

## **Gold Star Families**

Over the past couple weeks, I watched much of the Republican and Democrat conventions. Although I belong to neither party, I really care about the leadership of our country. Most of the speakers did what they usually do at the national conventions, saying everything about their party was good and everything about the other party was bad. However, when Khizr and Ghazala Khan, gold star family spoke about their son, Capt. Humayun Khan, I was moved. Since that speech, most of our country has been very supportive of our Gold Star families. John McCain said in part “It is time for Donald Trump to set the example for our country and the future of the Republican Party. While our Party has bestowed upon him the nomination, it is not accompanied by unfettered license to defame those who are the best among us.” “Election year or not, the VFW will not tolerate anyone berating a Gold Star family member for exercising his or her right of speech or expression,” said VFW Commander-in-Chief Brian Duffy. I want to add my small voice to those objecting to the presidential candidate who is insulting Gold Star families. This is the Veterans Corner and we respect and honor the families of our fallen comrades. The candidate’s attitude and comments are unacceptable.

Speaking of politics, two of Moorhead’s city council members have announced that they will not run for re-election in November, Nancy Otto, first ward and Mike Hulette, third ward. I take this opportunity to thank Nancy and Mike for their service to our city. Nancy has always been a very strong support of our military and our Veterans. She lead the charge to have our bridge named Veterans Memorial Bridge. Mike is a Navy Veteran and has helped several Veteran projects as a council member. Thanks, Nancy and Mike! Later this fall, the League of Women Voters of the Red River Valley will be hosting candidate forums at the Moorhead Public Library. Please attend and be prepared to ask questions.

A couple weeks ago, my friends from the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County gave me a link to some records on WWI Veterans. Apparently, Minnesota asked all returning WWI Veterans to complete a questionnaire. I check the link and sure enough there was a questionnaire my father completed. I ordered it, it arrived on Saturday and I now know more about his service. If you are interested, here is the link <http://search.mnhs.org/index.php?brand=people>

Here is a final reminder to join us on Saturday 6 August for the unveiling of a ceremonial street sign “Bearcat Way” at the corner of 15 Av and 10 St N at 10:00 am.