

VETERANS ADVOCATE

September 2017

We have a couple of new champions on board!

Olmsted County appointed a new Veterans Service Officer Supervisor, on Tuesday, August 22, at the Government Center, under the oath of office. New supervisor, Nathan Pike, said “I now hold the responsibility of advocacy for over 10,000 veterans and their families within Olmsted County” Nathan is a veteran of the Army and brings over seven years experience in veterans advocacy and benefits.



Olmsted County Veteran Services Office welcomes Ashley Laganieri as our new hire. Ashley brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in veteran’s advocacy from her dedicated work at Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs as the female veteran’s coordinator and Gold Star family rep and over five years of service through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs- Benefits Administration. Ashley will be starting on September 5th, 2017. Ashley is a veteran of the Army. Please welcome Ashley!



DEER HUNT FOR DISABLED VETERANS

NOVEMBER 9-12, 2017

OLMSTED COUNTY CHESTER WOODS PARK

**SPONSORED BY: Olmsted County Parks
Olmsted County Veterans Service Office
MN Disabled American Veterans Chapter 28**

Olmsted County Parks, in collaboration with the Olmsted County Veterans Service Office and MN Disabled American Veterans Chapter 28 is offering an opportunity for a limited number of service connected, disabled veterans to deer hunt within the boundaries of Chester Woods Park during the 2017 Deer Firearm season 200A and 300A

This hunt is open to all military veterans and active duty military with documented service connected disability and a Minnesota deer hunting license. Final selection of the hunters will be made by the Olmsted County Veterans Services office with priority based on disability rating. Each chosen Veteran will be allowed to sign up and have two DEERS dependents hunt with them.

Stop out to the Olmsted County Veterans Service Office to register for the hunt.
2100 Campus Drive SE, Rochester, MN 55904
Or Call 507-328-6355 for more information.



Olmsted County Veteran's Services

CHESTER WOODS PARK DEER HUNTER LOTTERY REGISTRATION FORM

SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABLED VETERANS

This form may be filled out for parties of up to 3 persons. The applicant must be a service connected disabled veteran and may include 2 dependents. Each applicant must fill in his or her full name, address, telephone number and social security number to verify disability. **All successful applicants and dependents will be required to obtain at least one intensive harvest tag so that additional antlerless deer may be taken.**

Successful applicants and dependents must provide picture identification, a 2016 deer license, and at least one intensive harvest tag when picking up their permission slip. There will be no exceptions to this rule!

All hunters must return the pre-addressed report postcard by mail within 5 days following the hunt regardless if an animal was taken or not. Cards will be distributed with the permission slips. Failure to comply with these requirements will disqualify the hunter from future hunts.

Completed lottery registration forms will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. Friday, September 29, 2017 at the Veteran Service Office in the Public Health Building on the second floor. The address is: 2100 Campus Drive SE, Suite 200, Rochester, MN. 55904.

The drawing will be held Monday, October 2, 2017 and all applicants will be notified by mail, or email, per preference.

NOTE: AN APPLICANT'S NAME CAN ONLY APPEAR ON ONE APPLICATION.

PLEASE PRINT!

APPLICANT #1

FULL NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE: _____ SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

DEERS DEPENDENT #1

FULL NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

DEERS DEPENDENT #2

FULL NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

SE MN YOUTH HOCKEY SCHOLARSHIP

The Southeast Minnesota Youth Hockey Military Scholarship (SEMNYHMA) was started in 2015 as a way to say Thank You to our current Active Duty Military and Veterans in Southeast Minnesota. Many organizations wanted to donate to the cause, but mandated that all funds raised stay local.

Active Duty Military and Veteran's.

Priority as follows:

Killed In Action

Purple Heart Recipient

Active Duty Deployed

Active Duty Stateside

Veteran

Funds for the SEMNYHMS Scholarship are raised yearly at the Military Appreciation Game held on November 11th, by the Rochester Ice Hawks Junior Hockey Team. Funds are raised through a Special Military Jersey Auction. The Military Jerseys are sponsored by local veteran organizations including but not limited to the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 28, Curtis M. Swenson Memorial Fund, Beyond The Yellow Ribbon SEMN, and the MN POW/MIA Riders Association.

Scholarships will be awarded on a points system based on Current Military Status and Rank. Scholarships are to cover Association Fees Only and will not cover USA Hockey Fees, level fees, traveling, lodging, or equipment expenses. Athletes must play for a Hockey Association in the SE MN 8-County Region to include Rochester, Austin, Dodge County, La Crescent, Red Wing Winona or other on a per request basis.

