DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission

American Legion Posts 66, 99, 181, 337, 598, 654, 772, 1010
AmVets Post 90
DeKalb County VietNow
Marine Corps League Detachment 847
Veterans of Foreign Wars Posts 1486, 2287, 5768 and 8387
40 et 8 Voiture 207

President - Bob Bend, Vice-President Celeste Latham, Secretary Luz Maria Gilkey, Treasurer John Davis

DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission
Meeting Agenda for
June 11, 2018
Meetings start at 7:00 pm

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

III. Roll Call of Delegates & Alternates

IV. Public Comment

V. Reading & Approval of the May 2018 Meeting Minutes

VI. Treasurers' Report

VII. Superintendent's Report -Approval of Expenses

VIII. Committee Reports

IX. Old Business - Approval of Changes in By-Laws

X. New Business – Training Update

XI. For the Good of the Commission

XII. Adjournment

2500 N. Annie Glidden Road
Suite A
DeKalb IL 60115
Phone 815-756-8129 Fax 815-748-2142

DEKALB COUNTY VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 14, 2018

COMMUNITY OUTREACH BUILDING

Meeting started at 7 pm with President Bob Bend presiding. Tim Timmer led us in the pledge of allegiance.

Board Members Present: President Bob Bend, Vice-President Celeste Latham, Secretary Luz Maria Gilkey, and Treasurer John Davis were present.

Employees Present: Tammy Anderson, Luz Maria Gilkey, Tim Stubinger, Jill Peacock, Cindy Childress and Linda Drake

New In Attendance: None

Public Comment: None

Meeting Minutes: April 9, 2018 minutes were reviewed. Motion was made by Don Jones to accept, and seconded by Mike Boorsma Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report: There is a Balance of $4,918.30. One check was delivered from American Legion Post 654. Motion by Mike Boorsma accept Treasurers report subject to audit Seconded by Don Jones motion passed unanimously.

Superintendents' Report: Last month the Commission helped 16 Veterans and their families with shelter total of $6,295.00. There were 28 Veterans transported on 23 trips to the VA facilities. Drivers Per Diem $460.00 but we also have drivers that do not want to be paid Per Diem. The Commission collected $323,469.00 of monthly and retro payments for Veterans. The April Expenses totaled $36,501.89. Motion was made by Mike Boorsma to pay monthly bills. Seconded by Jesus Arteaga. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Committee Report: None

Old Business: By-laws 3.40 Appointments subgroup 3.41 updates reviewed and will be approved next month.

New Business: May is the Health Awareness Month for The Hines Community Outreach and copy of the Calendar for the month was provided. Brochures of the Armed Forces Legal Assistance Project was distributed. Meets also 2nd Monday of every month and in Sandwich every third Thursday of Every Month. Tim Stubinger mentioned being on WSPY Radio for an hour and how well it went with a possibly of doing this monthly and working with sister station in DeKalb B96. Jesus Arteaga mentioned May 21st Vet Resource Fair in Aurora they will have DMV (Department of Motor Vehicles) to update DL with Veteran & IDVA (Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs) to stamp DD214 and will be present from 10am -2pm. We also do this in our office to fax over and get DD214 mailed to Veteran.

Good of the Commission: DCVAC Staff Training will be June 2-9, 2018. Tammy mentioned Advertising we are doing in the Midweek and Daily Chronicle, a copy of the ad was provided. Bob Bend would like a

copy of the By-laws provided in a nice bound/binder. Tammy will work with FMO to produce a bound copy for distribution. If By-laws needed electronically let Tammy know.

June 11, 2018 is the next meeting and Celeste Latham will be acting president. Luz Maria Gilkey will send out reminder for meeting.

Mike Boorsma brought up the topic of who has completed OMA (Open Meetings Act) training. Permission to mention who was still missing was addressed so Luz Maria Gilkey mentioned Don Anderson, Jose Chavez & his DD214, Jesus Arteaga, William Goodin, Dean Miller, Jonathan Schmarje, Robert Coulter, Luz Maria Gilkey. These should have been completed by January 31st of this year to include the Delegate & Alternate form Marine Corps league is needed and the three other ones are posts that do not attend.

