

“Veterans In Lakeville”  
&  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of  
Oscar & John Soberg  
Lakeville VFW Post 210



Oscar & John Soberg  
VFW Post 210

Rotary – Lakeville 2/28/2018

# Agenda

1. Lakeville's Early Days & Chartering of VFW Post 210
2. Lakeville's Social Center – VFW Post 210 Club
3. Crisis drives a Metamorphosis
4. 2019 Pan-O-Prog - "Best Ever" with Veteran Celebration

# VFW founded in 1913

(From predecessor orgs founded in 1898)

The purpose of the VFW is to speed rehabilitation of the nation's disabled and needy 1898ns' widows and orphans, and promote Americanism by means of education in patriotism and by constructive service to local communities.

LAKEVILLE with a  
population of about  
450 Was Close  
Behind.....in 1919



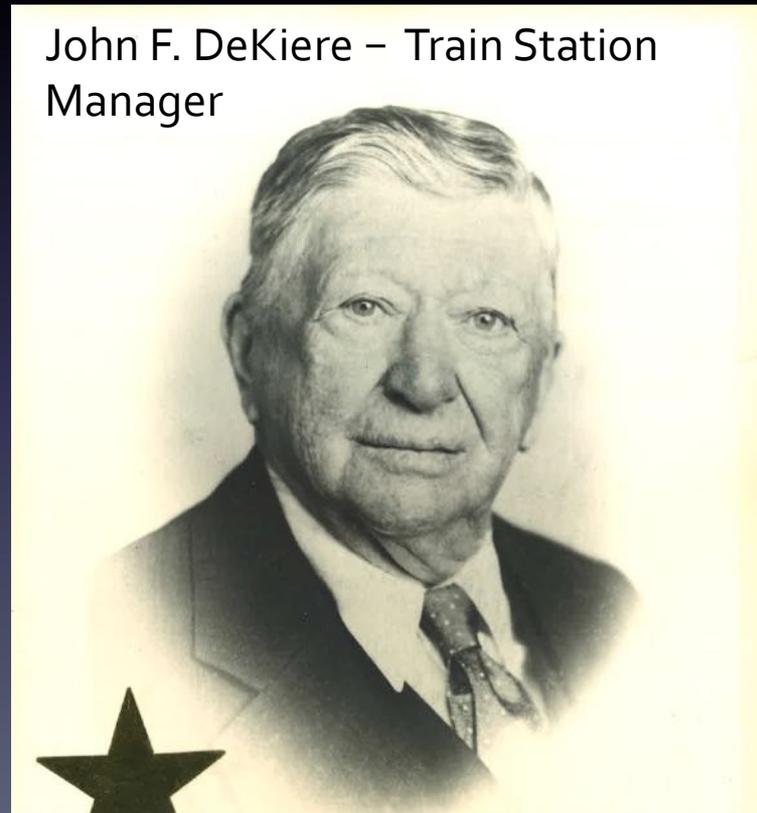
**Cross of Malta**, the emblem of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, is 1,000 years old. Nearly ten centuries ago, the **Maltese Cross** was made the symbol of fighting men who were united by a solemn pledge of comradeship to fight for freedom and to aid the sick and the needy

JOHN F DeKIERE, A SPANISH WAR VETERAN, WAS THE ORGANIZER AND FIRST COMMANDER OF THE OSCAR AND JOHN SOBERG POST NO 210, LAKEVILLE MINN. THE POST WAS NAMED IN HONOR OF 2 SONS OF MR AND MRS PETER SOBERG OF LAKEVILLE, MINN WHO WERE KILLED IN FRANCE.



“Little” Lakeville (Pop. ~450) became the 7<sup>th</sup> VFW post in the State and 210<sup>th</sup> in the nation on September 21, 1919

John F. DeKiere – Train Station Manager



# Minnesota Answer's the Call - Then and Now!



## Civil War

1 in 4 who served never made it home

### The Repulse of Pickett's Division

[by the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, July 3, 1863]. From the Panorama Battle of Gettysburg. (MN Historical Society)

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**  
OF  
THE UNITED STATES  
FOUNDED 1899

AN ASSOCIATION OF MEN  
WHO HAVE FOUGHT  
AMERICA'S FOREIGN WARS  
ON LAND AND SEA

FROM  
L. E. BIRTWISTLE, ADJT.



