



MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3524 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-3524
406-454-9070

www.Montanaveteransmemorial.org



CR - Research aids - Parks

*Black Eagle Falls 2007-2010
Park.*

IN THE BEGINNING !!! THERE WE WERE!!





OUR DREAM !!----- WORKING TOGETHER----- SOME CROSSED THE GREAT DIVIDE TO SOON !!!







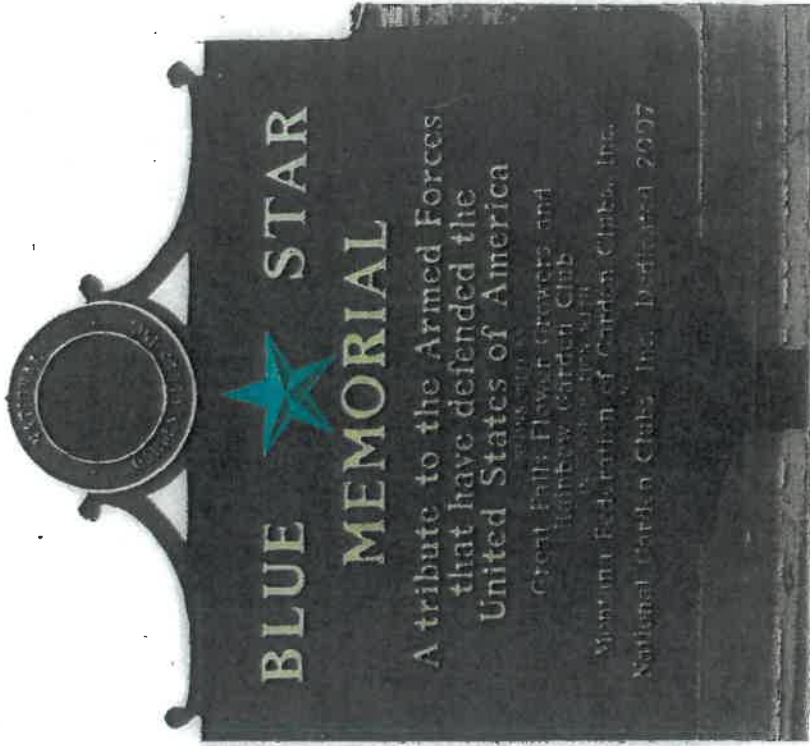
GOD BLESS AMERICA
God Bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above.
From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God Bless America, my home sweet home.
God Bless America, my home sweet home.

Called "American's unofficial National Anthem." This stirring song was written by Irving Berlin (1888-1989), a Russian immigrant who came to America when he was five years old.

Thank you to the Principal Financial Group for the grant money.
Thank you to Central Sign for storing and placing the marker.

Thank you to Ramona O'Banion—The Dove Lady
Thanks to the combined effort of Rainbow Garden Club and the Great Falls Flower Growers Club members who contributed so much. Without your help, it would not be possible.

Thank you to all of our presenters



Blue Star Memorial Dedication

Saturday, May 19, 2007
1:00 p.m.

Veterans' Memorial Park
1025 25th Street North
Great Falls, Montana

Blue Star History

During WWII (1941-1945), the country became entirely committed to supporting the war efforts. As a result, a suitable memorial to honor the men and women who served and won that war became a priority. The Blue Star Memorial was the vision of the Honorable Spencer Miller, State High Commissioner of New Jersey. This was a joint project of the Garden Club of New Jersey and that state's highway department. The original plan, which was to honor the WWII veterans, expanded to include all men and women who had served, were serving, or would serve in the armed forces of the United States.

On July 9, 1953, the dedication of the Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker was held on US Hwy 91, on Gore Hill. Mrs. Henry Blend, former president of GFFG presided. The marker was vandalized and destroyed in 1955. It never was replaced.

After much research and leg work, Luana Maxwell checked into the possibility of restoring such a marker. It was through her dogged determination that this project is a success. The two Great Falls Garden Clubs had fund raisers to raise the necessary money to purchase a marker. They sold bulbs, plant sitters and memorials were given by other interested parties.

A grant was applied for and received from the Principal Financial Group. The amount received was \$500.00

We wish to thank the PFG for this generous grant.

Blue Star Committee:

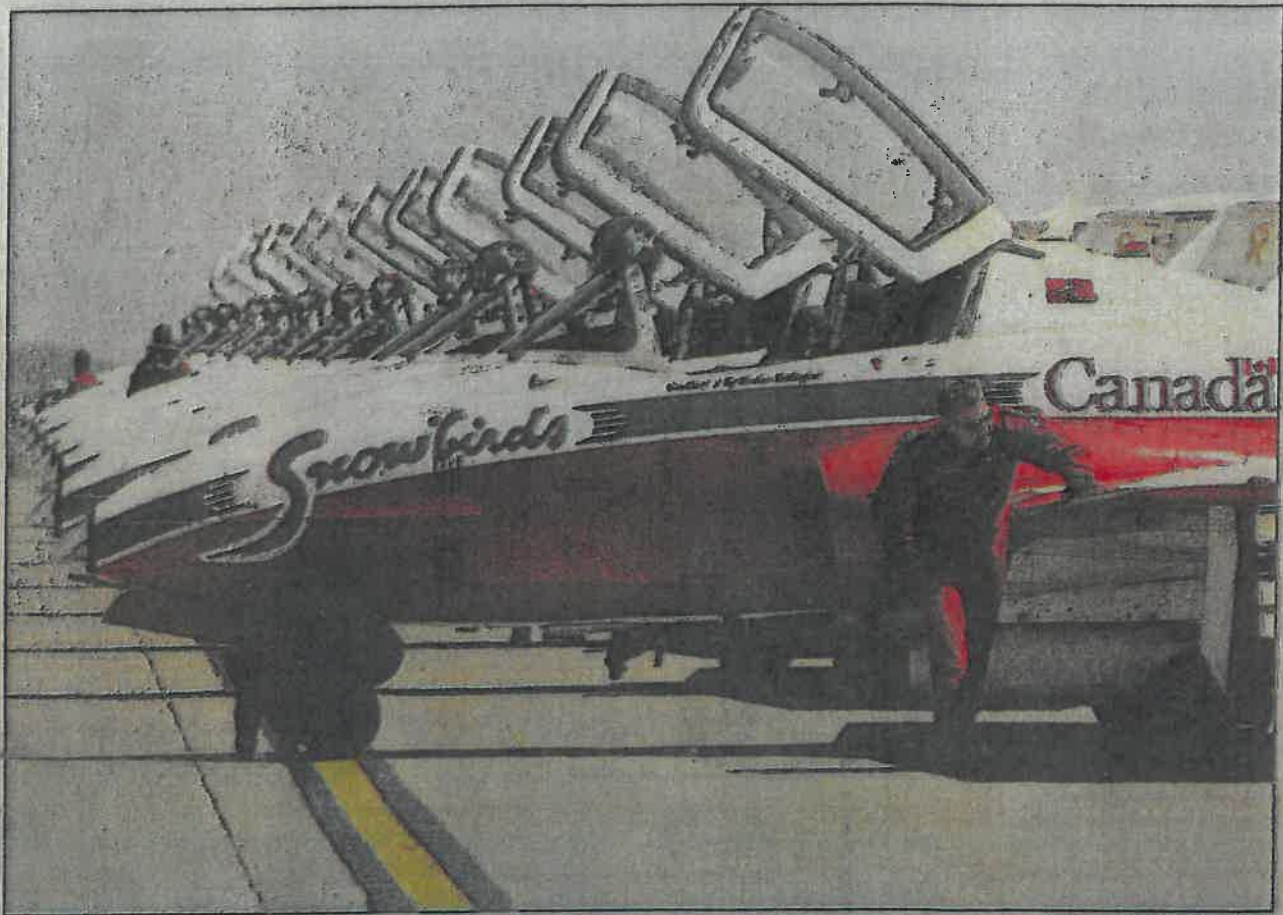
Luana Maxwell	GFFG Co-Chairperson
Donna Wigmore	Rainbow Co-Chairperson
Delores Gregory	President—GFFG
Alice Heisel	President—Rainbow Garden Club
Ivy Jackson	Rainbow Garden Club
Galia Fundis	Publicity—GFFG
Gail Zarr	GFFG
Myrna McCollum	GFFG

PROGRAM

Music—God Bless America—Alex Brown—CMR
Welcome—Luana Maxwell—Mistress of Ceremonies
Presentation of Colors—Montana Air National Guard
Invocation—Myrna McCollum—MFGC Chaplain
Pledge of Allegiance—Delores Gregory—President GFFG
Alice Heisel—President Rainbow Garden Club
Introduction of Guests—Luana Maxwell
History of Memorial Marker—Carol Neill—Blue Star State Chairperson
Military Tribute—Rev. John D. Allen-MANG Chaplain
Unveiling of Marker—Junior Garden Club/Luana Maxwell
Dedication of Marker—Donna Wigmore—Co-Chair
Presentation of Marker—Luana Maxwell—Co-Chair
Acceptance of Marker—Jon Thompson—City Forester
Laying of Wreath—Delores Gregory/Alice Heisel
Benediction—Myrna McCollum
Release of Doves—Ramona O'Banion
TAPS—Alex Brown

A special thank you to our co-chairs, Donna Wigmore and Luana Maxwell.

Canadian Snowbirds fly home



TRIBUNE PHOTOS/RICH SANDERS

ABOVE: Canadian Air Force Snowbirds Commanding Officer/Team Leader Maj. Robert Mitchell, right, and Crew Chief Sgt. Marlene Shillingford perform a preflight inspection on their jet before take off from Great Falls International Airport on Friday afternoon. **BELOW:** The Snowbirds take off from Great Falls, returning to their home base in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

'It's time to get back to flying'

By **RICHARD PETERSON**
Tribune Staff Writer

The Canadian Snowbirds aerial demonstration team flew home to Canada Friday, two weeks after losing a squadron member in a Great Falls plane crash, but not before saluting the Electric City and Malmstrom Air Force Base with a flyover in their trademark red and white aircraft.

"It's time to get back to flying," said Maj. Robert Mitchell, lead pilot for the Snowbirds. "We're all ready."

The team returned to Great Falls on Thursday to retrieve their Tutor planes, which were grounded at Gore Hill during the investigation into the plane crash that killed Capt. Shawn McCaughey, deputy pilot for the Snowbirds. His plane plummeted to the ground on May 18 during



See SNOWBIRDS, 5A

Snowbirds: 'There's a special spot in our hearts for this community'

FROM 1A

an air show rehearsal over Malmstrom.

The planes were cleared to leave this week after investigators from the Canadian Forces Flight Safety team returned to Ottawa last weekend. Their final report is expected to be complete within a year.

Devastated by the loss, the squadron's pilots said their mood has lifted during the past week as they prepare for a Monday rehearsal, their first since the crash. The pilots and crew have less than three weeks — with a former Snowbird returning to fill the vacant spot — to prepare for their first show of the season on June 20, in Owen Sound, Ontario.

If not for the fatal crash at Malmstrom, the Great Falls show would have been the aerobatic team's first performance of the season, which is dedicated to McCaughey.

"This is the first step to returning to the season and flying in Shawn's honor," said Lt. Petra Smith, a Snowbirds spokeswoman, prior to the team leaving Montana. "We know that's what Shawn would want us to do."

The team members had mixed emotions about returning to Great Falls, but their spirits were uplifted as they went out into the community Thursday and Friday. The Snowbirds were most touched when they visited the Montana Veterans Memorial, where local veterans' groups placed a plaque on the honor wall engraved with McCaughey's name. It was dedicated on Memorial Day. A Canadian maple tree with stone bearing McCaughey's name also was dedicated near the wall.

Mitchell and Smith said the squadron has been overwhelmed with support and well wishes from the Great Falls and Malmstrom communities.

"The people coming up to us have been so wonderful, so sincere. It's an incredible tribute to Shawn," Smith said.

Malmstrom spokeswoman Capt. Elizabeth Mathias said as the Snowbirds stopped at various businesses in Great Falls, local residents didn't hesitate to greet them, offer condolences or give team members free coffee and gifts, as was the case at a local Starbucks Friday.

"We're really linked now. We treated them as if they were one of our own," Mathias said.

The hospitality has been so strong that the Snowbirds may return to Great Falls this fall for a performance. Malmstrom has requested them for a possible date in September and both sides are hoping their schedules will match.

"They've been adamant about this since day one," Mathias said. "It's so indicative of the connection between the Snowbirds and Great Falls."

As the Snowbirds' eight-man formation clustered over Great Falls Friday afternoon, the team's departure left trails of white smoke over Veterans Park and Malmstrom Air Force Base, the site where McCaughey's plane went down. The team then headed north for their home base in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

"There's a special spot in our hearts for this community," Smith said before take-off.

Reach Tribune Staff Writer
Richard Peterson at 791-6547,
800-438-6600 or
rpeterson@greatfallstribune.com.

► Snowbirds Pilot's body arrives at squadron's home base

By Tribune Staff

Members of the Canadian Forces Snowbirds are preparing for the Friday funeral of their squadron mate, Capt. Shawn McCaughey, whose body was flown from Great Falls on Tuesday night to the team's home base in Moose Jaw, Sask.



McCaughey

McCaughey died Friday when his Tutor aircraft split from a four-man formation and slammed into the ground during an air-show rehearsal at Malmstrom Air Force Base.

The C-130 Hercules cargo plane touched down at 15 Wing air base about 8:40 p.m. Tuesday in Moose Jaw. It was met by military escorts, family and fellow Snowbirds pilots.

"He was a great guy, a great officer and a great pilot," said 2nd Lt. Sebastian Monger, a Snowbirds spokesman.

Ten Snowbirds aircraft remain temporarily grounded at Great Falls International Airport as part of the approximately two-week-long investigation by the Canadian Forces Flight Safety team from Ottawa. A formal report could take as long as a year to complete, Canadian authorities previously said.

Mechanical failure, pilot error and a collision with a bird have not been ruled out as possible reasons for the crash, the Moose Jaw Herald Times reported Wednesday.

As searchers and investigators in Great Falls continue to comb the fields at the Air Force base looking for evidence, Malmstrom officials have made counseling available for those working at the crash scene, Malmstrom spokeswoman Capt. Elizabeth Mathias said.

Maj. Scott Sonnek, a medical professional with the base's Life Skills Department, is one of several medical professionals available for helping those at the scene deal with any issues that may crop up, Mathias said.

Sonnek will help searchers spot signs of stress and help them learn how to cope, she said.

Canadian officials said Friday's memorial service is open to family, friends and 15 Wing community members only.

SNOWBIRD MEMORIAL IN MOOSE JAW



CANWEST NEWS SERVICE PHOTO/DON HEALY

Snowbird Capt. Shawn McCaughey's fiancée Claudia Gaudreault lights a candle at his military funeral at #4 Hanger, 15 Wing in Moose Jaw on Friday.

Mourners honor Snowbird pilot

The Associated Press

MOOSE JAW, Saskatchewan — Although already an accomplished pilot, Capt. Shawn McCaughey dreamed of one day flying a CF-18 fighter.

On Friday, five of the jets screamed across a sunny Saskatchewan sky in his honor.

About 1,000 mourners packed Hangar No. 4 at 15 Wing — Moose Jaw to pay their last respects to McCaughey, the sixth member of the Canadian Forces Snowbirds to die in a plane crash since 1972.

The 31-year-old from Candiac, Quebec, was killed last week when the jet he was flying crashed while the team was prac-



ONLINE PHOTO GALLERY:

For more photos from Friday's memorial and previous coverage, visit www.greatfallstribune.com

ticing for a performance near Great Falls, Mont.

McCaughey's flag-draped casket was brought into the hanger by his teammates, his helmet, wings and sword carried close behind.

It was placed between the noses of two planes — one a CT-114 Tutor jet that's flown by the Snowbirds, and the other a CT-156 Harvard II, the plane McCaughey flew as an instructor.

Investigators have said it could be months before it is known



CANWEST NEWS SERVICE PHOTO/DON HEALY

Canadian Forces Captain Dominique Lassonde (center) breaks down after speaking at the military funeral of Snowbird Capt. Shawn McCaughey at #4 Hanger, 15 Wing in Moose Jaw on Friday.

what caused McCaughey's plane to suddenly break away from the pack and slam into the ground.

But Maj. Robert Mitchell, commanding officer of the team, suggested in his eulogy that the situation could have been a lot worse.

"I believe time will reveal that he was a hero last Friday in the

air, potentially averting a much greater tragedy," Mitchell said.

"You should take comfort in this, as I do. The greatest compliment to him as a pilot that I can think of is to simply say I trusted him on my wing."

See SNOWBIRD, 3A

Snowbird

FROM 1A

McCaughey learned to fly while studying physical geography at Concordia University. He spent summers working as a flight attendant so he could be close to pilots.

Jennifer McCaughey, the pilot's sister, said her brother lived his dream.

"He died in the sky and we need to question why, but we need to remember he was happier than ever," she said.

He finished both his bachelor's degree, with honors, and earned his commercial pilot's license in 2½ years. After graduating from Concordia in 2000, he joined the Canadian Forces.

McCaughey was in his second year with the Snowbirds. While he was a former flight instructor with 1,400 hours of flying time, he was the first Snowbird pilot to have no previous experience on the CT-114 before joining the team.

Still he was able to master it quickly, said Maj. Cory Blakely, Snowbird No. 3.

"As with any training, Shawn encountered hurdles along the way. But he overcame them with his endless supply of determination," he said. "I'm proud of Shawn as a pilot."

Away from the cockpit, McCaughey was remembered as a generous man who was always smiling.

He loved to make his friends laugh with his impressions from the movie Borat or by dancing like a monkey.

"His death ... I know it's going to change me and I know it's going to change everybody here," said Capt. Dominique Lassond, fighting back tears.

"I'll miss you, bro. I know you're never too far and I know every time all your pilot friends, everybody here, steps into the aircraft, Shawn's right there next to you."

Blakely recalled the love McCaughey had for his fiancée Claudia Gaudreault, a social worker on the Moose Jaw base.

The two were to marry in Montreal next month.

Before he left for Montana, McCaughey wrote Gaudreault a birthday card and left it for her in their bed.

She found it the night he died and it was read to the mourners by Julie Selby, the widow of Miles Selby, a Snowbird pilot who died



SHELBY PARKER PHOTOGRAPH

Four F18 jets from 4 Wing Cold Lake fly in the "missing man" formation at 15 Wing in Moose Jaw after the military funeral for Cpt. Shawn McCaughey.

"You are my heart's true love, the one I was meant to meet across time, across space, whatever obstacles life puts in our way," the card read.

"You are the only one with whom I could find such a wonderful deep and exciting love and I'm so glad to be sharing life's beautiful adventures with you."

At the end of the service, McCaughey's casket was carried back outside the hanger. Mourners watched the five CF-18 planes, chosen by McCaughey's family because he hoped to fly them one day, soar overhead in a tight arrow.

As they passed, the second jet from the middle shot straight up in the air, symbolizing the missing man.

Alison Sebastian of the Moose Jaw Times-Herald contributed to this report.

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2007

SNOWBIRDS FLYOVER SALUTE





Saturday, May 26, 2007

Memorial Day ceremonies remember fallen

By **ERIC NEWHOUSE**
Tribune Projects Editor

At least three Memorial Day ceremonies will be offered Monday in Great Falls.

At the Montana Veterans Memorial, 26th Street and River Drive North, there will be a ceremony at 3 p.m. where the name of Montana soldiers who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan will be read.

"And after each name, we'll strike a memorial gong like they used to do with the Navy when they struck a sea bell for each fallen seaman," said Michael Winters, one of the ceremony's coordinators.

One new tile will commemorate the death of Capt. Shawn McCaughey of Candiac, Quebec, the Snowbird pilot whose Tutor jet crashed May 18 at Malmstrom Air Force Base.

"I didn't want his death to go unnoticed," said retired Tech. Sgt. Frank Maroney, who bought the tile. "This guy gave his life in a per-



TRIBUNE PHOTO/ROBIN LOZIVAK

Klayton Kidrick, right, and Matt Kralj of Cooper Construction work on the Veterans Memorial in Great Falls on Wednesday.

formance for us, and I wanted to remind the people of Great Falls and Canada that he's not forgotten."

Maroney won't forget.

"I'm reminded of it every day because the plane ended up in one

of our pastures," he said. "We have horses, and we rent property at Malmstrom."

Another anonymous donor purchased a Canadian maple tree and

See **MEMORIAL DAY, 3A**

Memorial Day

FROM 1A

a tile at its base for McCaughey, Winters said. The tree and tile were placed at the memorial.

Walls have been added to the memorial to provide space for 630 new tiles, with a potential to add another 2,500 tiles as needed, Winters said.

At Highland Cemetery, the 139th annual Memorial Day program will begin at 10 a.m.

Malmstrom's Wing Commander, Col. Sandy Finan, will be the keynote speaker, according to Joe Fletcher, commander of Great Falls VFW Post 1087.

The Great Falls High School Band is scheduled to play the National Anthem, the C.M. Russell High School Band will provide the Salute to America's Finest, and the Great Falls Marine Corps League will perform a helmet and rifle ceremony.

In a special ceremony at 7 p.m. at the Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, artist Jean Price will officially re-title her fallen soldier exhibition "Three Thousand and

**MCCAUGHEY
SHAWN
CANADIAN SNOWBIRDS**

A marker for Shawn McCaughey is up at the Veterans Memorial in Great Falls.

Counting." The former title for the piece counting American losses in the Iraq war was "Two Thousand and Counting."

The ongoing memorial lists every American casualty on tooled aluminum foil dogtags listing the soldier's name, rank and age.

Montana's fallen soldiers are represented with copper and brass.

"As more casualties occur, the sculpture grows," museum officials said in a news release. "In this heartbreakingly beautiful tribute, Price provides the viewer with a visual display of the human cost of war."

The ceremony is free and open to the public.

Montanans & Veterans with Close Ties to Montana KIA in Iraq and Afghanistan

[As of May 28, 2007]

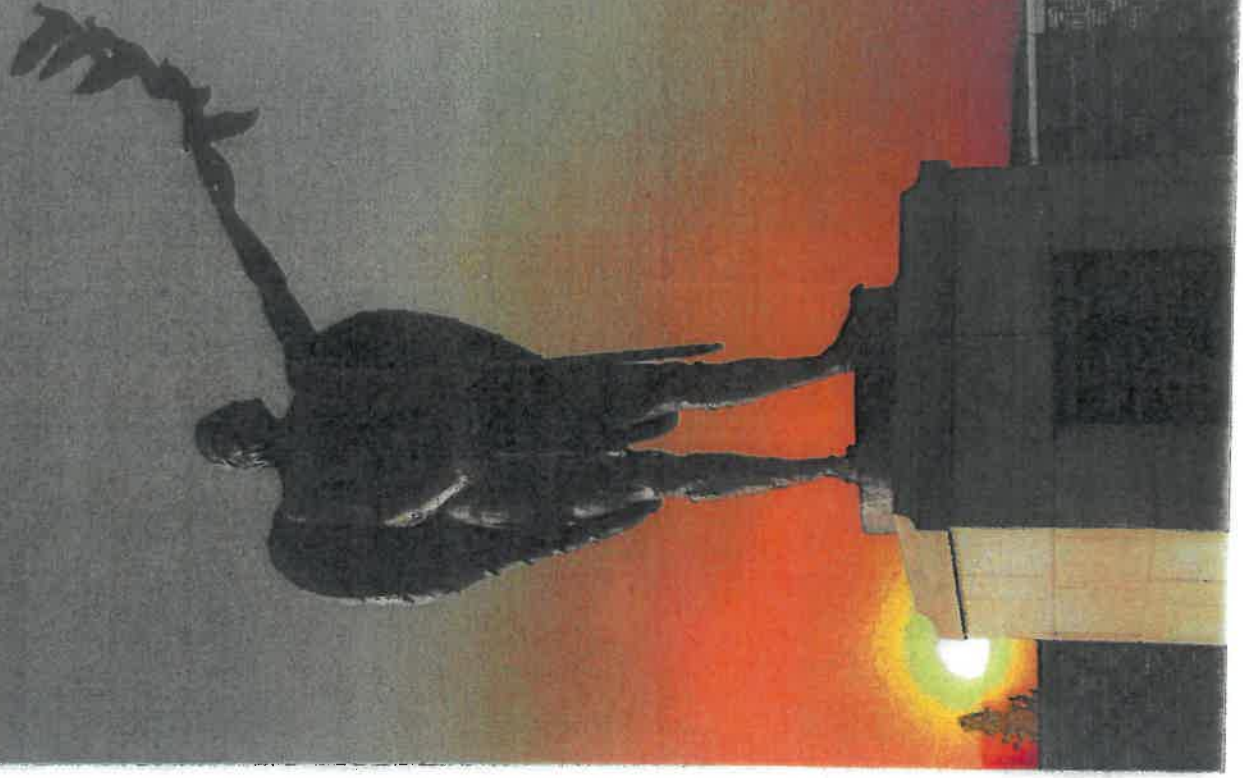
Edward M. Saltz	Army Reserve	Bigfork
Owen D. Witt	Army	Sand Springs
Dean P. Pratt	Marine Corps	Stevensville
Kane Funke	Marine Corps	Kalispell
Aaron M. Holleyman	Army	Glasgow
Nathan Wood	Marine Corps	Great Falls
Robbie D. McNary	MT Nat. Guard	Lewistown
Raleigh C. Smith	Marine Corps	Troy
Nicholas B. Bloem	Marine Corps	Belgrade
Josh Hyland	Army	Missoula
Travis M. Arndt	Army	Great Falls
Andrew D. Bedard	Marine Corps	Missoula
Michael MacKinnon	Army	Helena
Phillip E. Baucus	Marine Corps	Wolf Creek
Jeremy S. Monroe	Marine Corps	Chinook
Charles V. Komppa	Navy	Absarokee
Lucas T. White	Army	Polson
Shawn Murphy	Army	Butte
Nicklas J. Palmer	Marine Corps	Great Falls
Scott D. Dykman	Army	Harrison
James D. Riekema	Army	Great Falls
Mathew T. Zeimer	Army	Glendive
Shane Becker	Army	Helena
Kyle Bohrnson	Army	Phillipsburg
Michael Frank	Army	Great Falls

LEST WE FORGET



Honoring Veterans

Memorial Day
2007



The Warrior Angel

The beautiful Montana Veterans Memorial is capped by the Warrior Angel sculpted by current Marine Corps League Detachment Commandant Marvin Brewster. The five doves on the outstretched arm of the Warrior Angel represent our five military services: Marines, Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard.

Armistice Day

The armistice bringing WWI to an end was signed at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. Beginning in 1919, November 11th was celebrated as Armistice Day. In 1938, Armistice Day was made a Federal holiday. Congress eventually changed the name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day to honor all of those that served.

Rifle-Helmet Display

The rifle and helmet display is a very important part of American military tradition. During WWI and WWII, when fatalities had to be dealt with on a makeshift basis until bodies could be recovered later, their location was marked by a rifle topped with a helmet. Today, it is a symbol that expresses our honor to those who have served and have passed from our ranks.

POW-MIA

Dating back from WWI to the present, there are about 95,000 American service personnel listed as missing in action. Despite intensive effort, sometimes personnel cannot be found. We renew our pledge to never stop searching. As a symbol of that pledge, the MIA/POW flag proclaims: "You are not forgotten."

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY MAY 28, 2007

Program

Welcome: Mrs. Gina McDermott, President, Montana Veterans Memorial

Narrator: Dwayne Nelson, Marine Corps League

Opening Prayer: Dwayne Nelson, Chaplain, Marine Corps League Military Honors Detail

Color Guard: VFW, DAV, AL, MCL

National Anthem: Ms. Wendy Parrish

Pledge of Allegiance: Walter Spicer, son of Air Force SSGT Dave Spicer

History of Memorial Day

Rifle-Helmet Display

Salute to MT veterans who died in Iraq & Afghanistan:

Mrs. Gina McDermott

TAPS

Closing Prayer: Dwayne Nelson, Chaplain, Marine Corps League Honor Detail



Friday, May 18, 2007

Observance reminds WWII veteran how things have changed, stayed the same

By PETER JOHNSON
Tribune Staff Writer

It wasn't just men who led the "Greatest Generation" to victory in World War II. More than 250,000 American women served in the armed services during the war, while hundreds of thousands more took factory jobs.

"I'm really glad I took part in the war," said Great Falls resident Alice Widerstrom Hendryx, 87, a pharmacist's mate first class for three years in the U.S. Coast Guard. "I grew up in a small

kept me current on changing medical techniques."

Hendryx, who served at medical clinics in Charleston, S.C., and San Francisco, Calif., said she never believed she sacrificed "compared to the many men and women who were in harm's way overseas."

Still, she helped treat sick and wounded soldiers and sailors in sick-bay clinics.

In retrospect, Hendryx realizes it took a national effort of military members at home and

See HENDRYX, 6A

Veterans Day events

Great Falls observances /6A

Interactive online extra

GNS multimedia package looks at military funerals. Got to www.greatfallsribune.com

coastal town in New Jersey, with one ethnic group — Scandinavian.

"Serving in the military changed my life by allowing me to serve in different places with people from all walks. It prevented me from being narrow-minded and also

LINE
TO
LAST
DATE



COX
PH

LEFT, Alice Hendryx holds the good conduct medal she won working in the Coast Guard's women's auxiliary during World War II. RIGHT, Hendryx is shown as a young Coast Guard SPAR during WWII.

Hendryx: Saddened that wars continue to happen

FROM 1A

abroad, civilians working the factories and harvesting the fields and even families sacrificing through rationing of food, cars, gas, coffee and other goods.

The Veterans Day thoughts of the long-time civic volunteer are somewhat somber.

"It kind of saddens me that we have to keep fighting these wars," Hendryx said. "So many of our young people are either killed or suffer severe physical injuries and mental ailments that affect their whole lives."

She also wishes the country provided better opportunity for qualified young people, including those from needy families, to attend college.

That way they wouldn't feel obliged to join the military to get education benefits, said Hendryx, who read to students at Longfellow Elementary for 15 years, helps with the FISH food bank through her church and serves on the board of the Montana Veterans Memorial.

Hendryx has grand memories of her own military service, although she took some criticism from her father and veteran Coast Guard members for joining.

Her father, a sailor and fisherman who had been a member of the U.S. Life-Saving Service, a forerunner to the Coast Guard, compared female military members to the camp followers who trailed soldiers to meet their domestic needs in early times.

Hendryx told him firmly that she possessed needed medical skills and wanted to put them to use aiding her country. She graduated from a New Jersey junior college with a premedicine and medical secretarial degree, and worked 18 months as a lab technician in Long Branch, N.J., a town of about 15,000.

"By 1943, most of the younger men in town had joined the military, and I felt I had the background to help, too," she said.

Hendryx joined the Coast Guard, which performed rescue operations in her small coastal home town of Sea Bright when damaging nor'easter storms hit.

The Coast Guard's women's auxiliary was called SPARS,

cers during her first assignment in hot and humid Charleston, but a kind supervising doctor let her and her colleagues send home for the light uniforms they'd worn in civilian hospitals.

The women weren't immune from marching in holiday parades around southern squares, she said, recalling having to follow a horseback unit in Raleigh, N.C.

"We marched carefully the second time around, since nobody had done anything about horse droppings," she said. "It was hard not to break ranks or giggle."

Her tasks included taking blood, doing lab work and filling prescriptions at the sick bays. One fun fact: Sol-

diers and sailors who donated badly needed blood were rewarded with shots of whiskey.

She met her husband, Coast Guard Quartermaster 1st Class Carl Hendryx in 1945 while working in San Francisco. He helped her take big boxes of supplies to the lab, and they hit it off while talking about their childhoods enjoying swimming and boating on different ends of the country. The pair sped up their marriage plans by six months shortly after becoming engaged because a friend gave her a tip about a rare opening in married housing.

After the war, Hendryx worked at the Stanford University hospital while her husband went to college and later an insurance training school. They jumped at the offer of an insurance job in Montana, which her husband thought would be a last frontier, with gold panning as well as hunting and fishing.

They didn't strike gold, but they met friends and raised a family. Her husband operated the Moon Insurance Agency until his death in 1975, she said.

In one minor setback, thieves broke into Hendryx's house a few years ago and stole most of her jewelry.

"About the only thing they didn't take was my Coast Guard Good Conduct Medal," she told police. "Maybe they realized they didn't deserve it."

“
It kind of saddens me that
we have to keep fighting
these wars.
”

— Alice Hendryx

A few crusty Coast Guard veterans grumbled about women joining the military, Hendryx said, but most appreciated the help. Still, female service members weren't kept from basic training, she said while leafing through World War II snapshots.

In one picture, she's wearing a dark, serge suit. It's from training at a New York college. The drill sergeant made the women drill long hours in the rain and their rough cotton stockings chafed their legs.

The Coast Guard had no light-weight uniforms for female off-

Observing Memorial Day Local ceremonies honor fallen



TRIBUNE PHOTO/ROBIN LOZNAK
Tyler Baker, 9, right, and his brother Tim, 11, salute as they recite the Pledge of Allegiance during a Memorial Day ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls on Monday. The boys are part of the Big Sky Young Marines.

Display remembers those lost in Iraq, Afghanistan

By RICHARD PETERSON
Tribune Staff Writer

The rifle and helmet display at Monday's Memorial Day Ceremony at Veterans Park, which honored Montana soldiers who died in Iraq and Afghanistan, takes Larry Malby back to 1968 during his service in the Vietnam War.

The display, a military tradition since World War I, may remind him of the ugliness of war — "I lost a lot of friends there" — but it also highlights the honorable contributions and ultimate sacrifice made by American soldiers killed in battle.



PHOTO GALLERY:
For more images from Memorial Day events at www.greatfallstribune.com

"It's something you don't like at all," Malby, a former Marine, said of war. "But you're damn proud of the people willing to do this. Otherwise, our freedoms would be in severe jeopardy."

As chilly winds swept through the park on River Drive, hundreds paid tribute to fallen soldiers as color



TRIBUNE PHOTO/ROBIN LOZNAK
Flags mark the graves of veterans at Highland Cemetery on Monday.

See MEMORIAL DAY, 3A

TUESDAY, MAY 29, 2007



TRIBUNE PHOTO/ROBIN LOZNAK

Officers from Malmstrom Air Force Base stand with their heads bowed during the benediction at the annual Memorial Day program at Highland Cemetery.

Memorial Day: 'It feels very personal'

FROM 1A

guards from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans, and the local Army and Marine Corps leagues stood at attention.

Ceremony organizers honored 29 Montana soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan who were from Montana or who had close ties with the state.

Memorial Day becomes more significant each year because many more lives are touched by war with every passing ceremony on the last Monday in May, said Gina Winters McDermott, president of the Montana Veterans Memorial.

"It feels very personal. I'm a Montanan and from here," said McDermott. "Montana is so small in some ways and it feels like these soldiers are our neighbors and brothers."

The names of the local soldiers killed in action were read aloud during the salute.

The name of the late Canadian Snowbird Capt. Shawn McCaughey was also read during the tribute. McCaughey was killed May 18 when his aircraft plummeted to the ground during an air show rehearsal at Malmstrom Air Force Base. "He's our neighbor, too," McDermott said of the Snowbird.

Malby said the traditional rifle and helmet display derived from a method of marking shallow graves of dead American soldiers in the battlefields during WWI and WWII. It's now used as a symbol for all fallen veterans.

"It's great that one day a year we can honor the people who fight for our freedom," Malby said.

Ceremonies were also held Monday at Highland Cemetery and at Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art.

Army seal stolen from memorial

By RICHARD PETERSON
Tribune Staff Writer

Local veterans and Great Falls Police are hoping to find out who snatched a solid brass Army seal from the wall of the Montana Veterans Memorial some time late Friday night or early Saturday morning.

The 18-inch round plaque was reported missing about 8:30 a.m. when a maintenance worker noticed the plaque was gone and called police. It's worth about \$2,500, said Michael Winters, a memorial spokesman.

"You can't put a value on that," Winters added. "This is a selfish act that impacts every veteran and the city of Great Falls."

The seal, which weighs more than 20 pounds, was set with silicone, he said.

He added that police might already have a clue that could reveal who took the plaque.

"We believe we have an image from surveillance video," Winters said. "If the person or persons return it — undamaged, of course — within the next five days, there will be no questions asked and we'll leave it lay."

Winters said the plaque could be returned simply by leaving it at the memorial.

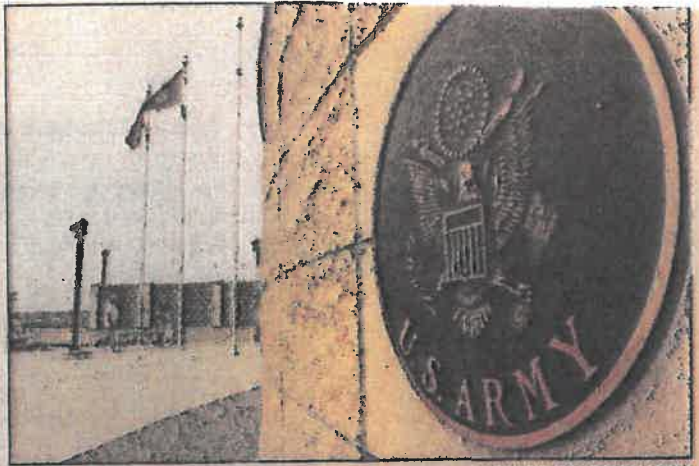
"If not, we'll seek all legal ends to get it back," he said.

The seal is one of five that represents each branch of military service on the memorial. The plaques have been on the memorial wall for two years, ever since it was dedicated in the summer of 2005, Winters said.

No serious vandalism has occurred at the site except this, he said.

The plaques were purchased with the help of community fundraisers and donations, Winters said.

To report information that could lead to the plaque's return, call Crimestoppers at 727-TIPS.



TRIBUNE PHOTO/ROBIN LOZIAK

A U.S. Army seal is back in place at the Montana Veterans Memorial after someone glued it there Monday morning. The seal was taken over the weekend.

► Veterans Memorial

Stolen seal covertly glued back into place

By RICHARD ECKE
Tribune Staff Writer

A U.S. Army brass emblem stolen two days earlier from the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls was back in place Monday morning.

The seal was taken from the memorial site Friday night or early Saturday, but memorial backers said they would accept the 20-pounds-plus seal back with no questions asked.

And that's exactly what happened.

Ted Lorenz, the memorial's maintenance coordinator, arrived at the site about 5 a.m. Monday to find the seal glued back in its proper location.

"It is in place and we're very happy," said Michael Winters, a spokesman for the memorial group. He said the seal was returned sometime between 10 p.m. Sunday and 5 a.m. Monday.

Lorenz was also the person who discovered the seal was missing Saturday.

The seal is one of five brass insignias at the memorial representing the American military branches — Air Force, Army, Marines, Navy and Coast Guard. Each is worth about \$2,500.

Winters said he doubted the

"I don't think it was a prank," he said. Winters speculated whoever took it perhaps "took it home and his dad was a veteran." He guessed the father convinced the thief to return it.

Whatever the details, Winters said he wanted to issue "some sort of a thank-you for them returning it."

Winters said it was the memorial's first major instance of vandalism or theft since it opened two years ago. The memorial is

located south of River Drive near 26th Street North and Centene Stadium.

In a Tribune story Sunday, Winters said

police had a clue in the incident: an image from a surveillance video. But he said his group is sticking to its position that it would not push for prosecution if the round seal, 18 inches in diameter, was returned.

"Case closed," Winters said.

Great Falls Police Department spokesman, Sgt. Glen Stinar, confirmed Monday that police will not pursue the matter. Stinar said victims in property crimes typically can request that a case be dropped.

Reach Tribune Staff Writer Richard Ecke at recke@greatfallstribune.com, or at 406-791-1467

“
It is in place and we're very happy.”

— Michael Winters, spokesman for memorial group

”

THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2007

No Snowbird

Last Saturday my family and I went to visit the Montana Veterans' Memorial and noticed, in our view, something that was not right.

Lo and behold the name of the "Snowbird," who was killed last week, was up there on the wall. I thought that this memorial was for Montana and U.S. vets only! And besides, I had to wait six months for my name to be put up. Why did he jump in front of the list of U.S. vets?

His name should come down! If we let his name stay up, we'll have to let every vet from all countries up. Right?

— Bob Comstock,
Black Eagle

FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 2007

Remove marker

I agree with Bob Comstock's June 7 letter that the McCaughey marker on the Montana Veterans' Memorial cheapens the intent of the wall and should be removed. The original intent, as sold to the public, is about a very special honor for Montanans who served in the U.S. military.

The McCaughey marker does not meet the requirements of the intent sold to Montana veterans and their families and cheapens the intent given to the public when the memorial first advertised for donations.

The wall is a very special place for men and women equally, living or dead, who served in the Montana military. The McCaughey marker does not fit into that area, should be removed and reserved for some

future veteran as a very special place of honor. McCaughey's place of honor should be in Canada — not on our Wall of Honor in the Montana Veterans' Memorial.

The original memorial wall should never be compromised for politics or for any other reason. Placements should be sold only to someone who has served in the United States military.

— Frank Manfredi,
Great Falls

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2007

Keep Snowbird

I wholeheartedly support the placement of a memorial plaque and the planting of a maple tree at the Montana Veterans' Memorial to honor the Snowbird pilot who crashed near Great Falls.

Captain McCaughey was an honorable man who died while serving his country. Honoring this brave Canadian pilot does not in any way diminish the honor given to the other brave men and women whose names grace the walls of the Montana Veterans' Memorial.

My dad waited from 2002

until the memorial was dedicated in 2006 to see his place of honor on the wall at the right hand of the warrior angel. When I asked him about the name of the Canadian pilot being added to the wall, he said he was proud to have Captain McCaughey honored there.

To the donors who made the memorial for our Canadian friend possible, thank you for your respect and compassion in honoring the victim of a tragic accident.

— Susan Franklin,
Great Falls

Saturday is day for the unshaven

By STACY BYRNE
Tribune Staff Writer

It won't be the most clean-shaven gathering but that's the whole point.

All men who've let their whiskers go wild this past month to show support for men and women serving in the military are invited to bring their scruff in front of the judges Saturday, Armed Forces Day, at the Montana Veteran's Memorial. The Support Our Troops event starts at 3 p.m.

Michael Winters, a member of the Montana Veteran's Memorial Committee, came up with the idea to literally show support for the troops after reading a Tribune story about guys in the United States Air Force who bear moustaches during March as a sign of camaraderie.

Winters said he and some of his buddies are in the running for the ugliest beard award.

"Barbara (my wife) said it makes me look mean and nasty," he chuckled. "It's gray and black and brown ... but I keep it trimmed."

Winters said he rounded up Mayor Dona Stebbins and a couple of other women to judge the facial displays. The ladies will award \$25 to the fellas with the most unique, the most impressive, the scraggiest and the bushiest moustache or beard.

But anyone, shaven or



Winters

See BEARDS, 21

Beards: Growth sign of support for our soldiers

FROM 1L

unshaven, is invited to attend.

"We'd just like everybody to show up and show support for the military," he said. "A person doesn't have to like this war, but we need to support the people who are protecting us."

The ceremony also will feature flags that have flown in harm's way on each of the memorial's 13 flagpoles. Committee members invite people to bring their family flags, especially those coming back from war zones.

The group is working to get all the new tiles up by Memorial Day and complete the additional walls. So far the memorial boasts more than 3,600 names.

"There's room for another 3,000 tiles," Winters said. The marble tiles each cost \$200 and hold the veteran's name, title and branch.

"The criteria is to have served their country honorably," committee member Donna Halvorson said.

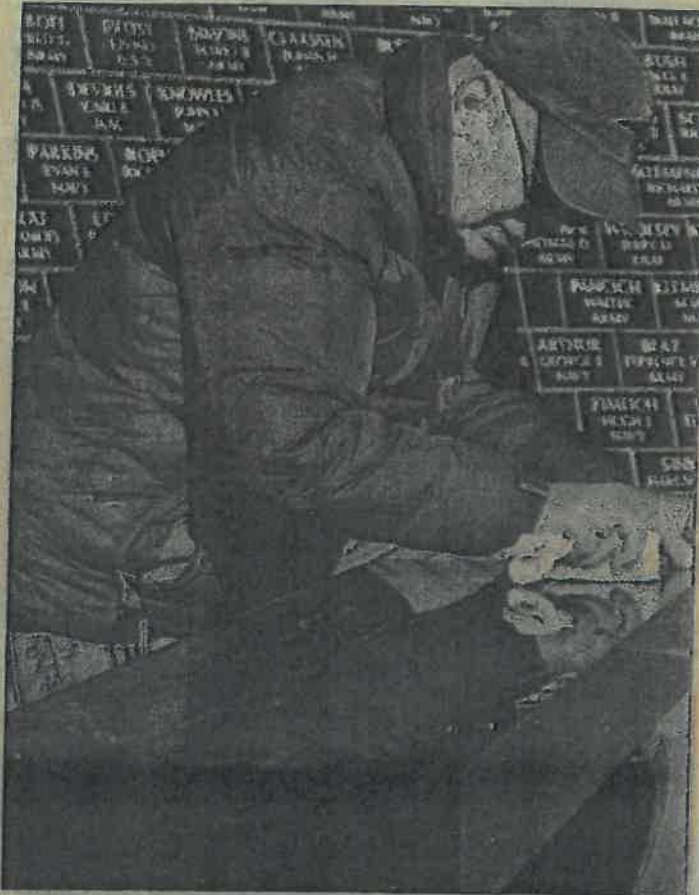
On Memorial Day, May 26, there will be another afternoon service to honor Montana's fallen veterans.

"We're going to call their name out and ring a gong in their honor," Winters said.

For information about flying a flag during tomorrow's event or to purchase a tile, call 454-9070 or visit www.montanaveterans-memorial.org.

Reach Tribune Staff Writer Stacy Byrne at 791-1490, 800-438-6600 or sbyrne@greatfalltribune.com.

Memorial vandalized



TRIBUNE PHOTO/LARRY BECKNER

Ted Lorenz, treasurer and a maintenance supervisor of the Montana Veterans Memorial, cleans skate marks off of a black granite bench at the memorial Wednesday morning. Vandals scratched and marked four of the benches and carved initials into wet concrete sometime Tuesday evening. "To see a couple of individuals being so disrespectful really hurts," said Michael Winters, a member of the Montana Veterans Memorial Association.

Snowbirds soar into Great Falls one year after



TRIBUNE PHOTO/STUART S. WHITE

The Canadian Snowbirds flying team makes a pass over the Great Falls International Airport before landing Thursday. The team will perform at Malmstrom's open house this weekend.

By ZACHARY FRANZ
Tribune Staff Writer

Sunday will be the first anniversary of the plane crash that killed a Canadian Snowbirds pilot during a practice flight in Great Falls. Members of the aerobatic demonstration team plan to spend the afternoon doing what they couldn't in the wake of the tragedy — performing in the skies above Malmstrom Air Force Base.

Nine Snowbird pilots cruised over the Great Falls International Airport in a tight diamond forma-

tion Thursday afternoon before landing. The team will practice their routine today, then perform Saturday and Sunday as part of the Malmstrom Open House and Sport-AutoRama.

The Snowbirds came to Great Falls in May 2007, intending to perform. On May 18, the day before their first performance, team member Capt. Shawn McCaughey died when his plane crashed during a practice run. The Snowbirds' planes were grounded, and the surviving pilots spent a week in Great Falls before returning via cargo plane

to their home base in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

An investigation found that McCaughey's safety belt came loose while he was flying upside-down.

Returning to Great Falls on Thursday brought back memories of their lost friend, said Maj. Robert Mitchell, the Canadian Forces Snowbirds team leader.

"For myself, as we were coming in, I could

See SNOWBIRDS, 3A

fatal crash

Snowbirds: 'We're happy to be here'

FROM 1A

see the field and see where the accident happened, and I had a moment where I thought of Shawn," Mitchell said.

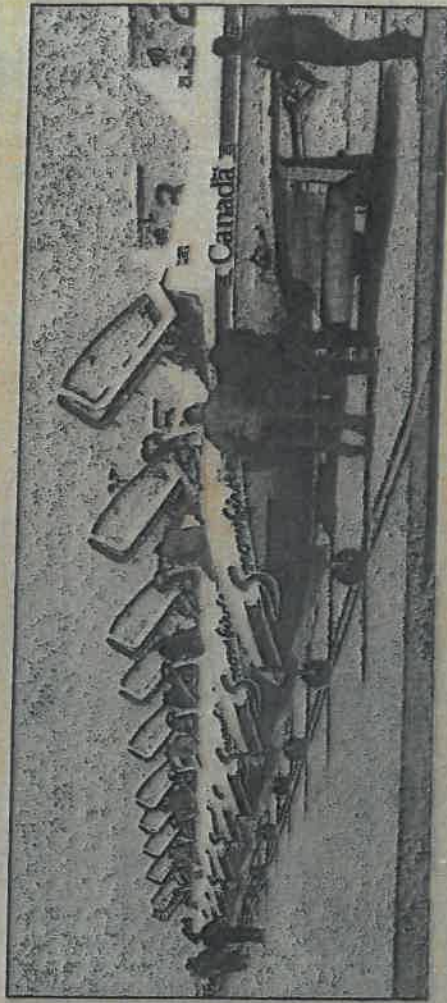
Despite those painful reminders, team members were happy to be back in the Electric City.

"The people of this community embraced us so well last year, in light of everything that happened," Mitchell said. "We're happy to be here."

In the days after the crash, Malmstrom personnel and the Great Falls community opened up to members of the team, said Capt. Sean Hanson, a Snowbirds pilot. The pilots would try to buy a drink at a coffee shop, only to have it given to them for free, he noted. A plaque honoring McCaughey also was installed at the Montana Veterans Memorial.

"The response from the town and base was nothing short of incredible," Hanson said.

Some of the Canadian pilots plan to visit the plaque during their stay in Great Falls,



TRIBUNE PHOTO/STUART S. WHITE

Snowbird pilots climb out of their cockpits after landing in Great Falls on Thursday.

Mitchell said.

However, team members say that when they are performing, it will be just another show — one of about 60 they will do this year.

"Once we're in the cockpit, there's not a brain cell to spare for anything other than what you're doing," Hanson said.

"You don't have time to reflect." After the crash, the Snowbirds dedicated the rest of their

performances last season to McCaughey, including a tribute formation to him in each show.

The team choreographed a new show, which doesn't include that formation, for the 2008 season.

"Not that we don't still think of Shawn, but you have to move ahead," Hanson said.

Reach Tribune Staff Writer Zachary Franz at 791-6647 or zfranz@greatfallstribune.com.

Essentials

What: Canadian Forces Snowbirds aerobatic flying team

Where: Above Malmstrom Air Force Base

When: At 3:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, 3:30 p.m. Pilots will sign autographs after the shows.

Monday, June 30, 2008

Touch-screen computer puts final touches on Veterans Memorial

After nine years of planning and construction, the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls is complete.

"We're all done," said memorial spokesman Michael Winters. "This is our final phase."

New at the memorial is an electronic kiosk system installed in a masonry-and-glass building west of the large angel sculpture at the memorial.



Winters

A computer touch-screen advises people where a veteran's name can be located on the memorial.

Type in the first three letters of someone's last name and you can find where the plaque is located.

One neat thing about the system is you can find names of living people on the granite tiles on the memorial's walls, as well as names of veterans who have died. The memorial also includes the name of a Canadian Snowbirds aerial demonstration team pilot, Capt. Shawn McCaughey, who died in a crash while practicing for a show over Malmstrom Air Force Base last year.

Winters thinks the kiosk, which is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily, will be handy for people. It was fully operational last week.

"I don't know of anything of this nature here in Montana," Winters said. There are other veterans memorials in the state, but Winters believes the Great Falls memorial is the nicest.

The memorial is located near 26th Street and River Drive North near Centene Stadium and Eagle Falls Golf Course. The public is welcome.

Winters said the final phase of the project, including the building, kiosk and computer equipment, cost about \$30,000.

See SPRAY, 2M

Spray: Room for more tiles at memorial

Though the project is completed, additional names can still be added.

"We still have room for about 1,500 additional tiles," Winters said. Call 454-9070 for information.

After the names of additional veterans are installed, the facility will be completely finished.

'This honors their sacrifice'



TRIBUNE PHOTO/STUART S. WHITE

Members of the Marine Corps League prepare to raise flags at the Veterans Memorial on Thursday in a commemoration ceremony to honor those lost in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Ceremonies revive memory of Sept. 11 victims

By ZACHARY FRANZ and
TRAVIS COLEMAN
Tribune Staff Writers

Most will never forget where they were on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, but as the years pass, some think about the tragedy less often.

Two events in Great Falls on Thursday — the seven-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks — sought to bring the memory of those who died that day back to the forefront.

A group of former Marines gathered early Thursday morning for a flag ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial. As a bugler played "Call to Colors," others in the Great Falls Marine

Corps League, Detachment 688, raised the 13 American flags at the park. Then, as "Taps," rang out, they lowered the flags to half staff.

"Everybody knows what today stands for," said Marine Larry Malvy. "A lot of people lost their lives, and this honors their sacrifice."

This was the first year the group did the flag ceremony at the memorial, simply because this is the first time the 13 flags were in place. Group leader Bill Hunter said it is likely to become an annual event.

"It's an honor for us as Marines to come out and perform this ceremony," he said. "It's important for us to show

Inside

- Candidates call truce, appear together at Ground Zero /3A
- Families, officials mark anniversary of 'the day the world was broken' /2A

our respect for the fallen firefighters and citizens who died on 9/11."

Scores lined up along 10th Avenue South on Thursday night to watch more than 300 motorcycles, many adorned with American flags, blare through the city to kick off an

invocation at the Montana Veterans Memorial. Riders believe the line of bikes during the ride stretched about 10 blocks.

The seventh annual ride was presented by the Big Sky Montana Harley Owners Group.

Motorcyclists proceeded west on 10th Avenue South to 6th Street Southwest, then they came back across the 8th Street bridge and took River Drive to the memorial. Before the ride even began, dozens, such as Dale Rauning, awaited their arrival at the memorial.

Rauning said he enjoys that

See SEPT. 11, 6A

Sept. 11: Hundreds gather to honor those lost in attacks

FROM 1A

the community is coming together to acknowledge both those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001, and the military forces who have sacrificed their lives to protect the nation's freedom.

"To me, it's still very dramatic," he said of the terrorist attacks. "I don't think one should

ever lose perspective of what happened."

During the ceremony that lasted about 20 minutes, speakers included Mayor Dona Stebbins, Fire Chief Randy McCamley and Harley Owners Group spokesman Sam Steffan.

"I know it's a tragedy, but we don't want to fall into a hole where we forget it," Steffan said.

LOCAL BRIEFS

Event will honor lives lost on 9-11

An event at Great Falls' Montana Veterans Memorial on Thursday morning will honor people who lost their lives during the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The flag ceremony will take place at 8 a.m. sharp, or 0800 in military language, at 26th Street near River Drive North.

Members of the Marine Corps League will raise 13 American flags up 13 flagpoles running toward the memorial, to bugle sounds of the patriotic song "To the Colors."

The flags will be taken to full staff. Then, a bugler will play "Taps," and the flags will be lowered to half staff.

No speeches will take place at the ceremony, according to memorial official Michael Winters.

"It's solemn," Winters said. He said he expects the ceremony to last about 15 minutes.



Thank you

To everyone who watered flowers,

dead-headed flowers,

locked and unlocked the kiosk,

swept, cleaned and

kept a safe eye on

Montana Veterans Memorial this summer!!