Being no further business Mike Boorsma made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Jesus Arteaga 7:22pm

Respectfully Submitted by Secretary Luz Maria Gilkey

DEKALB COUNTY VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2018
STATE OF THE BUDGET

VA COUNSELING

Communication	Quantity	YTD
Phone	276	2534
Office	130	1258
Outreach/Home Visits	1	39
Email/Mail	93	643
Fax	27	313
Other/Forms	122	870
Total Employee Communications	649	5657
Total Employee Activity	1260	9980

VA AWARDANCE

	Monthly	YTD
Monthly Award	$22,151.00	$299,859.00
Retro	$63,247.00	$432,477.00
Total	$85,398.00	$732,336.00

EXPENDITURES

		Monthly	YTD
Salaries & Benefits		$26,453.95	$244,633.61
Training & Meetings		$815.13	$9,866.65
Office Expenses		$762.45	$10,384.79
Building Space/Maintenance		$0.00	$0.00
Direct Assistance to Veteran	**Number Assisted**		
Shelter	16	$6,295.00	$52,555.00
Other		$0.00	$0.00
Drivers Per Diem		$500.00	$3,180.00
Vehicle Expenses			
Fuel Cost		$419.15	$2,631.15
Maintenance		$0.00	$8,623.70
	Totals	$35,245.68	$331,874.90

Expense Description:

TRANSPORTATION LOGS

	Quantity	YTD
Trips	26	113
Hours Donated	184	754.5
Transported	37	145
Miles	4827	20277
Fuel (gallon)	192.50	716.30

SUMMARY

	Percentage of Budget	Amount
BUDGET	**100%**	**$489,000.00**
PREVIOUS EXPENDITURES (Jan to Present)	**-30%**	**-$148,314.61**
EXPEDITURES	**-7%**	**-$35,245.68**
BALANCE	**62%**	**$305,439.71**

Restricted Fund Balance **$681,624.09**

DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission
Report for the month of May 2018
Veterans Assistance / Transportation

	Shelter		Transportation
Towns	Amount	# of Vets	# of Vets
Cortland			2
DeKalb	$ 3,895.00	10	18
Fairdale			
Genoa			1
Hinckley	$ 400.00	1	
Kingston			
Kirkland			1
Lee			
Malta			2
Sandwich			1
Shabbona	$ 400.00	1	
Somonauk	$ 400.00	1	
Sycamore	$ 1,200.00	3	9
Waterman			3
Total	$ 6,295.00	16	37

Hines Community Outreach

June

June is PTSD Awareness Month!

Come join the Hines Community Outreach team at one of our locations (see next page for details) for help with eligibility and enrollment, immunizations, minor health screenings, and medication reconciliation.

For June, the Outreach team will have information for PTSD Awareness Month.

To sign up for healthcare benefits please bring a copy of your DD214

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4 Morris Outreach (9A-2P)-Morris American Legion 212 W Washington St. Morris, IL	5 DuPage County Outreach (9A-2P)-VFW Post #3873 908 Jackson Ave Naperville, IL	6 Minooka Outreach (9A-2P)-Minooka Village Hall 121 E McEvilly Rd Minooka, IL	7 Vietnam Moving Wall (10A-1P)-UAW Region 4 Training Center 100 E Center St Ottawa, IL with LaSalle County VAC	8 Stand Down (8A-3P)-General Jones Armory 5200 S Cottage Grove Ave Chicago, IL	9 Relay for Life 12P-4P with MyHealtheVet and HPDP-Lyons Township High School 4900 Willow Springs Rd Western Springs, IL
10	11 DeKalb County Outreach (9:30A-1:30P)-DeKalb County VAC 2500 N Annie Glidden Rd	12	13 Carillon Active Adult Community Health Fair (8A-2P)-21146 Carillon Drive Plainfield, IL	14	15 Wheaton/Carol Stream Outreach (9A-2P)-American Legion Post #76 570 S Gary Ave Carol Stream, IL	16 16th Annual Motorcycle Freedom Run (1:30P-5:00P)-Middle East Conflict Wall Memorial Marseilles, IL with LaSalle County VAC
17	18 Coal City Outreach (10A-1P)- 1752 E Division St Diamond, IL	19 Bolingbrook Outreach (9A-2P)-DuPage Township Building 241 Canterbury Lane Bolingbrook, IL	20	21 Sandwich Outreach (9:30A-1:30P)-VFW Post # 713 S Main St Sandwich, IL	22 Elgin Outreach (9A-2P)-American Legion Post #57 820 N. Liberty St. Elgin, IL	23 Grove Fest (12P-3P)-1050 Curtiss St, Downers Grove, IL 60515
24	25 Pontiac Outreach (10A-1P)-110 W Water St. Pontiac, IL	26 Gilman Outreach (10A-1P)-Prospect Bank 209 S Crescent St Gilman, IL	27 Marseilles Outreach (10A-1P)-Marseilles Lyons Club 511 Commercial St Marseilles, IL	28	29	30

