



# NEWSLETTER

**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF THE MILITARY**



## HARTMAN RECOGNIZED FOR TWO DECADES OF SERVICE

Brett Dickerson, Program Manager for the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs (SDDVA), recently had the honor of presenting Glenn Hartman with a recognition plaque from the South Dakota County and Tribal Veterans Service Officers Association.

This plaque commemorates Hartman’s incredible 26 years of service to his community and fellow veterans.

Hartman’s dedication goes beyond his military service; after returning home, he continued his commitment to veterans by serving as the county veterans service officer. For over two decades, he has been a steadfast advocate, assisting veterans and their families in navigating the complexities of benefits and ensuring they receive the support they deserve.

Hartman’s legacy of service speaks volumes about his character and dedication to those who have served our country. The plaque is a well-deserved token of appreciation for his tireless efforts in improving the lives of veterans in his community.



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# VA TO TERMINATE 585 CONTRACTS

Following a thorough review of nearly 2,000 professional services contracts, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs began canceling 585 non-mission-critical or duplicative contracts. These contracts, which will be phased out over the next few days, represent less than one percent of the roughly 90,000 contracts the VA currently has in place.

The value of the contract cancellations announced totals about \$1.8 billion. After accounting for the money already spent on the contracts, the cancellations will enable the VA to redirect about \$900 million back toward health care, benefits, and services for VA beneficiaries.

Among the contract cancellations announced are those that paid contractors to generate “contract deliverables” for other contractors to fulfill. Other canceled contracts cover administrative services that the VA can perform on its own, such as staff mentoring, leadership coaching, preparation of meeting agendas and meeting minutes, as well as services such as “executive support” that involve creating PowerPoint slides.

The contract cancellations announced were identified through a deliberative, multi-level review that involved the career subject-matter expert employees responsible for the contracts as well as VA senior leaders and contracting officials. As part of the process, VA career employees evaluated the contracts based on how closely they support veterans and VA beneficiaries. Contracts that directly support veterans, beneficiaries or provide services the VA cannot do itself, such as a nurse who sees patients or an organization that provides third-party certification services, respectively, were not canceled. Contracts that involved services the VA has the ability to perform itself were typically canceled.

As part of its review, the VA career subject-matter expert employees responsible for the contract cancellations were given the option to stop a cancellation if they felt it would negatively impact health care, benefits or services for veterans or VA beneficiaries.

During the review, the VA found many duplicative contracts that were providing the exact same services, such as third-party certifications for items like enhanced-use leases. The VA eliminated duplicative contracts while keeping in place others that provide those services to ensure operational continuity.

The 585 contract cancellations represent the first step in the VA’s comprehensive and ongoing audit of roughly 90,000 department contracts worth more than \$67 billion. The VA expects to announce more changes to optimize its contracting operations in the future. Contracts will be canceled in some instances, and in other instances new contracts will be created.

The VA anticipates additional savings as its contract audit continues, and in the coming weeks and months.





# DINE TO DONATE

⇒ *Support* ⇐

**MIDWEST HONOR FLIGHT**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 15**

**3:30PM-10PM**



# 10%

**DONATION NIGHT**

for **Midwest Honor Flight**.

Present this flyer at the Sioux-Falls location and Texas Roadhouse will donate **10%** of your total food purchases to **Midwest Honor Flight!**

**605-362-5784**  
**4307 W. EMPIRE PLACE**  
**SIoux FALLS, SD**





# 28 MAR 2025

Registration 1:30 PM - Golf 2-5 PM

## REGISTER NOW

\$75 Per Person or \$280 Per Team of 4: Until Jan 31  
\$100 Per Person or \$380 Per Team of 4: Feb 1 - Mar 15

[midwesthonorflight.org/golf](http://midwesthonorflight.org/golf)

*Sponsorships Available*

**Great Shots**  
**2505 W Benson Rd**  
**Sioux Falls, SD 57107**



### PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT



**MIDWEST  
HONOR FLIGHT**

[midwesthonorflight.org](http://midwesthonorflight.org)  
605.215.1319



*All sponsorships, registrations, donations, and funds raised will benefit Midwest Honor Flight*

Our Mission: to transport America's Veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit those memorials dedicated to honor the service and sacrifices of themselves and to fellow Veterans.

# PIZZA, PINTS, & PUZZLES

PROCEEDS BENEFIT



MIDWEST  
HONOR FLIGHT

## APRIL 12, 2025

THE SOCIAL  
301 S THOMPSON AVE  
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57103

*The Social*

6:00 PM START  
5:30 PM REGISTRATION  
COMEDY SERIES AFTER COMPETITION

## \$120 PER TEAM OF 4

TEAMS OF 4 WILL RACE TO FINISH A LARGE 1 TOPPING PIZZA, 2 PITCHERS OF BEER, AND A 500 PIECE PATRIOTIC PUZZLE - CASH PRIZES TO BE AWARDED

\$5 AT THE DOOR FOR SPECTATORS - PIZZA & BEVERAGES ON SITE FOR PURCHASE

RESERVE YOUR TABLE BY 4/5 AT [MIDWESTHONORFLIGHT.ORG/PUZZLES](http://MIDWESTHONORFLIGHT.ORG/PUZZLES)

# 2025 UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar 15—DAV Bowling Fundraiser—Sport Bowl—(1901 W. Burnside)—Sioux Falls—1:00 pm (CT)
- Mar 28—USD Law School Veterans Legal Drop in Clinic—SD Military Heritage Alliance—(1600 W. Russell Street)—Sioux Falls—9:00 am—4:00 pm (CT)
- Mar 28—Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day—DAV Headquarters—(1519 W. 51st Street)—Sioux Falls—10:30 am (CT)
- Mar 29—USD Law School Veterans Legal Drop in Clinic—VFW Post 2750—(215 N. Main Street)—Mitchell—9:00 am—4:00 pm (CT)
- Mar 29—Stand Up for Women Veterans Retreat—Our Savior's Lutheran Church ELCA—(West 33rd Street)—Sioux Falls—9:00 am—2:00 pm (CT)
- Mar 29—Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day
- Apr 12—Pizza, Pints, and Puzzles Midwest Honor Flight Fundraiser—The Social—(301 S. Thompson Avenue)—Sioux Falls—5:30 pm (CT)
- Apr 15—Dine to Donate for Midwest Honor Flight—Texas Roadhouse—(4307 W. Empire Place)—Sioux Falls—3:30 pm—10:00 pm (CT)
- Apr 16—South Dakota Veterans Council Meeting—Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home—(2500 Minnekahta Avenue)—Hot Springs—9:00 am (MT)
- Apr 25-26—State DAV Convention—AmericInn—Aberdeen
- Apr 27-30—VFW Proficiency Training Conference—Annapolis, MD
- May 1—Loyalty Day
- May 6—Mission 24 Midwest Honor Flight Operation Welcome Home—Sioux Falls Arena—(1201 N. West Avenue)—Sioux Falls—9:30 pm (Doors open at 7:30 pm) (CT)
- May 6—SDDVA Mini Conference—Pennington County Conference Room—(312 Kansas City St)—Rapid City—10:00 am—2:00 pm (MT)
- May 7—SDDVA Mini Conference—Post 8 American Legion—(520 S. Pierre St)—Pierre—10:00 am—2:00 pm (CT)
- May 8—Victory in Europe Day
- May 8—SDDVA Mini Conference—SD Military Heritage Alliance—(1600 W. Russell St—Heritage Room)—Sioux Falls—10:00 am—2:00 pm (CT)
- May 9—Military Spouse Appreciation Day
- May 17—Armed Forces Day
- May 20—Mission 25 Midwest Honor Flight Operation Welcome Home—Sioux Falls Arena—(1201 N. West Avenue)—Sioux Falls—9:30 pm (Doors open at 7:30 pm) (CT)
- May 26—State Offices Closed—Memorial Day
- May 26—SDDVA Memorial Day Program at State Veterans Cemetery—12:00 noon (CT)
- Jun 3—Mission 26 Midwest Honor Flight Operation Welcome Home—Hawthorne Aviation—(5815 Mitchell Street #1207)—Sioux City, IA —9:30 pm (Doors open at 7:30 pm) (CT)
- Jun 7—Rich Schild Memorial Poker Run—The Keg—Tabor—12:00 noon (CT)
- Jun 10—MWHF Day of Sweetness—Chick-Fil-A—(4005 W. 41st Street)—Sioux Falls—6:30 am—10:00 pm (CT)
- Jun 14—8th Annual MWHF Pars and Pubs—Downtown Sioux Falls—11:00 am—4:00 pm (CT)
- Jun 19—State Offices Closed—Juneteenth Day
- Jun 19-22—VFW State Convention—Ramkota—Pierre
- Jun 19-22—American Legion State Conference—Huron
- Jun 29—MWHF Honor Ride—SD Military Heritage Alliance—(1600 W. Russell Street)—Sioux Falls—1:00 pm (CT)

