

VETERANS ADVOCATE

MAY 2018

UPDATE
MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART (MOPH)
NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICES

This does not affect, or have any bearing on the local 7110 MOPH Chapter organization.

All,

It is with deep regret and a heavy heart that I send you this notification.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart National Service Program is officially closing.

The St. Paul office recently received notification from the MOPH Headquarters that all MOPH NSO offices nationwide will be closed by or before June 30th 2018.

The MOPH staff here in St. Paul will continue advising veterans and reviewing/arguing VA ratings that are published , until the very end.

If you have MOPH as your claims representative office, please stop out to the Olmsted County Veterans Service Office.

2100 Campus Drive SE, Rochester, MN 55904



Free Financial Literacy 2018 Workshops



What are My Triggers
To Emotional
Spending?

What are the
Dangers of
Credit Cards?



How do
I start a
Budget?

2018 **Summer** Schedule!

May: Monday, May 7th 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Hawthorne Education Center * 700 4th Ave SE Rochester, MN 55904 Room 314

June: Tuesday, June 26th *and* Thursday, June 28th 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

(2 Part Class) Hawthorne Education Center * 700 4th Ave SE Rochester, MN 55904

July: Monday, July 16th *and* Wed, July 18th 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

(2 Part Class) Hawthorne Education Center * 700 4th Ave SE Rochester, MN 55904

August: Wednesday, August 8th 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

United Way of Olmsted County Room A *903 West Center St. Rochester, MN

How Do I
Interact with
Creditors?

Take the 1st Step to Financial Wellness
By Calling Catholic Charities at
(507) 287-2047 Extension 41



In partnership with:

United Way
of Olmsted County



Catholic Charities
of Southern Minnesota

PROVIDING HELP. CREATING HOPE.

Who Can Help
Me with My
Taxes?

Walk-Ins Welcome!!



Welcome Minnesota

WOMEN VETERANS



*Women Veterans Unite ~ May 4-6, 2018!
Enjoy a Weekend of Camaraderie at Giants Ridge!*

A Retreat for Women Veterans to share our unique experiences, discover individual strengths, explore personal goals while enjoying The Lodge amenities, the beautiful outdoors, and the Laurentian Divide Salon & Spa pampering!

FREE, with preference given, to Women Veterans living within the United Way of Northeastern Minnesota service area. A nominal fee of \$100.00 is requested for those Veterans living outside the service area. Women Veterans of All Branches and All Ages Welcome!

Programs to Choose:

- Healthy Living, Mindfulness, Yoga,
- Military Transitions & PTSD,
- Self-Defense & Safety,
- Wine & Cheese Tasting,
- Pallets & Painting with Beth Milos,
- Memoir Writing by Sheila Packa & more...

Displays of Interest:

- Veteran & Women Resources.
- Women World War II memorabilia
- "I Am Not Invisible," Display

Includes All:

- Programs
- Lodging
- Meals



6329 Wynne Creek Drive, Biwabik

REGISTRATION & RETREAT INFORMATION Online at:
www.unitedwaynsmn.org/womenveteransunite or call 218-254-3328
Registration DEADLINE: April 20th DD214 Proof required. Space is limited.



This Event is sponsored by United Way of Northeastern Minnesota's United for Veterans Initiative



Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans, in partnership with the law firm of Stinson Leonard Street, invites you to participate in a:

FREE DROP-IN LEGAL CLINIC FOR VETERANS

HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT, BENEFITS, EXPUNGEMENT, WILLS, DEBT COLLECTION, FAMILY LAW INCLUDING CHILD SUPPORT

Tuesday, May 8, 2018 | 9am - 2pm | VA Medical Center
Flag Atrium Balcony Room 2S 114 (ask information desk for directions)
1 Veterans Drive | Minneapolis, MN | FREE Parking at the VA Medical Center

Attorneys, MACV staff, County Veterans Service Officers, and child support officers will be available throughout the day to assist veterans with questions, legal forms, and counsel.

For more information contact: Vetlaw Program – MACV | 651-200-4750

Disclaimer: VA assumes no responsibility for the attorneys providing services at this clinic.
This referral does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by VA.

May is Mental Health Month

Each year millions of Americans face the reality of living with a mental illness. During the month of May awareness is raised for mental health. Each year we should try to fight the stigma, provide support, and educate the public as well as advocate for policies that support those with mental illness and their families.

