on one another to get through any perceived disputable topic with our hands in a shake and not a fist.

The more I watch children the more they seem grown up compared to some of us. Discuss it, get over it, get on with it. Let the guy or gal in that office do what they said they want to do to make us great instead of fighting and pushing back all the time. Who knows, it may work better than you think!

This is just my take on it, it's not worth losing friends over but it is our responsibility to vote and to stay informed helping to keep our interests in check, our freedoms strong and our country indivisible!

DRIVERS LICENSE REINSTATEMENT PROG.

Are you a Veteran and have lost your license for DUI or any other type of



DIVERSION SOLUTIONS

There is a company called **Diversion Solutions** who the 3rd party administrator for the State of Minnesota's Driver's License reinstatement program referred to as the Drivers Diversion Program (DDP).

DDP is a new permanent State law that permits qualified applicants the ability to drive legally while paying back old fines and fees with affordable monthly payments. Law reference is here:

Having an unpaid driving after suspension or driving after revocation citation is expensive and gets more expensive when folks continue to drive. It is a debt trap many Vets find them self's in, and the cycle and debt and despair only grow.

In no way am I endorsing this company. Losing your license is part of the punishment that is handed down for breaking the driving laws. Losing one's ability to move about freely is an imposition that hopefully will make the need to follow the laws painfully clear.

It makes it difficult to continue day-to-day life due to transportation issues. Getting to work, to appointments or just out for a quick sandwich becomes difficult.

Diversion Solutions are all about getting folks legally licensed and insured. they work with the DVS and the Department of Public Safety to advocate for all applicants.

Not everyone is approved for the program, but everyone will get a call back from us and begin a process of learning how they might get their license reinstated.

The purpose of this note is to make you aware of help that you might qualify for and to know about the programs offered to Vets who are approved. With minimum monthly payments as low as \$25 (*that go to pay back their old citations*), they can be driving legally again and be on the road to moving on with their life.

“No man is ever old enough to know better...” ~ Holbrook Jackson

VETERANS VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR

Rebecca Kass

14th Annual Veterans VIRTUAL Career Fair



November 19, 2020 - 2:00 - 6:00 PM



CareerForce Veterans Employment Services and the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs invites all veterans, active military members, and their spouses to a Virtual Career Fair on November 19.

Work for an employer that recognizes and appreciates your experience and the value you bring to their team!

Employers participating in the Veterans Virtual Career Fair are encouraged to offer veterans full-time jobs with benefits and family-sustaining wages.

To register or for information about the Veterans Virtual Career Fair or accommodations for this virtual event, please contact Christine Pribbernow by email at Christine.Pribbernow@state.mn.us or by calling or texting 612-499-3588

by Thursday, November 12, 2020.



It's that time of the year again! The time where families gather to celebrate amongst one another or to go out and spread the joys of the holiday season to those less fortunate!

2020 may be a little different because of the Covid virus restrictions and scare. This season may be a little leaner in the “get together” department. This may also not be a bad thing helping to **dissuade** any 2020 political arguments and fights!

I have found, both professionally and personally, that it is a much larger challenge to cook for less people than it is for more people. This year we all may be experiencing this.

Some may decide to go out to a restaurant for Thanksgiving and others may choose to remain home where it's further away from a possible Covid contact. If that's the case, here are a couple of suggestions...

If its turkey you want, buy a smaller one or just get a turkey breast. Just skip tradition and get a small ham, that would work too and generally there are few leftovers. In any case you cannot forgo the pumpkin pie, that's a must and a Thanksgiving staple! Stove Top Stuffing will suffice as well...

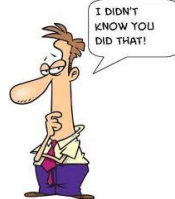
Do they even make “TV Dinners” anymore? There's an idea! They do still make ‘em and “Hungry Man” brand seems to have everything in one meal and looks scrumptious. However, as you're choosing one be sure to check out the sodium content. This one packs a whopping 1,310 mg!

