



**FULLFILLING OUR PROMISES**  
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

# Disabled American Veterans Department of South Dakota

## Quarterly Bulletin

1519 W. 51st Street—Sioux Falls SD 57105  
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Vol XXII, No 1 July 2020

### MARTY PENNOCK APPOINTED AS NEW DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT



◀ Commander Don Sealock has appointed Marty Pennock as the new Department Adjutant. **CONGRATULATIONS TO ADJUTANT PENNOCK!**



DAV Members hosted a retirement party for Marty Pennock from the U.S. Army on June 6th, 2020. (Pictured from left to right, Margaret, Marty, Brandon and Amanda).



### 2020 DAV AND AUXILIARY NATIONAL CONVENTION

Out of an abundance of caution for the health, safety and well-being of members, their families, our guests and staff, DAV has made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 DAV and Auxiliary National Convention in Dallas, as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

DAV has continued to monitor conditions and guidance over the past few months in the hopes that it would be possible to move forward with our most important annual gathering. However, based on guidance and feedback we've received from a variety of sources, we would not be able to effectively host an event that would allow us to complete our important business and ensure the safety of our veterans, Auxiliary members, families and other important guests.

DAV will issue updates to this page and use other channels to update our members. The organization will be hosting a digital event to recognize our volunteers and leaders while delivering important mission-related information. Understandably, as the national convention has only been canceled once before in our organization's history, you may have questions concerning the status of normal proceedings and elections. Please visit this page for guidance on these and other issues.

DAV remains incredibly grateful for your understanding during this extraordinary time. For your continued safety, we encourage you to follow the instructions given by the CDC, and to keep reaching out to your fellow department and chapter members as a way to stay socially connected while maintaining physical distance.

We look forward to seeing you all next year at the 2021 DAV and Auxiliary National Convention (<https://www.dav.org/events/2021-national-convention/>) in Reno, Nev.



### DAV BROOKINGS CHAPTER NO. 22 AND 727TH TRANSPORTATION POKER RUN ON SEPTEMBER 5TH

The DAV Brookings Chapter No. 22 and the 727th Transportation U.S. Army National Guard Unit will be hosting the "16th ANNUAL DAV/727TH CHARITY POKER RUN" on Saturday, September 5th, at the Swiftel Center, 824 32nd Avenue, Brookings. Registration starts at 10:00 a.m. with the "BIG RUN" departing with a "Parade at High Noon." There is a \$20.00 registration fee.

The event will be held rain or shine with a \$500.00 BEST HAND and many other prizes. All proceeds go to the DAV Transportation Network. The DAV/727th CHARITY POKER RUN has provided the DAV Hospital Transportation Network in FY 2019 a check for \$43,000.00 which brings the total to \$268,000.00 over the past 15 years. The DAV would like to "SALUTE AND THANK THE 727TH TRANSPORTATION VOLUNTEERS!"

If you have questions, please contact CSM (Retired) Robert Foster at (605) 690-1961 or SFC Kinslow at (605) 415-1759. Online at [facebook.com/727DAVPokerRun/](https://facebook.com/727DAVPokerRun/).

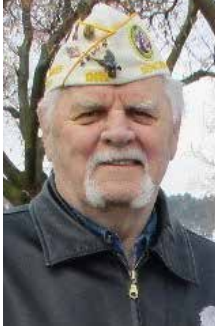
### COMMUNITY CARE EMERGENCY TREATMENT CENTRALIZED NOTIFICATION

Beginning June 8, 2020, the Office of Community Care (OCC) has requested that Veterans and all community hospitals and/or community providers notify Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) of a Veteran who self-presents to an emergency department within 72 hours of the start of the episode of care. This notification should take place through one national location, the Community Care Centralized Call Center, which will be staffed and operated by OCC. Community hospitals and providers should use the following modalities to notify VA:

Email: [VHAEmergencyNotification@va.gov](mailto:VHAEmergencyNotification@va.gov)  
Phone: 1-844-72HRVHA or (844-724-7842)

### COMMANDER'S COLUMN

*By Commander Don Sealock*



Greetings to all DAV and Auxiliary members in South Dakota and around the country. Because of the COVID-19 virus the DAV Department and National conventions were cancelled for 2020. We thought that the health, safety, and well-being of our members and their families was more important.

Hopefully 2021 will be better or closer to normal. The DAV and Auxiliary Department of South Dakota 2021 Annual Convention will be in Rapid City on April 9-11, 2021, at the Rushmore Hotel. If anything changes, we will advise the

membership.

Due to cancellation of the convention because of COVID-19 concerns, the current officers (elected and appointed) will remain in place for the coming year. Should any officer wish to resign and not fulfill this obligation for the coming year, the department will fill any such vacancy as outlined in our department bylaws.

Adjutant Gene Murphy has resigned his position as Adjutant as of July 1, 2020. As your Commander, I would like to say a "BIG THANKS" to South Dakota's "MR. DAV" for all the work Mr. Murphy has done for all Veterans in South Dakota and throughout the nation. Murph will stay on as the Department Treasurer.

As your Commander and with the approval of the Department Officers and Executive Committee, I have appointed Marty Pennock as the new Department Adjutant effective July 1, 2020. Mr. Pennock has been the Office Manager since August 2019 and will be an outstanding Adjutant and leader for the DAV in South Dakota.

We would like to thank all members, Chapters, Auxiliary Units, and businesses who helped with the Convention Raffle Project and who donated prizes and purchased tickets. All the proceeds (\$3,350.00 donated funds for prizes, donated prizes, and \$8,065.00 ticket sales) will assist the DAV Hospital Transportation Network and Service To Veterans Programs in South Dakota.

DAV would like the Department Officers to visit all the Chapters during the year. If Chapter leaders would like an officer to attend a special event or their membership meeting, please contact DAV Headquarters in Sioux Falls.

The DAV is inviting members to the following:

- August 6th: DAV Partnership with A&W Restaurants for Annual National Root Beer Float Day Campaign with restaurants in Rapid City, Sioux Falls, and Webster
- September 3rd: Veterans Day – "HEROES DAY" at South Dakota State Fair in Huron with program at 10:00 a.m.
- September 3rd – 7th – DAV Booth at State Fair in Veterans Building
- September 5th: DAV/727th Poker Run at Swiftel Center in Brookings
- October 23rd – 24th: DAV and Auxiliary 14th District and Department of South Dakota Fall Conferences at DAV Headquarters in Sioux Falls

The DAV will need volunteers to help with these events so if you have free time please contact the DAV Headquarters.

