KOREAN WAR VETERANS TO RECEIVE AMBASSADOR FOR PEACE MEDALS

South Dakota will honor Korean War Veterans with an “Ambassador for Peace” medal ceremony Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2016, in Pierre.

The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs (SDDVA), in collaboration with the Republic of Korea, will be hosting the event which begins at 2:30 p.m. (CST) in the Capitol Rotunda.

The “Ambassador for Peace” medal is bestowed in an expression of appreciation from the people of the Republic of Korea for those who served in Korea’s land, air and sea from Jun. 25, 1950 through Oct. 25, 1954.

“It has been an honor to work side by side with the MVPA on this ceremony,” said Larry Zimmerman, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs. “They recognize what these heroes have given and as a token of their sincerest appreciation they will present them with an Ambassador for Peace Medal which symbolizes their adoration and appreciation for their service and sacrifice.”

The ceremony will include remarks from Gov. Dennis Daugaard, SDDVA Secretary Larry Zimmerman, and the Honorable Sungchoon Park, Minister of the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MVPA). Sunny Lee, advisor of MPVA will also recognize surviving MIA families.

“I look forward to being a part of the ceremony to recognize South Dakota’s Korean War Veterans,” said Gov. Dennis Daugaard. “Though no amount of recognition or awards can fully compensate for the service these men and women have wrought, it will be a very special and meaningful event.”

Many of our county and tribal veterans service officers and our service organizations will be hosting events in their communities to recognize and honor those veterans who are unable to travel.

The MVPA Minister and his delegation will visit the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center on Wednesday, Jan. 13, to present Ambassador of Peace medals to hospitalized Korean War Veterans.
SAVE THE DATE!!

“Get Your Motor Running...”

2nd Annual PVA Poker Run
A Benefit For The

Paralyzed Veterans of America
North Central Chapter

WHEN: Saturday, May 14, 2016
WHERE: Sanford Pentagon, Sioux Falls, SD
ENTRY FEE: $20.00 PER RIDER: MOTORCYCLES & CARS
REGISTRATION: 12:00-1:00 PM (Preregistration will be available soon)

Prizes, Food, Beverages, Music during the event will be provided
After Ride Party/Prizes – 4:30 PM

Stay tuned for more exciting news involved
With our poker run!

For more information call: PVA North Central Chapter at 605-336-0494
NAME CHANGE FOR VA OEF/OIF/OND PROGRAM

Janet Murphy, Office of the Acting Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management, has announced a name change for what we now refer to as the OEF/OIF/OND Program:

The OEF/OIF/OND Care Management Program will now be known as the Transition and Care Management (TCM) Program. They note this change will more accurately reflect the purpose, target population, and future vision of providing care and case management not just to veterans who served in combat supporting OEF/OIF/OND, but also to post 9/11 veterans who need care management. To reflect the purpose, target population and future vision, VAMC teams will be renamed to TCM.

VALENTINES FOR VETERANS CONCERT

Tickets for the February 6 Valentines for Veterans Concert starring Aaron Tippin are now available.

Each Veteran may receive two tickets for reserved seating at the 3:00 PM concert at the Washington Pavilion by calling Voluntary Service at 605-333-6806 or 605-333-6851 or 605-336-3230, Ext. 6806 or 6851.

Staff from the SFVAHCS and veterans service organizations will be on site from 1:00-3:00 pm to discuss VA health care and other veterans’ benefits.

91ST LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The 91st Session of the South Dakota Legislature will convene at approximately 1:00 pm on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, with Governor Daugaard’s State of the State Address. This year’s session is scheduled for 38 legislative days, with the main run concluding March 10. March 29 is reserved for considering gubernatorial vetoes.

Legislative actions can be viewed at: http://legis.sd.gov/Legislative_Session/Default.aspx?Session=Ninety-First

Legislative bills can be tracked or monitored at: http://legis.sd.gov/Legislative_Session/Bills/default.aspx?Session=2016

Live broadcasts of legislative actions and committee meetings are provided by South Dakota Public Broadcasting at: http://legis.sd.gov/Legislative_Session/Media/default.aspx?Session=2016
NAVY LEAGUE CHAPTER FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

A new Virginia Class Submarine has been named after our State of South Dakota. The hull number will be SSN-790 and there is much to do in preparation to support a US warship bearing the same name as the most decorated US Battleship ever.

To learn more about the upcoming commissioning of the USS South Dakota, attend a meeting on Saturday, January 9, at 11:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Sioux Falls DAV (W 51st St). Learn the purpose of the Navy League and what is needed to get the chapter started in the state.

SDSU MILITARY APPRECIATION DUAL

South Dakota State University will be hosting their annual Military Appreciation Dual on January 24th. The dual against the Air Force starts at 11:30 am in Frost Arena in Brookings.

All service members, retirees, and military family members will receive two free tickets to the dual. Tickets are available at the gate. Please refer any questions on this event to MAJ Trygstad at Office: 605-696-5401.
Upcoming Events

Jan. 12—SD Legislative Session Opens—Pierre—1:00 pm
Jan. 12—Awarding of the Korean Ambassador Peace Medals—Capitol Rotunda—Pierre—2:30 pm (CT)
Jan. 13—South Dakota Veterans Commission Meeting—RedRossa—Pierre—9:30 am (CT)
Jan. 14—Veterans Legislative Breakfast—Pierre
Jan. 27-28—State Tribal Relations Days—Pierre
Feb. 12-14—American Legion Mid Winter Conference—Huron Crossroads
Apr. 4—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)
April 15-17—DAV Convention—Rapid City—Adoba
Jun. 16-19—American Legion State Convention—Ramkota—Watertown
Jul. 11—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)
Oct. 3—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)

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