NAMES OF VETERANS OF CIVIL WAR BURIED AT GREENWOOD CEMETERY.

|                              |                 |                  |
|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| NELS NISKERN                 | TOM SCOFIELD    | SUMNER THURSTON  |
| A. J. BONHAM                 | JAS LOCKWOOD    | WM BATTEN        |
| GEO RECORD                   | GEO CHASE       | G. B. MALLERY    |
| A. V. SAYERS                 | J. E. JELLY     | BISHOP GORDON    |
| COL R. S. DONALDSON          | JED BENNETT     | W. A. PARRY      |
| PETER MILLER                 | HARMONY JOHNSON | JOSEPH H MALLERY |
| JOS <del>TURNEY</del> TURNEY | JOHN W POOL     | DAVID BURTON     |

DOC E. J. BONHAM ? NOT POSITIVE.  
HONORARY  
W. A. PARRY AND JOSEPH H MALLERY WERE ~~MEMBERS~~ MEMBERS OF OSCAR & JOHN SOBERG  
POST 210, LAKEVILLE.

51 Civil War veterans listed Lakeville as a home when total population less than 600

21 Civil War Vets were buried at Greenwood Cemetery



# Lakeville was a Yellow Ribbon Community way back...



## 9 Argonne Farms

In 1922 30 severely disabled World War I veterans arrived at Argonne Farms, a veterans self sufficiency project to raise poultry and berries. Each received a four-acre plot, bungalow, and chicken coop at favorable prices and interest rates. However, the land was poor and the homes lacked electricity, plumbing, and insulation. The project failed.

## Colonies for *DISABLED VETERANS* in Minnesota



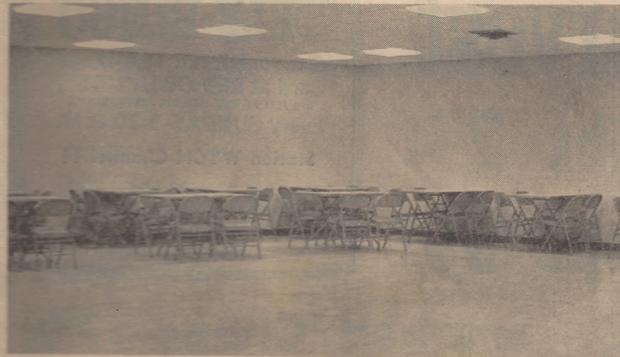
BILL G. REID

Farms, which ranged from two and a half to six and a half acres, were too small for successful poultry production — or for supporting a family, no matter how intensive the cultivation. Since land in the other colonies was often uncleared, the acreage did not represent the amount which was usable for crops in the earlier years. Later it also became apparent that the small size of most

VFW 210 First Post Home opened in 1936  
 Big, new Club & Lakeville Social Center opened in 1964



Lakeville's VFW Opened <sup>Nov. 12-1964</sup> ...



THE LAKEVILLE VFW's new 90x70 five-sided club building opened for business with a Halloween dance, according to Manager Jim Walsh. The dining hall seats 202, the lounge seats 100, and the kitchen is completely modern. Contractor for the building was Jim McNearney, and the building committee consists of Hank Fahy, Joe Kelly, Karl Lutkens, and Jerry Zweber. Walsh said they serve meals to the public in the dining hall from 5 to 9, Monday through Friday. Saturdays are kept open for parties, wedding receptions and other meetings. He said they were open only a few days when nine events were booked, indicating a community need.

Lakeville VFW Club Dedicated



AT LAKEVILLE VFW dedication Saturday night, from left, Karl Lutgens, Senior Vice commander, Post 210, Lakeville; Hank Fahy, Lakeville, chairman of the building committee; Joe Kelly, Lakeville, post commander; Cliff Salisbury, department commander, from Austin; and Jerry Zweber, building committee, and past commander two years.