A special "THANKS" to all the volunteers who help at the VA Health Care Systems, Volunteer Drivers for the DAV Hospital Transportation Network, and the Local Veterans Assistance Program. Our Volunteers do an "Outstanding Job" and again – "A BIG THANKS TO YOU"!

As we move forward we will discover a new normal for meetings, fund raising, and Chapter/Department Operations. We must work together to make "THE DAV THE BEST OF THE BEST."

### AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S COLUMN

*By Auxiliary Commander Wanda R. Mix*



COVID 19 has brought us a different type of life these days. Because of this the State Convention was canceled so the officers from last year will continue for this year. There will be additional information about our Units officers coming in the near future.

The State officers: Commander: Wanda R Mix  
Senior Vice Commander: Vinceen Hanson  
Junior Vice Commander: Loretta Helmbrecht  
Treasurer: Jaci Worth  
Adjutant: Nancy Worth  
Judge Advocate: Margaret Koll

The information I have received from National is that the National Convention has been canceled. As soon as I hear more about how to proceed from DAVA National we will be sending additional information out via email. Thank you to everyone for your patience during this COVID 19 pandemic. We are learning how to conduct our business like everyone else.

I am praying that everyone is doing well and being cautious about the COVID 19. Please contact me if you have any questions

Wanda R. Mix, DAVA State Commander  
205 Mustang Pass, Brookings, SD 57006  
Phone: 605-690-0170 Email: wandamix@gmail.com

### NEW ADJUTANT APPOINTED

Commander Don Sealock, with the approval of the Department Officers and Executive Committee members, has appointed Marty Pennock as the new DAV Department of South Dakota Adjutant effective July 1, 2020.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ADJUTANT PENNOCK!**

### DONATIONS TO SERVICE AND LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMS

*By Robert Hill, Chairman of Income Research Committee*

As your Department Chairman of Income Research Committee, I'm asking you to consider a donation to the DAV Department Service and Legislative Programs of your first month's COLA increase. This year (2020) the Cost-of-Living Adjustment was 1.6% beginning January 1, 2020. All the donated funds will be used for assisting the Service For Veterans and Legislative Support for our veterans. In FY 2019 we received donations of \$1,968.00 from eleven (11) members from their first month's compensation check.

Chairman Hill invites **ALL MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE**. Your support would be very appreciated by the Disabled American Veterans of South Dakota. **THANK YOU** for your commitment and support.

**Yes Chairman Hill, I will support the DAV Department Service and Legislative Program!**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail to: DAV DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS  
1519 West 51st Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
THANK YOU!**

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

*By Sr. Vice Commander Dick D. Turnwall*

Back in March, I wrote what I thought was going to be my last article as Senior Vice-Commander. My how COVID-19 changed things! You'll have to read my ramblings about membership for another year.

Before talking about membership, in a couple of phone conversations with Chapters, I learned some of our members are not aware service connect disabled veterans are eligible to use military base commissaries and MWR facilities. The 2019 National Defense Authorization Act section 621 gives service connected disabled veterans or their caregivers authorization to use military base facilities effective 1 January 2020. Section 621 is titled "Purple Heart and Disabled Veterans Equal Access Act of 2018." To use military base facilities, first you need to access to enter bases. To get access to a military base, take your VA issued ID card and another type ID (driver's license, passport, etc) to a military base pass office (also called Welcome Office) to register. Once registered, when going on a base, present your VA ID card to the gate guard. After you have registered, you can use commissaries and MWR facilities at military bases in the United States. When at a commissary or PX, use your VA ID card to make purchases. There is an additional fee charged if you use a credit card for purchases. To see the details, google "NDAA 2019" and read section 621.

Now let's get to membership. We finished our project of trying to identify and confirm deceased DAV members. The final total remained around 400 deceased members as reported in the last quarterly bulletin. Again, thank you to each chapter for their help in finishing this project that involved hundreds of computer and internet hours.

Below is the current population summary for the Department of South Dakota and each Chapter.

### DAV Population Summary As of 06/30/20

Part Life Members	Full Life Members	Total Members	Goal	Goal Pct	Goal Var	Chapter - Name
31	1,823	1,854	1,818	101.98%	36	ARTHUR H. MUCHOW #1
29	1,313	1,342	1,330	100.90%	12	RAPID CITY #3
7	101	113	108	100.00%	0	COYOTE STATE #4
1	207	208	217	95.85%	-9	WATERTOWN #6
6	189	195	200	97.50%	-5	MITCHELL #7
6	323	329	321	102.49%	8	NORTHERN HILLS #11
5	257	262	264	99.24%	-2	SWANSON-O'CONNOR #13
1	245	246	254	96.85%	-8	OAHE #18
1	101	102	110	92.73%	-8	MILBANK-SISSETON #19
1	150	151	158	95.57%	-7	BROOKINGS #22
<b>88</b>	<b>4,709</b>	<b>4,802</b>	<b>4,780</b>	<b>100.36%</b>	<b>17</b>	

As you can see by the graph above, Department of South Dakota met our Department new member goal, but some Chapters are falling short of Chapter goals. The \$100.00 discount off full life membership expired after June 15th, but the \$50.00 off full life membership remains in effect through April 1, 2021. Recruiting new members with the new full life membership rate of \$300.00 going to be harder, but we can overcome that obstacle. A suggestion is to challenge each Chapter member to recruit even just one new member.

## DAV AND AUXILIARY 14TH DISTRICT FALL CONFERENCE OCTOBER 23-24, 2020

The 14th District are members from Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS:** Sioux Falls, SD – Comfort Inn & Suites, 3721 W. Avera Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57108 – Phone (605) 275-9577 – Block of 40 rooms reserved at \$94.00/night plus tax for DAV with cutoff date of September 18, 2020

**LOCATION:** ALL events at the DAV Headquarters, 1519 W. 51st Street, Sioux Falls, SD

### AGENDA:

- Friday, October 23rd** (5-8 p.m.) . . . . Reception and Meal at DAV Home
- Saturday, October 24th** (8 a.m.) . . . . . Breakfast at DAV Home
- (9 a.m.) . . . . . Joint Session – National Guest Department of Veterans Affairs Guests
- (10 a.m.) . . . . . Business Meetings
- (12 p.m.) . . . . . Luncheon (727th Poker Run Check Presentation)
- Saturday, October 24th** (1:30 p.m.) . . . . DAV & Auxiliary Department of South Dakota Fall Conference Business Meetings

Please make reservations for the meals by calling DAV Headquarters in South Dakota at (605) 332-6866 or e-mail at [davsd@midconetwork.com](mailto:davsd@midconetwork.com).

