

Vets Views 20 Dec 06

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year! I hope the coming year brings you robust health and great cheer. Resolutions? Make any? I always resolve to start a diet, but I don't seem to ever actually finish it...oh well.

Hey, how about giving your kids or a significant other, a set of Support Our Troops plates for the coming year? Now, that's a nice, tax deductible idea, even if I say so myself.

Here's some good news for some of you, so keep reading. The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), formerly called the Older Worker Program, is a program to provide part-time community service jobs for people 55 years of age or older who have earnings of less than 125 percent of the federal poverty income guidelines (I don't know exactly how much that is, but if you're looking for something to do, or to make some money, call the Inter County Community Council at 888-778-4008, and talk to them). The way this works is like this—they set you up with a job, and then after you sort of gain the skills associated with that job, you can move on and compete for work with private employers.

The SCSEP is designed to serve people 55 years of age or older who meet the above income guidelines. This group includes:

- Retired individuals who wish to return to the working world on a part-time basis.
- Widowed individuals who may not have worked outside of the home.
- Older Americans who are unemployed and wish to learn new skills.

After determining eligibility, an individual starts their community service job and is paid no less than the federal or state minimum wage or the local prevailing rate for similar employment, whichever is higher. Participants receive annual physical examinations, personal and job related counseling, job training, and placement into unsubsidized jobs, depending upon their job readiness. So, check it out!

If you need a ride to your medical appointment in Fargo or Grafton, please call Roseau County Senior Medical Travel, at 463-3177. Give them some notice so they can find a driver.

As I have said in the past, if you really want to see me, please call and make an appointment. Ensures I'll be here when you want to be, and allows me to do some homework on you first. 463-3308. And remember, I'm closed on Mondays.

Over and Out!