June 15th is Diveheart's next Free Diveheart Scuba Experience program for veterans at Hines with disabilities at the Vaughn Center pool in Aurora. I've copied Kevin Cozzie, Hines program lead so that he can answer any questions about the program. Here is more info on the program

1. http://www.diveheart.org/here-is-sundays-abc-7-feature-on-how-veterans-with-disabilities-benefit-from-scuba-therapy/
2. http://www.diveheart.org/diveheart-diving-veterans-pain-relief-teamwork-dailyherald/

Research on PTSD & Scuba Therapy by John Hopkins and Kennedy Krieger has shown that 80% of PTSD symptoms are alleviated if we get the Adaptive Diver deep enough. Call me if you're interested in finding out more. Here is a study done by researchers at Western Illinois University http://www.diveheart.org/raising-awareness-for-adapted-scuba-a-case-report/

But even pool programs can provide immediate pain relief.

1. http://www.diveheart.org/diving-past-boundaries-greatbigstory-cnn/
2. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=odtsaLvvrec
3. http://www.diveheart.org/abc7-diveheart-vid-feb-2016/
4.

Jim Elliott
Founder & President
Diveheart

Diveheart Media Kit

Donate to Diveheart

Diveheart Website

Diveheart news & video library

Be a DH Volunteer

Diveheart on Facebook

Adaptive Dive Training Program

Review us on Great non profits

Current & Retired Federal Employees can give to Diveheart Foundation through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC #32225)

W 630-964-1983
C 630-408-1920
900 Ogden Ave #274
Downers Grove, IL 60515

Wooden Box Theater to return to the House Café

Local performance group Wooden Box Theater will present "Life in the Fa[illegible] Lane," a production featuring t[illegible]al performers, belly dance, po[illegible]e, [illegible] live music, in its return to the House Café in DeKalb at 7 p.m. Sunday.

The event will be co-hosted by longtime Wooden Box Theater collaborator Jade Cook, along with area fashion model Jeanette Marie Dulzo, who will make her debut with the group. Cook and Dulzo will be joined by fellow co-hosts Ruth Spaeth, hoop artist Melissa Cansino and Jamie Burd of the local metal band, Innerot.

"Life in the Faster Lane" will feature live music by Bill Leighly, Joel LaVaughn, Matt Carlson of Section Gang, and ForeverStardust (featuring event co-writer Zephirine Moon Garden and Bear Wolf), Scott Christopher Barnes, the acoustic duo of Steve and Beth Barnes, R&B singer Mia Lynell (Breona Austin), and Jade Cook.

The audience will hear original poetry read by Bear Wolf and there will be special guest appearances by longtime collaborators Dan MacCabe and Gus Panourgias, who will assist with musician introductions.

Cansino, in her debut with the group, will perform a themed hoop presentation to the music of Amaranthe, Taylor Swift, PVRIS and Tonight Alive. Zephirine Moon Garden will perform a set of event-inspired belly dances.

"Life in the Faster Lane" will tell the story of the making of the show itself, and the elements that went into its creation and the writing of the event.

"This particular event will be a one-time return to The House Café, and will be a night to reminisce out loud, along with the audience, about our past events there, and also to look forward to our new tour and adventures ahead as a group," lead writer Daniel Sherrill said in a news release.

Wooden Box Theater began on stage during an edition of Open Mic at the House Cafe in the summer of 2006, and continues to evolve into an event directing team that has toured venues in Sycamore and DeKalb and Kane County.

The House Café is at 263 E. Lincoln Highway in DeKalb. Admission is $5 at the door.

For information, visit: https://www.facebook.com/events/212882219458333.

Thunder from Down Under to perform at the Egyptian

DeKALB – Australia's hottest export, Thunder from Down Under, will perform at the Egyptian Theatre in DeKalb on May 18 as part of their 2018 Desert Dreams Tour.

