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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**SDDVA SECRETARY SCHNEIDER'S MARCH COLUMN – A SEASON OF RENEWAL AND COMMITMENT**

As winter loosens its grip and spring begins to stir across South Dakota, we are reminded that every new season brings renewal and a sense of purpose. The frost fades, fields awaken, and with that, we renew our promise to those who have served.

At the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs, that promise remains steady: to stand beside our veterans and their families with respect, gratitude, and action. Service doesn't end when the uniform comes off; it continues in every step of the journey home.

Upcoming events in March:

- March 8: Daylight Saving Time Begins
- March 11: Coffee & Camaraderie – Murdo Senior Center, Murdo, 9:30 a.m. (CT)
- March 24: Coffee & Camaraderie – BG Ernie Edward Readiness Center, Watertown, 5:00 p.m. (CT)
- March 27: Midwest Honor Flight "Drive to Fly" – Great Shots, Sioux Falls, 1:30 p.m. (CT)

Let's honor our deployed South Dakota National Guard members and their families by taking meaningful action. Attend upcoming events, volunteer with veteran organizations, or reach out to offer support to a service member's family. As days grow longer, let's commit to showing appreciation—supporting our veterans, strengthening families, and advancing our mission of care and respect.

"This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave." – Elmer David.

Jeremiah J. Schneider, Secretary  
South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs