



Veteran Services
2100 Campus Drive SE,
Suite 200
Rochester, MN 55904
(507) 328-6355

5TH Annual Chester Woods Deer Hunt for Disabled Veterans Was a Huge Success!

The air was cold, and the wind was blowing on November 11th (Veterans Day) as 29 disabled veterans and 10 of their dependents started to arrive at Rochester area Chester Woods for the 5th annual deer hunt. The event, over the past 5 years, has been a collaborative effort led by Mayo Southeast DAV Chapter 28, the Olmsted County veterans service officer team (CVSOs) and the Olmsted County Parks team. The excitement in the air over the November 12th - 15th. This hunt brought smiles and warmth to the folks gathered, and determined to make this hunt successful.

Tom Eckdahl, Park Supervisor for Chester Woods stated " This hunt has grown over the last 5 years and not only provides a very unique hunting opportunity for the disabled veterans and their dependents, but it brings together a very generous team of sponsors, coordinators, and volunteers to make it happen". He provided a list of the "make it happen team" :

- 38 sponsors
- 15 meat cutters
- 5 photographers
- 19 additional volunteers

29 disabled veterans and 10 dependents harvested 22 deer from the park.

Over the 5 years, many disabled veterans and their dependents have thoroughly enjoyed this supervised and coordinated hunt. Sponsors provided financial help, meals, beverages, snacks, transportation, lodging, and equipment.

One of the hunters , Jim Sursely, a triple amputee from the Vietnam War and native of Rochester traveled to the hunt from his current home in Apopka, Florida. Rich Daly, the Mayo Southeast DAV Chapter commander stated "It was great to have Jim Sursely, a member of our chapter, and a Past National Commander of the DAV join us for the hunt as it provided him the opportunity to reconnect with his many friends during the hunt".

"It is our intent to continue this event on an annual basis " said Neil Doyle, the Olmsted County CVSO Supervisor.

Each hunt provides an outdoor hunting opportunity for those that may not normally get the chance to get out and hunt like they used to. At the end of the hunt, a united purpose was achieved. The disabled veterans and their dependents enjoyed a better quality of life thanks to the organizations, volunteers and sponsors who came together to make it happen.

"These hunts are growing in interest, and more and more members of our organizations as well as community leaders are wanting to become involved and volunteer to help, and we are already looking forward to 2016 " said Tom Eckdahl.

Sign up for 2016 will begin around the end of August, first part of September, and cut off Monday, OCTOBER 3rd. MARK your calendars!





2015
5th Annual
Disabled American Veterans
Deer Hunt



Veterans Health Identification Card



The VHIC is issued only to Veterans who are enrolled in the VA health care system.

Veterans ID Cards Available Through Community Based Clinics

Rochester VA CBOC-3900 55th Street NW

Veterans must schedule an appointment through the VA Call Center at 612-467-1100. Clinics start at 8:30am and the last appointment is at 3:15pm. **DATES, Wednesday's: January 27, March 30, May 25, July 27**

Veterans need to bring two forms of identification:

Primary Identification	Secondary Identification
Must present ONE form of Primary Identification	And ONE form of Secondary Identification
State-Issued Driver's License	Social Security Card
United States (U.S.) Passport (unexpired)	Original or certified Birth Certificate
Foreign passport with Form I-94 or Form I-94A (unexpired)	Certificate issued by US Consular Offices documenting the birth of a child on foreign soil to a US citizen. (Form FS-545, Form DS-1350, DS Form
U.S. Military card	Certification of Report of Birth issued by the Department of State (Form DS-1350)
Military ID Card	Voter's Registration Card
Military dependent's ID card	Native American Tribal Document
Foreign Passport with temporary I-551 stamp	U.S. Citizen ID Card (Form I-197)
Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I- 551)	Identification Card for Use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)
Federal , State or local issued photo ID	Employment Authorization document issued by the Department of Homeland Security
Employment Authorization Document that contains a photograph (Form I- 766)	Canadian Driver's License
Passport from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) with Form I-94 or Form I-94A	
School ID with photograph	
VA Identification Card (VIC) or VHIC*	



PTSD Support Group for Veterans, Friends, and Family

Veteran Services is offering a support group for Veterans that have been diagnosed with PTSD, or those who have signs and symptoms of PTSD, and their family members. Maybe you need to talk or just be in the company of your extended Veteran family. The support group will be a place for Veterans to share, heal and talk about their experiences in dealing with PTSD. We will be there for each other.

We are our brothers and sisters keepers because the oath we took to never leave a fallen comrade has no expiration date. For many of us, combat veterans, there are daily reminders of combat stress. The group will be facilitated by Jennifer Shumaker, Veteran and Olmsted County Veterans Service Officer.

Thursday , January 28, 2016

Thursday, February 25, 2016

6:30pm-8:30 p.m.

American Legion Post 92

315 1st Ave NW,

Rochester, MN, 55901

Jennifer at 507-328-6324 or shumaker.jennifer@co.olmsted.mn.us





2016 marks the second year that Americans are required to report their health insurance status on their taxes under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). If you have health insurance through your employer, Medicaid, Medicare, VA, or other qualifying coverage, all you will need to do is just check a box indicating you have coverage and you are done!

During the tax season, taxpayers who have non-Marketplace health insurance (their plan wasn't purchased on healthcare.gov or a state Marketplace) may receive the new Forms 1095-B or 1095-C — these are receipts from private insurers or employers, confirming you had or were offered coverage. Check them for accuracy if you receive them and keep them for your records. You will not need them to file your 2015 tax return.

If you purchased health insurance on healthcare.gov or your state Health Insurance Marketplace, you will still report your health insurance information from Form 1095-A on your tax returns. And like last tax season, reporting your Marketplace insurance in TurboTax will be as simple as entering your W-2.