Thank you

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL

AGENDA

September 12, 2008

___ Gina McDermott

___ Michael Winters

___ Sam Pappas

___ Joe Fletcher

___ Ted Lorenz

___ Rodger McConnell

___ Alice Hendryx

___ David Bissonnette

___ Rich Liebert

___ Del Dieziger

___ Donna Halvorson

___ Fran Keith

___ Jim Porter

___ Mark Reck

___ Wayne Kelly

___ Ron Meyers

___ Dwayne Nelson

_____ Guest

_____ Guest

Call To Order

Pledge of Allegiance

*President's Comments – Tribute to Ernie Mathews, prayers for David B, Donna and all MVM members who are ill

*Approval of Minutes

*Treasurer's Report – Ted Lorenz

*Introduction of Guests -

*Committee Reports:

Public Relations – Michael Winters

Keeper of The Flag – David Bissonnette

Custodial Care – Ted Lorenz

Ceremonial Committee – Richard Liebert

Supplies and Printing – Fran Keith

Technology – Rich Liebert, Gina McDermott

Tile Status – Gina McDermott

Construction – Del Dieziger, Michael Winters

*Old Business –

*New Business – Archive Book, appoint new committee, suggestions

For the good of MVMA – Please keep military families in our prayers

Next meeting – _____, 2008

Adjourn

Montana Veterans Memorial Association
8/30/08

Checks this month:	Ck #	Code	Date	Paid to	Amount
	1451	749	8/8/08	Todd's	\$778.00
	1452	771	8/13/08	Cascade Elect	\$1031.21
	1453	760	8/13/08	Quest	\$53.06
	1454	740	8/15/08	Nationwide	\$225.00
	1455	749	8/16/08	Target (fan)	\$10.89
				TOTAL:	\$2096.16

Deposits: \$3265.00

Savings: \$34,614.60

Checking: \$3,244.24

CDs:		Start	Finish	%	Gain to date
	57,482.01	4/30/07	11/2/08	2.25	\$438.50
	105,865.99	2/12/07	02/12/09	2.25	\$144.19
	53,581.48	10/26/06	10/26/08	4.66	\$2,099.62

Grand Total \$258,053.32

All information based on bank records as of 8/30/08

Ted

Notes:

***Tile Status:**

109 tiles at Montana Granite, Mr Cooper knows that we need an installation prior to Veterans Day.
We currently have 4,158 tiles at Montana Veterans Memorial.

***Technology:**

TouchSource will set up the program to add bios to the kiosk free of charge. Shortgrass will add a column and the ability to add bios to the website for \$150.00. **NEED APPROVAL** We have a credit with Shortgrass. (The data for the kiosk is obtained from the website)

~Ted, will you please obtain an itemized statement for how they utilize our credit?

~Mrs. Keith, are the history sheets in a binder and ready to be used for bios?

~Committee, decide on text format for consistency. See examples below:

James A Woodahl served in the United States Marine Corps 1957-1963. He was a Clarinetist with the Marine Corps Band.

or

Lawrence E Johns

United States Navy 1942-1946

USS Holandia

South Pacific WWII

~Suggestions: _____

There is room for the longer, historically significant histories to be entered on the site.

***Records:**

Do we have binders/hard copy of every meeting (Minutes, Agenda, Reports, etc) since the inception of the MVM Committee? _____



Veterans Day Ceremony, 11 Nov 2008

11:00AM, Montana Veterans Memorial, Great Falls, MT
www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

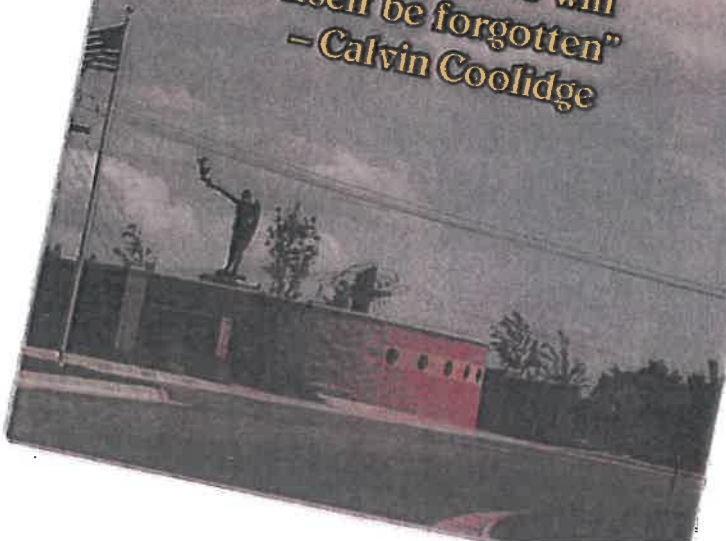
- Welcome**.....Mrs. Gina McDermott, President, Montana Veterans Memorial Assoc.
- Narrator**.....Michael Winters, Montana Veterans Memorial Assoc.
- Presentation of the Colors**.....American Legion & veterans groups color guard
- Invocation**.....Chaplain Thomas Woodruff, 1st Lt, U.S. Air Force
- National Anthem**.....
- Pledge of Allegiance**.....
- Establishment and history of Veterans Day**.....Michael Winters, MVMA
- Guest Speaker**.....Colonel Terry Watkins, Cdr, 819th Redhorse Squadron, USAF
- Presidential Proclamation**.....Gina McDermott, MVMA
- Benediction**.....Chaplain Thomas Woodruff, 1st Lt, USAF
- Taps**.....Marine Corps League

Veterans Day was originally incorporated by President Wilson as Armistice Day in 1919 in recognition of the sacrifices made by Americans in World War I. Other countries today also still recognize November 11th as Armistice Day or Remembrance Day in honor of the Armistice treaty which ended WWI. It was in 1938 that Armistice Day was enacted as an official American holiday. But eventually after WWII, citizens felt that the veterans of all wars should be recognized, not just those of WWI. So in 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Congress changed the name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. In 1978 the observance of Veterans Day was returned to November 11th by popular sentiment and is why we honor it at the 11th hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month in remembrance of the original armistice day of World War I, when hostilities came to an end between Germany and the allied powers followed by the Treaty of Versailles in 1919.

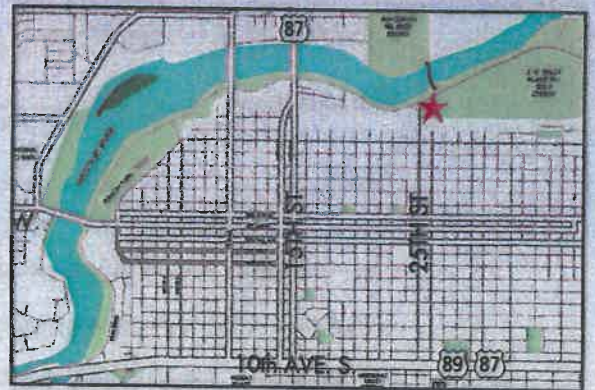
To Honor a
men & women
who have served
our nation



*"The Nation which forgets
it's defenders will
itself be forgotten"*
- Calvin Coolidge



A PLACE OF HONOR



Visit Montana Veterans Memorial at
25th Street North and River Drive



*"From patriotic men and women
springs living nations"*
Padraic Pearse

A day to honor service



TRIBUNE PHOTO/STUART S. WHITE

There will be a memorial service at the Great Falls Veterans Memorial today at 11 a.m.

Holiday ceremony to recognize veterans

By ERIC NEWHOUSE
Tribune Staff Writer

Today is a day set aside to remember the military veterans among us, which can be a formidable task if you stop to think about all the fighting this country has done recently.

Montana has one of the nation's highest numbers of vets per capita. There are close to 110,000 veterans in the state, and more than 11,650 of them live in Cascade County, said Dave Capps, veteran service officer for the

state Department of Military Affairs.

"We have a lot of Vietnam vets who have been holding down jobs all these years, but as they approach retirement age, they begin to realize what has hit them," said Regional Service Office's Val Martin, a 24-year veteran of the department.

"And a lot of the Vietnam vets are being re-traumatized by the conflict in Iraq," Capps

added. "Either they go to the point of not watching the news or they watch everything they can find — either extreme."



Capps

Veterans Day also is changing because of the Pentagon's increasing reliance on calling up National Guard or Army Reserve soldiers for combat.



Martin

"They used to be weekend warriors, but now most of them are combat vets," Martin said.

"So the majority of cases we see are compensation cases because of injuries they received in connection with the service," said Capps. "In fact, that's the vast majority of the cases we see."

With the World War II vets

See VETERANS, 3A

Veterans

FROM 1A

dying off, their ranks are being filled by survivors of the conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, Lebanon (1982-84), Grenada (1983), Panama (1989), Gulf War (1990-91), Somalia (1992), Bosnia (1992-95), Kosovo (1999) and Operation Enduring Freedom.

So honoring those vets, and others, is important today.

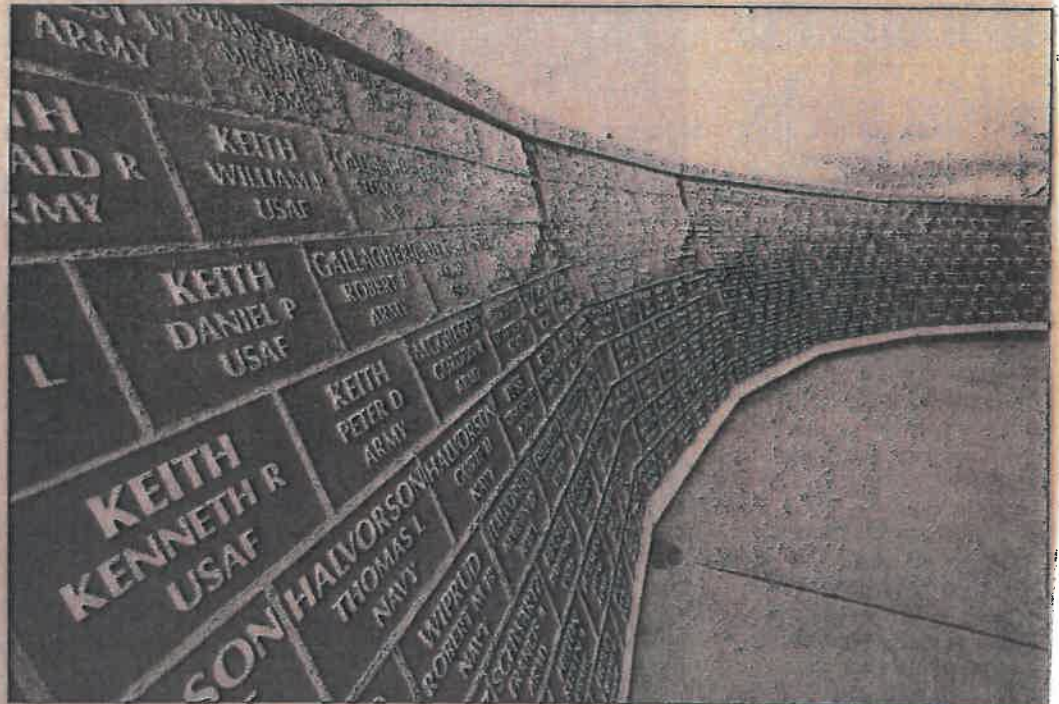
"We wanted this to be a memorial to veterans, not a memorial to war, and also to recognize the noncombat vets, both living and dead," said Mike Winters, one of the founders of the Montana Veterans Memorial.

Col. Terry Watkins, commander of the 819th Red Horse Squadron, will be the guest speaker at a memorial service today at 11 a.m. The public is invited to attend the ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial beside Centene Stadium.

"People from outside our area tell us that this is one of the finest memorials they've seen," Winters said.

There will also be a luncheon for vets at 12:15 in the Rescue Mission, at which time vets will be given a small gift of thanks for their service.

"The Great Falls Rescue Mission reaches out to homeless vets daily through feeding, shelter, clothing, medical care and Christ-centered recovery programs," said its executive director, Eric Burger. "Over 30 percent of Rescue Mission clients are veterans."



TRIBUNE PHOTO/STUART S. WHITE

The wall at Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls displays the names of the state's veterans.

Honor America's veterans at one of today's events

At the Montana Veterans Memorial beside Centene baseball stadium, the annual Veterans Day observance ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. today. Thirteen American flags will be flown throughout the day.

The Great Falls Rescue Mission, 326 2nd Ave. S., will honor veterans at its sixth annual Veterans Luncheon at 12:15 p.m. today. All are welcome to attend. Veterans will be honored and given a small gift of thanks for their service to our country.

Online organization helps out currently deployed troops

Here's a way you can help currently deployed troops.

Operation Interdependence is a nationwide nonprofit organization that's a civilian-to-military delivery system. It has paired up with Endicia, an online shipping provider. Recently, Endicia began matching donations to Operation Independence's Adopt-A-Box program (and is paying for the overseas shipping).

People can go to their Web site, www.oidelivers.org, pay \$30 and write a personal note. Of volunteers will pack the boxes and get them out to the troops, thanks to Endicia shipping.

Tuesday, May 26, 2009

Senator Jon Tester to speak at Memorial Day ceremony

Tribune Staff

The annual Memorial Day ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial, 25th Street and River Drive North, will honor living and fallen military members with traditional Memorial Day activities and bit of Irish and Native American culture.

The ceremony kicks off at 2 p.m. on Memorial Day. Montana Veteran's Memorial Founder Michael Winters will emcee the event.

Gina McDermott, president of the Montana Veterans Memorial Committee, opens the ceremony with a welcome address. Following the presentation of veteran group colors, Eagle Scout Earl Lara will lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Corwin Smith, chaplain at Malmstrom Air Force Base, will give the invocation.

Internationally recognized and noted Irish tenor John McDermott will sing the "Star-Spangled Ban-

ner" and "God Bless America" in tribute to veterans who have served and those who continue to serve. He also will perform "Danny Boy" and "The Green Fields of France."

Klone King, spiritual leader of the Blood Tribe of the Blackfeet Nation, will perform a Native-American smudging ritual designed to protect the spirits of the living and deceased. The ceremonial purification rite uses sweetgrass, an eagle feather and chants in Blackfeet.

Guest speakers include U.S. Sen. Jon Tester and Brig. Gen. Brad Livingston of the Montana National Guard.

King will offer the closing benediction, and a solo bugle will sound "Taps" to end the ceremony.

The ceremony begins at 2 p.m. and will last approximately 45 minutes. You're encouraged to bring a lawn chair.

For more information, call Winters at 452-5679.

A PLACE OF HONOR



Veterans honored at ceremony

By KRISTEN CATES
Tribune Staff Writer

The bell at the Montana Veterans Memorial rang 35 times Monday afternoon — remembering those veterans from the state who died in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Kristofer Stonsifer of Missoula, Edward Saltz of Bigfork, Owen Witt of Sand Spring, Dean Pratt of Stevensville, Kane Funke of Kalispell and Aaron Holleyman of Glasgow all died.

It was Memorial Day, and the monument was filled with those wishing to honor past and present military men and women and their sacrifices for this country.

"It's good to remember the past of the military and how we got here," said Airman 1st Class Shane McBride, 20. "It is things like today that make you proud to serve."

The names of Raleigh Smith of Troy, Robbie McNary of Lewistown, Nicholas Bloem of Belgrade and Josh Hyland of Missoula were read, and the bell rang for each.

Sen. Jon Tester, D-Montana,

an's affairs committee, encouraged the crowd to live up to its promises and respect all veterans.

"We owe them the sincerest debt of gratitude," Tester said.

Klone King, spiritual leader of the Blood Tribe of the Blackfeet Nation, held a smudging ceremony, blessing those who had died, those who served previously, and those who are serving now.

"This ceremony has a lot to do with how we are modern warriors today," King said.

The bell, a hollowed sound vibrating against the walls of the memorial, rang out more.

Solemnly, Travis Arndt of Great Falls was honored, as were Andrew Bedard of Missoula, Michael MacKinnon of Helena, Phillip Baucus of Wolf Creek, Jeremy Sandvick Monroe of Chinook, Charles Komppe of Absarokee, Shawn Murphy of Butte, Nicklas Palmer of Great Falls, and Scott Dykman of Harrison.

John McDermott, a singer and songwriter of national acclaim, sang the National Anthem along with "Danny



Robert Bateman bows his head in prayer during the invocation.

Boy" and "America the Beautiful" before singing a couple of other patriotic tunes.

James Riekema of Missoula was remembered, as was Matthew Zeimer of Glendive, Shane Becker of Helena, Kyle Bohrnsen of Phillipsburg, Michael Frank of Great Falls, Travis Atkins of Bozeman and Donald Young of Helena.

Brig. Gen. Brad Livingston of the Montana National Guard reported that this is the 141st year of Memorial Day in the

United States.

"We know it as a day for all who fought and died for our freedom," he said. "Too often we fail to remember those who gave their life."

But more names were read: Yance Gray of Ismay, Andrew Pearson of Billings, James McHale of Fairfield, Trevor Johnson of Forsyth, Garnet Derby of Missoula. Then the names of those who died with connections to Montana were also read: Nathan Wood, Patrick Lybert, Lucas White and Michael Sturdivant.

After the bell rang for the 35th time, King once again blessed the site and "Taps" was played.

Ralph Backa, a retired lieutenant colonel from the Air Force, said he photographs each of the tiles at the memorial where a name is added and sends it to their families if they move out of state.

"One of the things I'm really proud of is the memorial they've made here," he said. "It is the best, it really is the best."

Reach Tribune Staff Writer Kristen Cates at 791-1463 or kcates@greatfallstribune.com.

100-plus at chilly tribute

By KARL PUCKETT
Tribune Staff Writer

Blustery weather didn't deter more than 100 residents from honoring the area's servicemen and women during a solemn Veterans Day ceremony Tuesday in Great Falls.

"Let this monument here in Great Falls, and others around this great country, serve to remind us daily of those who have sacrificed," guest speaker Col. Terry Watkins of Malmstrom Air Force Base's 819th RED HORSE Squadron told the crowd.

The backdrop for the chilly ceremony was the Montana Veterans Memorial off River Drive. The biting wind had the U.S., Montana and POW flags snapping and residents hunching their shoulders against the cold.

Watkins called it the duty of every person, not just military personnel, to remember the sacrifices of veterans, who have guaranteed "our cherished freedom."

"This is the first Veterans Day since we lost my Uncle Jim over there," said Dan Thares, his dog on a leash, pointing to a section of the wall as he perused the names following the half hour-long ceremony.

Thares attended to pay tribute to several uncles and his father, a World War II veteran who served in the U.S. Navy.

During the benediction, Air Force Chaplain Thomas Woodruff noted the service of WWII vets, who he said are "slipping away" daily.

WWI vet Avery Pace, 82, stood ramrod straight, saluting with the others during the playing of the "The Star Spangled Banner" and the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. Pace was in uniform, including an "Eisenhower jacket," and it fit as if he was still a young soldier serving in the U.S. Army.

"I was over in Germany," Pace said later, noting he moved to Great Falls from Kentucky in 1944. He was pleased he could attend the ceremony in such "good health," he said.

Why Veterans Day?

Americans used to celebrate Armistice Day on Nov. 11, which honored sacrifices made in World War I, but President Dwight Eisenhower and Congress changed the name to Veterans Day in 1954 to honor men and women who

served both in peacetime and during all wars, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

While Veterans Day is largely intended to thank living veterans for service, Memorial Day honors military personnel who died serving.



TRIBUNE PHOTO/STUART S. WHITE

A veterans honor guard presents the colors Tuesday at the Great Falls Veterans Day observance.

Gina McDermott, president of the Montana Veterans Memorial Association, said the memorial now has the names of more than 4,327 veterans, both living and dead. The names are carved in rectangular tiles decorating the walls.

Veterans Day, a tribute to servicemen and women who served in peacetime and war, is conducted on Nov. 11 each year because World War I ended on that day in 1918.

Ninety years later, Mark Reck was among the throng paying tribute in Great Falls this year. An Air Force veteran who served in Desert Shield and Desert Storm, he said Veterans Day is a reminder "that freedom isn't free."

~~Oct 18~~

2009





Salute to veterans



TRIBUNE PHOTOS/RION SANDERS

ABOVE: Alice Hendryx shares some of her experiences from her time in the U.S. Coast Guard during the Veterans Day ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial on Wednesday. **TOP LEFT:** Jack Waterfield of the Marine Corps League salutes during the presentation of the colors. See more Veterans Day images online at www.greatfallstribune.com.

Thursday, November 12, 2009

Events honor diverse service

By KRISTEN CATES
Tribune Staff Writer

Alice Hendryx enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard in 1943 because it seemed the logical thing to do. Wally Morger joined the Marine Corps because he wanted to fight the Japanese after the attack on Pearl Harbor, even though he wasn't quite sure at the time where Pearl Harbor was.

Theirs were the stories shared during two separate Veterans Day ceremonies held Wednesday in Great Falls.

The first ceremony, held at the Montana Veteran's Memorial on River Drive North, included a special salute to women veterans. The second ceremony, held at the University of Great Falls, offered a historical and theological reflection on service.



World War II Army veteran Avery Pace talks with Applebee's bartender Paul Leslie on Wednesday. Applebee's offered free meals to veterans and active duty military personnel.

But at the heart of both ceremonies were honor, courage, and sacrifice — and thinking nothing of it.

"I did work hard," said Hendryx, who was a medical

technician in hospitals during World War II. "Those of us who enlisted during WWII, we tried to be the very best we could."

Hendryx grew up in a rural



Elizabeth Berry listens to the national anthem with her Brownie troop.

town in New Jersey and was on the beach one day when a member of the Coast Guard told her to get off the beach because a German submarine was believed to be approaching the area.

Hendryx, now 88, said she didn't have any hesitation about being a woman signing

See VETERANS, 3A



A bouquet of roses adorns the Montana Veterans Memorial as Alice Hendryx talks about her Coast Guard experience.



A U.S. Navy sailor looks on as Sen. Max Baucus speaks at the Montana Veterans Memorial.

Veterans

FROM 1A

up to help with the war.

In the hospitals where she worked stateside, she said she saw many men return home from battle wounded and burned, which made it easy for her to forget about the sacrifice she had made.

She said she grew up in an era when there was a need, you filled it. Plus, she said, she was able to meet people from all different backgrounds during her service.

"You learn a lot about yourself and other people," Hendryx said.

At the Montana Veteran's Memorial, Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., mentioned that Montanans volunteer for the armed services at a higher rate per capita than any other state.



PHOTO GALLERY : For more Veterans Day images go online to www.greatfalls Tribune.com

"Unfortunately, this distinction comes at a great price," he said, mentioning that 40 Montanans have died and more than 200 have been injured in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Baucus said he'd like to see more done federally to improve the lives of homeless female veterans and veterans' families.

At the UGF ceremony, Morger, a native of Fort Benton and retired sergeant in the Marine Corps, spoke with conviction about his experience in the Battle of Iwo Jima.

He remembers boarding a ship in Hawaii in January of 1945 with several other Marine divisions.

"We had no idea where we were going," Morger said.

But on Feb. 19, 1945, he and several others were lined up along the shores of Iwo Jima. A battle that was expected to take only five days lasted for 33 with more than 6,000 Marines killed.

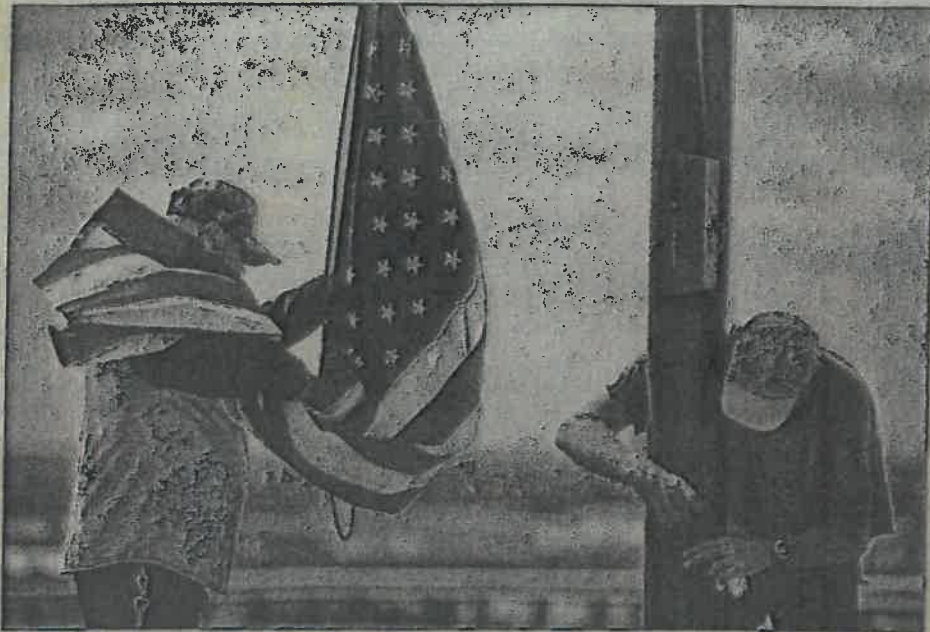
Though Morger survived where many others did not, he said what has pulled him through emotionally was a strong connection to home.

"One of the most pervasive emotions a serviceman experiences is that of loneliness," he said. "It's amazing what a simple letter from home can do for that person."

As the morning ceremony came to a close, the sound of "Taps" echoed off the walls of the Veterans' Memorial and into the late fall sky. The UGF event ended with Julie Ross singing the lyrics to "God Bless America."

Reach Tribune Staff Writer Kristen Cates at 791-1463 or kcates@greatfalls Tribune.com.

New flag pole for a new day



TRIBUNE PHOTOS/RYON SANDERS

David Bissonette, left, prepares to raise the American flag, as Jerry Bates makes final adjustments to the newly installed flag poles at the Veterans Memorial on Wednesday.

Veterans Day: Women in the military Celebrating Spotted Wolf



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GERARDETTA ENGLAND

Minnie Spotted Wolf became the first Native American woman to join the Marine Corps in September 1943. She was celebrated in a comic book and in military public relations campaigns. She died in 1988 after 29 years of teaching in Montana.

Rancher was first Native American female in Marines

By PETER JOHNSON
Tribune Staff Writer

Women have served in the U.S. military since the Revolutionary War, when Gen. George Washington diplomatically took aside a woman disguised as a male soldier, congratulated her for her service and handed her discharge papers.

Researcher and Marine veteran Dwayne Nelson of Augusta will recount the service that women have provided in every U.S. war since that time during a Veterans Day talk at 11 a.m. today at the

Montana Veterans Memorial.

After experience primarily as nurses on both sides during the Civil War, more women began serving larger, noncombat roles during World War I. That trend was especially true during World War II, when more than 250,000 American women served in the armed services, while hundreds of thousands more

women took factory jobs.

Minnie Spotted Wolf, a slender, but tough family ranch hand from Heart Butte was one of the early women

“My mom would have been very proud to have been honored at this ceremony.”

— Gerardetta England

determined to play her part.

She was the first Native American woman to join the Marine Corps in September 1943, and because of her gumption and background, was featured in stories, photo-

Activities

A list of celebrations around town today /3A

graphs and even a girls' comic book story that promoted the war effort.

Spotted Wolf died in 1988 after a 29-year teaching career. Her daughter, Brown-ing public health nurse Ger-ardetta “Gerry” England, will speak at today’s ceremony.

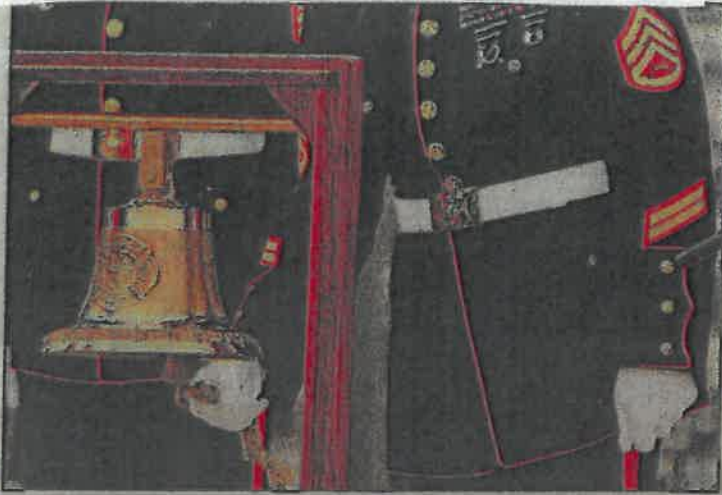


Memorial Day observance



Bob Langevin of the U.S. Marine Corps League plays "Taps" during Monday's Memorial Day service at the Montana Veterans Memorial. The Cascade County Veterans Council and Malmstrom Air Force Base also scheduled a celebration Monday morning at Highland Cemetery.

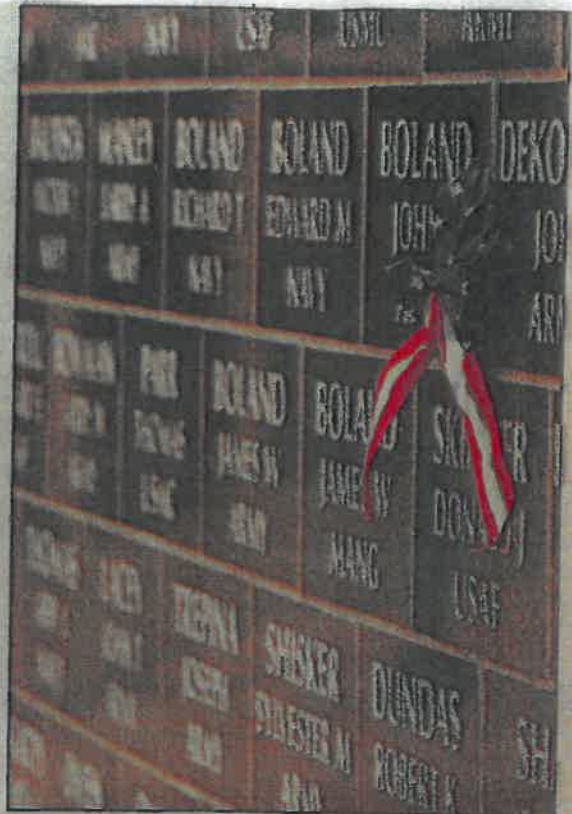
May 31, 2010



TOP: U.S. Marines ring a bell to salute Montana's fallen veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan.



RIGHT: Brig. Gen. John Walsh, adjutant general of the Montana National Guard, speaks at the event.



A red, white and blue ribbon adorns the wall at the Montana Veterans Memorial.

THE HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day was originally incorporated by President Wilson as Armistice Day in 1919 in recognition of the sacrifices made by Americans in World War I. Other countries today also still recognize November 11th as Armistice Day or Remembrance Day in honor of the Armistice treaty which ended WWI. It was in 1938 that Armistice Day was enacted as an official American holiday. But eventually after WWII, citizens felt that the veterans of all wars should be recognized, not just those of WWI. So in 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Congress changed the name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. In 1978 the observance of Veterans Day was returned to November 11th by popular sentiment and is why we honor it at the 11th hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month in remembrance of the original armistice day of World War I when hostilities came to an end between Germany and the allied powers followed by the Treaty of Versailles in 1919.

Montana Veterans Memorial Committee, Inc.

PO Box 3524

Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524

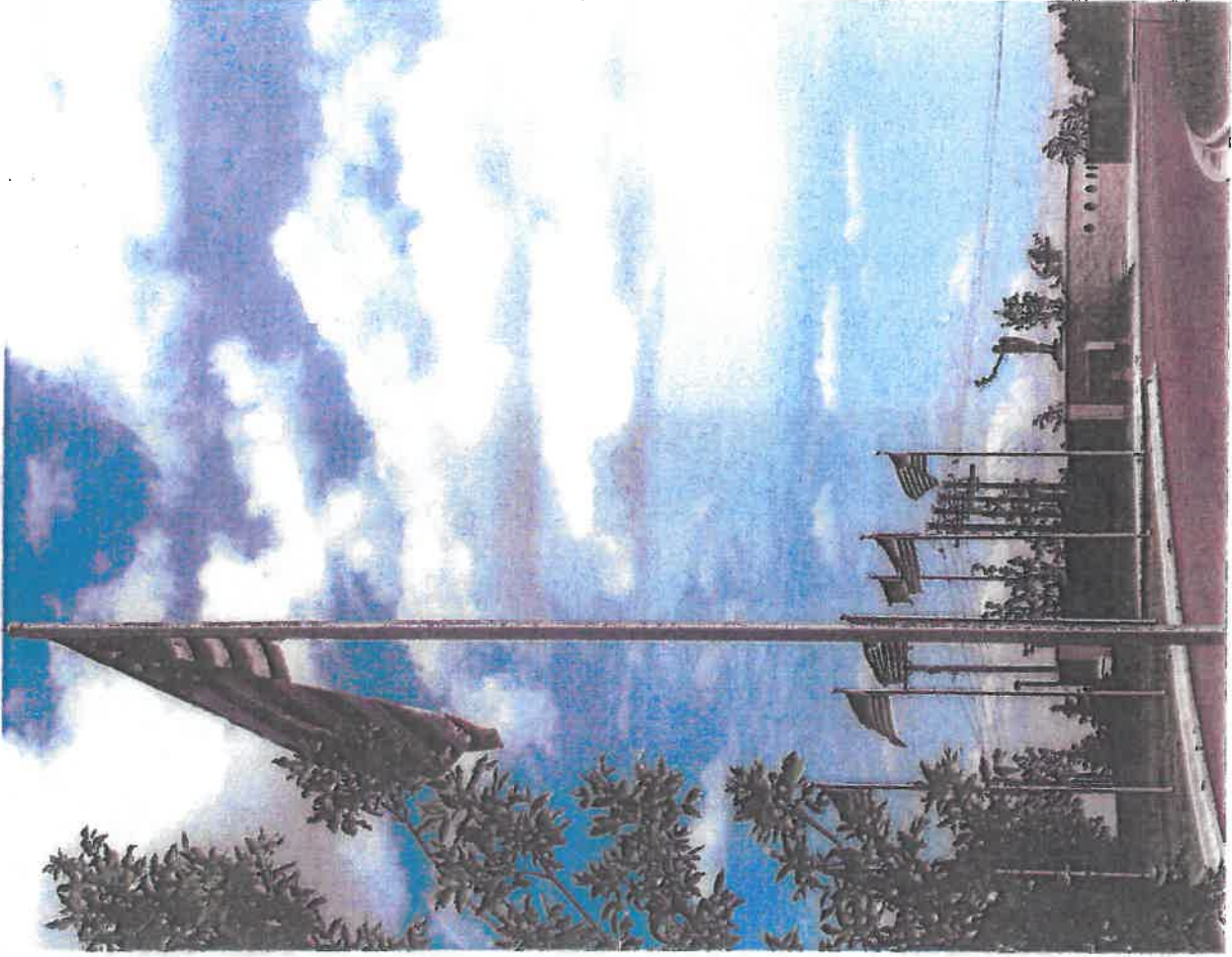
Phone (406) 454-9070

Website: www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

Non-Profit Tax ID #0530543



A PLACE OF HONOR



VETERANS DAY NOV. 11, 2010

Colonel John T. Patricola is the commander of the 341st Mission Support Group, Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana. As commander, he provides the critical war-fighting and peacetime support to the 341st Missile Wing.

Colonel Patricola enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1979. After completing his tour of duty in 1983, he left the service to complete his education. He was a distinguished graduate of Officer Training School and commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Force in 1987. He served as Deputy Group commander, 3rd Combat Communications Group and was the eighth squadron commander of the 31st Combat Communications Squadron when he deployed to Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Colonel Patricola also held diverse leadership positions at many levels. He is a graduate of the National War College in Washington, D.C. in 2007, and recipient of the Bronze Star.

**MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
MISSION STATEMENT**

To honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America in peace and war. Veteran defined as any man or woman of any age who has served in any branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity. To honor men and women, living and deceased equally.

To accept funds from contributions, grants, family memorials and donations for granite tiles with the veterans name and branch of service engraved.

Perpetuate and maintain this memorial with the support of our community, state, military and veterans organizations; to be known as:

A PLACE OF HONOR

**MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL
Veterans Day Ceremony
11:00 a.m. - November 11, 2010**

Master of Ceremonies..... Rodger McConnell,
Montana Veterans Memorial Assoc.

Welcome..... Gina McDermott, President,
Montana Veterans Memorial Assoc.

Presentation of the Colors..... Malmstrom USAF Honor Guard,
Veterans Groups

Invocation Chaplain Kenneth E. DuVall,
Capt., USAF

National Anthem Becca Hardin, CMR

Pledge of Allegiance..... Cascade County 4-H

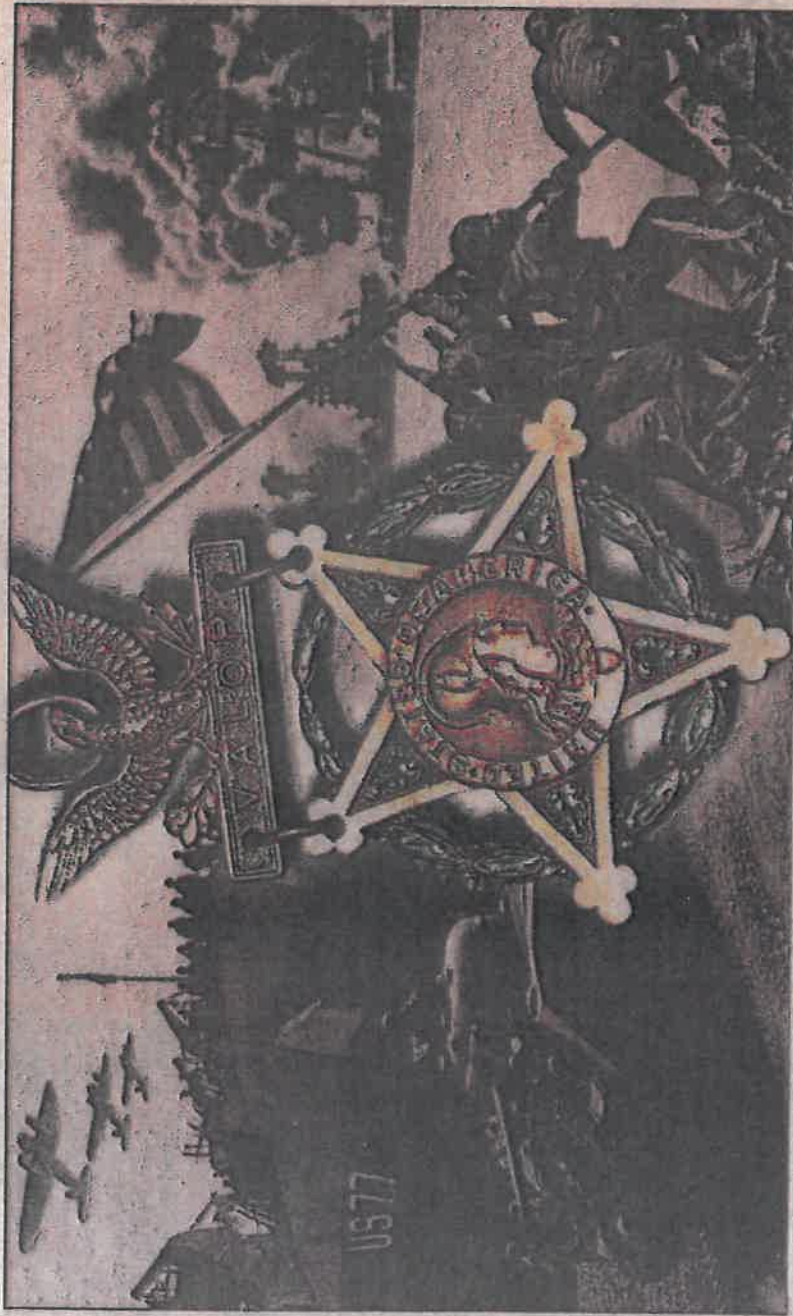
Guest Speaker..... Colonel John Patricola, Commander,
341st Mission Spt. Gp, USAF

Benediction Father Paul McKane, Blessed Sacrament

Taps..... Marine Corp League



Medal of Honor winners



Galt



Parrish



Ruhl



Schauer

Sponsored by

MIDWAY RENTAL

Quality Equipment - Smart Solutions

Prepare For Winter!
Special On Propane
100 lb Tank &
Propane \$150.⁰⁰

WESTERN MASTERS
EST. 2010
Auctioneering & Art Sales
Beginning a New Tradition

New show picks up art sale tradition

By KRISTEN CATES
Tribune Staff Writer

Western art lovers who were concerned that the cancellation of the C.M. Russell Art Auction would bring an end to the popular exhibitors' show that filled the Heritage Inn each March can breathe easy.

The new Western Masters Art Show, "Beginning a New Tradition," will pick up right where the old show left off.

"We're doing extremely well," show co-creator Steve Cawdrey said Wednesday. "Basically every room is sold out."

Organizers have 142 artists booked in 108 rooms, Cawdrey said. About 115 of the artists are returning from shows in previous years. The remaining artists were chosen from among 33 new

6 Month

A brief, illustrated look at the history of Montana's Indian tribes /6M

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE

MONTANA'S NEWSPAPER

Extra 5¢ per pound for your aluminum cans

Good Only November 11th thru 15th

STEEL ETC America Recycles Help in your GET 1408 52nd

Few details in domestic incident /1M

All-Class State Volleyball under way /1S

weekend for entertainment in Great Falls and region

2, 2010

Great Falls, Montana

www.greatfallstribune.com

A day to remember



TRIBUNE PHOTO/RICH SANDERS

Malmstrom Honor Guard presents the flag during Thursday's Veterans Day Ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial.

City stops to thank veterans

Wednesday, November 10, 2010

corrections: Call
ditor Dan Hollow
1 or 800-438-6600;
eatfalltribune.com
888-424-TRIB(8742)

Montana

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE WWW.GREATFALLSTRIUNE.COM

Prepping for Veterans Day



Events to honor service members

By JAKE SORICH
Tribune Staff Writer

Great Falls and outlying communities host a variety of Veterans Day events Thursday to honor people serving or who have served in the armed services.

Here's a look at what's happening:

Great Falls Veterans Memorial

U.S. Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., and Col. John Patricola, commander of the 341st Mission Support Group at Malmstrom Air Force Base, will speak at the 11 a.m. celebration Thursday at the Montana Veterans Memorial at the intersection of River Drive and 25th Street North.

Rodger McConnell of the Montana Veterans Memorial Association will be the master of ceremonies, and the Malmstrom honor guard will present the colors. Becca Hardin from C.M. Russell High School will sing the national anthem, and the Rev. Paul McKane will give the benediction before the Marine Corps League ends the celebration with the playing of "Taps."

For more information, call 454-9070.



West Side VFW

The West Side VFW hosts a USO-style show, with a Bob Hope impersonator, starting at 3 p.m.

Veterans and military personnel are asked to wear their uniforms, and their significant others or spouses are asked to wear attire from the era in which the veteran was in active service. Music from the '40s, '50s and '60s will be played all night.

Snacks and finger food will be served and there is a drink special.

The hall's big-screen TV will show USO clips all day, and a dance contest will take place all evening for \$0.50 a dance, with proceeds going to cancer research.

All veterans, active-duty military and the public are welcome to attend this free event.

For more information, call 453-5682.

Procraft CARSTAR Military Day

In Great Falls, Procraft CARSTAR will hold two events Thursday with Van's IGA — a coffee and doughnuts gathering from 8 to 10 a.m. and a chicken lunch from noon to 2 p.m. The American Red Cross will be on hand with information on services it provides to military members, their families and veterans.

The event takes place at 917 Central Ave.

As part of the celebration, Procraft CARSTAR partners with the VFW Foundation on its "Return the Favor" national campaign, designed to boost morale and fill in governmental assistance gaps for troops and military families.

Great Falls-area residents can make a donation of \$5 and have their names featured on a "Return the Favor" dona-

See VETERANS DAY, 4M

Veterans Day: 5,000 names frame Great Falls memorial

FROM 1A

asked the crowd to remember four veterans helped found the scenic memorial along River Drive — a seven-year process concluding in 2006 — who have since died. They were Harry Keith, Donna Halvorson, Ernie Mathews and David Bissonnette.

Tiles containing the names of 5,000 area veterans and service members are now attached to the walls framing the memorial.

Noting the brisk, 37-degree temperature, retired Lt. Col. Richard Liebert said the crowd could "tough it out" as U.S. troops did during bitterly cold battles at Chosin Reservoir during the Korean War and the Battle of the Bulge in World War II.

Liebert also noted that a defense law approved by Congress last year formally changed flag protocol, authorizing the military and veterans to salute their hat rather than place their hand over their heart, when the U.S. flag is presented.

Jerry Cooper, 75, who served in the Montana Army National Guard during the Korean War, raised his hand in salute to his red, white and blue construction cap.

He and his sons are the masons who built the veterans memorial, he said, and he gets teary at ceremonies such as the one Thursday.



TRIBUNE PHOTO/KIMBALL BENNION

Children at Loy Elementary School sing during a Veterans Day assembly. Loy is the nearest school to Malmstrom Air Force Base, and many of the students' parents are veterans or on active duty.

Base-area school shows its red, white, blue

By KIMBALL BENNION
Tribune Staff Writer

It was standing-room only at Loy Elementary School's Veterans Day assembly.

The school nearest Malmstrom Air Force Base was filled with students primed to sing patriotic songs for their family members in the audience. Some of the parents were absent because they are deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan — a fact that gave these children of service men and women a reverence for Veterans Day that is usually foreign to elementary school students.

Principal Teresa Sprague called them "kid veterans."

"You are the children of those we are talking about," she told

the students during the assembly.

Much of it was standard school assembly fare — one group of children in tri-cornered hats made out of red, white and blue construction paper sang "Yankee Doodle." But the deep, personal meaning of Veterans Day for the Loy students became clear when a group of six students — one from each grade — read aloud what the word "honor" meant to them.

"Honor means helping people," said kindergartner Megan Toth.

Kaia Nelson, a fourth-grader used her father, a nurse deployed in Afghanistan, as an example of honor.

"My dad is helping sick and injured people in different

places," Kaia said.

"Every time I look at the flag, I think of you," said fifth-grader Marisa Menson.

"To me, honor is bravery and courage," said Carson Opela, a sixth-grader. "We cannot define honor, but honor can define us."

Carson ended by saying that honor also means staying strong when a loved one is deployed.

Sprague, who has been Loy's principal for two years, said she notices a maturity in the children that she hasn't seen in other schools, she said.

"These kids get it at a whole different level," Sprague said. "They learn it at school, they learn it at home."

Reach Tribune Staff Writer Kimball Bennion at 791-1462 or kbennion@greatfallstribune.com

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2010

Montana Veterans Memorial Countrywide event honors servicemen, women



TRIBUNE PHOTO/LARRY BECKNER

Sam Pappas places a wreath representing the U.S. Army at the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls on Saturday morning. Six wreaths were placed at the memorial on behalf of each branch of the military, and one more wreath honored prisoners of war and those missing in action. Services took place simultaneously around the country.

Relatively new ceremony stems from old tradition

By ERIN MADISON
Tribune Staff Writer

Saturday morning, tens of thousands of wreaths were placed at memorials and gravesites across the country, just as seven wreaths were hung at the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls.

"This is something that's done in unison across America," said Maj. Edward Olson of the Civil Air Patrol.

The seven wreaths honored those who

“

When families who have lost loved ones go out there and see the wreaths, they know we haven't forgotten them.

— Capt. Lesli Olson of the Civil Air Patrol

”

nearly two decades ago, when a wreath company from Maine donated and placed wreaths on the land

wreaths were hung by more than 100,000 volunteers in activities across the country

Wreaths

FROM 1M

wreaths on headstones at Highland Cemetery.

"When families who have lost loved ones go out there and see the wreaths, they know we haven't forgotten them," local event organizer Capt. Lesli Olson of the Civil Air Patrol said.

Saturday's wreath ceremony, which included a flyover by two Malmstrom Air Force Base helicopters, was a chance to remember that America's freedom hasn't come without sacrifices.

"The freedoms we enjoy have not come without a high price," said retired Air Force Lt. Col. Joe Macklin, who gave the tribute speech Saturday.

The event

For more information about Wreaths Across America or to sponsor a wreath for next year's event, visit www.wreath-sacrossamerica.org.

Men and women are serving

across the country and in far-away nations to defend democracy, he said.

"We honor them and we honor their families for the sacrifices they make every day," Macklin said.

He encouraged those in attendance to take a moment to thank a veteran or a member of the armed forces whenever they cross paths.

"By taking time to say thank you, you are spending a moment very well," Macklin said.

Reach Tribune staff writer Erin Madison at 791-1466, 800-438-6600 or emadison@greatfallstribune.com.

GREAT FALLS VETERANS MEMORIAL



WREATHS-ACROSS-AMERICA.ORG
REMEMBER - HONOR - TEACH

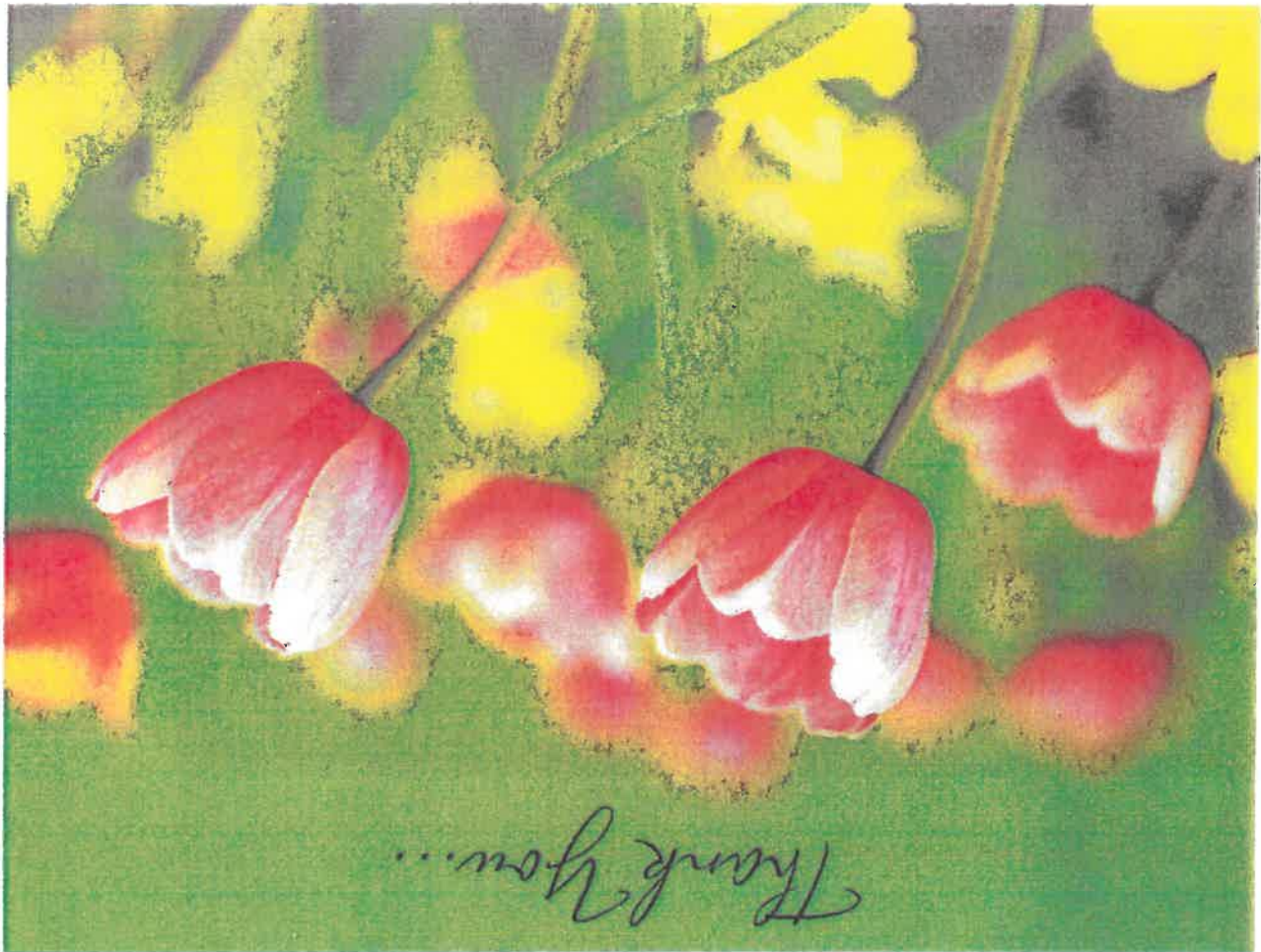
WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



Alma ~ Tom and I really appreciate being asked
to join you for the dinner, it was
wonderful. What a great group of dedicated
people. ~

For including us in
your recognition
dinner, we were honored.

Alma & Tom Fundis
H



God saw you were getting tired,
And a cure was not to be.
So He put His arms around you,
And whispered, "Come with Me."

With tearful eyes we watched you suffer
And saw you fade away.
Although we loved you dearly,
We could not make you stay.

A golden heart stopped beating
Hard-working hands to rest;
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.

IN MEMORY OF

David "Dave" Bissonette

Date and Place of Birth
July 7, 1948
Los Angeles, California

Date and Place of Death
August 14, 2010
Great Falls, Montana

Vigil Service
Hillcrest Lawn Chapel
Thursday, August 19, 2010
7:00 p.m.

Funeral Liturgy
Holy Spirit Catholic Church
Friday, August 20, 2010
10:00 a.m.

Military Honors
David Will Receive Military Honors at the
Veteran's Memorial Following the Funeral Liturgy

Presiding
Father Jay Peterson

Music
Sharon Quay, Accompanist
David Hinds, Vocalist

Honorary Pallbearers
All of Dave's Friends and Family

Reception to follow
Knights of Columbus Hall

Arrangements
Schneider Funeral Home

Command Sergeant Major (SCS) William D. Cooper is the senior NCO of Montana's National Guard and advises the Adjutant General on all matters regarding enlisted members of Montana's Air and Army National Guard. CSM Cooper enlisted in the USMC and served as a KC-130 loadmaster during his four years with the Marines. He joined the MTARNG in 1984 as a combat engineer, attended the University of MT, advanced in leadership positions and entered into full-time status in the 1063rd Engineers and rose to Operations NCO in 1995 with the 1st Bn, 163rd Infantry Regiment in Bozeman, where he went on to become First Sergeant of Co. D, Ops SGM, and CSM of the battalion and deployed to Iraq with them in 2005.

Upon return to Montana, he became the Ops SGM of the 95th Troop Command and became the 'Top NCO' in 1009. CSM Cooper's attended all of the Army's NCO development courses to include Sergeant Majors Academy in 2006. He and his family reside in Helena and his decorations include the Bronze Star, Combat Infantryman Badge and numerous meritorious service, good conduct and service decorations.

Mr. James W. Parkinson served nobly as the attorney for the survivors of the infamous Bataan death march of 1942 and others who were used as slave labor by Japanese corporations. He authored "Soldier-Slaves" which documented the struggle for justice and compensation and how the nation's congress, courts and administration abandoned them as it went to war in Iraq. Mr. Parkinson and his legal colleagues fought six years without being paid, and to quote him, "as long as I have a voice to tell their story, I will." Mr. Parkinson tours the country to tell the story of the "Battling Bastards of Bataan" to insure our Nation does not forget their unique sacrifice and service in WWII.

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

MISSION STATEMENT

To honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America in peace and war. A Veteran is defined as any man or woman of any age who has served in any branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity. To honor men and women, living and deceased equally.