(continued)



# UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jul 4—State Offices Closed—Fourth of July
- Jul 14—Black Hills Tee it up for the Troops Tournament—Arrowhead Country Club—Rapid City
- Jul 16—South Dakota Veterans Council Meeting—Mitchell VFW Post—(215 N. Main Street)—Mitchell
- Jul 19—Veterans Information Day—BG Ernie Edwards Readiness Center—(1951 N. HWY 20)—Watertown—  
10:00 am—2:00 pm (CT)
- Aug 4-5—Your Journey Matters 2025 Behavioral Health Conference—Sioux Falls Sheraton Convention Center
- Aug 7—Purple Heart Day
- Aug 9-13—National VFW Convention—Columbus, OH
- Aug 11—Barrel House Day of Giving for Midwest Honor Flight—(4701 E. 54th Street)—Sioux Falls—11:00 am—  
Midnight (CT)
- Aug 20—South Dakota Veterans Council Meeting—Virtual
- Aug 27-Sep 1—South Dakota State Fair
- Aug 28—Veterans Day at the South Dakota State Fair
- Sep 1—State Offices Closed—Labor Day
- Sep 9-12—SDDVA Annual CTVSO Benefit School
- Sep 16—South Dakota Veterans Council Meeting—Yankton VFW Post—(209 S. Cedar Street)—Yankton
- Sep 19—POW/MIA Day
- Sep 21-25—NVS Accredited Representative Skill Training—Annapolis, MD
- Sep 21-26—NVS Basic for New Accredited Representatives—Annapolis, MD
- Oct 13—State Offices Closed—Native American Day
- Oct 15—South Dakota Veterans Council Meeting—Virtual
- Oct 18—4th Annual Midwest Honor Flight Fundraiser—South Dakota Military Heritage Alliance—(1600 W. Russell  
Street)—Sioux Falls—7:00 pm
- Nov 7—MWHF Bingo—Severance Brewing—(701 N. Phillips Avenue)—Sioux Falls—7:00—9:00 pm (CT)
- Nov 8—Northern Hills Veterans Appreciation Fair—Sturgis Community Center—(1401 Lazelle Street)—(Sturgis—  
11:00 am—2:00 pm (MT)
- Nov 10—Barrel House Day of Giving for the South Dakota Veterans Cemetery WAA—(4701 E. 54th Street)—Sioux  
Falls—11:00 am—Midnight (CT)
- Nov 11—State Offices Closed—Veterans Day
- Nov 19—South Dakota Veterans Council Meeting—DAV Headquarters (1519 W. 51st Street)—Sioux Falls
- Nov 27—State Offices Closed—Thanksgiving
- Nov 29—Side by Side MWHF Poker Run—Pilot Mikes Roadhouse—(4901 N. Ellis Road)—Sioux Falls—  
11:00 am (CT)
- Dec 13—Wreaths Across America Wreath Laying Ceremony at South Dakota Veterans Cemetery—Sioux Falls—  
11:00 am (CT)
- Dec 25—State Offices Closed—Christmas Day

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