The DAV Chapter will have vehicles to provide transportation from the Comfort Inn & Suites to the DAV Headquarters on both Friday and Saturday. The DAV Headquarters is only a short distance from the hotel.

If questions, please contact DAV Headquarters in South Dakota at (605) 332-6866 or e-mail at [davsd@midconetwork.com](mailto:davsd@midconetwork.com).

## DAV AND AUXILIARY SOUTH DAKOTA FALL CONFERENCE OCTOBER 23RD-24TH

The DAV Time and Place Committee will be hosting the DAV and Auxiliary Fall Conference on October 23rd – 24th at the DAV Department Headquarters, 1519 W. 51st Street, Sioux Falls. The event will be after the DAV and Auxiliary 14th District Falls Conference. All DAV and Auxiliary members are welcomed to attend both events.

### DAV & AUXILIARY DINNER – OCTOBER 23RD – FRIDAY

5-8 p.m. . . . . Reception and Dinner (R.S.V.P.)

### DAV & AUXILIARY AGENDA – OCTOBER 24TH - SATURDAY

12:00 p.m. . . . . Luncheon & Auxiliary Bake Sale

1:30 p.m. . . . . Business Meetings for DAV & Auxiliary

**DAV Sioux Falls Chapter No. 1 will provide coffee, rolls, and the meals.**

Please make reservations for the dinner and luncheon at (605) 332-6866 or e-mail at [davsd@midconetwork.com](mailto:davsd@midconetwork.com) by October 16th. Donations will be accepted for the luncheon.

We especially want to see the Chapter and Auxiliary leadership be represented at the Fall Conference. It is important that our Chapter and Auxiliary leaders see the conventions and the conferences as their opportunity to gain the knowledge, skills, and information necessary to lead their Chapters and Units. As a Chapter and Auxiliary Officer, you have accepted some of the responsibility for leading the disabled veterans of your Chapter and Unit.

**YOUR CHAPTER AND AUXILIARY SHOULD HAVE REPRESENTATION!**

If questions, please contact DAV Headquarters at (605) 332-6866 or e-mail: [davsd@midconetwork.com](mailto:davsd@midconetwork.com). YOU ARE INVITED!



## DAV WASHINGTON UPDATE

### COMMANDER'S ACTION NETWORK (CAN) ALERTS

#### Support the following bills:

- H.R. 6591 – Support Veterans in Need of Emergency Care during the COVID-19 Pandemic
- H.R. 6590 – DAV Supports Deferring Debt Collections during COVID-19 Crisis
- H.R. 6933 – the Caring for Survivors Act of 2020
- H.R. 7111/S. 3899 – the Veterans Economic Recovery Act of 2020

#### **H.R. 6591 – Support Veterans in Need of Emergency Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Even under normal circumstances, veterans using the VA health system often experience problems with billing for emergency care because of administrative and bureaucratic hurdles. This can cause significant financial burden for the veteran and their family. Moreover, even if VA agrees to reimburse the treating facility for the veteran's care, veterans may be held liable if VA does not pay them timely.

To address these problems, H.R. 6591 would temporarily ease current requirements, which include the veteran must have received care from VA within the last two years, preauthorization from VA for emergency care, and that the veteran must be transferred to a VA facility once their condition is stabilized. Finally, the bill would make VA the primary payer for that care even if the veteran has private health insurance, Medicare, or TRICARE (although VA may still seek reimbursement from these insurers).

#### **H.R. 6590 – DAV Supports Deferring Debt Collections during COVID-19 Crisis**

H.R. 6590, if enacted, would prohibit the VA from collecting a covered debt including offsetting any debt collection from monthly compensation payments during the COVID-19 crisis and would continue for 60 days immediately following the date of the end of the national emergency. The bill would also prohibit VA from applying any administrative costs or accruing any interest on the debts. H.R. 6590 would not require veterans to take any actions to defer the collections and would automatically be in place.

#### **H.R. 6933 – The Caring for Survivors Act of 2020**

H.R. 6933, The Caring for Survivors Act of 2020, would increase payments for dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) for surviving dependents and would change eligibility to allow additional survivors to receive the benefit. Specifically, the measure would:

- Increase the DIC rate to make it more equitable with rates provided to federal civilian employee survivors. The base rate of DIC would be increased to 55 percent of the rate of compensation paid to all totally disabled veteran.
- Expand eligibility for DIC by replacing the “10-year” rule with a graduated scale of benefits that begins at five years for initial eligibility at 50% and gradually reaches the full benefit at 10 years after determination of disability. If a veteran is rated as totally disabled for five years and dies of a nonservice-connected cause, a survivor would be entitled to 50% of the DUC benefit.
- Reduce from 57 to 55 years, the age a surviving spouse may remarry and maintain their benefits, consistent with eligibility for other federal benefits for survivors.

#### **H.R. 7111/S. 3899 – The Veterans Economic Recovery Act of 2020**

H.R. 7111 and S. 3899, the Veterans Economic Recovery Act of 2020, is a bipartisan and bicameral bill that would create an education program for unemployed veterans across the country. This legislation would provide 12 months of education benefits to pursue training in high-demand fields through the Rapid Retraining Program. This new program would mirror

current post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits, with both tuition funding and a housing stipend on par with full-time students. The program would be open to 35,000 unemployed veterans who lost their jobs due to the pandemic and are not eligible for any other VA educational program. It would also expand VET TEC program (Veterans Employment Through Technology Education Courses for Training Providers) to assist transitioning service members.

#### **VA Pushes Congress to Pass Agent Orange Conditions Bill**

Fair Care for Vietnam Veterans Act of 2020 (S. 3444) – This bill would add four conditions to the Agent Orange conditions list, including:

- Bladder cancer
- Hypothyroidism
- Parkinson-like symptoms, or parkinsonism
- Hypertension

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine in recent years has published two studies linking Agent Orange exposure to these four health conditions.