V.F.W. BANQUET HALL <sup>1965</sup>

LAKEVILLE, MINNESOTA

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17 — ST. PATRICK'S DANCE  
 Music by Joe Busch Orchestra (New Year's Eve Band)  
 \$2.00 Per Person — Includes Meal at 11:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20 — 10:00 A.M.  
 Dakota County, Township & Village Officers Meeting  
 Ray Rother, Hampton — Chairman  
 Lakeville City Council — Hosts

— ALSO —  
 SAUSAGE SUPPER — ALL YOU CAN EAT FOR \$1.50  
 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.  
 Served With Sauerkraut, Salad, etc.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27 — V.F.W. SPONSORED  
 SMOKER  
 \$1.00 Per Person — Free Lunch  
 (Oyster Stew)

SUNDAY, MARCH 28 — LAKEVILLE BAND  
 MOTHER'S SPAGHETTI DINNER  
 All You Can Eat — \$1.50 Adults - 75c Children  
 Serving From 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3 — V.F.W. AUXILIARY  
 STYLE SHOW  
 (Fashions by Enggren's)  
 12:00 Noon to 3:30 p.m. — Lunch at 12:30  
 Jaycee Queen Contestants For Miss Minnesota Valley  
 Will Be Present

The V.F.W. Banquet Hall is open to the public for dining, Tuesday thru Friday, from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., and you are welcome, too, for all dances and other activities unless advertised as a private affair.

You are in for real eating pleasure when you have dinner with us — there is no better food at any price !!

- ★ Lion's Club Meets 6:30 P.M. on 2nd and 4th Mondays
- ★ V.F.W. Post 210 meets 8:30 P.M. on 2nd Monday of each Month
- ★ V.F.W. Auxiliary meets 8:00 P.M. on 3rd Monday of each Month



Telegram from VP Hubert Humphrey



**CLASS OF SERVICE**  
This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

# WESTERN UNION

## TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD      R. W. MCFALL PRESIDENT

**SYMBOLS**

DL = Day Letter  
NL = Night Letter  
LT = International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination.

1017P CDT MAY 5 67 MC490 CTA527

M CT WA530 GOVT NL PD

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC 5

HENRY J FAHEY, DONT DWR

POST 210 V F W LAKEVILLE MINN

MY GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL PARTICIPATING IN YOUR LOYALTY DAY CELEBRATION. YOU ARE TO BE COMMENDED FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PROPER OBSERVANCE OF THIS EVENT. WITH BEST WISHES FOR A SUCCESSFUL WEEKEND

HUBERT H HUMPHREY.

DUPLICATE OF TELEGRAMED TELETYPE

469-2562

ADSE

KA AT 825A/6 DBR REQMAIL

SUG CALL 469-2434 822A/6

REREAD 834A MI

# Memorial Day "Tour" VFW & Legion Tradition Since 1946



AUX. 210 COLOR GUARD AT NEW PRAGUE



V.F.W. COLOR GUARD

Memorial Day is always a time to remember and honor

— Life & Times photos by Dick Sherman

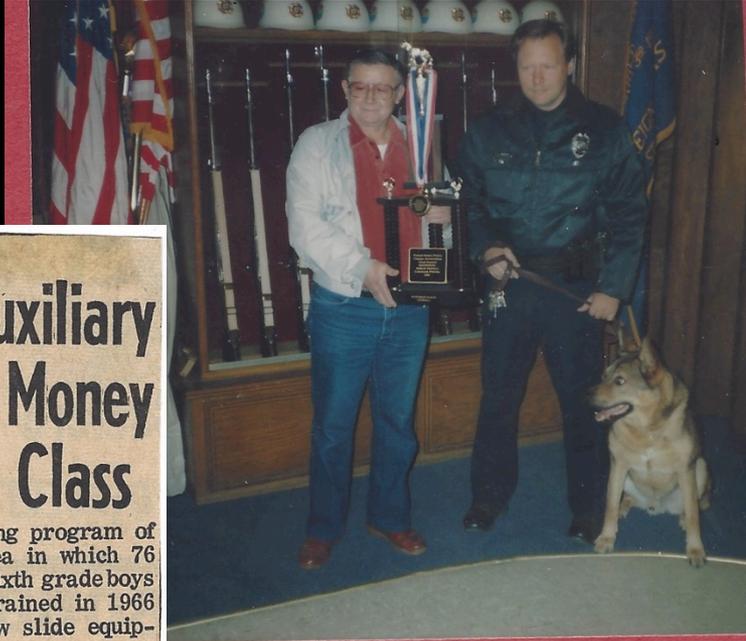


HEADS ARE BOWED IN RESPECT AS PRAYERS ARE INTONED



LAKEVILLE HIGH School band, under the direction of Nathan Earp, joins in the parade through downtown to Lakeville Grove Cemetery for the final ceremony.

