



## Paralyzed Veterans of America

North Central Chapter

**A Member Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America  
Chartered by the Congress of the United States**

# North Central Chapter

209 N. Garfield Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57104  
1-605-336-0494 \* 1-800-505-4782  
Email: [info@ncpva.org](mailto:info@ncpva.org) Website: [www.ncpva.org](http://www.ncpva.org)  
National PVA Website: [www.pva.org](http://www.pva.org)



**April/May 2020**

### Upcoming Events April/May 2020

**Apr 9 . . . Membership Meeting,  
Chapter Office, Noon Luncheon  
and 1:00 PM Meeting**

**Apr 12 . . . Easter Sunday**

**Apr 23 . . . SF Veterans Council  
Meeting, VFW, 7:00 PM**

**Apr 25 . . . Bingo, Burnside Bin-  
go, SF, doors open at 4:30 PM -  
To be determined**

**May 1-2 . . . Howard Wood Da-  
kota Relays, Howard Wood Field**

**May 10 . . . Mother's Day**

**May 14 . . . Membership Meet-  
ing, Chapter Office, Noon Lunch-  
eon and 1:00 PM Meeting**

**May 15 . . . Veterans Town Hall  
Meeting, Dakota Lodge, Brook-  
ings, 3:00 PM**

**May 16 . . . Armed Forces Day  
Program, SF VA, 10:30 AM**

**May 25 . . . Memorial Day Pro-  
gram, SF VA, 10:30 AM**

**May 25 . . . Memorial Day, Of-  
fice Closed**

**May 26-30 . . . 74th PVA Nation-  
al Convention, Dallas, TX**

**May 28 . . . SF Veterans Council  
Meeting, VFW, 7:00 PM**

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**Because of the corona-  
virus, some of the above  
listed events may have  
been cancelled.**

**Please check ahead of  
time.**

### From Executive Director

#### Lisa Cummings

I'm going to start off on a positive note:  
Spring is here!!

With that said, we are usually busy in planning many activities for the months of April through October. The events that we did have planned have pretty much all got cancelled because of the virus going around. Please continually check our website under Events as I have been marking events "Cancelled".

I apologize that we are having to do this, but we must think of everyone's health at the same time. I would feel so bad if we held an event and someone got sick with this virus. As you all know to call your provider if you have any symptoms of the virus.

I would also ask that during this time for anyone to refrain from coming into the office. We are available by text, phone and emails to help you with any questions or assistance you may need.

I hope you all enjoy the nice weather coming our way. Please stay safe and healthy!

### Cancelled Events

PVA/DAV Pizza Luncheon at VA -  
April 2nd

Adaptive Handcycling, Dunham Park -  
April 30th

NCPVA Fishing Tournament -  
Chamberlain, May 21-22nd

### SD State Veterans Cemetery

#### Endowment Fund

With the passing of SB 91, the South Dakota Veterans Council has established an Endowment Fund with the South Dakota Community Foundation. This fund will be used for the maintenance and operations of the veterans cemetery.

The South Dakota State Veterans Cemetery will be located at the 1-90/I-229 area in Sioux Falls, SD and will encompass up to 50 acres of land donated by the City of Sioux Falls.

All federally defined veterans, spouses, and dependent children are eligible for burial in the State Veterans Cemetery.

We are proud to be able to give our veterans their final resting place on the eastside and keep them close to their families.

If you would like to contribute to the Endowment Fund, please click on the following link. Our goal is to raise \$3,000,000.00 by 2023.

<https://sdcommunityfoundation.org/for-advisors/existing-funds/south-dakota-veterans-cemetery-fund/>



**Monday, May 25th  
Office will be closed**

## **PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER**

### **North Central Chapter Paralyzed Veterans of America**

#### **OFFICERS**

President, Perry Grimme  
Vice President, Casey Davidson  
Secretary, Greg Brandner  
Treasurer, Gene Murphy

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Duane Biesboer Charles Doom  
Rodney Melcher

#### **PROGRAM DIRECTORS**

Chapter Hospital Liaison: Chuck Doom  
Legislation Director: Terry Paulsen/Gene Murphy  
Volunteer Coordinator: Charles Doom  
VAVS: Lisa Cummings/Sheri Kloes  
Membership Officer: Duane Biesboer  
Newsletter Editor: Barbara Priesz  
Sports Director: Mike Olson/Charles Doom

#### **NATIONAL DIRECTOR**

Michael Olson

#### **NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER**

Brad Friez  
VA Dakota Regional Office  
2501 West 22nd Street, Room 100  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
605-333-6801  
800-795-3632

#### **OFFICE STAFF**

Lisa Cummings, Executive Director  
Terry Paulsen, Government Relations Director  
Barbara Priesz, Administrative Assistant

*Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30-4:30*

### **Sioux Falls VA Health Care SCI Coordinator**

Rachel Gangle, Social Worker  
605-336-3230 ext. 7898

### **Fargo VA Health Care SCI Coordinator**

Tracy Lamont, SCI Coordinator  
701-239-3765

### **Black Hills VA Health Care SCI Coordinator**

Michelle Hough, SCI Coordinator  
605-720-7003

#### **— Attention Members —**

If you are receiving your newsletter by mail and would like to receive this via email, please contact me at the Chapter Office  
(LisaC@ncpva.org/605-336-0494) with your email address. This will help save the Chapter on postage and printing costs.



<http://www.facebook.com/ncpva>

**Disclaimer:** The North Central Chapter PVA newsletter is published six times a year. It serves its members and interested parties by informing them about chapter activities, veterans' issues, SCI related matters, advocacy and legislative developments and other relevant issues concerning disabilities and the disabled community. The opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the North Central Chapter, its Officers, Board Members or the Editor. Similarly, appearance of advertising herein does not constitute an endorsement of their products or services. The editor has the right to edit all articles.

## PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER

### Membership-Duane Biesboer

The Chapter currently has a total of 181 members and 92 Associate Members.

**Regular membership is FREE!** If you know of anyone who has a spinal cord injury or disease please have the Veteran contact the Chapter office.

***Beginning October 1st, all Associate Members will be invoiced for Annual Dues. Annual dues are \$30 per year and Life Dues are \$200.00.***

***Thank you to those who have sent in their dues!!***

Please notify the Chapter when you have  
a change of address.

### Volunteer Program-Charles Doom

The Chapter had 314 hours for the month of February. Barbara Biesboer and Casey Davidson were Feb/Mar 2020 Volunteers of the Month. Remember to look for your volunteer number in the newsletter and win a \$25 Gift Card! If you see your number, call the Chapter Office!