Crisis Text Line Now Offering Services Statewide

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) announced that it is now offering a free crisis text line that is replacing Txt4Life in Minnesota called Crisis Text Line. The Crisis Text Line is available to all Minnesotans 24/7 for people who are in crisis that need to speak with a counselor. People who text **MN** to **741741** will be connected with a counselor who will help defuse the crisis and connect the texter to local resources.

Minnesota Department of Human Services has developed a range of resources to promote the Crisis Text Line that you are invited to use and share. Resources include website banner ads, print-ready postcards, flyers, and sample copy promoting the Crisis Text Line.

If you have any questions of either service, please contact Dominique Jones at DHS at Dominique.Jones@state.mn.us.



Olmsted County Veteran's Services



**FIRST LIEUTENANT ROBERT FRANK NIEMANN
PUBLIC MEMORIAL TRIBUTE**

**NEW ULM CITY CEMETERY
SOLDIERS REST SECTION
MAY 12TH 2018**

- 0900 VISITORS ARRIVE – BRING LAWN CHAIRS**
- 0915 ARRIVAL OF FAMILY BY POLICE ESCORT**
- 0920 OPENING REMARKS – MAYOR BEUSSMAN**
- 0930 ANN BAKKENSEN (DAUGHTER)**
- 0935 ROBERT NIEMANN (SON)**
- 0940 RICHARD NIEMANN (BROTHER)**
- 0945 PLACEMENT OF MEMORIAL WREATH**
- 0950 I FLEW READING BY SERVICE OFFICER PETERSON**
- 1000 FINAL HONORS – USAF HONOR GUARD
179TH FIGHTER SQUADRON**
- 1045 DEPARTURE OF FAMILY**
- LUNCH MAID RITE SANDWICHES & SCHELL'S BEER**
- \$3.00 LEGION Post 132, 13 S. MN ST. - DOWNTOWN**
- 1300 ROBERT F. NIEMANN EXHIBIT DEBUT
BROWN CO. HISTORICAL SOCIETY - DOWNTOWN**
- 1400 NIEMANN FAMILY PRESENTATION
HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNEX –BEHIND MUSEUM**



Greetings,

On May 15, 2018, Senator Tina Smith's Staff will be hosting a Women Veteran's Listening Session in Rochester to meet with area veterans and local leaders to learn about the challenges veterans in the region face when trying to secure the health care, education, housing, or job placement benefits they've earned in return for their service.

The meeting will be from 5:00 – 6:00 pm at 2100 Campus Drive SE, 1st Floor, Whitewater Room, Rochester, MN.

Sen. Smith's staff will discuss how the Senator's office can connect veterans in the region with services as well as advocate on their behalf when they encounter barriers to receiving the support they've earned. The one-hour meeting is open to media. Sen. Smith is currently pressing legislation to provide resources to help veterans gain access to employment and child care benefits, as well as measures that would address homelessness among veterans and would increase medical research that impact veterans' health.

Please feel free to contact Bree with questions.

Bree Maki

Southern Minnesota Outreach Director | Office of Senator Tina Smith

Broadband and Telecommunications State Representative

1202 1/2 7th Street NW, Suite #213 | Rochester, MN 55902

Office: (507) 288-2003 Cell: (651) 788-6284

The men and women who have honorably served our nation in uniform deserve our utmost respect, and when they return home we need to make sure our veterans get the benefits and care they earned. Sen. Tina Smith believes this includes ensuring they're able to pursue higher education, find housing and good jobs, and helping them heal from the wounds of war and access health care. It also means making sure veterans receive quality, timely care, and that we actively seek out legislative fixes when we find gaps in the law that prevent them from receiving the benefits they've justly earned.



Olmsted County Veteran's Services



POST 1215
Whitlock-Sonnenberg Post 1215 / Honor
the Dead by serving the Living

The local post is set to move from 16 6th
Street SW, Rochester, MN 55902 to 2775
43rd Street NW, Rochester, MN 55901 on
Tuesday, May 15th.



IMPORTANT!!

Property Tax Information

CHAPTER 1--H.F. No. 1

All or a portion of the market value of property owned by a veteran and serving as the veteran's homestead under this section is excluded in determining the property's taxable market value if the veteran has a service-connected disability of 70 percent or more as certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. To qualify for exclusion under this subdivision, the veteran must have been honorably discharged from the United States armed forces, as indicated by United States Government Form DD214 or other official military discharge papers. (b)(1) For a disability rating of 70 percent or more, \$150,000 of market value is excluded, except as provided in clause (2); and (2) for a total (100 percent) and permanent disability, \$300,000 of market value is excluded. Homestead of disabled veteran or family caregiver. (m) By July 1, the county veterans service officer must certify the disability rating and permanent address of each veteran receiving the benefit under paragraph (b) to the assessor.