# Lakeville's Award Winning K9 Program started with a VFW grant



## VFW Auxiliary To Raise Money For Gun Class

The gun training program of the Lakeville area in which 76 persons, mostly sixth grade boys and girls, were trained in 1966 is in need of new slide equipment.

The ladies of the VFW Auxiliary Post 210, Lakeville, are putting on a lunch, bake sale and white elephant sale for this purpose.

Since this valuable program is open to anyone, these supplies should help people of all ages for many years to come. The Auxiliary hopes that regardless of organization or creed - many will donate good reusable items about their homes, businesses or shops. Furniture, dishes, clothing, tools - you bring it - they hope to have a market for it.

The food and white elephant sales will be held in the VFW club rooms at Lakeville on Wednesday night, May 11 at 8 p.m. John Byrne will be the auctioneer. For information call Mrs. Art Heinz at 469-2428 or Mrs. LeRoy Zweber at 635-2046.

Wednesday, Oct. 26, 1987

## DAKOTA BRIEFS

### Police dog wins national competition

A Lakeville police dog has won 11th place in the National Canine competition held recently in Lakeland, Fla.

Police Chief Richard Radermacher said the 4-year-old German shepherd, Dakota, was the youngest dog ever to place in the contest's top 20. "So it's kind of a special thing," Radermacher said.

The contest, held Oct. 5 through 9, tested the dogs' abilities to obey commands, do searches and sniff out narcotics.

Radermacher said the Lakeville VFW post donated the money to buy Dakota, who has been with the department for a year.

## Smorgasbord Totals \$285.97 For Recreation

The benefit smorgasbord and dance held at the V.F.W. hall on Sunday, April 17th was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by those in attendance. Adding to the pleasure of the good food and enjoyable music were the festive decorations. A special thanks is in order for Mrs. Jerry Erickson and her committee of helpers who added so much to this occasion.

A total of \$285.97 was turned over to the Lakeville Civic Recreation Corporation for use in the summer program for children of the community.

The directors of the corporation thank the members and officers of the Lakeville Lions, the Lakeville Commercial Club, the Lakeville Fire Department, and the Lakeville V.F.W. Post and Auxiliary for their efforts in sponsoring and promoting this benefit.



POLICE OFFICER Ben Justen and Mike Doherty of the Lakeville VFW, put reflector tape on bicycles at their jointly sponsored bike safety clinic held Saturday, September 16. About 540 children showed up to have reflector tape put

on their bicycles. The VFW supplied 30 cases of pop for the thirsty children. The clinic was held at the Lakeville VFW, Parkview School, and Orchard Lake School.

## Lakeville Police & VFW Bike Safety Program



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# Gun Safety



Americanism Poster winners



LADIES AUXILIARY TO VFW POST 210  
LAKEVILLE, MINNESOTA 55044

1865

4 39 19 84 75-820/919

\$ 5.00

DOLLARS

Mary Kelly  
La P. "8000000000"

6-1-81  
Dear Mr. Bressler,  
my dad is a cop in Peoria Lake, So I know about most of the fire equipment and especially like the truck and the gadgets. I really liked the demonstration you put on for us. I like the part of Stop Drop and Burn.

Sincerely, Justin Venn  
Den Boon

# Fire Safety

# Annual Poppy Drive to Raise Funds for veteran relief and supporting youth



LAKEVILLE POST 210'S POPPY QUEEN  
JENIFER WENLUND



# The Club Closes in 2014....but rather than the end it's a new beginning for the building & Post 210

## Lakeville VFW Post 210 votes to close bar/restaurant

By Laura Adelman May 8, 2014 0



### Building will be listed by fall

After months of discussion, the Lakeville VFW Post 210 voted May 5 to close its bar and restaurant business by fall.