### OTHER LEGISLATION

#### **H.R. 6168 – Veterans Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2020**

This bill directs the Department of Veterans Affairs to increase, as of December 1, 2020, the rates of veterans' disability compensation, additional compensation for dependents, the clothing allowance for certain disabled veterans, and dependency and indemnity compensation for surviving spouses and children.

The percentage increase in benefits shall be the same as the cost-of-living increase for Social Security recipients.

#### **S. 3414 – Major Medical Facility Authorization Act of 2020**

This bill authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs to carry out specified major medical facility projects during FY2020. The bill also indicates the maximum amount that can be spent on each project.

#### **S. 3761 – The Veterans Claim Transparency Act**

This legislation would reinstate VA's former policy of permitting VSOs to review claims decisions within the 48-hours preceding promulgation to ensure all claims were properly evaluated and are error-free prior to a veteran receiving notification of a ratings decision. It functions as an independent quality review check on claims decisions before final ratings are sent to veterans.

#### **The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act of CARES Act**

This legislation was signed into law to help Americans economically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic avoid home foreclosure. VA's Loan Guaranty Service is focused on ensuring veterans and their families facing temporary or more long-term difficulty paying their monthly mortgage understand their options. If you experience financial hardship caused directly or indirectly by COVID-19, you should immediately contact your loan servicer and explore options to avoid foreclosure on your VA home loan.

#### **The Pandemic Care for Burn Pits Exposure Act**

Legislation would require the Department of Defense (DOD) and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to ask service members and veterans who have tested positive for a virus designated by the federal government as a pandemic, including COVID-19, if they were previously exposed to burn pits, so they can properly address their medical needs and make certain they receive proper care.

Legislation will require the VA and DOD to assure that this risk is identified and integrated into patient care plans. It will also enable research on how COVID-19 affects individuals exposed to burn pits so that the government can develop better protection and treatment strategies for those who have answered the nation's call.

Service members and veterans exposed to toxic airborne chemicals or stationed near an open burn pit will also be enrolled in the Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry, unless they choose to opt out.

The bill also directs the Airborne Hazards and Burn Pits Center of Excellence to conduct a study of the health impacts on service members and

veterans who test positive for a virus that is designated as a global pandemic – including those who test positive for COVID-19 – and were exposed to burn pits and toxic substances.

#### **PREVENTS Roadmap Released**

The President’s Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End a National Tragedy of Suicide (PREVENTS), which is a nationwide plan for ending suicide. The PREVENTS Task Force calls for a number of steps to be taken, including a nationwide public health campaign to change the culture around suicide and mental health, launch a National Research Strategy for effective solutions for the prevention of suicide, and build partnerships among organizations to share best practices.

#### **H.R. 5610 – Fair Care of Vietnam Veterans Act**

Legislation would add bladder cancer, hypertension, hypothyroidism, and parkinsonism to the list of presumptive conditions associated with exposure to Agent Orange.

#### **H.R. 5739 – Blast Exposure Protection Act of 2020**

Legislation would establish a presumption of service-connection for disabilities associated with blast exposures.

#### **VA Delays Rollout of Electronic Medical Records System Again, Citing Pandemic**

VA Officials told congressional leaders in April that the system’s initial rollout, already delayed once this year, will be suspended indefinitely during the pandemic to let health care professionals focus on patient care.

According to VA Secretary Robert Wilkie, work will continue behind the scenes on the \$16 billion project, but the department won’t burden staff members with a new system during the national emergency.

“Our priority is the care of veterans and providing surge capabilities for

civilian health care systems. Our clinical personnel and medical resources are focused on caring for veterans and addressing the current pandemic,” Wilkie wrote in an April 3 letter to legislators who oversee VA policy and appropriations.

In February, the VA announced a delay in initial deployment of the system, created by Cerner Corp., scheduled for March at Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center in Spokane, Washington. Officials said the wait was necessary to make sure the system works within the VA’s information technology framework and employees were trained to use it.

Wilkie told lawmakers that the system is at “99% completion” at Mann-Grandstaff, with the core software and clinician training nearly complete, as well as nearly all the elements needed for the system to go live.

He added that work will continue on the system’s clinician training program, as well as testing of interfaces during the pandemic. The VA-Department of Defense Joint Health Information Exchange system also is on track for activation this spring, he added.

### **MIDWEST HONOR FLIGHT APPROVED FOR DOT ORGANIZATIONAL PLATES**



Midwest Honor Flight has been approved! You can now add their logo to your DOT Organization Plates in South Dakota!

Visit <https://www.midwesthonorflight.store/s/shop> to get your set today! All proceeds stay directly with Midwest Honor Flight.



National Headquarters • 3725 Alexandria Pike • Cold Spring, KY 41076 • 859-441-7300 • dav.org

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **DAV introduces “Vision for Veterans” to educate candidates and lawmakers about the top priorities for the nation’s veterans**

DAV (Disabled American Veterans) introduced the “Vision for Veterans” today, establishing seven priority issues ahead of the 2020 elections to help presidential and congressional candidates, as well as current lawmakers, understand the critical challenges facing the veteran community, and offer a series of concrete solutions to address them.

The list reflects both the most urgent needs of veterans and those issues which will have serious, long-lasting impacts on those who served, based on DAV’s nearly 100 years of expertise in service and advocacy and feedback from within its more than 1 million members. The document includes informative issue briefs and recommendations for a path forward through policy and systematic reforms that will:

- Protect and strengthen benefits for ill, injured and disabled veterans;
- Ensure timely and accurate delivery of all earned veterans benefits;
- Sustain a comprehensive, high-quality veterans health care system;
- Improve veterans mental health care and suicide prevention efforts;
- Provide equitable benefits and services for women and minority veterans;
- Expand support for families and survivors of disabled veterans; and
- Enhance veterans transition, employment and economic empowerment.



“In the years to come, lawmakers will face major decisions about the future for our nation’s veterans and we have to be clear about the importance of the policies they’ll put in place to ensure the men and women who served receive the care and benefits they’ve earned,”

said DAV National Commander Stephen “Butch” Whitehead, an Iraq war veteran.

“We understand the needs of veterans because we are veterans ourselves, and we help more than one million veterans and their families in life-changing ways each year” said Whitehead. “The ‘Vision for Veterans’ offers a roadmap for every candidate seeking federal office, and all those currently in office, to guide their decision-making process with the best interest of our nation’s heroes in mind.”

Throughout 2020, DAV will be reaching out to candidates for Congress, the Senate and the Presidency, to share its vision of what the future for America’s veterans should look like. View the full “Vision for Veterans” document [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org).