### **“Friends Aiming High”**

**by John Green**

Framed and Matted - \$275

Print Only - \$75

To order your print, please contact the  
Chapter Office at (605) 336-0494

### **Notice of PVA North Central Chapter Election**

#### Election Timeline

#### February 1

Nominations Open. Nominations may be made in person or by any other electronic means. Submit bio/photo and why you would be a good candidate by March 20th.

#### April 20

Nominations Closed.

#### May 1

Ballots will be mailed out with a self-addressed return envelope. Ballots must be returned in the envelope in a timely manner.

#### June 11

Election results will be reported at the Annual Membership Meeting.

#### October 1

New term of office begins

In accordance with Chapter bylaws, election of Officers will be held annually, and the Officers will serve a one (1) year term. Officers include: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. At the Annual June Chapter Membership Meeting, the Election Committee will report the election results.

**Certification of Membership** - If a write-in candidate be elected, he or she shall have thirty (30) days to successfully complete the certification process, if not previously certified. If you have any questions on the election procedure, contact the Chapter Office.

### **Armed Forces Day Program**

**Saturday, May 16th**

**SF VA, 10:30 AM**

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### **Memorial Day Program**

**Monday, May 25th**

**SF VA, 10:30 AM**



## **PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER**

### **VA Announces Proposed Access Standards for Community Care**

On January 30, VA announced access standards for community care that they plan to propose in the coming weeks. The Veterans Community Care program is expected to be implemented in June, replacing the current Choice Program. One of the eligibility criterion for veterans to access the program is if VA fails to meet its own access standards. These standards, once officially proposed, will be effective when the final regulations publish, likely this summer.

The presented access standards will be based on average drive time and appointment wait times.

- For primary care, mental health, and non-institutional extended care services, VA is proposing a 30-minute average drive time standard.

- For specialty care, VA is proposing a 60-minute average drive time standard. · VA is proposing appointment wait-time standards of 20 days for primary care, mental health care, and non-institutional extended care services, and 28 days for specialty care from the date of request with certain exceptions.

We support VA's attempt to provide timely, quality health care in the most appropriate setting to veterans. Once the official regulation is published for comment, we will be able to learn more about the proposed access standards and how they would be applied. We want to make sure that VA's expansion into the community is not at the expense of the quality care currently provided through the VA health care system. In addition, we are concerned about VA's reliance on modernized health care IT to successfully execute this new program, particularly in light of its IT failures and the quick implementation time.

### **Social Security 2100 Act Introduced**

On January 30, Representative John Larson (D CT), Chairman of the Ways & Means Social Security Subcommittee, introduced the "Social Security 2100 Act," H.R. 860. In remarks to a public briefing on that occasion, Larson said, "Today, over 200 Members of Congress came together on the anniversary of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's birth to honor his legacy, and to enhance and expand the nation's most successful insurance program, Social Security, which touches the lives of every American. With 10,000 baby boomers becoming eligible for Social Security every day, the time to act is now. (continued in next column)

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The Social Security 2100 Act will provide economic security not just for today's seniors but for future generations, too." The last major overhaul of Social Security was in 1983 and the significant changes made then enabled the system to pay benefits well into this century. However, modest updates are needed to ensure that the program will remain strong into the next century. Social Security is the most important source of retirement income for 4 out of 5 seniors. It serves over 9 million veterans and their families, including over 1 million veterans with disabilities.

PVA has endorsed the Social Security 2100 Act because of the important improvements it makes to the program, from setting a more realistic cost-of-living-adjustment, cutting taxes on benefits for almost twelve million beneficiaries and making long overdue adjustments in the financing mechanisms for the system. Moreover, Social Security actuaries have determined that this bill will ensure the long-term solvency of the trust funds. The legislation current has more than 200 cosponsors.

### **Student Loan Forgiveness for 100 Percent Disabled Veterans**

Recently, legislation was passed that allows 100 percent service-connected disabled veterans to have their student loans forgiven. Unfortunately, even though the Department of Education (ED) is aware that veterans may take part in this program, they are still referring these veterans for collection, which has a negative impact on their credit and quality of life. Veterans Education Success (VES) submitted a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request and learned that there are 42,763 veterans who VA has deemed are 100 percent disabled or Individually Unemployable (IU), and are therefore, eligible for student loan forgiveness. Of those, more than half of these veterans (25,023) are already in default - owing \$168 million in outstanding loans. Veterans who are in default on student loans have their disability checks withheld.

PVA is working with other VSOs to address this problem. This includes increasing outreach to veterans who are eligible and persuading them to utilize this benefit. If any PVA members feel that they may be eligible for student loan debt forgiveness (100 percent service connected, IU included), please contact Steven Henry, Associate Legislative Director, at [stevenh@pva.org](mailto:stevenh@pva.org) for assistance.



## PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER

### **VA Publishes Proposed Regulations to Improve Assistance for Family Caregivers**

(March 5, 2020) The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will publish a proposed rule in the Federal Register March 6 that would improve and standardize the VA's Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) and ensure the program regulations reflect changes required by the VA MISSION Act of 2018.

A component of the Caregiver Support Program, the PCAFC was established in 2011 to provide additional benefits including a monthly stipend for qualifying family caregivers of eligible veterans who were seriously injured in the line of duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001.

In the proposed rule, the VA seeks to standardize eligibility by expanding the definition of serious injury to include any service-connected disability — regardless of whether it resulted from an injury, illness, or disease — defining what it means to be in need of personal care services, and ensuring that the eligibility criteria capture the personal care service needs of veterans and servicemembers with cognitive or neurological impairment or mental health conditions, among other things.

Additionally, the VA is proposing changes to the stipend payment methodology, definitions for financial planning and legal services and procedures for revocation and discharge, to include advance notice requirements aimed at improving communication between the VA and PCAFC participants.

The VA's Caregiver Support Program is the first of its kind and addresses the complexity and expense of keeping loved ones out of institutions and at home with their families who provide personalized care. The program offers unparalleled support services including training, peer mentoring, respite care, a telephone support line and self-care courses for caregivers of all veterans enrolled in VA health care who need personal care services.

The regulations are part of a broad effort to strengthen PCAFC in advance of a planned expansion under the MISSION Act which expanded eligibility for PCAFC to eligible veterans from all eras, beginning with those who incurred or aggravated a serious injury in the line of duty on or before May 7, 1975. Two years after the first phase of program expansion, PCAFC will include eligible Veterans who were seriously injured in the line of duty between May 7, 1975 and Sept. 11, 2001. Prior to expanding, the VA must fully implement an information technology (IT) system required by the MISSION Act.

