



South Dakota Department of the Military  
 South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs



## NATIONAL GUARD VOLUNTEERS ORGANIZING CLOTHING, TOY DRIVE

Volunteer members of the South Dakota National Guard are organizing a winter clothing and toy drive during October and November to benefit needy individuals located in the communities in which they serve.

New or gently used coats, gloves, hats, scarves or blankets – for adults and children – are being donated by Guard members to help individuals who are in need of warm clothing this winter season. New or gently used toys are also being donated for less fortunate children for the upcoming holiday season.

The clothing and toy drive is not limited to only volunteer members of the Guard, but is intended as a community activity.

Members of the public who would like to help donate items are encouraged to bring winter clothing and toys items to any Army National Guard armory throughout the state or to the Air National Guard base in Sioux Falls by Dec. 1.

Collected items will be delivered to a variety of local social service organizations in December for distribution to those in need.

The all-volunteer effort to collect winter clothing items and toys, while not an official function of the National Guard, is a welcome adjunct activity showcasing volunteers' commitment to serve some of South Dakota's most needy people.

For more information, please contact the local National Guard unit in your community.

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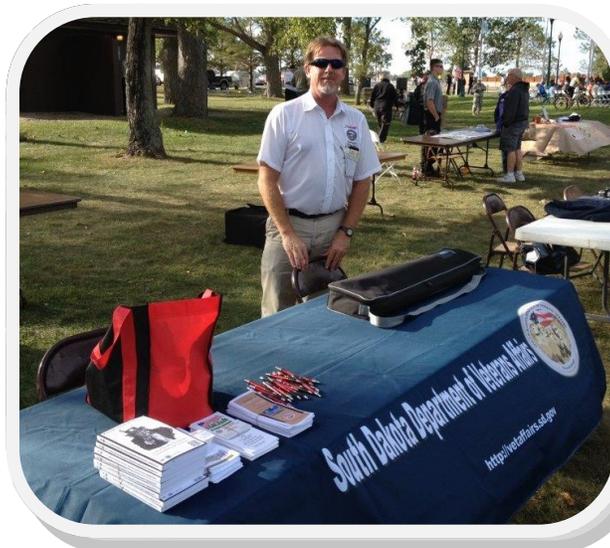


# WATERTOWN VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY

Last week business leaders and community leaders of Watertown hosted their annual Veterans Appreciation Day.

SDDVA Field Officer Kevin Swanson and Codington County Veterans Service Officer Al Janzen staffed a booth to provide veterans the opportunity to learn more about the benefits/services available to them.

During the Veterans Appreciation Day program, Judge Timm was recognized for his leadership in getting the first Veterans Court up and



running in South Dakota. CVSO Janzen was a part of this task force in Watertown and continues to play an active role as this group mentors

other communities.

Lt. Gov. Michels was one of the keynote speakers for



this event and expressed his unending praise for the men and women who took the oath and served this great county.



## WAS IT A CHUNK? A SLICE? A BOGEY? OR AN EAGLE?

Golfers within the veteran network gathered in Webster last weekend for a little competitive fundraising.

The American Legion golf tournament afforded the participants to raise funds for charity, showcase their talents and share stories veteran-to-veteran.

The group took a road trip one evening to visit this beautiful veterans memorial that had been built by James Janisch of Eden.



## SMITH JOINS SDDVA TEAM

SDDVA welcomes Jeri Smith to our Pierre office. She will be the new voice you hear when you call in to the office!

Jeri comes to the Department of Veterans Affairs following a lengthy career in radio. She spent more than 25 years working at stations in North Dakota, Florida and Oklahoma as a secretary, an announcer; and most recently as a news director at KGFX (Dakota Radio Group) in Pierre.

Jeri's husband Tom works at Beyond Truck Center in Pierre. They have two children; Shelby-who is an employee with Delta Dental in Pierre, and Tyler-who serves with the South Dakota Air National Guard and is currently taking Criminal Justice classes at Southeast Technical Institute in Sioux Falls.

Please join us in welcoming Jeri to our team.



## SFVAHCS TO HOST ANNUAL WOMEN VETERANS CONFERENCE

The Sioux Falls VA Health Care System will be hosting their annual Women Veterans Conference Friday, October 9, 2015, at the Central Baptist Church in Sioux Falls, SD. The Central Baptist Church is located at 3100 W. Ralph Rogers Rd. in Sioux Falls.