**About DAV** - DAV empowers veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. It is dedicated to a single purpose: fulfilling our promises to the men and women who served. DAV does this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America’s injured heroes on Capitol Hill; providing employment resources to veterans and their families and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life. DAV, a non-profit organization with more than 1 million members, was founded in 1920 and chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1932. Learn more at [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org).

### STATE CEMETERY UPDATE

SDDAV Deputy Secretary Aaron Pollard had the opportunity to visit the state veterans cemetery project and was updated on the status of the development.

“It’s exciting to visit the cemetery and see the progress that has been made,” said Deputy Secretary Pollard. “You can feel just how meaningful this cemetery is going to be.”

“Although it isn’t substantially complete yet, the Committal Shelter will be the centerpiece of the cemetery,” said Pollard. “Coming around the rolling hills where the service flags will be, revealing the Committal Shelter will be an emotional experience to all who visit.”

Open excavations for foundations and utilities will still be present through the next several weeks. Journey is installing fencing and gates now that grades are close to being finished. This is needed to control access to the project.

Tours or site visits from people outside of the construction team are not currently allowed due to safety issues and COVID-19. SDDAV will work with out partners to schedule periodic tours later in the process.

Foundations have been completed for the administration building and the committal shelter, and wood framing has begun. Work has begun on the columbarium wall.

To date we have pre-applications from 240 veterans and 192 spouses for burial at the Sate Veterans Cemetery. “We thank all who have worked so diligently to make this cemetery a reality.” said Pollard. (Pictures on Page 10.)

### DAV STATEMENT ON NATIONWIDE PROTESTS AND CIVIL UNREST

posted on June 3, 2020

*By National Commander Stephen Whitehead*



Stephen Whitehead

Like many Americans, the protests and civil unrest across the country this past week have given us pause to reflect upon our great nation’s promises and ideals, as well as its injustices and shortcomings. As veterans, we have sworn to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and hold sacred the rights of all Americans whom we fought to defend during our military service. Many of our brothers and sisters-in-arms sacrificed their lives or became seriously disabled protecting the very freedoms our fellow citizens are exercising on the streets of America today,

to include their rights to speak freely, peaceably assemble and petition the government as a means to redress grievances. DAV does not condone acts that exceed those rights and specifically condemns actions inciting violence, inflicting physical harm and causing damage to private and public property, such as the national World War II Memorial. We also encourage dialogue and actions that can drive the kind of meaningful, positive and lasting change that so many veterans from all backgrounds fought side-by-side to defend for past, present and future generations of Americans. In doing so, we can all help ensure the United States remains one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION

Please check the appropriate entity for your donation:

- DAV Bulletin Booster
- DAV Hospital Transportation Network
- DAV Department Service Foundation
- DAV Service & Legislative – COLA
- South Dakota Sate Veterans Cemetery Endowment Fund

Donation Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Check # \_\_\_\_\_
- Cash

Please provide the following information:

Name: (Chapter/Individual) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

This donation is: (please check appropriate box)

- In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_
- In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

*The completed form, along with your donation, can be turned in during the Business Session*



**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA**  
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Phone (605) 332-6866 Fax (605) 338-5489  
E-Mail davsd@midconetwork.com  
SD.dav.org • www.dav.org

### DAV 2020 STATE CONVENTION RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS



- 1st Prize ... \$1,000.00 Cash – Larry Polzin, Sylmar, CA
- 2nd Prize \$500.00 Cash – DAV 22 Korean War Display, LLC, Brookings, SD
- 3rd Prize... \$500.00 Cash – Ray Martinmaas, Orient, SD
- 4th Prize... \$250.00 Cash – Norman Brooks, Custer, SD
- 5th Prize... \$250.00 Cash – Mike Clark, Sioux Falls, SD
- 6th Prize... \$250.00 Cash – John Huntington, Sioux Falls, SD
- 7th Prize... \$250.00 Cash – Steve Smith, Beaver Creek, MN
- 8th Prize... \$100.00 Cash – G&K Supreme Auto, Canton, SD
- 9th Prize... \$100.00 Cash – Norman Brooks, Custer, SD
- 10th Prize. Mossberg Patriot .243 Rifle (MPR 0137089) – New – Wes Hofkamp, Sioux Falls, SD
- 11th Prize. Mossberg 500 12 Gauge Shotgun (U061030) – Used – John Huntington, Sioux Falls, SD
- 12th Prize. Kahn .410 Bore Gauge 3” Chamber Shotgun (18SB41000132) Used–Steve Smith–Beaver Creek, MN
- 13th Prize. Four (4) Coleman Coolers and Chairs – Gilbert Bassett, Sioux Falls, SD
- 14th Prize. Vietnam Vets: Still Coming Home Book – Herke Joffer, Brookings, SD
- 15th Prize. Dewalt ½” Cordless Drill With Rechargeable Battery and Charger – Calvin Vogel, Mitchell, SD
- 16th Prize. Scabbart- Hand Made Rifle Sheath – Robert Hill, Brookings, SD
- 17th Prize. “Meeting at the Soldier’s Cross” Print By Artist Ray Kelly – Bonnie Schmidt, Rock Rapids, IA
- 18th Prize. “I.E.D.’s and Under Fire” Print By Artist Ray Kelly – Paul Aslesen, Canton, SD
- 19th Prize. Bottle of Jack Daniels Engraved with POW/MIA Logo – Tim Mescher, Sioux Falls, SD
- 20th Prize. \$50.00 Gift Card For Outback Steakhouse – Paul Anderson, Sioux Falls, SD
- 21st Prize . \$100.00 Cash – Chan Morken, Sioux Falls, SD
- 22nd Prize 2010 American Veterans Disabled For Life Commemorative Silver Dollar–John Pyle, Sturgis, SD

The Proceeds Of This Ticket To Be Used For The DAV Hospital Transportation Network And Service To Veterans Programs In The State Of South Dakota.