Montana Veterans Memorial Committee, Inc.
 PO Box 3524 • Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524
 Phone (406) 454-9070

Website: www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

Memorial Day 30 May 2011 2 PM, Montana Veterans Memorial, Great Falls, MT

- Master of Ceremonies**..... Joe Fletcher,
 Montana Veterans Memorial/Assoc.
- Welcome**..... Gina McDermott, President,
 Montana Veterans Memorial/Assoc.
- Presentation of the Colors**..... Montana Veterans Groups &
 MANG/USAF Malmstrom Honor Guard
- Invocation**..... Chaplain Lt. Col. Michael E. Gilbert, USAF
- National Anthem**..... Mercedes Eve.
- Pledge of Allegiance**..... Young Marines
- Special Remarks**..... Michael Winters, Mayor, City of Great Falls
- Guest Speakers**..... Command Sergeant Major William Cooper,
 Montana National Guard;
 James W. Parkinson, author, "Soldier-Slaves",
 about America's WWII Bataan survivors
- Special Guests**..... Senator Jon Tester,
 Congressman Dennis Rehberg
- Salute to Montana's Fallen Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan** ..
 Gina Winters and joint service detail
- Amazing Grace**..... Jesse Callender, Pipe Sergeant,
 Great Falls Shrine Bagpipe Band,
- Benediction**..... Pastor Mercedes Tudy-Hamilton,
 Union Bethel Church
- Taps**..... Senator Jon Tester;
 Marine Corp League



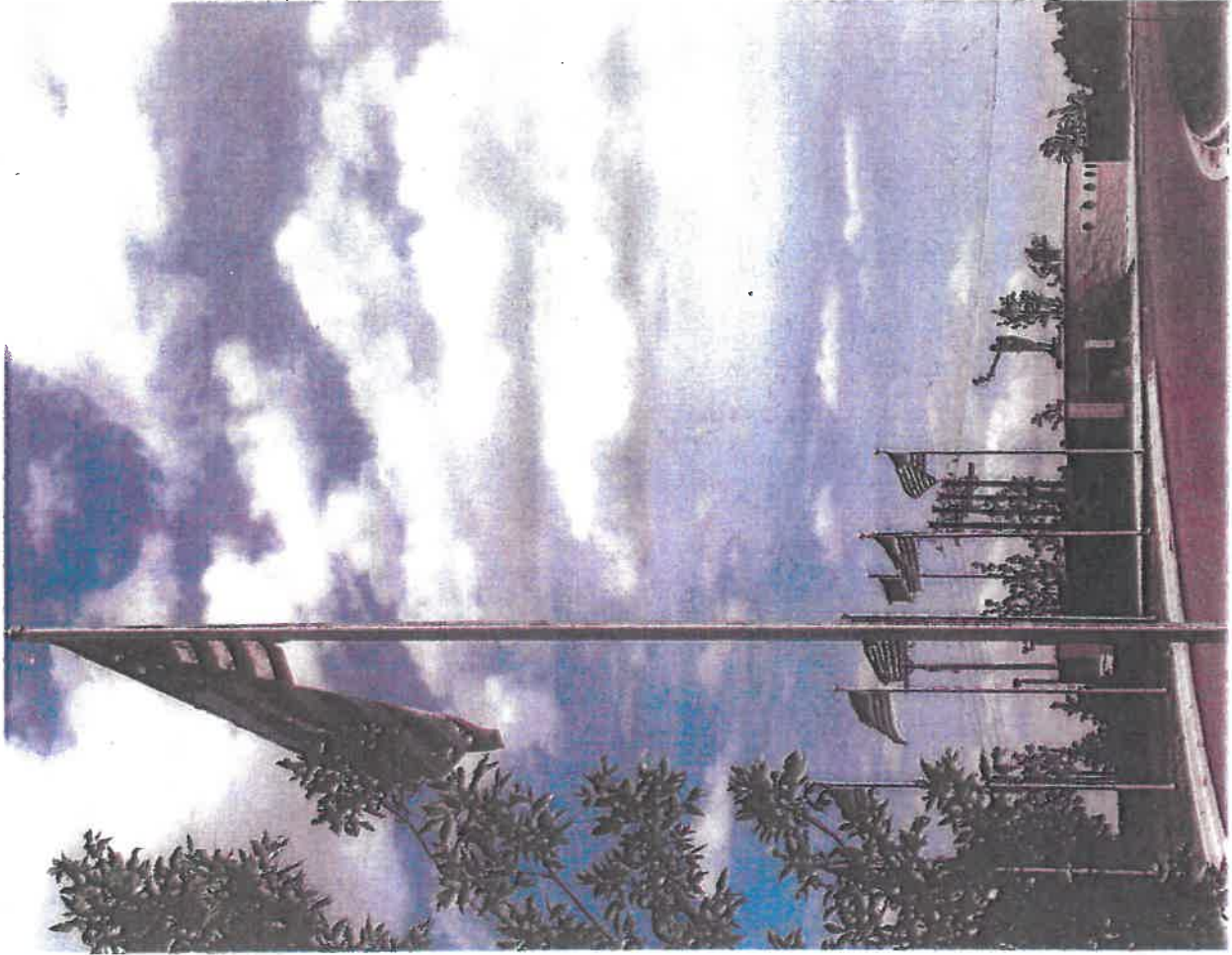
Montana's Fallen Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan

Army PFC **Kristofer Stonesifer**, Missoula
Army Reserve 1st Lt. **Edward Saltz**, Big Fork
Army PFC **Owen D. Witt**, Sand Springs
Marine Cpl. **Dean Pratt**, Stevensville
Marine Lance Cpl. **Kane Funke**, Kalispell
Army Staff Sgt. **Aaron Holleyman**, Glasgow
Marine Cpl. **Raleigh C. Smith**, Troy
Mt. Army NG Sgt. 1st Class **Robbie McNary**, Lewistown
Marine Lance Corporal **Nicholas Bloem**, Belgrade
Army 1st Lt. **Josh Hyland**, Missoula
Army Sgt. **Travis Arndt**, Great Falls
Marine PFC **Andrew Bedard**, Missoula
Army Cpt. **Michael MacKinnon**, Helena
Marine Cpl. **Phillip Baucus**, Wolf Creek
Marine Lance Cpl. **Jeremy Sandvick Monroe**, Chinook
Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class **Charles Komppa**, Absarokee
Army PFC **Shawn Murphy**, Butte
Marine Lance Cpl. **Nicklas Palmer**, Great Falls
Army Spc. **Scott Dykman**, Harrison
Army Spc. **James Riekema**, Missoula
Army PFC **Matthew Zeimer**, Glendive
Army Staff Sgt. **Shane Becker**, Helena
Army PFC **Kyle Bohmsen**, Phillipsburg
Army Spc. **Michael Frank**, Great Falls
Army SSG **Travis Atkins**, Bozeman
Army Spc. **Donald Young**, Helena
Army Staff Sgt. **Yance Gray**, Ismay
Army Cpt. **Andrew Pearson**, Billings
Army Sgt. **James A. McHale**, Fairfield
Marine Sgt. **Trevor Johnson**, Forsyth
Army Lt. Col. **Garnet R. Derby**, Missoula
Army Staff Sgt. **Terry Lynch**, Shepherd
Marine Cpl. **Nicholas Uzenski**, Bozeman
Army Sgt. **Jeremiah Whittman**, Darby
Army PFC, **Nicholas S. Cook**, Hungry Horse
Army Spc. **Jonathan A. Pilgeram**, Eden

Montana Ties:

Marine Lance Cpl. **Nathan Wood**
Army SSG **Patrick L. Lybert**
Army Sgt. **Lucas T. White**
Army Sgt. **Michael Sturdivant**
Army Sgt. **John K. Daggett**
Army Staff Sgt. **Shane Barnard**

A PLACE OF HONOR



MEMORIAL DAY 2011



MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3524 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-3524
406-454-9070

www.Montanaveteransmemorial.org



6-11-2011 letters to the Editor

PATRIOTIC GARDEN

The Great Falls Flower Growers Garden Club has planted a red, white and blue patriotic garden at the Montana Veterans Memorial. We try to do our part to make this place of honor as beauti-

ful as possible. We planted 225 petunias and 80 blue lobelia to add to the 130 vibrant red tulips that were blooming on the sides of the flower bed this spring. Each year since the completion of the Memorial in 2006, we have planted this garden — plus the three concrete planters — in honor of all veterans.

This was made possible by a monetary donation from the

MVM committee and a donation of 105 petunias from Flower Farm. Home Depot donated two flats of blue lobelia, one container of Preen Weed and Feed and three bags of Soil Pep. Mark and Jacque Finnicum donated the money for additional bags of potting soil. These donations were greatly appreciated, and it makes me proud to live in a community of so many caring people and busi-

nesses.

If you haven't had the opportunity to see our beautiful Montana Veterans Memorial, please take the time to visit.

You can see that freedom is not free, and I guarantee you will leave with a sense of pride, a tear in your eye and a lump in your throat.

— Galia Fundis,
Great Falls Flower Growers



MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3524 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-3524
406-454-9070

www.Montanaveteransmemorial.org



FRIDAY, MAY 27, 2011

JUST THE TICKET

Memorial Day ceremony features senator, mayor

By Tribune Staff

U.S. Sen. Jon Tester joins Great Falls Mayor Michael Winters and other dignitaries at the Memorial Day presentation at the Veterans Memorial on Monday in Great Falls. The ceremony starts at 2 p.m. at the intersection of River Drive and 25th Street North.

Joe Fletcher will serve as master of ceremonies. The program will begin with a welcoming speech by Gina Winters, the Montana Veterans Memorial Association president. Chaplain Michael Gilbert will give the invocation.

Great Falls native Mercede Eve will perform the national anthem, and the Young Marines will give the Pledge of Allegiance.

Winters will give special remarks before presenting guest speakers Command Sgt. Maj. William Cooper of the Montana Air National Guard

and author Jim Parkinson. Parkinson wrote "Soldier Slaves," which follows World War II American soldiers seeking restitution from Japanese companies that used them as slave laborers during the war.

The sea bell then will be sounded for each of the fallen soldiers in the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts, the Great Falls Shrine Bagpipe band under pipe Sgt. Jesse Callender will play "Amazing Grace" and the benediction will be given by Pastor Mercedes Hamilton of Union Bethel Church.

Tester will end the ceremony by playing taps.

While he is known more for his farming and political ventures than his musical ones, the junior Montana senator graduated from the College of Great Falls in 1978 with a degree in music.

For more information on Monday's ceremonies, call 454-9070.



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO/RION SANDERS

The Memorial Day ceremony at the Great Falls Veterans Memorial starts at 2 p.m. on Monday.

Father: Don't forget 'the brave'

By KRISTEN CATES
Tribune Staff Writer

Though Monday's rain changed the location of the Montana Veterans Memorial's Memorial Day commemoration, it didn't do anything to stop a large crowd of military supporters from attending and remembering.

Originally scheduled to be held in the outdoor Veterans Memorial, Monday's ceremony was quickly moved to the lobby and entryway of Cen-

tene Stadium. The floor, stairs and balcony above the entryway were packed with people there to honor and remember the sacrifices of past and present military members.

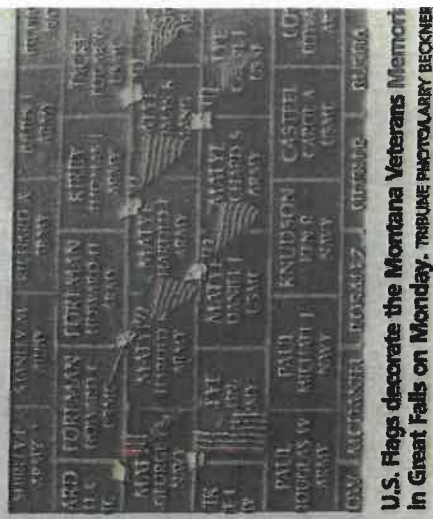
Brad Palmer, the father of Marine Lance Cpl. Nicklas Palmer of Great Falls who was killed in Iraq, addressed the crowd with tears in his eyes and a shaky voice.

He and his wife now reside in Colorado and are a "gold star" family, meaning they've lost a loved one in the line of duty.

See VETERANS, 5A



Palmer, left, Brad Palmer, center, and Nicklas Palmer, right, at the Memorial Day service at Centene Stadium. Photo by Larry Beckner.



U.S. Sen. Jon Tester plays taps during Memorial Day service Monday in Great Falls on Monday. TRIBUNE PHOTO/LARRY BECKNER



U.S. Sen. Jon Tester plays taps during Memorial Day service Monday at the Veterans Memorial in Great Falls. TRIBUNE PHOTO/LARRY BECKNER

Veterans: Sacrifices of military honored

Continued from 1A

in Colorado and are a "gold star" family, meaning they've lost a loved one in the line of duty.

For years, Memorial Day was a holiday and a vacation — time to be firing up the barbecue — until that fateful day of Dec. 16, 2006.



B. Palmer

"The following Memorial Days took on a new meaning for us," he said. "We are

the land of the free because of the brave."

Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., and Congressman Denny Rehberg, R-Mont., also were in attendance at Monday's ceremony.



N. Palmer

Tester took a moment to emphasize the need to do more for the soldiers who are injured in the line of duty.

"Those folks have our backs in the field of battle, but we need to have their backs when they come home," he said.

Rehberg made note of the importance of memorial sites, but urged the crowd to



Phillip Lee, who served in the U.S. Navy from 1944 to 1946, listens to the Memorial Day service Monday.

ONLINE MEMORIAL

Pictures, obituaries and news coverage of the 40-plus Montanan's who have died in Iraq, Afghanistan are posted at greatfallstribune.com/mtfallen

stones and to picture the faces of those who have served.

"We're pretty good at creating memorials — concrete and metal," he said. "Memorial Day is one of those that allows us to move beyond."

Reach Tribune Staff Writer

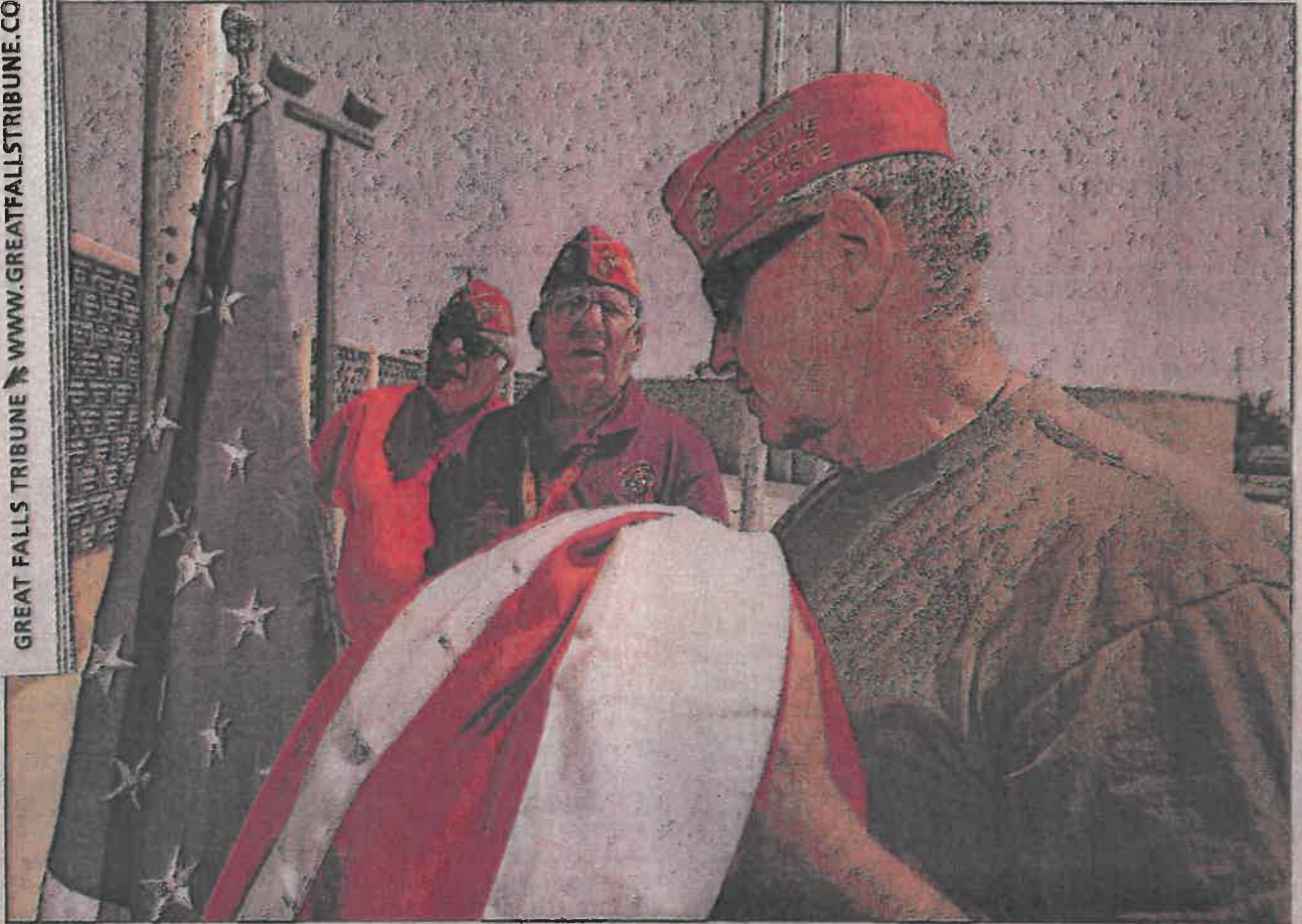


Keepers of the Flags

Thursday, July 7, 2011

MONTANA

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE WWW.GREATFALLSTribUNE.COM



Keepers of the Flags, all members of the Marine Corps League Detachment 688, from right, Herb Gilmour, Bill Rogers and Roger Arntson check the flags, buckles, and ropes of the flag poles Wednesday afternoon at the Montana Veterans Memorial. TRIBUNE PHOTO/ION SANDERS

Volunteers keep memorial banners ship-shape

By KRISTEN CATES
Tribune Staff Writer

Behind the shiny plaques and waving flags at the Montana Veterans Memorial, there is a team of volunteers dedicated to making the monument look its best.

"We want to make sure this place honors the veterans 24 hours a day, 365 days a year," Larry Malby said.

Malby and four other individuals, nicknamed the Keepers of the Flags, took over the job of maintaining the flags and monuments six months ago, after David Bissonnette died.

"It takes five us to do

what he did," Malby joked. "He did a great job."

Malby, along with Roger Arntson, Bill Rogers, Herb Gilmour and Jim Benner, all members of the Marine Corps League, were asked by the Montana Veterans Memorial Committee if they would be willing to take over the job of taking care of the flags and the memorial.

The job ended up being quite a bit of work.

Not only do they maintain the flags at the memorial, but the flags that are posted along Memorial Drive for special occasions.

When the president or governor order the flag to

be flown at half staff, Malby or the others must raise and lower the flags.

They also must exhibit proper etiquette when raising and lowering the flag. It doesn't matter if there is one person or several, they must always salute the flag as it is being raised or pulled off the pole.

"I'm up here every day. The other guys are on call," Malby said. "We take this very serious."

Malby said the Great Falls Tent and Awning Co. has agreed to help with repairs of the flags as needed, which he said he is exceptionally grateful for

since Montana's winters and springs can be hard on flags, and the group has limited funds.

For example, Malby said a rope broke on one of the flags at the entrance to the memorial. It cost \$250 to rent a cherry-picker truck to be able to reach and fix the rope.

Arntson said the Keepers of the Flags are just like mailmen — they're at the memorial in rain, wind, snow and sun.

"We consider it a duty and an honor," he said.

Reach Tribune Staff Writer Kristen Cates at 791-1463 or kcates@greatfallstribune.com

Veterans Day

By **JAKE SORICH**
Tribune Staff Writer

Northcentral Montana marks Veterans Day today with a host of events honoring those currently serving in the military and those who have served in the past.

Great Falls events include the Montana Veterans Memorial's salute to Korean War veterans.

Here's a look at what's going on in Great Falls and across the region.

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL

The Veterans Memorial in Great Falls is the backdrop for a program, "Remembering the Forgotten War, Korea 1950-1953," at 11 a.m. today to honor those who served in Korea.

Master of ceremonies will be Joe Fletcher, vice president of the Montana Veterans Memorial Association.

Gina Winters, president of the Montana Veterans Memorial Association, will give a welcoming speech, followed by the presentation of the colors from the Malmstrom Air Force Base Honor Guard.

Following that, Capt. Steven L. Survance, chaplain at Malmstrom, will read an invocation, and the national anthem will be sung by Sarah Hessler. Montana Boot Camp graduates will say the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Great Falls Shrine Pipe Band will perform "Amazing Grace."

The program's guest speaker will be Col. Heraldo B. Brual, commander of the 341st Missile Wing.

The U.S. Marine Corps League will hold a helmet and rifle memorial, and Dwayne Nelson and Paul Coollidge will provide Korean War Veteran reflections.

The program will be closed out with a benediction from Congregation Aitz Chaim and "Taps" performed by Toni Taylor, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.

Brual, the guest speaker, is responsible for the operation, maintenance and security of the intercontinental ballistic missile force in central Montana. Some of his highest decorations include the Legion of Merit with a bronze star.

Tomedi's speech, "No Bugles, No Drums: An Oral History of the Korean War," details how after 54,000 American died in the war and another 103,000 were injured, the men who fought

there largely were ignored.

For more information, call the memorial at 454-9070.

GREAT FALLS RESCUE MISSION

The Great Falls Rescue Mission will honor veterans at its ninth annual Veterans' Luncheon today at 11:11 a.m. in the men's shelter dining room. The luncheon is open to the public.

Veterans will be recognized and will receive a small gift of thanks for their service to the country.

Nearly 25 percent of rescue mission clients are veterans. The mission reaches out to homeless veterans through feeding, shelter, clothing, medical care and Christ-centered programs.

For more information, contact the mission at 788-8870.

PROCRAFT CARSTAR

In Great Falls, Procraft CARSTAR will hold two events today with Van's IGA. A coffee and doughnuts gathering runs from 8 to 10 a.m. and a chicken lunch is from noon to 2 p.m. The American Red Cross will be on hand with information on services it provides to military members, their families and veterans. The events take place at 917 Central Ave.

WESTSIDE VFW

The Westside VFW holds a Veteran's Day dinner at 1 p.m. open to the general public. They will serve deep-fried turkey, mashed potatoes, salads and desserts. They will hold a second dinner on Saturday starting at 5 p.m. All veterans, active-duty military and the public are welcome to attend the free event. For more information, call 453-5682.

GREAT FALLS VFW NO. 1087

The VFW Post No. 1087 will serve a free dinner for veterans at 6 p.m. For more information, contact the VFW at 454-1166.

GOLDEN CORRAL

The Great Falls restaurant holds its 2011 Military Appreciation Day on Monday from 5 to 9 p.m.

Last year, nationwide Golden Corral welcomed more than 375,000 of the nation's active duty troops and military veterans into its restaurants and served a free thank-you meal in honor of their service and sacrifice.



The Malmstrom Air Force Base Honor Guard presents the colors during Friday's Veterans Day ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial. TRIBUNE PHOTO/LARRY BECKNER



MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3524 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-3524
406-454-9070

www.Montanaveteransmemorial.org



Veteran receives Purple Heart Award Certificate

From Tribune reports

Before more than 100 Montanans lending their support, Sen. Jon Tester honored a Vietnam veteran Monday with recognition 45 years overdue.

At the VFW in Great Falls, Marvin Brewster, who was wounded in combat in 1966, was presented with the Purple Heart Award Certificate and six other decorations.

Brewster, a lifelong resident of Great Falls, received his Purple Heart



Brewster

medal years ago, but it was never entered into his official records. After looking into the case, Tester secured a revised discharge form to "fix the record once and for all." In doing so, it was discovered that Brewster had not received several other decorations he earned in Vietnam.

"These decorations are small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service."

See PURPLE HEART, 3M

NEW 15-2011

Purple Heart

Continued from 1M

Tester said at the ceremony. "They are presented on behalf of a grateful nation that wishes you and your family the very best in the future."

During the ceremony, praise of Brewster from his former commander, Col. C.H. Bodley, in 1966, was shared.

"Your eagerness to serve, unswerving loyalty and professional ability have earned you the respect and confidence of all who have been associated with you," Bodley wrote. "It is indeed a pleasure to have men of your cal-

highly commend you for a job well done."

Brewster and his wife Marylou were joined at the ceremony by their daughters Becky and Katie and their grandchildren. Brewster contacted Tester's office after he applied for VA medical benefits, but was denied certain care because the VA did not have record of his Purple Heart.

"May history show that there is no question you are — and have been — an honored recipient of the Purple Heart," Tester said as he handed Brewster an updated discharge form.

In addition to the Purple Heart, Brewster received the Navy Good Conduct Medal,

Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, the Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon, the Combat Action Ribbon and the Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device.

Brewster remains active in the Great Falls community, volunteering at Toys for Tots, the Marine Corps League and the Great Falls Farmers Market. An artist, Brewster also sculpted the 13-foot angel statue at the Montana Veterans' Memorial in Great Falls.

"Through all of his work in this community, Marv never asked for recognition," Tester said. "He just did as all Marines do — the very best he could on behalf of his



Honoring our veterans



ABOVE: Bill Rogers, U.S. Marine Corps League, places a helmet on a rifle memorial during Friday's Veterans Day ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial. BELOW: Cpl. Toni Taylor, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, plays taps. TRIBUNE PHOTO/LARRY BECKNER

Ceremony recognizes 'bedrock of patriotism'

By RICHARD ECKE
Tribune Staff Writer

Wind gusts nearing 40 miles an hour had flag-bearers struggling to keep their flags earthbound at a Veterans Day ceremony Friday at the Montana Veterans Memorial near Centene Stadium in Great Falls.

None of the flags managed to escape skyward as officials paid tribute to veterans from past centuries — and to those serving today — as nearly 100 peo-

ple looked on.

Col. Heraldo B. Brual, commander of the 341st Missile Wing at Malmstrom Air Force Base, praised past and present military members who answered the call and served "with few comforts in the face of great danger."

Brual also paid tribute to the families and loved ones of veterans and active-duty personnel.

"You are truly the bedrock of patriotism," Brual said.

The commander noted



Veterans Day originated in the wake of World War I, as fighting ceased in Europe on the "11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month" on Nov. 11, 1918. The holiday first was known as

Armistice Day.

Veterans Day honors all veterans, while Memorial Day honors veterans who have died.

See VETERANS, 3A



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2011

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE WWW.GREATFALLSTRIEBUNE.COM

Veterans

Continued from 1A

Veterans were plentiful in the crowd Friday, including Le Roy Wesche, who served as an Army infantryman in the Korean War in 1953.

Conditions in that war were primitive at times, said Wesche, who enlisted at age 18 and arrived in Korea about six months before the war ended.

"It made me the man that I am today," Wesche added. He said he often thinks about soldiers, airmen and others in the military who are far from home.

"I worry about these kids over there today," Wesche said.

The ceremony Friday also recognized Nicholas C. Himber of Missoula, who wore his tan service uniform from the Korean War, dubbed "The Forgotten War" by some.

Himber did communications work during the Korean War, which ran from 1950 to 1953. Himber said that one time during the war the vehicle in which he was riding came under fire. His driver was decapitated, and Himber took refuge for three days in a foxhole.

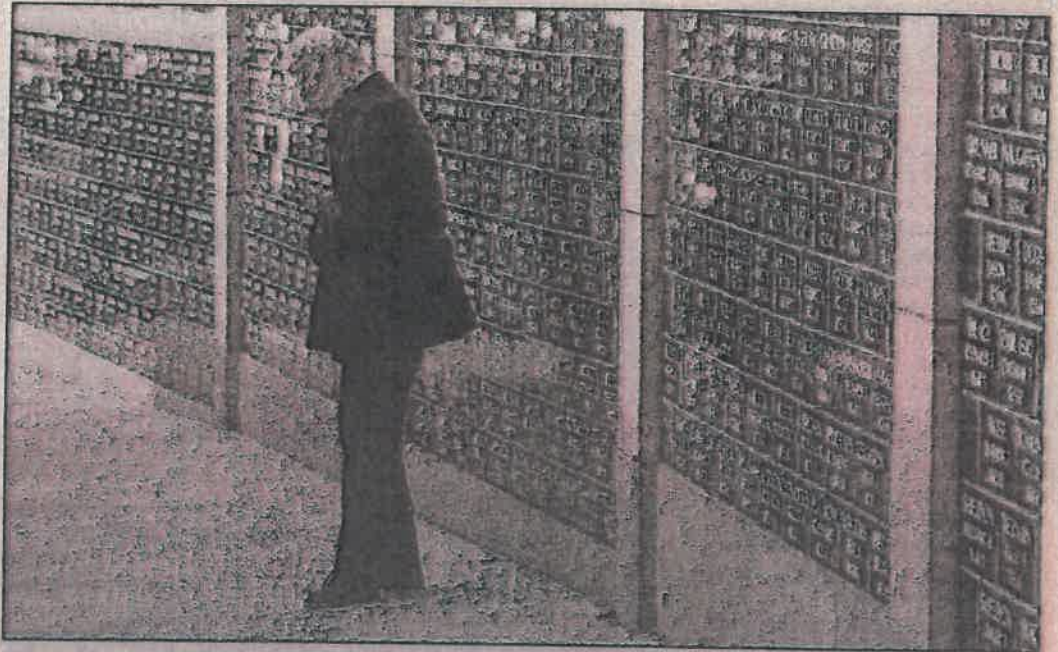
Eventually, help arrived.

"They told him he had a daughter," said Gina Winters, president of the memorial, reading from an account by Himber's daughter, Tina. "She was born on the Fourth of July."

Himber lost most of his hearing in the war, and finally may be getting a handle on jungle rot he picked up in Korea, Winters said.

Music at the event included "Amazing Grace" on bagpipes, and Sarah Hessler singing the national anthem.

Another Korean War veteran, Paul Coolidge, remembered a time he and other Marines took refuge in a foxhole in the dark in September 1951. They were



Eriene Mavuranich looks for her husband's tile at the Montana Veterans Memorial Friday morning. Mavuranich's husband, Joe, served in the United States Army in World War II. See more images from the event in an online photo gallery at www.greatfallstribune.com. TRIBUNE PHOTO/LARRY BECKNER



Col. Heraldo B. Brual, Commander 341st Missile Wing, USAF, speaks during Friday's Veterans Day ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial. TRIBUNE PHOTO/LARRY BECKNER

smell and found the hole to be sticky.

In the morning, "we saw that the bottom of the foxhole was full of blood," Coolidge told the crowd. A battle between Allied and Chinese

shrapnel flying.

Coolidge was hit by shrapnel and had to be evacuated under heavy fire. The soldiers helping Coolidge would set him on the ground, fire their weapons at the enemy, and then move

FREE MEAL FOR VETS MONDAY

Golden Corral restaurant holds its 2011 Military Appreciation Day from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday.

Last year, Golden Corral welcomed more than 375,000 of the nation's active-duty troops and military veterans into its restaurants nationwide and served a free thank-you meal in honor of their service and sacrifice.

"Eventually, we made it to the helicopter," he said.

Coolidge spent time in a hospital, and finally was sent back to San Diego in March 1952.

Brual said that while military people are treated well by the public today in airports and other places, those who served in Korea and Vietnam were not as fortunate. All should be recognized for their service, he said.

"There's getting to be fewer of us," the 78-year-old Wesche

Thursday, May 3, 2012

For corrections: Call
Scott Thompson
406-438-6600;
greatfallstribune.com
Fax: 888-424-TRIB(8742)

MONTANA

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE | WWW.GREATFALLSTRIUNE.COM

- Obituaries
- Statistics
- State news
- Chatter
- Comics

Montana Veterans' Memorial

Addition project begins



Ken Reiner, left, and Seth Phelps of Dick Olson Construction set up forms as an expansion project begins at the Montana Veterans' Memorial on Wednesday afternoon. TRIBUNE PHOTO/ION SANDERS

Expansion will add 5,000 name tiles

By RICHARD ECKE
Tribune Staff Writer

Workers have begun building an addition onto the Montana Veterans' Memorial at 25th Street and River Drive North.

DONATE TO THE PROJECT

To donate to the expansion project, write: Montana Veterans' Memorial, P.O. Box 3524, Great Falls MT 59403.

into debt for it. We've had great money management. Our committees are very diligent."

Winters added workers will install a copper roof on a kiosk inside the memorial in place of a plastic roof that has not held up.



MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3524 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-3524
406-454-9070

www.Montanaveteransmemorial.org



Community activist, vet dies of cancer

Ex-Marine sculpted veterans' statue

By RICHARD ECKE
Tribune Staff Writer

Marv Brewster played "Taps" beautifully on his trumpet during community events and at veterans' funerals over the years.

Now tears will flow for Brewster himself, who died at age 66 Monday night at home after falling ill with cancer.

Veterans Administration doctors in Helena said the small-cell cancer, which later spread through his body, appeared to have been caused by the use of the chemical defoliant Agent Orange, which was used by the American military in Vietnam, his wife said

Brewster, a Marine Corps veteran, ran the Great Falls Farmers Market for several years and sculpted a dramatic statue at the Montana Veterans Memorial.

See the full obituary for Marvin Brewster inside /2M

He also volunteered for the Marine Toys for Tots program for seven years.

"He loved doing Toys for Tots," said his wife of 35 years, Marylou. "He worried about the kids every year."

The couple met in Lincoln, where she was from, and he was a logger.

See ACTIVIST, 3M

Marvin M. Brewster

Marvin M. Brewster, 66, of Great Falls, an artist and U.S. Navy veteran, died of lung cancer caused by Agent Orange, Monday, May 7, at his residence.

His funeral service is 10 a.m. Saturday at Corpus Christi Catholic Church. Military honors will follow at Montana State Veterans Memorial on River Drive Great Falls. Schneider Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Marvin is survived by his wife, Marylou Brewster of Great Falls; daughters Becky Smith, Katie Brewster and Dee Miller of Great Falls; brothers Phil Brewster of Lusk, Wyo., Stan Brewster and Jim Brewster; and six grandchildren.

RECORDS

Activist: 'The most laid-back guy you ever met'

Continued from 1M

Mayor Michael Winters, who helped found the Veterans Memorial at 25th Street and River Drive North in Great Falls, noted Brewster's angel statue at the memorial reflected the fact that five troopers died in Brewster's arms during the Vietnam War.

"I'm heartbroken," Winters said. "He was a people person. He wasn't afraid to give a hug. He was a quiet sort of a

guy. He didn't go around boasting."

"He was probably the most laid-back guy I ever met in my life," Marylou said, noting Brewster grew up on a ranch in Wyoming.

Marylou said Brewster was a corpsman in the Marines, providing medical treatment to the wounded on the battlefield in Vietnam, after initially enlisting in the U.S. Navy.

Her husband suffered from

nightmares the rest of his life. The angel statue — featuring dog tags in the statue's right hand and doves being released by the left arm — was his attempt to honor those with whom he served in Vietnam, his wife said.

"He didn't even get help for his PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) until he was in his 60s," Marylou said.

The nightmares never completely left him. The couple

spent nearly all their time together in Great Falls.

"He did so much for the community," added Rosanne Hatzenbeller, a friend of the family. "He had a big heart."

Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Saturday at Corpus Christi Catholic Church at 410 22nd Ave. NE, with military honors at the Veterans Memorial. A party in his honor will follow at the VFW club at 4123 10th Ave. S.

For comments, tips or corrections:
 Call Business Editor Jo Dee Black,
 406-791-6502 or 800-438-6600,
 or email the editorial board at
 tribletters@greatfallstribune.com

VIEWPOINTS

Editorial board (our opinion)
 » Jim Strauss, Publisher & Editor
 » Jo Dee Black, Business Editor
 » Rich Ecke, Reporter

Help remember our veterans by supporting the memorial

In April 2004 at a Friday night USO remembrance event at the Civic Center, the Arnold Nicholls Big Band played as uniformed veterans reminisced about their days in the military and the importance of recognizing those who served. And the "Warrior Angel," a 13-foot bronze statue created by Marvin Brewster, is unveiled.

TRIBUNE OPINION

Alice Hendryx, 84 the time, was in the Coast guard nearly three years. During World War II she was a pharmacist's mate first class. The statue clutches dog tags, and Hendryx said the first few times she saw the tags it brought tears to her eyes. "When someone was injured or came in that was the first thing people looked at — the tags," she said. Today the statue stands at

HOW TO DONATE
 Donations can be sent to: Montana Veterans Memorial, P.O. Box 3524, Great Falls, MT 59403.
 Or go to www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

into debt for it. We've had great money management. Our committees are very diligent." That diligent stewardship means this military community has an honorable tribute to men and women, living and deceased, who served our country during times of peace and war. The "Warrior Angel," is releasing doves in the other hand. In addition to generous

monetary donations, the Montana Veterans Memorial received in-kind and discontinued services from professionals and suppliers, as well as labor from civilian and military volunteers. Today, people can't help resting a hand against the granite tiles. Some even lean over to press their lips against the black markers that honor living and deceased veterans.

When the visitors walk away, they walk away moved. "They always seem to be leaving with moist eyes," said Winters. "It changed it completely from bricks and mortar to something really emotional and something really personal." Thanks to the generosity of many, we have a fitting tribute to citizens who all deserve our gratitude.

BREWSTER BACKER OF MEMORIAL CITY

Our community lost a general supporter of the Montana Veterans Memorial this week when Marvin Brewster died Monday after falling ill with cancer.



Brewster is the artist and Marine Corps veteran who sculpted the "Warrior Angel," for the memorial. Five troopers died in Brewster's arms during the Vietnam War. He provided medical treatment to the wounded on the battlefield in Vietnam, after initially enlisting in the U.S. Navy. The angel statue was his attempt to honor those with whom he served, said his widow. In addition to his work on

the memorial, Brewster ran the Great Falls Farmers Market for years. He was the tireless force behind the local Toys for Tots program. His cancer likely was because of exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam, his wife said. Brewster also carried internal scars from the war, suffering nightmares through out his life. "He didn't even get help to his PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) until he was in his 60s," Marylou Brewster said. Veterans deserve nothing less than tributes such as the Montana Veterans Memorial. Marvin Brewster is a superb example of why.

OBITUARIES

Marvin M. Brewster

Marvin M. Brewster, 66, of Great Falls, an artist and U.S. Navy veteran, died of lung cancer caused by Agent Orange Monday, May 7, at his residence.



Brewster

His funeral is 10 a.m. Saturday at Corpus Christi Catholic Church. Military honors will follow at Montana State Veteran's Memorial on River Drive in Great Falls. Schneider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

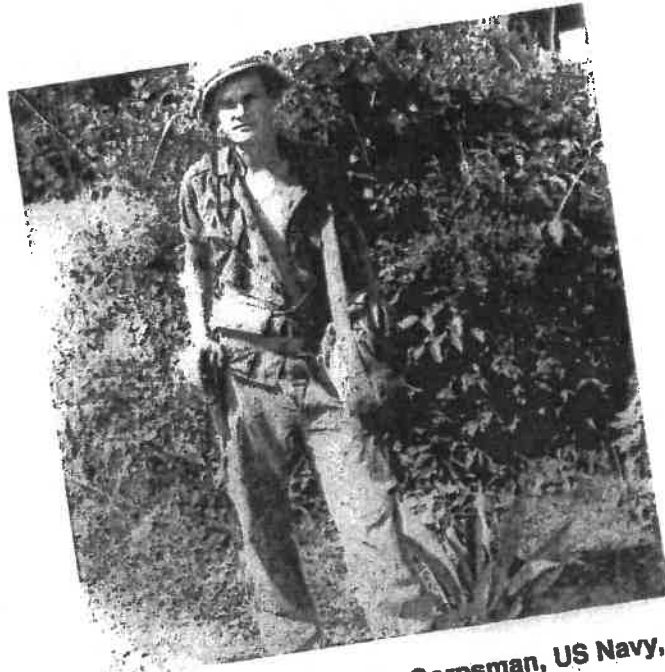
Marv was born on March 27, 1946, in Lusk, Wyo., to Stanford and Mary Ann Brewster. He was raised and educated in Lusk. Marv joined the U.S. Navy in 1964, serving with the Marines as a corpsman. He served time in Vietnam and left the military in 1968.

Marv married Marylou Perki on June 11, 1977, in Lincoln. Marv had various jobs over the years. He was a cowboy, logger, high climber for a tree service company and manager of the Farmers' Market, but his love was always his artwork. One of his most notable pieces of artwork is the "Warrior Angel" statue at the Montana Veterans Memorial.

Marv was a member of Marine Corps League Detachment 688, the Marine Corps League Honor Guard and VFW Post 1087. He proudly volunteered for the northcentral Montana Toys for Tots program for the past ten years and was coordinator for the past seven years. He was also a diehard Seattle Seahawks fan.

Marv is survived by his wife of 35 years, Marylou; daughters Becky Smith, Katie Brewster and Dee Miller; son-in-law Zack Smith; grandchildren Josh Brewster, Jarod Weathers, Hannah Luedtke, Abbi Smith, Payton Brewster and Ava Smith; brothers Stan, Phil and Jim Brewster; and many loving family members and friends.

Marv was preceded in death by his parents and stepmother LeBrie Brewster.



Marvin 'Doc' Brewster, 1946-2012, Corpsman, US Navy, 1966-1968

CORPSMEN IN GREEN

As a Corpsman in Green and not Navy blue, I offer this poem from a Doc's point of view. We've been honored by stories, poems and such, by Marines we have served with and respect so much.

They speak of our honor, bravery and skill, and the cry, "Corpsman Up" still gives me a chill. When a Marine goes down, what will it be? A trachea? Tie off bleeders? Start and IV?

Only one thing is certain as we rush to the scene, our ass will be covered by our brothers in green. You see, we're adopted "Sons of the Corps." Nor more "Anchors Away" — it's "Semper Fi" evermore.

It's true when your wounded, your life's in our hands, and we'll treat and protect you to the very last man.

For you are our point man, our cover, our shield, and we count on your skills all our days in the field.

Many a grunt laid his life on the line, to make sure Doc go to the wounded in time.

So, my brothers, I thank you, as all we Docs should.

It's you who make us Corpsman look good.

Psalm 91:11-12

¹¹For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways.
¹²In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

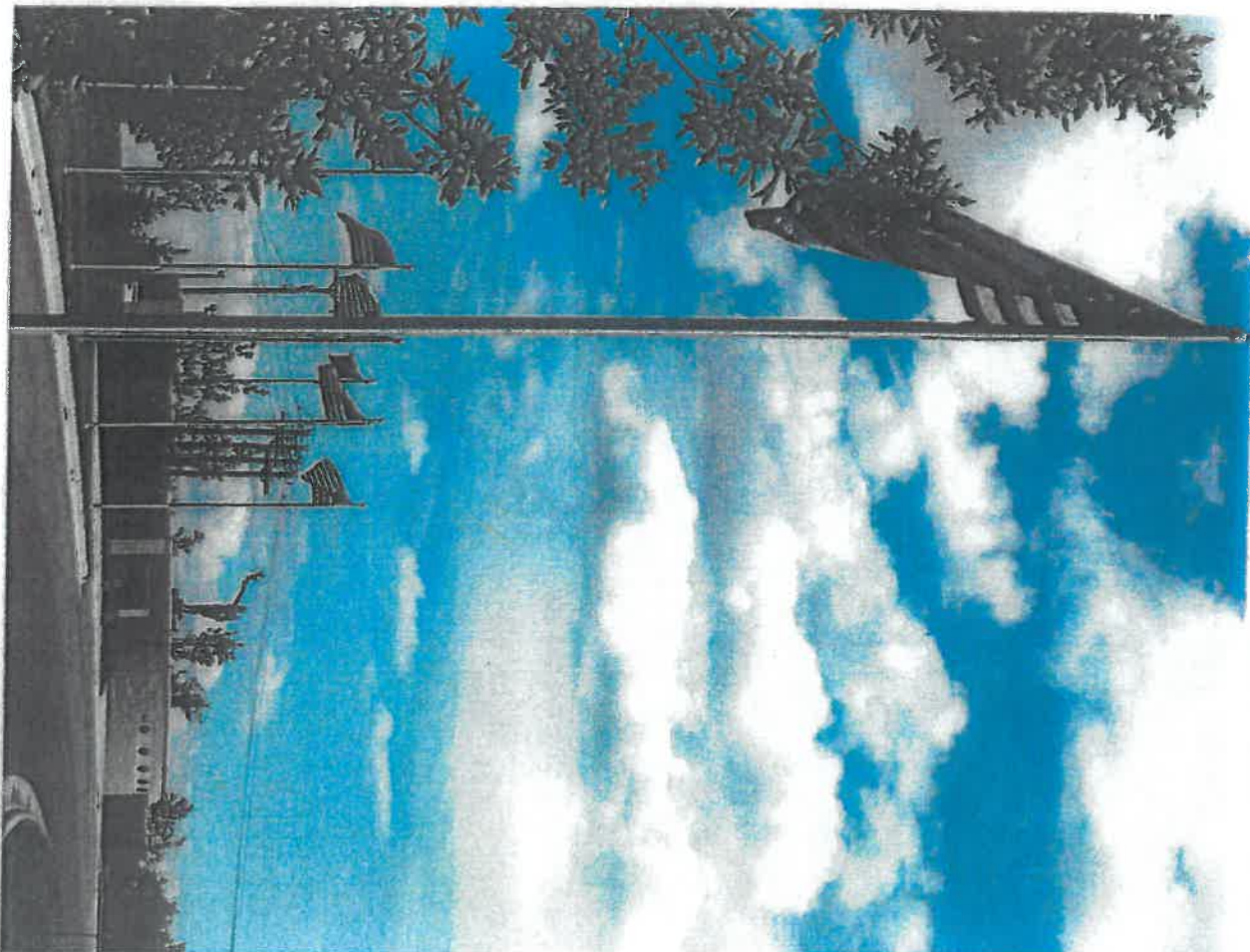
Montana's Fallen Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan

Army PFC Kristofer Stonesifer, Missoula
Army Reserve 1st Lt. Edward Saltz, Big Fork
Army PFC Owen D. Witt, Sand Springs
Marine Cpl. Dean Pratt, Stevensville
Marine Lance Cpl. Kane Funke, Kallispell
Army Staff Sgt. Aaron Holleyman, Glasgow
Marine Cpl. Raleigh C. Smith, Troy
Mt. Army NG Sgt. 1st Class Robbie McNary, Lewistown
Marine Lance Corporal Nicholas Bloem, Belgrade
Army 1st Lt. Josh Hyland, Missoula
Army Sgt. Travis Arndt, Great Falls
Marine PFC Andrew Bedard, Missoula
Army Cpt. Michael Mackinnon, Helena
Marine Cpl. Phillip Baucus, Wolf Creek
Marine Lance Cpl. Jeremy Sandvick Monroe, Chinook
Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Charles Kompka, Absarokee
Army PFC Shawn Murphy, Butte
Marine Lance Cpl. Nicklas Palmer, Great Falls
Army Spc. Scott Dykman, Harrison
Army Spc. James Riekena, Missoula
Army PFC Matthew Zelmer, Glendive
Army Staff Sgt. Shane Becker, Helena
Army PFC Kyle Bohrsen, Phillipsburg
Army Spc. Michael Frank, Great Falls
Army SSG Travis Atkins, Bozeman
Army Spc. Donald Young, Helena
Army Staff Sgt. Yance Gray, Ismay
Army Cpt. Andrew Pearson, Billings
Army Sgt. James A. McHale, Fairfield
Marine Sgt. Trevor Johnson, Forsyth
Army Lt. Col. Garnet R. Derby, Missoula
Army Staff Sgt. Terry Lynch, Shepherd
Marine Cpl. Nicholas Uzenski, Bozeman
Army Sgt. Jeremiah Whitman, Darby
Army PFC. Nicholas S. Cook, Hungry Horse
Army Spc. Jonathan A. Pilgeram, Eden
Army PFC. Michael A. Rogers, White Sulphur Springs
Marine Cpl. Stewart S. Trejo, Whitefish
Army PFC Daren A. Smith, Helena
Army PVT Timothy J. Hutton, Dillon
Army Spc. Antonio Bunside (Many Hides), Browning
Navy Tech Airman Andrew Scott Charpentier, Great Falls
Army Staff Sgt Thaddeus S. Montgomery, West Yellowstone

Montana Ties:

Marine Lance Cpl. Nathan Wood
Army SSG Patrick L. Lybert
Army Sgt. Lucas T. White
Army Sgt. Michael Sturdivant
Army Sgt. John K. Daggett
Army Staff Sgt. Shane Barnard

A PLACE OF HONOR



MEMORIAL DAY 2012

Corpsman, who was one of our 'Battlefield Angels' - the medics, evacuation teams, doctors, nurses, medical staffs and counselors - who have and continue to heal our wounded warriors in body, heart and minds as demonstrated by our distinguished guest speakers below:

Tony Rizzo, USAF (Ret.) - Tony retired in 1983 with 22 years in the USAF and served in Air Rescue and Recovery in Vietnam, 1967-1968. After retirement he realized he wanted to be a counselor, so he completed a masters degree at UM-Northern in counseling and development, complementing his BS degree in sociology and Assoc. degree in management earned on active-duty. He began counseling Veterans in 1991 across Montana and retired from counseling in 2010. Tony is an active outdoorsman, serves as an officer in the Vietnam Veterans of America Chap. 938 and is married with seven children, with one daughter now retired USAF and another in the US army with 28 years service.

Dr. Al Olszewski - was commissioned into the US Air Force in 1984, graduating Maxima-Cum-Laude at Carroll College in Biology. He completed medical school at the Univ. of Washington and served active duty as a USAF surgeon until 1997, achieving the rank of major. Al was born in Great Falls, graduated from CMR and he is President of Flathead Orthopedics and Director of Surgery at North Valley Hospital in nearby Whitefish. Al has been a leader and pioneer in advancing orthopedic procedures throughout North and South America and in Jan. 2010, joined the Hope force International Disaster Response Team to provide early response trauma care in Port-au-Prince, Haiti after the devastating earthquake. Al and his wife Nancee will celebrate their 25th anniversary this summer and have five children.

Dr. Christine King - is the counselor/team leader of the Great Falls Vet Center, which opened in Oct. 2010 to provide outreach, advocacy and readjustment counseling to veterans who served in war zones and those who experienced military sexual trauma, as well as their families. Families of deceased active-duty military are also provided grief counseling. Dr. King also served at the Missoula Vet Center and Rocky Boy and Fort Belknap reservations and was a Seattle Police officer. She holds a masters degree in counseling from the University of Great Falls and a doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of the Rockies.

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

The association established and maintains this memorial to honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and in war. A Veteran is defined as any man or woman of any age who has served in any branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity, and to honor men and women living and deceased equally.

Montana Veterans Memorial Association
 PO Box 3524 • Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524
 Phone (406) 454-9070
 Website: www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

**Memorial Day 28 May 2012
 2 PM, Montana Veterans Memorial, Great Falls, MT**

Master of Ceremonies Joe Fletcher, VP,
 Montana Veterans Memorial/Assoc.

Welcome Gina Winters, President,
 Montana Veterans Memorial/Assoc.

Presentation of the Colors Montana Veterans Groups &
 Malmstrom AFB Honor Guard

Invocation Chaplain Kenneth E. DuVall, COL,
 MT Army National Guard

National Anthem USAF Malmstrom Mens Ensemble

**Helmet & Rifle Memorial to
 Marvin 'Doc' Brewster** Dwayne Nelson, USMC League

Pledge of Allegiance Troop 3030, MAFB, Girl Scouts of America

Special Remarks Michael Winters, Mayor, City of Great Falls

Guest Speakers Dr. Al Olszewski, Tony Rizzo, Dr. Christine King

Amazing Grace Great Falls Shrine Bagpipe Band

**Salute to Montana's fallen veterans of Iraq
 and Afghanistan** Gina Winters, Military Detail

Benediction Pastor Dick Brooke,
 Stockett Community Bible Chapel

Taps Marine Corp League





2013

MONTANA VETERANS
MEMORIAL COMMITTEE Inc



Memorial Day A day to remember



ABOVE: Marine Corps Sgt. James Robertson rings a memorial bell while remembering Montana soldiers that have been killed in action on Monday afternoon at the Montana Veterans' Memorial. TOP: Military veterans, from left, Jack Hawley, Paul Quinn and Bob Langevin salute during the flag-folding ceremony at Mt. Olivet Cemetery on Monday morning. TRIBUNE PHOTO/ION SANDERS

Service members honored at ceremonies

By **KRISTEN CATES**
Tribune Staff Writer

Though he has trouble walking and Monday's wind and cold were chilling to anyone's bones, 89-year-old Jim Brumm was exactly where he needed to be as he sat and listened to the

Memorial Day ceremony at the Montana Veteran's Memorial in Great Falls.

"It's a great honor to have been able to serve and do what I've been able to," said the World War II Navy veteran. "It's just part of what I've done for the last 60 years."

Brumm and his wife recently moved to Great Falls after spending years in the Shelby and Conrad areas. His career was spent as an auto mechanic, and when he wasn't doing that, he was volunteering with the

See **MEMORIAL DAY**, 5A

Veterans Memorial ceremony is Monday

By Tribune Staff

Deceased war veterans from Montana will be honored Monday during several ceremonies across Great Falls.

Great Falls Mayor Michael Winters and other dignitaries gather at the Montana Veterans Memorial on Monday to honor the state's fallen veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan and the medical staffs who treated them.

The presentation starts at 2 p.m. at the intersection of River Drive and 25th Street North.

Joe Fletcher, vice president of the Montana Veterans Memorial Association, will serve as master of ceremonies. Guest speakers include Dr. Al Olszewski, Tony Rizzo and Dr. Christine King.

Chaplain Kenneth DuVall from the Montana Air National Guard will give the invocation.

The U.S. Air Force Malmstrom Men's Ensemble will sing the national anthem, and Dwayne Nelson of the U.S. Marine Corps League will lead a helmet and rifle memorial for Marvin "Doc" Brewster.

Following the guest speakers, the Great Falls Shrine Pipe Band will perform "Amazing Grace."

Gina Winters, president of the Montana Veterans Memorial Association, will give welcoming remarks and later lead the salute to the fallen veterans. Pastor Dick Brooks of Stockett Community Bible Chapel will lead the benediction to end the service.

Before the Veterans Memorial ceremony, the Marine Corps League Honor Guard of Great Falls will present two formal military honor ceremonies. The two 15-minute ceremonies take place at 9:30 a.m. at Mount Olivet Cemetery and at 12:30 p.m. at Manchester Cemetery.



Jesse Callender of the Great Falls Shrine Bagpipe Band plays "Amazing Grace" during the Memorial Day ceremony at the Montana Veterans' Memorial. TRIBUNE PHOTOS/RIION SANDERS

Memorial Day: Bell tolled for the fallen

Continued from 1A

local VFW and honor guard participating in ceremonies such as Monday's to honor the fallen.

He served in the Pacific Theater during the latter part of WW II, bringing ammunition from the depots to the front lines. He lost many comrades during those battles from 1944 on into 1946.

"It brings back a lot of sad memories," he said. "But you just take it one day at a time."

Monday's ceremony featured the tolling of the bell 44 times for men and women from Montana who have died while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as a tribute to Marvin "Doc" Brewster.

Brewster, a Vietnam veteran, died earlier this month from cancer and was honored at Monday's ceremony as having been actively involved in the creation of the Montana Veteran's Memorial — including sculpting the large statue that overlooks the memorial.

Speakers at Monday's ceremony spoke of the "angels of mercy" in the military who have worked



ABOVE: Members of the Marine Corps League detachment 688 perform a rifle salute at Mt. Olivet Cemetery on Monday morning. BELOW: Craig Knoche, whose father was a Marine Corps veteran, attends the Memorial Day observance ceremony.

from war.

Dr. Christine King, counselor and team leader at the Great Falls Vet Center, said since the local office opened in 2010, her team has served more than 278 veterans — some suffering from physical ailments, others dealing with the PTSD that has come from war.

"It's been really miraculous to do this work," she said. "We try to provide a safe place where (veterans) can come."

In his remarks, Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., encouraged everyone in attendance to continue to teach their children and grandchildren about the

advice, and brought their grandsons Colby, 6, and Caden, 8, to Monday's ceremony.

Chuck served in the Navy during Vietnam and his family recently had his name etched onto one of the 5,000 tiles lining the walls the Montana Veterans Memorial.

"He's getting honored," Caden said of his grandfather.



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

May 28, 2012

Dear Friends,

Today we pay our respects to fallen Americans, and to their families, for a debt that we can never fully repay, but that we can and must honor.

There is no other soldier in the history of the world that has fought so valiantly for the cause of freedom and liberty as the American soldier. That's because there is no other country in the history of the world that stands so firmly for freedom and liberty like the United States of America. It's the cause that serves as the foundation of our nation, and it's ingrained in every man, woman, and child born on American shores.

Today, as we remember the men and women who have sacrificed for our freedoms, who have fallen for our liberties, let's also hold high the cause for which they gave their lives.

We can honor their sacrifice by preserving and protecting our liberties for the generations to come. That is a debt we owe that we can repay. Let's be mindful of our actions in this generation, choose those that benefit our future and avoid those that may cause our children to stumble.

We can honor our fallen soldiers by genuinely caring for their brothers and sisters with whom they served. Keeping our promises to our service men and women must be a priority.


To all who have served our country, thank you. We also honor your sacrifice today, because I know an American soldier's blood forever runs red, white, and blue. Thank you for continuing to serve the cause of freedom.

For those who died and those who serve, the American Flag represents the reason and justification for that sacrifice. Our flag, under which they fought and for which they died, is much more than a collection of fabric. It is the very essence of what makes our country great, and that's why I think it's time to protect that flag from disrespectful desecration once and for all.

I encourage everyone to thank an American veteran today, and to do more. Advocate for the veterans in your communities, and lend a hand if they have a need. Though we may not all wear our country's colors on our sleeves, we can all honor and defend our country's ideals in our actions.

