

Vets Views 25 Jun 07

Remember, the Bemidji VA clinic will open on 12 July. Their phone number will be: 218-755-6360. Don't call them until after the 12th of July. I have forms at my office if you wish to transfer from another location to Bemidji, so please call me, and don't wait until the last minute! Or, you can drive to Bemidji on Tuesday 10 July, from 1-5 PM, and go to their "enrollment" fair. By the way, you'll need to take your DD 214 and last year's income and assets information if you've never enrolled in the VA health care system.

You interested in money? If you're a deployed soldier or a family member who prepares tax returns for a deployed soldier and you need tax information, the Minnesota National Guard Family Programs Office can help. They can refer you to a Certified Public Accountant who has volunteered their services. Call: 651-268-8200, or Toll-free: 1-888-234-1274.

Also, the Minnesota Department of Revenue website at www.taxes.state.mn.us has tax information on the Tax Credit for Military Service in a Combat Zone. If you served in a combat zone or hazardous duty area anytime from Sept. 11, 2001 through Dec. 31, 2006, you *may* be eligible for a credit of \$59 for each month you served.

To claim the credit, complete Form M99, Credit for Military Service in a Combat Zone. You will need to include certain documentation with your form. Tax forms can be downloaded from the Minnesota Department of Revenue site at: www.taxes.state.mn.us/taxes/individ/other_supporting_content/military_credit.shtml Credits will be issued, but it may take up to 90 days to process this credit.

Another word about the WW II Memorial Dedication Medallions, if you want one, call 800-523-0124 or 800-324-5996, either number should work. The medallions are \$19.95, which includes shipping and tax. BUT, you must order before the end of July! So, don't delay, get one now. It would be nice if family members ordered one for each WW II veteran in their family.

Over and Out