**Thank You For Your Assistance To Our Veterans Of South Dakota.**

# ENTER THE RAFFLE FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A WEBER GRILL!

Clip the raffle ticket at right, fill out the information and send completed ticket with your donation to:

**DAV - Department of South Dakota**  
1519 West 51st Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

**GOOD LUCK!**

**And thank you for your support!**

## South Dakota State Veterans Cemetery Endowment Fund

### RAFFLE 2020

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ST: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE#: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU!**



## South Dakota State Veterans Cemetery Endowment Fund

**\$10.00 DONATION OR 3 FOR \$25.00 DONATION**

*Proceeds Will Go to the SD Veterans Cemetery Endowment Fund*

**DATE OF DRAWING: Nov. 11, 2020**

Winners Do Not Have To Be Present



### WEBER® SMOKEFIRE EX4 WOOD PELLET GRILL

672 sq. in. total cooking area. Hopper capacity: 22 lbs.  
Dimensions with lid open: 45"W x 30"D x 64"H.  
Suggested Retail \$999.00



**Memorial Parade through four cemeteries in Sioux Falls.**



## NEW LAWS TO BENEFIT SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS

Veterans in South Dakota will have access to improved education benefits beginning July 1 thanks to the passage

of House Bill 1069 during the 2020 legislative session.

“Many skills military service members acquire translate well into the technical trades,” said Greg Whitlock, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs. “HB 1069 helps veterans continue their education, tuition free, at one of South Dakota’s technical colleges.”

Veterans wishing to use this benefit are encouraged to visit with the technical colleges school certifying officials.

Additional law changes include lowering the threshold requirements for disabled veterans’ participation in special group pheasant hunts from 40% service-connected or higher to 20% service-connected and higher.

Also, as part of an ongoing red tape review, the South Dakota Veterans Commission was determined archaic and all statutes pertaining to the Commission were repealed.

“Now, more than ever, we need to keep our sleeves rolled up and work collectively to ensure our veterans have a successful journey as they transition into civilian life,” said Whitlock. “South Dakota has a legacy of supporting those who have sacrificed and served our country. We are proud of this history and the partners that have shared in our success.”

## VA UNPREPARED TO DEAL WITH A SECOND WAVE OF COVID-19, TOP OFFICIALS SAY

The Department of Veterans Affairs is saddled with an antiquated supply chain that is short of personal protective equipment (PPE) -- including N-95 masks and gowns -- swabs and other vital equipment to deal with a second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, VA officials said Tuesday.

The VA’s health care system currently has about a 30-day supply of protective gear on hand, but would need a supply backstop of at least 60 days or possibly six months to cope with a resurgence of the novel coronavirus in the fall, said Dr. Richard Stone, acting head of the Veterans Health Administration.



Testing for COVID-19 for veterans is up outside PFC Floyd K. Lindstrom Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic in Colorado Springs, Colo., Thursday, April 2, 2020. (Jerilee Bennett/The Gazette via AP) Military.com | By Richard Sisk

## VA BLACK HILLS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM UPDATE

*By Teresa Forbes, Public Affairs Officer*

We've all been through a lot in the first six months of 2020. Safe care is our mission and we are working hard to ensure the safest environment to provide your health care. In June, we began a gradual move to return Veterans to face to face appointments at Hot Springs and Fort Meade. We will continue to monitor the spread of COVID throughout our communities and adjust as needed. We all want to get back to normal, but this virus has simply changed the way we do business and we must remain vigilant and stay home when sick, wash hands, physical distance, and wear a mask. You can count on the same high-quality, safe care you've come to expect from VA Black Hills. As we begin to offer more in-person care, we will discuss the benefits and risks of certain treatments or procedures, considering your overall health status, risk for complications, and the urgency of the considered treatment. Your VA provider may recommend that you continue to postpone routine care or continue use of telehealth for treatment.

Our facilities will look different and some processes have changed to keep you and your loved ones safe. Currently, there are no walk-ins for optical or audiology repairs, appointment only, and no walk-ins for lab and other patient services. As always, we are accepting patients through Urgent Care in Hot Springs and the Emergency Room at Fort Meade.

- We are continuing our screening process to enter the facility.
- We require face coverings in all our facilities.
- We've rearranged chairs to provide the right amount of distance.
- You will see markers on the floor to promote physical distancing.
- There will be more plexiglass barriers and staff may be wearing more PPE than normal.
- We will be using a check-in process that involves sending you a text message to your mobile phone before you enter the facility. A return message will let you know when your team is ready to see you. Please arrive no more than 15 minutes before your appointment since waiting rooms have been reduced to accommodate physical distancing.

Remember if you have symptoms and feel sick please call ahead using 1-877-339-6837.

Many of you have taken advantage of telehealth. We've experienced significant growth in the use of this technology. This may be a great time for you to look into everything VA has to offer through the Mobile App store. While we slowly increase our in-person visits, we will still offer the convenience and safety of telephone and video appointments. This allows you to receive care at home - either over the phone or by video on your computer, smartphone, or tablet. Appointments currently scheduled through telehealth will remain this way unless you instruct otherwise.

There are numerous resources available on Facebook that include meditations, helpful videos from our mental health team, nutrition information, and a weekly chair yoga class on Thursday's at 1:00pm (MT).

Continue to practice physical distancing but do not social distance or isolate from others. Reach out to friends and family and talk about the stress and anxiety you are feeling. Talk to your mental health provider or call the Veterans Crisis Line at any time. 1-800-273-TALK press 1.

Take care of yourself, stay safe and be well.

## SIoux FALLS VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM UPDATE

*By Erin Bultje, Public Affairs Officer*

### COVID19 Update – Moving Forward

As the Sioux Falls VA Health Care System moves forward in accordance with good medical guidance and Dr. Stones guidance for VA, our primary goal in moving forward is always going to be Veteran and employee safety and quality of care. We have increased services in some areas, such as surgical specialty. There is a significant back log for patients waiting to be seen in the various clinical services and the primary care teams are going through their backlog and identifying patients who have the highest priority needs and reaching out to them to get them scheduled. Our goal is to reach a 25% operating capacity across our services, and in some areas, we are almost there. We will slowly build from that going forward.

Veterans who have been waiting, who have a significant medical condition, or their condition seems to be getting worse, we encourage them to call their primary care provider. If they are waiting on a specialty appointment and do not hear from anyone in the next couple weeks, they should also contact their primary care provider.

As we move through this process, we will not have the capacity to accept walk in appointments that are not prescheduled. Providers will be occupied with patients who are scheduled. If someone has emergency care, they should come to the Emergency Department. If a Veteran has a question about their care or wants to be a walk in, they should call ahead.

Veterans who do have appointments may expect a screening call 1-3 days prior to the appointment. Veterans who have an appointment for a procedure like podiatry or dental, may be tested for COVID-19 prior to the procedure.