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In October 2019 the VA launched a commercial off-the-shelf IT system and expects to complete deployment in late summer or early fall of 2020. The department also standardized operating procedures for the Caregiver Support Program, provided new training for staff and caregivers, and is boosting operational capacity through hiring of additional staff. These changes are necessary as the VA prepares to expand PCAFC.

Learn more about support services available for Caregivers of Veterans or call the Caregiver Support Line at 1-855-260-3274.

The proposed rule will be open for public comment in the Federal Register for 60 days.

### **THE WEIGHT OF HONOR**

**The Weight of Honor** is the first comprehensive documentary to chronicle the lives of caregivers and families of Veterans who have been catastrophically wounded in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. The film's subjects are five spouses and one mother who give a rare glimpse into their lives, as everyone grapples with finding a "new normal" after the devastating effects of war time injuries. Filmed over five years, in many states, this journey reveals the thoughts and struggles of the caregivers tasked with the 24/7 care of once able-bodied and self-assured sons and husbands but are now dependent on others. The life of the caregiver is often unsung and hidden. **The Weight of Honor** reveals disrupted lives, ongoing uncertainties, and the courage and strength of these women as they make a new home during the most calamitous time of their lives. Included are key interviews with Veterans who are now serving in Congress and experts who give their insight into the new reality of what it means for a wounded warrior to come home.

**When: Thursday, April 30, 2020, 6:00 PM**

**Where: Froiland Science Complex,  
Augustana University**

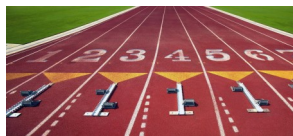
(Corner of 33rd Street and South Summit Avenue)

**For more information contact:**

Nic Brokenleg (605) 336-3230, Ext 5018

Becca Bixler (605) 336-3230, Ext 7720

**FREE TO THE PUBLIC - SPONSORED BY VA**

**PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER, SPORTS & REC****Howard Wood Dakota Relays****Friday/Saturday, May 1-2****Howard Wood Field****Sioux Falls, SD**

Free Military Entrance at the front gates for service members and veterans. For further information, call (605) 367-7959.

**National Veterans Golden Age Games 2020**

Keloland News, Tuesday, March 10th: The Sioux Falls Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Sioux Falls VA Health Care System announced that the city will be hosting the event for veterans.

"It's both abled and disabled veterans that can compete, there are adaptive sports, there are regular, full capacity sports, and also visually-impaired sports for the veterans, there's bowling, bocchia ball, basketball, track and field, it's just a variety of events including dominoes and pool," VA Health Care System Director Lisa Simo-neau said.

The event is for veterans 55 years and older who receive VA Health Care - like Korean War Veteran Gilbert Bassett who competed in Alaska last year.

"Gib was very fortunate, he got a gold medal in golf, second place in horseshoes, and second place in air pistol," Gilbert's wife, Barbara Bassett, said.

The event is expected to bring at least 1,200 to compete. Watch for further information.



shutterstock - 68444743

**Upcoming Event!****Prairie Dog Hunt****June 4-5****Chamberlain, SD****Upcoming PVA National Shooting Sports Circuit****June 5-7, 2020**

Vaughan Shooting Sports Tournament

St. Charles Sportsman Club, Elburn, IL

**June 12-14, 2020**

Iowa Shooting Sports Tournament

Otter Creek Sportsman Club, Cedar Rapids, IA

**June 26-28, 2020**

Wisconsin Shooting Sports Tournament

Brown County Sportsman Club, Green Bay, WI

**SAVE the DATE!****5th Annual PVA Poker Run**

Proceeds to benefit the

**PVA North Central Chapter**When: Saturday, July 18, 2020Where: Thirsty Duck, Sioux Falls, SDEntry Fee: \$20 Single/\$30 CoupleSign-Up: Motorcycles and CarsRegistration: 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

1st Place \$500; 2nd Place \$250, 3rd Place \$100

Prizes, Food, Beverages, Music

50/50 Raffle will be provided during the event

After Ride Party/Prizes - 4:30 PM Sharp!!

For more information call:  
PVA North Central Chapter, 605-336-0494

**PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER, FUNDRAISING**

Thrivent Choice Dollars® directions can help Paralyzed Veterans of America North Central Chapter.

Are you a member of Thrivent Financial who's eligible to direct Choice Dollars®?

Choice Dollars charitable grant funds can make a world of difference to our organization as we work together to support our programs and services we provide to our veterans. By directing Choice Dollars, eligible Thrivent members recommend where they feel Thrivent should distribute a portion of its charitable grant funds. Directing Choice Dollars is easy. Simply go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more and find program terms and conditions. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.



Support Paralyzed Veterans of America North Central Chapter by shopping at AmazonSmile.com Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your **eligible** AmazonSmile purchases to **North Central Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans Of America Inc** whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/46-03030359947e>

### Newsletter Booster Program Thank you for your support!

Ronald and Darla Shelburg  
Dennis Hahnemann  
Paul Hanson  
Alan & Kathryn Gobczynski  
James and Marilyn Arneson  
Warren Zweifel

Paul Haggar  
Murray Smith

## Please support your local Chapter!

### Newsletter Booster Program

The North Central Chapter PVA publishes the newsletter 6 times per year. We would like to invite our PVA members, Associate Members, and business associates to help support the Newsletter Booster Program. Your name will be published in each newsletter (unless otherwise specified) for only \$10.00. Please help defray the cost of publishing by supporting **YOUR** Chapter. Thank you!

#### I wish to make the following donation to the Newsletter Booster Program:

Newsletter  
Booster  
Program

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send all remittance payable to:

PVA North Central Chapter, 209 N. Garfield Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57104



**PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER, ADVOCACY/LEGISLATION-TERRY PAULSEN****Access Board to Assess Feasibility of Wheelchair Restraint Systems on Aircraft**

On February 5, Senior Associate Advocacy Director, Lee Page, and Associate Executive Director, Government Relations, Heather Ansley, presented to the members of the Committee for a Study of Feasibility of Wheelchair Restraint Systems Passenger Aircraft about the boarding and deplaning experience of wheelchair users. This was the first meeting of the Committee, which was authorized by the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018.

