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NEW STATE VETERANS HOME DEDICATED IN HOT SPRINGS

PIERRE, S.D. – Lt. Gov. Matt Michels joined state and local officials at the dedication of the new Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home yesterday in Hot Springs. The facility provides long-term care for our veterans.

Other speakers included South Dakota Secretary of Veterans Affairs Larry Zimmerman, Superintendent Brad Richardson, Medal of Honor recipient Michael J. Fitzmaurice, Sculptor Darwin Wolf, and Project Manager Andy Scull of Scull Construction.

“It’s my honor to welcome you today to this dedication of South Dakota’s new home for our veterans,” said Larry Zimmerman, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs. “The State Veterans Home opened in November of 1889, and today we re-opened the State Home on the same acres of our former territories.”

Zimmerman applauded those who worked diligently to bring this dream to fruition. “It took a team to build this state of the art facility,” said Zimmerman. “To this administration, the Legislature, the United States Department of Veteran Affairs, the contractors, our veteran’s service organizations, volunteers and our fantastic staff, we say thank you.”

“We have cared for our heroes for over a century and we will continue to provide comradery, compassion and high quality of care for many more,” said Zimmerman.

The new state of the art facility incorporates the latest in nursing home construction design and staffing concepts and has 76 skilled and 24 independent living rooms. This two-story facility has eight neighborhoods/households arranged around administrative and support amenities in the center. Residents have access to physical therapy, speech therapy, fitness, recreational opportunities, workshops and an auditorium. The community space is located in the center of the building on the main floor and includes a chapel, cafeteria, postal service, pharmacy, barber shop and community room to name a few.

“It’s exciting to see how this entire campus, community and state have pulled together to build this new veterans home on these historic grounds,” said Brad Richardson, superintendent of the Home.