



Jim Doyle, Governor
John A. Scocos, Secretary

STATE OF WISCONSIN, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

30 West Mifflin Street, P.O. Box 7843, Madison, WI 53707-7843
PHONE: (608) 266-1311 1-800-947-8387 (WIS VETS)
WEB SITE: <http://dva.state.wi.us>
E-MAIL: Headquarters@dva.state.wi.us
FAX: (608) 264-7616

Attention Newsroom—News Release

June 7, 2004
For Immediate Release

Contact: Andrew Schuster 608-267-1797
or Kathleen Scholl 608-267-3582

Event to be Rescheduled

Veterans Benefits Information Fair in Sturgeon Bay to be rescheduled

(MADISON) -- The Veterans Benefits Information Fair previously scheduled for this Friday in Sturgeon Bay has been rescheduled for **Monday, June 14, 2004 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at **The Reef**, located at 901 Egg Harbor Road in **Sturgeon Bay**.

This Friday, June 11, 2004 has been declared as a National Day of Mourning throughout the United States in observance of the death of former U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Out of respect for the National Day of Mourning, and in concurrence with the closure of federal government offices, the Veterans Benefits Information Fair has been rescheduled to Flag Day, Monday, June 14th.

"Ronald Reagan was a deeply patriotic person who dedicated himself to public service. His enormous popularity with American people reached across all boundaries, and continues to this day. The Reagan presidency saw some of the most dramatic events in the second half of the 20th century, and his passing is a sad moment for all Americans. His service and devotion to our country will not be forgotten," said Governor Jim Doyle in a prepared statement on Saturday.

"The Veterans Benefits Information Fair will provide one-stop services and benefits information, at one location convenient to them in northeast Wisconsin, where veterans can get help to learn about and apply for benefits and services they and their families may be entitled to," said WDVA Secretary John A. Scocos. "We encourage them to come out to the information fair. Many veterans may believe they are no longer eligible for benefits after being out of service for decades, and are surprised to find out that many benefits have no time limits, and new benefits have been instituted. The WDVA is working hard to ensure our veterans receive the benefits they deserve."

At this one-stop shop for benefits, veterans can:

- Establish eligibility for state veterans benefits (veterans are advised to bring their **DD form 214**).
- Apply for benefits, such as VA health care and prescription drug benefits, disability compensation and pension, personal loans, home mortgage loans, home improvement loans and education or job training grants.
- Receive assistance in obtaining military medals and records.

(more)

- Find out about employment opportunities.
- Pre-register for burial in state veterans cemeteries.
- Obtain information about nursing care and aging services.

Flag Day observed on June 14th of each year is a day for all Americans to celebrate and show respect for our flag. This week, the U.S. House of Representatives is slated to consider a resolution recognizing Wisconsin as the birthplace of Flag Day. H.Res.662, introduced by Wisconsin Congressman F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. (R-5th), would recognize that Flag Day was first observed in Ozaukee County in 1885 by Bernard John Cigrand, a school teacher from Waubeka, Wisconsin, who urged the students at the public school in Fredonia, Wisconsin, to observe June 14th as ‘Flag Day’.

Secretary Scocos said, “In recognition of the National Day of Mourning this Friday, I encourage veterans and family members to come out to the rescheduled Veterans Benefits Information Fair on Monday, June 14th, Flag Day, a day that holds special meaning for Americans. Our veterans who have served, to continue our traditions of freedom and democracy, deserve the benefits they've earned.”

The event is sponsored by the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, in partnership with local county veterans service offices, Wisconsin Veterans Service Organizations, and other federal, state and county agencies. For more information about the Veterans Benefits Information Fair, call 1-800-WIS-VETS (1-800-947-8387) or go to the WDVA web site at http://dva.state.wi.us/Ben_Supermarket.asp Or contact a local County Veterans Service Office.