With 13 sold-out shows each week and a 15-year residency on the Las Vegas strip at the Excalibur Hotel Casino, it's no surprise that Australia's Thunder from Down Under were named the "Best Male Strip Show" by Las Vegas Review Journal, for the third consecutive year.

This year has seen the all-Aussie lineup performing sold out tours throughout The Netherlands, Germany, Mexico, Canada, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. With two international touring troupes and one troupe based in Las Vegas, Australia's Thunder from Down Under has performed to more than 18 million women worldwide and boast a social following of more than 1 million dedicated fans.

The Aussie sensation has made recent appearances on national television shows including, "The Real," "Impractical Jokers," "The View," "Ellen," "Project Runway with Heidi Klum," "Brother Vs. Brother with the Property Brothers," "NBC Today Show," "Drop Dead Diva" and a cameo role in Disney's movie, "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day."

The show is for ages 18 and older only.

Tickets for the 8 p.m. show in DeKalb are priced from $27.64 plus applicable taxes and fees. Tickets can be bought at egyptiantheatre.org or by calling 815-758-1215.

The Egyptian Theatre is at 135 N. Second St.

DeKalb Veterans Assistance Commission

★ VA Claim Filing Assistance ★ General Assistance
★ Transportation to VA Hospitals ★ Assistance in obtaining VA services

DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission

2500 N. Annie Glidden Road, Suite A DeKalb, IL 60115

The DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission is a County Government Agency that is operated by and for Veterans. The Commission is committed to providing services and financial aid to Qualified Military Veterans and their families who reside in DeKalb County. Information can be obtained from this office on VA Disability Compensation, VA Pensions, VA Burials, VBA Healthcare, Educational Benefits, lost discharge certificates and other elements administered by the VA. Non-emergency transportation is provided to VA Hospitals.

815-756-8129

Email: dcvac@dekalbcounty.org

SM-CL1523223

Day Camp

Theme: The Good Samaritan

July 23-27, 2018

9:00 to 2:30

Walker Farm

17610 State Rt. 23

DeKalb

(One mile south of town)

For campers entering grades 1-8. Enjoy swimming, crafts, songs, games, stories, lessons. Registration is $15.00 for the entire week. (Discount for additional campers in the same family.) Sponsored by First Baptist Church, DeKalb. Visit the website at www.firstbaptistdekalb.org or call the church at 815-758-3973 for further information.

SM-CL1523773

To place an ad in The MidWeek, call 815-756-4841.

NIU history professor wins national fellowship

By KATIE FINLON
kfinlon@shawmedia.com

DeKALB – Northern Illinois University history professor Aaron Fogleman was awarded a fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

Fogleman said he has studied transatlantic migration from 1492 to 1867 – from Christopher Columbus to the end of transatlantic slave trade – for decades as a historian. He said he will use the year-long fellowship to finish researching for his book, which is tentatively titled "Immigrant Voices: European and African Stories of Freedom, Unfreedom, and Identity in the Americas through Four Centuries," according to the foundation's website.

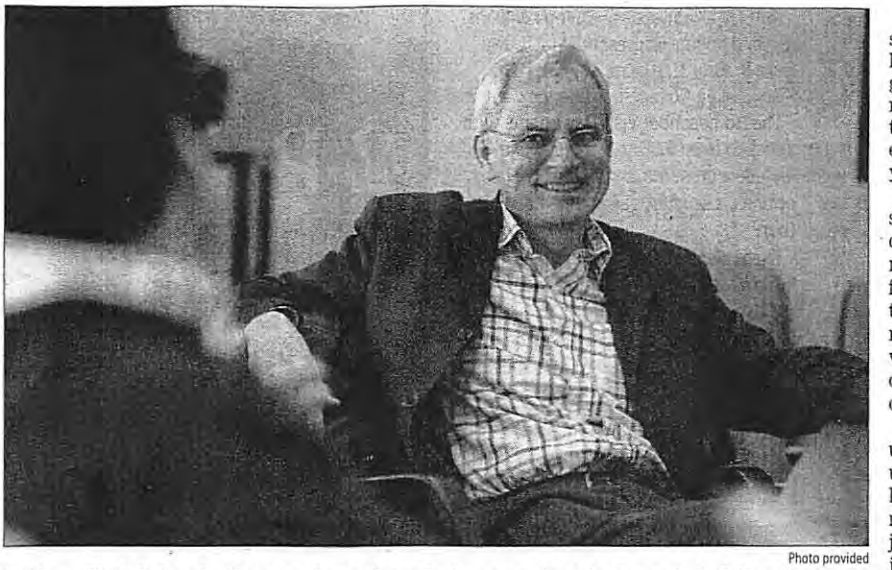

Photo provided

Northern Illinois University history professor Aaron Fogleman received the Guggenheim Fellowship recently to work on his book about immigrant voices that made transatlantic migrations from 1492 to 1867.

