



# THE SITREP

The Situation Report is provided by the Isanti County Veterans Services Department

As we move further into the world of technology and instant access to information, Isanti County's Veterans Services Department found it necessary to provide the community with a regularly published source of information regarding Veterans in our community.

July/August 2019

## DEAR READERS:

Hopefully this summer has provided some recreational opportunities to enjoy the outdoors in the friendly company of your fellow Veterans. We are always on the hunt for new opportunities for Veterans and their families, and realize that word of mouth is still one of the best ways to find out about different programs, so we're going to periodically showcase some of these programs for those that don't know yet. If you've heard of something we should know about, email me at [stacey.brown@co.isanti.mn.us](mailto:stacey.brown@co.isanti.mn.us) and I'll look into it for future SITREPs.

## ISANTI COUNTY VETERAN NEWS:



We had a great turn out for Freedom Fest 2019 at the Isanti County Fair on Wednesday, July 24th! It was a beautiful day to give away some shirts and see the smiling faces of those that graced us with their presence. We hope you learned something new about the benefits and services available for Veterans and their families. Thank you to everyone that attended this year and helped make this another successful event!



Beyond the Yellow Ribbon of Isanti County is holding their 6th Annual 4-Person Golf Tournament / Scramble on Friday, September 20th, 2019 at the Purple Hawk Country Club. To register visit [www.beyondtheyellowribbonisanti.org](http://www.beyondtheyellowribbonisanti.org) to obtain the registration form or to get more information, please contact Gail Genin at either [gail.genin@yahoo.com](mailto:gail.genin@yahoo.com) or (763) 222-3826. Space is limited and the deadline to register is September 13th!

And don't forget about Braham's VFW Post 1735's Monthly Pancake Breakfast on the first Saturday of the every month, except June & July! Breakfast is served from 7am to 11am, featuring pancakes, french toast, scrambled eggs, sausage, ham, coffee, and juice!

## MN VETERAN NEWS:

Earlier this year, Gov. Tim Walz signed a legislative bill pertaining to the Disabled Veteran Homestead Valuation Exclusion. For surviving spouses of 100% Disabled Veterans, property tax exclusion eligibility for a limit of only 8-years was eliminated, beginning with the 2019 assessment year (for taxes payable in 2020). It also moved the deadline for filing the Disabled Veteran Homestead Valuation Exclusion from July 1st to December 15th.

Some of you may remember the non-profit organization Middle River Veterans Outdoors that I spoke about last fall. They were just awarded a grant from the Support Our Troops license plate program to continue their great work in providing no-cost outdoor recreation opportunities for any and all Veterans. With their grant, they were able to purchase a tracked wheelchair to provide these experiences to even more Veterans! If you would like more information, please visit [mrveteransoutdoors.com](http://mrveteransoutdoors.com). They still have availability on many of their fall hunts and applications must be submitted 20 days prior, so hurry!

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Cambridge, MN 55008  
<https://www.co.isanti.mn.us/>

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*“With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation’s wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.”*

*President Abraham Lincoln’s 2nd Inaugural Address, March 4th, 1865*

## VA NEWS:

As of July 15th, all VA health care facilities are Tobacco Free for patients, visitors, contractors, volunteers and vendors. The tobacco free designation applies to all forms of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and other combustion of tobacco and non-Federal Drug Administration (FDA) approved electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), including but not limited to electronic or e-cigarettes, vape pens, e-cigars and chewing tobacco.

The St. Cloud VA Health Care System is publicly thanking and honoring Veterans of the Vietnam War era and are seeking photographs of area Veterans who served in the military at any time during the period of November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975. The photos will be used to display online and in the exhibit at the St. Cloud VA Medical Center. Spouses or next-of-kin of deceased Vietnam War-era Veterans can also submit photos of their loved ones. A Photo Consent Form is required, and can be found with all of the contact information on this website: <https://www.stcloud.va.gov/news/index.asp> under the “Vietnam-Era Veteran Photographs Sought” section.

Blue Water Veterans - See a CVSO as soon as possible to file a claim!

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

MACV Stand Down	8a—3:30p	Aug 16th, 2019	Target Field
St. Cloud VA Women Veterans Expo	10a—3p	Aug 17th, 2019	Whitney Senior Center - St. Cloud, MN
Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Golf Tourney	12:30p	Sept 20th, 2019	Purple Hawk County Club, Cambridge, MN

## DID YOU KNOW?

Once you’re enrolled in the VA Health Care System, you don’t need a referral from your primary care physician to make an appointment in Audiology (Hearing), Podiatry (Feet), or Ophthalmology (Eyes) at the VA Medical Centers! Just call one of the numbers below and ask for the appropriate clinic to make an appointment!

Minneapolis VAMC Call Center: (612) 467-1100 or toll-free (866) 414-5058

St. Cloud VAMC Call Center: (320) 252-1670 or toll-free (800) 247-1739

## LOCAL VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS & MEETING TIMES:

American Legion Post 290 - Cambridge, MN	6pm, 2nd Tuesday of the month
Isanti County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon - Cambridge, MN	7pm, 3rd Thursday of the month
Military Order of the Cootie Pup Tent 99 - Isanti, MN	7pm, 1st Thursday of the month
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1731 - Braham, MN	7pm, 2nd Thursday of the month
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2735 - Isanti, MN	7:30pm, 3rd Monday of the month
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 684 - Isanti, MN	7pm, 1st Wednesday of the month

Addresses for these meetings can be found at the following Isanti County website:

<https://www.co.isanti.mn.us/BusinessDirectoryII.aspx?lngBusinessCategoryID=28>