If you have further questions or concerns about the ACA, or about filing taxes, and reporting requirements, please discuss with your tax professional, visit www.irs.gov, or call the local IRS office at: (651) 312-8082.



► Information about Form 1095-B and its separate instructions is at www.irs.gov/form1095b.

Part I Responsible Individual

1 Name of responsible individual

2 Social security number (SSN)

3 Date of birth (if SSN is not available)

4 Street address (including apartment no.)

5 City or town

6 State or province

7 Country and ZIP or foreign postal code

8 Enter letter identifying Origin of the Policy (see instructions for codes): ▶

9 Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) Marketplace Identifier, if applicable

Part II Employer Sponsored Coverage (see instructions)

10 Employer name

11 Employer identification number (EIN)

12 Street address (including room or suite no.)

13 City or town

14 State or province

15 Country and ZIP or foreign postal code

Part III Issuer or Other Coverage Provider (see instructions)

16 Name

17 Employer identification number (EIN)

18 Contact telephone number

19 Street address (including room or suite no.)

20 City or town

21 State or province

22 Country and ZIP or foreign postal code

Part IV Covered Individuals (Enter the information for each covered individual(s).)

(e) Name of covered individual(s)	(f) SSN	(g) DOB (if SSN is not available)	(e) Months of coverage																
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec					
23			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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26			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Salute to Women Veterans 2016



Women Veterans Program
Honoring and Empowering Minnesota Women Who Served

January 9, 2016; 1-4pm

Marshall Armory, 500 Timmerman Drive, Marshall MN

Free and open to all women who have or are currently serving

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/salute-to-women-veterans-2016-sw-minnesota-tickets-19803425579>

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT
OF VETERANS AFFAIRS





**GOLD STAR FAMILY PROGRAM:
HONOR & SUPPORT TO THE FAMIL-
LIES OF THOSE WHO GAVE ALL**



***Gold Star Family
Community engagement
Initiative***

Gold Star Families and the community that supports them are invited to participate in a community initiative to honor and support the families of the fallen.

***January 9, 2016, 9am-Noon
Marshall Armory
500 Timmerman Drive, Marshall MN***

***Free breakfast, speakers, resources
*Private Breakout Session for Gold Star Families***

***For more information and to register, visit:
<https://gsfmarshall2016.eventbrite.com>***

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT
OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Gold Star Family Program:
Honor & Support to the Families of Those
Who Gave All**



PROJECT COMMUNITY CONNECT

Are you or someone you know living on too little? Project Community Connect will be held on Friday, January 29, 2016 from 10 AM – 2 PM at Mayo High School.

Free transportation! Take City Bus route #5 to Mayo High School-tell the driver you are going to Project Community Connect.

This annual event will feature services and resources for people who are struggling to make ends meet. Individuals and families can help with legal, medical, Veteran's services, housing, employment, and photo identification, as well as other resources.

Free haircuts and lunch will be provided.

Project Community Connect is sponsored by the Homeless Community Network of Olmsted County

Other upcoming local events

American Legion

3rd Tuesday of each month

315 First Ave NW

Rochester, MN 55901

7pm

Legion Riders

2nd Thursday of each month

7pm

Forty et eight at the American Legion

2nd Tuesday of each month

7pm

Military Order of the Purple Heart

3rd Thursday of each month

6pm

Gulf War Veterans 1st Monday of each month

Upcoming meetings

VFW Post Meeting

2nd Tuesday of each Month VFW Post 1215

16 6th Street SW, Rochester, MN 55902

7pm

DAV Meeting

2nd Monday, of each Month Rochester's Elks Lodge

1652 Hwy 52 N, Rochester, MN 55901

5:30pm dinner, meeting at 6:00pm

Korean War Veterans

Every Monday at Grandmas Kitchen

1514 N Broadway, Rochester, MN 55906

(Silver lake plaza)

7am

Marine Corp League Meeting

4th Tuesday of the month, 7pm, American Legion

315 First Ave NW, Rochester, MN 55901

POW/MIA Riders Association, Member Meeting

2nd Saturday of the month 11am-1pm, VFW Post

1215 16 6th Street SW, Rochester, MN 55902

Byron American Legion

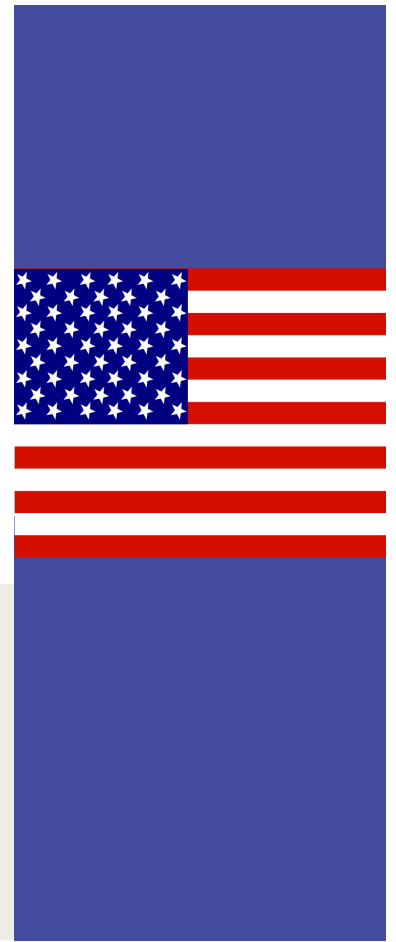
505 Frontage Road W

Byron, MN 55920

3rd Monday of month, 7pm



“To promote the interests and welfare of veterans, their dependents and survivors and to enhance their quality of life through counseling, claims assistance, education, advocacy and special projects.”



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