The decision was difficult, and a three-hour meeting was filled with passionate speeches from both viewpoints, VFW Post 210 Cmdr. Randy Pronschinske said.

### Lakeville VFW hall to close down on Saturday

Falling membership in the Veteran's of Foreign Wars has been a problem statewide.

Author: Boyd Huppert and KARE , KARE  
Published: 6:04 PM CDT August 1, 2014  
Updated: 6:04 PM CDT August 1, 2014

LAKEVILLE, Minn. – Fifty years after the opening of the Lakeville VFW hall, members of Post 210 will gather again Saturday for its closing.

Taps will be played and the American flag will be lowered from its staff in front of the hall for the last time.

"Oh, it was not easy," said Roy Bressler, of the decision to close the VFW hall. The junior vice chairman of Post 210 added, "A lot of tears will be shed."



# With the weight of the club off the Post membership and community involvement rebounds



Christmas Veteran Outreach

Ramp Team Supporting Wheel Chair Accessible Ramps & Veteran Families in Distress

# VFW Post 210 Youth Programs

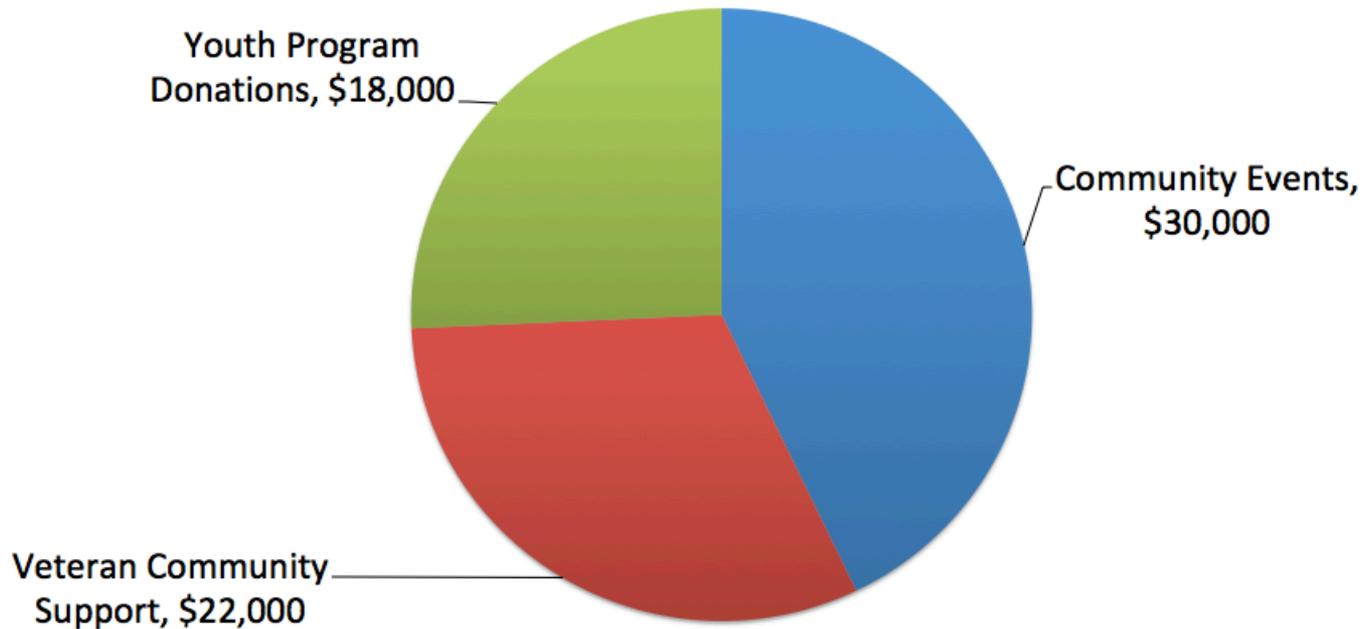


Youth Programs



# A Healthy VFW Post is Once Again a Strong Community Partner

## Lakeville Post 210 Donations Last 12 Months >\$70,000



# 2019 Lakeville Pan-O-Prog 3 years in planning



**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

**OSCAR & JOHN SOBERG VFW POST 210**

Service Before Self

## Vietnam Memorial Wall

*VFW Post 210 and American Legion Post 44 from Lakeville will be  
hosting the Traveling Vietnam memorial Wall during Panoprog  
2019*