This gathering offers women veterans an opportunity to obtain VA health care and benefit information, network with other women veterans, and meet VA staff and veterans service organization leadership. Informational booths will be open from 9:00-10:00 AM with the program beginning at 10:00 AM.

The keynote speaker will be Retired Brigadier General Myrna Williamson, U.S. Army. Lunch and an introduction to aromatherapy are also included in the program.

There is no charge to attend thanks to the generosity of area Veterans Service Organizations. Online registration is available at [www.siouxfalls.va.gov](http://www.siouxfalls.va.gov). Registration is required by October 1,



*You served, you deserve  
★ the best care anywhere.*

## SDDVA SCHEDULES MINI CONFERENCES

The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs has scheduled their winter Mini Conferences for December 1-3. These mini conferences afford hands-on training for County and Tribal Veterans Service Officers.

Conferences will run from 10:00 am—3:00 pm at the following locations:

Tuesday—December 1—Rapid City TREA—1981 Centre Street

Wednesday—December 2 —Pierre—American Legion Post 8 —520 W. Pierre Street

Thursday—December 3—Brookings—American Legion Post 74—1229 Western Avenue



## THE MIKE AND MAC SHOW

SDDVA Field Officer Mike Maske and Yankton County Veterans Service Officer Mike McDonald manned a booth at the annual Sapa Extrusions National Safety Day in Yankton.

The Yankton Sapa plant has a veteran employee base of close to ten percent so this provided us a great opportunity to visit one-on-one with veterans about the services and programs.

Sapa's theme of this year's day-long event was *Start Safe. Work Safe. Leave Safe.*



# SD JOINS OTHER STATES IN STRENGTHENING SMVF BEHAVIORAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Recently Gov. Daugaard appointed SDDVA Secretary Larry Zimmerman to serve as South Dakota’s team leader for the The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Policy Academy (SAMHSA).

This week Zimmerman assembled his team to work to develop and implement a strategic plan for enhancing our behavioral health care service system for service members, veterans, and their families in South Dakota.

“We are hopeful that this venue will afford us an opportunity to strengthen our behavioral health care system through identification of and the promotion of ongoing resources at the local,



state, and federal levels,”

said Secretary Zimmerman. “ This team will be reviewing existing policies, resources and accessibility of services in an effort to grow and improve our existing system.”

Team members include the Department of Veterans Affairs, Area Health Education Centers, Council of Mental Health Centers, Department of Tribal Affairs, the VA, Department of Corrections, Department of Labor and Regulations, Department of Social Services, Unified Judicial Systems, South Dakota National Guard and the SD Coalition of Military Families.

“Connectivity and creating a one-stop shop for our veterans and their families is our goal,” said Zimmerman. “We hope to increase awareness and accessibility.”





# STARTING OR GROWING A VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESS

Sign up for Boots to Business Reboot, an entrepreneurship training program for veterans and their spouses.

## OWNING A VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS

Veterans have the character, discipline and skills needed to succeed as small business owners and entrepreneurs. Wondering what it takes and how you can prepare? Enroll in Boots to Business Reboot.

## ABOUT BOOTS TO BUSINESS REBOOT

Boots to Business Reboot is a two part training program that provides participants an overview of business ownership as a career vocation, an outline and knowledge on the components of a business plan, a practical exercise in opportunity recognition, and an introduction to available public and private sector resources.

Part one is a two-day Introduction to Entrepreneurship course eligible to Veterans of all eras, Servicemembers, including members of the National Guard and Reserves, and their spouses. This course is instructed by SBA and its partners who are skilled business advisors.

Part two is an eight-week online Foundations of Entrepreneurship course instructed by a consortium of professors and practitioners led by the Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University.

Notes: A participant must complete the two-day course to be eligible for the eight-week course.