DunMac Golf for Vets

Facilitated by
The Vet Center



Thursday May 17th, 2018 at 9am-1pm

Golf Group will be utilizing the Golf Simulators at the

Rochester Indoor Golf Center

1642 Highway 52 N, Rochester, MN 55901

Clubs and instruction can be provided by Instructors upon request. First group will be free will have free refreshments and prizes. Group thereafter will have a ten-dollar fee for 4 hours of golf simulator use.

This group is a recreation group meant to help Veterans learn wellness using the game of golf and its values to encourage Veterans to make positive lifestyle choices and to create a healthier way of life through fellowship with other Veterans.



To Join or for more information contact the

St. Paul Vet Center at 651 644-4022

Rochester VA Red Carpet Event



Would you like to learn how to navigate the VA system? Come join us for an informational meeting for new and established patients.

Some of the topics that will be covered:

Co-managed care

Mental health

Women's health

Thursday, May 17, 2018

Every 3rd Thursday of the month in room 117, at **2:00pm**
At the Rochester VA Clinic, ****NOTE NEW ADDRESS****

3900 Fairway PL NW

Rochester MN 55901

Please call CVSO's at 507-328-6355



Olmsted County Veteran's Services

MARINES MC

3RD ANNUAL

RUN FOR

22

MOTORCYCLE RUN

SATURDAY 05-19-18

COME HELP SHOW SUPPORT FOR THE WARRIORS FIGHTING FOR LIFE AT HOME. EVERYDAY, AN AVERAGE OF 22 VETS ARE LOSING THE BATTLE TO SUICIDE. IT'S TIME TO STEP UP FOR THEM LIKE THEY DO FOR US.

PROCEEDS FROM RUN FOR 22 WILL BE DONATED TO THE EAGLE'S HEALING NEST - Learn more at www.eagleshealingnest.com

RIDE BEGINS & ENDS AT
MANTORVILLE SALOON

Mantorville, MN 55955

REGISTRATION | KICKSTANDS UP
10:00 AM | 11:30 AM

COST/DONATION

\$15 PER BIKE | **\$20** WITH PASSENGER



2018 AWARENESS RIDE

SATURDAY, MAY 19

Ride Leaves from Dave's River Valley Harley-Davidson, Mankato.
Ride Returns to Morson-Ario VFW in Mankato at approximately 4:30pm

Registration begins at 9:30am, Kickstands up at 11am SHARP



\$20 for registration
\$10 for riders



Free ride bandana & raffle entry, t-shirts for purchase



SPONSORS



Additional Sponsors: American Bar, Davis Comfort Systems, Hy-Vee, Kato Glass, Mankato Valley Building Trades

For more information contact - Brent Busch - 507-389-8276
busch@primesourcefunding.com

ARMED FORCES DAY SPECIAL!

SAT, MAY 19TH

FOR ALL MILITARY PERSONS
FREE
CLIP & GO DAY PASS
OR
***YOGA CLASS PASS**

Available to all Active Duty &
Veteran Personnel
Must show Valid ID

*Pass must be used either Sat or Sun
(5/19 or 5/20)



Roca
Climbing & Fitness

Veterans Health Identification Card



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

Purpose of the VHIC: The VHIC is for identification and check-in at VA appointments. It cannot be used as a credit card or an insurance card, and it does not authorize or pay for care at non-VA facilities.

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: Jan 31, March 28, May 30, July 25, Sept 26, Nov 28**

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
U.S. Military card	Certification of Report of Birth issued by the Department of State
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 Re-	Identification Card for Use of Resident Citizen in the United States
Federal, State or local issued photo ID	Employment Authorization document issued by the Department of
Employment Authorization Document that contains a	Canadian Driver's License
Passport from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)	
School ID with photograph	
VA Identification Card (VIC) or VHIC*	



The Veterans & Emergency Services Museum Roundtable



Presents:

“Call Me Doc”



Vietnam Veteran, Pat Kelly, a Navy Medic attached to the 2nd Battalion 4th Marines, Fox Company, tells the story of his service while on the front lines caring for wounded in two of the toughest battles in the war including the battles of Con Thien and Dai Do (*also called Dong Ha*) and others.