The Access Board's study has the potential to advance access to air travel for passengers who use wheelchairs. As directed by Congress, this project will assess the feasibility of equipping passenger planes with restraint systems so that passengers can remain in their wheelchairs on flights. Having to transfer out of a wheelchair makes air travel very difficult, if not impossible, for many people with disabilities.

The National Academy of Sciences' Transportation Research Board (TRB) is conducting this study. TRB has organized a committee of experts to evaluate the feasibility of in-cabin wheelchair restraint systems. The members include: experts in aircraft interiors and safety engineering, accessibility, wheelchair design and crashworthiness, airline operations, and other disciplines. Committee members will evaluate the design, engineering, and safety requirements for equipping aircraft with locking or tiedown mechanisms for non-motorized and motorized wheelchairs used as seats. If such restraint systems are found to be feasible, the committee will then assess the wheelchair restraint systems that can be used to accommodate passengers using wheelchairs through all phases of flight, from boarding to deplaning.

In his comments, Mr. Page presented a slide show of the various aisle chairs that are currently in service at airports throughout the country. He focused on the process PVA members have to endure to board an airplane. Specifically, he described being the first to board, by transferring onto an aisle chair at the bottom of a sloped jetway and relying on contract personnel to bring the passenger into the plane for transfer to an airline seat. The path of travel to the airline seat can cause further injury because the aisle is too narrow and seats are too close together. Too often the airline aisle chairs are in disrepair and airline personnel don't

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know how to properly assist passengers. Furthermore, passengers' wheelchairs are stowed in the cargo hold and often damaged, mishandled, or lost as a result.

A peer-reviewed report on the panel's findings will be published at the conclusion of the project and submitted to Congress. The report is expected by October 2021.

**Legislation Authorizing More than One Automobile Grant Introduced**

In direct response to PVA's advocacy, on February 6, Representatives Dan Meuser (R-PA) and Anthony Brindisi (D-NY) introduced H.R. 5761, the "Advancing Uniform Transportation Opportunities (AUTO) for Veterans Act," which would allow eligible veterans to receive more than one automobile grant to purchase a vehicle. Present law restricts veterans to one grant in their lifetime so they often bear the full cost of a replacement vehicle. As written, H.R. 5761 would authorize an eligible veteran to receive a new grant every 10 years, if they need it.

**Aging Committee looks at Social Security Scams**

The Senate Aging Committee held a hearing on January 29 focusing on schemes aimed at defrauding Social Security beneficiaries. Witnesses included Commissioner of Social Security Andrew Saul who reported that the Social Security Administration's (SSA) toll free phone system had recently been updated to include messaging alerting callers to be aware of scams targeting beneficiaries and what they can do to protect themselves.

He also noted that SSA had recently sent emails to their 47 million online account holders advising them of ways to guard themselves against fraudsters.

SSA Inspector General (OIG) Gail Ennis reported that the agency is working with various telecommunications companies to block spoof SSA callers that try to engage with beneficiaries in an attempt to get them to reveal sensitive account information.



**PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER, ADVOCACY/LEGISLATION-TERRY PAULSEN****Election Officials Misusing the ADA to Close Polling Places**

A new report from the National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) shows many of America's polling places remain inaccessible to people with disabilities. The report also examines an alarming new trend in which jurisdictions are misusing the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to close polling places.

The ADA requires all polling places to be accessible to people with disabilities and the Help America Vote Act of 2002 mandates that all Americans have the right to a private and independent vote. When the United States Supreme Court in *Shelby County v Holder* struck down key provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that required federal approval before changes could be made to election procedures, jurisdictions with a demonstrated history of discriminatory voting practices saw an opportunity — blaming their polling place closures on the ADA and access needs of voters with disabilities.

After the Supreme Court struck down protections in the Voting Rights Act, counties and cities began citing ADA concerns as the reason for closing, relocating, or consolidating their polling places. The ADA was never meant to be used in this way.

In this report, NDRN spoke to and visited counties with recent Department of Justice (DOJ) settlements for polling place accessibility. NDRN found these counties were working to be more accessible while keeping polling places open. Alternatively, counties that did not have a recent DOJ intervention and had not shared ADA surveys of their polling places or any collaboration with the disability community, seemed more likely to attempt closing polling places.

**More Agent Orange Locations Revealed**

In January, VA released an updated Department of Defense list of locations outside of Vietnam and inside the US where tactical herbicides were used, tested, or stored. This update was intended to improve the accuracy and communication of information for disability claims of herbicide exposure in response to a Government Accountability Office 2018 report.

Locations listed in the United States are Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, New York, Texas, Tennessee, and Utah. Additional countries where these tactical herbicides were used include Cambodia, Canada, India, Johnston Atoll, Korea, Laos and Thailand.

If you feel you may qualify for benefits due to exposure, we encourage you to contact your NSO for assistance in filing a claim.

**House Announces Comprehensive Strategy to Address Veteran Suicide**

House Veterans' Affairs Committee (HVAC) Chairman Mark Takano (D-CA) recently announced a new strategy to address veteran suicide that is based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Seven Core Strategies for Suicide Prevention. Chairman Takano believes a strategy rooted in evidence-based measures, taking a public health approach that looks into every intersection that leads to suicide, is how to best serve veterans and reduce the number lost to it each day. The strategy has seven goals: strengthen economic supports, strengthen access and delivery of care, create protective environments, promote connectedness, teach coping and problem-solving skills, identify and support people at risk, and lessen harms and prevent future risks for all veterans. It also supports taking these steps for all veterans, not just those already in VA care.

The Committee has already held two hearings to help strengthen economic support. The first was a hearing on veteran hunger and the second on housing insecurity. A third hearing conducted by the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, along with the Women Veteran Task Force, held a hearing examining VA's support for survivors of Military Sexual Trauma, which is in line with goal six: identify and support people at risk of suicide. PVA was invited to submit a statement for the record on this issue. We will continue to monitor and inform our members of legislative efforts to reduce veteran suicide, as well as advocate on the Hill for legislation that effectively addresses veteran suicide.

**HUD issues Guidance on Assistance Animals and Fair Housing Act**

On January 28, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) released Notice FHEO-2020-01, sometimes referred to as the "Assistance Animals Notice." The Notice includes two attachments.

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## PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER

### Veterans Affairs Dental Insurance Program

Delta Dental is proud to offer valuable dental benefits to help create smiles, improve health, and enhance the lives of Veterans and CHAMPVA beneficiaries through the Veterans Affairs Dental Insurance Program (VADIP).