**WEDNESDAY**

**NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

**8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**PIERRE AMERICAN LEGION**

**520 S. PIERRE STREET**

**For More Information and Registration**  
Call the South Dakota U.S. Small Business  
Administration District Office  
(605) 330-4243  
Email: [michele.arends@sba.gov](mailto:michele.arends@sba.gov)

BROUGHT TO YOU LOCALLY BY:

City of Pierre  
PEDCO  
Pierre American Legion  
South Dakota Department of Veterans  
Affairs

Boots to Business Reboot is provided nationally in cooperation with: First Data Corporation and The Marcus Foundation, Inc. and



LEARN MORE AT  
[WWW.SBA.GOV/BOOTSTOBUSINESS](http://WWW.SBA.GOV/BOOTSTOBUSINESS)

AND FOLLOW US AT  
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BOOTS2BUSINESS](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BOOTS2BUSINESS)

## SFVAHCS OFFERING FLU SHOTS FOR VETERANS



The Sioux Falls VA Health Care System will be offering flu shots for veterans. In addition to being offered flu shots during regularly scheduled appointments, the following opportunities are available.

September 28 - 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM, auditorium

October 6 - 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM, auditorium

October 20 - 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM, auditorium

October 22 - 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM, auditorium

November 4 - 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM, auditorium

November 17 - 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM, auditorium

December 3 - 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM, auditorium

December 11 - 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM, auditorium

### Watertown CBOC

September 24 – 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

October 23 – 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

October 30 – 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

### Aberdeen CBOC

September 29 – 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

October 7, 2015 – 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

### Sioux City CBOC

October 14 – 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

October 28m 2015 – 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

### Wagner CBOC

October 5 – 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

October 19 – 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

# Upcoming Events

- Sept. 25—Veterans Stand Down—VFW—Sioux Falls (3601 S. Minnesota Ave.) - 9:00 am—2:00 pm (CT)  
 Sept. 25-27—NCPVA Veterans Trapshoot—Crooks  
 Oct. 5—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)  
 Oct. 6—Project Connect—Sioux Falls—521 N. Main Ave—2nd Floor—9:00 am—1:00 pm (CT)  
 Oct. 9—SFVAHCS Women Veterans Conference—Central Baptist Church in Sioux Falls (3100 W. Ralph Rogers Rd) 9:00 am (CT)  
 Oct. 10—DAV Fall Conference—DAV Headquarters—Sioux Falls  
 Oct. 14—Code Talker Medal Exhibit—Pierre: Indian Learning Center, New Gym—3001 E. Sully Ave. (10-3 CT)  
 Oct. 21—Code Talker Medal Exhibit—Watertown: Lake Area Technical Institute—1201 Arrow Ave., Student Event Center (level 4) (10-3 CT)  
 Oct. 24—VVA Agent Orange Town Hall Meeting—1519 W. 51st St—Sioux Falls—9:00 am—3:00 pm (CT)  
 Oct. 28—Code Talker Medal Exhibit—Sioux Falls: University Center, 4801 N. Career Ave., Admin Bldg. (commons area) (10-3 CT)  
 Nov. 4—Boots to Business—Starting or Growing a Veteran-Owned Business—Pierre Post 8 American Legion (520 W. Pierre St) - 8:30 am—3:30 pm (CT)  
 Nov. 7—Vietnam Veterans of America State Council Meeting—Pierre Post 8 American Legion—Noon (CT)  
 Nov. 11- Code Talker Medal Exhibit—Crazy Horse Memorial  
 Nov. 13—VABHHCS VSO Congressional Forum—Hot Springs—10:00 am  
 Dec. 1—SDDVA Mini Conference—Rapid City TREA—1981 Centre Street—10:00 am  
 Dec. 2—SDDVA Mini Conference—Pierre—American Legion Post 8 —520 W. Pierre Street  
 Dec. 3—SDDVA Mini Conference—Brookings—American Legion Post 74—1229 Western Avenue  
 Dec. 8— Governor's Budget Address—Pierre

## 2016

- Jan. 4—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)  
 Jan. 12—SD Legislative Session Opens—Pierre  
 Jan. 14—Veterans Legislative Breakfast—Pierre  
 Jan. 27-28-State Tribal Relations Days—Pierre  
 Apr. 4—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)  
 April 15-17—DAV Convention—Rapid City  
 Jul. 11—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)  
 Oct. 3—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)

Audry Ricketts, Public Information Officer  
 South Dakota Department of the Military <http://military.sd.gov>  
 South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs <http://vetaffairs.sd.gov>  
 Soldiers and Sailors Building - 425 E Capitol Avenue  
 Pierre, SD 57501  
 Phone: 605-773-8242  
 E-mail address: [audry.ricketts@state.sd.us](mailto:audry.ricketts@state.sd.us)