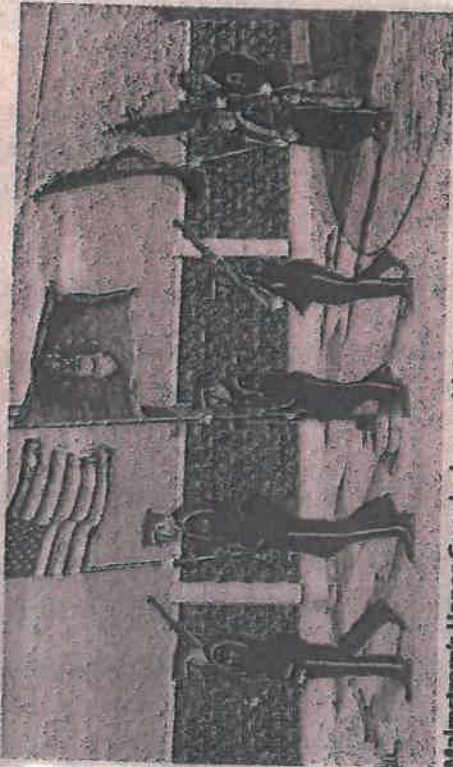
God bless you and God bless the United States of America.

Sincerely,



Denny Rehberg
Montana's Congressman

Northcentral Montana events honor veterans



Malmstrom's Honor Guard, along with Veteran honor guard members, present the colors at last year's Veterans Day service. U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO

By Jake Sorich
Tribune Staff Writer

Northcentral Montana honors its veterans next week at various Veterans Day events scattered across the region.

Montana Veterans Memorial

2600 River Road
The Montana Veterans Memorial holds a Veterans Day ceremony on Sunday at 11 a.m. Master of ceremonies will be Dwayne Nelson of the U.S. Marine Corps League.

Gina Winters, president of the Montana Veterans Memorial Association, will give a welcoming speech, followed by the presentation of the colors from the Malmstrom Air Force Base Honor Guard.

John Allen, chaplain at the Montana Air National Guard, will read an invocation, and the national anthem will be sung by Maria Mallory. The Montana Boot Camp graduates will say the Pledge of Allegiance.

The program's guest speaker will be Rear Admiral Douglas J. Asbjornsen, deputy commander of Navy Region Northwest in Everett, Wash.

His military awards include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious, Service Medal and numerous decorations, commendations and awards. In his civilian career, he has been a public school administrator for 21 years including serving as a principal at the elementary, middle and high school levels. He last served as the superintendent of the Rear dan-Edwall School District near Spokane.

After Asbjornsen's speech, Nelson will give Veterans Memorial reflections, followed by benediction by Frank Ghee, chaplain for the Disabled American Veterans. The ceremony will close with a performance of taps by the U.S. Marine Corps League.

For more information, call the memorial at 454-9070.

Downtown Great Falls
The Downtown Chicks are



For comments, tips or corrections

Call Business Editor Jo Dee Black, 406-791-6502 or 800-438-6600, or email the editorial board at tribletters@greatfallstribune.com

VIEWPOINTS

Editorial by
» Jim Straus
» Jo Dee Black
» Rich Ecke,

Memorial a unifying tribute to heroes

Local Veterans Memorial has an impact on all visitors

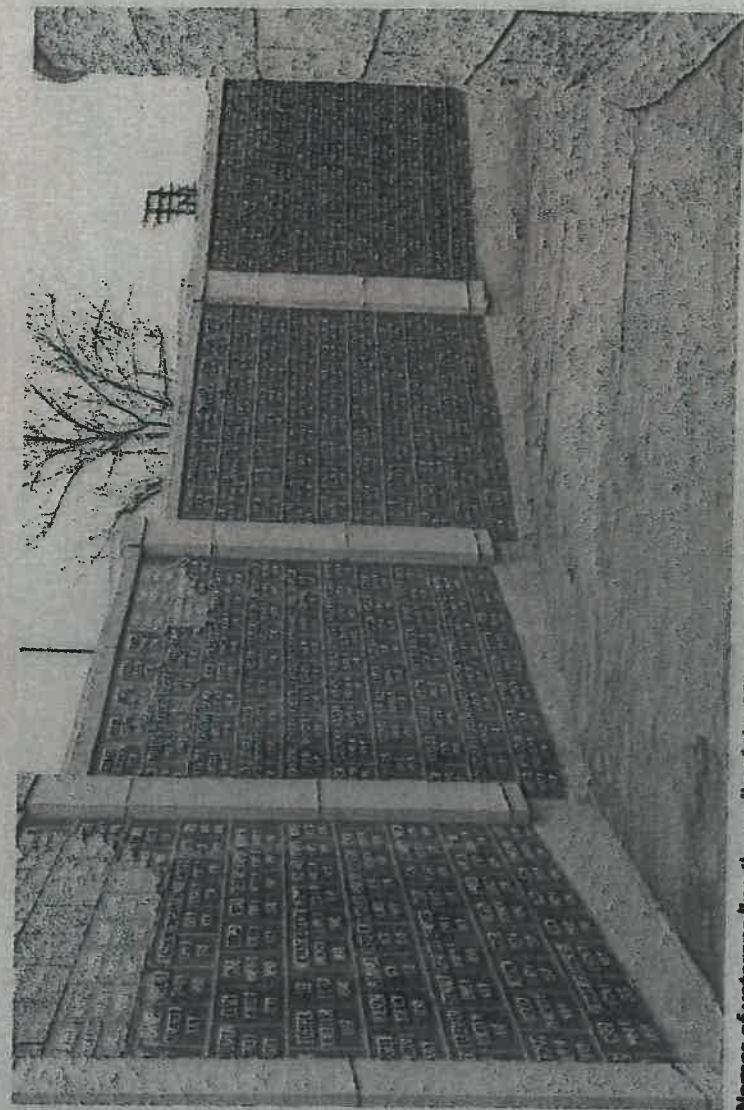
It's an image Michael Winters said marked his heart.

"A woman came into the inner circle of the Montana Veterans Memorial, we asked her if she needed help with anything, and she said no," said Winters, who was at the site that day with a volunteer who does much of the upkeep.

"We stayed away to give her privacy. When I looked over at her, though, she had laid her head in her hands and was leaning on a tile and was in tears. I will never go to that part of the memorial again without that memory."

The Montana Veterans Memorial was first talked about in 1999, when Winters and four others came up with the idea of a living memorial for veterans everywhere who served in any branch of the military.

The memorial overlooking the Missouri River near Centene Stadium was dedicated in 2006. Today it includes more than 5,500 tiles in honor of veterans, and there are plans to expand the memorial to the east to accommodate



Names of veterans line the walls of the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls. TRIBUNE PHOTOGRAPHY BECKNER



Names of veterans line the Montana Veterans Memorial. TRIBUNE PHOTOGRAPHY BECKNER

CEREMONY TODAY

Today's Veterans Day ceremony begins at 11 a.m. at the Montana Veterans Memorial. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held indoors at Centene Stadium.

TO DONATE

Tax deductible donations can be sent to: Montana Veterans Memorial, P.O. Box 3524, Great Falls, MT 59403. For more information, go to www.montanaveteransmemorial.org or call 406-454-9070.

up to 5,000 additional tiles.

"The tiles are in honor of veterans from all over," Winters said. "We have tiles for some Canadian soldiers, a couple of Confederate soldiers, some veterans who served with the Canine Corps."

The Montana Veterans Memorial has an impact on all visitors — friends and family members of veterans honored with tiles and all

others alike, Winters said.

"It's not uncommon to see people holding out a hand and riding their fingers along the tiles as they walk around," Winters said.

"People feel a kinship with fellow veterans here. It's an emotional place," Winters estimates the value of the memorial at about \$1.5 million.

"But all of the maintenance and upkeep is done by volunteers," Winters said.

Future plans include not only adding more tiles but also a military museum.

"Wouldn't that be great?" Winters said.

Monetary donations to fund the expansions are welcome.

"We also need people to do maintenance, sweep the leaves, tend the flowers," Winters said. "There aren't

the gratitude owed to veterans. We also rely on activists such as Winters and his group to take that gratitude and turn it into tangible tributes such as the Montana Veterans Memorial.



Montana Veterans Memorial Committee, Inc.
P.O. Box 3524
Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524

(406) 454-9070



www.veteransmemorial.org

Nov 11-2012



**GIVE IT
★ TO ME
★ LOCAL ★**

**THE COURAGE AND CONVICTION
TO DO WHAT MUST BE DONE.**

11-11-12

Frau Keith
lower right Blue
Jacket



Tiles at the Montana Veterans Memorial honor living and deceased veterans of foreign wars. TRIBUNE PHOTO/MICHAEL BEALL

Honor and sacrifice



U.S. Adm. Douglas Asbjornsen gives the keynote speech at a Veterans Day ceremony inside Centene Stadium near the Montana Veterans Memorial on Sunday. TRIBUNE PHOTO/MICHAEL BEALL

Events commemorate America's heroes

By Michael Beall / Tribune Staff Writer

When America was still in its infancy, the newly formed United States was nearly defeated.

It was two years into the War of 1812. The British Royal Navy was going up the Chesapeake into Baltimore Harbor. They had occupied Washington, D.C., burning the White House and U.S. Capitol in its wake.

But something happened on the rainy night of Sept. 3, 1814, that has impacted us for a long time, said U.S. Naval Adm. Douglas J. Asbjornsen, speak-





MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2012

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE WWW.GRE



Marine Corps veterans raise the flags back to full-staff after the Veterans Day ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial. TRIBUNE PHOTO/MICHAEL BEALL

Sacrifice

Continued from 1A

ing to a Veterans Day crowd inside the lobby of Centene Stadium on Sunday.

Francis Scott Key, a lawyer and part-time poet, was captured and was on board a British ship in Baltimore Harbor. He witnessed first-hand the British bombarding Fort McHenry.

But when Key awoke the next morning, he saw the American flag still waving above Fort McHenry. It was a symbol of hope.

He wrote a poem, and that poem turned into the American national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner."

"The beauty is we are the land of the free and everybody benefits from it. Every American. The home of the brave, in my mind, is saying specifically to those veterans that it's because of you that we have this freedom and liberty."

U.S. NAVAL ADM. DOUGLAS J. ASBJORSEN

"I told ya. I was just a kid," Leonard said.

Both Leonard and Linda believe that military has a lot to teach. It teaches people how to go out on their own and of course discipline.

"They go in as kids and come out as young men and women," Linda said.

To Leonard, Veterans Day is about the camaraderie like what was happening inside

across. Basto wanted everybody who came to the VFW to bring in a photo to honor the veterans from past wars.

Even if Veterans Day is only one day a year, and honoring the veteran is a long time coming, it is a step in the right direction.

"People have gotten more patriotic," Basto said. "They're learning this is what made America — these people fighting and losing



MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.

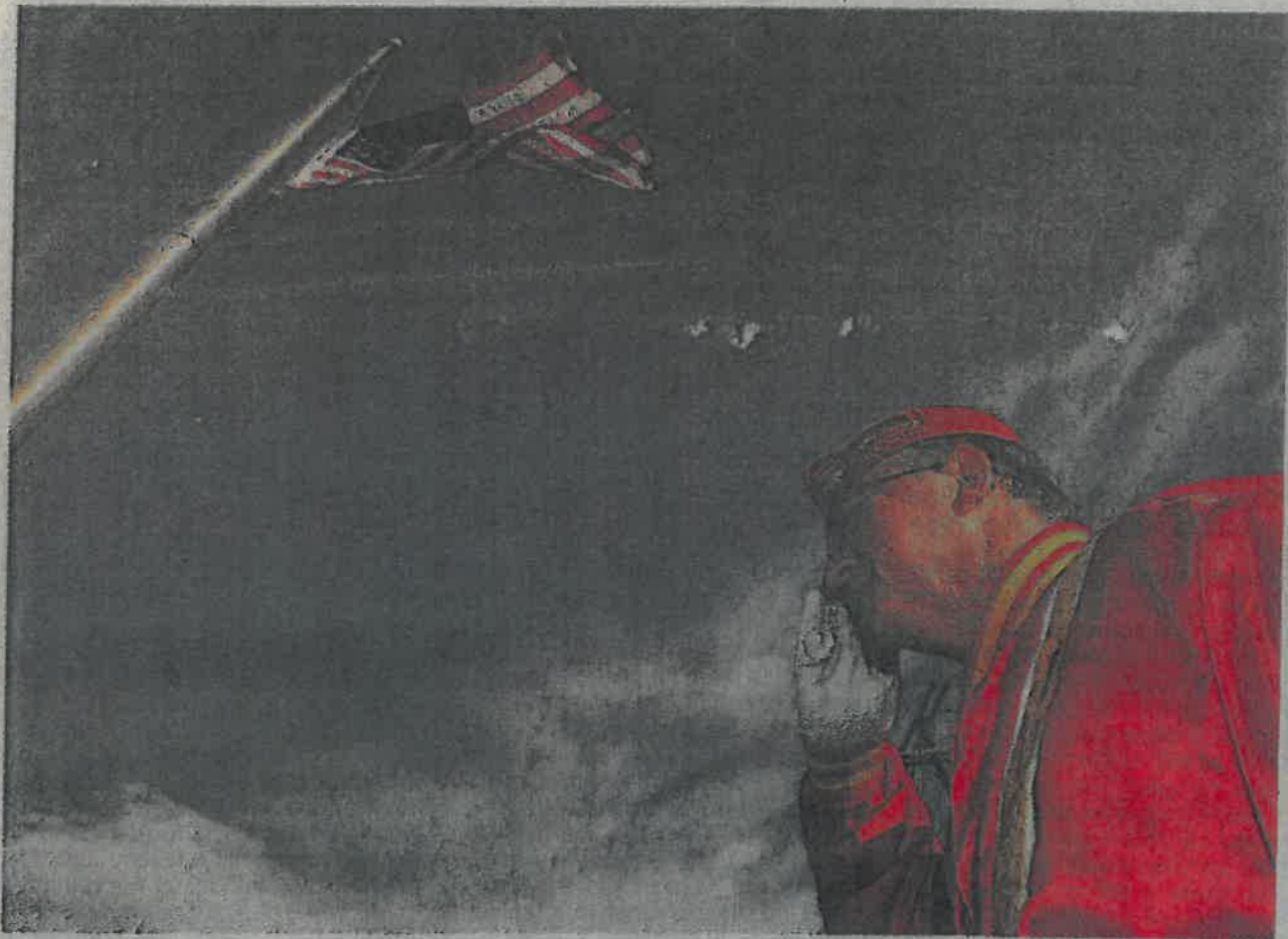
P.O. BOX 3524 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-3524
406-454-9070

www.Montanaveteransmemorial.org



Friday, March 1, 2013

Gen. Schwarzkopf honored two months after death



Larry Malby, Marine Corps League Keeper of the Flag, salutes as the U.S. flag is lowered to half-staff at the Montana Veterans Memorial on Thursday morning to honor Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf and the cessation of hostilities of Operation Desert Storm. TRIBUNE PHOTO/LARRY BECKNER

An official farewell for a hero

By David Murray
Tribune Staff Writer

The Keepers of the Flag for the Montana Veterans Memorial perform their duty without expectation of praise or accolades. Each a retired serviceman, they arrive regu-

INSIDE

Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf buried /ZA

larly on predetermined days to lower the American, Montana and POW flags to half-staff in honor of the men and women who gave their

lives in service of their country.

Occasionally a trucker passing by on River Drive will blast his horn, or children will wave their hands in recognition of the men in the bright red jackets. With the exception of

See FLAGS, 3A

Flags

Continued from 1A

the expected calendar dates — Memorial Day, Presidents Day and a handful of others — most passers-by may not even be aware why the flags have been lowered.

"The governor routinely orders flags flown at half-staff for any Montana veteran that's killed in action, and we've done that a number of times," said Larry Malby, coordinator for the Keepers of the Flag team. "The president occasionally proclaims half-staff, usually when some high-level dignitary dies."

But on Thursday the flags were lowered, not by recent executive order or for a national day of remembrance, but for the passing of an American patriot whose death inadvertently went unrecognized — Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf.

"When Gen. Schwarzkopf died I was waiting patiently for a directive calling for half-staff, and I waited and waited and it didn't come," Malby recalled. "After about two or three weeks, I kind of realized it wasn't going to happen. It really puzzled me very much because he was a great man."

The oversight was not intentional. When the retired commander of U.S. Central Command passed away Dec. 27, 2012, military installations across the nation lowered their flags in honor of the man who led U.S. forces during the first Persian Gulf

War. The problem, as Malby quickly learned, is that the order to fly flags at half-staff passed through a different channel of communication than the Keepers of the Flag was accustomed to.

"Normally we get directives to fly these flags at half staff from the mayor's office in town, and they get their heads-up from the governor's office, which gets the heads-up from the executive office in Washington, D.C.," he said. "That's kind of how the chain of information flows."

However, the president's office does not typically issue directives to fly flags at half-staff on the occasion of a prominent military veteran's death. Those orders are handled by the various divisions of the U.S. military. It wasn't that the nation had forgotten Schwarzkopf, Malby just wasn't informed about where the order should come from.

To make up for the oversight, the Keepers of the Flag and the Montana Veterans Memorial's executive staff chose to lower the flags

Thursday, the anniversary of the cessation of hostilities in the first Gulf War in 1991.

"Since Feb. 28 is the date of the cessation of hostilities for Desert Storm, which was planned, directed and made to happen by Gen. Schwarzkopf, we decided to fly the flags at half-staff on that day in honor of him," Malby said.

At precisely 8:15 a.m. Wednesday, the Keepers of the Flag lowered the flags, and then saluted in honor of the general once known as "Stormin' Norman." The people driving by on River Drive likely didn't have any idea who it was for, but the gratitude expressed by the ceremony was no less sincere.

"The Veterans Memorial exists for one purpose and one purpose only — to honor veterans," Malby said. "It seems to me that when we're dealing with somebody of Gen. Schwarzkopf's stature, we definitely need to be involved in honoring him. The average guy going by is not going to know, but bottom line is, the Montana Veterans Memorial knows."

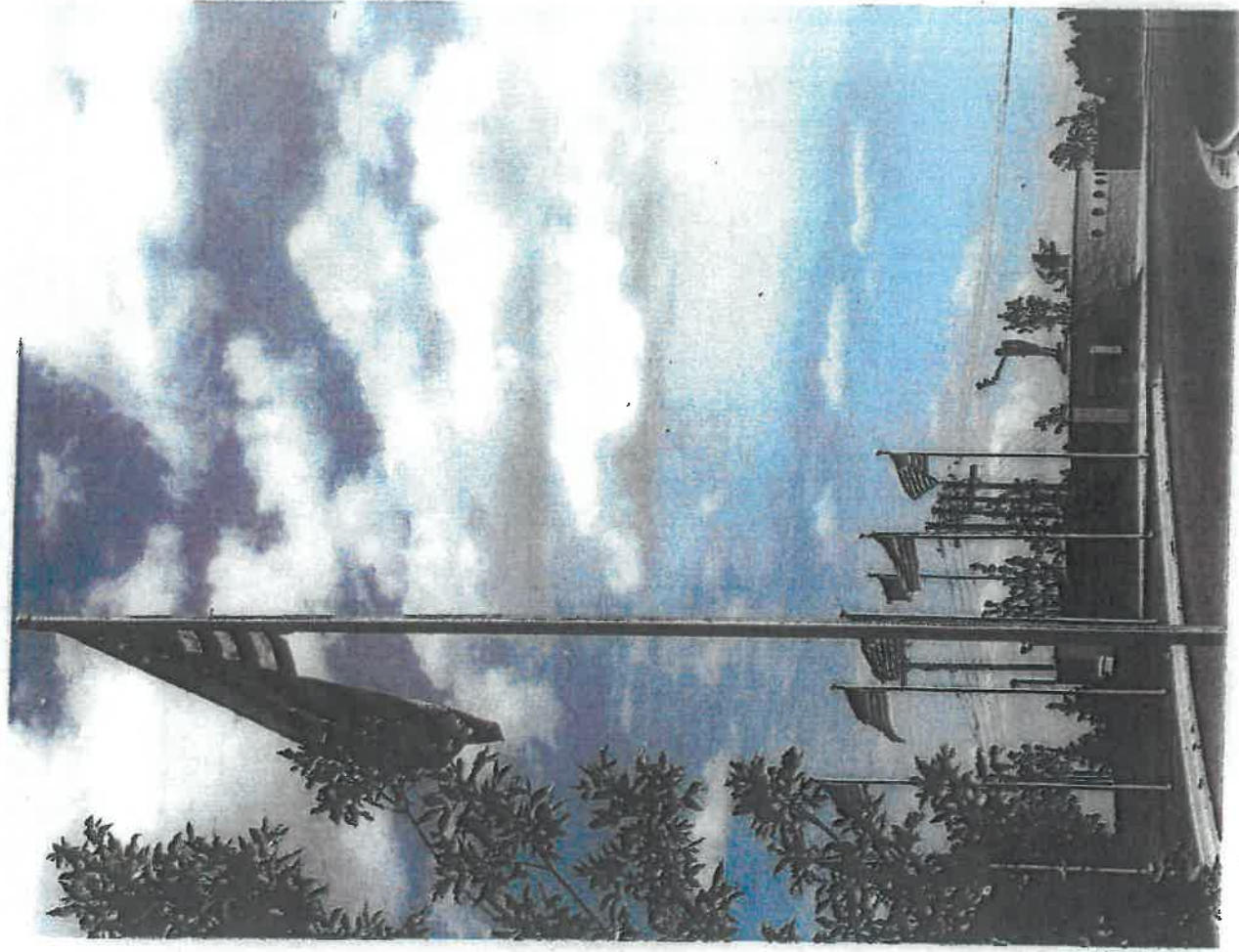
Montana's Fallen Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan

Army PFC Kristofer Stonesifer, Missoula
Army Reserve 1st Lt. Edward Saitz, Big Fork
Army PFC Owen D. Witt, Sand Springs
Marine Cpl. Dean Pratt, Stevensville
Marine Lance Cpl. Kane Funke, Kalispell
Army Staff Sgt. Aaron Holleyman, Glasgow
Marine Cpl. Raleigh C. Smith, Troy
Mt. Army NG Sgt. 1st Class Robbie McNary, Lewistown
Marine Lance Corporal Nicholas Bloem, Belgrade
Army 1st Lt. Josh Hyland, Missoula
Army Sgt. Travis Arndt, Great Falls
Marine PFC Andrew Bedard, Missoula
Army Cpt. Michael MacKinnon, Helena
Marine Cpl. Phillip Baucus, Wolf Creek
Marine Lance Cpl. Jeremy Sandvick Monroe, Chinook
Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Charles Komppa, Absarokee
Army PFC Shawn Murphy, Butte
Marine Lance Cpl. Nicklas Palmer, Great Falls
Army Spc. Scott Dykman, Harrison
Army Spc. James Riekens, Missoula
Army PFC Matthew Zeimer, Glendive
Army Staff Sgt. Shane Becker, Helena
Army PFC Kyle Bohmsen, Phillipsburg
Army Spc. Michael Frank, Great Falls
Army SSG Travis Atkins, Bozeman
Army Spc. Donald Young, Helena
Army Staff Sgt. Yance Gray, Ismay
Army Cpt. Andrew Pearson, Billings
Army Sgt. James A. McHale, Fairfield
Marine Sgt. Trevor Johnson, Forsyth
Army Lt. Col. Garnet R. Derby, Missoula
Army Staff Sgt. Terry Lynch, Shepherd
Marine Cpl. Nicholas Uzenski, Bozeman
Army Sgt. Jeremiah Whittman, Darby
Army PFC, Nicholas S. Cook, Hungry Horse
Army Spc. Jonathan A. Pilgeram, Eden
Army PFC, Michael A. Rogers, White Sulphur Springs
Marine Cpl. Stewart S. Trejo, Whitefish
Army PFC Daren A. Smith, Helena
Army PVT Timothy J. Hutton, Dillon
Army Spc. Antonio Bunside (Many Hides), Browning
Navy Tech Airman Andrew Scott Charpentier, Great Falls
Army Staff Sgt. Thaddeus S. Montgomery, West Yellowstone

Montana Ties:

Marine Lance Cpl. Nathan Wood
Army SSG Patrick L. Lybert
Army Sgt. Lucas T. White
Army Sgt. Michael Sturdivant
Army Sgt. John K. Daggett
Army Staff Sgt. Shane Barnard

A PLACE OF HONOR



MEMORIAL DAY 2013

Chaplain (Colonel) Kenneth E. DuVall is and has been the Montana National Guard's first full-time chaplain since 2005 and began his military career 44 years ago as an enlisted weapons control mechanic with the Washington Air National Guard. He was commissioned a 1st Lieutenant in 1990 after completing the Army's Chaplain's School. Colonel DuVall received a BA degree from Eastern Washington University in accounting and information systems in 1976 and earned his Master of Divinity in 1984 from Luther Theological Seminary.

Chaplain DuVall started his service in 1990 as unit chaplain for the 495th Combat Support Battalion, MTARNG, in Havre and the 189th Aviation Battalion in Helena and deployed to Iraq with that unit in 2004. He also served as active-duty chaplain tour serving the 52nd Engineer Bn, 4th Finance Bn and 68th Combat Support Bn at Fort Carson, CO 1996-1999. Colonel DuVall attended the Army War College and Command and General Staff College and has received numerous awards and decorations. He is married to Josephine and has four children.

Lieutenant Colonel Beverly G. Schneider is the Air National Guard's Judge Advocate General (JAG) where she is the attorney advisor for Montana National Guard's Joint Headquarters. She is also the liaison for the Army and Air National Guard JAG teams. Lt. Col Schneider began her military career upon receiving a direct commission as a US Air Force JAG 1st Lieutenant in 2000 and was the top graduate of her JAG staff officer course and was then assigned to the 341st Space Wing at Malmstrom AFB.

She graduated with honors from the University of Montana's Law School in 1997 and then prosecuted felony crimes in Yellowstone County, MT before entering the USAF. While at Malmstrom, then Captain and Major Schneider was the wing's Assistant Staff Judge Advocate and Area Defense Counsel for the base. She joined the MT Air Guard's 120th Fighter Wing in 2004, serving as the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate and 120th's Staff Judge Advocate before being assigned to Joint Force HQ in Helena. Her husband is Lt. Col James C. Schneider, MTARNG Financial Manager, and they have four children.

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

The association established and maintains this memorial to honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and in war. A Veteran is defined as any man or woman of any age who has served in any branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity, and to honor men and women living and deceased equally.

Montana Veterans Memorial Association
 PO Box 3524 • Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524
 Phone (406) 454-9070
 Website: www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

Non-Profit Tax ID #0530643

**Memorial Day 27 May 2013
 2 PM, Montana Veterans Memorial, Great Falls, MT**

Master of Ceremonies..... Dwayne Nelson,
 Montana Veterans Memorial Assoc.

Welcome..... Gina Winters, President,
 Montana Veterans Memorial Assoc.

Presentation of the Colors..... Montana Veterans Groups &
 Malmstrom AFB Honor Guard

Invocation Chaplain Kenneth E. DuVall, COL,
 MT Army National Guard

National Anthem Tessa Pardon

Pledge of Allegiance Electric City FFA

Special Remarks Michael Winters, Mayor, City of Great Falls

Guest Speakers..... COL Kenneth E. DuVall, MTARNG,
 LTC Bev Schneider, JAG/MANAG

**Salute to Montana's fallen veterans of Iraq
 and Afghanistan**..... Gina Winters, Military Detail

Benediction..... Sister Kateri Mitchell, Sisters of St. Ann

Taps..... SGT Toni Taylor, USMC Reserve



The Star Spangled Banner

In 1814, Francis Scott Key wrote the poem, *Defense of Fort McHenry*. The poem was later put to the tune of (John Stafford Smith's song) *The Anacreontic Song*, modified somewhat, and retitled *The Star Spangled Banner*. Congress proclaimed *The Star Spangled Banner* the U.S. National Anthem in 1931.

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Dear friends

John of Marine
Sacrifice - Perseus

On the shore dimly seen thro' the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream:
'Tis the star-spangled banner: O, long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Deeply honored
to your
Representative

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave:
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Nation
Deeply in
the debt
of those
who serve.
those who
have sacrifice

O, thus be it ever when freemen shall stand,
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation;
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust"
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

committed to
fight for
their lives
& their health

He is
Committed to
fight for
you

TESSA Pardon: 10/10/11

Grand Daughter Fran... has fought

American's overseas cemeteries for our Honored Fallen

Families and loved ones will pay respect to their deceased veteran throughout America today. Some will pay their respect at cemeteries and some at ceremonies as we are doing here at this Memorial. But, are you aware that there are over 124,000 American servicemen and women that were killed in battle during WWI and WWII that are buried in 24 permanent American cemeteries located overseas. There are 22 in Europe, 1 in North Africa and 1 in the Philippines. These are exemplary models of landscape and architecture and are immaculately kept up. American service personnel and embassy staff along with dignitaries from the host country will provide Memorial Day services at each one of these cemeteries along with a small American flag at each grave.

Dwayne Nelson : Harris Espinoza
Great Falls



Montana Veterans Memorial Committee, Inc.

P.O. Box 3524

Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524

(406) 454-9070

www.montanaveteransmemorial.org



Honor Montana veterans at memorial ceremony

By Tribune Staff

The Montana Veterans Memorial honors Montana's fallen heroes at 2 p.m. Monday to mark Memorial Day.

This year's master of ceremonies is Dwayne Nelson of the Montana Veterans Memorial Association. Gina Winters, president of the Montana Veterans Memorial, will give a welcome address, followed by the presentation of the colors from the Montana Veterans Group and the Malmstrom Air Force Base Honor Guard.

Chaplain Kenneth E. Duvall with the Montana Army National Guard will give the invoca-

tion, Tessa Pardon will sing the national anthem and the Electric City FFA will lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Great Falls Mayor Michael Winters will give special remarks, followed by guest speakers Col. Duvall and Bev Schneider.

Gina Winters will lead a salute to Montana's fallen veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan, followed by the benediction from Sister Kateri Mitchell with Sisters of St. Ann.

Finally, Sgt. Toni Taylor, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, will play taps.

For more information, call 454-9070.

HONOR A VETERAN



WITH A GRANITE TILE AT
MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL

454-9070



MT-000300186

April 7-12-13
2013

Shrine seeks state status

By Jenn Rowell
Tribune Staff Writer

Great Falls Mayor Michael Winters is on a mission to get state recognition for the local Montana Veterans Memorial.



He and memorial volunteers are collecting letters of support from locals to bring to state legislators he said, as such designation requires legislative action.

"It's a logical designation," Winters, co-founder of the memorial, said Wednesday.

Winters said the memorial recognizes service members from all over the United States, as well as some Canadians and Europeans, as well as military working dogs. The memorial represents veterans who have passed away as well as those still living. Currently, there are about 5,000 tiles on the memorial and a recent expansion has room for 5,000 more.

In early April, Gov. Steve Bullock signed a bill designating the Grateful Nation Montana Fallen Soldier Memorial at the University of Montana as the Montana Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans Memorial.

Because the memorial was commissioned by Grateful Nation Montana using private funds, the state designation won't change anything about how it is maintained.

The state designation

See STATE, 3M

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2013



Tiles at the Montana Veterans Memorial honor living and deceased veterans of foreign wars.

State

Continued from 1M

will include the memorial on state maps, which will help guide more visitors. The memorial includes five larger-than-life bronze statues surrounded by 12-inch by 24-inch granite tablets recessed in the ground, which display the name, branch, rank, years lived and Montana hometown of each troop killed in Afghanistan or Iraq.

The Great Falls memorial is located on city parkland and was built with private funds and a significant

amount of donated labor and materials, Winters said. A nonprofit operates and maintains the memorial on a volunteer basis, Winters said.

He said he brought the idea to Lt. Gov. John Walsh and Montana National Guard leaders at a Military Affairs Council lunch earlier this month. He said they seemed receptive but directed him to other individuals who might be able to help.

"We have more military history and background here than any other community in the state," Winters said. "It's very good recognition for the city of Great Falls."



Montana Veterans Memorial Committee, Inc.
P.O. Box 3524
Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524
(406) 454-9070

July 16, 2013

On this date, our Marine Corps League Honor Guard agreed to perform military honors for deceased Marine veteran David Sokoloski at 11:00 a.m. Shortly after agreeing to this event, I was contacted by Will Locatelli, a member of the MVM Board of Directors, who wanted me to conduct a tour for members of the Boys and Girls Club at 10:00 a.m. the same day. I figured that the tour would finish with plenty of time left for the military honors, so I agreed to conduct the tour, and I invited them to stay for the military honors.

I was planning on 15-20 kids, and this was confirmed when a van arrived with about a dozen kids in it—a nice easy group to handle. When I introduced myself to one of the staff members, she said there were more coming. I thought, Another van with a dozen kids. No problemmo.

"No problemmo" began to dissipate when I saw a large yellow bus approaching up Memorial drive, and it disappeared when 50 more little kids (5-8 year olds) exited the bus. How could I deal with this youngish and large crowd? No problemmo.

I had to control this group somehow. I decided to do it like a Marine would with recruits stepping off the bus.

When they gathered along the outside edge of the circle, I began. (Very loud.) "Now listen up! I want your full attention!" I now had their attention. Eyes were wide. My plan was to begin with the question of why we have such a thing as MT Veterans Memorial. To deal with this question, I moved this mob outside the west wall and had them focus on the inscription: "A PLACE OF HONOR." "Move it! Move it." It worked, and they assembled in record time. We discussed what it meant to honor someone like veterans.

The second question was How do we Honor them? We moved back in and focused on the flags. We discussed how these flags honor veterans, and several of the larger boys helped lower the flags to half staff for the upcoming military honors. We discussed how and when we salute the movement of the flags—hand over the heart. We discussed the tiles and how they get there.

We concluded by assembling inside the circle and discussing the Warrior angel. From there, we visited the Kiosk and the computer which was "duck soup" for these little computer whiz kids.

I had invited them to stay for the military honors which they did with great solemnity for such little tykes. The hands over the hearts was (what else?) heartening.

Larry Malby, MVM Board of Directors



I.W. CHURCH (1884-1972)
G.G. HARRIS (1883-1973)
BJARNE JOHNSON (1917-2007)
CARTER WILLIAMS (1916-2013)

RACHEL A. CLARK
RICHARD F. GALLAGHER

STEVEN M. JOHNSON
W. BJARNE JOHNSON*
RON A. NELSON
KAREN L. REIFF*
GREGORY R. SCHWANDT*
MAC M. SMITH
MICHAEL P. TALIA

*LL.M. (Taxation)

OF COUNSEL:
DALE FORBES
DONA LABAR*
JEANNIE YOUNG

ADMINISTRATOR:
SCOTT A. RUBINO

P.O. BOX 1645 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-1645 • 114 3RD STREET SOUTH • PHONE 406.761.3000 • FAX 406.453.2313
www.chjw.com

July 24, 2013

MONTANA VETERANS' MEMORIAL
P.O. Box 3524
Great Falls, MT 59403

RE: Estate of Mary Elizabeth Wolff, also known as Beth Wolff

Dear Sir or Madam:

As you know from prior correspondence, your organization has been named as a specific charitable beneficiary under Mrs. Wolff's Will. Beth was very community minded and wanted to support several local charities in which she held an interest or passion. Beth has generously provided for several charitable causes in her will, including a bequest of \$25,000.00 to your organization.

In fulfillment of the bequest to your organization under Mrs. Wolff's Will, enclosed is a check in the amount of \$25,000.00. This amount constitutes the entire bequest to your organization and satisfies in full the bequest to your organization. We are also enclosing a Receipt of Distribution acknowledging receipt of this distribution and acknowledging that Montana Veterans' Memorial has no further interest in Mrs. Wolff's estate. We request that you sign the enclosed Receipt of Distribution and return it in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope.

If you have any questions or need information regarding the estate, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

CHURCH, HARRIS, JOHNSON & WILLIAMS, P.C.

BY: 
RON A. NELSON

RAN:dmw

Enclosure

cc: John H. Sheffels

Mike Winters discussed this issue with Dwayne Nelson, Pres. Bd of Dirs., and Dwayne told Mike to sign the letter on his behalf. Done on July 27th, 2013.
Larry Malley



Logged in as: tqiman

[Home](#) | [E-mail](#) | [Personal Web Pages](#) | [Member Services](#) | [Help](#)

[Get E-Mail](#) | [Message List](#) | [Compose](#) | [Folders](#) | [Address Book](#) | [Mailboxes](#) | [Options](#) | [Help](#) | [Logout](#)

Folder: **MVM**

Read Message

Reply	Reply To All	Forward	Delete	Save Address	Printable View	Previous
						Report Spam

Sender: "Dwayne Nelson " <elkcreek@3rivers.net>

Subject: MVMA stuff

Date: Sat, 27 Jul 2013 14:05:16 -0600

To: "lawrence malby" <tqiman@bresnan.net>

[E-mail Source](#)

Larry--- you may be ahead of me on this but I'll pass on what I know. Mike Winters called me a little while ago and some lady (I didn't catch the name) died and left MVMA \$25,000 and Mike had received a check and was to sign a receipt and send it back to the attorney. He wanted to know if he should send the receipt to me to be signed. I told him to go ahead and sign it and send it back, Please make a note in the records, ???next minutes, that Mike and I had this conversation to day (July 27) and that I asked him to sign and return the receipt.

I mentioned to Mike that it would be nice if we could think of some specific use for the \$25,000 instead of putting it in the general flow of money. He agreed, so let's be thinking of a use and we can have discussions at the Sept meeting.

Thanks!

DN

Reply	Reply To All	Forward	Delete	Save Address	Printable View	Previous
-----------------------	------------------------------	-------------------------	------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------

Move message to:

[Get E-Mail](#) | [Message List](#) | [Compose](#) | [Folders](#) | [Address Book](#) | [Mailboxes](#) | [Options](#)
[Help](#) | [Logout](#) | [Bresnan OnLine Home](#)

[Terms and Conditions](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).
Copyright 2007 Bresnan Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

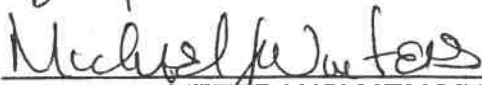
RON A. NELSON
CHURCH, HARRIS, JOHNSON & WILLIAMS, P.C.
P.O. Box 1645
Great Falls, Montana 59403
Telephone: (406) 761-3000
Attorneys for Personal Representative

MONTANA EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, CASCADE COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF) Probate No. ADP-13-092
)
MARY ELIZABETH WOLFF,) RECEIPT OF DISTRIBUTION
also known as BETH WOLFF,)
)
Deceased.)

The undersigned hereby hereby acknowledges receipt from JOHN H. SHEFFELS, Personal Representative of the Estate of MARY ELIZABETH WOLFF, also known as BETH WOLFF, Deceased, of all the property to which the undersigned is entitled under testacy, as set forth in the decedent's Last Will and Testament.

DATED this 29 day of July, 2013.


MONTANA VETERANS' MEMORIAL
P.O. Box 3524
Great Falls, MT 59403

Mary Elizabeth Wolff Estate
39 Prospect Drive
Great Falls, MT 59405

WELLS FARGO BANK MONTANA, NA
93-527/923

0520

7/10/2013

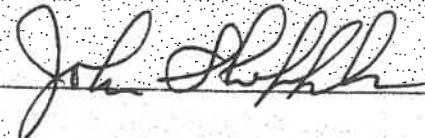
PAY TO THE
ORDER OF Montana Veterans Memorial

\$25,000.00

Twenty-Five Thousand Only*****

DOLLARS

Montana Veterans Memorial
P O Box 3524
Great Falls, MT 59403



MEMO

⑈000520⑈ ⑆092905278⑆ 7245326819⑈

© 2011 INTELLIFON, #117 1-800-433-8810



I.W. CHURCH (1884-1972)
G.G. HARRIS (1883-1973)
BJARNE JOHNSON (1917-2007)
CARTER WILLIAMS (1916-2013)

RACHEL A. CLARK
RICHARD F. GALLAGHER

STEVEN M. JOHNSON
W. BJARNE JOHNSON*
RON A. NELSON
KAREN L. REIFF*
GREGORY R. SCHWANDT*
MAC M. SMITH
MICHAEL P. TALIA

*LL.M. (Taxation)

OF COUNSEL:
DALE FORBES
DON A. LABAR*
JEANNIE YOUNG

ADMINISTRATOR:
SCOTT A. RUBINO

P.O. BOX 1645 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-1645 • 114 3RD STREET SOUTH • PHONE 406.761.3000 • FAX 406.453.2313
www.chjw.com

July 24, 2013

MONTANA VETERANS' MEMORIAL
P.O. Box 3524
Great Falls, MT 59403

RE: Estate of Mary Elizabeth Wolff, also known as Beth Wolff

Dear Sir or Madam:

As you know from prior correspondence, your organization has been named as a specific charitable beneficiary under Mrs. Wolff's Will. Beth was very community minded and wanted to support several local charities in which she held an interest or passion. Beth has generously provided for several charitable causes in her will, including a bequest of \$25,000.00 to your organization.

In fulfillment of the bequest to your organization under Mrs. Wolff's Will, enclosed is a check in the amount of \$25,000.00. This amount constitutes the entire bequest to your organization and satisfies in full the bequest to your organization. We are also enclosing a Receipt of Distribution acknowledging receipt of this distribution and acknowledging that Montana Veterans' Memorial has no further interest in Mrs. Wolff's estate. We request that you sign the enclosed Receipt of Distribution and return it in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope.

If you have any questions or need information regarding the estate, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

CHURCH, HARRIS, JOHNSON & WILLIAMS, P.C.

BY 

RON A. NELSON

RAN:dmw

Enclosure

cc: John H. Sheffels



MT Vets Memorial. Installing the "Lest We Forget" Sign on the East Wall, August 3, 2013. L-R: Mike Winters, Del Dieziger, Will Locatelli, Sam Pappas, & Dwayne Nelson.



Vets memorial gets WWI plaque

By Jenn Rowell
Tribune Staff Writer

The first of several artistic depictions of America's major conflicts was added to the Montana Veterans Memorial on Monday.

The bronze relief depicting World War I was commissioned by the Montana Veterans Memorial Association and shows a doughboy with a 1903 Springfield rifle in France.

Mike Winters, one of the founding members of the memorial and the current mayor, said the soldier was modeled from a photo and the rifle was modeled from a historical replica of a WWI-era rifle loaned by a local historian.

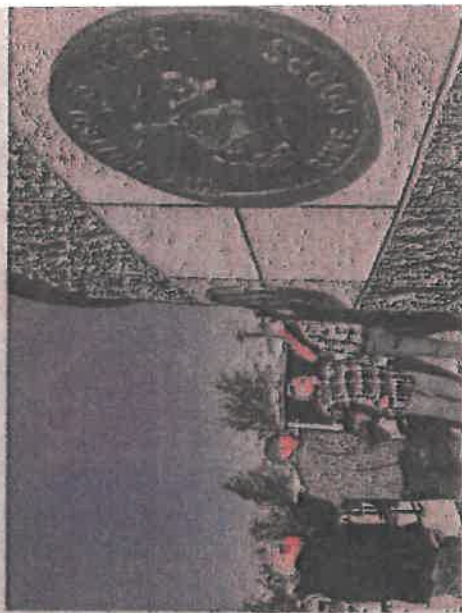
Early Monday morning, Winters, Del Dieziger and Gene Davidson installed the bronze plaque on a memorial wall next to the row of seals representing each service branch.

"We wanted representation from

the major conflict we were involved in," Winters said. "It's a veterans memorial and not a war memorial, but the veterans served in war and peace time."

The association has already commissioned two more bronze plaques representing World War II and Korea. Organizers said they're planning to add Vietnam and more recent conflicts as well, depending on

See VETS, 5A



GREAT FALLS FORECAST

High: 60 - Low: 43

Mostly cloudy with 40% chance of afternoon showers.



Full report on back page

Dow Jones Industrials	-48.71
Nasdaq composite	15,401.38
Standard & Poor's 500	-9.44
	3,765.29
	-8.07
	1,701.84

INDEX OF REGULAR FEATURES

Business	AS	Crosswords	5M	Opinion	4A
Calendar	6A	Jumble	6M	Records	2M
Chatter	4L	Legals	5M	Sudoku	6M
Classified	4-6M	Nation	2A	TV Listings	6A
Comics	3L	Obituaries	2M	Weather	6A

Contact information for circulation, ads and news is on 2A.



ONLINE VIDEO

Check out video of the Red Shale Fire in the Bob Marshall Wilderness at www.gftrib.com

No. 017 \$11

Vets

Continued from 1A

funding.

"How we have secured our beliefs as a nation is from those who have served in the military," Winters said. He served in the Air Force and Marine Reserves.

Dieziger is also a founding member of the memorial, and Davidson is the ar-

chitect. Both are veterans, and Dieziger served on the front lines in Korea with the Marine Corps.

The art was first sculpted in clay and sent to a foundry to be cast in bronze, said Gina McDermott, president of the association. Her mother, Barbara Winters, is the artist.

A piece of art depicting nurses is ready to be installed at the memorial, but organizers haven't determined where to put it yet.



Mayor Mike Winters and Del Dieziger install the World War I plaque at the Montana Veterans Memorial on Monday. TRIBUNE PHOTO/JENN ROWELL



Great Falls marks Veterans Day on Monday

By Jake Sorich
Tribune Staff Writer

Northcentral Montana marks Veterans Day today with a host of events honoring those currently serving in the military and those who have served in the past.

Great Falls events include the Montana Veterans Memorial's remembrance ceremony. The Veterans Memorial in Great Falls is the backdrop for the memorial at 11 a.m. Monday to honor those who served in the armed forces.

Master of ceremonies will be Sam Pappas, chairman of the Montana Veterans Memorial Association.

Pappas also will give a welcoming speech, followed by the presentation of the colors from



Montana Veterans Memorial's remembrance ceremony at the Veterans Memorial in Great Falls is Monday at 11 a.m. TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO/ROCK SANDERS
the Mahanstrom Air Force Base Honor Guard.

Following that, Lt. Col. Mark Roberts, chaplain at Malin-

strom, will read an invocation, and the national anthem will be sung by the Sound of the Falls women's chorus.

Montana Boot Camp graduates will say the pledge of allegiance, and the Sound of the Falls also will perform "God Bless America."

The program's guest speakers will be Col. Robert M. Stanley, commander of the 341st Missile Wing, and Christine A. Gregory, director of the Montana Veterans Administration.

The program will conclude with a benediction from Pastor Nate Swanson from the Great Falls Christian Center and "Taps," performed by Toni Taylor, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.

Stanley, the guest speaker, leads the 4,000-member 341st

Missile Wing with combat-ready airmen and nuclear forces. They are responsible for base support, maintenance, security and operation of 150 Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles located in the area.

Before leading the Missile Wing he was the vice commander.

Gregory became director of the Montana VA in March. She has more than 25 years of administrative and clinical experience, serving as associated director of patient care services in Iowa and San Francisco and was the acting director of the VAMC in Fargo, N.D. She is a native of Miles City and began her professional education at St. Vincent School of Nursing.

THE HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day was originally incorporated by President Wilson as **Armistice Day** in 1919 in recognition of the sacrifices made by Americans in World War I. Other counties today recognize November 11th as Armistice Day or Remembrance Day in honor of the Armistice Treaty which ended WWI. In 1938, Armistice Day was officially recognized as an American holiday. After WWII, it was felt that all veterans of all wars should be recognized, so in 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Congress changed the name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. In 1978, the observance of Veterans Day was returned to November 11th by popular sentiment and is honored on the 11th hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month in remembrance of the original armistice day of World War I when hostilities came to an end between Germany and the allied powers followed by the Treaty of Versailles in 1919.

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

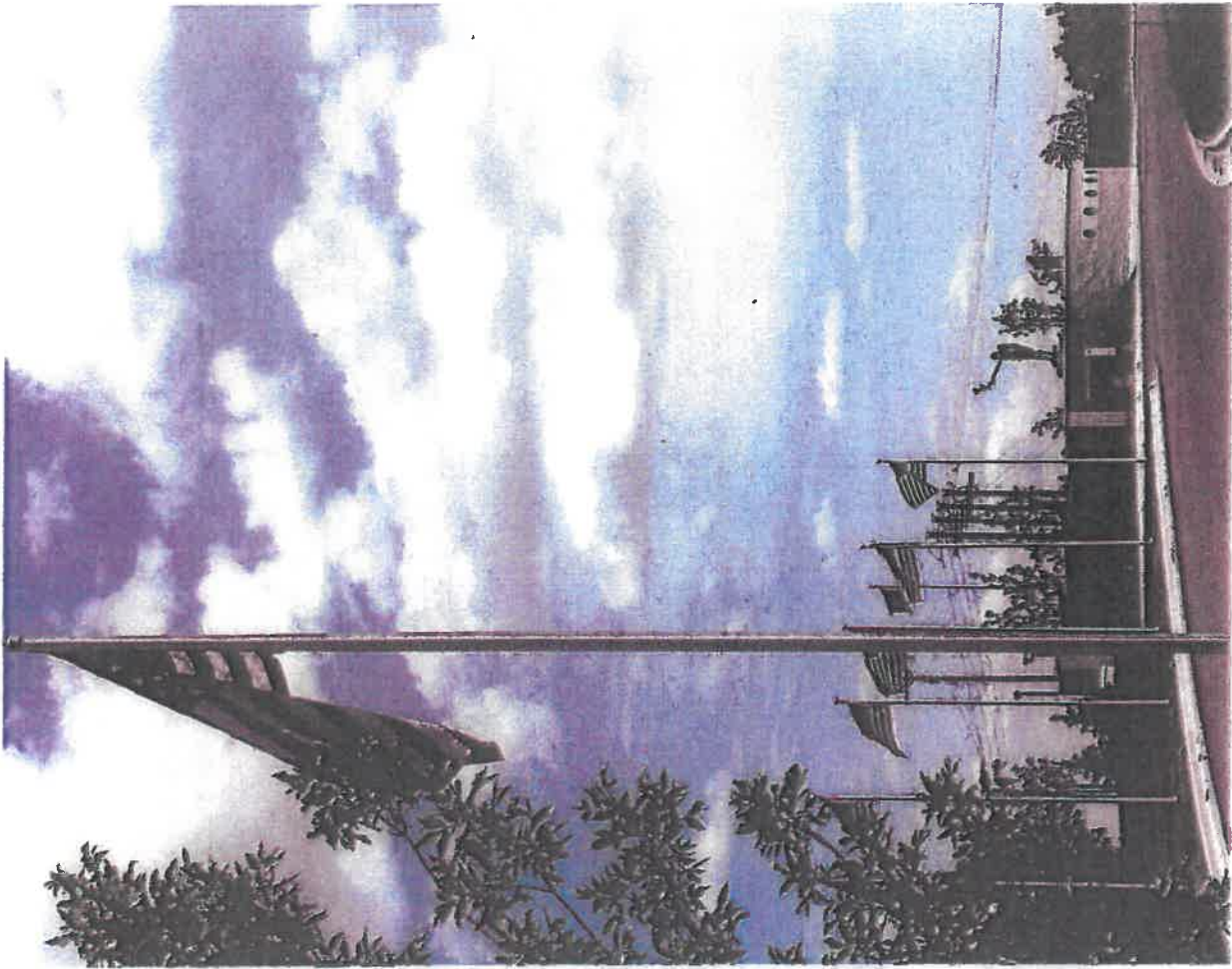
The association established and maintains this memorial to honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and in war. A Veteran is defined as any man or woman of any age who has served in any branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity, and to honor men and women living and deceased equally.

Montana Veterans Memorial Committee, Inc.
PO Box 3524
Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524
Phone (406) 454-9070

Website: www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

Non-Profit Tax ID #0530543

A PLACE OF HONOR



VETERANS DAY NOV. 11, 2013

Colonel Robert W. Stanley II is Commander, 341st Missile Wing, Malmstrom Air Force Base. The wing's 4,000 personnel defend the United States with combat-ready airmen and nuclear forces. They are responsible for base support, maintenance, security and operation of 150 Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBM) located in central Montana. Prior to this assignment, he was the vice-commander of the wing. He was commissioned in 1988 through the USAF ROTC at Purdue University where he earned his B.S. degree. His first assignment was as a combat crew member in the 487th Tactical Missile Wing, Comiso Air Station, Sicily followed by a Minuteman III operations tour with the 90th Strategic Missile Wing in Cheyenne, WY where he also later commanded the 90th Operations Support Squadron. Colonel Stanley served in a wide array of operational and staff assignments with Space Command, the Pentagon, NASA and worked on commercial space lift missions, including NASA's Mars Pathfinder launch. He earned a master of science degree from Lesley College and Master of Arts degrees from U.S. Naval War College and School of Advance Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFT. Some of his highest decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal and Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters.

Christine A. Gregory became director of VA Montana Health Care in March 2013 with over 25 years of administrative and clinical assignments and leadership experience, serving as associate director of patient care services at the VA in Iowa and San Francisco, acting director of the VAMC in Fargo, ND and Network Mental Health Service Line Nurse Executive.

Ms. Gregory is a native of Miles City, MT who began her professional education at St. Vincent's School of Nursing, earning her nursing degree from Montana State University and graduate degree in nursing from Ohio State University. She earned a graduate degree in business administration from Iowa State University, is a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute and the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton Fellow Program in Management for Nurse Executives. She received the VA Secretary's Hero Award in recognition of her efforts at the first VA medical shelter after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita; and numerous other VA commendations to include the VA Secretary's Award for Excellence for the advancement of nursing programs.

**MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL
Veterans Day Ceremony
11:00 a.m. - November 11, 2013
Great Falls, Montana**

Master of Ceremonies Sam Pappas,
Chairman,
Montana Veterans Memorial Association

Welcome Sam Pappas, Chairman,
Montana Veterans Memorial Association

Presentation of the Colors Malmstrom USAF Honor Guard,
Veterans Groups

Invocation.....Chaplain Lt. Col. Mark Roberts
USAF MAFB

National Anthem Sound of the Falls Women's Chorus

Pledge of Allegiance MT Boot Camp Graduates

Guest Speakers.....Colonel Robert M. Stanley, Commander,
341st Missile Wing, MAFB;
Christine Gregory, Director, VA - Montana Health Care

"God Bless America" Sound of the Falls Women's Chorus

Benediction.....Nate Swanson, Pastor,
Great Falls Christian Center

Taps.....Toni Taylor, Marine Corp League



Nov 11- 2013

The Star Spangled Banner

In 1814, Francis Scott Key wrote the poem, *Defense of Fort McHenry*. The poem was later put to the tune of (John Stafford Smith's song) *The Anacreontic Song*, modified somewhat, and retitled *The Star Spangled Banner*. Congress proclaimed *The Star Spangled Banner* the U.S. National Anthem in 1931.

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore dimly seen thro' the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream:
'Tis the star-spangled banner: O, long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave:
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

O, thus be it ever when freemen shall stand,
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation;
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust"
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

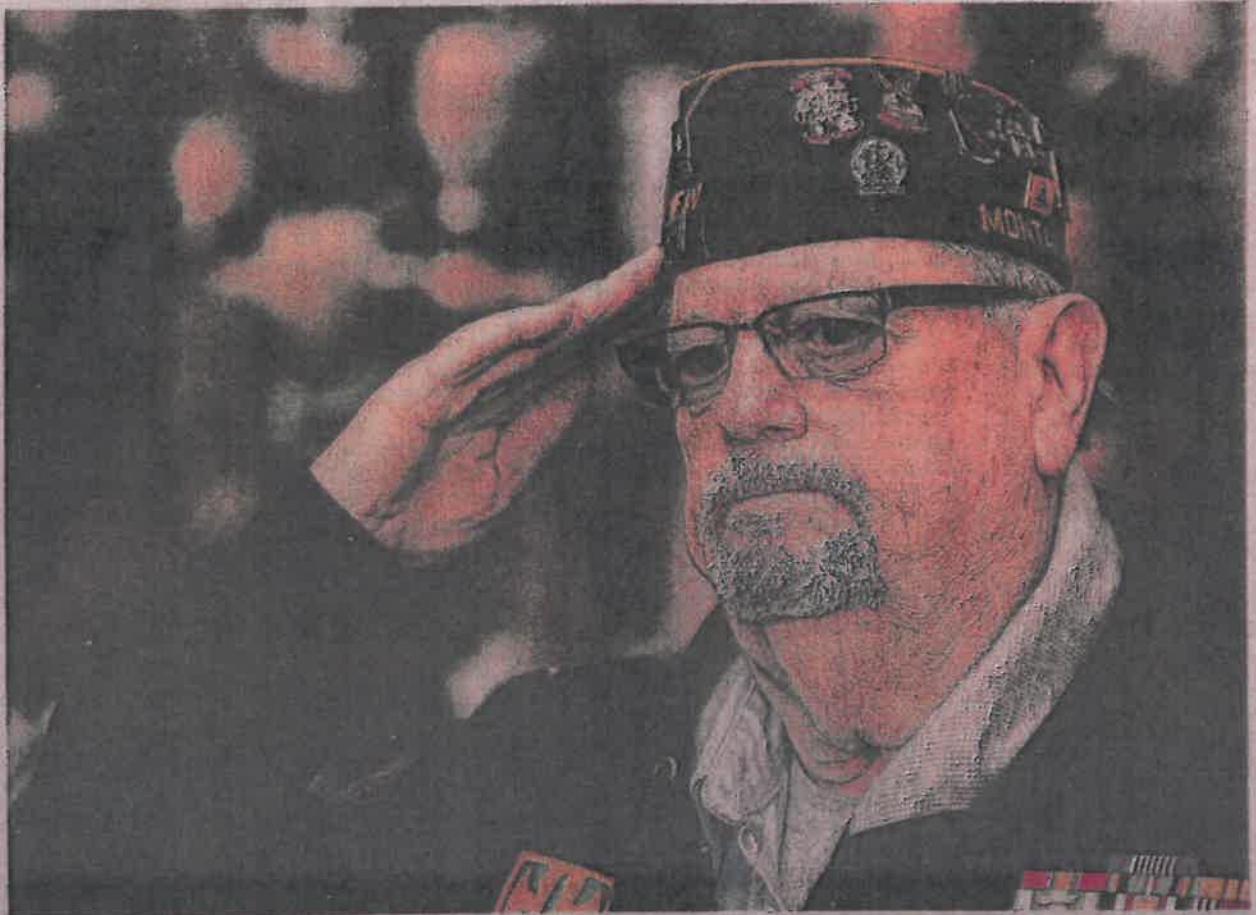
The Montana Veterans Memorial Association offers our thanks and recognition to the many veteran service organizations and groups here in Montana that provide essential support to our veterans, their families and nation. The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, Marine Corps League, Vietnam Veterans of America, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, our local Vets 4 Vets and others with and without name who carry on the mission to do their best to leave no veteran behind.