Eligible beneficiaries include any Veteran enrolled in Veterans Affairs (VA) health care and any individual enrolled in the VA's Civilian Health and Medical Program (CHAMPVA). Choose between three plans and enjoy access to a large nationwide network of dentists. Find the plan that fits your needs and take charge of your oral health today! All three VADIP plans offer 100% coverage for in-network cleanings, exams and x-rays.

Enrollment is quick and easy! Visit [deltadentalins.com/vadip](http://deltadentalins.com/vadip) and select **Enroll Now**. Be sure to enter your name exactly as it is listed in the VA system. Don't have Internet access? Call Delta Dental at **855-460-3302** and request an enrollment application kit or simply enroll over the phone.

### Supportive Services for Veteran Families

The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program assists homeless Veterans, or those at risk of becoming homeless, in securing safe and stable housing. SSVF is intended to be a short-term intervention, and it is crucial in serving those veteran families who may only need minor, one-time assistance to prevent or end their homelessness.

SSVF provides low-income families with case management services and direct supportive services, including: Rental Assistance, Utilities Assistance, Child Care Costs, Moving Costs, Transportation Expenses, and Security Deposits.

Program services include: outreach to Veterans, case management, help applying for Department of Veterans Affairs assistance and other benefits, financial assistance to secure or preserve housing, and help connecting Veterans with other community resources and services.

For eligibility and contact information, contact Teena Conrad, SSVF Program Coordinator

Telephone: 605-484-9209

[tconrad@cornerstonemission.org](mailto:tconrad@cornerstonemission.org)



Paralyzed Veterans  
of America  
North Central Chapter

*Giving Hope by Giving Back*

*Bingo Fundraiser*

*For the*

*Paralyzed Veterans of America*

*North Central Chapter*

*"PVA Awareness Day"*

*Saturday, April 25, 2020*

*4:30 – 5:00 p.m. – visit our Booth!*

*5:15 – 5:45 p.m. – purchase your Bingo Packet!*

*Burnside Bingo, 1605 W. Burnside St., Sioux Falls, SD*

*Come join us for a great evening of socializing and play some bingo! Food will be available through the concession stand and free popcorn will be available throughout the evening!*

*Make it a FUN family event and bring your kids!!!*



### Honoring Ceremony

#### Code Talker Medal Presentation

for

**GUY GEORGE CHAPMAN**

**Code Talker - WWI**

*"The Language that was Forbidden - Changed the Outcome of the War"*

Wakpa Sica Reconciliation Center

Ft. Pierre, SD

**Friday, April 3, 2020, 11:00 AM (CST)**

*All are Welcome to Attend*



#### Car Sunshades for Sale - \$10.00

Proceeds will benefit the Chapter's programs and services! Contact the Chapter office (605) 336-0494 for further information.

## PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER

### North Central Chapter GRD Congressional Visit in Washington, DC



Government Relations Director Terry Paulsen and his wife Tricia recently attended the 2020 Advocacy & Legislative Seminar in Washington DC on 02-05 March 2020. The top priorities for the 2020 seminar included: Improvements to the Specially Adapted Housing Program, Improving Access to Adapted Automobiles, VA's Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers, and the Protection of Specialized Services.



Congressional visits were held with Senator Thune, Senator Rounds, Senator Cramer and Senator Hoeven. North Central Chapter PVA Legislative Program works closely with our National PVA Staff, PVA members, and Congressional Delegation from throughout the Region on issues affecting veterans and the disabled community. North Central Chapter's mission is to ensure that all veterans receive quality health care and timely access to VA Medical Centers and VA Clinics. NCCPVA works closely with local, county, state, and national policy makers in support of legislation to benefit veterans and other disabled individuals.

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### VAVS Update

The Sioux Falls VA Health Care System would like to thank you all for your cooperation and support during the ever changing health climate we are in. As part of us helping to limit the spread of COVID-19, we have implemented numerous actions to safeguard Veterans served by the Sioux Falls VA HCS, our employees and the public. We are open for business, but if you do not have a scheduled appointment as a Veteran or with Voluntary Service, please call first.

**Visitors:** Outpatients should come to VA appointments alone, if possible. If assistance is needed for your visit, limit your guest to one adult family caregiver who is not sick; Inpatients are limited to one visitor per patient; Visitors are not allowed to visit the Community Living Centers (CLC).

**Screenings:** We will initiate screenings for all who enter our medical center buildings and clinics. The screenings will help ensure we are protecting our population of hospitalized Veterans, the teams that care for them, and families of all involved. We fully recognize this will cause some inconveniences, but the safety of those we care for must be the priority.

**Donations:** Please do not drop off donations at the front desk or with a department within the facility at this time. All donations must be coordinated with Voluntary Services prior to arrival. Absolutely no used donations of any kind will be accepted. This includes items such as clothing, books, magazines, playing cards, etc.. With the unknown of how COVID-19 spreads, many donated items may be turned away so please call prior to making any purchase.

I am in the process of updating the Needs List. Any service line requesting items will be required to supply me with the exact item, price estimate and location to purchase prior to my adding to the listing which will hopefully cut down on a lot of extra back and forth emails and phone calls. I continue to monitor the situation and have not officially rescheduled the May 7<sup>th</sup> VAWS/Volunteer Recognition Celebration but am guessing this may need to be rescheduled. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Stephanie Weidler, Health Systems Specialist, Sioux Falls VA Health Care System, (605) 333-6851



**PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER**(continued from Page 9) **Terry Paulsen - HUD**

The first, “Assessing a Person’s Request to Have an Animal as a Reasonable Accommodation Under the Fair Housing Act,” recommends a set of best practices for complying with the Fair Housing Act when assessing a person with a disability’s accommodation requests involving animals in housing.

The second attachment is “Guidance on Documenting an Individual’s Need for Assistance Animals in Housing.” It provides guidance on information that an individual seeking a reasonable accommodation for an assistance animal may need to provide to a housing provider about his or her disability-related need for the requested accommodation, including supporting information from a health care professional.

The contents of the Assistance Animal Notice do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. The documents are intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

**Nominations for Fallen Heroes Bridge Dedications  
Due April 10**

The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs is now accepting nominations for South Dakota’s new “Fallen Heroes Bridge Dedication” program. The first South Dakota state bridge was dedicated in November of 2019.

South Dakota plans to dedicate six state bridges a year in honor of fallen heroes that died while serving in combat. More than 3,000 South Dakotans have made the ultimate sacrifice.