Smaller portions also means less leftovers to figure out what to do with. This means that I'll miss my ground turkey spread and/or my homemade turkey and noodle soup. It also means LESS DISHES TO WASH!!!! It's all about being **pragmatic** and having a positive mental attitude...

In any case, however you choose to celebrate this day of giving be sure to keep family in mind if they cannot be with you, they are in spirit!

To all... From our home to yours, have a very Happy Thanksgiving

STATE SOLDIERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



SSAP or State Soldiers Assistance Program is a benefit offered by the Minnesota Department of Veteran Affairs (not the national office) for Veterans and their families who live in Minnesota.

The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs State Soldiers Assistance Program provides many types of assistance (rent, mortgage, utilities, and personal needs, etc.). There are income and asset requirements with guidelines in place - depending on individual/family circumstances.

There are also annual provisions for Eyewear exams & Dental. Just contact your local CVSO.

The “Special Needs grant”, of which is a part of the SSAP, is a “one-time” use grant for certain urgencies and may be paid out at a higher rate.

Your resource to apply for one of these grants is your local County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO).

HEARD IT AT THE WATER COOLER

As the spouse or dependent child of a Veteran or service member, you may qualify for certain benefits, like health care, life insurance, or money to help pay for school or training.



As the survivor of a Veteran or service member, you may qualify for additional benefits, including

help with burial costs and survivor compensation.

If you're caring for a Veteran, you may also be eligible for support to help you better care for the Veteran and for yourself.

Some of the benefits include:

- Health Care
- Education & Training
- Home Loan Programs
- Financial Counseling
- Fisher House Program
- VA **Fiduciary** Program
- Coaching into Care
- Life Insurance Options
- Claims/Beneficiary Ass't.
- Pre-Need Eligibility for Burial in a VA Cemetery
- Burial Benefits
- Memorial Items
- Survivor Pension
- Comp for Surviving Spouse/Dependents (DIC)

Just one more way of thanking you for your service and that of your Family every day...

To find out which benefits you may qualify for and how to access them visit your local CVSO or just go online to www.va.gov/family-member-benefits/,

Rules and restrictions do apply so it may not be for everybody but at the above website is a pretty concise explanation for you.



"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

-- John F. Kennedy

WORDS & STUFF GLOSSARY

- Dissuade** to talk someone out of something
- Pragmatic** dealing with things sensibly and realistically in a way that is based on practical rather than theoretical considerations
- SSAP** State (of Minnesota) Servicemembers Assistance Program
- citation** a summons, a traffic ticket
- concise** giving a lot of information clearly and in a few words; brief but comprehensive
- Fiduciary** act on behalf of another person, putting their clients' interest ahead of their own, with a duty to preserve good faith and trust. (especially in the interest of finance)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please place these numbers close by in case you would ever need to call one. We hope that the need never arises but we also understand that it's a real possibility. Better to be prepared and to know where to call for help when help is needed...

National Suicide Prevention Hotline



OR TEXT TO "838255"

NATIONAL PROBLEM GAMBLING HELPLINE

1-800-522-4700



Are you a Guardsperson or Reservist?



Tension with your employer? Do you want to reward your boss? Understand USERRA the law better? Just go online to www.esgr.mil or call your local Armory, Reserve Center or CVSO for your regional ESGR volunteer's contact information or call 800-336-4590, choose Option 1!

DON'T FORGET – LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!
www.facebook.com/JacksonCountyMNVeteranServices

Visit us online www.co.jackson.mn.us/veterans

COMMO CHECK!!!!!!
HOW COPY? OVER...
LIMA CHARLIE!
GOOD COPY! OUT...



GOIN' ON-LINE

Below are web addresses which can help you, entertain you and keep you abreast of news, views and changes in benefits. Watch for additions to the list as we move forward!