We encourage our fellow veterans and citizens to join and/or support these vital organizations that serve our communities in many ways and wonderfully compliment our U.S. Veterans Administration and Department of Defense.



GREAT FALLS HONORS VETS

Veterans Day
Nov 11, 2013



Robert Tarello, who served in the U.S. Army in Korea and Vietnam in the 1960s, salutes during a Veterans Day ceremony Monday. TRIBUNE PHOTO/LARRY BECKNER

Observances held to recognize military service and sacrifice

By Jenn Rowell
Tribune Staff Writer

At Loy Elementary, students, teachers and families packed into the gym for the annual Veterans Day assembly on Monday.

Col. Joe Conti, a missile squadron commander at Malmstrom Air Force Base and a Loy parent, was the guest speaker. He opened with a brief history of Veterans Day.

"You probably don't want to hear about history," he said.

"Yeah we do," the students cheered.

"You probably want to hear about a movie."

"Yeah!"

MORE INSIDE

Obama addresses veterans /2A

had seen "Star Wars." Most raised their hands.

How many thought Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia were the stars of the movies?

Most students raised their hands again.

"I think R2D2 was a star of the movie," Conti said. Whenever the other stars needed something, R2D2 was always there to help, he said.

"That's what you are to us. You're our R2D2," Conti said of the



Jesse Callender of the Great Falls Shire Bagpipe Band plays "Amazing Grace" during a Veterans Day ceremony on

Readers respond to hate mail sent to vet

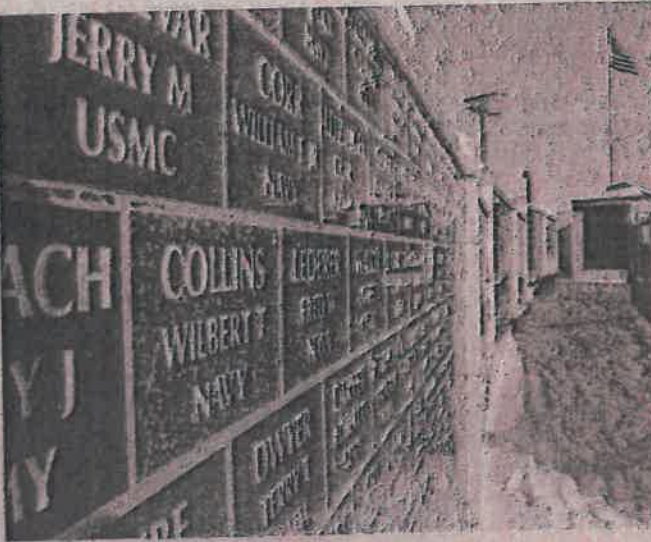
Editor's note: The following are responses to an editorial published Tuesday about an anonymous piece of hate mail sent to a veteran's home after a Veterans Day tribute page published in the Tribune on Nov. 11. Proceeds collected from the tributes are donated to the Montana Veterans Memorial. To learn more about the memorial and how you can donate, see the information box.

Dear Air Force Vet,

I am a third generation 'Great Falls girl,' as my grandma used to say. I want you to know that I am thankful to you for your service to our country, but more than that, I am thankful that you are here in Great Falls. You and all of the veterans that choose to retire here make our town into the thriving place that it is, and you certainly make this a more interesting place than it would otherwise be.

You are our customers, neighbors and friends. You add a lot of energy and talent to our arts and industry. Much of the highly trained medical expertise that Great Falls is so proud of comes from the spouses who come here with you. In fact, one night as I was working in the ICU, the conversation turned to hometowns and we found that of all of the nurses working in the ICU and the ER on that particular shift, I was the only one who was home grown!

My husband and I own a business here in town and a great percentage of our business derives from retired veterans. We have always had active duty or retired service members as next-door neighbors and we have always found these



Tiles at the Montana Veterans Memorial honor living and deceased veterans. TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO/MICHAEL BEALL

ry military folks, so you must be doing something right!

And we have noticed that you enlarge the local tax base — a good thing for all of our citizens. I have never heard any one say that veterans were 'double dip-pers.' How dare this vile hater even suggest such a thing. Our country does not do enough for our veterans let alone keep the promises it makes to entice people to sign on with the military.

See you around!

Teri Keith,
Great Falls Girl

To the receiver of the hate mail, DON'T let it get you down. I am a Vietnam-era vet and you wouldn't believe some of the crap I got called for being in the service during the war. It is a true shame that people like the mailer get to live in this country free through our sacrifice.

Montana is more of an attitude than a place. "Self-reliance" and "help your neighbor" are the two best ones. If you have these attributes I say welcome,

were building the WWII memorial in Washington, my husband wanted to have my dad's name sent in. It was then I found out. I always knew he was proud to serve; you could see it whenever he would talk about that period of his life. During his last four years when he moved to Great Falls, we spent countless hours talking about his time in the war. I always knew my husband's time in the Marines meant a lot to him. He would use the phrase "once a Marine, always a Marine." There was no such thing as retiring from the Marines.

The person that wrote that hateful letter has probably never served or spent time with a vet. If he did, he probably did not serve with honor or pride in himself. Every time I see the big flag, I feel proud and I think of everyone that has served or is serving this wonderful country we live in. It is because of them that we live free.

I am not ashamed to sign my name,

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL

DO I HAVE TO BE FROM MONTANA TO HAVE A TILE WITH MY NAME ON THE WALL?

No. At Montana Veterans Memorial every man or woman of any age who has served in any branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity will be honored.

MY UNCLE IS FROM ANOTHER STATE. CAN I MAKE A DONATION TO MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL INC. AND HAVE A TILE WITH HIS NAME PLACED THERE?

Yes. Montana Veterans Memorial Inc. honors and recognizes all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and in war.

DO YOU HAVE TO BE DECEASED TO HAVE A TILE AT MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL?

No. Montana Veterans Memorial Inc. honors men and women living and deceased equally.

MY GRANDMOTHER IS LIVING. CAN I HONOR HER WITH A TILE AT MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL?

Yes. A tile at Montana Veterans Memorial is a very special gift.

IS THIS A WAR MEMORIAL?

No. Montana Veterans Memorial Inc. honors and recognizes all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and in war.

HOW CAN I GET A TILE FOR MY LOVED ONE WHO SERVED?

If you would like to honor a veteran with a tile at Montana Veterans Memorial, contact: Montana Veterans Memorial Inc., P.O. Box 3524, Great Falls, MT 59403
Phone: 406 454-9070
Email: info@montanaveterans-memorial.org

HOW MUCH DOES A TILE COST?

A tile costs \$100.00. The donation of

WILLIAM O. BRONSON, PLLC

ATTORNEY AT LAW
Silver State Building.
No. 18 – 6TH Street North, First Floor
P.O. Box 3485
Great Falls, Montana 59403

PHONE: (406) 315-1181
E-MAIL: bill.bronson@bresnan.net
WEBSITE: www.bbronson-law.com

COPY

OUR FILE: MO440-001

November 21, 2013

Jan Craig Scruggs, Esq.
Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc.
2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 104
Washington, DC 20037

RE: The Wall That Heals/Agreement

Dear Mr. Scruggs:

Please find enclosed the original signed Agreement for display of The Wall That Heals in Great Falls, Montana, July 23-27, 2014. I have been authorized to sign this on behalf of the Montana Veterans' Memorial Association, Inc., the local host sponsor.

I have not filled in the actual site at this time. The likely site is an area adjacent to the local Veterans' Memorial here in Great Falls, but the final details for siting are not yet in place; I expect them to be completed shortly, and will be happy to forward that information.

Please send a fully executed agreement to my attention. The community looks forward to hosting the Wall this coming summer. Having visited the actual Wall more than once in my life, I speak for many when I say that we consider the opportunity to host The Wall That Heals a true privilege and honor.

Best wishes,

WILLIAM O. BRONSON, PLLC

By: _____
William O. Bronson

*Licensed to Practice in All Montana State Courts, the United States District Court
for the District of Montana, the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit,
and the United States Supreme Court*

mv 213

#3

**AMENDED BYLAWS
OF
MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION, INC.
A Non-Profit, Public Benefit Corporation
[hereafter, "the corporation"]**

**ARTICLE I:
OFFICES**

Section 1.1 Office

The Board of Directors provided for under these Bylaws may establish such offices within the State of Montana as it deems necessary and appropriate.

Section 1.2 Registered Agent

The corporation shall provide for a registered agent in accordance with the laws of the State of Montana and any rules and regulations of the Montana Secretary of State.

**ARTICLE II:
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 2.1 General Powers

The business and affairs of the corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors [Board], which may exercise all of the powers of the corporation except such as may be prohibited or conditioned by federal or state law, the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws. Continuing and exclusive authority to fix, supervise and control the business and other affairs of the corporation shall be wholly vested in the Board.

Section 2.2 Number, Tenure, and Qualifications of Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of not less than seven (7) and no more than fifteen (15) directors. Each Director shall have one (1) vote on any matter that comes before the Board.

Directors shall serve a term of one (1) year and thereafter until a successor shall have been elected and qualified. Terms of board members shall be staggered, such that at least one-half (1/2) of the Board members shall be elected each year. For the purpose of effectuating this system of staggered terms, the Board shall, at their first regular meeting after adoption of these amended bylaws, designate at least one-half of the current members as having a term of one year from January 1, 2014. The balance shall have a term of two years from January 1, 2014. Designation shall take place by agreement of the members, by lot, or by such combination of the two as is necessary to make the provisions of this Section.

Section 2.3 Board Chairman

The Board shall, at least annually, elect or appoint one of its members as Chairman of the Board, to serve until such time as his or her successor is elected or appointed.

The Chairman shall have the authority to run all meetings of the Board, and may designate another Board member to run the meetings in his or her absence.

Section 2.4 Removal of Directors

A Director may be removed, with or without cause, if two-third (2/3) of the Directors then in office vote for the removal. Removal is effective only if occurs at a meeting called for the purpose. Written notice must be sent to all Directors at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting called for the purpose of removing a Director, and the written notice must state that a purpose of the meeting is to vote on the removal of a Director.

Section 2.5 Resignations and Vacancies

Any Director may resign at any time. The acceptance of a resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Vacancies occurring in the Board, through resignation, death or other incapacity, shall be filled by a vote of the remaining Directors, and the person appointed shall serve the remaining term of the Director replaced.

Section 2.6 Meetings

a) **Annual Meeting.** The Annual Meeting of the Board shall be held each year on a date and time and at a place designated by the Board. The annual meeting is for the purpose of receiving reports, electing Directors, and appointing Officers.

b) **Regular Meetings:** Regular meetings of the Board may be held at such places and times as it shall determine the Board. The Board, in its discretion, may adopt policies for the conduct of regular meetings by telephone conference call or by other means of electronic communication, provided all Directors receive proper notice of the meeting, and further provided that all persons participating can hear each other at the same time.

c) **Special Meetings:** Special meetings of the Board may be held upon the call of the Chairman, or by at least three (3) of the members of the Board. Those authorized to call special board meetings must give at least two (2) days' notice of said meeting, and the day, time and place must also be specified. Special meetings may be held by telephone conference call or by other means of electronic communication as provided in Section 2.6(b) above, so long as the Board has previously adopted policies for the conduct of meetings by those methods.

Section 2.7 Notice

The Chairman of the Board shall give reasonable notice of regular meetings of the Board, but in no event shall notice of a regular meeting be made less than five (5) days before said meeting. If notice is made by mail, three (3) additional days must be allowed.

Section 2.8 Waiver of Notice

A Director may at any time waive notice required by these Bylaws or the Montana Non-Profit Corporation Act. The waiver must be in writing, signed by the Director entitled to notice, and filed with the corporate records of the corporation..

A Director's attendance at a meeting waives the Director's right to object to a lack of notice or defective notice of the meeting unless the Director, at the beginning of the meeting, or promptly upon arrival, objects to lack of notice or defective notice of the meeting, and does not vote for or assent to action taken at the meeting.

Section 2.9 Quorum

At all meetings of the Board, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the sitting directors.

Section 2.10 Directors and Manner of Acting

The act of the majority of the Directors present at such meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board, unless the act of a greater number is required by law, the Articles of Incorporation or by these Bylaws. If a quorum is not present for a meeting, the meeting may be adjourned until a quorum is present, or the meeting may continue. In the event the meeting continues, the Chairman is authorized to contact those Directors absent from said meeting within a reasonable time after the meeting concludes, for the purpose of advising them of any tentative actions or recommendations made by the Directors present at the meeting, and obtain the consent of any of the absent Directors to those actions or recommendations.

Unless otherwise restricted by the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws, any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board may be taken without a meeting if authorized by written consent of all persons who would be entitled to vote upon such action at a meeting.

Section 2.11 Conduct of Meetings

The most current version of Robert's Rules of Order shall be followed in the conduct of meetings.

Section 2.12 Committees

- a) There shall be two standing committees of the Board, as follows:
 - i) An Executive Committee, consisting of the Chairman of the Board and no more than two (2) other Directors, selected by the Board; and
 - ii) An Audit Committee.

New Section: 3.6

a) An Officer may resign at any time by delivering notice to the Board. The resignation is effective immediately, unless the notice specifies a future effective date.

b) In the event a resignation is effective immediately, the Board may appoint a successor, in accordance with the procedure set forth in Section 3.1(a). The successor shall serve the balance of the resigning Officer's term, and may be reappointed as provided by Section 3.2.

c) If a resignation is made effective at a future date and the Board accepts the future effective date, the Board may fill the pending vacancy before the effective date if the Board provides that the successor does not take office until the effective date.

The *Executive Committee* shall have such duties and responsibilities as provided by the Board, but they must include the authority to set an agenda for any regular meeting.

The *Audit Committee* shall consist of three members in any combination of Directors or Officers as selected by the Board. The Audit Committee shall oversee a complete financial statement prepared quarterly and presented to the Board with one being a certified audit prepared and submitted at the annual meeting.

b) Within two months prior to the date of the Annual Meeting, the Chairman shall appoint a nominating committee, made up of at least three (3) and no more than five (5) members of the Board of Directors, for the purpose of making recommendations to the Board of Directors for Directors' positions for the following year.

c) By resolution, the Board may designate one or more other committees to exercise the authority of or make recommendation to the Board, as specified in such resolution, to the extent allowed by law.

Section 2.13 Compensation

Directors shall not receive any stated salary for their services as Directors or as members of committees, but may receive reimbursement of expenses incurred, under policies and procedures to be adopted by the Board.

ARTICLE III:
OFFICERS

Section 3.1 Officers

- a) The Officers of the corporation shall be a President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. Each Officer shall be appointed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Board at the annual meeting of the corporation.
- b) A Director may be appointed as an Officer, but in no instance shall a majority of the Board consist of Officers.
- c) Officer shall attend Board meetings and participate in Board deliberations, but may not vote unless they are members of the Board.
- d) The Board may by resolution designate other Officer positions, including but not limited to, a Senior Vice-President, and in such event shall define responsibilities for those positions. Officer positions created under this subsection may attend and participate in Board meetings, but may not vote on any matter to come before the Board.

Section 3.2 Term of Office

Officers shall serve a term of one (1) year or until their successors are duly elected and qualified, and may be reappointed to serve additional terms.

Section 3.3 Duties of the President, Secretary, and Treasurer

- a) The President shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation and shall have the general powers and duties of supervision and management as provided by the Board.
- b) The Secretary shall give notice of all meetings of Directors and all other notices required by law or by these Bylaws. The Secretary shall record all the proceedings of the meetings of the Board in a book to be kept for that purpose, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board.

c) The Treasurer shall have such duties as are provided by the Board, which may include custody of the corporate funds and maintenance of full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the corporation. If directed by the Board, the Treasurer shall deposit all moneys and other valuables in the name and to the credit of the corporation in such depositories as may be designated by the Board of Directors and shall render to the Board at its regular meetings, or whenever they may request it, an account of all his or her transactions as Treasurer and of the financial condition of the corporation. If required by the Board, the Treasurer shall give the corporation a bond for the faithful discharge of his or her duties in such amount and with such surety as the Board shall prescribe.

Nothing in this section prohibits the Board from appointing an outside accounting firm to perform those services otherwise performed by the Treasurer, and in the event of such appointment, the Treasurer shall work with the outside accounting firm to ensure that these services are performed for the benefit of the corporation.

Section 3.4 Compensation

The compensation, if any, of all Officers shall be fixed by the Board, but nothing in these Bylaws shall mandate payment of compensation to any Officer.

Any payments made to an Officer of the corporation including, without limitation, salaries, commissions, bonuses, interest, or expense reimbursement, which shall be disallowed in whole or in part as a deductible expense of the corporation by the Internal Revenue Service, shall be reimbursed by such Officer to the corporation to the fullest extent of such disallowance. It shall be the duty of the Board to enforce payment of each such amount disallowed, and in lieu of payment by the Officer, proportionate amounts may be withheld from his or her future compensation until the amount owed to the corporation has been recovered.

Section 3.5 Removal of Officers

The Board may remove any officer of the corporation whenever in its judgment the best interest of the corporation will be served thereby.

ARTICLE IV:
INDEMNIFICATION

Indemnification of Directors and Officers shall be as provided by state law.

ARTICLE V:
CONTRACTS, LOANS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS, AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

The Directors shall adopt policies and procedures governing authorization for execution of contracts, deeds, mortgages, notes, checks, deposits and other instruments pertaining to the business and affairs of the corporation, subject to the following:

a) The corporation shall not allow anyone to contract on its behalf for indebtedness for borrowed money unless the Board authorizes such a contract by resolution. The corporation shall not allow anyone to issue evidence of the corporation's indebtedness unless the Board authorizes the issuance by resolution;

b) No check in excess of \$200 may be issued on behalf of the corporation without the signatures of the President and the Treasurer. The Treasurer may issue, or cause to be issued, a check on behalf of the corporation for \$200 or less, provided the payment has been approved by either the President or the Secretary.

ARTICLE VI:
PRESERVATION OF STATUS AS TAX-EXEMPT PUBLIC CHARITY

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its Directors, Officers, members, trustees, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes of the corporation.

No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on

-by any organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501[c][3] of the Internal Revenue Code; corresponding section of any future federal tax code; or

-by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 [c] [2] of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501[c][3] of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for the public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the State District Court of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for the purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Neither the corporation, nor is Directors or Officers, have any power to cause the corporation to engage on any transaction with a related party which results in the related party receiving an economic benefit the value of which exceeds the value of the economic benefit the related party provides to the corporation. A "related party" means any of the following:

-a Director, Officer, trustee or employee of the corporation, or any person otherwise in a position to exercise substantial influence over the affairs of the corporation;

-any person who has made a substantial contribution to the corporation, or any person who owns more than twenty percent (20%) of an entity which has made a substantial contribution to the corporation;

-a spouse, brother, sister (or spouse of a brother or sister), ancestor, lineal descendant (or spouse of a lineal descendant) of any of the persons described above; and

-an entity in which any of the persons described above owns more than thirty-five percent (35%).

1/30/13
4
3

ARTICLE VII:
AMENDMENTS

The power to make, alter, amend or repeal these Bylaws is vested in the Board, to be exercised by a majority thereof at any annual meeting or any special meeting called for that purpose.

DULY ADOPTED THIS _____ day of _____, 2013.

(signature lines for directors)

Barbara Winters, Artist
2609 6th Street NW
Great Falls, MT 59404

April 18, 2015

Sam Pappas, President
Mt Veterans Memorial Committee

**My sincere thanks again for the privilege of creating Military sculptures for
The Montana Veterans Memorial.**

Enclosed is a brief description of each sculpture for the History file.

**If you have a need for relief sculptures in the future, I would be grateful
for the opportunity to work with you again.**

Sincerely,



Barbara Winters
bcwinters@bresnan.net
Phone: 452-5679

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on

-by any organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501[c][3] of the Internal Revenue Code; corresponding section of any future federal tax code; or

-by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 [c] [2] of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501[c][3] of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for the public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the State District Court of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for the purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Neither the corporation, nor is Directors or Officers, have any power to cause the corporation to engage on any transaction with a related party which results in the related party receiving an economic benefit the value of which exceeds the value of the economic benefit the related party provides to the corporation. A "related party" means any of the following:

-a Director, Officer, trustee or employee of the corporation, or any person otherwise in a position to exercise substantial influence over the affairs of the corporation;

-any person who has made a substantial contribution to the corporation, or any person who owns more than twenty percent (20%) of an entity which has made a substantial contribution to the corporation;

-a spouse, brother, sister (or spouse of a brother or sister), ancestor, lineal descendant (or spouse of a lineal descendant) of any of the persons described above; and

-an entity in which any of the persons described above owns more than thirty-five percent (35%).

**Barbara Winters, Artist
2609 6th Street NW
Great Falls, MT 59404**

April 18, 2015

**Sam Pappas, President
Mt Veterans Memorial Committee**

**My sincere thanks again for the privilege of creating Military sculptures for
The Montana Veterans Memorial.**

Enclosed is a brief description of each sculpture for the History file.

**If you have a need for relief sculptures in the future, I would be grateful
for the opportunity to work with you again.**

Sincerely,



**Barbara Winters
bcwinters@bresnan.net
Phone: 452-5679**

The Montana Veterans Memorial Association commissioned artist Barbara Winters to create Bronze sculptures to be installed on the Entrance Wall of the Memorial. Six sculptures were completed by April, 2015. A brief description given by the artist for the sculptures follows:

“Doughboy” WWI

“Doughboy” was the nickname of an American Soldier or Marine during World War I. The designation may date back to the Civil War, but it came to symbolize the American fighting men who were called into service during WWI, and was very popular among the men who bore the title.

“U.S. Fighter Pilot” WWII

The defining battle in the Pacific Theater in WWII was the defeat of the Japanese fleet by American carrier pilots at Midway. On June 4, 1942, US aircraft flying from USS *Enterprise*, USS *Hornet*, and USS *Yorktown* attacked and sunk four Japanese carriers, forcing the Japanese to withdraw from the battle for Midway Island.

“The Faces of War” Korean War

The Korean War was relatively short (1950 – 1953) but exceptionally bloody. Nearly five million people died, more than half of these civilians.

“Rescue” Vietnam War

US Military Medics and Corpsmen put their life in jeopardy to render emergency medical Treatment, and save lives on the battlefield in Vietnam.

The “Huey” helicopter, which transported the injured and dying from the front lines, became the symbol of US combat forces in Vietnam. Their impact was profound in the survival rate of battlefield casualties.

“Missing in Action” MIA

“Missing in Action” is a classification assigned to armed services personnel who are reported missing during active service. Whether killed, wounded, deserted, or become prisoner of war, the “missing” has not been positively identified.

“America” War on Terrorism

The Bald Eagle, full of the boundless spirit of freedom is the symbol of America with it’s intimidating power, strength and beauty. The American Eagle is frequently pictured in battle with the Snake, so often associated with evil.

June 15 2015

VETERANS MEMORIAL



TRIBUNE PHOTO/AMANDA DETERMAN

Artist Barbara Winters works in her studio on the northeast side of Great Falls. Winters says bronze is one of her favorite mediums to work with. To see more photos of Winters' work, go to gftrib.com.

Bronzes help tell military stories



TRIBUNE PHOTO/AMANDA DETERMAN

Detail of the "Faces of War" panel commemorating the Korean War.



TRIBUNE PHOTO/AMANDA DETERMAN

The bronze panels created for the Montana Veterans Memorial all feature an incredible level of detail.



Thank you, veterans



TRIBUNE PHOTO/LARRY BECKER

CALL TODAY!

**HONOR A
VETERAN**

V MONTANA
VETERANS
MEMORIAL

*Give the gift that you cannot purchase at a store...
the gift of eternal honor and bravery with a
granite tile at.....*

**MONTANA VETERANS
MEMORIAL**

454-9070

★Honoring men
& women living
& deceased of
all branches of
military equally

MAY 2014
6x10

BY: 000022041



**MONTANA VETERANS
MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.**

P.O. BOX 3524 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-3524
406-454-9070

www.Montanaveteransmemorial.org



Bronze plaques created and designed by Barbara Winters—forged in Bozeman Montana 2013-2014

Each plaque is a reflection of major conflicts and both world wars of our nation. Bronze reflection to honor all who served our nation in war and in peace.





MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3524 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-3524
406-454-9070

www.Montanaveteransmemorial.org







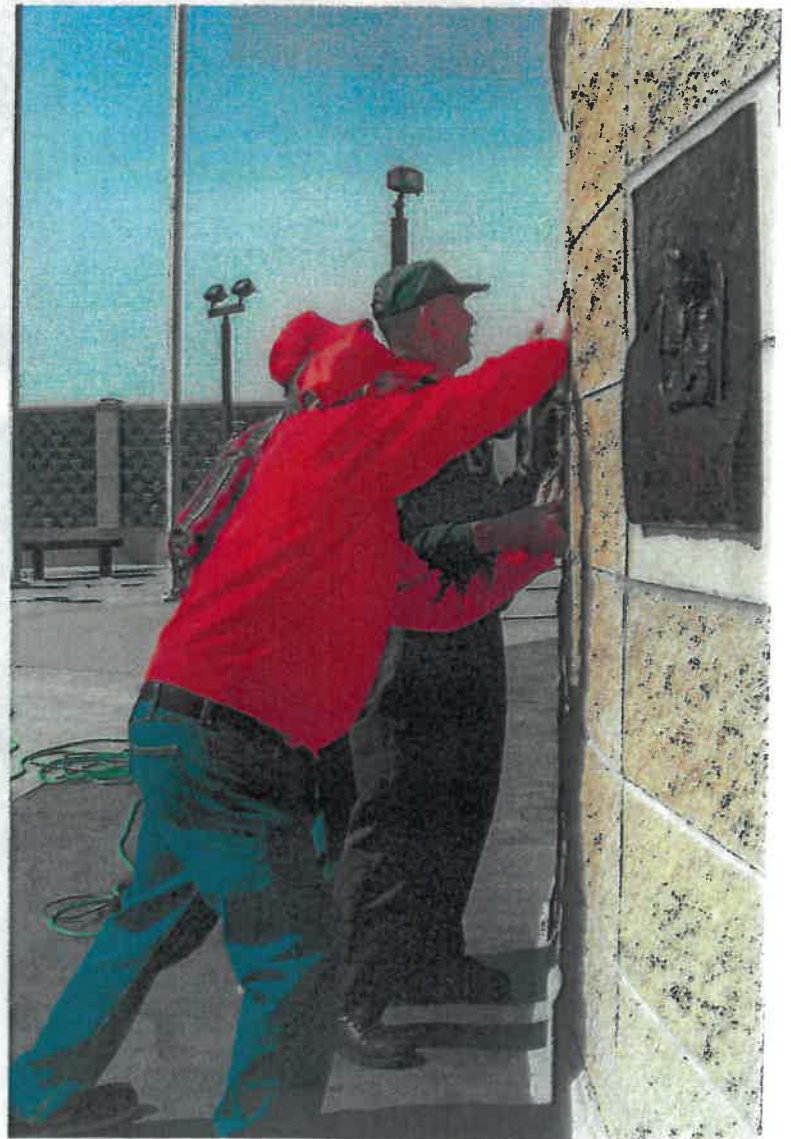
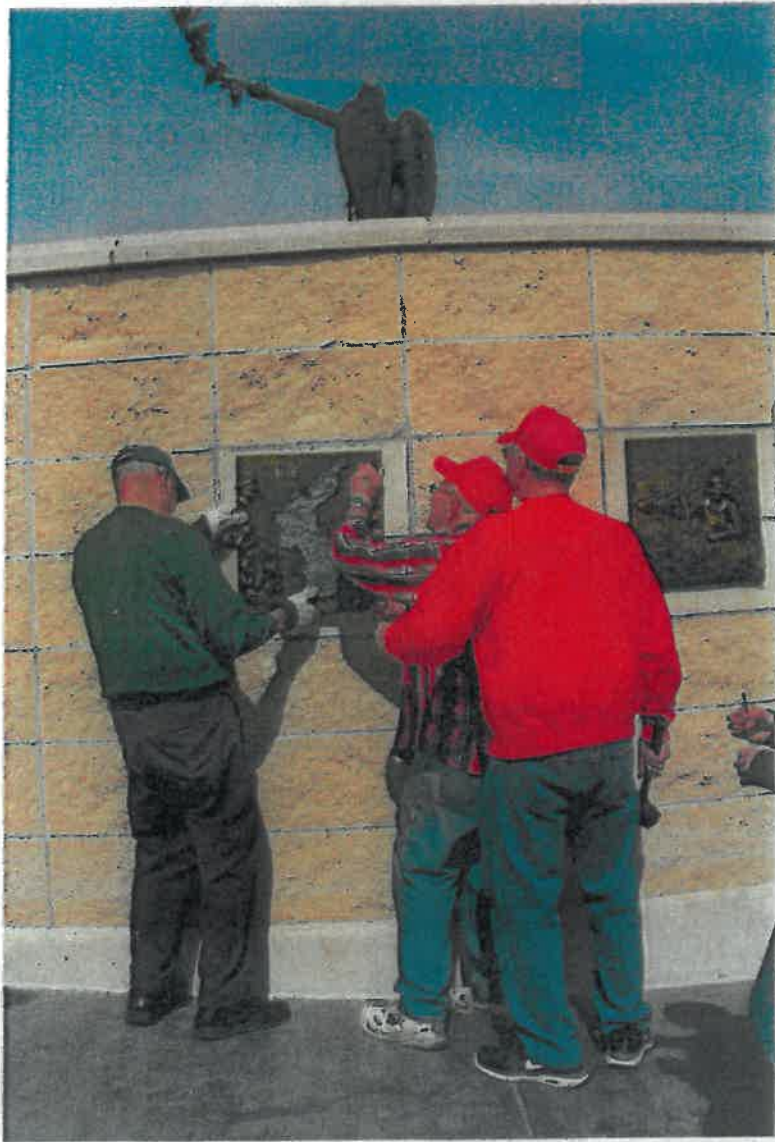
MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3524 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-3524
406-454-9070

www.Montanaveteransmemorial.org



Detail installing bronze plaques April 2014





Veterans Memorial service set for Monday

By Tribune Staff

The Montana Veterans Memorial invites residents to honor America's vets and active military members during its annual Memorial Day ceremony.

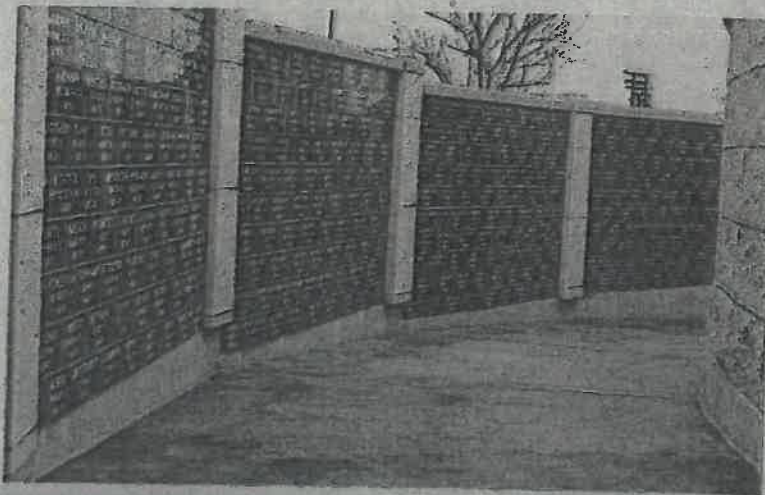
This year's ceremony is Monday, May 26, at 2 p.m.

Master of ceremonies is Harry Malby with the Montana Veterans Memorial Association. Sam Pappas, also with the association, gives welcoming remarks followed by the presentation of colors from the Inland Northwest Air Force Honor Guard and veterans groups.

Chaplain Mark Roberts gives an invocation, and 1st Lt. Theresa Agosto-Smart plays the national anthem.

The World War II veterans honor guard will recite the Pledge of Allegiance, and Great Falls Mayor Michael Winters and congressional officials will give special remarks.

Winters, founder of the Mon-



Names of veterans line the walls of the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls. TRIBUNE PHOTO/LARRY BECKNER

tana Veterans Memorial, will speak primarily about what's new at the memorial and the upcoming visit of The Wall That Heals, which will come to Great Falls on July 22-27. The Wall That Heals is a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans

Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Winters said the Montana Veterans Memorial recently installed 150 new tiles to the memorial, putting its total at more than 6,000.

"Anyone who requested that a tile be placed from November

through May here will have their tile up on the wall," Winters said.

This year's guest speaker is Col. Steven Martinka with the Montana Army National Guard. Martinka serves as the director of operations for the guard and has served in the U.S. Army for 30 years. He is a graduate of Montana State University and received a Masters in Strategic Studies at the U.S. Army War College.

After Martinka's speech, the Great Falls Shrine Bagpipe Band performs a musical salute, followed by a salute to Montana's fallen veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan, led by Gina Winters.

The ceremony closes with a benediction given by Pastor Marcus Collins of the Alexander Temple Church of God in Christ and taps played by the U.S. Marine Corps League.

For more information on the ceremony, contact Winters at 799-0179.

'AND SOME HAVE GIVEN ALL'



Bill Hunter of the Marine Corps League plays taps at a Memorial Day service at the Montana Veterans Memorial on Monday. TRIBUNE PHOTO/LARRY BECKER

Memorial Day observances remember those who have served

By Eric Dietrich
Tribune Staff Writer

One by one under a cloudy sky in Highland Cemetery on Monday morning, four Great Falls Marine Corps League members reported for duty in turn.

A fifth call before a crowd assembled for a



Philip Lee, who served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, visits the grave of his father, who served in World War I, at Highland Cemetery on Monday. TRIBUNE PHOTOGRAPHY BECKNER

Memorial Day program, returned a different response.

"Sir, the veterans buried at Highland Cemetery do not answer."

Slowly, the Marine Corps veterans marched forward, bearing a rifle, a utility belt, a helmet and boots.

In turn again, they embedded the rifle's bayonet in the cemetery ground, adorned it with the belt and helmet and arranged the boots at a 45-degree angle — the same orientation, it was explained, as a soldier standing at attention.

One of countless ceremonial moments Monday in Great Falls and across the nation, the display was fleeting, removed before the program's close. Its message, however, was timeless.

"It's our duty to remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice," said speaker Command Chief Master Sgt. Phillip Easton, an officer at Malmstrom Air Force Base. "It's our

See MEMORIAL, 2M

ONLINE EXTRA

View a gallery of Monday's Memorial Day events at gfr.fb.com.

By Matthew Brown
Associated Press

BILLINGS — The chairman of the U.S. Senate Indian Affairs Committee says he wants the Obama administration to address the "dysfunction" that is hobbling Native American

other illnesses.
"As an Indian woman I will die 20 years younger than a white woman. How can we let that go on?" asked Whiting-Sorrell, who is now in charge of health policy planning for her tribes, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai. IHS acting Director Yvette Roubideaux is scheduled to testi-

ing in Billings today to air grievances about the U.S. Indian Health Service — a \$4.4 billion agency that provides health care for 2 million American Indians and Alaska Natives.

The agency's director for Montana and Wyoming, Anna Whiting-Sorrell, resigned this month after just more than a

make sure we as a committee and the administration hears what those concerns are so they can be addressed. Everybody says, 'We don't have enough money.' But the bottom line is they've got to use the money they've got more effectively."

The Montana Democrat add-

See HEALTH, 2M

is they've got to use the money they've got more effectively."

JOHN TESTER
U.S. senator

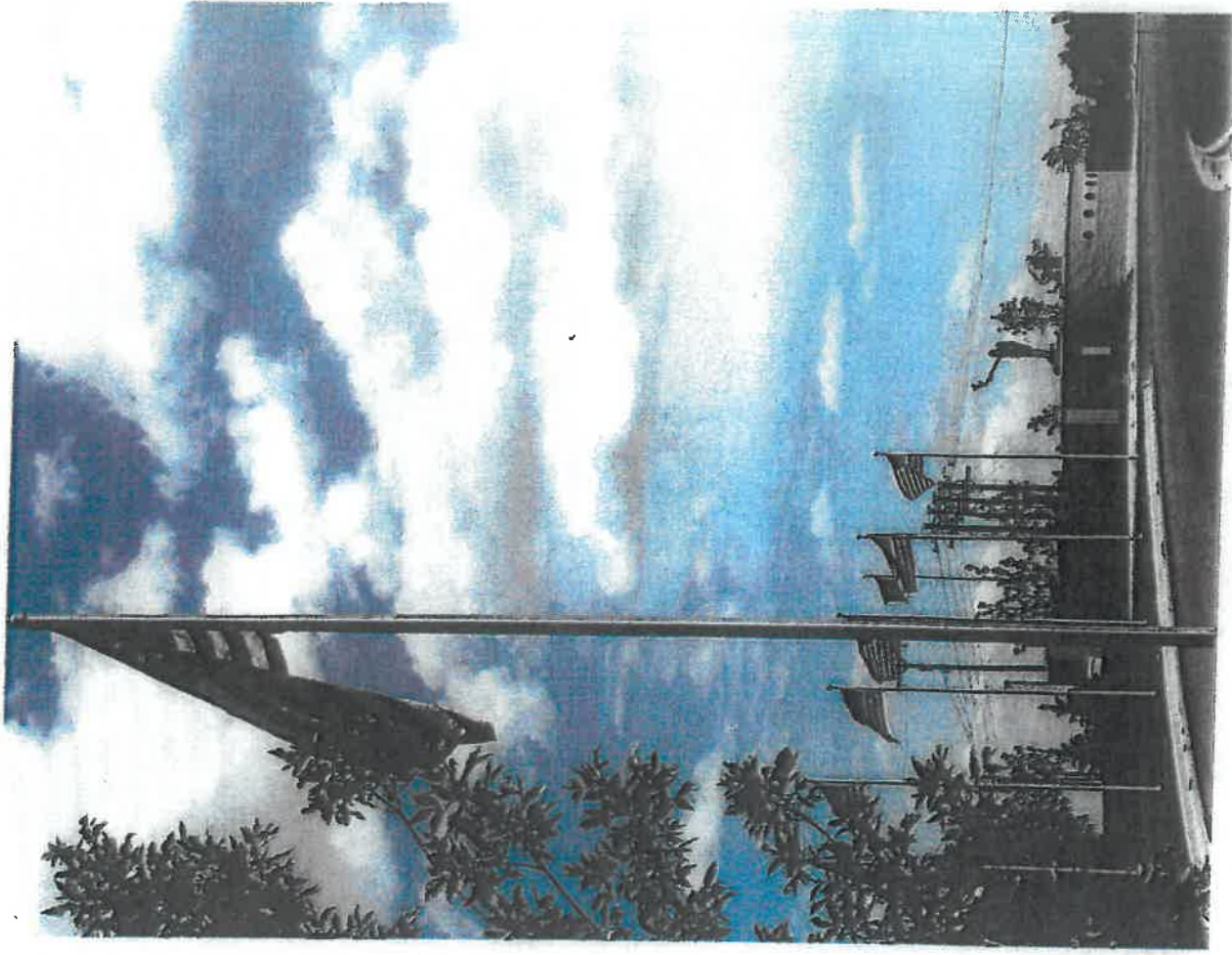
Montana's Fallen Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan

Army PFC Kristofer Stonesifer, Missoula
Army Reserve 1st Lt. Edward Salfz, Big Fork
Army PFC Owen D. Witt, Sand Springs
Marine Cpl. Dean Pratt, Stevensville
Marine Lance Cpl. Kane Funke, Kallispell
Army Staff Sgt. Aaron Holleyman, Glasgow
Marine Cpl. Raleigh C. Smith, Troy
Mt. Army NG Sgt. 1st Class Robbie McNary, Lewistown
Marine Lance Corporal Nicholas Bloem, Belgrade
Army 1st Lt. Josh Hyland, Missoula
Army Sgt. Travis Arndt, Great Falls
Marine PFC Andrew Bedard, Missoula
Army Cpt. Michael MacKinnon, Helena
Marine Cpl. Phillip Baucus, Wolf Creek
Marine Lance Cpl. Jeremy Sandvick Monroe, Chinook
Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Charles Komppa, Absarokee
Army PFC Shawn Murphy, Butte
Marine Lance Cpl. Nicklas Palmer, Great Falls
Army Spc. Scott Dykman, Harrison
Army Spc. James Riekens, Missoula
Army PFC Matthew Zeimer, Glendive
Army Staff Sgt. Shane Becker, Helena
Army PFC Kyle Bohrsen, Phillipsburg
Army Spc. Michael Frank, Great Falls
Army SSG Travis Atkins, Bozeman
Army Spc. Donald Young, Helena
Army Staff Sgt. Yance Gray, Ismay
Army Cpt. Andrew Pearson, Billings
Army Sgt. James A. McHale, Fairfield
Marine Sgt. Trevor Johnson, Forsyth
Army Lt. Col. Garnet R. Derby, Missoula
Army Staff Sgt. Terry Lynch, Shepherd
Marine Cpl. Nicholas Uzenski, Bozeman
Army Sgt. Jeremiah Whittman, Darby
Army PFC, Nicholas S. Cook, Hungry Horse
Army Spc. Jonathan A. Pilgeram, Eden
Army PFC, Michael A. Rogers, White Sulphur Springs
Marine Cpl. Stewart S. Trejo, Whitefish
Army PFC Daren A. Smith, Helena
Army PVT Timothy J. Hutton, Dillon
Army Spc. Antonio Bunside (Many Hides), Browning
Navy Tech Airman Andrew Scott Charpentier, Great Falls
Army Staff Sgt. Thaddeus S. Montgomery, West Yellowstone

Montana Ties:

Marine Lance Cpl. Nathan Wood
Army SSG Patrick L. Lybert
Army Sgt. Lucas T. White
Army Sgt. Michael Sturdivant
Army Sgt. John K. Daggett
Army Staff Sgt. Shane Barnard

A PLACE OF HONOR



MEMORIAL DAY 2014

COLONEL Steven C. Martinka, J3/Operations, Montana Army National Guard currently serves as the Director of Operations for the Montana National Guard. He has served in the US Army for 30 years. He received his commission through the Montana State ROTC program in 1984. From there he served four years on active duty as a Field Artillery Officer and then joined the Montana Army National Guard in 1988. COL Martinka has served in numerous leadership assignments in the Montana National Guard to include Commander of Company D 1-163rd Armor, Officer Candidate School Commander, 190th Field Artillery Battalion Commander, Training Site Manager, and Director of Strategic Plans. COL Martinka is a graduate of Montana State University with a Bachelors degree in Business Management and the US Army War College with a Masters Degree in Strategic Studies.

MEMORIAL DAY HISTORY

Three years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1968, the head of an organization of Union veterans - the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) - established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan declared that Decoration Day should be observed on May 30. It is believed that date was chosen because flowers would be in bloom all over the country. The first large observance was held that year at Arlington National Cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C.

By the end of the 19th century, Memorial Day ceremonies were being held on May 30 throughout the nation. State legislatures passed proclamations designating the day, and the Army and Navy adopted regulations for proper observance at their facilities.

It was not until after World War I, however, that the day was expanded to honor those who have died in all American wars. In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by an act of Congress, though it is still often called Decoration Day. It was then also placed on the last Monday in May, as were some other federal holidays.

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

The association established and maintains this memorial to honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and in war. A Veteran is defined as any man or woman of any age who has served in any branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity, and to honor men and women living and deceased equally.

Montana Veterans Memorial Association
 PO Box 3524 • Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524
 Phone (406) 454-9070
 Website: www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

Non-Profit Tax ID #0530543

Memorial Day 26 May 2014
2 PM, Montana Veterans Memorial, Great Falls, MT

Master of Ceremonies..... Larry Malby,
 Montana Veterans Memorial Assoc.

Welcome..... Sam Pappas,
 Montana Veterans Memorial Assoc.

Presentation of the Colors..... Malmstrom AFB Honor Guard &
 Veterans Groups

Invocation..... Chaplain Mark Roberts LTC, USAF,
 Malmstrom AFB

National Anthem..... 1st LT Theresa Agosto-Smart, USAF,
 Malmstrom AFB

Pledge of Allegiance..... World War II Veterans "Honor Squad"

Special Remarks..... Elected Congressional Representatives

Guest Speakers..... Col Steven C. Martinka, J3/Operations,
 MT Army National Guard

Musical Salute..... Great Falls Shrine Bagpipe Band

Salute to Montana's fallen veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan.....

..... Gina Winters, Military Detail

Benediction..... Pastor Marcus Collins, Alexander Temple,
 Church of God in Christ

Taps..... USMC League



MY TWO CENTS

Letters: flowers,

Received much help

On May 23, in preparation for the Memorial Day ceremony, the ladies of the Great Falls Flower Growers Garden Club planted a patriotic garden of 225 red, white and blue petunias at the Montana Veterans Memorial. We have done this each year since the memorial's dedication in 2006, and it is truly an honor to be a part of this project.

This garden is made possible by donations from some very special people. The Montana Veterans Memorial Association pays for half of the flowers, and Debbie Petrini from Flower Farm donates the other half. Other garden needs such as fertilizer, compost, weed killer, potting soil, Soil Pep and insecticide have been donated by Home Depot for the past several years. Manager Wayne Henton said they are happy to help out with the garden for the veterans.

We are truly blessed to live in such a generous community with so many wonderful people. Thank you to everyone who helped with this project; they are the reason it is a success.

If you have not been to the memorial this year, please be sure to stop by. It is always evolving into an even bigger and better place of honor.

— Galia Fundis,
Great Falls



MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL

To honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and war.

If you would like to honor a veteran with a gift or schedule a tour, please contact us at:

Montana Veterans Memorial, Inc.
PO Box 3542 • Great Falls, MT 59403
406-454-9070 • montanaveteransmemorial.org

A Place of Honor

THE WALL THAT HEALS

The Traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Museum

Open

July 24th - 27th

701 River Drive North @ Elk's Riverside Park
Great Falls, MT

**Opening Ceremony
and Memorial Service**

July 24th - 6pm

Lets gather as a

Family - Community - Nation

to support our Veterans

and show respect to all

that paid the ultimate price

for our freedom.

Montana
Vietnam Veterans

ABSAROKEE, MONTANA:
WO WILLIAM JAY ROBBINS

ALDER, MONTANA:
SP6 PATRICK JOSEPH MAGEE

ANACONDA, MONTANA:
SP4 DAVID ANTHONY ANDERSON
LCPL PATRICK JAY FLEMING
LCDR EUGENE FLOYD Mc NALLY
1LT RONALD JOHN MOE
SGT WAYLAND DAN STEMBRIDGE
LTC ROBERT JOSEPH THOMAS

ANTELOPE, MONTANA:
SP5 EDMUND JOSEPH SCHMIDT

ARLEE, MONTANA:
LCPL WILLIAM JOHN FISHER

AVON, MONTANA:
SP4 GEORGE EDWARD EDDEN

BAINVILLE, MONTANA:
SGT MICHAEL W PICARD

BELT, MONTANA:
WO MILTON WARREN SMITH

BIG SANDY, MONTANA:
WO DAVID ARNOLD HAAKENSEN

BIG TIMBER, MONTANA:
ENFN JOHNNIE BOWEN WESTERVELT

BILLINGS, MONTANA:
PFC DAVID GEORGE ANDERSON
LCDR ALAN FREDERICK ASHALL
PFC CHARLES GOODHUE BOYER
PFC LARRY JAMES BURKHARDT
1LT JAMES LYNN BURNS

SSG KENNETH LEE DERHEIM
CPL FRANK GARCIA JR
HM3 GREGORY ALLEN GIFFORD
SP5 GERALD THOMAS GREENO JR
SP4 GARY O'NEAL GRIFFIN
SGT DOUGLAS DUANE KERN

PFC DANIEL W MARGRAVE II
CAPT STEVEN BERNARD MELNICK
LCPL MICHAEL DAVID PADILLA
SSG CHARLES CALVIN SNIDER JR
PFC WILLIAM EUGENE TAYLOR
CPL BERNARD JEFFERY UHREN
SGT DENNIS ELMER ULSTAD
SSG BARCLAY LEONARD VOLK
PFC DENNIS WILLIAM WEAR
CPT JOHN ROBIN WIEST
1LT RALPH LEROY WILLIAMS

BOZEMAN, MONTANA:
MAJ RICHARD DEWYATT CLARK
CAPT CHARLES GLENDON DUDLEY
PFC RAYMOND LEROY GALLAGHER
1LT HAL KENT HENDERSON
1LT STEPHEN STANFORD OVIATT
PFC JERRY WAYNE SNYDER

BROCKTON, MONTANA:
PFC FRANKLIN DELANO CHOPPER

BROWNING, MONTANA:
CPL MICHAEL LEO DOANE

BUSBY, MONTANA:
PFC ZACK OSCAR ROWLAND

BUTTE, MONTANA:
CAPT RONALD GREGORY BABICH
SP4 KENNETH SANDFORD BERCIER
SN ROBERT WILLIAM CAWLEY
SP4 LESTER ALLAN DOAN

BUL2 GREGORY PHILLIP HELSLEY
LCPL GREG NEAL HENDERSON
SP4 RAYMOND DALE HOERNER
CAPT ROBERT EDWIN HOLTON
PFC DANIEL JOHN JANHUNEN
SP4 RAYMOND GEORGE KRISKOVICH
SP4 STEVEN PATRICK MURPHY

1LT DANIEL JOHN O'NEILL
MAJ JOSEPH E PARKER JR
CPL WESTON HENRY REECE
PFC MARVIN KENT ROBERTSON
PFC RAYMOND L ROBERTSON JR
CPL RICHARD D SATTERTHWAITE
PFC DENNIS WAYNE SONSTENG
RD2 KENNETH PETER WEST
SSG FLORIAN J ZAHN

CHARLO, MONTANA:
SP4 JOHN CHARLES MATTHEISEN

CHINOOK, MONTANA:
SP5 RONALD ARTHUR EWING

CHOTEAU, MONTANA:
1LT THOMAS ALBERT DELLWO
CPL ROGER WILLIAM HOOD
LCDR LEE EDWARD NORDAHL
MAJ JAMES EDWARD UNDERWOOD

CLYDE PARK, MONTANA:
SP4 ANTON JOHN SCHINOBRICH
COFFEE CREEK, MONTANA:
SGT DUANE KENNETH PETERSON

CONRAD, MONTANA:
PFC HOWARD DANIEL VANDENACRE

CORAM, MONTANA:
PFC JOSEPH HENNING BENSON

CUSTER, MONTANA:
CPL JACK ROGERS

CUT BANK, MONTANA:
SGT ALAN JOSEPH KULTGEN
SP4 JOHN JAMES PETRIE

DEER LODGE, MONTANA:
HM3 LEWIS CRAIG HARRIS

DENTON, MONTANA:
2LT DAVID LYNN BARBER

DODSON, MONTANA:
MAJ RICHARD DUANE APPELHANS
PVT LOUIS GLENN HEALY
SP4 TRUMAN J WALSH
PFC PAUL GARY WEIGAND

EUREKA, MONTANA:
SP4 DOUGLAS WAYNE TALLON
CPL KEITH EDWARD UTTER

FAIRVIEW, MONTANA:
SP4 CALVIN LEE JOHNSON

FLAXVILLE, MONTANA:
SGT LELAND MC GEE MEHLS

FLORENCE, MONTANA:
SGT JAMES DOUGLAS RUMMEL

FORSYTH, MONTANA:
SP5 JOHN KENNETH CHILDERS
CPL WALTER JOHN HOWARD JR
2LT RAYMOND RICHARD PISENO JR

FORT BENTON, MONTANA:
SP4 WILLIAM ELLING SWENSGARD

FORT PECK, MONTANA:
SSG ROBERT RAYMOND BROWN

FROMBERG, MONTANA:
SGT RICHARD JAMES KILWINE

GLASGOW, MONTANA:
SP4 VERNON E WHETHAM

GLASGOW AFB, MONTANA:
AOFAN GEORGE DANIEL MILLER

GLEN, MONTANA:
SSGT ARTHUR GRASSER

GREAT FALLS, MONTANA:
PFC JIM ALBERT BARTON
CPL DENNIS FLOYD BIBERDORF
LCDR WILLIAM M CHRISTENSEN
CPL RAYMOND ALLEN COLE
SSGT FRANKLIN NEWTON CURL
SSG RICHARD LEE EHRES
PFC KENNETH GLENN ELMORE
PFC RONALD BRUCE FERGUSON
SGT GLENN CHARLES FISH
HM3 RUSSELL DAVID FLANAGAN
1LT MICHAEL FRANCIS HENDRICKSON
CPL MARK ALAN HENSLEY

CAPT LYLE ALBERT JOHNSON
PFC WILLIAM MICHAEL JOHNSON
PFC JOE DAVID KEGLEY
PFC JOSEPH GORDON KLEMENCIC
SP4 ROGER JOHN KOJENIN
SGT STEPHEN LEWIS MC CARVEL
PFC STEPHEN CARL NELSON
PFC ALEXANDER P POMEROY
CAPT ROGER PAUL RICHARDSON
PFC ERVIN RYNOLT SRB JR
SGT CHRISTOPHER C WEBSTER
MAJ ROBERT VINCENT WILLETT JR

HAMILTON, MONTANA:
SP5 DOYLE DANIEL DUNBAR
SGT DAVID CLARK VALLANCE

HARDIN, MONTANA:
PFC DANIEL WARREN BEARY
SGT WILEY COLE BIRKLAND
LTJG DONALD FINDLING WOLFE

HARLEM, MONTANA:
HM3 ROBERT WILLIAM GREEN

HARLOWTON, MONTANA:
PFC LOUIS HOWARD NELSON

HATHAWAY, MONTANA:
SGT ALBERT CLARENCE WOODS JR

HAVRE, MONTANA:
CPL LEROY CHARLES CECH
LCDR WILLIAM JOHN GARRITY JR
PFC MARK GORDON HINKLE
SP4 TERRY DUANE NEISS
SGT STANLEY WILLIAM SALYER
SP4 PETER MICHAEL STENGEM

Montana
Vietnam Veterans

HELENA, MONTANA:
COL DAVID JAY ALLINSON
SSG GEORGE ROLAND ANDERSON
PFC BRUCE BURTON BACKEBERG
WO JAMES LEO DARCY
YN2 JACK ISHUM DEMPSEY
LTC EDWARD ROY FRANK Sr
SGT THOMAS NEIL GROSE
1LT RICHARD HURRELL STUBE
GYSGT JON RAY SUMMERS
PFC ROBERT VIRTUS TILLOTSON
WO JOHN ROBERT URBAN

HINSDALE, MONTANA:
PFC DANNY CARL SCHULTZ

INTAKE, MONTANA:
SGT HARRY MATHIAS BECKER

INNERNESS, MONTANA:
SP4 CHARLES WILLIAM HAN

JOLIET, MONTANA:
SP4 TERRY MICHAEL ELSHIRE

JORDAN, MONTANA:
SP4 GARY ROGER HINTHER

KALISPELL, MONTANA:
LCPL MITCHELL LESTER ANDERSON
SP4 RICHARD JAMES BEST Jr
CPL DUANE LEE COTTET
PFC DAVID WALTER DORRIS
PFC RODGER DEAN ECKSTEIN
SP4 RICHARD MICHAEL JOHNSON
CPL WILLIAM GREGORY LITTLE
CPT PHILLIP ARTHUR NICHOLS
PFC TIMOTHY CHARLES ROBINSON

KILA, MONTANA:
SP4 ANTHONY GENE HARNES

LAME DEER, MONTANA:
PFC WALTER NORVEL LOCHER
PFC AUSTIN TEETH

LARSLAN, MONTANA:
1LT JAMES FRANCIS FUHRMAN

LAUREL, MONTANA:
2LT LEONARD ROGER CATON
PFC RICHARD DALE PICKETT

LEWISTOWN, MONTANA:
CPL DENNIS LEE CASEY
LCPL RICHARD RALPH KUCERA
LCPL GLEE ROY LIGHT

LIBBY, MONTANA:
SP4 STEVEN L BYINGTON
PFC LESTER WESLEY JOHNSON Jr
LTJG EDWARD N LETCHWORTH
SSG ARTHUR JOHN RAMBO
SGT ROBERT EDWARD WELCH

LINCOLN, MONTANA:
SGT RICHARD BERYL FRAZIER

LIVINGSTON, MONTANA:
2LT JACK HERBERT ANDERSON
CAPT ARTHUR LEE STOCKBURGER
PFC ALVY EUGENE WOOD

LOGAN, MONTANA:
SP5 JIMMY DEE PICKLE

MALTA, MONTANA:
PFC LARRY EDWARD SCHWARZ

MC ALLISTER, MONTANA:
BM1 EDWARD JOSEPH HAGL

MC LEOD, MONTANA:
PFC RONALD STEVEN MARTIN

MELROSE, MONTANA:
LCPL SANFORD KIM ARCHER

MILES CITY, MONTANA:
SGT RONALD HAL DERENBURGER
LCPL GEORGE ELI MATTOCKS
1LT TRACY HENRY MURREY
LCPL ALEXANDER DUANE NEIBAUER
SGT JOHN ROBERT YARGER

MISSOULA, MONTANA:
LGDRL MICHAEL LORA BOUCHARD
SFC ALAN LEE BOYER
PVT ANTHONY BLAKE CADWELL
MAJ ROBERT HUGH GARROLL
LCPL LIONEL RUSSELL CHASE
PFC WILLIAM LOUIS CYR
SP5 DAVID HAMILTON DUINN
SGT DOUGLAS LAWRENCE FRIED
LCPL MICHAEL WILLIAM HAVRANEK
LCDR JAMES D HUNT
SGT DEAN ROBERT ISAACS
GYSGT GEORGE PERCY KENDALL Jr
CPT BRUCE MAGNUS LANGAUNET
LCPL DONALD ALEXANDER LEHUTA
MAJ STEVEN ROY SANDERS
1LT JOSEPH JOHN SLJFKA Jr
SP4 STEVEN SLUSHER
SSG GARY MICHAEL SMITH
CPT JACOB FRANCIS STEPAN

2LT DAVID PATRICK SULLIVAN
SP4 RONALD RUSSELL TANNER
WO GARY DAVID THATCHER
SP4 DENNIS LEROY ZIEBARTH

PABLO, MONTANA:
CPL ROGER MARVIN COURVILLE

POLSON, MONTANA:
CPL GARY JAMES GREINER
PFC RICHARD EARL WESTFALL

REDSTONE, MONTANA:
1LT MICHAEL LEO NATHE

REEDPOINT, MONTANA:
LCPL RONALD GEORGE JORDET

RICHEY, MONTANA:
SGT RICHARD ARTHUR LILLIE
SSGT LESLIE VERNE SAMPSON

ROMAN, MONTANA:
SP4 JACK MARVIN BAKER
SP4 WAYNE ALAN BARNUM

ROSEBLUD, MONTANA:
SGT RUSSELL FLOYD DEITCHLER
SP4 GARY OWEN MOOER

ROSS FORK, MONTANA:
SP5 DONALD WILLIAM SEIDEL

ROUNDUP, MONTANA:
PFC GARY D BYFORD
PFC LARRY DUANE NAASZ

SAGO, MONTANA:
PFC KENNETH MAX KNUDSON

SANDERS, MONTANA:
GYSGT PAUL EDWARD CHAVEZ

SCOBEE, MONTANA:
PFC REID ERNEST GRAYSON Jr
LCPL DARRYL RICHARD JUEL

SHELBY, MONTANA:
SP5 WILLIAM MICHAEL JODREY
PFC BERNHARDT WILLIAM MILLER

SIDNEY, MONTANA:
CPL RICHARD LE OTIS MAYES

ST IGNATIUS, MONTANA:
SP4 CLARENCE FRANK BRISTOL
PFC JEAN BAPTISTE INCASHOLA
PVT JOSEPH LOUIS POKERJIM

SFC DALE FRANKLIN ROLLINS
PFC GILBERT LEROY ZERBST

ST XAVIER, MONTANA:
SP4 GEORGE EDWARD PETERS Jr

STEVENSVILLE, MONTANA:
SP4 RAY LA GRANDE NELSON
SP4 LOUIS JOHN WANDLER

SUNBURST, MONTANA:
BM3 JAMES RAYMOND GORE
SP4 TODD DUANE KELSO

TERRY, MONTANA:
SP4 RONALD JAMES MILNE

THOMPSON FALLS, MONTANA:
AX3 DELMAR LEON LAWRENCE
SP4 HIMA DUNCAN Mc DOUGALL Jr
SGT JON MICHAEL MURPHY
LCPL JAMES WILLIAMS STEPHENS

THREE FORKS, MONTANA:
COL DEAN ANDREW POGREBA

TROUT CREEK, MONTANA:
GYSGT VICTOR JOHN PIRKER
WO ROY STEPHEN THOMAS

TROY, MONTANA:
PFC HAROLD SPENCER LOCKWOOD
CPL LEWIS DONALD MEYER Jr
LTC RANDOLPH ALLEN PERRY Jr

VALIER, MONTANA:
SP4 ALLEN CHARLES ELL
SP4 GREGORY LEE HABETS

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, MONTANA:
SP4 LARRY MAX SMITH

WHITEFISH, MONTANA:
CWO MANFORD LLOYD KLEIV
LCPL DOUGLAS GERALD STREET

WHITLASH, MONTANA:
PFC PRESTON WAYNE POLK

WIBAUX, MONTANA:
CPL LEROY JAMES FASCHING
PFC JAMES ALLAN OSTERLOTH
RM1 FRANCIS JOHN ZINDA

WOLF POINT, MONTANA:
1LT EMIL JOHN NAASZ
LTC MICHAEL EDWARD STYER

THE WALL THAT HEALS

The Traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Museum

JULY 24-27

701 River Drive North • Elk's Riverside Park • Great Falls, MT

Opening Ceremony and Memorial Service

JULY 24 • 6PM

Let's gather as a

Family • Community • Nation

*to support our Veterans and show respect to all that
paid the ultimate price for our freedom.*

NO CHARGE

Sponsored by **SCHEELS**

'The Wall' is making stop in the city

The tribute to Vietnam veterans will be at Elk's Riverside Park

By Jenn Rowell
Tribune Staff Writer

To many Vietnam veterans, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., is known simply as The Wall.