Fogleman said his project takes a look at hundreds of English, Irish, German, Spanish and other European immigrant voices through letters, diaries, memoirs and other records. He said it will include information from more than 150 narratives of enslaved Africans as well.

"It's just unbelievable what happens to these people – it's true now," Fogleman said. "So what do they say? What do they tell you about it? That's what I'm after."

Fogleman was one of 173 scholars, artists and scientists awarded the fellowship out of about 3,000 applicants. He was one of three U.S. historians named as Fellows, according to an NIU news release.

Fogleman began his research for his book with the help of NIU faculty-grant programs, according to a news release. He said he will not be teaching or doing anything else with the university for a year starting in August.

Fogleman said he wasn't sure how he'd get a year off of teaching to get through the mountain of research he has for his book covering four centuries worth of transatlantic migration history. He said it would be impossible to work on this book without that kind of time off.

But, Fogleman said, the university is supportive of faculty pursuing opportunities like this, since having staff receive those awards is the objective for NIU as a research institution.

While this project will focus more on past immigrants and their voluntary or involuntary migrations, Fogleman said, there's a significant relevance to current events and give context on issues that the world sees today.

WE GOT IT! Theis Farm Market
4 miles E. of Sycamore on Rt. 64, then 1/4 mile S. on County Line Rd., Maple Park
Great Selection Still Available!
Annuals, perennials, vegetable plants, herbs, PW's, potted plants and more!
Open Memorial Day 10-5
Now picking Asparagus
Like us on Facebook!
Family Owned & Operated Since 1979
815-757-1090
www.TheisFarmMarket.com
OPEN DAILY Mon-Sat 9-6 Sun 10-5

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★ VA Claim Filing Assistance ★ General Assistance ★ Transportation to VA Hospitals ★ Assistance in obtaining VA services
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Email: dcvac@dekalbcounty.org

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ON THE RECORD ... with Marilyn Stromborg

Who would you like to see go on the record? Let us know at readit@midweeknews.com

SYCAMORE – Marilyn Stromborg of Sycamore is a woman of many talents – and titles.

Through the years, Stromborg has been a nurse, Air Force veteran, professor, author, assistant state's attorney and drug court coordinator.

Stromborg taught at Northern Illinois University for 29 years and served as the School of Nursing chair for 10 years.

During her time at NIU, she was one of the first nurses to focus on cancer prevention and early detection of cancer in minority populations. From 1984 to 1991, she received grants from the National Cancer Institute to give cancer detection and prevention courses to minority nurses and nurses working with minority populations.

In addition to helping found DeKalb County Hospice, she has also volunteered the American Cancer Society, the Illinois Cancer Council, the Family Service Agency of DeKalb County, the DeKalb County Rehab and Nursing Center, Court Appointed Special Advocates, the DeKalb County Community Mental Health Board, American Inns of Court and the Kishwaukee Sunrise Rotary Club.

In recognition of her accomplishments to improve and protect the health and welfare of populations locally and nationally, the NIU Alumni Association honored Stromborg with the Alumni Achievement in the Sciences Award in February.

Marilyn Stromborg

Stromborg met with MidWeek reporter Katrina Milton to discuss the award, her involvement in research and the community.

Milton: What was your reaction to winning NIU's Alumni Achievement in the Sciences Award?

Stromborg: I was totally surprised. I thought it was an accident at first. I was very pleased and honored to have won the award. I called to make sure that it was real, and they gave me more information about the award and event. I didn't know I was nominated.

Milton: Did you attend NIU as a student?

Stromborg: I received my Bachelor of Science degree from NIU, as well as my doctorate in educational psychology and my law degree. I have my master's and RN degrees from New York Medical College's Graduate School of Nursing in New York City. I also have my nurse practitioner degree from Rush University in Chicago. I was a professor at NIU for 29 years and was the chair of the School of Nursing for 10 years, then I retired.