NEWS & VIEWS

Marine Times	www.marinecorpstimes.com
Air Force Times	www.airforcetimes.com
Military Times	www.militarytimes.com
Military.COM	www.military.com
SOFREP News	https://sofrep.com/news/

BENEFITS & OTHER INTEREST

U.S. Veterans Affairs	www.va.gov
MN Dept. of Vet Affairs	https://mn.gov/mdva/
My Health-e Vet	www.myhealth.va.gov

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

American Legion	www.legion.org
MN American Legion	www.mnlegion.org
Veterans of Foreign Wars	www.VFW.org
Disabled American Vets	www.DAV.org
AMVETS	http://amvetsnsf.org
Vietnam Vets of America	https://vva.org/
Military Order of Purple heart	https://moph.org

MILITARY SERVICE BRANCHES

US Army	www.goarmy.com
US Marine Corps	www.marines.mil
US Navy	www.navy.mil
US Air Force	www.airforce.com
US Coast Guard	www.uscg.mil
US Space Force	www.spaceforce.mil/
National Guard (Army/Air)	www.nationalguard.com

OF INTEREST TO MILITARY RETIREES

TRICARE Health	www.tricare.com
DFAS MyPay (Finance)	https://mypay.dfas.mil
Military Officers Assn.	www.moaa.org
DoD Lodging Site	www.dodlodging.net
America's Warrior Part.	americaswarriorpartnership.org
Dental & Vision – FEDVIP	www.benefeds.com
The American Flag	www.usa.gov/flag
US Flag Code	www.military.com/flag-day/us-flag-code.html

LINKS PROVIDING INFO AND ASSISTANCE

ESGR (Employer Issues)	www.esgr.mil
Nat'l Archives (Records)	https://archives.gov/veterans
MACV (Financial/Legal)	www.mac-v.org
Minnesota LinkVet	https://minnesotaveteran.org
Senior Linkage Line	www.seniorlinkageline.com
Wounded Warrior Proj.	www.woundedwarriorproject.org
"Make the Connection"	www.MakeTheConnection.net
MN Military & Vet Exch.	www.mnme.us
Minnesota Help!	https://mnhelp.info/
Ctr for Disease Control	www.cdc.gov
Veterans Court	www.mncourts.gov/district/5/
FEMA	www.reacy.gov



"WHO YA GONNA CALL?!"

Occasionally you need to call for help. Besides your local CVSO the numbers below may be helpful for you.

Resources for SW/WC MN Area Veterans

VAMC, Sioux Falls, SD	605.336.3230
(Toll Free)	(800.316.8387)
<i>(Press "0" or your party's extension to interrupt message)</i>	
A Nurse or Telephone Care	866.687.7382
Telephone Triage	x7140
Patient Advocate	x6688
Pharmacy Refills	855.560.1723
VA Billing Questions	866-347-2352
CBOC, Spirit Lake, IA	712.336.6400
CBOC, St James, MN	507.375.9670
MN Vet's Home, Luverne, MN	507.283.6200
Toll Free	877.588.8387
Vet Center, Sioux Falls, SD	605.330.4552
MACV, Mankato Office	507.345.8258
SW Ctr for Independent Living	507.532.2221
MDVA SW MN Higher Education Coordinator	507.537.7213
MDVA Tribal VSO, SW MN	507.637.1534
MDVA Veterans Linkage Line	888.546.5838
Senior Linkage Line	800.333.2433
VA Crisis Line/Suicide Line	1.800.273.TALK press 1 (273.8255)
Defense Finance & Acc't. Svc	888.332.7411
TRICARE West Region	844.866.9378

MN Veterans Service Organizations' Dept. HQ's

The American Legion	866.259.9163
Veterans of Foreign Wars	651.291.1757
Disabled American Veterans	651.291.1212
Military Order Purple Heart	651.227.4456
Vietnam Veterans of America	651.224.6345