“Our fallen heroes are no longer with us, but their memory lives on in the hearts of their loved ones and our state,” said Greg Whitlock, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs. “Naming our South Dakota bridges in honor of our fallen will give us an opportunity of remembrance, reflection, and respect – for honoring the men and women who gave their lives in service to this nation. They cherished liberty and loved freedom enough to lay down their lives to preserve our way of life.”

Nominations are due by April 10 to the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs with all supporting documentation attached. The simple, online form is

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available at: <https://vetaffairs.sd.gov/resources/Fallen%20Hero%20Bridge%20Dedications/SDDOM%20SDDVA%20Bridge%20Naming%20Applicaton.pdf>.

Nominators are encouraged to indicate their preferred state bridge site for their respective hero. To view the list of South Dakota casualties by county, visit: <https://vetaffairs.sd.gov/resources/War%20Casualties%20y%20County.aspx>.

**Preserving Our Veterans Town - from Governor  
Kristi Noem**

The Hot Springs VA and the entire community have been providing care to America’s veterans for more than 110 years, earning it the nickname “The Veterans Town.” This facility was the first – and only – original National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers that was built for short-term medical needs and not a long-term veterans’ home. It is renowned for its successful post-traumatic stress disorder and substance abuse treatment facility nestled in the tranquility of our Black Hills. There is no community so dedicated to making certain The Veterans Town delivers the services our heroes have earned.

Many of you know that in 2011, the Obama administration announced a reorganization proposal that included plans to close the doors of the VA hospital in Hot Springs. In addition to a total disregard for stakeholder grievances, this announcement was met with considerable controversy because it was supported by very suspect data.

While representing you in Congress, I partnered with many South Dakota veterans to battle the VA to keep the facility open. We fought hard to show the facts, including hosting a Congressional hearing in Hot Springs.

Despite the overwhelming evidence that our Hot Springs VA is one of the best in the nation, the facility and community have been forced to wait for new leadership in Washington to revisit the 2011 decision. That means for nearly a decade, there has been a persistent cloud of uncertainty surrounding The Veterans Town — recruitment and retention have suffered, urgent care hours have been reduced, and an overreliance on short-term contractors has been necessary.

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## PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER

### Wilkie Meets with South Dakota Leaders

During his recent visit to South Dakota, VA Secretary Robert Wilkie had the opportunity to meet with Senators John Thune and Mike Rounds, Congressman Dusty Johnson, Governor Kristi Noem, SDDVA Secretary Whitlock, VABHHCS Director Sandra Horsman, Oglala Sioux Tribal Veterans Service Officer Shawnee Red Bear and Darrell Hernandez, Fall River County Veterans Service Officer Dan Cullen and numerous members of the "Save the VA" delegation.

Wilkie stated that "veterans seeking health-care solutions in the Black Hills footprint will continue to receive full services at the Hot Springs Veterans Affairs Medical Center for the foreseeable future." Previously this campus was identified for closure in a 2017 order. Wilkie plans to review the 2017 Record of Decision.

Wilkie noted that the facility will not close, but we will have to implement programs to make sure it stays vibrant and healthy.

Before departing South Dakota, Secretary Wilkie also visited the Vet Center in Rapid City.



Governor's press conference announcing VA's decision:



### Veterans Town Hall Meeting

#### *Calling All Veterans!*

Sponsored by the Disabled American Veterans

**3:00 PM, Friday May 15, 2020**

#### **DAKOTA LODGE**

2500 East 6th Street, Brookings, SD 57006

#### **ALL VETERANS ARE INVITED!**

Congressional Delegation Staff of South Dakota, Veterans Employment, VA Medical Centers Chief Operating Officers, VA Staff and VBA Staff will be available for questions on: VA Health Care, G.I. Bill, Employment, VA Budget FY 2020 & 2021, Health Care Enrollment, Homeless, VA Benefits, VA Mission Act, PTSD & TBI

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

### From David Zurfluh, National President, PVA

I am writing this message to let you know that you are not alone in this crisis, and that the PVA National organization cares about you. We have been working non-stop, focusing on the health and well-being of our members, caregivers, staff, community and all veterans. We are:

1. Staying in constant contact with VA and government leaders,
2. Ensuring VA has a reliable plan for our members for all eventualities,
3. Informing Chapters and members with information as soon as it comes our way and following up with the VA when information should come our way and has not,
4. Having chapters inform us when information comes to them locally,
5. Senior Vice VP Charles Brown and National VPs remaining in constant contact with Chapters, and
6. Creating contingency plans for upcoming events.

Please visit PVA's COVID-19 Resources page on our website to learn more about how to connect with PVA during these unprecedented times: <https://pva.org/covid-19/>. On this page, you will find a video message from PVA Executive Director Carl Blake and updated information about connecting with PVA service officers and accessing the SCI/D System of Care under these unique circumstances. As we receive updated information, we will continue to post it on <https://pva.org/covid-19/>. So, check back often for updates.

For our members, their families and caregivers, our National Service Officers working at VA Spinal Cord Injury Centers, VA Medical Centers, and VA Regional Offices are working remotely and can be reached by calling your local National Service Office. Throughout this time, PVA Service Officers are closely monitoring their phone and email messages. To find their contact information visit: <https://pva.org/find-support/national-service-office/>.

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**PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER****Message from SDDVA Secretary Whitlock*****South Dakota's Bonus for Active Duty Service since 1990***

If you had active duty military service within the past 30 years, you may be eligible for a bonus. The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs administers the bonus; in which active duty servicemembers and veterans who began their active duty service as a South Dakota resident could be eligible to receive a payment of up to \$500. Currently, the bonus is given for qualifying active duty service from August 2, 1990, to December 31, 1992; for qualifying service after January 1, 1993; or for those who are currently active duty.

South Dakota has a legacy of offering bonuses to servicemembers called to active duty in World War I, World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. Each of those bonus programs are now officially closed.

In 2005, after being deployed to the Middle East with my South Dakota Army National Guard unit, I applied for the current bonus program with the help of my local county veteran's service office. The one-page form is easy to complete. Applicants must prove South Dakota was their home of record prior to their active duty period and show where they were deployed and their character of service. If the applicant has a service-connected disability of 10% or more, they will need to submit their VA award letter with the application. Active duty for training is not allowed for bonus purposes.

As stated on the SDDVA website, our team advocates for veterans and works to link them to services and support. The veterans/active duty bonus is just one benefit offered to say thanks to our servicemembers for their hard work, bravery, and dedication to our country.