Many say touching the wall brings peace and healing, while others can't bear to look at it.

The wall, built in the 1982, lists the names of those killed or missing during Vietnam from 1959 to 1975.

There are currently 58,300 names on the memorial.

On Tuesday, a half-scale replica of the memorial will arrive in Great Falls. The memorial, known as The Wall That Heals, will be assembled Wednesday in Elk's Riverside Park, be-

See THE WALL, 2M

WANT TO GO?

Where: Elk's Riverside Park on River Drive, between the horseshoe pit and tennis courts.

When: July 24-27; opening ceremony July 24 at 6 p.m.

Time: Open 24 hours starting Thursday morning

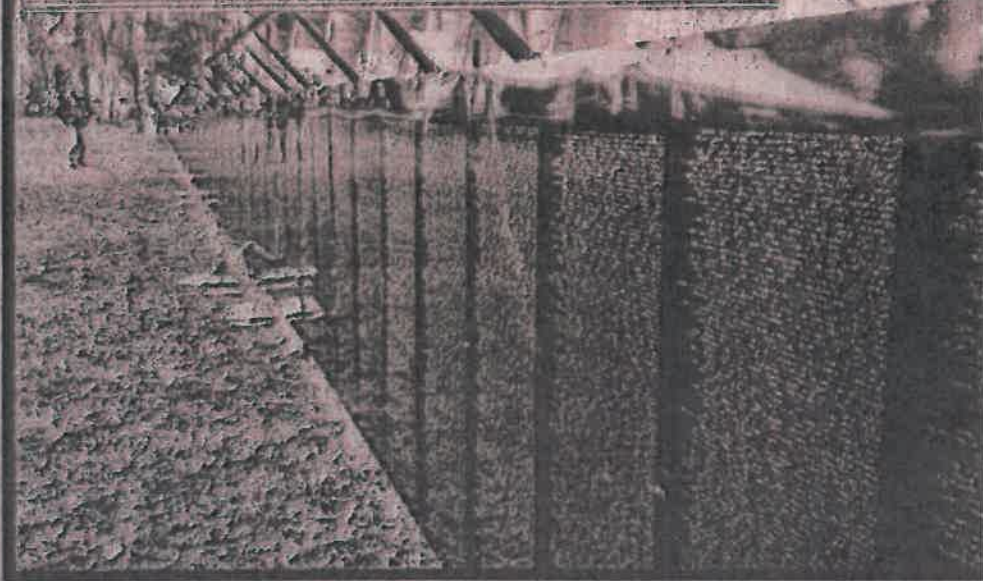
Questions or want to volunteer? Call Mike Winters at 799-0179 or Rodger McConnell at 799-6709

For more information, go to www.vvmf.org/twth. Visitors are asked to leave the closest parking spots for hand-

Saturday, July 19, 2014

MONTANA

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE • WWW.GREATFALLSTRIBUNE.COM



The Wall That Heals during the 2013 tour. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND

The Wall

Continued from 1M

tween the horseshoe pits and the tennis courts on River Drive. The memorial opens to the public Thursday morning, and there will be an opening ceremony at 6 p.m.

The Montana Veterans Memorial Association is hosting the replica, which is operated by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund and travels the country every year.

There are several replicas of the memorial traveling the country, but The Wall That Heals is the only one sanctioned by VVMF, the nonprofit that built the D.C. memorial.

There are dozens of names on the memorial from the Great Falls area and 267 names from Montana, according to the VVMF.

The wall design was chosen through a national design competition in which

1,421 entries were submitted.

The entries were judged anonymously by eight artists and designers, and the winning design was the work of Maya Lin who was a 21-year-old student at Yale University at the time.

The Wall That Heals is a half-scale replica of the original memorial and is about 250 feet long and erected in the chevron-shape.

The truck that transports the replica converts to a museum and volunteers can help visitors find the location of particular names on the wall.

The replica is constructed of powder-coated aluminum, supported by an aluminum frame, and is made up of 24 individual panels, each containing six columns of names, according to the VVMF.

As on The Wall, the names on The Wall That Heals are listed by day of casualty. Beginning at the center, the names start on the right-hand side working



The Wall That Heals during a 2012 visit to Missoula. TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO/JENN ROWELL

their way out to the end of that wing, picking up again at the far end of the left hand side and working their way back in to the center joining the beginning and ending of the conflict at the center.



The Vietnam Veterans Memorial traveling exhibit, "The Wall That Heals," will on display in Great Falls at Elk's Riverside Park. A dedication ceremony is scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday and the exhibit will run through Sunday. TRIBUNE PHOTO/RION SANDERS

Vietnam memorial in town

By Tribune Staff

A replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., arrived in Great Falls on Tuesday.

The memorial, known as The Wall That Heals, was escorted into town by the Patriot Guard Riders and law enforcement vehicles.

The memorial will be assembled today at Elk's Riverside Park, between the

tennis courts and horseshoe pits, and will open to the public Thursday, with an opening ceremony at 6 p.m. Thursday.

Vietnam veterans, or those with ties to names on The Wall, in the Great Falls area are encouraged to share their stories with the Tribune.

To do so, call military reporter Jenn Rowell at 791-1484 or email her at jrowell@greatfallstribune.com.

Take time to go see the healing wall

High on the list of things in life that leave scars is warfare.

American involvement in the Vietnam War in the 1960s and 1970s cost 58,220 American military men and women their lives, and created large rifts in this country's society. Young people protested the war; other Americans supported the conflict.

One object that helped close some of the figurative wounds opened by the Vietnam War was the official Vietnam Veterans Memorial, known to some simply as The Wall, in Washington, D.C., founded by Jan Scruggs.

The memorial, dedicated in 1982, had a profound effect on many visitors, and it became one of the most frequented memorials in the nation's capital. The wall lists the members of the U.S. armed forces who died in the war, including 267 Montanans.

A traveling, half-size version of the Vietnam memorial comes to the city this week. Called The Wall that Heals, it will be in Great Falls through Sunday.

It's the only version of the wall that carries the endorsement of its founder.

Visit the Tribune's website for a list of all the Montanans listed on the wall, those who gave their lives for their country.

Montana ranked second among the states on a 2007 list of residents who were veterans, behind only Alaska as the state with the most veterans per capita. There is no questioning the patriotism and support for the military found in

the Treasure State. The 2007 rankings showed Montana with more than 100,000 veterans, or about 10 percent of the state's population of 1 million people.

The traveling exhibit, located in Elk's Riverside Park between the horseshoe pits and tennis courts, will be assembled today. It can provide a sense of healing as visitors look at the extent of the sacrifice made by those listed on the wall, as well as their relatives and friends.

On the wall, the list of names begins at the wall's apex, as the first and last casualties of the war meet in the middle of the display.

There are many stories from the wall in D.C., from wartime enemies who met at the wall and reached a personal accommodation, to loved ones who appreciated respect shown for those who died, to the Vietnam veteran from Missoula who was able to meet Scruggs near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in 2012.

We believe a visit to The Wall that Heals is worthwhile not only for folks who were alive during the Vietnam War, but it also may have things to say to more recent generations, and people searching for peace and healing.

The healing wall opens to the public Thursday morning; an opening ceremony takes place at 6 p.m. Thursday.

Visit the wall through dusk Sunday in Elk's Riverside Park on Park Drive North.

— Tribune editorial board

THE WALL THAT HEALS

HONORING HEROES



The Wall That Heals is a traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and the museum will be on display today through Sunday at the Elk's Riverside Park. TRIBUNE PHOTO/KYLIE RICHTER

Memorial commemorating vets to open this evening

By Jenn Rowell
Tribune Staff Writer

Ronald Saville of Fort Benton enlisted nine days after his 18th birthday in the late 1960s to avoid the draft.

He was assigned to Malmstrom Air Force Base in 1967 and by July, he was bored with the base so he volunteered to go to Southeast Asia. Saville was sent to Thailand with the 635th Security Police Squadron at U-Tapao Royal Thai Air Base.

There he was assigned to the base security section and later transferred to work with sentry dogs, which were trained to seek out and attack anyone but their handler, Saville said.

On July 19, 1969, the day before the first moon landing, Saville said a B-52 bomber was taxiing out for a bombing

mission when the hydraulics caught fire. The flight crew escaped, he said, and a fire rescue helicopter was sent to the scene. The bomber exploded, causing the helicopter to crash, killing two of the three crewmen on-board.

Saville was driving to the dog kennels after the injured had been taken to the hospital but saw emergency responders removing the remains of the two dead crewmen.

Saville was 19 at the time and was one of thousands who were sent to war in Vietnam and other nearby countries.

Saville said while he didn't know anyone listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, he does know several

TO SEE THE WALL

The Wall That Heals opens to the public this morning and the opening ceremony is 6 p.m. at Elk's Riverside Park in Great Falls, River Drive North between 6th Street and 9th Street.

If you are a Vietnam veteran or know someone on The Wall and would like to share your story, call military reporter Jenn Rowell at 791-1484 or email her at jrowell@greatfallstribune.com. She will also be at the memorial off and on today and Friday.

If you have a photo of someone who is named on The Wall and would like to submit it through the Call for Photos program, bring a photo to the site and volunteers can help you submit the photo or give you more information.

To learn more, visit wmf.org

See WALL, 4A

Wall

Continued from 1A

troops who died from service-connected injuries and exposure to Agent Orange.

Today, a half-scale replica of the memorial in Washington, D.C., will open to the public at Elk's Riverside Park in Great Falls.

The replica, known as The Wall That Heals, is the only traveling replica that is sanctioned by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, the nonprofit that built the original memorial in 1982.

On Wednesday, about 20 airmen from 819th RED HORSE Squadron at Malmstrom Air Force Base were helping assemble the display. They made quick work of the assembly process and spent some time chatting with local Vietnam veterans and the man who drives The Wall That Heals cross-country, Bob Dobek, who is also a Vietnam veteran.

Staff Sgt. Christopher Gargus volunteered to help.

"It's a chance to honor people that fell during the Vietnam War," he said.



The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund traveling exhibit, The Wall That Heals, is on display at Great Falls at Elk's Riverside Park. A dedication ceremony is scheduled for 6 p.m. today and the exhibit will run through Sunday evening. TRIBUNE PHOTO/ION SANDERS

- » Ell, Allen Charles, Army, Valler, 5W 69
- » Franc, Marine Corps, Great Falls, 50W 6
- » Hensley, Mark Alan, Army, Great Falls, 7W 73
- » Naasz, Emil John, Army, Wolf Det, 7W 40
- » Stengem, Peter Michael, Army, Havre, 26W 75
- » Strube, Richard Hurrell, Army, Helena, 7W 80
- » Sumner, Jon Ray, Ma...



Rod Sayer served in Vietnam from June 1967 to June 1968. TRIBUNE PHOTOGRAPH BY MICHAEL REICHERT

The Wall brings healing to vets

By Jenn Rowell
Tribune Staff Writer

Elizabeth Browner's daughter married Toby Drake Lawrence shortly before he left for Vietnam.

The daughter had a baby boy, and she sent a photo to Lawrence. Not long after that, her daughter was notified that Lawrence had been killed.

"We wondered if he knew that he had a son," Browner said, tearing up.

When the military sent Lawrence's things back to the family, the baby's photo was among them.

"So he knew," Browner said. "It's really just sad."

Browner attended the opening ceremony at The Wall

That Heals in Elk's Riverside Park on Thursday evening and walked along the memorial, which is a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

A crowd gathered as Vietnam veterans and current service members paid tribute to the 58,300 names listed on the wall and to those still living.

Four of Larry Malby's classmates were listed on the memorial.

He said that for years after the war, he couldn't visit the memorial in D.C., but eventually a friend convinced him to go.

"I visited each of my

See WALL, 4A

Wall

Continued from 1A

friends," he said during the ceremony. "By the end, I was enveloped by a profound sense of inner peace."

Col. Tom Wilcox, commander of the 341st Missile Wing at Malmstrom Air Force Base, said current troops have such strong support from the American public because of Vietnam veterans.

"We learned some hard lessons," he said of the Vietnam war and the way veterans were treated when they returned. "We thank them every day for blazing that trail."

Bill Willing served as a helicopter pilot during the war. He flew 512 combat missions in support of ground troops, intelligence agencies and was often sent to recover bodies of those killed in battle. He is now chairman of the state of Montana's Veterans Affairs Board.

He told the crowd that as the American public lost interest in the war or turned on those who served, the troops took on a new military strate-

TO SEE THE WALL

The Wall That Heals is open 24 hours a day through Sunday evening at Elk's Riverside Park, River Drive North between 6th Street and 9th Street.

If you are a Vietnam veteran or know someone on The Wall and would like to share your story, call military reporter Jenn Rowell at 791-1484 or email her at jrowell@greatfallstribune.com. She will also be at the memorial off and on today.

To learn more, visit vwmf.org

gy.

"We fought for each other," Willing said. "We became brothers. Vietnam veterans have formed an everlasting bond of camaraderie."

Looking at the names on the wall often brings him to tears, he said, but it has become a focal point for veterans.

"The wall became a place that they were welcomed back to," Willing said.

For Rod Sayer, it was a place to honor his friends.

The Great Falls native was drafted in 1966, when he was 19.

In Vietnam, he was as-

signed to the 1st Infantry Division and within his unit, he became friends with a troop he called Norm. He couldn't remember his full name as he searched for his friend on the wall, but he remembered the man.

Sayer and Norm were both serving as track commanders in February 1968 when Norm's vehicle was hit.

"I saw him look at me, I saw his eyes roll back and blood coming out of his mouth and then he was gone," Sayer said. "I was so busy there was nothing I could do. I'm sure I was the last guy he saw."

"I still have nightmares. I learned to cope with them, but I don't think they're ever going away," he said. "My kids probably don't know very much about it because I never talked about it."

A few weeks after he lost his friend, Sayer was injured when a rocket came through the scope he was looking

through on a tank. He spent some time in the hospital, and when he went back to his unit, the 33 people who had started in his platoon were down to two.

Another friend of his was killed with just seven days left in Vietnam before he was scheduled to return to the U.S.

They were on their way back to base after a battle when one vehicle hit a land mine. Sayer and his friend got out to help the injured driver when another vehicle pulled up and hit a land mine. Shrapnel from that explosion killed Sayer's friend.

"I feel pretty fortunate to be here," he said.

Coming home, Sayer said, he was called a baby killer and there were no welcome home parades.

Years later, "I think it's wonderful that they acknowledge us," he said. "I'm honored that people still remembered it."

Wall that Heals rekindles sad memories; also helps

By Jenn Rowell
Tribune Staff Writer

Jenia Ogren had a feeling of something bad was going to happen.

She was visiting her favorite aunt in Texas and decided she needed to go home to Oklahoma where she was living in the 1960s.

The morning after she returned to Oklahoma, her brother-in-law, who was the deputy sheriff at the time, brought her the telegraph notifying her of her husband's death.

Kenneth Eugene Sanders was 20 years old.

They met in 1964 and were married in August 1965. After the wheat harvest that year, Sanders was drafted and, in February 1966, he headed to training.

Sanders came home for about 10 days in April 1966 and about two and a half



Veterans take in the more than 58,000 names of those killed in Vietnam listed on The Wall That Heals, a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO/JOHN TURNER

hours after he left to return to training, his son was born, Ogren said.

After arriving in Vietnam that fall, he sent a letter to Ogren to let her know she

wouldn't hear from him for about three weeks.

"Next thing I knew" she was notified of his death, she said. He was killed Nov. 3, 1966.

TO SEE THE WALL

The Wall That Heals is open 24 hours a day through Sunday evening at Elk's Riverside Park, River Drive North between 6th Street and 9th Street.

If you are a Vietnam veteran or know someone on The Wall and would like to share your story, call military reporter Jenn Rowell at 791-1484 or email her at jrowell@greatfalltribune.com. She will also be at the memorial off and on Sunday.

If you have a photo of someone who is named on The Wall and would like to submit it through the Call for Photos program, bring a photo to the site and volunteers can help you submit the photo or give you more information.

To learn more, visit vmvf.org.

The Augusta resident visited The Wall That Heals, a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, commonly known as The Wall, in Great Falls on Thursday and located his name about the more than 58,000 listed on the wall.

"I wilted yesterday when I saw his name," she said Friday. "It's been very hard. I feel for all the families that lost anybody."

Carolyn Miller also lost loved ones during Vietnam.

Three of her high school classmates, including her boyfriend at the time, are named on the memorial.

"It just brings back memories," she said at The Wall on Friday.

She was 23 when she found out her then-boyfriend had been killed.

See WALL, 3A

Wall

Continued from 1A

Miller said her mother called and said, "You better sit down, I have some bad news for you."

"I couldn't cry. I was totally numb," she said.

It took about a year for it to hit her and she said ever since, the thought of that time brings her to tears.

Dutton native Russ Verbael hadn't thought of a name on The Wall until he read the list of Great Falls area names in the Tribune this week.

He was a helicopter pilot in May 1967, flying off the USS Tripoli and dropping troops into Vietnam.

"One morning, we put this team in and sometime later, I found out there was a kid from Great Falls who was killed in that mission," Verbael said. "I got home basically unscratched."

The Great Falls troop who was killed was Joe Klemencic. He was 19.

When he returned home, Verbael went to see Klemencic's parents.

"I took it upon myself and my wife and I looked up the address and we went and knocked on the door," he

said. "It was something I needed to do."

He hadn't decided yet if he would visit the memorial in town while it was here.

"It's a long time ago, but it

brings back a lot of emotion," he said. "I came back safe and sound. I felt bad about that. I was safe and he wasn't, and that's something we all have to live with."

REMEMBERING VIETNAM VETERANS



The Wall That Heals stopped at Elks Riverside Park in Great Falls from Wednesday to Sunday. It's a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO/JOHN TURNER

A SOMBER VISIT

The Wall That Heals war memorial concludes emotional stay in Great Falls

By Jenn Rowell
Tribune Staff Writer

As The Wall That Heals packed up Sunday night, veterans and families came to Elks Riverside Park for a final chance to glimpse the half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. The names of 58,300 men and women who were killed in Vietnam or who died of service-related injuries are inscribed on the original memorial in D.C.

The Wall That Heals travels the country an-

nually, giving veterans a chance to see the memorial in their hometown. It's managed by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, the non-profit that built the D.C. memorial.

The Great Falls stop was organized by the Montana Veterans Memorial Association.

Rodger McConnell was part of the organizing committee and said that the visit was "overwhelmingly successful."

"The Wall That Heals lived up to its name," said McConnell, a Vietnam veteran. "It overwhelmed me more than once, but that's part of the healing. You get lost in your own story un-

til you hear somebody else's story."

John Ranum spent two years in the Army, but didn't serve during Vietnam.

He was at the memorial on Sunday as a volunteer, helping visitors locate names, answering questions and sharing stories with other veterans.

His wife had been volunteering all week. Her brother is named on the memorial.

"I've seen some guys that it just tears them up," he said. "It can be very emotional for

See VISIT, 5A



The Wall That Heals has the names of 58,300 men and women who were killed in Vietnam or who died of service-related injuries. U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO/JOHN TURNER

Visit

Continued from 1A

them. I can't imagine their feelings, but I'm glad to be here to help."

Ranum served with the Tomb Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.

He said some young people who came to see the memorial were curious and wanted to learn more about it. But he said there's an opportunity to teach younger generations about the service of past veterans.

"Past military, current military, we're all brothers in arms. We learn from them. They don't really learn from us, they just teach us."

CHRISTOPHER GARGUS
Staff sergeant

Bob Dobek drives the truck that transports The Wall That Heals. During the Great Falls visit, he helped several veterans track down the name or location on the wall of their war buddies.

As a Vietnam veteran, he said he

wants to make sure the names on the memorial are remembered.

"I don't want any generation to ever forget these guys and gals," he said. There are eight women on the wall.

Airmen from the 819th RED HORSE Squadron returned to help pack up the memorial.

Staff Sgt. Christopher Gargus helped set up earlier in the week and came to see the memorial lit up at night.

"Past military, current military, we're all brothers in arms," he said. "We learn from them. They don't really learn from us, they just teach us."

ES

entry and beyond

Editorial board (our opinion)

» Jim Strauss, Publisher & Editor

» Jo Dee Black, Business Editor

» Rich Ecke, Viewpoints Editor

OUR TWO CENTS

Wall helped heal as hot spots flare

A visit from a traveling display called The Wall That Heals gave Montanans a chance to see what a granite memorial twice the size, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., looks like.

We thank the Montana Veterans Memorial Association for bringing the display to Great Falls. The traveling exhibit is managed by the nonprofit Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, the group that built the full-size memorial.

It's a somber thing that 58,300 American service men and women died in combat during the Vietnam War or later from service-related injuries, especially since there were such divisions in the 1960s and early 1970s over the war. The controversy of those times does not diminish the respect we have for those who served.

The presence of the healing wall gave those whose friends and relatives lost their lives in the Vietnam War a chance to grieve and to pay respects to dedicated members of the military.

One situation that has changed from the 1960s is the military services then were a mixture of volunteer soldiers and people who were drafted to serve. In a way, today's situation is better because those serving all volunteered.

At this juncture in American history, the U.S. military has left Iraq and by next year may have withdrawn from Afghanistan. The future of governments in those two countries remain uncertain

and of concern, given American lives lost to try to establish free societies in those war-torn lands.

Although it seemed for a while that the world was headed toward less conflict, in 2014 a goal of a peaceful world seems further away than ever. Russia is rattling sabres over Ukraine; Israel and the Palestinians are fighting in Gaza, and a militant Islamic group has grabbed territory in Iraq.

It would be easy to become disillusioned by the foolishness of the human race, but there is still room for hope. Researchers, for example, consider the world much less violent than it used to be.

Look at how many years Northern Ireland was a hotbed of ethnic mistrust, conflict and violence. Yet that country is relatively calm today.

Conflict remains around the globe, but if the developed world can put out fires in hot spots, and rein in egomaniacs such as Russian President Vladimir Putin, there is cause for optimism.

At the same time, we believe continuing worries about warfare in the world underscores the need for Malmstrom Air Force Base and the deterrent effect of its 150 nuclear missiles scattered around Montana. This is no time to close up American missile silos and declare the world safe for democracy.

We have years to go before we can make that statement.

— Tribune editorial board

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

The association established and maintains this memorial to honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and in war. A Veteran is defined as any man or woman of any age who has served in any branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity, and to honor men and women living and deceased equally.

Montana Veterans Memorial Committee, Inc.

PO Box 3524

Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524

Phone (406) 454-9070

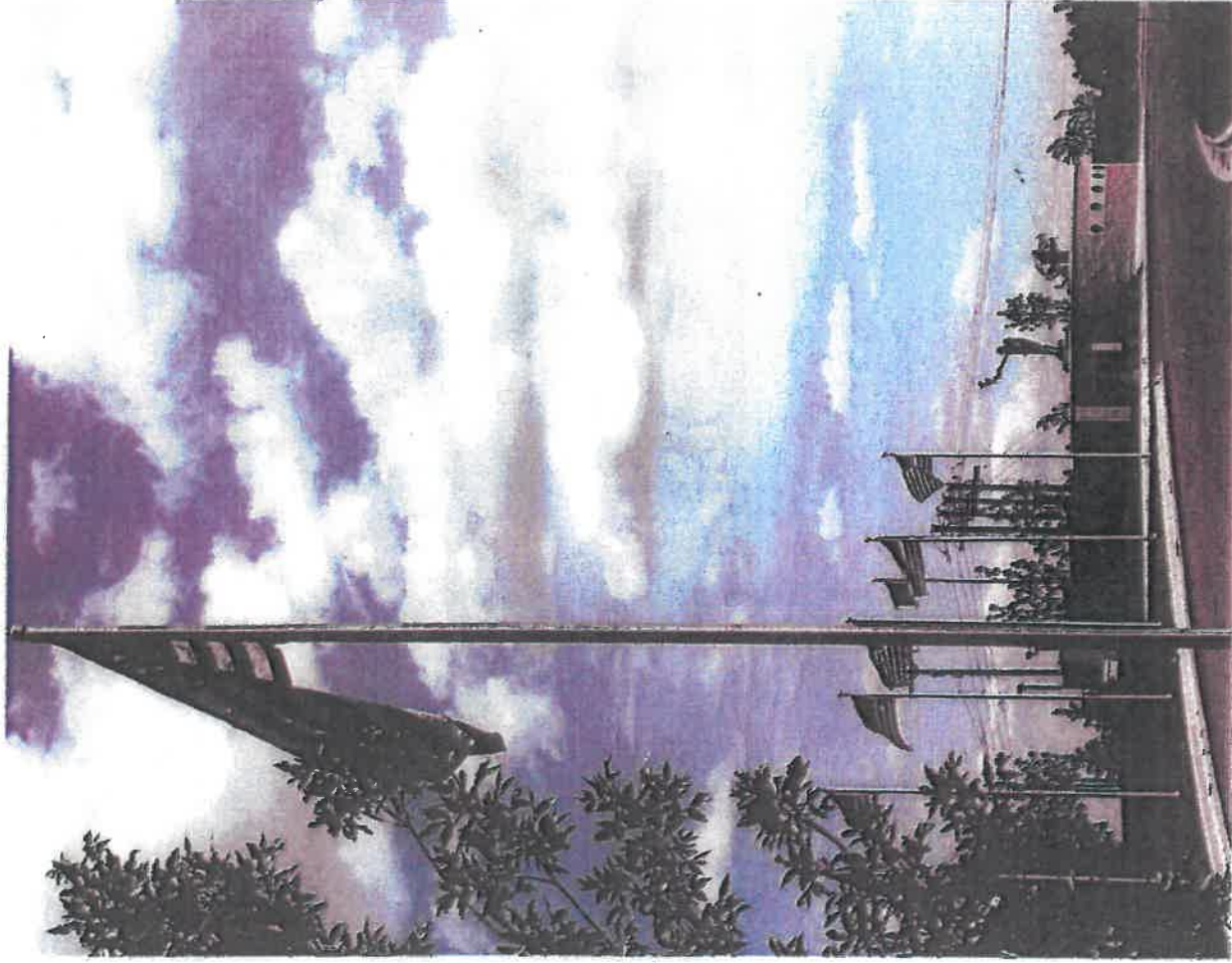
Website: www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

Non-Profit Tax ID #0530543

THE HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day was originally incorporated by President Wilson as **Armistice Day** in 1919 in recognition of the sacrifices made by Americans in World War I. Other countries today recognize November 11th as Armistice Day or Remembrance Day in honor of the Armistice Treaty which ended WWI. In 1938, Armistice Day was officially recognized as an American holiday. After WWII, it was felt that all veterans of all wars should be recognized, so in 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Congress changed the name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. In 1978, the observance of **Veterans Day** was returned to **November 11th** by popular sentiment and is honored at the *11th hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month in remembrance* of the original armistice day of World War I when hostilities came to and end between Germany and the allied powers followed by the Treaty of Versailles in 1919.

A PLACE OF HONOR



VETERANS DAY NOV. 11, 2014

Captain Ken Robison, US Navy (retired) was born, raised and educated in Montana. After graduating from the University of Montana he served in Naval Intelligence for thirty years with eleven years of sea duty in the Pacific and Indian Oceans during Vietnam and Cold War contingency operations. During Operation Homecoming he served as escort and de-briefer for senior Navy POW James Bond Stockdale.

Today Ken is an historian at the Overholser Historical Research Center in Fort Benton and the Great Falls/Cascade County Historic Preservation Commission. He writes monthly articles on Montana and the Civil War and is author of five books including Montana Territory and the Civil War: A Frontier Forged on the Battlefield (2013) and the just released Confederates in Montana: In the Shadow of Price's Army. Ken lives in Great Falls with his wife Michele and children. The Montana Historical Society honored Ken as "Montana Heritage Keeper" in 2010.

The Montana Veterans Memorial Association offers our thanks and recognition to the many veteran service organizations and groups here in Montana that provide essential support to our Veterans, their families and Nation. The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, Marine Corps League, Vietnam Veterans of America, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, our local Vets4Vets and others with and without name who carry on the mission to do our best to leave no veteran behind.

**MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL
Veterans Day Ceremony
11:00 a.m. - November 11, 2013
Great Falls, Montana**

- Master of Ceremonies Richard D. Liebert, Lt. Col. (Ret.),
Montana Veterans Memorial Association
- Welcome Dwayne Nelson, Chair,
Montana Veterans Memorial Association
- Presentation of the Colors Malmstrom USAF Honor Guard,
Veterans Groups
- Invocation.....Chaplain Dan Thompson, Lt. Col. (P)
Montana Army National Guard
- National AnthemSarah Hessler
- Pledge of Allegiance MT 'Boot Camp' Graduates
- Guest Speakers.....Captain Ken Robison, US Navy, Retired
- Blue Star Bench dedications...Kathy Austin, MT Blue Star
Memorial Marker, Program Chair on behalf of
the Rainbow Garden Club and GF Flower Growers
- Military Music Great Falls Shrine Pipe Band
- Benediction.....Bishop Jessica Crist,
Montana Lutheran Synod, ECLA
- Taps..... Marine Corp League





TRIBUNE PHOTO LARRY BECKNER
Richard Liebert, master of ceremonies, salutes as he recites the Pledge of Allegiance on Tuesday during a Veterans Day service.

Mayor Wenters,
I would like to present you with
this Service activity pin.

This is the only pin approved by the
Armed Forces that a civilian can wear,
even if they aren't a Vet.
With all the work you have done and are
doing in the Veterans memorial, I feel you
deserve it! I was sent a limited number
by my national Garden Club Blue Star member
marker club, to present as I wished.
This one is yours! Kathy Austin
MT Garden Club Blue Star
memorial marker club



The Blue Star Service Banner was designed and patented in 1917 by World War I Army Capt. Robert L. Queisser of the 5th Ohio Infantry. Queisser's two sons served on the front line. His banner quickly became the unofficial symbol for parents with a child in active military service. On Sept. 24, 1917, an Ohio congressman read the following into the Congressional Record: "The mayor of Cleveland, the Chamber of Commerce and the governor of Ohio have adopted this service flag. The world should know of those who give so much for liberty. The dearest thing in all the world to a father and mother: their children." Blue Star Mothers and Gold Star Mothers organizations were established during World War I and remain active today.

The Department of Defense authorized the service flag and service lapel on Dec. 1, 1967. Today, families display these banners when they have a loved one serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, both active, reserve and Guard. The blue star represents one family member serving, and a banner can have up to five stars. If the individual is killed or dies, a smaller golden star is placed over it. Gold stars are placed above the blue stars or to the top right of the flag, in the event a flag represents multiple service members.

Blue Star Service Banners were widely used during both world wars, but were not embraced during the Korean or Vietnam wars with the same enthusiasm. The American Legion started the Blue Star Banner Program in 1917 and rekindled that spirit of pride in our military men and women following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks by providing banners to military families across the nation and current operations. It's an American tradition to display a Blue Star Service Banner in the window of a home when a loved one is proudly serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. As Americans support troops deployed overseas in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, the Blue Star Service Banner is a reminder that war touches every neighborhood. Banners are available commercially online, and at military post/base exchanges.

Tuesday, February 17, 2015

Sections:

Scott Thompson,
800-438-6600, or
greatfallstribune.com.
88-424-TRIB(8742).

MONTANA

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE WWW.GREATFALLSTRIUNE.COM

- » Obituaries 2
- » Statistics 2
- » State news 2-4
- » Classified Advertising 4-6

Vets memorial has 'limits'

Great Falls mayor wants to avoid conflict over bill

By Richard Eckst
Tribune Staff Writer

Great Falls is not attempting to get legislative approval for the Montana Veterans Memorial to become the veterans memorial in Montana, Mayor Michael Winters said Monday.

The title for House Bill 460, sponsored by Rep. Bob

Mehlhoff, D-Great Falls, says the Montana Veterans Memorial at 26th Street and River Drive North in Great Falls would be designated the Montana Veterans Memorial. But the text of the bill says the memorial would be pegged as a veterans memorial in the state.

So which one is it? Just to clear up any confu-

sion, Winters said Monday Great Falls isn't trying to grab top billing for veterans memorials in the state. He said the name of the Montana Veterans Memorial is registered with the secretary of state in Helena, and the legislation is a way to get the memorial on state maps.

"We just don't want to challenge any other community in that way," Winters said.

"I don't think there's any confusion over the bill," the



from outside the state are honored, including Europeans and Canadians who served in the U.S. military services. The memorial even has several tiles dedicated to military dogs, and three tiles honor soldiers who served the Confederate States of America in the Civil War.

"We're not bound geographically," said Winters, a founder of the Great Falls memorial. He calls it the most broad-based and diverse veterans memorial in Montana, but he said all the veterans' memorials in the state have dignity and are important to their communities.

"Every one of these memorials is beautiful," Winters said. Efforts to build the memorial in Great Falls began in

"We really were the leading edge for the larger, more encompassing memorials" in Montana, Winters said.

Tiles for the Great Falls memorial are provided for a \$225 donation. For more information, call 454-9070 or 799-0179.

Winters said sports stars and film celebrities receive lots of publicity, but he thinks attention should be given to service members who returned home without limbs, or who gave their lives in defense of their country.

"These are real heroes," Winters said. "Each and every one of those tiles has its very own story."

Richard Eckst can be reached at 401-791-1400, or email him at

See VETSPAGE ... mayor added. "It's our name."

Winters acknowledged he wouldn't mind if the Electric City location would become the official state veterans memorial at some point.

"We would love that to happen, but that's not our intention (with the bill)," Winters said. "We only want to have this recognized as a veterans memorial." The mayor served in the U.S. Air Force.

Winters said more than 6,000 commemorative tiles honor veterans at the memorial, which is "one of the very largest in the state," covering

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2015 | HOT TICKET

CEREMONY TO HONOR VETS



CAPITOL CORNER

Gov. designates veterans memorial

By Jenni Kowall
jkowall@writhejournal.com

Gov. Steve Bullock signed House Bill 460 into law Wednesday morning, designating the veterans memorial in Great Falls as the Montana Veterans Memorial. According to the bill, the memorial will remain one of many veterans memorials in Montana, but the designation will allow the Department of Commerce and Transportation to be identified on

official state maps as a Montana veterans memorial. The bill was sponsored by Rep. Bob Meinhoff, D-Great Falls. The Great Falls memorial currently has more than 6,000 tiles honoring veterans, including men and women, living or deceased, of all services, including military dogs. The memorial includes tiles honoring Europeans and Canadians who served in the U.S. military and three tiles to honor troops who served the Con-

federate States of America during the Civil War. Mayor Michael Winters attended the bill signing in Helena, along with other members of the nonprofit that maintains and operates the memorial. The Great Falls memorial is located on city parkland and was built with private funds and a significant amount of donated labor and materials. Efforts to build the memorial at River Drive and 26th Street North began in 1999.



A rose is placed on a wall at the Montana Veterans Memorial. TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO/CLAYTON BRONKHORST

April 21 - 2015

Memorial Day ceremony will be held Monday at the Montana Veterans Memorial.

Musical guests invited for Monday event

By Briana Wipf
bwipf@greatfallstribune.com

Memorial Day observances at Great Falls take place Monday, May 25, at 2 p.m. at the Montana Veterans Memorial, 341st Mission, Commander Col. Tom Wipf, USAF, and professor Devin Weatherwax Sr. of Great Falls Community College. Wipf will give remarks. About 260 new tiles were recently installed at the living memorial, including about 160

representing veterans from the Blackfeet Nation, Mayor Michael Winters said.

"We're honoring the Blackfeet and the Blackfeet history by having the Blackfeet warriors recognized there," Winters said. A dedication of the Blackfeet veterans' tiles will be performed by Harry Barnes, chairman of the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council, Winters, Albert Salway and Clyde Heavyrunner.

Wilcox is responsible for 4,000 personnel who are charged with defending the United States with combat-ready airmen and nuclear forces. The airmen are responsible for base support, maintenance, security and operation of 150 Minuteman III Intercon-

THE ESSENTIALS

What: Memorial Day observance at Montana Veterans Memorial
When: 2 p.m. Monday, May 25
Where: Montana Veterans Memorial, located near Cantene Stadium (1015 25th St. N.) on River Drive North

tinental Ballistic Missiles. Wilcox is a career security forces officer and has served in a variety of operational assignments, including squadron and group command.

Weatherwax teaches Blackfeet language and culture studies at BCC. He served in the U.S. Army from 1967 to 1972 as an airborne Ranger communications specialist, which included joint combat operations

with the "River-rats" of Vietnam. His father, William W. Weatherwax, served in the Army during World War II and Korea. Two of Weatherwax's sons served in the Army and the Marine Corps, as has two of his siblings.

Other planned highlights of the ceremony include musical performances by the Sound of the Falls Women's Choir, Jack Gladstone and the Marine Corps. League. Invocation and benediction will be offered by Lt. Col. Mark Roberts and Bishop Jessica Crist, respectively.

Presentation of the Malmstrom Air Force Base Honor Guard and veterans groups, the Pledge of Allegiance led by the Cuts Wood Academy students from Browning and a salute

given to fallen Montana veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq.

Winters said the ceremony is meant to show appreciation to veterans of all conflicts.

"I hope people come away with an appreciation for not just the military but for ordinary people who served in the military and then after their time filtered back into their community. ... And for those who went into hostile areas and combat, I'd like people to say an extra prayer for them," Winters said.

To date, more than 6,000 tiles have been installed at the memorial, and there is room for about 5,000 more, Winters said.

For more information about the memorial or how to honor a veteran, go to www.montanaveteransmemorial.org.



TRIBUNE PHOTO/DAVID MURRAY

A mason sets into place one of the 162 black marble tiles honoring Blackfeet veterans at the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls.

162 Blackfeet veterans honored at state memorial

Tiles commemorate all Montana vets

By David Murray
dmurray@greatfalltribune.com

Before sealing them onto the circular concrete wall, the masons read aloud each name inscribed upon the black marble tiles.

"Gilbert Wall — United States Marine Corp; Melvin Rides At The Door — Army; William A. Talks About — United States Marine Corp."

The names went on and on — a private ritual of honor before the public ceremonies in one week.

Roughly 240 tiles were added to the walls of the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls on Monday. Each represents a military service veteran who can trace their origin back to Montana. Of these, 162 represent Native American warriors from

the Blackfeet nation. Each served, and many died, in defense of their country.

Their names — as well as those of 80 non-Native American veterans — will be honored Monday at a Memorial Day ceremony beginning at 2 p.m.

"The thing in common is that we're all veterans," said Blackfeet Tribal Business Committee Chairman Harry Barnes, "and we've all stepped up to take the pledge and the oath to do whatever's necessary to defend our country."

Since 2009, thousands of Montana veterans' names have been affixed upon the walls at the memorial above the waters of the Missouri River.



TRIBUNE PHOTO/DAVID MURRAY

Tiles stand ready to be added to the memorial.

Blackfeet

Continued from 1M

This year special attention is being paid to the Blackfeet warriors who served their country. The special honor began roughly seven months ago when Great Falls Mayor Michael Winters and the Montana Veterans Memorial Committee extended a formal invitation to the BTBC to include the names of as many Blackfeet veterans as possible at the memorial.

It was not that Blackfeet veterans had been intentionally ignored. In fact, the names of many Blackfeet warriors are interspersed among the many tiles already crowding the memorial. These include Minnie Spotted Wolf, the first female Marine Corp veteran honored at the Montana Veterans Memorial.

However, due to distance and imperfect communications, the Veterans Memorial Committee was painfully aware at the underrepresentation of Blackfeet veterans at the Great Falls' memorial.

"Nobody took the time to investigate it," said Albert Salway, a Blackfeet Tribal member who has worked for seven months to identify as many Blackfeet veterans as time allowed.

The final roll call included 33 Blackfeet veterans dating back to World War II who lost their lives in combat. The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council elected to pay all costs associated with recog-



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

A Marine Corp veteran pauses in reflection at the base of the Warrior Angel statue.

nizing these 33 fallen warriors.

"Really that's where the effort started," Barnes said. "In recognizing our killed in action."

Both Barnes and Winters are military veterans, as are BTBC members Joe McKay and Bill Old Chief. Barnes said BTBC is currently planning to establish a new veterans memorial specific to Blackfeet veterans on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Browning in the years ahead.

"We used to be the most feared tribe on the plains," Barnes commented. "As an

ethnic group I think Native Americans have stepped up to the plate in greater percentages than just about anybody else. It's part of our DNA, and it's only natural that we start recognizing that. We're here today to start that process."

The newly added Blackfeet veterans' tiles will be grouped together in a single section on the northeast edge of the memorial. Space remains for an additional 60 or 70 marble tiles to be added to the Blackfeet memorial section. A special dedication cer-

emony that will include blessings from Blackfeet tribal religious leaders will follow the traditional Memorial Day ceremony on Monday.

"It's very special," Barnes said. "Not that we're separated, but that we're elevated. It's a tremendous honor."

JEAN HALVERSON'S
Art Works! Art
Frame shop & gallery
Downtown at 45 N. 1st Street, 720-2107

Tribune Services

Blackfeet Tribe contributes \$26,000 for Veterans Memorial Wall in Great Falls

By JOHN MCGILL | Posted: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 9:00 am

Blackfeet Veteran Harry Salway began a process some time ago, trying to find the names and branches of service of those Blackfeet members who were killed in action. That process was accelerated when the Veterans and the Blackfeet Tribe decided to work together to purchase tiles memorializing Tribal members at the Veterans Memorial Wall in Great Falls.

“We started by getting word out to the families to buy tiles at \$200 apiece,” said George Kipp IV, director of Blackfeet Manpower. With that effort, the Veterans gained about \$1,200 in donations, and a few families bought tiles. Then the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council (BTBC) voted to contribute \$26,000, enough to pay for 130 tiles.

“The Blackfeet Veterans have a priority list,” Kipp said, “and we should have enough at 130.” Kipp said the Veterans plan to meet on March 20 to select 130 names to include on the wall. The priority list begins with those killed in action, with prisoners of war coming in second. Third are those who were awarded medals, with Bronze Star in first place, Silver Star in second, CBI third and Purple Heart fourth in that group. World War I Vets are fourth on the list; World War II Vets fifth; and Korean War Vets in sixth place. Any leftover spots on the tiles will be assigned by the Blackfeet Veterans Alliance. All names and branches of service should be submitted to Clifford Whitegrass by March 20. He may be reached at 338-3821, ext. 211, or on-site at Blackfeet Manpower.

Once the names are chosen, the list will be submitted to Michael Winters, the mayor of Great Falls, and the tiles will be engraved for a dedication on Memorial Day. Kipp said that Marvin Weatherwax Sr. of Blackfeet Community College has been asked to emcee the event, and he hopes to have dancers and a blessing. Kipp said BTBC reps as well as leaders of the Veterans will



Blackfeet Tribe to Vets Memorial

Albert Harry Salway accepted a check from BTBC Chairman Harry Barnes for \$26,000 last week. The funds are destined to pay for tiles listing names of Blackfeet members to be placed on the Veterans Memorial Wall in Great Falls. They were joined by Veterans Sam Juneau, Frank Spearson, Georgianna Horn, Rusty Vernwald, Bernadino No Runner, Mike Kittson and John Armstrong. Sooney Little Plume and Eileen Henderson represented Blackfeet Manpower.

also be there.

“Everyone’s really excited about it,” said Kipp, “and other Tribes will likely jump on with their own panels.”

The Manpower director went on to say that there is about \$70,000 in CTEP funds available for a Veterans park in Browning, probably located behind the Museum of the Plains Indian. “We get lots of calls for a Blackfeet memorial here, so this might spur actual talks,” Kipp said.

I won't waffle: Give mayor his feather back

I wouldn't know Mayor Michael Winters from Adam.

You would think I would; I've chatted with him on the phone a couple times. But no.

I think I saw him once at the wonderful Knights of Columbus breakfast one Sunday morning, working the serving line.



**PHIL
DRAKE**
Tribune Staff

A lady in front of me wanted a whole waffle, and he was trying to talk her into taking just half, or vice versa.

I waited patiently through what I now call "The Great Waffle Debate of 2014," badly in need of 50 ccs of biscuits and gravy — stat — or the world would feel my wrath.

But instead of hollering "just give her the #@\$%^ waffle," I stood, much like a zombie. In a last-ditch effort for my sanity I dunked my head in the gravy bowl and it took 17 K of C'ers to pull me away.

OK, maybe not, but the waffle tale is true, at least to my recollection.

So I felt some sadness the other week when the mayor called me and said he had to return the eagle feather to the Blackfeet Nation that he was given at a Memorial Day ceremony. I was there when the tribe bestowed the name of Brave Eagle on the mayor and presented him with the feather. The honor was given in the wake of the names of 126 Blackfeet men added to the wall of the memorial, which the mayor helped found.

If you didn't attend the ceremony, I have to tell you, you missed a great event.

And Sen. Jon Tester ended the salute with taps. I was going to holler: "Play 'Hello, Dolly!'" but thought that might be inappropriate.

I really envied the mayor that day, and I thought that would be one of the greatest honors of my life to be given such a name. What would they call me?

Running Bear or Dances With Pizza came to mind. And those are the nicer ones.

In my interview with Winters a few days after the service, he said he was touched by the gesture of the Blackfeet and told me he planned to mount the eagle with a poem written by his wife's grandmother, Emma Sansaver, of the famed 1904 Fort Shaw world championship girls' basketball team.

He said federal law makes it illegal to possess, distribute or sell eagle feathers.

I can understand the federal laws, but it wasn't as if he was going to stick the feather in a cap and call it macaroni. He said he was going to have it mounted. I truly believe that he would have given that feather dignity it deserved, almost as if it were back on the eagle. I called federal officials to learn more, but did not get a call back.

I know there is a reason for laws. It just seemed like this time it was a little unjust. After all, it was given to him by the tribe.

And it seems silly now to say "give the feather back."

But then again, I could be wrong.

After all, I did dunk my head into the gravy bowl during the Great Waffle Debate of 2014.

(And in the spirit of full disclosure, I will point out the mayor is running for an unprecedented fourth term. Also running for the seat, so far, are Bob Kelly and Jarred Wutzke. Vote early and often.)

Email Phil Drake at pdrake@greatfalltribune.com or call 791-6547.

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

The association established and maintains this memorial to honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and in war. A Veteran is defined as any man or woman of any age who has served in any branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity, and to honor men and women living and deceased equally.

Montana Veterans Memorial Association
PO Box 3524
Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524
Website: www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

A PLACE OF HONOR



MEMORIAL DAY 2015

Navy, Tech Airman, **Andrew Scott Charpentier**, Great Falls
Army Staff Sgt **Thaddeus S. Montgomery**, West Yellowstone

Montana ties:

Marine Lance Cpl. **Nathan Wood**
Army SSG **Patrick L. Lybert**
Army Sgt. **Lucas T. White**
Sturdivant
Army Sgt. **John K. Daggett**
Army Sgt. **Shane Barnard**

Army Sgt Michael

Blackfeet bestow name upon mayor

By Phil Drake

pdrake@greatfallstribune.com

To some people, he's Great Falls Mayor Michael Winters.

But to members of the Blackfeet Nation, he is known as Brave Eagle.

The name was bestowed upon the mayor at Monday's Memorial Day ceremony at

the Montana Veterans Memorial.

Marvin Weatherwax, professor of Blackfeet Community College, unveiled the name with a feather and a prayer, saying it was "the highest honor that we can present to anybody."

"From this day forward, he shall be known as Brave Eagle," he told several hun-

dred people gathered at the memorial.

Winters was touched by the gesture.

"Thank you for this incredible honor," he said. "I am truly humbled."

At Monday's ceremony, tiles honoring 162 Blackfeet tribal members who gave their lives for their country were unveiled at the memori-

al. Winters played an instrumental role in creating the memorial and adding the new tiles. They were among the nearly 240 tiles recently added to the walls of the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls. Each represents a military service veteran who can trace his or her origin back to Montana. Winters then said he would accept the

name on behalf of the Montana Veterans Memorial Committee.

About seven months ago, Winters and the Montana Veterans Memorial Committee extended a formal invitation to the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council to include the names of as many Black-

See NAME, 3M



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO/AMANDA DETERMAN
Marvin Weatherwax presents Great Falls Mayor Michael Winters with an eagle feather and a new name of Brave Eagle in the Blackfeet tradition.

Name

Continued from 1M

feet veterans as possible at the memorial.

Since 2009, nearly 6,000 names have been placed on the walls at the memorial that overlooks the Missouri River. The memorial honors and recognizes all veterans of all branches of military service, in peace and in war.

Winters said that surprisingly, there have been several people who have congratulated him on the being giv-

en a name by the Blackfeet.

"These are very genuine, good people, and they don't bestow these kinds of honors all the time," he said.

He said it was not unusual to share such an accolade with others, saying because it's a team effort.

"It's an honor, not just for me, but for our community and our city," he said.

He said he has already received more requests for tiles from other members of the Blackfeet Tribe.

What is he doing with the feather?