Milton: What did you do after you retired?

Stromborg: After I retired from NIU, I went to work at the DeKalb County States Attorney's office as a full-time states attorney. Judge [Kurt] Klein asked if I would start the drug court, and I designed it and implemented starting it. I worked as the coordinator of the drug court for nine years, and I also helped start thé DUI court during that period.

Milton: Tell me more about yourself.

Stromborg: I grew up in Sycamore and graduated from Sycamore High School. I think I'm what they call "a townie." I went to NIU for my bachelor's degree, then New York Medical College for my master's and RN degrees. I was in the military for three years, in the US Air Force during the time of Vietnam. I was sworn in by my husband, Paul, who was a pilot. After the military, we moved to Chicago. My husband was an Air Force pilot, and when he was discharged, he went to medical school and had his residency in Chicago. Then we moved to Sycamore, where he joined a medical practice with my dad, Irving Frank. My dad was a doctor, he helped build the Kishwaukee Medical Association. At that time, Sycamore had its own hospital, the Sycamore Community Hospital, and DeKalb had the DeKalb Public Hospital. Later, they joined to become Kishwaukee Hospital.

Milton: How did you first start working for NIU?

Stromborg: My first position at the NIU School of Nursing was with a cancer grant. The chair of the school, Dr. Anne Hart, received a grant, an oncology clinical specialist grant, to help prepare nurses to work with cancer patients. It was one of the first grants of its kind in the country. I was the head of that grant, and when that grant was finished, I took on a teaching responsibility, preparing nurses to work with cancer patients.

MORE ONLINE
Read the full interview at
www.MidWeekNews.com

Katie Couric, Co-Founder
EIF's National Colorectal Cancer Research Alliance

1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)
www.cdc.gov/screenforlife

CDC

National Colorectal Cancer RESEARCH ALLIANCE
Entertainment Industry Foundation Program

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Email: dcvac@dekalbcounty.org

SM-CL153375

THE WALL THAT HEALS

THE TRAVELING VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

DeKalb County Veterans Tribute Group

PRESS RELEASE 06-07-2018 For Immediate Release

The DeKalb County Veterans Tribute Group would like to thank all of the volunteers and donators that assisted in bringing THE WALLS THAT HEALS to Sycamore, Illinois in July of 2017.

With all of the generous support and monetary donations, there were enough funds left over so that we could purchase the five branches of military service flags, the POW/MIA flag and six new flag poles that have already been installed in the east Sycamore Park at the site where THE WALL THAT HEALS was displayed in 1997, 2007 and 2017.

There will be a dedication of these six flags and six flag poles on Saturday, June 30, 2018 at 1:00pm. Everyone is invited to attend the dedication.

With this being the last phase of the project, a special thank you goes out to Johnson Canvas Company, and Swedberg & Associates who made this final project possible.

The Wall That Heals Committee, Public Relations Officer
Frank F. Beierlotzer, 815-901-3834 ffb66@juno.com
201806Press ReleaseTWTH.001

This summer, The 11th Annual Veterans Weekend, **Motorcycle/Motorcade** **Honoring Our Senior Veterans** at Pine Acres Rehab & Living Center, Barb City Manor, DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center, Heritage Woods, Oak Crest DeKalb Area Retirement Center, Bethany Healthcare & Rehab Center, Grand Victorian of Sycamore and Lincolnshire Place.

(2 wheelers, 3 wheelers, 4 wheelers and all wheelers welcome)

HONORING OUR VETERANS

6th Annual Veterans Dinner & Flag Day Ceremony

The DeKalb Elks Lodge #765 cordially invite all DeKalb County area Veterans, and their Spouses to a complimentary dinner,

In Your Honor – Saturday, June 16th

Schedule of Events

5:30 p.m. Check-In and Cocktail Hour

6:00 p.m. Dinner

7:00 p.m. Flag Day Ceremony & Awarding of the Flag

Menu Choice of

Lasagna & Garlic Bread

Meatloaf with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

All Dinners include: Green Beans, Salad & Dessert

If you are unable to attend the dinner, we are happy to bring the meal to your doorstep. Just let us know.

Please call the Lodge by June 9th at 815-756-6912 or email us at dekalbelks@yahoo.com to tell us your dinner choice and whether you are joining us or would prefer to have your dinner delivered.