There may be some occasions where a Veteran has an appointment and because of a positive screening, they will be diverted to a different pathway whether that be urgent care, telehealth or rescheduled. Patients will need to prepare to come in earlier than they are used to, to allow time for screening. We continue to encourage caregivers to accompany their Veterans to their appointments, but guests should be limited at this time. Our waiting rooms are small and will have limited seating available due to social distancing recommendations.

We will continue screening everyone that comes into the facility and taking temperatures. Staff, Veterans, and caregivers are required to wear face coverings when in the facility. If a Veteran/caregiver presents and does not have a mask or face covering, one will be provided for them. If they are unable to wear the mask, we will provide a face shield for them to wear. If someone refuses or removes the face covering

after the screening check point, they will be asked to leave. This is making sure we don't inadvertently expose another vulnerable Veteran to disease.

#### Important contact information:

- Sioux Falls VA Health Care System: 605-336-3230 or 1-800-316-8387
- Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255
- Community Care Emergency Treatment Centralized Notification: 1-844-72HRVHA or 1-844-724-7842
- VA Billing question: 877-881-7618.
- VBA Benefits related questions: 1-800-827-1000, or Sioux Falls office 605-336-3230, EXT. 6900.
- Providers may call OPTUM at 844-839-6108 to become a vendor for VA Care in the Community.



### VET CENTERS UPDATE

During this pandemic, please remember the Sioux Falls and Rapid City Vet Centers are remaining open and continue to provide the following services:

- individual counseling (face-to-face, telehealth and phone visits)
- group counseling (telehealth)
- marital and family counseling
- military sexual trauma

**Please give them a call  
to schedule an appointment!**

- Sioux Falls Vet Center (605) 330-4552
- Rapid City Vet Center (605) 348-0077



## DAV/A&W NATIONAL ROOT BEER FLOAT DAY



DAV's partnership with A&W Restaurants has been renewed for another year. A&W has raised funds to support DAV's mission through their annual National Root Beer Float Day campaign.

Starting in early July, A&W restaurant locations nationwide will collect donations on DAV's behalf, culminating on August 6th when customers will receive a free root beer float at participating locations from 2:00-8:00 pm and will be invited to make a donation to DAV.

A&W locations in South Dakota are: Rapid City, Sioux Falls and Webster. DAV contacts for the respective locations are as follows: Tom Dolney, Gaylord Helmbrecht and Don Barrow.

## SOUTH DAKOTA STATE FAIR – HURON – VETERAN'S BUILDING OPEN FOR VETS – FREE ADMISSION ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD

The Disabled American Veterans Department of South Dakota will have a display booth at the Veterans Building at the South Dakota State Fair in Huron from September 3rd-7th, 2020. The following have agreed to work the booth:

Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 . . . Thursday, Sept. 3rd - Set Up Booth  
 Northern Hills Chapter No. 11 . . . . . Friday, September 4th  
**OPEN** . . . . . Saturday, September 5th  
 Swanson-O'Connor Chapter No. 13 . . . . . Sunday, September 6th  
**OPEN** . . . . . Monday, September 7th

We would like to ask all Chapters, Auxiliary Units, and members to send a donation and/or provide flags (small) and other items to be given away to Veterans and citizens who visit the displays at the Veterans Building. If your Chapter would like to volunteer to man the booth or would like to provide a donation for the booth, please contact the DAV Headquarters.

## FREE ADMISSION — SEPTEMBER 3RD VETERANS DAY — "HEROES DAY"

Veterans Day — Heroes Day will be held Thursday, September 3rd, during the South Dakota State Fair. The South Dakota Veterans Council will host a program at 10:00 a.m. with the presentation of the "Chester Sorenson Veterans of the Year Award." We will have DAV items available and information on Legislation, Membership, Service, Hospital Transportation Network, Voluntary Services and other important information for Veterans and their families.

## COMING EVENTS JULY 2020

- 1st – Wednesday...Beginning of New Membership Year for Chapters
- 2nd – Thursday.....U.S. Army Air Corps Established – 1926
- 4th – Saturday .....**HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY**  
Virtual Independence Day Parade – Sioux Falls
- 6th – Monday .....Black Hills National Cemetery Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service – 9 a.m.
- 8th – Wednesday...VA Stakeholders Conference Call - VA Sioux Falls – 10:30 a.m.
- 10th – Friday ..... VA BHHCS VSO Congressional Forum – Bldg. 145 – Rm. 108 – Ft. Meade VAMC-10 a.m.
- 18th – Saturday .....DAV National Commander Testimonial Dinner – Embassy Suites, Bloomington, MN
- 22nd – Wednesday South Dakota Veterans Council Meeting – South Dakota Military Heritage Alliance – Sioux Falls 9 a.m.
- 27th – Monday .....Korean War Ended – 1953  
National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day
- 28th – Tuesday .....World War I Begins - 1914

## AUGUST 2020

- 2nd – Sunday..... Operation Desert Shield Began - 1990
- 5th – 11th ..... Hy Vee Stores "Operation Helpful Smile" Matching \$\$\$\$\$ For DAV Sioux Falls Chapter
- 4th – Tuesday ..... U.S. Coast Guard Birthday & Established – 1790
- 6th – Thursday .....**NATIONAL A&W ROOT BEER FLOAT DAY – A&W & DAV PARTNERSHIP 2 TO 8 P.M.**  
First Atomic Bomb Mission, Hiroshima - 1945
- 7th – Friday .....Purple Heart Day – Purple Heart Medal Established – 1782  
Battle of Guadalcanal - 1942
- 9th – Sunday .....Second Atomic Bomb Mission, Nagasaki - 1945
- 12th – Wednesday VA Stakeholders Face to Face Meeting at VA Sioux Falls – 10:30 a.m.
- 14th – Friday .....Japan Surrendered Ending WWII – 1945  
National Navajo Code Talkers Day
- 19th – Wednesday National Aviation Day
- 24th – Monday ..... Barrel House Day Of Giving For Midwest Honor Flight in Sioux Falls
- 24th – 27th .....SDDVA Annual Benefit School – Ramkota Conference Center – Pierre
- 26th – Wednesday **DAV YEAR IN REVIEW, COMMANDER'S AWARDS, & LEADERSHIP REPORT-VIRTUAL 6PM**