And:

“Agent Orange”

Navy Vietnam Veteran, Maynard Kaderlik, who was stationed along the Mekong Delta, and is current Chairman of the National Agent Orange Committee with Vietnam Vets of America, will speak on the use and long term effects of Agent Orange on those who served in Vietnam and their families.



May 21 at 7:00 p.m.

Autumn Ridge Church
3611 Salem Road

A \$5.00 donation to the Veterans and Emergency Services Museum is requested
STUDENTS FREE

The VESM Round Table meets the 3rd Monday of each month except June, July and August

WOMEN *Gala* VETERANS

Thursday, May 24th 2018

Hosted by Chapter 28 Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

and

Olmsted County Veterans Services



WOMEN VETERANS GALA

HOSTED BY CHAPTER 28 MN DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS (DAV)

AND OLMSTED COUNTY VETERANS SERVICES

Women Veterans of SE MN:

Plan to celebrate, laugh, learn, and enjoy the company of other women veterans!

YOU have earned a night like this, and it's all

FREE!

Dress to Impress!

The evening's events include:

- ◆ Information booths
- ◆ Meeting fellow women veterans
- ◆ Hors d'oeuvres and full dinner
- ◆ Cash Bar
- ◆ Music and entertainment

DATE: Thursday, May 24th 2018

TIME: *Registration Begins at 4pm.*

4pm-6pm: Happy hour, music, booths, mingling

6:30pm: Dinner

7pm-9pm: Guest Speakers incl. Dajon Ferrell
Fellow Woman Veteran & Speaker

PLACE: Canadian Honker Events at Kahler Apache
1517 16th St SW, Rochester MN 55902

To register, please RSVP by April 26th to

Jennifer Shumaker at (507) 328-6324 or

Shumaker.jennifer@co.olmsted.mn.us

* Registration includes a t-shirt!

No Men Allowed! If you need the aid of another person to attend, please notify when registering. Female guests only.



Our annual Thank A Veteran Celebration is an event that was created by Andy's Liquor and led by DAV Southeast MN Chapter 28. We aim to honor our veterans during a celebration each May with food, prizes, giveaways, and more. All proceeds go towards DAV (Disabled American Veterans) and Beyond the Yellow Ribbon of Southeastern Minnesota. We proudly support our military soldiers and veterans and are so thankful for all that they do, and this is why we also offer a 10% discount to them throughout the year. Come out to one of our stores, on

Saturday, May 26 from 10:30am-2pm

Crossroads, 1201 S Broadway

Northeast, 3125 Wellner Dr NE

Marketplace, 2932 41st ST NW

Express, 82 36th Ave NW



Memorial Day Program 2018 Rochester, MN

On Monday May 28, 2018, the Rochester Memorial Day Program will start with music from the Plummer Carillon at 9:15AM. At 9:45 AM, there will be a procession from the American Legion/Central Park area heading South along 1st Avenue N W to 2nd St N W, turning right on 2nd St N W heading West to 4th Ave N W, turning left on 4th Ave N W heading South along 4th Ave to Soldiers Field Veterans Memorial. After the procession, the Memorial Day Program at Soldiers Field Veterans Memorial will start at 10:30 AM. After the Program, the veteran organizations will be honoring the dead whose remains are buried at sea at the Center Street Bridge at noon. After the services at the Center Street Bridge, there will be services at the local cemeteries as listed below.

PLEASE NOTE THE TIMES HAVE CHANGED FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

The Marine Corps League Thor Detachment #606 at the following locations

Oakwood Cemetery	12:15 PM
Fisherman Inn	1:30 PM
Pleasant Prairie	2:30 PM
Oakwood #2	3:30 PM

The American Legion Post # 92 at the following locations:

Grandview	12:15 PM
Marion	1:30 PM
Fairview	2:15 PM
St. Bridget	2:45 PM

The VFW # 1215 at the following locations:

Calvary	12:30 PM
Farm Hill	1:15 PM
Quarry Hill Park West	2:15 PM



SEMCIL, and Olmsted County 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.

**PTSD Support group
American Legion
315 1st Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901**

**Tuesday, May 29th, 2018
630pm-830pm**

**Jennifer Shumaker
(507) 328-6324
shumaker.jennifer@co.olmsted.mn.us**



Tuesday, June 12, 2018
Rochester International Event Center



Keynote by Shannon Huffman Polson

Shannon served on three continents and led two flight platoons and A-Line company.

In the midst of her breakthrough role as a female helicopter pilot in the U.S. Army, Polson learned lessons on leadership, courage, teamwork, and above all the importance of GRIT - that personal dedication and strength which exists at the intersection of purpose and passion.