Applications are due Sept. 8th, 2017

For more information or an application, please contact Craig Ugland at: SEMNYHMA@gmail.com or call at 507-259-2608.





ALL OLMSTED COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS WILL BE OUT OF THE OFFICE:

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11-WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 13

FOR OUR FALL ACCREDITATION TRAINING CONFERENCE

VA accreditation is for the sole purpose of providing representation services to claimants before VA.





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

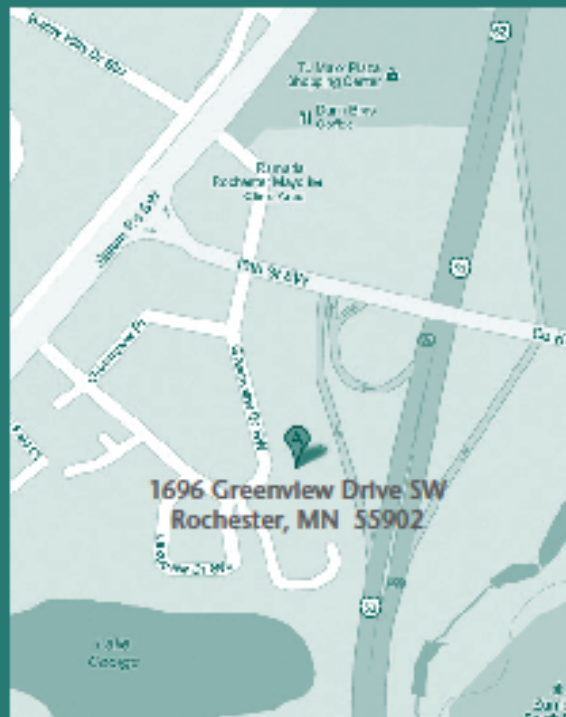
Tuesday, September 12, 2017 | 9am - 2pm | VA Medical Center
Flag Atrium Balcony Room 2S 114 (ask information desk for directions)
1 Veterans Drive | Minneapolis, MN | FREE Parking at the VA Medical Center

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.

— CENTER LOCATION —



You need not grieve alone...

Donations to the Center for Grief Education and Support will help us serve those who are grieving.

For more information contact the Development Office at 507-285-1930 or visit www.seasonshospice.org/donations.

Center for Grief Education and Support



1696 Greenview Drive SW
Rochester, MN 55902

phone: 507/285-1930 • fax: 507/285-7251

E-mail: shbp@seasonshospice.org

Website: www.seasonshospice.org

Center for Grief Education and Support

SEASONS HOSPICE

You Need Not Grieve Alone

Veterans Grief Group

*A Journey to Honor the Losses
and Sacrifice of Our Veterans*



*Specializing in comprehensive
loss, grief and transition services
for the bereaved, those who care
for the bereaved, and
the community.*

WHEN/WHERE

Tuesdays

September 12–October 31, 2017

Center for Grief Education and Support

CONTACT US

Center for Grief Education and Support

Seasons Hospice

1696 Greenview Drive SW

Rochester MN 55902

507/285-1930

E-mail: shbp@seasonshospice.org

National POW/MIA Recognition Day

Date: Friday, September 15th

Time: 6pm

Location: Soldiers Field Veterans Memorial

300 7th Street SE

Rochester, MN



Olmsted County Veteran's Services



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, September 21

Thursday, October 19

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

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: Jan 25, March 22, May 24, July 26, Sept 27, Nov 29**

Primary Identification	Secondary Identification
Must present ONE form of Primary Identifica-	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 (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- 788)	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*	

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS



Veterans Needed for Community Conversations

United Way is engaging people and groups from across the community in conversations about how our community hopes to move forward together, and we'd love to hear from veterans. This group's voice will provide a valuable perspective to our future work.

This community conversation will be one of several that we will be having with people from across the community about community support and connection. Each conversation is a chance for us to better understand people's aspirations for the community, the concerns they have and what they believe might make a difference in strengthening the community.

A typical conversation has between 8 and 15 participants (invitation to 20) and lasts up to 90 minutes. United Way will provide you the invitation and the facilitation of the conversation.

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We are hosting an upcoming conversations for community members on Wednesday, September 20, from 5:30-7 pm at United Way, located at 903 W. Center Street.

We'd be happy to have you share that date and time with anyone who is interested!



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.

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

6:30pm-8:30 pm

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

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

Rochester American Legion Post 92

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

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

1st Monday of the month

8pm

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

MOPH

3rd Thursday of the month 6pm

VFW Post 1215

16 6th St SW

Rochester, MN 55902

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

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

March 19 , 7pm

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



“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

