

*Olmsted County*  
*Veteran Services*  
*Veterans Advocate Newsletter*  
*April 2019*

**As Veterans from Minnesota descended upon the State Capitol for Veterans Day on the Hill Wednesday, March 20, 2019.**

The following bills were heard throughout committees of the legislature:

- HF 430 provides funding for the Veterans Defense Project to provide services to Veterans involved in the criminal justice system through education, outreach and legal training. Rep. Jay Xiong is the author of the bill and it was heard in State Government Finance. The bill was then sent to the Judiciary and Civil Law committee.
- HF 731 is authored by Rep. Jeff Brand and was heard in the House Veterans and Military Affairs committee. It provides exemptions from various fees and taxes on motor vehicle registration and titling as well as driver's licenses and Minnesota identification cards, for Veterans that have a total service-connected disability. It was approved and sent to Ways and Means where it should be referred to the committee on Transportation.
- HF 1259 was heard in the Property Tax Division and is authored by Rep. Julie Sandstede. It moves the application deadline for the disabled veterans homestead exclusion from July 1 to December 15. This bill also allows a veteran to apply for a refund of taxes paid in 2017 and 2018 if the veteran met the disability rating requirements in assessment years 2016 and 2017, but did not receive the exclusion in the following taxes payable year.
- Rep. Robert Bierman's HF 1471 was heard in the House Veterans and Military Affairs committee. This bill allows the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board to install a new memorial plaque, using private donations to be placed in the court of honor on the Capitol grounds, replacing the current plaque, to honor all Minnesota Veterans who served during World War I. The bill was approved and re-referred to State Government Finance.
- HF 1698 is also authored by Rep. Jay Xiong. It was heard in the State Government Finance committee. It would fund the Association of Minnesota Public Educational Radio Stations for programming to promote the Veterans' Voices program. They will use the funds to create programming with an emphasis on Korean War Veterans. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the House State Government Finance bill.
- HF 1773, authored by Rep. Bob Dettmer was given a hearing in the House Veterans and Military Affairs committee. It would give funding for a memorial commemorating Minnesota Medal of Honor recipients. The funding would only be accessible if a certain threshold of private donations are raised.
- SF 2440 is a bill brought forth by MDVA. It allows the agency to use funds to contract with publicity representative vendors. The bill is being carried by Sen. Jerry Newton and was heard in the Senate Veterans and Military Affairs committee.



*Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans, in partnership with the law firm of Fredrikson & Byron, P.A., invites you to participate in a:*

# FREE LEGAL CLINIC FOR LOW-INCOME VETERANS

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

Tuesday, April 9, 2019 | 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.



## **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:

- **Primary Care** including chronic disease management, patient education, and health promotion
- **Immunizations**
- **Mental Health Services** with on-site staff and telemedicine capability linked to providers in Minneapolis
- **Tele-Healthcare** with Minneapolis providers
- **Laboratory Services**
- **Minor Procedures**
- **Women's Health Care**
- **Mental Health**
- **Co-Managed Care**
- **Pharmacy Management**

**Thursday, April 18, 2019**

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month in room 117, at **2:00pm**

At the Rochester VA Clinic

3900 Fairway PL NW

Rochester MN 55901





# **DINNER, AUCTIONS**

AND THE

# **BOOKER MINI BAND**

**SATURDAY APRIL 27th**

**5pm - 9pm**

**ROCHESTER VFW POST #1215**

**2775 43rd Street NW Rochester MN 55901**



**100% OF PROCEEDS GO TO THE MILITARY ORDER OF  
THE PURPLE HEART - LLOYD SWENSON #7110  
AND THE MN POW/MIA RIDERS ASSOCIATION**

**TICKETS: \$50 in advance/ \$55 at the door**

**\$350 FOR TABLE OF 8 INCLUDES PREMIUM SEATING, TABLE TOPPER AND RECOGNITION**

FOR TICKETS, CONTACT MARK UGLAND (507) 272-8999

AUCTION ITEM DONATIONS, CONTACT CRAIG UGLAND (507) 259-2608

CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE "HERO'S AMONG US"





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. Sometimes the most painful injuries aren't physical. Whether it's PTSD, TBI, combat stress, or any other mental health condition, we're here to help you get through it. The group will be facilitated by Jennifer Shumaker, Veteran and Olmsted County Veterans Service Officer.