You can help rewrite the stories of Olmsted County children. As a sponsor of the 13th annual Power of the Purse, you will be a partner in helping children and youth reach their potential in school and the community through school readiness and youth development programs.

United Way of Olmsted County is actively working to improving graduation rates, focusing on children and youth in struggling families. In Olmsted County, 84% of all students graduate on time, but only 70% of students on free or reduced lunch received a diploma. By preparing young children for school and ensuring our youth are achieving important milestones, we're able to predict their future success as contributing members of the community.

About Power of the Purse

Power of the Purse is a popular community event presented by the United Way of Olmsted County's Women United to raise funds and awareness supporting initiatives improving the lives of children and youth in our community. Annually, over 600 community members attend this luncheon and silent purse auction.

Event Sponsorship Levels	Notable \$3,000	Tribute \$1,250	Friend \$350	Table Reservation	
				VIP Table \$500	Reserved Table \$400
Banner displayed at event.	x				
Name included in print advertising.	x	x			
Logo included on posters and digital displays at event.	x	x	x		
Thanked from podium at event.	x	x			
Logo and link added to Power of the Purse webpage.	x	x	x		
Logo included in printed program.	x	x	x		
Reservation of table(s), preferred seating.	2 Tables for 16 Attendees	1 Table for 8 Attendees	2 Tickets to Luncheon	1 Table for 8 Attendees	1 Table for 8 Attendees
Meet and greet reception with speaker.	x	x	x	x	

United Way of Olmsted County's
Women United is proud to present the 13th Annual

power of the purse

Improving the lives of children & youth

June 12, 2018

Rochester Event Center

Featuring keynote speaker Shannon Huffman Polson
sharing her story and the power of GRIT!

Thank you to our
distinguished sponsors

Bremer
Bank



UNITED WAY OF OLMSTED COUNTY
WOMEN UNITED



For more information, scan the QRcode
or visit: www.uwoolmsted.org/pop

STAND★DOWN FOR VETERANS -2018-

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

(WELCOME CEREMONY BEGINS AT 11:30 AM)

ALL VETERANS WELCOME! CALL MACV FOR INFO (507) 345-8258

KAHLER APACHE BALLROOM

1517 16TH STREET SW
ROCHESTER, MN 55902

FREE SERVICES AVAILABLE INCLUDE:

- MEALS
- VA BENEFITS
- CLOTHING
- HOUSING
- PUBLIC BENEFITS
- HAIRCUTS
- EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE
- LEGAL ASSISTANCE

**THIS IS A KID FRIENDLY EVENT!
WE INVITE VETERANS TO BRING YOUR FAMILY!**



Rochester American Legion Post 92
3rd Tuesday of each month
315 First Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901
7pm
Legion Riders
2nd Monday of each month
7pm
Forty et eight at the American Legion
2nd Tuesday of each month
630pm

Rochester VFW Post Meeting
2nd Tuesday of each Month VFW Post 1215
16 6th Street SW, Rochester, MN 55902
7pm

Byron American Legion Post 119
3rd Monday of the month
7pm
505 Frontage Road NW, Byron, MN

Vietnam Veterans of America
Meets 4th Monday each month
at 7:00pm, at the Rochester American Legion
315 First Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901

*****NOTE CHANGE*****

MOPH
3rd Thursday of the month 6pm
VFW Post 1215
NEW POST ADDRESS
2775 43rd St. NW
Rochester, MN 55901

Stewartville American Legion Post 164
Meeting 3rd Monday each month, 7:30pm
1100 2nd Ave NW, Stewartville

Stewartville VFW Post 8980
Meeting 1st Monday each month, 7pm
1100 2nd Ave NW, Stewartville

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)
8 AM

Thor Detachment 606 Marine Corp League Meeting
4th Tuesday of the month, 7pm, VFW Post 1215
16 6th Street SW, Rochester, MN 55902

Kasson American Legion Post 333
Third Thursday of the month, 8pm
212 West Main Street , Kasson, MN 55944

Chatfield VFW Post 6913
2nd Tuesday of the month
9- 2nd St SW, Chatfield, MN

Gulf War Veterans of America
1st Monday of each month
7pm, at the Rochester American Legion
315 First Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901

Eyota American Legion Post 551
2nd Monday each month 6:30pm
11 Madison Ave NW
Eyota, MN 55934
Legion Riders
4th Wednesday each month 7:30pm



“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.”



Veterans Services
2100 Campus Drive
SE, Suite 200
Rochester, MN 55904