## SEPTEMBER 2020

- 1st – Tuesday.....Applications Released for George H. Seal and Jesse Brown Memorial Youth Scholarships  
Applications Released for National Commander's Awards
- 2nd – Wednesday . Victory Over Japan Day  
V-J Day: Japan Signed Formal Surrender – 1945
- 3rd – 7th .....South Dakota State Fair – Huron - DAV Booth
- 3rd – Thursday ..... Veterans Day at SD State Fair – Huron – **FREE ADMISSION FOR VETERANS**
- 5th – Saturday .....**DAV/727TH POKER RUN – SUPER POKER RUN – BROOKINGS**
- 7th – Monday .....**LABOR DAY**
- 10th – 12th .....Forget-Me-Not Campaign – Sioux Falls Area
- 11th – Friday .....Patriot Day  
VA BHHCS VSO – Congressional Forum – VFW Post – Rapid City – 10 a.m.
- 14th – Monday ..... "Star Spangled Banner" Written By Francis Scott Key – 1814
- 18th – Friday .....**POW/MIA Recognition Day**  
POW/MIA National Ceremony – Veterans Memorial Park – Sioux Falls – 6:30 p.m.  
Veterans Stand Down – SD Military Heritage Alliance Bldg. – Sioux Falls  
DAV/MOPH Booth 9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
U.S. Air Force Established – 1947
- 23rd – Wednesday DAV Centennial Celebration – Greater Cincinnati Area – Reception & Concert – Cincinnati Music Hall  
Cincinnati Pops Orchestra
- 24th – Thursday ... DAV Centennial Benefit Golf Tournament
- 25th – Friday .....DAV Centennial – Greater Cincinnati Area – DAV Transportation Network & Ford Vehicle Drive Away Outdoor Concert & Celebration
- 27th – Sunday ..... Gold Star Mother's Day
- 30th – Wednesday DAV Chapter Annual Financial Reports Due

## U.S.S. SOUTH DAKOTA BATTLESHIP MEMORIAL: May 1 through September 30 12th Street and Kiwanis Avenue

The U.S.S. South Dakota battleship was the most decorated battleship of World War II. It fought in every major naval battle in the Pacific from 1942-1945. Visit this museum and memorial to our state's namesake. Free.



**2020-2021 Aberdeen, Swanson O'Connor Chapter 13 Leadership**  
 a = Thomas Leonhardt, Sr. Vice Commander  
 b = Kathy Issam, 2nd Jr. Vice Commander  
 c = Ron Neitzel, Adjutant  
 d = Mark Wolf, Comander  
 e = Merle Kjer, 1st Jr. Vice Commander  
 f = Curtis Kranzler, Sergeant-At-Arms  
 g = Adam DiYanni, Treasurer



Above: With the support of Home Depot by supplying all materials, Jim Barber, Member of Chapter No. 1, had a flag installed at his residence with the help of Commander Jim Wosje, Quartermaster Ned Douma and Adjutant Marty Pennock.



At right and below are some photo shots on construction progress at the South Dakota State Veterans Cemetery. Administrative building and committal shelter walls are going up!



## DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS HEADQUARTERS DAV DEPARTMENT OFFICERS FY 2020-2021

**DEPARTMENT COMMANDER**

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**SR. VICE COMMANDER**

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(605) 718-4579 (H)  
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## DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS HEADQUARTERS

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(859) 441-7300

**DAV LEGISLATION & SERVICE HEADQUARTERS**

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(202) 554-3501 [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)

**DAV DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

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**SIoux FALLS VA REGIONAL OFFICE.....1-800-827-1000**

**SIoux FALLS VA HOSPITAL.....1-800-316-8387**

**HOT SPRINGS VA HOSPITAL.....1-800-764-5370**

**FORT MEADE VA HOSPITAL.....1-800-743-1070**

**VA DEBT MANAGEMENT CENTER, ST. PAUL.....1-800-827-0648**

**CHAMPVA CENTER, DENVER .....1-800-733-8387**

**VA INSURANCE CENTER, PHILADELPHIA ..1-800-669-8477**

**VA ATOMIC RADIATION HELPLINE .....1-800-749-8387**

**VA PERSIAN GULF WAR HOTLINE .....1-800-749-8387**

**SOCIAL SECURITY .....1-800-772-1213**

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## SOUTH DAKOTA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATES

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Rapid City, SD 57701  
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320 N. Main St., Suite A  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104  
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320 South 1<sup>st</sup> St., Suite 101  
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246 Founders Park Drive, Suite 102  
Rapid City, SD 57701  
(605) 348-7551

5015 South Bur Oak  
Sioux Falls, SD 57108  
(605) 334-9596

**REPRESENTATIVE DUSTY JOHNSON**

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Toll Free: (855) 225-2801  
<http://www.dustyjohnson.house.gov>

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304 6th Avenue SE  
Aberdeen, SD 57401  
(605) 622-1060 Fax (605) 262-0150

300 N. Dakota Avenue, Suite 314  
Sioux Falls, SD 57108  
(605) 275-2868

**CHAPTER MEETINGS**

**Sioux Falls – DAV Club**  
5:30 p.m. 2nd Tuesday  
1519 West 51st Street, Sioux Falls  
**Rapid City – DAV Club**  
7:30 p.m. 2nd Wednesday  
101 E. Madison Street, Rapid City  
**Watertown - American Legion**  
7:00 p.m. 2nd Monday  
1412 9th Avenue SW, Watertown  
**Mitchell – Overtime Steakhouse**  
7:00 p.m. 2nd Monday  
716 N Rowley, Mitchell  
**Piedmont – American Legion**  
7:00 p.m. 2nd Thursday  
101 Pine Street, Piedmont  
**Aberdeen**  
**Plymouth Congressional UCC**  
7:00 p.m. 2nd Tuesday  
431 West Melgaasrd Road. Aberdeen  
**Pierre – American Legion**  
7:00 p.m. 3rd Tuesday  
520 S. Pierre Street, Pierre  
**Milbank-Sisseton**  
10:30 a.m. 1st Saturday  
Pizza Ranch, Milbank  
**Brookings – American Legion**  
7:00 p.m. 2nd Tuesday  
1229 Western Avenue, Brookings

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS**

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**BULLETIN SCHEDULE**

**JANUARY:** Submittal deadline: December 10th  
**APRIL:** Submittal deadline: March 10th  
**JULY:** Submittal deadline: June 10th  
**OCTOBER:** Submittal deadline: September 10th  
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