**WELCOME TO OSCAR & JOHN SOBERG VFW POST 210**

*Teamwork ~ Leadership ~ Commitment*

**100th ANNIVERSARY PAN-O-PROG VETERAN  
EVENT SCHEDULE CAN BE FOUND  
HERE <http://lakevilleveterans.com>**

# A Very Special 2019 Event 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VFW



Celebrating Our Proud Veteran Heritage  
While Endowing

1. Lakeville Scholarships
2. Providing Veterans Relief Fund
3. Freedom Rock Memorial at Lakeville's Veterans Memorial



Oscar & John Soberg  
VFW Post 210



John Vessey Sr.  
Post 44

# Monday July 8 - Sunday July 14th

## AVTT Traveling Vietnam Wall

Sponsored By  
*VFW Post 210*  
*Legion Post 44*



Wall Display at Hasse Arena Will Draw Large Crowds  
 To Lakeville Through-Out 2019 Pan-O-Prog



# Vietnam and Military History Village at Hasse Arena Wall Display Mon July 8- Sun July 14 2019

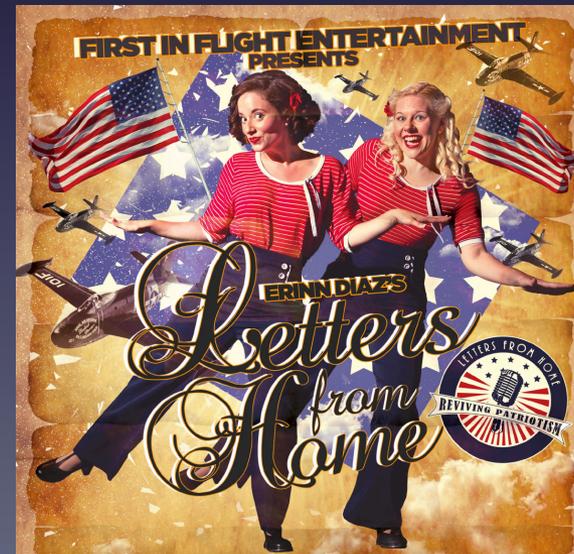


Special Live Presentations  
Fri 7/12 – Sun 7/14  
Military Re-enactors and  
Living History Displays  
Providing a Glimpse of  
what military life was for  
our Veterans



# Traveling Vietnam Wall Reception & Show on Monday July 8, 2019

Opening Night Reception and Show  
Featuring  
Letters From Home  
By First in Flight Entertainment Ensemble



# Parade of Honor Guards & Military History

## Special Section in Saturday Pan-O-Prog Parade



# Freedom Rock at Veteran's Memorial at Aronson Park in Lakeville



Lakeville's Very Own Freedom Rock will  
Be coming to Veteran Memorial at Aronson Park

Creator of Freedom Rock  
will create a special Freedom Rock  
Honoring Lakeville's Veteran History





VFW Post 210's  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet  
at Brackett's Crossing  
Saturday September 21, 2019



Local and National Guests will be among 500  
guests celebrating this special Golden  
Anniversary Event

# Community Help is Needed to Deliver the Best Lakeville Pan-O-Prog to date

Lakeville 2019 Pan-O-Prog Veteran Celebration

Pan-O-Prog Events Honoring 100th Birthday of VFW and Veteran Service in Lakeville

PO Box 308 Lakeville, MN 55044 | (612) 888-5210

HOME SHOP SPONSORS DONATE NOW! VOLUNTEER SIGNUP



COMMUNITY CELEBRATION OF VETERANS IN DAKOTA COUNTY JULY 8-14, 2019



Events to Honor Our Veteran Heritage throughout the week of July 8th-14, 2019

EVENT SCHEDULE

## Key Needs

1. Sponsors
2. Volunteers
3. Support our Communication Campaign