"I have it on my mantle,"

he said, adding it is next to a poem written by his wife's grandmother, Emma Sansvaver, a Native American who was on the famed 1904 Fort Shaw world champion basketball team. He hopes to have it mounted.

The mayor maintained his composure during Monday's ceremony, as he thanked the Blackfeet for the honor.

He said later his emotions caught up with.

"I did that when I got home, when I sat down and talked to my wife about it," he said.

Remembering those who served

62 tiles added to honor vets from Blackfeet tribe

By Andrea Fisher-Mitschke
amitschke@greatfallstribune.com

Bright sunshine and warm temperatures brought the feeling of summer to the Montana Veterans Memorial for the annual Memorial Day ceremony.

"Some people think this is the first day of summer, but it's much more than that," Sen. Tim Tester said during his remarks. "This is the day that we give thanks to the men and women who have given the ultimate sacrifice for this

country so that we can be here today, celebrating."

This year's ceremony had a special focus on the American Indian military experience as 162 new tiles were dedicated in honor of veterans belonging to the Blackfeet tribe.

Several of the speakers noted that Native Americans have traditionally served in the U.S. military in higher numbers than any other ethnic group, even when they were barred from the draft. The Native American speak-

ers attributed some of this practice as a tradition important to many families.

"Warriors have walked these grounds overlooking this magnificent river for years," said Harry Barnes, Chairman of the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council.

"Many have lost loved ones. Many are still hurting because of the things that took place with their loved ones, even though they have come back," added Chief Earl Old Person of the Blackfeet Tribe, who gave im-

MORE ONLINE

See two videos from ceremonies at gftrib.com.

prompt remarks at the ceremony.

"Each one of the tiles we have in the wall, be they non-native, be they native, has a story all of its own. And as you go by and touch them you will see," explained Mayor Michael Winters, who played an instrumental part in creating the memorial and organizing the addition of the new

See MEMORIAL, 3A



TRIBUNE PHOTO/AMANDA DETERM
Veterans from many branches of the armed forces were on hand for the Memorial Day ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial.



A group of about a dozen veterans and another dozen or so community members gathered at the Manchester Cemetery to pay their respects to the men and women of the armed forces buried there. TRIBUNE PHOTO/AMANDA DETERMAN

Memorial

Continued from 1A

tiles for tribal veterans.

About 260 new tiles in total were installed before Monday's event. The names of all Montana's fallen veterans killed in Iraq and Afghanistan were read before the crowd.

The ceremony concluded with the playing of "Taps" by Tester. This traditional conclusion was echoed at a series

of morning and early afternoon events at cemeteries across Great Falls and the surrounding area.

The local Marine Corps League stayed busy this Memorial Day, as they do each year, providing their services at three public ceremonies. They presented the colors, assembled a helmet and rifle display, provided a gun salute and also played "Taps" among the grave markers.

Major Ricky Anderson of the Montana Air National

Guard provided guest remarks at the Highland Cemetery, saying "if words cannot repay the debt we owe these men and women, surely with our actions we must strive to keep faith with them and the decisions that led them to battle and to the final sacrifice."

The Great Falls High School band provided music at the Highland Cemetery program, along with Shrine Bagpiper Jessie Calender. The ceremony also included a roll-call of all local veterans

who died between May 1, 2014 and May 15, 2015.

Anderson concluded with words about the National Anthem, "Does that flag still wave over the land of the free and the home of the brave? That is what we must all ask."

Reach Tribune Staff Writer Andrea Fisher-Nitschke at 791-6527 or antschke@greatfallstribune.com. Follow her on Twitter @GFtrib_Andrea or like Andrea Fisher-Nitschke Great Falls Tribune on Facebook.

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015



TRIBUNE PHOTO/AMANDA DETERMAN

Sen. Jon Tester plays "Taps" at the conclusion of the Memorial Day ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial on River Drive.



TRIBUNE PHOTO/AMANDA DETERMAN

Marvin Weatherwax, a professor at the Blackfeet Community College and veteran, presents Great Falls mayor Michael Winters with an eagle feather and a new name in the Blackfeet tradition as thanks for his role in making sure the Native American community were included among those honored at the Veterans Memorial.

Michael Winters and Montana Veterans Memorial Committee Members

I want to thank you so much for giving us the honor of planting the Patriotic Red, White and Blue Garden at the Montana Veterans Memorial each year; this is truly a labor of love. We were asked if our Garden club; the Great Falls Flower Growers, wanted to do this when the Memorial was completed in 2006 and without hesitation, we said yes. Each year we strive to make the garden as beautiful as possible, we have many restrictions we follow. The plants have to be able to withstand wind, heat and full sun, they must bloom all summer, and cannot grow more than about 12 inches tall, there are names on the wall behind the garden and we want to make sure everyone can read them.

Over the years we have tried several different plants and a different designs, we found that the petunias are best suited for the garden; they follow all the criteria and come in red, white and blue. Last year our club purchased and planted two Cranberry Bushes, one for each side of the flower bed. It takes 225 ~ 4" petunias to plant the flower bed and the three concrete planters. The Montana Veterans Memorial donates \$250 to pay for 120 plants at a discounted price and the Flower Farm donates the other 105 plants, that's a total of 225 petunias. All plants are from the Flower Farm, Debbie Petrini said they are happy to do this; they will do this every year.

*the Home Depot,
ter, potting soil,
cranberry
Manager
terans.*

*t we would
our ladies are
ongoing basis. I
ve enjoyed it
ve and work
for someone*



REMEMBERING PRIVATE CHARLO

©2010 Jack Wallace Gladstone

This epic honors the long tradition, albeit short life, of Private Louis C. Charlo, USMC.

I.) U.S. Corps of Discovery March

(Columbia River Basin, Bitterroot Valley, Thursday Sept. 4th, 1805)

II.) Bitterroot Salish/U.S. History. Poetic Summary (1805-1891)

Through the valley of the Bitterroot, September eighteen-five
Two U.S. Captains funneled their command
Soldiers ragged, cold and hungry as they prepared to stand
before Coyote's People, children of the land

The native heart was open sharing ponies and white robes
Land-locked Argonauts proclaimed their trek's intention
To Manifest their Destiny through allies and new trade
The quest for land was not addressed or even mentioned

17 stars rose proudly over the valley
Chief Three Eagles welcomed strangers in their home
affirming, "Brothers are forever through suffering and joy
In our home you'll never be alone..."

Voracious corporations, furs were first in line
The dream inside the dream of Eden ended
Guns, disease and whiskey, a crucifix of steel
did precede demands for land from those befriended

Summer 1855, U.S. reps arrived
to manage concentration of the tribes
Political convenience, promises in session
were broken by a pen of dispossession

44 stars hung silent over the valley
"Old Charlo" was driven from his home
from open arms to refugee, in less than a century
the focus of the Heart was then unknown

Notes:

I. Once west of the Continental Divide, the primary objective of the Lewis and Clark Expedition was to legitimize U.S. claim to the Columbia River Basin, under the international legal principle of the "Doctrine of Discovery."

II. The Hellgate Treaty of 1855 assured the Bitterroot Salish that their territorial homeland would be surveyed and reserved as such. It was not. In August of 1871, then Congressman, James A. Garfield led a commission to extinguish U.S. obligation to survey the southern reserve. The head Salish Chief, Old Charlo, refused to sign the release agreement. The Garfield Commission subsequently forged Old Charlo's mark. In resolute defiance, Old Charlo, and his people remained in the Bitterroot until 1891 (44 stars), when they reluctantly left their beloved home and resettled north, on the Flathead Reservation... in 1880 James A Garfield was elected as the 20th President of the United States of America.

III.) Bitterroot Dusk (chants)

IV.) December 7th, 1941, F. D. R. "Infamy" Address to U.S. (Monday, Dec. 8, 1941)

V.) Warrior's Call

By the summer of 1942 fascism smothered the globe
Coyote's people had kept alive their stories, around the fire told
the great grandson of Charlo sat spellbound by his dad
as the Mission Range turned to snow

The call of a warrior is first answered in the light
then later reaffirmed when awakened, in the night
in November 1943 "Chuck" Charlo dropped to one knee
and pleaded for his mom's consent to enlist at seventeen

He said, "My deepest wish is to be a Marine
I promise to return, just wait and see
Our people will be proud of me
Our struggle will be won over Hitler and the Rising Sun"

VI.) U.S.M.C. Boot Camp (Alchemy)

Boot camp at Pendleton, M-1s and sub-machine guns
K-BARs*, S.O.B. instructors drill to alchemy
reps at Camp Tarawa, Parkers Ranch Hawaii
"There's no retreat, no defeat, we're United States Marines!"^a

**USMC standard
issue assault knife.*

Conditioned every way, day after day
to fight an enemy that we may never see
We've bonded into fire teams, squads and platoons
Conspicuously coined "Easy Company"^b

Notes:

V. In the tribal nations of Western America there are mystic warrior societies whose interdependent vitality is dedicated to the defense of homeland. Louis "Chuck" Charlo was born and nurtured into this tradition. The Bitterroot Salish had the "Crazy Dogs," whose mantra before the battle was, "Today is a good day to die; only the mountains and hills live forever." Despite the Garfield Commission forgery, the Bitterroot Salish volunteered and served as warrior/scouts for the U.S. in moral fulfillment of the 'friendship covenant' with Lewis and Clark and the spirit of the Treaty of 1855.

VI. a) The United States Marine Corps holds the oldest and strongest military pedigree in the U.S. The Corps actually predates the U.S., being formed on November 10, 1775, in Philadelphia, PA. at the Tun Tavern.

In WWI, after their resilient and victorious counter-attacks in the Battle of Bella Wood (France), the German Army nicknamed U.S. Marines "The Devil Dogs." American Indian warrior traditions harmonized well with the Marines.

b) The daunting assignment of Easy and Fox Companies was to attack and conquer Iwo Jima's Mount Suribachi, the most fortified mountain on the most fortified island in history. Charlo was a member of Fox Company.

VII.) On the U.S.S. Missoula (ABA 211) "Crosswinds of Eternity"

(Samurai Shakubachi Flute, received from Kumamoto, Japan – Montana's "sister" state)

On the U.S.S. Missoula pushing towards a rendezvous with the
blue (*with the blue*) with the blue (*with the blue*)
maybe sky, maybe ocean, maybe a typhoon of glowing steel
(*glowing steel*) of glowing steel (*glowing steel*)
The Crosswinds of Eternity are gusting through the portals of my destiny
Destiny...

I wonder if the Japanese have thoughts like these
perhaps they carry photographs from home
Must I suffocate all empathy for the enemy in war
towards the rock entrenched defenders on the shore
"We must paralyze compassion for the enemy in war..."

VIII.) Iwo Jima

February 19th, 1945: Tokyo Prefecture - through sheets of withering fire,
Marines stormed the Japanese Alamo of Iwo Jima,^a
a Sulfuric Labyrinth, whose song was sung by the children of Japan.
As light fell on day four, Suribachi smoldered in cryptic silhouette.

At sun-up, a patrol was chosen to recon its summit.^b
On this team was Private Louis Charlo of the Bitterroot Salish Nation.

Four U.S. Marines climbed high above the island
Anchored by the wings of history^c
In a letter back home to his folks in Montana, Louis wrote,
"I was involved in the fracas atop Suribachi."^d

At 10:20 AM, Charlo joined in raising 48 stars over Iwo Jima
Mid-afternoon, a flag, salvaged from Pearl Harbor, replaced the original
A banner forever captured, immortalized and
Misrepresented by "The Photograph."

To the American Public "The Photograph" portrayed a battle practically won
but for the island warriors, the battle had only begun,
For well over a month it raged, through twenty-four hour days
The disintegration of Cain and Abel.^e

On March 2nd in a firelane sector called "Meatgrinder"
Private Ed McLaughlin, of Boys Town, Nebraska went down, severely wounded
"Semper Fi!"* Charlo rushed to his buddy's side
and while attempting to carry him to safety
both were killed by machine gun fire...^f

* *Semper Fidelis*
"always faithful"
USMC slogan

IX.) Epilogue

Charlo, from the line of Salish Chiefs dating back to Lewis and Clark
"Chuck" Charlo, who pleaded for his mom's consent to serve the Nations he loved
Private Louis Charlo, a U.S. Marine who scouted for and helped raise the
First flag on Iwo Jima

Charlo was eighteen.

X.) USMC Hymn, Bitterroot Singers (chants)

Notes:

VII. In a haunting coincidence, the first flag raised on Iwo Jima was taken from the troop transport U.S.S. Missoula, which also ferried both Fox and Easy Companies to the battle. Louis "Chuck" Charlo was born in Missoula County on the Flathead Indian Reservation on September 26, 1926.

VIII. a) Iwo Jima, meaning 'Sulfur Island', was the most remote territorial outpost of Japan's homeland. Its tenacious defense and determined conquest is recognized as one of history's most horrific battles.

b) Private Charlo was a member of both the first four man patrol and the first flag raising platoon atop Mount Suribachi (personal conversation with "Chuck" Lindberg, flag raiser, Bronze Star recipient and "Iwo" survivor; Richfield, MN, August, 1997).

c) "Anchored by the wings of history" - The USMC emblem consists of an eagle, a globe and an anchor, symbolizing nation, world-wide service and naval tradition.

d) "I was involved in the fracas..." Interview with Private Charlo's father, "Tony" regarding "Chuck's" final correspondence (Missoulian 3/21/48).

e) "The disintegration of Cain and Abel" - Clearing the hurdle of literalism, Genesis (4:1-13) becomes a figurative masterpiece illustrating the dissolution of human brotherhood and kinship. Cain's question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" is both timely and timeless.

f) "Both were killed by machine gun fire" - Testimonial from Pvt. Charlo's platoon leader, 2nd Lt. Raymond Whelan, in a letter sent to Charlo's cousin USMC Sgt. Roger Shourds (Missoulian 10/21/06).

Private Louis "Chuck" Charlo's remains were repatriated to the Flathead Indian Reservation in the spring of 1948.
Burial services were held on April 24, 1948 in St. Ignatius, Montana.

Hereditary Bitterroot Salish Chiefs (1805 - present)

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1) Three Eagles | 5) Paul Charlo |
| 2) Victor | 6) Antoine (father of Louis) |
| 3) Old Charlo | 7) Louis (KIA, March 2, 1945) |
| 4) Martin Charlo | 8) Victor Charlo (living in Dixon, MT) |

Special thanks to Mary Jane Charlo (sister of Louis) and Pvt. Bill Worf,
Montana-born "Iwo" survivor, for their encouragement, testimonials and lasting friendship.

SOMETIMES EAGLES

©2002 Jack Wallace Gladstone

We became men in the skies above the Reich
Bombing daily, the British bombed by night.
We were young then, with dreams to go back home
Some were broken, their shadows left to roam.

Through the green grass of 1942,
We enlisted, sacrificing school.
Only God knew when, or if, we would return.
Our duty was freedom to be earned.

Fortresses suspended in the atmosphere,
The earth lay like a dream miles below.
German fighter aces cut our crews in half.
We fell into eternity in droves...

From the sky.

(chant) Ha hey Haw-naw hey-naw
Ha ley-ya hay naw, ha hey-la-hey

Missions became memories by the fall of '45.
Peace tasted sweet for those who survived.
Casualties of war were over, but for some,
Streams of nightmares had really just begun.

If we had the chance to live our lives again
We'd find another way to ease the pain.
Sober circles work to keep our demons down.
Our lives could be close to whole again.

Sometimes Eagles have trouble on the ground.

(chant) Ha hey Haw-naw hey-naw
Ha ley-ya hay naw, ha hey-la-hey

Sergeant Ernest C. DuBray and this world parted ways
In the water below St. Mary's Lake.
As a warrior ascended, a Native Son went down.
Sometimes Eagles have trouble on the ground.

Let's remember our heroes whose stars have fallen down
Sometimes Eagles have trouble on the ground

(Malmstrom Air Force Trumpeteer)

We became men in the skies above the Reich...

Preamble: In the spring of 1942 my dad and his best friend Ernest left Indian Boarding School and enlisted in WWII. Dad fought in the Pacific, while Ernest emerged as a radioman/tailgunner aboard heavy bombers in Europe. The scope and intensity of the air war over Nazi Germany is unequalled in the annals of human history... This composition is dedicated to those airmen, both Allied and Axis, and to the challenges faced by combat veterans worldwide.

Notes: Boeing B-17 "Flying Fortresses" cruised in formation at 160 mph in subzero temperatures at altitudes ranging from 20-25,000 feet. German fighter planes and jets averaged 350-540 mph.

The 8th Air Force, Sgt. Ernest DuBray's assignment, suffered 58% casualties in WWII, crews averaged 14 missions before they were killed in action (79,265). 30 missions were required "to go back home."

The 8th Air Force claimed the highest rate of PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) in WWII.

After the war, Ernest's life progressively unraveled into alcoholic despair and spiraled downward. On June 12, 1963 Sgt. Ernest DuBray stumbled drunk and drowned in the irrigation canal fed by Lower St. Mary Lake. He passed as one of the most highly decorated veterans from Montana in WWII, the recipient of a Distinguished Flying Cross and three Oak Leaf Clusters. Ernest flew 52 missions over Nazi Germany, the final 22 in volunteer status.

Epilogue: In 1967, four years after his best friend's death my dad, Wallace J. Gladstone also a WWII veteran, also afflicted with PTSD, also alcoholic... honestly and faithfully committed himself to recovery. He passed in a state of serenity on June 28, 2003. My words, my songs are testament in part to his story.

Mike, I am a
good friend of Bob
Hilborn - I did
service during WWII
Korean Conflict & during
Viet Nam. I was a
Corporal. I thought
this might be of
some interest to you.
Bob Hilborn
1921 5th St. N.W.

879-2356

ONE DAY A YEAR

When I was asked to speak on Memorial Day I asked myself-- What should I Say? What do they want to hear? So I started asking people at random-- "What does Memorial Day mean to you?" I received so many interpretations of what Memorial Day meant that it really made me wonder, some of the answers were 1. A day of celebrate, 2. A day to watch the car races, 3. A day to thank God for our freedom, 4. A day to remember our war dead, 5. Some of the children I asked think of Memorial Day as a 3 day weekend to go camping, fishing or picnicking---They had no REAL idea of what Memorial Day REALLY meant at all. Is this what it is all about to most people? I hope not.

The most heartbreaking answer I received was from a young girl. She answered "I think it's A DAY when all people in America remember my brother.--He was killed you know. But I think of him EVERY DAY." That just about tore me up.

At that point I knew what I was going to talk about. "ONE DAY A YEAR".

It was so disheartening to think that this great country's servicemen and women are thought of by so many thousands of people --ONLY ONE DAY A YEAR.

I would like everyone here to just STOP and THINK for a moment of what this country of ours would be like if ALL our servicemen and women preformed in the defense of this great land-- JUST ON DAY A YEAR. It wouldn't be a very pretty picture-- I'm sure you'll ALL agree.

One of the answers, as you will recall, that I received when I asked what Memorial Day meant was-- "A day to remember our war dead." I ask you now, what about the sill living men and women of our armed services, PAST and PRESENTLY in uniform including all the Reservists and Guard personnel, Don't they Count?

Yes, I know we hear of the GULF WARS, IRAQ, MID EAST VETS, NAM VETS, still a little of the Korean vets, but very little if any of the WWI, WW2, SPANISH AMERICAN and even the early wars fought between the INDIANS and THE SOLDIERS, VETERANS ALL-- Remember, the Indians were Americans too.

They are NOT ALL that should be remembered. What about the Wives, children, mothers and fathers of our service people? Are they not veterans also-- The sacrifices, heartbreaks, separation, are these things to be forgotten except for "ONE DAY A YEAR?"

I certainly HOPE NOT, for they also are veterans in still ANOTHER way.

We go in our everyday lives, doing what we might consider "routine" activities, just taking for granted that this is the way it should be, but what has kept this prevalent way of freedom for us? I ask you, was all this made possible in JUST ONE DAY A YEAR?

I know we all gripe at times about how our government is run, taxes, and many other things. We even have anti-military groups complaining about our servicemen and women, our existing defense spending and many even recall when we saw signs on lawns, "DOGS AND SERVICEMEN KEEP OFF THE GRASS". I saw these signs and I'm sure many of you did also. Even then that did not deter our service people from doing the task THEY had set out to do-- and they did it. They defended the privilege of all of us to do the griping, complaining, and yes, even condemning our very way of life and at a very high cost.

The sad part of my last statement is that these groups do it 365 days a year, This is quite a contrast to the ONE DAY A YEAR on observance to our veterans and service personnel.

The dictionary defines "memorial" as a monument. Are not our servicemen and women, past and present, a monument? A monument of our EVERY DAY FREEDOM, AND IF THAT BE THE CASE WHY ARE THE EFFORTS OF THESE FINE PEOPLE ONLY OBSERVED only "one day a year?"

We here today have known the real meaning of sacrifice from both sides-- the side of families of our servicemen and women and the side of the uniformed men and women.

I at one time was the "caco" or casualty assistance representative for the Navy in this area. I had the unpleasant task of notifying the next of kin of casualties of the loved ones in the families, a job I would MUCH rather had someone else do. I saw our flag thrown on the ground and stomped on and on one occasion I myself was

spat on and asked why I couldn't have been the one instead of her son. All I could do was apologize and try to calm her down. I was one of the lucky ones, especially after serving during 3 wars myself. I know how much the hurt was visible at that moment and that hurt will live in those hearts for a lifetime, not just one day a year.

Even though those things happened at the times of notification, every single one of those people came to me later and demonstrated an understanding why that son or husband gave up his other life for not only them, but for all of us, They will never forget and with God's help, we should never for ONE SINGLE Day-- Forget.

We as servicemen and women needed and depended on your support- we got that support and it is apparent from seeing all of you here now that the support is still with us and believe me—we do appreciate it.

We still need that strong arm of your support and encouragement, and I know we have it always when the cards are down. We need it 364 days plus that very special "ONE DAY A YEAR

I would like to conclude with –words for taps.

DAY IS DONE, THE SUN FROM THE LAKE, FROM THE HILL, FROM THE SKY, ALL IS WELL, SAFELY REST, GOD IS HIGH. THANKS AND PRAISE FOR OUR DAYS NEATH THE SUN, NEATH THE STARS NEATH THE SKY. AS WE GO, THIS WE KNOW, GOD IS NIGH.
God bless this United States of America, Our allies and all the good things they stand for.

Thank you-- from all of us

Francis A Sibert

USN Retired

Great Falls honors veterans

Jenn Rowell

jrowell@greatfalltribune.com

Despite a cold wind, a small crowd gathered at the Montana Veterans Memorial for the annual Veterans Day ceremony.

Judge Greg Pinski shared statistics of veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and brain injuries and the high rate of suicide.

"We took these human beings who were healthy, strong and brave, and put them in a situation that we know profoundly changes human beings. The suicide rates alone should be justification for us as a community to stand up and help these veterans," Pinski said. "Left untreated, these issues make it difficult for veterans to adjust to life when they return home. These issues can lead veterans to unemployment, homelessness and arrest."

There are more than 700,000 incarcerated veterans nationwide, Pinski said, and

See HONOR, 3A

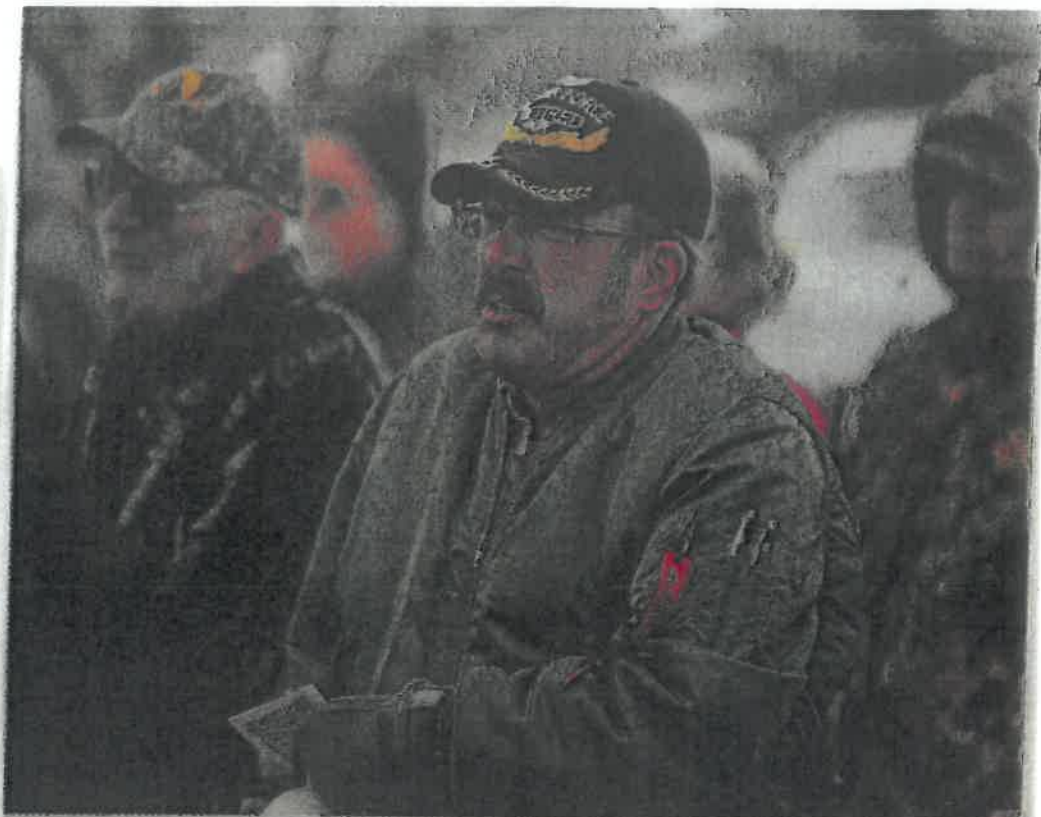
WANT TO HELP?

The Tribune collected items for veterans and others at the Great Falls Rescue Mission and delivered a box of items on Veterans Day. We'll continue to collect items for the veterans at the mission through the holiday season and invite the community to join us.



TRIBUNE PHOTO/ION SANDERS

erb Gilmour of the Marine Corps League detachment 688, salutes during the Veterans Day ceremony on Wednesday morning.



TRIBUNE PHOTO/ION SANDERS

Air Force veteran Rick English observes Veterans Day at the Montana Veterans Memorial on Wednesday.

Honor

Continued from 1A

many of them were arrested on charges directly related to trauma, addiction or mental illness.

Pinski established the 8th Judicial District Veterans Court in November 2013, and 14 veterans are currently in the 18-month program.

It's a treatment court that also matches participants with mentors who also are veterans to help participants get their lives back on track.

"I possess a fundamental belief that courts don't exist simply to dispense justice, they exist to make the community a better, safer place. We fulfill that principle each day in Veterans Court," Pinski said. "I can't emphasize enough, and I can't advocate loudly enough, that that we need to have a Veterans Court in every jurisdiction in Montana and across the United States. Justice is not just unless we as a community stand up and help veterans regain what they lost in order to make them whole."

Gov. Steve Bullock said Montana has high rate of service, but it also affects families and they also need

said after the ceremony that attending Veterans Day ceremonies is important to honor those who came before.

As older veterans stopped to shake his hand, Wilcox said some of them can barely walk, but "they come out and honor each other. And we stand there side by side with them and honor them."

Across town at Loy Elementary, students hosted their annual Veterans Day celebration.

The gym was packed with students and their families, many of whom serve at Malmstrom or the Montana Air National Guard.

Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Stiles and Col. Denise Cooper spoke to the students about service.

Stiles is the Malmstrom Command chief master sergeant and Cooper is commander of the 341st Mission Support Group.

Cooper asked the students to raise their hands if they had a family member in the military. Nearly every hand shot into the air.

Stiles told the students he

had permission to let them use their outside voices during their part of the program.

"We're here to celebrate veterans," Stiles said. "I want you to be so loud that every veteran in the city of Great Falls can hear you."

"When I say veterans, you say day."

Students shouted "day" as loud as they could.

To the kids who don't have parents in the military, "you are just as much a hero because you support us," Stiles said.

He said that when kids and others thank them for their service, "We're looking at you with honest eyes because we can see that you're worth it."

Ameena Sahadat, 9, read an essay about why her military mom was important to her.

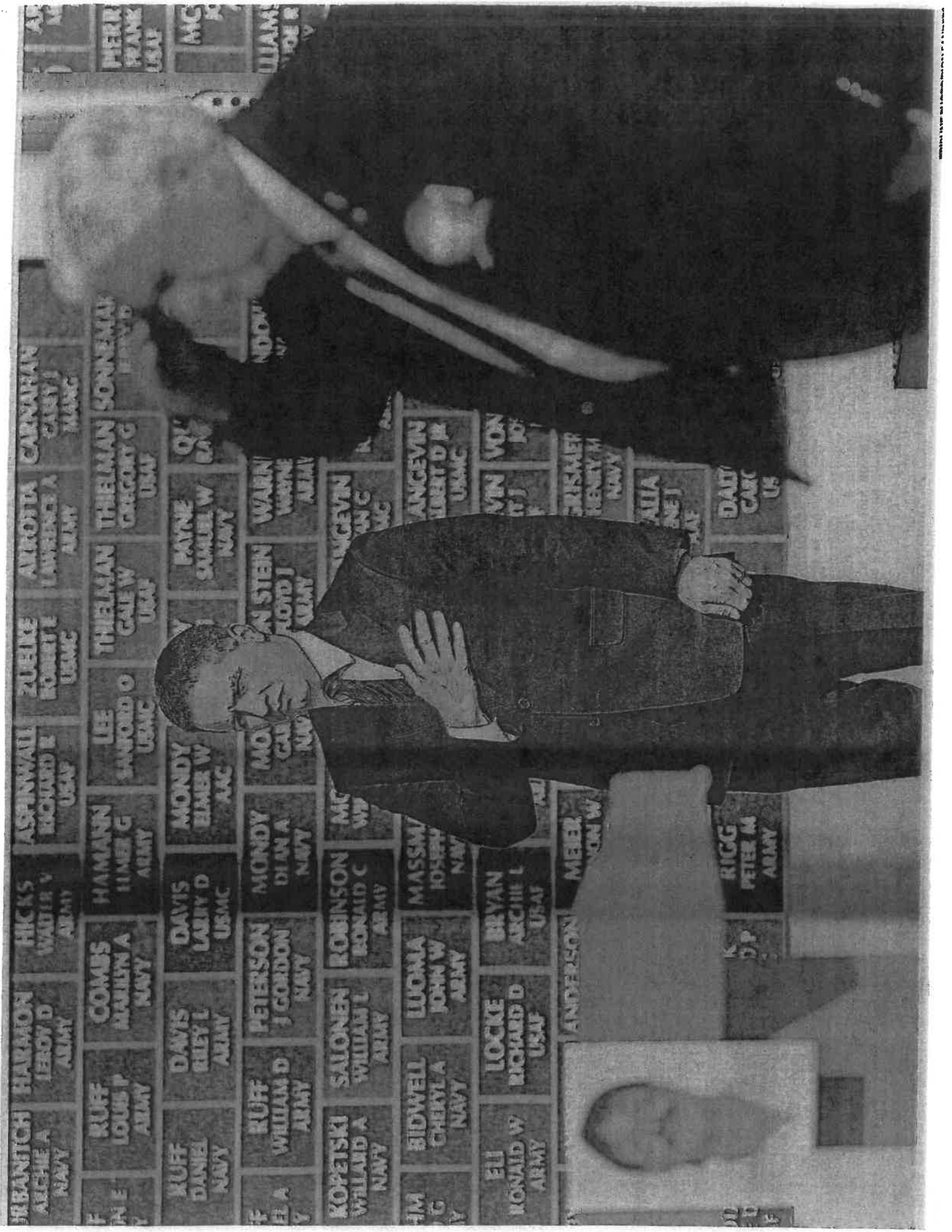
"I'm always worried about my mom because she is at war," she read.

Ameena said Veterans Day ceremonies are important "because people sacrificed themselves for us. They do it for a reason."



The Malmstrom Air Force Base Honor Guard presents the colors during the Veterans Day ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial on Wednesday.

TRIBUNE PHOTO/ION SANDER



HERRMANN ALBIECH A NAVY	HARRISON JEROME D ARMY	HICKS WALTER V ARMY	ASPINWALL RICHARD E USAF	ZULEIKE ROBERT E USMC	ALBERTA LAWRENCE A ARMY	CARNAHAN CARY J MARINE	NOONAN W
KUFF LOUIS P ARMY	COMBS MARLIN A NAVY	DAVIS LARRY D USMC	HAMANN TIMMER G ARMY	LEE SANFORD O USMC	THIELMAN GALE W USAF	SONNEMAN FRYLAND	WILLIAMS JOE R NAVY
KUFF DANIEL NAVY	DAVIS BEEF L ARMY	DAVIS LARRY D USMC	MONDY EDMER W AFC	MONDY SAMUEL W NAVY	WARN WARNE ARMY	ANGEVIN LUBERT D JR USMC	WILLIAMS JOE R NAVY
KOPETSKI WILLIAM A NAVY	PETERSON J GORDON NAVY	MONDY DIAN A NAVY	MONDY EDMER W AFC	ANGEVIN LUBERT D JR USMC	ANGEVIN LUBERT D JR USMC	VON JOHN NAVY	WILLIAMS JOE R NAVY
BIDWELL CHERYL A NAVY	SALONEN WILLIAM L ARMY	ROBINSON RONALD C ARMY	MASSM JOSEPH NAVY	LOCKE RICHARD D USAF	LOCKE RICHARD D USAF	CRISMER HENRY M NAVY	WILLIAMS JOE R NAVY
ELI RONALD W ARMY	ANDERSON ANDERSON NAVY	MEER ANDERSON W NAVY	RIGG PETER M ARMY	ANDERSON ANDERSON NAVY	ANDERSON ANDERSON NAVY	ANDERSON ANDERSON NAVY	WILLIAMS JOE R NAVY



Above: An honor guard ceremony is performed during the memorial service for James Dickinson on April 7.
Top: Judge Greg Pinski attends the memorial service for James Dickinson, who was a graduate of the Veterans Drug Treatment Court, at the Veterans Memorial. PHOTOS BY AP/WIDEWORLD

‘ At the end of the day, you’re dealing with a disease ,
whose sole objective is to consume the host.

DISTRICT JUDGE GREG PINSKI



Montana Veterans Memorial Committee, Inc.

P.O. Box 3524

Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524

406-454-9070



www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

Samuel Thomas Pappas



Pappas

GREAT FALLS —Samuel Thomas Pappas, 84, of Great Falls and formerly of Garden City, MI, passed away Saturday, April 16, 2016.

A Trisagion service will be held on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at Hillcrest Lawn Memorial Chapel. A funeral service will be held on Friday, April 22, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at Sts. Constantine and Helen Orthodox Church, 1101 1st Ave N.

Samuel was born in Detroit, Michigan to Thomas J. and Mary (Stratakos) Pappas. He was a retired Command Sergeant Major with the US Army and a veteran of the Korean War. He was a Ford Motor Consultant and former Mayor of Garden City.

He held offices in the Orthodox Church, American Legion, Montana Veteran's Memorial, Silver Beavers and countless others.

Samuel is survived by his sons, Thomas (Laura) Pappas, Stephen Pappas both of MI, and Samuel T. Pappas Jr. of MT; sisters Angelina Pyke of CA, Frieda (William) Alli of D.C., and Victoria (James) Lagges of IL; eight grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and enduring companion, Anita.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Beverly; one brother; and one sister.

Our loving father, grandfather, and friend will be greatly missed.

Condolences for the family may be posted online at www.SchneiderFuneralHome.com.

In Loving Memory Of
Samuel Thomas Pappas
 March 18, 1932 - April 16, 2016



10TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY, MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL

30 May, 2pm

25th St. and River Drive North, Great Falls (overlooking Black Eagle Dam)

The ceremony will feature a 120th Airlift Wing MANG Flyover, guest speakers, color guards, music and special performance by world-acclaimed Irish tenor John McDermott. John will also perform at the Celtic Cowboy in Great Falls at 4pm, Sunday, 29 May (tickets \$25) and the MVMA thanks the Celtic Cowboy and DA Davidson for their support.



**MONTANA VETERANS
MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION
(MVMA)**

PO BOX 3524

Great Falls, MT 59405 406-454-9070

www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

Now
on!



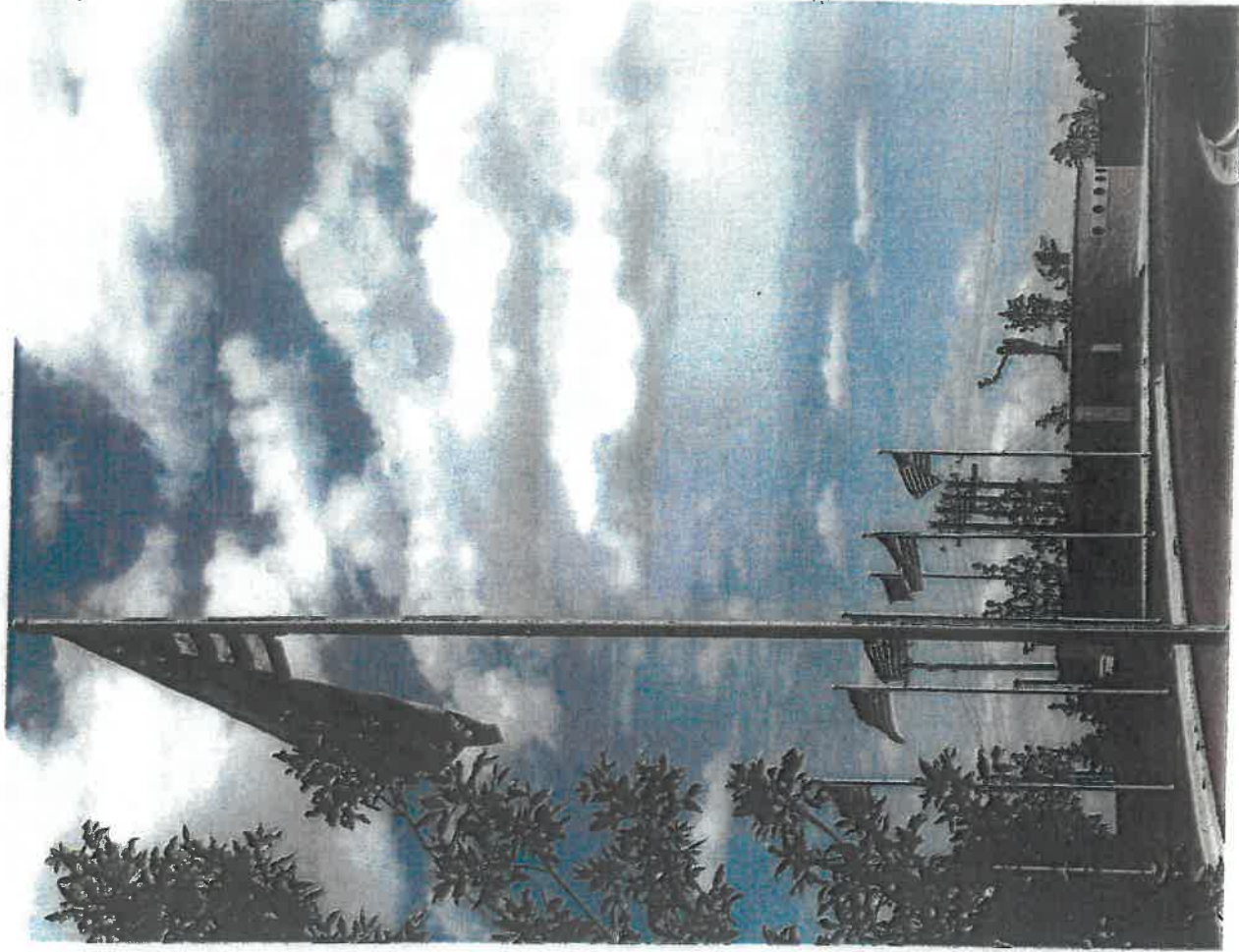
Montana's Fallen Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan

Army PFC Kristofer Stonesifer, Missoula
Army Reserve 1st Lt Edward Saltz, Big Fork
Army PFC Owen D. Witt, Sand Springs
Marine Cpl. Dean Pratt, Stevensville
Marine Lance Cpl. Kane Funke, Kalispell
Army Staff Sgt. Aaron Holleyman, Glasgow
Marine Cpl. Raleigh C. Smith, Troy
Mt. Army NG Sgt. 1st Class Robbie McNary, Lewistown
Marine Lance Corporal Nicholas Bloem, Belgrade
Army 1st Lt. Josh Hyland, Missoula
Marine PFC Andrew Bedard, Missoula
Army Cpt. Michael MacKinnon, Helena
Marine Cpl. Phillip Baucus, Wolf Creek
Marine Lance Cpl. Jeremy Sandvick Monroe, Chinook
Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Charles Komppa, Absarokee
Army PFC Shawn Murphy, Butte
Marine Lance Cpl. Nicklas Palmer, Great Falls
Army Spc. Scott Dykman, Harrison
Army PFC James Riekema, Missoula
Army PFC Matthew Zeimer, Glendive
Army Staff Sgt. Shane Becker, Helena
Army PFC Kyle Bohrsen, Phillipsburg
Army Spc. Michael Frank, Great Falls
Army SSG Travis Atkins, Bozeman
Army Spc. Donald Young, Helena
Army Staff Sgt. Yance Gray, Ismay
Army Cpt. Andrew Pearson, Billings
Army Sgt. James A. McHale, Fairfield
Marine Sgt. Trevor Johnson, Forsyth
Army Lt. Col. Garnet R. Derby, Missoula
Army Staff Sgt. Terry Lynch, Shepherd
Marine Cpl. Nicholas Uzenski, Bozeman
Army Sgt. Jeremiah Whittman, Darby
Army PFC Nicholas S. Cook, Hungry Horse
Army Spc. Jonathan A. Pilgeram, Eden
Army PFC Michael A. Rogers, White Sulphur Springs
Marine Cpl. Stewart S. Trejo, Whitefish
Army PFC Daren A. Smith, Helena
Army PVT Timothy J. Hutton, Dillon
Army Spc. Antonio Bunside (Many Hides), Browning
Navy Tech Airman Andrew Scott Charpentier, Great Falls
Army Staff Sgt Thaddeus S. Montgomery, West Yellowstone
Army PFC Michael A. Rogers, White Sulphur Springs
Marine Cpl. Stewart S. Trejo, Whitefish

Montana Ties:

Marine Lance Cpl. Nathan Wood
Army SSG Patrick L. Lybert
Army Sgt. Lucas T. White
Army Sgt. Michael Sturdivant
Army Sgt. John K. Daggett
Army Staff Sgt. Shane Barnard

A PLACE OF HONOR



MEMORIAL DAY 2016

10th Anniversary

COLONEL Eric C. Hastings commands the 12th Marine Corps District. He was born in Bozeman, MT in 1966, the son of a Marine officer. He earned his political science degree at Montana State University and was commissioned on 16 January 1989. Lieutenant Hastings was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines at Camp Pendleton after completing the Basic School and the Infantry Officers Course and served in the 15th and 13th Marine Expeditionary Units. He participated in security operations in and out of Mogadishu, Somalia and was promoted to Captain in January 1994.

After recruiting and XO duties in the 12th District, he attended the Amphibious Warfare School (AWS) at Quantico, Virginia in 1997-1998. COL Hastings then served as the Inspector - Instructor, Delta Company, 4th Recon Battalion and he deployed teams and platoons to Panama, Peru, Chile, Greece, Singapore and stateside. He returned to command Recruiting Station LA and then participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom with the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. After serving as Director of Recruiters School, Col Hastings took command of the 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment in the fall of 2008 and deployed to Iraq. They became the last battalion to occupy the city of Fallujah.

COL Hastings returned from Iraq in April 2009 and was assistant Chief of Staff/G-3, 1st Marine Division. He deployed the Division Command Element as part of the 'surge' for Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. He then returned to serve in the Western Recruiting Region, San Diego, before taking command of the 12th District which covers much of the Western United States, Alaska, Hawaii and Pacific territories.

John McDermott is an internationally recognized performer and noted Irish tenor who is a great friend and supporter of veteran's causes. He is the recipient of the Bob Hope Award from the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, their highest civilian award. John calls Toronto and Boston his home and has produced many albums and pursues a very active performing schedule. He is an artist whose sense of respect for tradition and understanding of the sentiment behind the music resonates worldwide. His website is www.johnmcdermott.com and the MVMA wishes to thank the Celtic Cowboy and DA Davidson for helping co-sponsor John's performances.

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

The association established and maintains this memorial to honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and in war. A Veteran is defined as any man or woman of any age who has served in any branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity, and to honor men and women living and deceased equally.

Montana Veterans Memorial Association
 PO Box 3524 • Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524
 Phone (406) 454-9070

Website: www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

Non-Profit Tax ID #0530543

2 PM, Mon
 10th Annive

Welcome.....

Honor Flyover.....

Master of Ceram

Presentation of

Invocation.....

National Anthem

Pledge of Alleg

Introduction of G

Keynote Speak

Song Performar

Veterans and t

Song Performa

Memorial 'Ref

Remarks

Song Performe

Fallen Montar
 & Afghan

'Bagpipe Salu

Benediction ..

Taps.....

**MONTANA
 VETERANS
 MEMORIAL**

To honor and recogize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and war.

If you would like to honor a veteran with a tile or schedule a tour, please contact us at:

Montana Veterans Memorial, Inc
 PO Box 3542 • Great Falls, MT 59403
 406-454-9070 • montanaveteransmemorial.org



Senator Tester, Marine Corps League

Celebrated Irish tenor set to play the Celtic Cowboy



OUT ON THE TOWN
PETE SWANSON

Internationally renowned tenor vocalist John McDermott makes a special Memorial Day

weekend appearance at the Celtic Cowboy on Sunday, May 29. The award-winning, multiple platinum-selling Canadian singer performs at 4 p.m.

General admission tickets are \$25, and VIP reception tickets are \$35. The VIP reception following the performance includes beverages, appetizers and a meet-and-greet with McDermott at 6 p.m. Purchase advance tickets at the Celtic Cowboy, 116 1st Ave. S., or by calling 952-0393; a limited number of tickets are available. A portion of ticket proceeds goes to the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls. The performance is presented by the Davidson Companies. McDermott also will perform on Memorial Day, May 30, at the Montana Veterans Memorial's 10th anniversary ceremonies. The ceremonies begin at 2 p.m. at the memorial site, 25th Street and River Drive North, near Centene Stadium.

Immigrating from Glasgow, Scotland, to Toronto, Ontario, with his family in 1965, McDermott first gained national recognition in Canada with the humble release of "Danny Boy" on BMI Canada in 1992. The album featured 12 tracks of Irish and Scottish ballads, and after a popular Canadian radio broadcaster played a few songs from the recording, it

with a documentary profiling McDermott, the album soon surged to 50,000 copies in sales. It eventually reached double-platinum in sales. Since those unassuming beginnings, McDermott has recorded more than 25 albums, with several reaching gold and platinum in sales.

His list of accolades and accomplishments is lengthy and impressive. The late Senator Ted Kennedy invited McDermott to perform at the Democratic National Convention in 1996, and when the Massachusetts senator died in 2009, McDermott was invited to sing at Kennedy's memorial. McDermott has been a perennial favorite to sing the Canadian National Anthem at Toronto Maple Leafs home games, and he has been nominated for multiple JUNO Awards in Canada. In addition, he was an early member of the renowned vocal group The Irish Tenors, who starred on several highly-rated PBS specials.

McDermott also has received recognition for his steadfast commitment to military veterans. He received the U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor Society "Bob Hope Award" for support of veterans' causes. In 2010, McDermott was awarded a commendation from the Minister of Veteran's Affairs for his work with McDermott House of Canada, dedicated to improving care for terminally ill veterans, military members and first responders. In 2012, he earned the "Ted Williams Globe and Anchor Award" from the U.S. Marine Corps Semper Fidelis Society.

Pete Swanson is a local mu-

Memorial Day
May 30 2016

terans Day

Montana Veterans Memorial

Starting at 2 p.m. Monday, May 30, the 10th Anniversary Memorial Day Ceremony kicks off with a flyover by the 120th Airlift Wing of the Montana Air National Guard. After a presentation of colors by the Malmstrom Air Force Base Honor Guard and an introductory ceremony, several guest speakers take the stage to remember those who have served.

The event's keynote speaker is Col. Eric C. Hastings, commanding officer, 12th Marine Corps District. Hastings, origi-

nally from Bozeman, was commissioned in 1989, attended Quantico and has spent time deployed in Iraq.

Other speakers include Dr. Christine King, counselor and team leader at the Great Falls Vet Center. King is a former Seattle police officer who has worked with veterans in Missoula, Rocky Boy, Fort Belknap and Great Falls. Michael Winters, former mayor of Great Falls and founder of the Montana Veterans Memorial, and Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., and Lt. Gov. Mike Cooney also put in appearances.

Internationally known Irish tenor John McDermott has two songs planned for the event, which ends with a pipe salute by the Great Falls Shrine Pipe Band and a benediction from Father Russell Radoicich.



MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3524 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-3524
406-454-9070

www.Montanaveteransmemorial.org



May 23, 2016



WWW.GREATFALLSTRIBUNE.COM

Mon



VETERANS WALL MARKS BIRTHDAY

Section of state memorial set aside for Native Americans

Montana has more than its share of residents who have served their country as veterans.

And Native Americans serve in the military at greater than the national average, notably people from Montana's Indian tribes.



SPRAY OF THE FALLS
Rich Ecke

So it's fitting that, in a year in which the 10th birthday of the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls is celebrated, a section of the site has been set aside for Blackfeet Indians who have served in the U.S. military.

The Blackfeet section is "pretty special," said Michael Winters, former mayor of Great Falls and founder of the memorial. "We have two of those complete panels for Blackfeet warriors."

Winters noted the tribe bestowed on him the honorary name of Brave Eagle.

Memorial Day services will be held next Monday, May 30, at 2 p.m. at the memorial, 25th Street and River Drive North, near Centene Stadium and the Eagle Falls golf course. Tiles honoring people for their military service are mortared in place at the site, which also features a bronze statue, a "Warrior Angel" with doves of peace, sculpted by

See ECKE, 3A



TRIBUNE PHOTOS/RICHARD ECKE

Above: A section dedicated to Blackfeet warriors at the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls.

Top: Montana Veterans Memorial founder Michael Winters surveys tiles inside the memorial's circular wall.

"We're a giving community, We're an accepting community. We're a welcoming community."

MICHAEL WINTERS

Former mayor of Great Falls and founder of the Veterans Memorial

Continued from 1A

late U.S. Marine veteran Marv Brewster.

The event will include an aircraft flyover; music by classic Irish singer John McDermott of Canada and bagpipes by a Shrine Club group; and a keynote speech by Col. Eric C. Hastings, commander of the 12th U.S. Marine Corp District.

Great Falls has a rich military history, from Fort Shaw west of the Electric City after the Civil War, to East Base during World War II, to the Montana Air National Guard and Malmstrom Air Force bases today.

"We're a giving community," Winters said. "We're an accepting community. We're a welcoming community. We as a community are growing yet we haven't forgotten our past. When the (Anaconda Co.) smelter left and Montana Power left, the military was still here."

Winters was interviewed at the memorial last week.

"You walk through here; here's a guy I know," said Winters, who served three terms as mayor through last year. "Here's a guy I went to school with. I think it's a way of recognizing our place in history."

Winters served in the U.S. Air Force and in the Marine



Michael Winters

Corps Reserve, then had a career in the U.S. Postal Service before entering politics. He had a well publicized but nonviolent confrontation with a tea party activist early in his mayorship when the man flew an American flag upside down in protest against national policies. Winters was not amused; he takes love of country very seriously.

The Montana Veterans Memorial was dedicated 10 years ago, on Memorial Day in 2006. So what is called "A Place of Honor" is celebrating its 10th birthday, heading into its 11th year in existence. Next Monday's Memorial Day observance will be the 11th time the sacrifice by military members has been honored on Memorial Day at the site.



Living and dead people who served honorably in the military are recognized with tiles, as are a Canadian Snowbird pilot, Shawn McCaughey, killed in an accident on Malmstrom Air Force Base in 2007 and honored at the Great Falls site. Winters figures the memorial will "always" be expanding, at least in his lifetime.

The memorial, now an official state of Montana veterans memorial, is on the site of what in Great Falls' early days was known as Black Eagle Park, not to be confused with the community of Black Eagle located across the Missouri River.

"They had the trolley-car turnaround and I believe there was a carousel," Winters said. Circuses used to perform on the site when they came to town.

"I'm a little fuzzy on that because I wasn't alive back then," he quipped.

Winters added: "We have a veterans memorial overlooking the dams and falls, golf course and the baseball stadium (Centene Stadium), all in one spot." It would be hard to get more American and apple pie than that, he observed.

It would be nice to bury power lines in the area someday to clear up the view, although electricity is a clear part of the Electric City's history, he said.

Someday, on ground toward the golf course, Winters would love to see a memorial amphitheater built where veterans could be honored with a ceremony after they die.

Memorial officials greatly appreciate the help from many people who contributed to the project, from the RED HORSE personnel from Malmstrom and the Guard, to mason Jerry Cooper's installing of the tiles, to many other volunteers, dignitaries and members of the public.

Michael and Barbara Winters were driving back from the Fort Harrison veterans hospital complex near Helena just before the new century when the subject of veterans memorials came up.

"On the way, Barb said, 'We don't have a veterans memorial in Great Falls,' Winters recalled. Michael Winters agreed, and led the charge for a new memorial, along with a Veterans Memorial Committee.

"We got the cart in front of the horse many times," Winters said. "Things just started gelling and coming together. It took a lot of us to bring this around. No one person could stand up and take credit for this total endeavor." On about 10 acres of land, it's certainly one of the state's largest memorials to veterans.

Other memorials are located throughout Montana. They can be a flagpole or a plaque in a park, or a large facility.

"I think people marvel at what has been accomplished here," Winters said of the Great Falls memorial site.

The idea behind all these memorials is to recognize people in the military who risk their lives for the safety and security of Americans.

Veteran Rodger McConnell of Great Falls is enthusiastic about the Electric City's offering.

"It's beautiful," McConnell said Sunday. "It started out as a \$40,000 project and now it's worth \$2.5 million, something like that. It's been a pleasure and an honor to work on the project."

One word of caution: Ceremonies on Memorial Day and Veterans Day at the site have been known to be chilly. Set aside a winter coat just in case.

Richard Ecke writes a weekly column on city life. Reach him at recke@greatfallstribune.com, 406-791-1465, or follow him @GFtrib_REcke on Twitter.

"It took a lot of us to bring this around. No one person could stand up and take credit for this total endeavor."

MICHAEL WINTERS

Former mayor of Great Falls and founder of the Veterans Memorial

A special homage



Terryn Gardner, 10, touches the uniform of her father, Lt. Col. Larry Gardner, during the Memorial Day and 10th anniversary ceremony at Montana Veterans Memorial Monday.

TRIBUNE PHOTO/SHULA MOSS



Standing-room crowd turns out to honor the fallen

TRACI ROSENBAUM
TROSENBAUM@GREATFALLSTRIBUNE.COM

Wind, a few clouds and the threat of rain didn't stop Great Falls from coming out to honor its fallen veterans Monday as a standing-room crowd gathered at the Montana Veterans Memorial.

The Memorial Day ceremony, which included a flyover from the 120th Airlift Wing and several songs from noted Irish tenor John McDermott, also honored the tenth anniversary of the Veterans Memorial here in Great Falls.

Keynote speaker Marine Col. Eric C. Hastings opened his speech with a reminder for the audience and praise for the memorial.

"There are those that don't understand the difference between Memorial Day and Veterans Day," he said. "Today, Memorial Day is when we honor those that gave their life in the service of their country. Veterans Day is when we honor those that made it home. You have done both here at this veteran's center."

Hastings acknowledged not only



Chief Master Sgt. Steve Lynch rings a sea bell for soldiers who fell in Iraq and Afghanistan during the ceremony.

the sacrifices of past heroes, but of the current generation, many of whom he has recruited to join the armed forces, as a group of young people who "have no memory of a nation not at war" and "have chosen to

MORE ONLINE

See a gallery and video at gfrfb.com.

put their feet in boots and their hearts behind the buttons that secure our respective uniforms and walk into harm's way."

Dr. Christine King, a counselor who has worked with many veterans through the Great Falls Vet Center, became visibly emotional when talking about the veterans lost not during battle, but afterward due to suicide.