If you have questions about the bonus program, visit with your nearest county or tribal veterans service officer. A list of VSO locations is available under the "Veterans Service Officers" tab on the SDDVA website at <https://vetaffairs.sd.gov/>. You can also find a bonus application under the "Benefits" tab of our website. To verify whether or not you already received a bonus or to request an application form, please contact Jeri Smith at 605-773-7251 or email her at [jeri.smith@state.sd.us](mailto:jeri.smith@state.sd.us).

**From the Office of Brad Friez****National Service Officer**

I am sure that much of what is on our minds and in our conversation these days is the corona virus and how we need to persevere to get through this trying time in our country and world. There is a quote attributed to President Abraham Lincoln which is "And this too shall pass".

In the past many of us have heard phrases like esprit de corps or the golden rule which instructs us to stick together or treat others like we would like to be treated. I believe these phrases direct us in the proper manner to treat others while the corona virus is present in our country and world.

Many of the members of PVA have serious health challenges and thus cannot be out in public at the present time and I for one would not encourage someone with serious health challenges to risk their health by leaving their home. But there are other ways of encouraging others at this difficult time.

Several businesses present opportunities to obtain gift cards and even though we might not be able to redeem them at the present time the money spent on those cards will perhaps assist that business to meet their financial obligations. So please consider checking out the web site of your favorite businesses and perhaps purchase those gift cards.

One of the elderly ladies of my small Baptist church in town calls all of us on our respective birthdays and for the married folks our anniversaries and sings happy birthday or happy anniversary to us. It quite literally makes our day!

We all know of others who have struggles in their lives and all it might take is a phone call or a note to encourage that individual. Sometimes it is nice to be surprised on our birthday and it is even a bigger surprise and encouragement when this happens on a day that is not a special day of some sort.

For those in good health are there neighbors and others who are in need? Perhaps the best way to know those needs is to just ask them. Many of us have seen the shelves in our local stores nearly empty and so some individuals might not have all of what they need. So we could locate and purchase those items and drop them at the front door of that neighbor.

The VA has imposed restrictions for visits at the VA Hospital and Regional Office so be prepared to call ahead. There is some good news as we are aware of a new SCI Physician for Sioux Falls VA, a Dr. McDermot. Extremely glad she is on board.

Stay safe and healthy! And if so inclined please pray for our country's leaders during this time.

**PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER****PVA North Central Chapter****Birthday Roster - April/May 2020**

Oscar Ewing	Apr 02
Carl Oleson	Apr 03
Frederick Ellwein	Apr 06
Rodney Melcher	Apr 08
Christine Speirs	Apr 08
Cliff Koele	Apr 09
Dean Delashmutt	Apr 11
Thomas Olson	Apr 12
Victor Kienitz	Apr 13
Terry Williams	Apr 16
Bruce Hoffman	Apr 20
Shaun Rupe	Apr 26
David Allen	Apr 29
Carl Stricherz	Apr 29
Barbara Priesz	Apr 30
David VanHorn	Apr 30
Ken Laughlin	May 01
Larry Johnson	May 03
Gary Nordean	May 07
Don Westberg	May 07
Daryle Dawson	May 08
Travis Kasten	May 09
Richard Parsons	May 13
Bob Uecker	May 14
Roger Holtzman	May 15
Grant Elvik	May 17
Dennis McNulty	May 17
Eric Vetter	May 19

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John Kuhlman	May 20
Scott Petersen	May 21
Dennis Moldrem	May 24
Merle Kjer	May 25
Steve Whitney	May 25
Perry Grimme	May 26
Gary Howey	May 27
Sarah Bierman	May 28
Robert Buchanan	May 30
Vernon Howie	May 30
Michael McGinnis	May 30

**Wills for Heroes**

Wills for Heroes is a free monthly legal clinic for veterans and their spouses to receive simple wills and powers of attorney. This clinic is for income-qualifying individuals and by APPOINTMENT ONLY.

You must call and schedule an appointment to meet with an attorney on the day of the clinic. Call East River Legal Services (605-336-9230) for the next scheduled time.


**PVA North Central Chapter**  
**"Darrell Jepsen Memorial**  
**Scholarship" Program**

The PVA North Central Chapter has established a scholarship program to provide financial assistance for PVA members and their families so that they may achieve their goals in the academic arena. Scholarships will vary according to the number and merit of applications received and the total funds available. At no time will a grant exceed \$1,000.00 per academic year.

Applications are now available for 2020-2021. Please contact the Chapter Office for an application or you can download it at [www.ncpva.org](http://www.ncpva.org).

Applications must be postmarked by July 1st, no exceptions.



**PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER****Message from SDDVA Secretary Whitlock*****Transportation Options for Veterans***

Getting to and from medical appointments can be a great challenge for veterans in South Dakota. No one knew that better than Royce Loesch, past commander of American Legion Post 20 in Fort Pierre.

Loesch was aware of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Highly Rural Transportation grants and in 2015 decided to make application for, and was awarded, a grant for veterans transportation in Stanley County. Loesch's "leave no veteran behind" attitude kept him focused and before he knew it, he and his team had applied for grants for 35 counties in South Dakota.

The VA awards Highly Rural Transportation Grants (HRT) to states and service organizations to assist veterans who live in highly rural areas, with their transportation needs to and from the VA medical centers, community-based outpatient clinics, VA Community Care facilities, and/or other approved medical appointments. The VA defines highly rural as less than seven people per square mile.

Free transportation is available to veterans living in the following counties Aurora, Bennett, Buffalo, Butte, Campbell, Clark, Corson, Custer, Day, Dewey, Edmunds, Fall River, Faulk, Gregory, Haakon, Hand, Harding, Hyde, Jackson, Jerauld, Jones, Kingsbury, Lyman, Marshall, McPherson, Mellette, Miner, Perkins, Potter, Sanborn, Spink, Stanley, Sully, Tripp, and Ziebach. Partners are currently working to get Todd and Oglala Lakota included in this program.

Veterans in the highly rural counties in eastern South Dakota can contact River Cities Public Transit (605.945.2360) to schedule their transportation to medical appointments. Veterans in highly rural counties in western South Dakota should contact Prairie Hills Transit (605.642.6668).

What is unique about this transportation program is that veterans travel free, vehicles are wheelchair accessible, family members can travel with veteran to medical appointments for free, and the program is locally supported.

