

Vets Views 06 May 08

Well, this one is going to be a real hodge podge of information, so stay with me on it, and we'll see where it all ends up, hard to say until I get to the end.

Weather? Who cares? But, there is a rumor that summer will come, late in August says the smart money.

Memorial Day—please show up at the local events.

Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exclusions? This is moving along, and some info has now been made available. The MN Department of Veterans Affairs has worked closely with the US Department of Veterans Affairs and the MN Department of Revenue on this one, and here's what is supposed to happen: A mailing from the VA should be reaching veterans who qualify, in about two weeks or less. The materials in the mailing should include a cover letter, one page fact sheet, and two application forms (\$150K application and \$300K application.). If you are 70% or more disabled, or if you have an Individual Unemployability rating, you should be receiving one of these mailings. If you have not received one and think you should have, call me. Between my office and the County Assessor's office, we should be able to take care of you. There is a frequently asked questions document that will soon be out as well, and when I get it, will let you know. For now, sit tight, wait for your letter, then call if you have questions.

Here's a good deal for children of deployed service members. Laketrails, a teen camp on Oak Island specializing in canoeing and wilderness activities, is offering a scholarship (to their camp) for children of deployed parents. Teens would be responsible for a fee of \$50 (instead of the normal fee of \$710). Camp sessions run for 9 days, and the particular session targeted would be July 31-Aug. 8, 2008, although youth could apply the special fee to any session. Any teens throughout MN are eligible. Pass this on to any of your relatives down south who may be deployed, as Laketrails runs a bus route which starts in Rogers, MN and continues up to the Northwest

Angle. For more details, contact Camp Director Wade Herbranson at 1-800-450-6460, or check out Laketrails.org. Nice of these folks to do this.

The local (Bemidji) chapter of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) will be holding a meeting for all area disabled veterans at the Warroad Legion Club, on Wed 15 May at 1:30 PM. Please attend if you are a DAV member, or wish to become one.

Over and Out!