"Just as we have the highest rate of military service of any state in the union, we have the highest rates of suicide and self-medication," she said. "We've lost too many veterans. I believe that with ... devotion and allowing easy access to services, we can completely turn around the untimely deaths of service members in Montana."

Sen. Jon Tester and Lt. Gov. Mike Cooney were also in attendance and gave short speeches to the crowd.

See HONOR, 3M



MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3524 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-3524
406-454-9070

www.Montanaveteransmemorial.org



Honor

Continued from 1M

Before the ceremony, Tester said on Memorial Day, he remembers the VFW veterans who asked him to play "Taps" in Big Sandy when he was in seventh grade 47 years ago. He continues to perform to this day, closing Monday's ceremony with a trumpet solo of the song that has been a requirement at military funerals since 1891.

"Honoring these men and women should not be limited to this one day," Tester said during his speech. "We should honor them every day and cherish the freedoms that they have died to protect."

Attendees of the ceremony had both first- and second-hand experience with the armed forces. Some were there to honor family members' sacrifice, while others came to remember fallen friends from their own times of service.

Dave Cunningham, assistant scoutmaster for his 13-year-old son's troop, said, "I just wanted my son to come experience this and help out and see that it's more than just what he sees on TV."

Ralph Eikans, an 81-year old Army and Air Force veteran shook hands with, congratulated and thanked every person who walked past him for their service. Eikans has been helping Vets 4 Vets for 11 years, giving aid to disabled American veterans.

"I figured after 20 years in the military, I pretty well knew what they needed," he said, adding that at the Memorial Day ceremony, he was remembering "a lot of friends."

Chairman of the Blackfeet Nation Harry Barnes attended the main ceremony and then led another, smaller gathering afterward to commemorate the service of fallen Native American soldiers in an area of the memorial re-

CONTINUING THE TRIBUTE

At 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 1, Great Falls hosts one of seven ceremonies throughout the state to honor Vietnam veterans with 50th anniversary commemorative lapel pins presented by Rep. Ryan Zinke, R-Mont.

The event will be held at the Four Seasons Arena with Zinke and local military and elected officials honoring and thanking each veteran or accepting family member during the ceremony.

served for those men and women.

"While we have a Native American wall over here, all I see are veterans," said Barnes, who spoke of his seventeen brothers and sisters, seven of whom served in the military. "They come from the Blackfeet Nation, a nation within a nation. They were great warriors in our time."

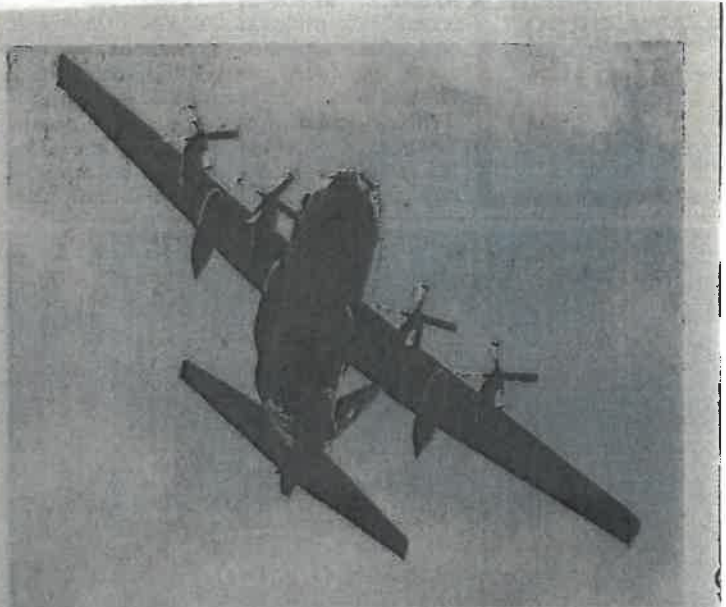
Mayor Bob Kelly spoke at the gathering, as well.

Among stones bearing names such as Old Chief, Calf Robe and Yellow Owl, Kelly said, "We are standing here, in this sacred part of the memorial, to give special homage to those proud warriors from our Native American Community."

Kelly reminded listeners that of the 240 tiles placed last year at the site, 162 of them were Native Americans from Browning, and Bill Old Chief spoke of the uncles, son and daughter whose names join his one the memorial wall and of the dedication Native Americans have always displayed when fighting for their country.

"We never became citizens of the United States until 1924, and we fought in every battle," he said. "We still fight, I believe, for the honor of this land and this country."

Reach Tribune Staff Writer Traci Rosenbaum at 792-1490. Follow her on Twitter @GFTrib_TRosenba.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS/JULIA MOSS
The 120th Airlift Wing of the Montana National Guard flies a C-130 overhead Monday.

TUESDAY, MAY 31, 2016



Col. Eric C. Hastings speaks Monday. The memorial is celebrating its 10th anniversary.



John McDermott, noted Irish tenor, performs during the Memorial Day Ceremony at Montana Veterans Memorial Monday.



Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., plays taps Monday.



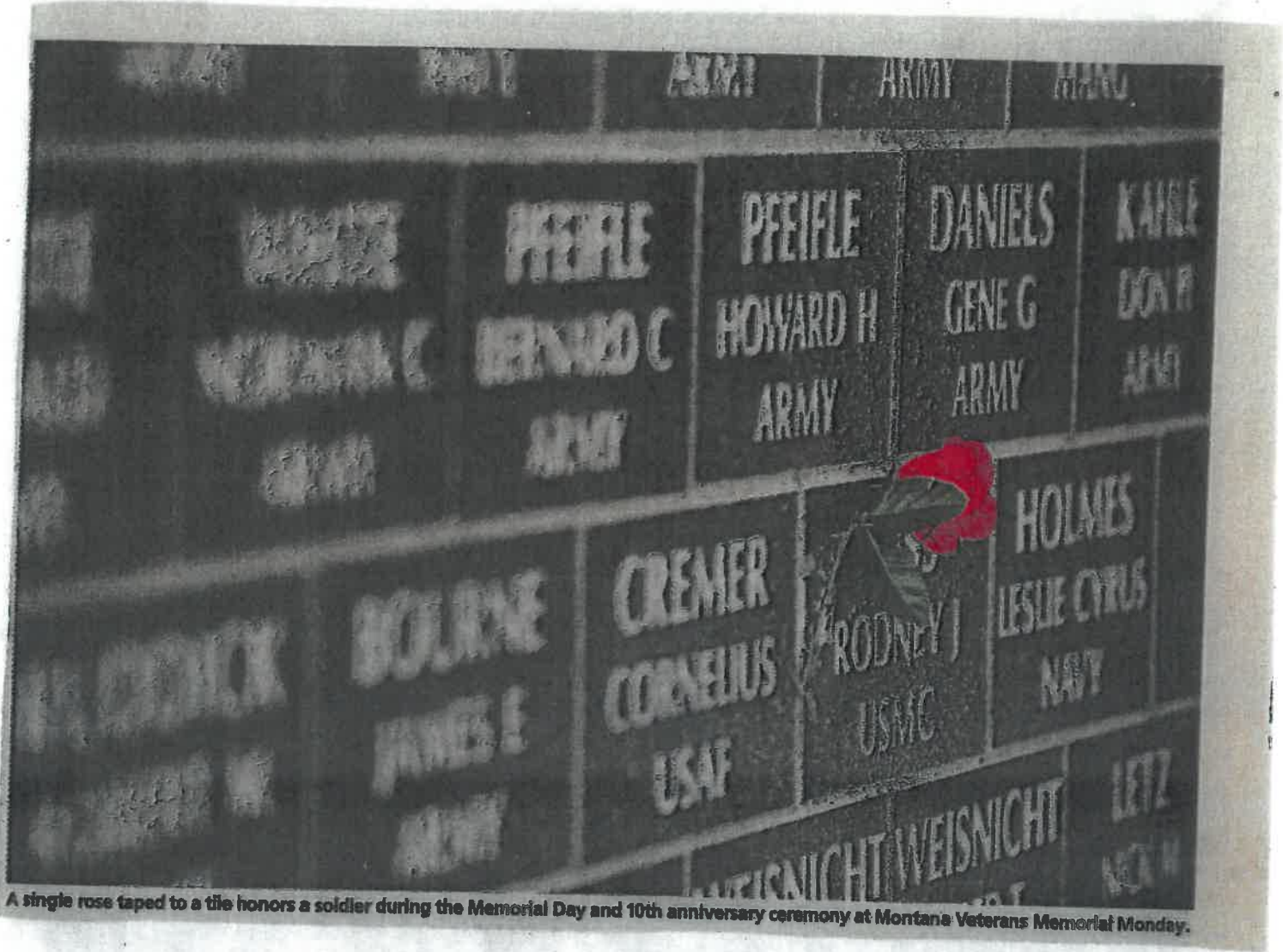
Harry Barnes, Blackfeet Tribal Business Committee Chairman, speaks during a smaller ceremony honoring Native American veterans after the larger Memorial Day and 10th anniversary ceremony at Montana Veterans Memorial Monday.



MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3524 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-3524
406-454-9070

www.Montanaveteransmemorial.org



A single rose taped to a tile honors a soldier during the Memorial Day and 10th anniversary ceremony at Montana Veterans Memorial Monday.



A participant laughs at a speaker's joke during the ceremony.



Mike LaFountain, left, talks with Ronald Doney on Saturday at the Montana Veterans Memorial. LaFountain performs a traditional honor song during the ceremony after sharing words with Doney.

Vietnam vet's wish is granted

Special to the Tribune

71-year-old exposed to Agent Orange is honored

Vietnam War veteran Ronald Doney hoped to live long enough to have a photograph taken at the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls.

His wish was granted at 1 p.m. Saturday as relatives and friends gathered to honor Doney's military service and to honor the man, who is receiving hospice care at home in Great Falls and who clings to life.



SPRAY OF THE FALLS
Rich Ecke

Doney was hospitalized recently, then medical people made arrangements "so he could come home and die," said his wife, Susan Doney.

In Vietnam, U.S. Army soldier Ronald L. Doney was exposed to Agent Orange. Today, he has small cell lung cancer, has suffered collapsed lungs and uses a wheelchair. His wife said one of the results of Agent Orange exposure was small cell lung cancer. At age 71, he has undergone chemotherapy, but prospects are bleak. Susan said he receives a disability and has received treatment from the federal government.

The Saturday ceremony was a bright spot for Ronald and family on a blustery day in which rain held off, enabling relatives and a Tribune photographer to take



TRIBUNE PHOTO/ANNISA KEITH
Ronald Doney holds his tile at the Montana Veterans Memorial on Saturday. Doney served in the U.S. Army in the Vietnam War.

See ECKE, 3M

Ecke

Continued from 1M

dozens of photographs.

Veterans memorial officials also had arranged for a rush job so a commemorative tile could be created in time for Saturday's event; John Rummel engraved the tile gratis.

"He's pretty proud to be a vet," Susan Doney said. "He wanted a picture of himself by the wall."

Memorial officials went one better and surprised Ronald with the tile.

Ronald was pleased.

"This is a surprise," he said Saturday.

He served some 17 months in Vietnam, an unpopular war in which some Americans hurled insults or objects at American servicemen.

Ronald remembers people who saw his Army uniform in San Francisco and hurled "rotten stuff" at him.

His exposure to Agent Orange, a toxic chemical used to kill plants in the jungle, came home with him.

"It's bad," Ronald said.

About 40 people gathered for the ceremony.

"This ain't all (my family)," Ronald quipped. "This ain't even a third." People came from around the state to honor Ronald.

During the event, Mike

LaFountain of Great Falls sang and played a drum as the wind swirled around him.

LaFountain said he performed a traditional honor song, "honoring him for the service he's given to this country," and a journey song, for a journey Ronald is about to take. During LaFountain's songs, Ronald wiped away tears.

Susan said Ronald's failing health is difficult for everyone, and her husband is not expected to live many

more days.

But all were glad to take part in granting a wish to an ailing Vietnam War veteran who is proud of his service. Those photographs from the memorial will mean a lot. His tile will be permanently installed in November.

"It made him happy," Susan Doney said.

Richard Ecke writes a weekly column on city life. Reach him at 406-791-1465 or recke@greatfallstri bune.com.

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE WWW

MONDAY, JULY 11, 2016



TRIBUNE PHOTO/ANISA KEITH
Mike LaFountain, left, plays a drum while singing a traditional honor song for Ronald Doney on Saturday.



A bronze plaque depicting World War I is part of the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls. TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

GREAT FALLS
TRIBUNE

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2018 ■ GREATFALLSTRIBUNE.COM



MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3524 • GREAT FALLS, MT 59403-3524
406-454-9070

www.Montanaveteransmemorial.org



IN THIS ISSUE:

Director's Corner	2
Western Art Week	2
Staff Spotlight	3
Legacy Live Auction	3
Collections Highlight	4
Gift Shop	5
Photo's Display	6
Board, Staff, and Volunteers	6

THE History MUSEUM

A PUBLICATION OF THE CASCADE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPRING
2018

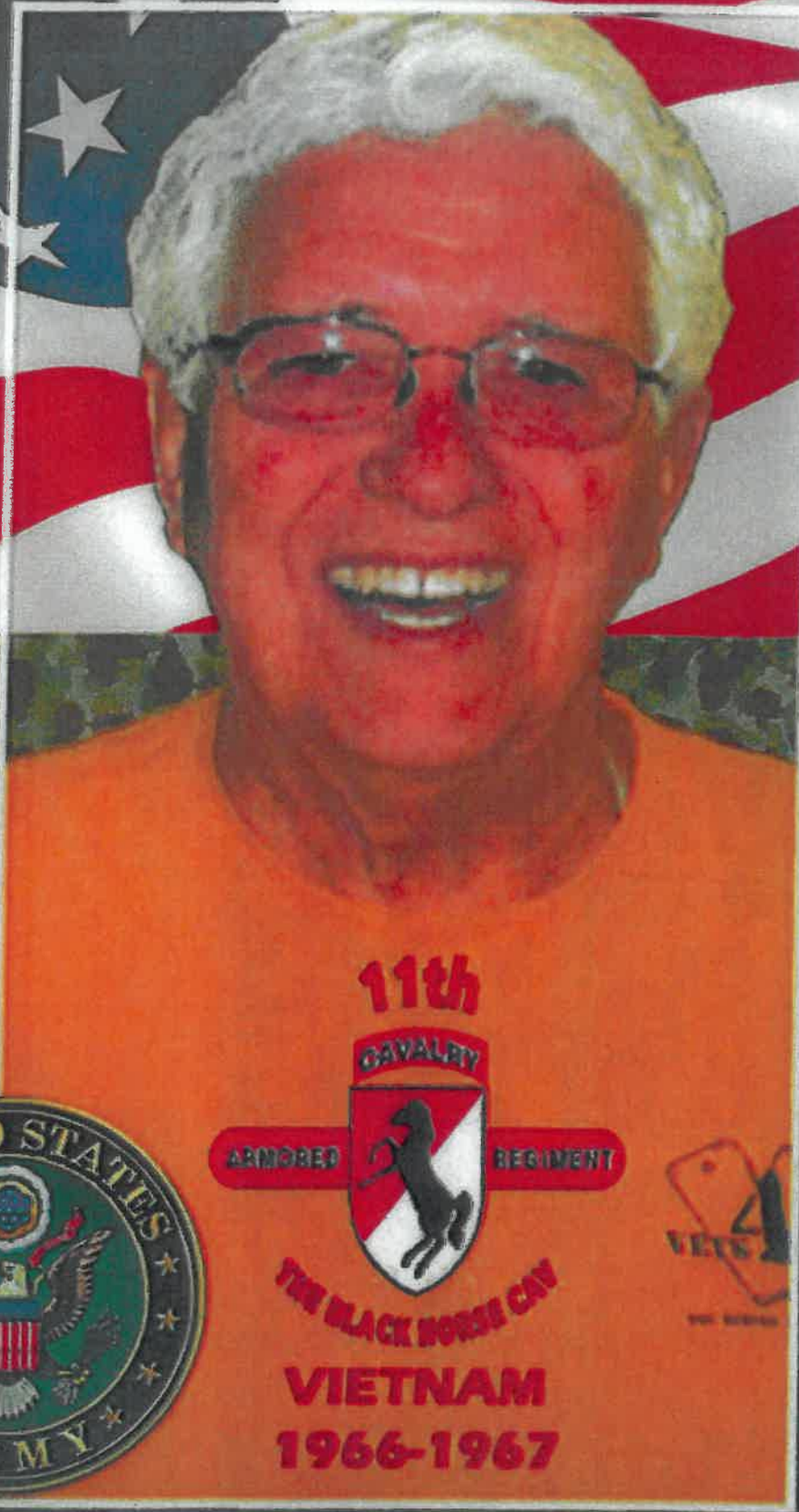
27TH ANNUAL LEGACY AWARDS

On Friday, April 27th, The History Museum will hold its annual Legacy Dinner to honor businesses, organizations and individuals that have helped shape, promote and preserve the rich history of Cascade County and north central Montana.

Former Great Falls mayor and veteran Mike Winters will accept the museum's Non-Profit Legacy Award on behalf of the Montana Veteran's Memorial. Winters conceptualized the idea of this memorial and with the help of other area veterans have promoted the building of this commemorative structure honoring veterans of all branches of military service.



April 27-2018



SGT. RODGER McConnell



THE BLACK HORSE CAV
VIETNAM
1966-1967



19 AUGUST 1944 - 21 JULY 2016

Everett Rodger McConnell

GREAT FALLS —E. Rodger



McConnell, 71, of Great Falls, passed away of natural causes on 21 July 2016. He was born on 19 August 1944 in John-

stown, Pennsylvania. Rodger graduated in 1962 from El Monte High School, El Monte, California, and he worked at a local gas company afterwards.

Rodger entered the US Army in 1966 and trained at Fort Benning, Georgia, and then was assigned to the 9th Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas which then deployed to Vietnam. In



Vietnam he served in the 9th and was later transferred to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (11ACR, Blackhorse)

and was involved in many combat engagements as a cavalry troop forward observer for mortars and artillery. Rodger was very proud of his 11th ACR service and recently attended a reunion at Fort Irwin, California where the 11th ACR is still on active duty.

He was honorably discharged in 1967, and for many years he traveled through various states and jobs and dealt with PTSD. With help, he overcame his PTSD and used his GI Bill to earn a Liberal Arts Degree at Carroll College in 1989. In 1995, he earned a Masters Degree in K-12 Education from MSU-Northern, and taught special education and the 5th grade in Cascade, Montana, where he also resided.

Rodger retired from teaching and moved to Great Falls in 2003, and became involved in local veterans and civic activities. His kind, humble manner and quiet courage contributed to helping his fellow veterans and citizens

Veterans Memorial, establishing the Vets4Vets Stand Down events first started in 2007, and later Veterans Court with Judge Greg Pinski. He also volunteered with the DAV, Optimists Club, and helped community efforts to register voters and expand Medicaid. Rodger helped organize and conduct every ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial since the 2006 dedication and the last special 10th Anniversary this last Memorial Day.

Listeners of KGPR, Great Falls local public radio, benefited from Rodger's wonderful interviewing skills which he displayed on 'Voices and Views' and 'On Point', a program dedicated to veterans and local military issues.

Among his interests and hobbies were golfing, playing cribbage and driving his MINI Cooper at rallies as well as listening to Delta Blues, Boz Scaggs, and the Guess Who. Rodger was a very skillful Poker player and a daily regular at both Starbucks in Great Falls.

Rodger was preceded in death by his parents, Everett McConnell and Freda Ellen McConnell; and Billie W. Jaeger, who was his step-father in Shreveport, Louisiana after his mother remarried.

A memorial celebration will be held at the Celtic Cowboy's Dark Horse Hall, 116 1st Ave. S., Great Falls, sometime after the 29-30 September Stand Down. At a later date his ashes will be scattered on the Madison River where he enjoyed fly-fishing.

Having been a homeless veteran himself, Rodger asked for memorial donations to be made in care of the Grace Home Veterans Center, which will provide transitional housing for homeless veterans, at 2211 5th Ave N., Great Falls, MT 59401. Please contact Deb Kottel at 899-7401, deborah.kottel@ugf.edu, St. Vincent De Paul, 426 Central Ave West, Great Falls, MT 59404, www.svdpcmt.org. The donations will help open and operate the Grace Home. Condolences may be left online at www.croxfordfuneral.

MONTANA
VETERANS
MEMORIAL

Honor a Veteran

Give the gift of eternal honor
with a granite tile at...

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL

Contact: Michael Winters, Tile Coordinator
(406) 454-9070



**THIS
VETERANS DAY**

Give the gift of honor
with a granite tile at...

**MONTANA
VETERANS
MEMORIAL**

Contact: Michael Winters,
Tile Coordinator
(406) 454-9070



To honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service
to the United States of America in peace and in war.
Veterans defined as any man or woman of any age who has served in any
branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity.
To honor men and women living and deceased equally.



BRIGADIER GENERAL ROBERT A. SPARING is the Assistant Adjutant General - Army, for the State of Montana and also serves as the Commander of the Montana Army National Guard. General Sparing is responsible to the Adjutant General and the Governor of the State of Montana to provide qualified Army National Guard Soldiers ready to deploy in support of national defense, homeland defense or military support to civil authority. Prior to his appointment as the Assistant Adjutant General - Army, he served as the United States Property and Fiscal Officer for Montana, J-4 Director of Logistics, J5/7 Strategic Planner, Brigade Executive Officer, 95th Troop Command and Commander, 1st Bn, 163rd Infantry Regiment. Brigadier General Sparing is a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom where he deployed to Afghanistan, with the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force, 7th Special Forces Group as a Liaison Officer.

General Sparing is a graduate of Army War College University of Texas Fellowship, the Army Command and General Staff College, Combined Arms and Services staff Course, the Armor Officer Basic and Advanced Courses and numerous other career courses. He holds a bachelors degree from the Regents University of New York and a Master's degree from Embry-Riddle University. He enlisted in 1975 into the 3669th Maintenance Company in Helena and rose to Staff Sergeant and then entered OCS at the Montana Military Academy. 2nd Lieutenant Sparing was commissioned in 1984 and served in several command and staff assignments in the 2nd Squadron, 163rd Cavalry and Montana Army National Guard units across the state.

PETER 'HAL' RICE is the commander of the Montana Department of the American Legion and a retired US Army Reserve citizen-soldier. He was raised on a farm and ranch south of Denton and was active in sports and scouting. He then attended Helena Vo-Tech for diesel mechanics. At that time, "Hal" enlisted in the 159th Army Reserve and took basic and AIT at Fort Ord, CA. He transferred to the 889th Quartermaster Company USAR in Lewistown. He was a small businessman in Denton and raised a family there and later moved to Geraldine.

The 889th and Hal served at home and overseas, from REFORGER in German to purifying water in Honduras and then in Desert Storm in 1990-1991 supplying millions of meals, fuel and water. Hal was promoted to Sergeant First Class in the 651st at the Captain Galt USAR Center in Great Falls and he returned back to the 159th USAR in Helena. He rose to First Sergeant and took the unit to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk. He retired from the USAR in 1998. Hal has been an American Legion member for 30 years holding numerous leadership positions and is currently Post 102 Adjutant.

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL

Veterans Day Ceremony

11:00 a.m. - Wednesday - November 11, 2016
Great Falls, Montana

Master of Ceremonies Richard Liebert, Lt. Col (Ret. USAR)
Montana Veterans Memorial Association

Welcome Dwayne Nelson, Chair,
Montana Veterans Memorial Association

Presentation of the Colors Malmstrom AFB Honor Guard,
Veterans Groups

Invocation..... Chaplain Captain William McMullan, USAF
Malmstrom Air Force Base

National Anthem Great Falls College - MSU Choir

Pledge of Allegiance Montana 'Boot Camp' Graduates
Junior ROTC Cadets, USAF

Guest Speakers.. Brig. Gen. Robert A. Sparing, Commander, MTARNG

"America the Beautiful" Great Falls College - MSU Choir

Remarks from Congressional Delegation Sen. Jon Tester,
Sen. Steve Daines staff

Military Music..... Great Falls Shriné Band Pipers

Boots and Rifle ceremony Marine Corps League

Benediction..... Chaplain Richard Brennan, Benefits Hospital

Taps..... Marine Corps League



Memory of local veteran advocate is celebrated

ANDREA FISHER

ANFISHER@GREATFALLSTRIBUNE.COM

Rodger McConnell was instrumental in changing the landscape for veterans in Great Falls and the surrounding area over the last decade.

His presence was sorely missed Friday — the first Veterans Day since McConnell passed away in July at the age of 71.

McConnell was a Vietnam veteran who faced his own battles with post-traumatic stress disorder and homelessness. He earned a college degree and worked as a special education teacher. After he retired, McConnell dedicated himself to serving local veterans.

Joe Parsetich worked closely with McConnell within the Disabled American Veterans organization and as a fellow mentor for Veterans Court participants. He spoke about his dear friend after the Veterans Day ceremony in Great Falls.

"Veterans Day is a time of reflection — reflection on my brother in arms, Rodger McConnell, on how special he was in my life and for veterans in the community of Great Falls."

Representatives spoke of

behalf of Sens. Jon Tester and Steve Daines at the ceremony. Both dedicated their remarks to McConnell.

"In Rodger's eyes the community was his family and he was theirs," Tester wrote.

Daines' words were to be read on the congressional record in Washington, D.C.

McConnell was instrumental in creating the Veterans Treatment Court program, served as a mentor for participants and helped recruit new mentors.

He was an organizer of the annual Stand Down with Vets4Vets, worked with Disabled American Veterans, hosted a radio show on KGPR, helped bring a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to Great Falls and more.

The library at the new Grace Home for homeless veterans was named for McConnell. A large throw bearing the image of McConnell's smiling face hangs on one of the library walls.

Veterans Court Judge Greg Pinski spoke of McConnell during Friday's meeting about veteran homelessness at Grace Home, "on this first Veterans Day without Rodger we remember him and we thank him."



TRIBUNE PHOTO/ION SANDER

Rodger McConnell posed for this 2006 photo to promote the dedication of the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls.

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL

To honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and war.

If you would like to honor a veteran with a tile or schedule a tour, please contact us at:

Montana Veterans Memorial, Inc.
PO Box 3542 • Great Falls, MT 59403
406-454-9070 • montnaveteransmemorial.org

A Place of Honor

Nov 2016

Veterans celebrated



TRIBUNE PHOTO/JULIA MOSS

John England, an Air Force veteran, attends the the Veterans Day Ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial on Friday.

Annual ceremony held at memorial to honor vets

ANDREA FISHER
AFISHER@GREATFALLSTRIBUNE.COM

In the 11th hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month, a line of American flags blew in a brisk breeze during the 11th Veterans Day ceremony held at the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls.

"We will never forget our veterans," said Brig. Gen. Robert Sparing, commander of the Montana Army National Guard. "We will

never forget the families of our veterans either."

The mild temperatures and bright sunshine were well-received by the crowd of spectators, though the crowd was about the same size as it was in past years when the group shivered in cold winds or trudged through snow to attend the annual event.

Sparing asked the veterans attending to stand.

"These heroes deserve our congratula-

tions," he said to the crowd.

"You are my heroes," Sparing concluded over the enthusiastic applause.

The Great Falls College Montana State University community choir performed the national anthem and "America the Beautiful" during the ceremony.

A decade of celebrations at the memorial made the elements of the program familiar,



TRIBUNE PHOTO/JULIA MOSS

The Malmstrom Air Force Base Honor Guard presents the colors during the Veterans Day Ceremony on Friday.

Veterans

Continued from 1A

such as the boots and rifle ceremony by the Marine Corps League, a bagpipe rendition of "Amazing Grace" and somber notes of taps that echoed through the tiled walls bearing veterans' names.

Former Tribune staffer Rich Ecke was recognized for his coverage of the me-

morial through the years.

City Commissioner Bill Bronson read the names of organizers who helped make the memorial a reality who have since passed away.

Chaplain Richard Brennan of Benefis Health System gave the benediction.

"May we live so we are worthy of the men and women we honor," he said.

The general ceremony was followed by a special Vietnam Veterans Recognition Ceremony.

OT TICKET

Great Falls Tribune www.greatfallstribune.com/hotticket Friday, November 11, 2016 7

Great Falls honors its veterans

Memorial event begins today

ACI ROSENBAUM
SENBAUM@GREATFALLSTRIEBUNE.COM

Local and area residents have several options for celebrating their friends and family members who have served this Veterans Day.

Great Falls' largest celebration of America's servicemen and women takes place at the Montana Veterans Memorial starting at 11 a.m. today.

Retired U.S. Army Reserve Col. Richard Liebert serves as master of ceremonies, and the event opens with a welcome from Dwayne Nelson, who is chair of the Montana Veterans Memorial Association.

The presentation of the colors is provided by the Malmstrom Air Force Base Honor Guard and Veterans Groups, followed by an invocation from S. Air Force Captain and Chaplain William McMullan.

The Great Falls College Montana State University Community Choir sings the National Anthem, and the Pledge of Allegiance is led by Montana Boot Camp graduates and Junior



TRIBUNE PHOTO/IRION SANDERS

Additional Veterans Day events

Commander Brig. Gen. Robert A. Sparring and Peter "Hal" Rice, commander of the Montana Department of the American Legion and a retired U.S. Army Reserve citizen-soldier.

There will also be remarks from the congressional delegation, military music from the Great Falls Shrine Band Pipes, a boots and rifle ceremony from the Marine Corps League and a benediction from Chaplain Richard Brennan of Benefits Health system.

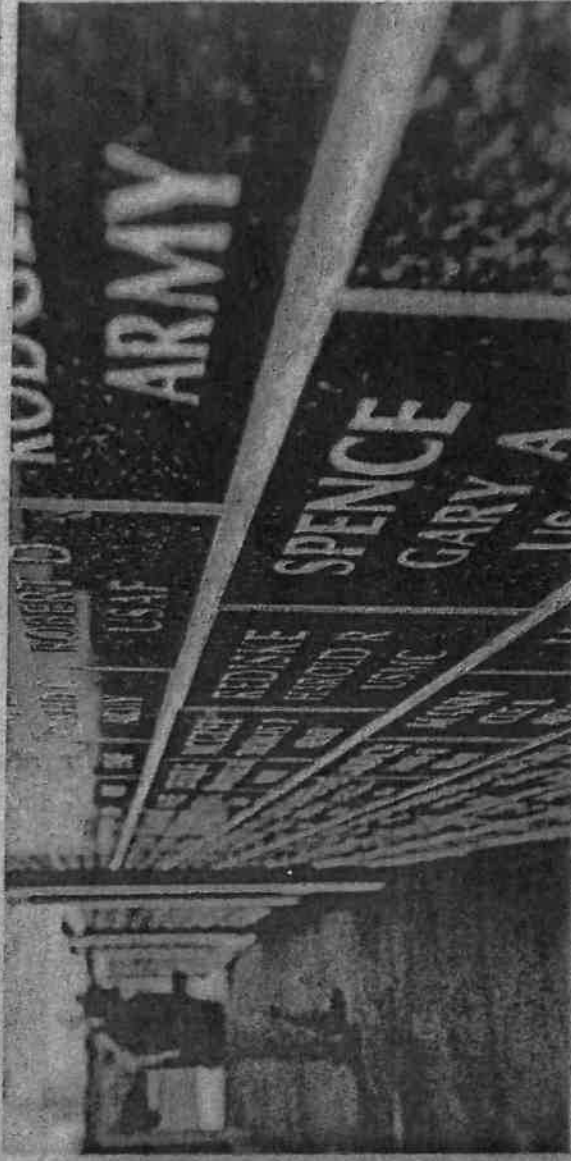
After the guest speakers, the 5FC MSU choir returns to sing "America the Beautiful," and the ceremony closes with a rendition of taps by the Marine Corps League.

Stick around for a special Vietnam War Commemoration Recognition ceremony immediately following the Veterans Day event starting at noon. Vietnam combat veterans will be recognized and receive service pins and certificates.

The Great Falls Rescue Mission, 326 2nd Ave. S., holds its 14th annual Veterans Luncheon at 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 11, honoring veterans with lunch and a small gift of thanks for their service. The guest speaker is Carl Kent. Call 761-2653 for more details.

Procraft Carstar, 917 Central Ave., also honors all active duty, retired military and guard and their families with coffee and doughnuts Nov. 11 from 8 to 10 a.m. and a chicken lunch from noon to 2 p.m. Smith's grocery store co-sponsors this event, and admission is free. Call 727-9320 for more details.

Got some shopping to do? The Downtown Chicks, a committee of the Downtown Great Falls Association, hosts Military Appreciation Days in Downtown Great Falls through 12. Active duty and retired military and their family members are encouraged to



A visitor looks at names on the Montana Veterans Memorial, where Veterans Day ceremonies will take place starting at 11 a.m. today.

look for the flier posted in windows throughout stores and restaurants downtown for special

sales, discounts, promos and giveaways.

Reach Tribune Staff Writer

Traci Rosenbaum at 791-1690. Follow her on Twitter @GFTrib_TRosenba.

Veterans KIA Lasting Tribute

The grave is not the final resting place for them , what they had believed in , what they had given their lives for .

Their legacy , what they have left behind must live on .

They had given their life for the cause of freedom , a cause that is against aggression , oppression , in any shape or form ,

These men , a lot of them were drafted , some went against their will , this patriotic chore was paid at a high price , some just wanted a better way of life ,

In the color of battle , many , many of them met their fate , what a sacrifice ,

Their awards were many ,

Medals of all kinds , many not a few ,

Unit citations , to be shared because of team effort ,

The BlackFeet many of them living along the river bottoms , on the plateaus , some in the cities ,

Many have sat in the same class rooms together , and had the same dreams of betterment ,

Many being young at heart , and just wanted to see the world , and they choose their service , Army , Air Force , Navy , Marines ,

Many of them warriors ; because it is in their blood line , notable names , not a few ,

Then in harm's way

I imagine , that in the heat of the battle , that their minds did wonder , don't we all ,

Asking themselves that same question , Why ? why ? Why ?

Why am I here ?

What am I doing here ?

I didn't know it was going to be this way ,

The screams , of the injured , hard to explain ,

And then talking to their bodies , then another instant they are no more , total silence ,

No warm bed to sleep in , this hole in the ground , this cold and being wet is too much ,

No hot meals , not too much to eat , sharing of the rations , not enough to go around , even the water is stale ,

Dreaming of home , and the thought of , when is this going to end ?

Dreaming , dreaming , then it is no more , but in spirit ,

This far flung battle field , the harsh winters , the humid jungles , ship wrecked on the open sea , in some POW camp , hunted by the enemy some never to return again ,

Just trying to survive at any cost , pushed to the limit , living on the edge ,

I am BlackFeet , I am a warrior , I am What I am .

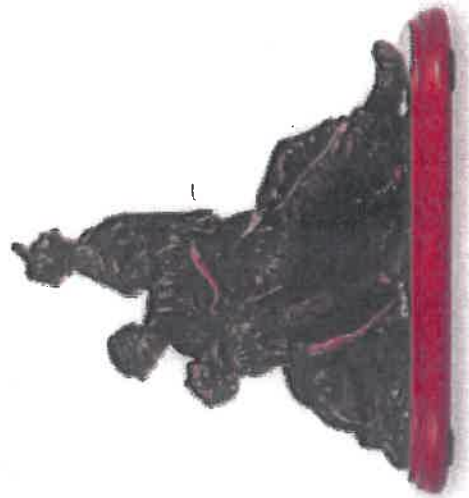
Albany Saluca

Diane Carlson Evans is the Founder of the Vietnam Women's Memorial, Washington, DC, and President of the Board of Directors of the Vietnam Women's Memorial Foundation for 30 years.

As a former Captain in the Army Nurse Corps who served in Vietnam in 1968 and 1969, Diane Carlson Evans had a profoundly personal interest in remedying the omission of recognition for women veterans. She says, "When I came home from Vietnam, I felt like there was still more to do. I came home with unfinished business. I didn't know what that was until the dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Wall of Names, in Washington DC in 1982. Then, I knew I had to help tell the story of my sister veterans." Working in surgical and burn units, her first-hand knowledge of the casualties of the Vietnam war and the sacrifices of the women who volunteered to leave the comforts of home to support their fighting brothers in a foreign land, led her on a ten year mission, beginning in 1983 - during which she had to convince government agencies, Congress, journalists and the public that building a memorial honoring Vietnam women veterans was a necessary part of the healing process for female war veterans.

Driven by an unwavering sense of duty, Ms. Evans efforts to acknowledge the valiant service of the "quiet heroes" who served during one of the country's most difficult eras were rewarded when a bronze monument, portraying three women and a wounded soldier, was dedicated on November 11, 1993, in the Mall at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. It is an everlasting tribute to the 265,000 women who served during the Vietnam War.

Ms. Evans was the first woman in American history to spearhead a campaign to place a national monument in the nation's capital that recognized the contributions of military women to their country, as well as civilian women's patriotic service. She lives today in Helena, Montana and continues to work tirelessly advocating for veterans.



Memorial Day 29 May 2017 2 PM, Montana Veterans Memorial, Great Falls, MT

Welcome..... Dwayne Nelson, Chairman,
Montana Veterans Memorial Assoc. (MVMA)

Master of Ceremonies.....Richard Liebert, Lt. Col (Ret.), USAR

Presentation of the Colors.....Malmstrom AFB Honor Guard,
Veterans Groups

Invocation.....Deborah D. Hughley, CPT., USAF, Malmstrom AFB

National Anthem.....Great Falls Community Gospel Choir

Pledge of Allegiance.....'Boot Camp' & Vet Court graduates,
& Junior AFROTC cadets

Keynote Speaker..... Diane Carlson Evans, Captain,
US Army Nurse Corps, Vietnam

'God Bless America.....Great Falls Community Gospel Choir

**Fallen Montana Veterans of Iraq
& Afghanistan Salute**..... Military Detail

'Bagpipe Salute'..... Great Falls Shrine Pipe Band Pipers

Benediction..... Allan Carpenter, MSgt, MTANG,
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Cascade

Taps..... Marine Corps League

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

The association established and maintains this memorial to honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and in war. A Veteran is defined as any man or woman of any age who has served in any branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity, and to honor men and women living and deceased equally.

Montana Veterans Memorial Association
PO Box 3524 • Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524
Phone (406) 454-9070

Website: www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

Non-Profit Tax ID #0530543

Montana's Fallen Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan
Army PFC Kristofer Stonesifer, Missoula
Army Reserve 1st Lt. Edward Saltz, Big Fork
Army PFC Owen D Witt, Sand Springs



Honor a Veteran

Give the gift of eternal honor with a granite tile

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL

Contact: Michael Winters, Tile Coordinator
(406) 454-9070
mtveteransmemorial.org



Memorial Day is May 29th

Marine Lance Cpl. Nathan Wood
Army SSG Patrick L. Lybert
Army Sgt. Lucas T. White
Army Sgt. Michael Sturdivant
Army Sgt. John K. Daggett
Army Staff Sgt. Shane Barnard



MEMORIAL DAY 2017

A PLACE OF HONOR



Gardner, 10, touches her father Lt. Col. Larry Gardner's uniform during the Memorial Day ceremony last year. THIRUNE PHOTOS/JULIA MOSS



Harry Barnes, Blackfeet Tribal Business Committee Chairman, spoke last year during a smaller ceremony honoring Native American veterans after the larger Memorial Day event at Montana Veterans Memorial.

Honor those who died in service this Memorial Day

TRACI ROSENBAUM
@GFTrib_TROsenba

For folks looking for ways to remember the men and women who died while serving in the United States military this Memorial Day, there are a number of ceremonies to choose from all around Great Falls.

Elks Lodge

The Fraternal Order of Eagles No. 14 hosts a Memorial Day picnic Monday, May 29, from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Eagles Lodge, 1501

9th St. S. Enjoy barbecue food and dance to the Pony Up Band. Admission is free, but there is a charge for the food. Proceeds benefit local charities. Call 761-9209 for details.

Montana Veterans Memorial

Starting at 2 p.m. Monday, May 29, the Memorial Day Ceremony begins with a welcome from Dwayne Nelson, chairman of the Montana Veterans Memorial Association. After a presentation of colors by the Malm-

strom Air Force Base Honor Guard and an introductory ceremony that includes the National Anthem sung by the Great Falls Community Gospel Choir, several guest speakers take the stage to remember those who have served.

The event's keynote speaker is Diane Carlson Evans, who was a captain in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps during the Vietnam War. Evans, a Helena resident who served in 1968 and 1969, developed a personal interest in remembering the omission of recogni-

tion for women veterans that eventually led her to found the Vietnam Women's Memorial in Washington, DC.

Michael Winters, former mayor of Great Falls and founder of the Montana Veterans Memorial, and Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., will also speak at the event, which ends with a pipe salute by the Great Falls Shrine Pipe Band, a benediction from Allan Carpenter of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and a rendition of "Taps" played by the Marine Corps

League.

Hill County Courthouse, Havre

At 11 a.m. Monday, May 29, American Legion Post 11 and the Veterans Honor Guard sponsor Memorial Day services on the courthouse lawn in Havre followed by a free-will donation lunch at the Havre Elks Lodge. Call 406-394-2287 for details.

Reach Tribune Staff Writer Traci Rosenbaum at 791-1490. Follow her on Twitter @GFTrib_TROsenba.

MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

The association established and maintains this memorial to honor and recognize all veterans of all branches of military service to the United States of America, in peace and in war. A Veteran is defined as any man or woman of any age who has served in any branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity, and to honor men and women living and deceased equally.

Montana Veterans Memorial Committee, Inc.

PO Box 3524

Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524

Phone (406) 454-9070

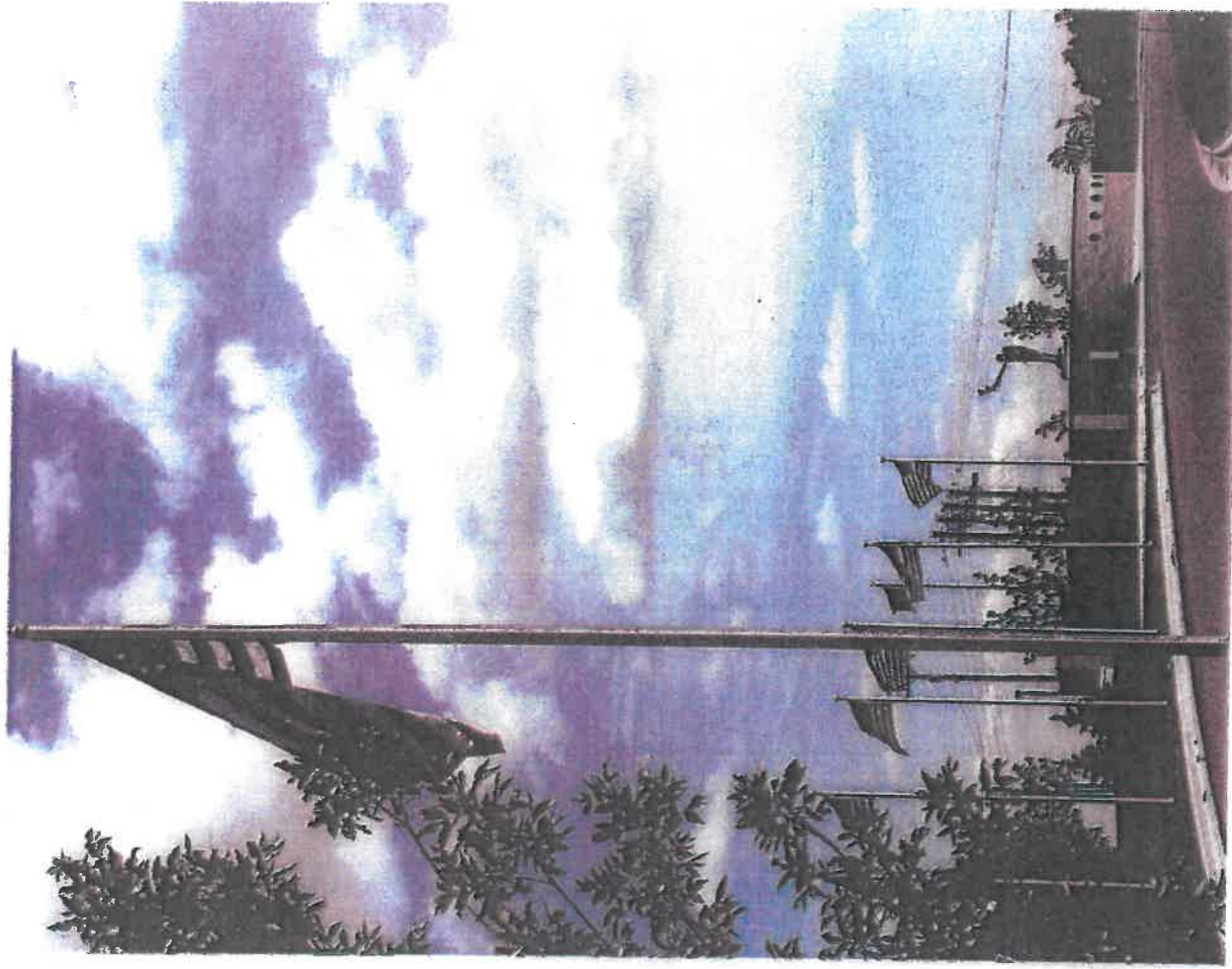
Website: www.montanaveteransmemorial.org

Non-Profit Tax ID #0530543

THE HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day was originally incorporated by President Wilson as **Armistice Day** in 1919 in recognition of the sacrifices made by Americans in World War I. Other countries today recognize November 11th as Armistice Day or Remembrance Day in honor of the Armistice Treaty which ended WWI. In 1938, Armistice Day was officially recognized as an American holiday. After WWII, citizens felt that the veterans of all wars should be recognized, not just those of WWI. In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Congress changed the name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. In 1978, the observance of **Veterans Day** was returned to **November 11th** by popular sentiment. The reason we honor it at the *11th hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month is in remembrance* of the original armistice day of World War I when hostilities came to an end between Germany and the allied powers followed by the Treaty of Versailles in 1919.

A PLACE OF HONOR



VETERANS DAY NOV. 11, 2017

DR. ANTHONY ARETZ is the current president of the University of Providence and a retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Colonel and graduate of the Air Force Academy. He became the 9th President of the University of Great Falls (now the University of Providence) on July 1, 2016.

Lt. Colonel Aretz retired from the US Air Force in 2004 after 28 years of service. This including being a professor of engineering psychology for 17 years at the Air Force Academy and his work focused on cockpit design and displays to maximize pilot performance. While at the academy, he was the founding director of the USAF Academy Scholars Program and director of academic strategic planning.

Dr. Aretz took his first civilian job as academic vice president at Christian Brothers University in Memphis, Tenn. Four years later he went on to be the President of Mt. Saint Joseph University in Cincinnati, Ohio prior to coming to Great Falls in 2016. He earned his Ph.D. in engineering psychology from the University of Illinois-Urbana and his M.A. from Wright State University.

Nationally, Dr. Aretz has served on the board of directors of the Council for Independent Colleges and the Division III President's Council for the National Collegiate Athletics Association, commonly known as the NCAA. Incidentally, Tony was recruited to play nose tackle for the Air Force Academy's Blue Falcons, but his academic interests were more compelling after a year of football. He and his wife Terry have been married 32 years and they have three sons.

'Over There'

This year marks the 100th anniversary of America's involvement in World War I and going 'Over There' in 1917 as reflected in this Wikipedia commentary:

The United States declared war on Germany on April 6, 1917, during World War I. The U.S. was an independent power and did not officially join the Allies. The U.S. made its major contributions in terms of supplies, raw material and money, starting in 1917, American soldiers under General John Pershing, Commander-in-Chief (C-in-C) of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF), arrived in large numbers on the Western Front in the summer of 1918. Before entering the war, the U.S. had remained neutral, though it had been an important supplier to Great Britain and the other Allied powers. During the war, the U.S. mobilized over 4 million military personnel and suffered 110,000 deaths.

Nearly 400,000 sons of Montana served, the highest percentage by population of all the states and Montana's mines and farms produced vast amounts of materials, food and supplies for the Nation. Our Native-American Montanans also fought to be allowed to serve in the ranks despite not being considered citizens at the time. 1,950 Montanans lost their lives in WWI.

**MONTANA VETERANS MEMORIAL
Veterans Day Ceremony
11:00 a.m. - Saturday - November 11, 2017
Great Falls, Montana**

- Master of Ceremonies** Richard Liebert, Lt. Col (Ret. USAR)
Montana Veterans Memorial Association
- Welcome** Dwayne Nelson, Chair,
Montana Veterans Memorial Association
- Presentation of the Colors** Malmstrom AFB Honor Guard,
Veterans Groups
- Invocation**..... Chaplain Arthur McCaffrey, Lt. Col, USAF
Malmstrom Air Force Base
- National Anthem** St. Ann's Choir, Great Falls
- Pledge of Allegiance** Montana 'Boot Camp' Graduates
Junior ROTC Cadets, USAF
- Guest Speakers**..... Dr. Anthony Aretz, President,
University of Providence; LTC (Ret.) USAF
- Military Music**..... Great Falls Shrine Band Pipers
- Remarks**.. US Sen. Jon Tester, and Sen. Steve Daines representatives,
MT State Senator Al Olszewski, USAF veteran
- Boots and Rifle ceremony** Marine Corps League, Det 688
- Benediction**..... Rev. Oliver J. Doyle, St. Ann's Cathedral Parish
- Taps**..... Marine Corps League, Det 688



Veterans Day

Honor local veterans with
ceremony Nov. 11
PAGE 7

2017

McGowan Steven USAF	Brewer David H USAF	Tucker Arthur R NAVY	AS Rodneya USAF	Nebel Robert E NAVY
Evans Rodneya USAF	Martz Douglas USAF	Garrett Darius USAF	Nebel Charles NAVY	Nebel Charles NAVY
James Earle NAVY	Britton William NAVY	Evans Darius USAF	Nebel Charles NAVY	Nebel Charles NAVY
David David USAF	Evans William NAVY	Garrett Darius USAF	Nebel Charles NAVY	Nebel Charles NAVY
James Earle NAVY	Britton William NAVY	Evans Darius USAF	Nebel Charles NAVY	Nebel Charles NAVY
David David USAF	Evans William NAVY	Garrett Darius USAF	Nebel Charles NAVY	Nebel Charles NAVY



From: "Governor Bullock" <governor@mt.gov>

To: "Mike Winters" <mjwinters@bresnan.net>

Cc:

Date: Friday November 10 2017 10:06:28AM

Honoring Montana's Veterans

Dear Mike:

As Montana's Governor, it is an honor to recognize the men and women who have served Montana and this nation.

This weekend, we honor and thank Montana's veterans for their dedication and bravery in their service to this great state and country. With one of the highest per capita rate of veterans in the country, our service men and women are an integral part of Montana's communities. These citizens and their families have made tremendous sacrifices to protect our loved ones and they should be honored every day. For all they are and all they have endured, they are truly Montana's heroes.

Throughout my time in office, the state of Montana has been committed to increasing opportunities for Montana's veterans when they return to civilian life. I have signed legislation into law that allows veterans to convert their military training, licensing, and experience into certification or educational credits towards civilian careers. And with the expansion of Medicaid, hardworking veterans and their families now have more affordable coverage options for their healthcare needs.

This year, the state of Montana has been working with over 700 Montana businesses to provide apprenticeship training to veterans. This effort will benefit not only the veterans in our state, but also businesses by providing them with a pipeline to qualified and dedicated workers. This past legislative session I proposed and signed into law a tax incentive program for Montana businesses to further increase hiring of veterans. This proposal will offer businesses a \$1,500 tax break when they hire a Montana veteran and provide them with on-the-job training.

These opportunities will ensure that our veterans can secure gainful employment, expand their education, and always have access to affordable healthcare they deserve.

When our citizen soldiers return home, the state of Montana will always have their backs and will fulfill the promises made to our service members and their families. I thank all our members of the armed forces and their families for serving this great nation and protecting the freedoms we hold dear. They are Montana's heroes and we celebrate them this weekend and every day.

Sincerely,

STEVE BULLOCK
Governor



John England, an Air Force veteran, attends the the Veterans Day ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial. TRIBUNE FILE PHOTOS/JULIA MOSS

Montana Veterans Memorial

The Montana Veterans Memorial at 1025 25th St. N. hosts the main ceremony Saturday, Nov. 11. The 2017 event begins at 10 a.m. with a welcome, presentation of the colors and the National Anthem sung by the St. Anne's Cathedral Choir.

Boot Camp and Vet Court graduates and Junior ROTC cadets will lead the audience in the pledge of Allegiance before guest speaker Anthony Aretz takes the stage. Aretz is the president of University of Providence (formerly University of Great Falls) and a U.S. Air Force

retiree.

The Congressional delegation is represented by staff members of Senator Jon Tester, Senator Steve Daines and Montana State Senator Al Olszewski.

Several religious officials offer remarks, the Great Falls Pipe Band performs military music and there will be a boots and rifle ceremony by the Marine Corps League. Senator John Tester closes the ceremony with a rendition of "Taps."

In the event of bitter, freezing weather, the event will be moved to the Centene Stadium lobby. Call 454-9070 for more information.

Reach Tribune Staff Writer Traci Rosenbaum at 791-1490. Follow her on Twitter @GFTrib_JRosenba.



The Malmstrom Air Force Base Honor Guard presents the colors during the Veterans Day Ceremony at the Montana Veterans Memorial on Friday.

7/28



Navy veteran Scott Olson prays during the Veterans Day Ceremony at Centene Stadium Saturday. TRIBUNE PHOTO/JULIA MOSS

Community honors veterans at ceremony

Chaplain: Citizens answer call so 'we may live in freedom'

Kristen Inbody
Great Falls Tribune
USA TODAY NETWORK

When Americans take the oath of enlistment/oath of office to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign or domestic," that is a pledge that ties them to the idea at the heart of this country since the Founding Fathers.

The oath is a tie not to a person or a political party but to a country founded on self-evident moral truths — people

created equal with unalienable rights, said Anthony Aretz, president of the University of Providence and an Air Force veteran, at the Montana Veterans Memorial Veterans Day commemoration ceremony at Centene Stadium on Saturday morning.

"The grand idea on which our country was founded is still worth fighting for, still worth dying for," Aretz said, with the hope that the country will continue to be a "moral beacon."

The world needs virtuous leaders now more than ever, and veterans must

"stand watch and remain vigilant," he said. "Our country needs us to continue to serve."

Saturday marked the 99th anniversary of the end of World War I, noted Montana Sen. Al Olszewski of Kalispell, who spoke on behalf of the legislature.

Olszewski, an Air Force veteran (and C.M. Russell High School graduate), served out of a sense of duty and honor, in defense of the Constitution, for God and for his country, as did his grandfa-

See VETERANS, Page 3M

Veterans

Continued from Page 1M

ther in World War I, his uncles in World War II and Korea and his father in the Army stationed in Alaska.

Sixteen years have passed since the U.S. began fighting in Afghanistan.

"And now, after more than a decade entangled in military conflicts across the globe, there is a generation of younger service members who have been deployed time and again, and know nothing but war and conflict," U.S. Sen. Jon Tester said.

"While these men and women represent the very best our nation has to offer, these battles have taken their toll, the tragic loss of life, the physical injuries that plague those who return, the unseen wounds that haunt their lives," he said, adding that caring for them is in turn the obligation of taxpayers.

Tester emphasized that the country must commit to adequately funding and to holding accountable the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. He said privatizing veterans' care would be expensive, make it harder for veterans to see medical staff who understand their physical and mental care needs and would break promises to veterans.

Veterans have "helped make this country what it is today," he said. Tester also played "Taps" at the commemoration.

U.S. Sen. Steve Daines sent a message encouraging veterans to stop by his office to share stories through the Veterans History Project. He highlighted three of Montana's greatest veterans, Bataan Death March survivor



Senator Jon Tester plays Taps while a participant rests her hand over her heart during the Veterans' Day Ceremony Saturday. TRIBUNE PHOTO/JULIA MOSS

Ben Steele, last Crow war chief Joseph Medicine Crow and Doolittle Raider David Thatcher. They all died in 2016, and Daines pushed to have facilities named for them.

Dwayne Nelson, chair of the Montana Veterans Memorial Association, said there are many ways to serve one's country but that he has little patience for "someone"

who had five draft deferments during Vietnam yet makes a big production of his patriotism.

Malmstrom Chaplain Arthur McCaffrey praised the soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who "answered the call" so that "we may live in freedom."