Although, the HRT Grants don't benefit all our veterans, there are other resources available to assist veterans. Additional resources for veteran transportation to medical appointments can be found on our website at: <https://vetaffairs.sd.gov/resources/Transportation.pdf>

Wars, conflicts, and battles have been fought throughout the years and continue today. It is important that we complete our promise to take care of the men and women who served, including assisting with transportation to and from medical appointments.

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**(continued from Page 12) Governor Kristi Noem  
- Preserving our Veterans Town**

In August of last year, President Trump made a promise that his administration would be "committed to taking care of every warrior that returns home as a veteran," and VA Secretary Wilkie has said we must put veterans at the center of their healthcare decisions.

In early March – after years of persistent requests – Secretary Wilkie visited Hot Springs, and we FINALLY have a commitment to keep Hot Springs open and to revisit the record of decision.

This has been a long time coming, but I'm thankful to President Trump and Secretary Wilkie for keeping their promises and advocating for those who've served.

The Hot Springs community is so special and so unique. The care they provide our nation's veterans is unmatched, and I'm committed to doing all that I can to preserve our Veterans Town and ensure they can serve heroes in this way for another century to come.

**(continued from Page 13) David Zurfluh, National  
President, PVA**

If you are experiencing difficulty gaining access to your SCI/D team or need acute admission and are denied, please contact one of our service officers near you immediately. However, if you have symptoms, or think you may have come in contact with the corona virus, contact your provider BEFORE visiting your local VA medical center or doctor's office. You will also find select Frequently Asked Questions at <https://pva.org/covid-19/> regarding actions/steps that you can and should take if you are currently sick or become sick.

We know that many of you also have questions about upcoming events, such as the National Veterans Wheelchair Games. As soon as we have information to report on the status of these and other events, we will let you know.

To Chapters and leadership, I ask that you share this information as widely as possible with your membership. We want to get this information distributed as widely and as quickly as possible.

We are living in extremely fluid times so please stay informed and know, PVA is working diligently in these difficult times to serve and care for our members, staff and families. Visit <https://pva.org> for up-to-the-minute information.

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**PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER**(continued from Page 16) **David Zurfluh**

I cannot stress enough that communication between all of us is important. It's our support for one another that is going to get us all through these unprecedented times.

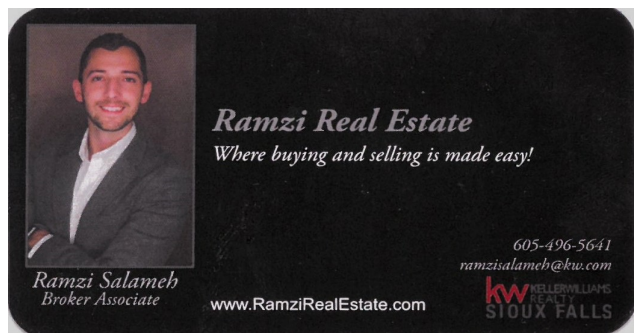
As the British said during WWII and past crises "Keep calm and carry on." We will get through this together!

**Scooter Lift**

If anyone is interested in a scooter lift which attaches to the hitch on the back of a vehicle, we have two available. Contact the Chapter Office (605-336-0494) for further information.

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Please support our mission through a direct donation to:

PVA North Central Chapter  
209 North Garfield Avenue,  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

**QUESTION:**

**HAVE YOU CONSIDERED INCLUDING PVA NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER IN YOUR WILL OR TRUST?**

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[vetaffairs.sd.gov/veteranshome](http://vetaffairs.sd.gov/veteranshome)

For Admissions information, please contact Lisa Woeppel at 605-745-5127 Ext 1500115

**How to Donate Property**

Please donate that Auto, Boat, Yacht, Truck or RV that's no longer needed to NCPVA! Receive the maximum legal tax deductions and possibly a partial cash payment.

For more information about car, boat, RV and other property donations or to receive a "no obligation" evaluation of your potential vehicle or other property donation, please call toll free: (866) 2-GIVING or (866) 244-8464.

We pick up anywhere in the U.S.A.



### ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS

BE SURE TO LOOK FOR YOUR  
VOLUNTEER NUMBER OR VAVS  
VOLUNTEER NAME SOMEWHERE  
IN THIS NEWSLETTER AND CON-  
TACT THE CHAPTER OFFICE IF  
YOUR NAME OR NUMBER IS  
LISTED.

CHUCK DOOM  
VOLUNTEER PROGRAM  
COORDINATOR

## DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

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(605) 332-6866 / Fax: (605) 338-5489

National Service Office: (605) 333-6896    NSO Email: [www.dav.vbasux@va.gov](mailto:www.dav.vbasux@va.gov)  
[www.davsd.org](http://www.davsd.org)    [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)

***“DISABLED VETERANS HELPING DISABLED VETERANS”***



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have served their country and the cause of freedom will never be forgotten or neglected”  
—President Lyndon B. Johnson*





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Paralyzed Veterans of America  
North Central Chapter  
209 N. Garfield Ave  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### **VA Health Care Systems Contact Information**

#### **Sioux Falls VA Health Care System**

2501 West 22nd Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
Phone: (605) 336-3230 or (800) 316-8387  
Fax: (605) 333-6878

#### **VA Black Hills Health Care System - Fort Meade Campus**

113 Comanche Road  
Fort Meade, SD 57741  
Phone: (605) 347-2511 or (800) 743-1070  
Fax: (605) 720-7171

#### **VA Black Hills Health Care System**

500 North 5th Street  
Hot Springs, SD 57747  
Phone: 605-745-2000  
Fax: 605-745-2091

#### **Minneapolis VA Health Care System**

One Veterans Drive  
Minneapolis, MN 55417  
Phone: (612) 725-2000 or 866-414-5058  
Fax: (612) 725-2049

#### **Fargo VA Health Care System**

2101 Elm Street  
Fargo, ND 58102  
Phone: (701)232-3241  
Fax: (701)239-3705

#### **VA Montana Health Care System**

1892 Williams Street  
Fort Harrison, MT 59636  
Phone: (406) 442-6410  
Fax: (406) 447-7916

#### **Cheyenne VA Health Care System**

2360 E. Pershing Blvd.  
Cheyenne, WY 82001  
Phone: (307)778-7550  
Fax: (307) 778-7336

#### **Sheridan VA Health Care System**

1898 Fort Road  
Sheridan, WY 82801  
Phone: (307) 672-3473 or (866) 822-6714  
Fax: (307) 672-1900

**The PVA North Central Chapter proudly serves the states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Southwest Minnesota, and portions of Montana and Wyoming.**