**NO MEETING IN APRIL (DAV STATE CONFERENCE)**

**Thursday, May 30, 2019**

**630pm-800pm**

**VFW**

**2775 43rd Street NW**

**Rochester, MN 55901**

**Jennifer Shumaker**

**(507) 328-6324**

**[shumaker.jennifer@co.olmsted.mn.us](mailto:shumaker.jennifer@co.olmsted.mn.us)**



# Women VETERANS UNITE!

May 3-5 2019



Kelly Lynn Brockway

**A Retreat for Women Veterans of All Branches and All Ages**, to share unique experiences and connect with other women veterans while enjoying scheduled events, The Lodge amenities at Giants Ridge, the beautiful outdoors, and pampering at the Laurentian Divide Salon & Spa!

The Retreat is **FREE, WITH PRIORITY GIVEN**, to **Women Veterans living within the United Way of Northeastern Minnesota service territory**. If space is available, women veterans outside the UWNEMN service area, **but living in northeastern Minnesota**, may still be able to attend for a nominal fee of \$150.

## Weekend Events:

- St. Louis County Salute to Servicewomen
- Central Minnesota Remembers Vietnam • VA Benefit Panel • Karaoke
- Wine & Cheese Tasting • Recording Our History • Veteran & Women Resources
- Northern Works Studio Theatre Program • Essential Oils - Make & Take
- Key Note Speaker • Pallets & Painting • Metal Bracelet Stamping • Yoga & More



United Way of Northeastern Minnesota

REGISTRATION & RETREAT INFORMATION Online at:

[www.unitedwaynemn.org/womenveteransunite](http://www.unitedwaynemn.org/womenveteransunite) or call 218-254-3329

Registration DEADLINE: April 20th. DD214 Proof required. Space is limited.

Women will be contacted prior to the retreat to confirm registration. United Way of Northeastern Minnesota territory can be found on our website under the drop down menu: About Us, then, Communities We Serve. Contact Erin or Kaye at the United Way of Northern Minnesota office if you still have questions.

# LOCAL MEETINGS

## **Rochester American Legion Post 92**

**March & April 2019 AT THE VFW**

**2775 43RD St NW**

**3rd Tuesday of each month**

**7pm**

**Sons of the American Legion**

**2nd Thursday of each month**

**6pm**

**Legion Riders**

**3rd Thursday of each month**

**7pm**

**Forty et eight at the American Legion**

**2nd Tuesday of each month**

**630pm**

**Marine Corps League Auxiliary**

**2nd Thursday of each month**

**7pm**

**Rochester, MN 55901**

## **Rochester VFW Post Meeting**

**2nd Tuesday of each Month VFW Post 1215**

**2775 43rd St. NW**

**Rochester, MN 55901**

**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,**

**Vietnam Veterans Spouse Support Group**

**Meets 4th Monday each month**

**At 7:00pm**

**Thor Detachment 606 Marine Corp League Meeting**

**4th Tuesday of the month, 7pm**

**MOPH**

**3rd Thursday of the month 6pm**

**VFW Post 1215**

**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 Veterans**

**Every Monday at Grandmas Kitchen**

**1514 N Broadway, Rochester, MN 55906**

**(Silver lake plaza)**

**8 AM**

## **Kasson American Legion Post 333**

**Third Thursday of the month, 8pm**

**212 West Main Street , Kasson, MN 55944**

## **Chatfield VFW Post 6913**

**2nd Monday 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, Post 92**

**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**

## **Pine Island American Legion Post 184**

**2nd Monday of the month 7PM**

**108 1st Ave SE**

**Pine Island, MN**

## **Oronoco VFW Post 9647**

**First Monday of each month 7pm**

**Auxiliary meeting same time, separate meeting**

**5 MN Avenue S**

**Oronoco, MN 55960**



***“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.”***