IDENTIFICATION CARDS/DEERS UPDATES

(Call for appointment and bring proper paperwork)

NG Armory, Mankato, MN	507.389.6219
100 Martin Luther King Drive	Mon-Wed-Fri
114 th FW, Sioux Falls, SD	605.988.5845
1201 W. Algonquin St.	
196 th MEB, Sioux Falls, SD	605.357.2900 or 2985
800 W. National Guard Drive	
NG Armory, Montevideo, MN	320.269.9284 or 5180
711 S. 17 th St.	Mon-Fri / 9am-3pm

YOUR LOCAL
CVSO IS:

FINDING A LOCAL VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER

MN Ass'n of Vet Service Officers	www.macvso.org
Nat'l Ass'n of Vet Service Officers	www.nacvso.org

DISTRICT 8 SW MINNESOTA COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS

Cottonwood - Todd Dibble
41385 US Hwy N
Windom, MN 56101
507.831.5522

todd.dibble@co.cottonwood.mn.us

Jackson - Jeffrey Gay
402 White Street – Door #6
Jackson, MN 56143
507.847.4774

cvso@co.jackson.mn.us

Lincoln - John Hovland
Box 29319 N. Rebecca St.
Ivanhoe, MN 56142
507.694.1033

jhovland@co.lincoln.mn.us

Lyon - Heidi Fier
607 W. Main St.
Marshall, MN 56258
507.537.6729

heidifier@co.lyon.mn.us

Martin - Douglas Landsteiner
2423 Albion Ave.
Fairmont, MN 56031
501.238.3220

doug.landsteiner@co.martin.mn.us

(NOTE: Martin Co is actually district 9)

Murray - James Reinert
Government Center; PO Box 57
Slayton, MN 56172
507.836.1169.

jreinert@co.murray.mn.us

Nobles - Bill Brockberg
315 10th St,
Worthington, MN
507.295.5292

bbrockberg@co.nobles.mn.us

Pipestone - Renae Schuch
811 5th SW
Pipestone, MN 56164
507.825.1183

renae.schuch@co.pipestone.mn.us

Redwood - Dustin Hunter
P.O. Box 130403 South Mill St
Redwood Falls 56283
507.637.4034

dustin_h@co.redwood.mn.us

Rock - David Haugom
204 E. Brown St.
Luverne, MN
507.283.5061

dave.haugom@co.rock.mn.us



WWW.MACVSO.ORG



“Liberty has never come from Government. Liberty has always come from the subjects of it. The history of liberty is a history of limitations of governmental power, not the increase of it.”

-Woodrow Wilson

"We remember those who were called upon to give all a person can give, and we remember those who were prepared to make that sacrifice if it were demanded of them in the line of duty, though it never was.

Most of all, we remember the devotion and gallantry with which all of them ennobled their nation as they became champions of a noble cause."

-- President Ronald Reagan

**In Flanders Fields
John McCrae**

**In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.**

**We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.**

**Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.**



"The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation."

- President George Washington

God Bless America

God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above

From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home

From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home

God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above

From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home
God bless America, my home sweet home

Listen to God Bless America: www.youtube.com/watch?v=syOEI9y7miM

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!

His truth is marching on.
I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps;
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps,
His day is marching on.

I have read His fiery gospel writ in rows of burnished steel!
"As ye deal with my condemners, so with you My grace shall deal!
Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel, "
Since God is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat;
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him; be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me;
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free!
While God is marching on.

Listen to Battle Hymn of the Republic: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jy6AOGRsR80

"We will not tire, We will not falter, We will not fail." -- President George W. Bush

"To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with lots of pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations."

-- President Woodrow Wilson

Our National Anthem - The Star Spangled Banner

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?



On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream:
'Tis the star-spangled banner! Oh long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,
A home and a country should leave us no more!
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave:
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved home and the war's desolation!
Blest with victory and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Listen to the Star Spangled Banner: www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_ICmBvYMRs