

Veterans' Workshop at the Rourke – November 12

Veteran and artist, Josh Zeis, along with artist and NDSU faculty member Michael Strand, will host a unique workshop at the Rourke Art Museum for Veterans and families of men and women who served. The workshop will create special family heirloom cups to commemorate or remember military service. The process is simple: participants are asked to bring objects of importance related to military service. From keepsakes for family members to remind them of those who are serving overseas, to medals and ribbons – small objects are often strong placeholders of memory. From these objects the artists will impress and alter premade cups to form custom objects. Words may also be pressed into the surface. For example, one recent workshop participant brought in dog tags from their grandfather's service in World War II, the tags were beautifully captured in the surface of the clay, creating a unique family heirloom. Veterans will be interviewed to capture the story of these objects. Select objects will be part of an exhibition in December at the Rourke where the artists will share with the public these stories and ceramic creations. These workshops are free, but require registration. Please contact Michael.j.strand@ndsu.edu or me for more information.

Election 2016

I am sure many of you are ready for election season 2016 to be over. However, it our right and obligation to cast our votes on 8 November or earlier if you choose early voting. Local Veterans organizations, the League of Women Voters of the Red River Valley and the Moorhead Public Library cooperated in sponsoring candidates' forums. You can view all four of them at btyrmoorhead.org/2016election.

Give to the Max Day, 17 November

Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Moorhead will be part of Minnesota's Give to the Max Day on 17 November. Our project is to raise enough funds to purchase one or more golf carts for the Minnesota Veterans Home in Fergus Falls. The Home is located in a park setting and many of the residents really enjoy going outside. We will purchase one or more golf carts so volunteers can give residents a ride outside. Please consider donating to this worthy cause by going to <http://btyrmoorhead.org/givetothemax>.

Veterans Day 2016

In next week's column, I will list Veterans Day activities. If your organization has an event scheduled, please send me an e-mail and I will include it in my column.