

This week, I while searching for information for Veterans, I found this from the Air Force Times: “The unemployment rate for post-9/11 veterans fell to a near-historic low in February, hitting 4.7 percent, government data show. That figure, down a full point from the January rate of 5.7 percent, matches the unemployment rate for the youngest generation of veterans charted in August, which was the all-time low at the time it came out. Since then, the October rate set a new all-time low, then the November rate beat October's number. The nation as a whole tacked on 242,000 jobs in February, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, with the unemployment rate at 4.9 percent, identical to January's number.” The Air Force Times also ranked two Minnesota Technology and Community colleges in the top 20 for Best for Vets – the Community and Technology Colleges in Pine City and St. Cloud.

Speaking of education, today, March 10 from 1:30 to 4:00, MSUM will be hosting ‘College with the Congressman’ in King Hall Auditorium. Guest speakers will be ND Representative Kevin Cramer and MSUM President Allen Blackhurst. The program will provide Veterans with information on the benefits of getting a college education as well as providing Veterans with higher education options.

Our local Veterans organizations have their monthly meetings coming up in March.

Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Moorhead will meet at 8:30 am, March 10 at the Dilworth VFW. Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 941 will meet at 7:00 pm at the Biltmore Hotel, 3800 Main Ave, Fargo.

Moorhead American Legion Post 21 will meet at 7:00 pm at the Club on March 14.

Moorhead/Dilworth VFW Post 1223 will meet at 7:00 pm at the Club on March 15.

Vietnam Veterans Day at the West Fargo VFW from noon to 6:00 pm

Fund Raisers for the WDAY Honor Flight on Sunday, April 17 with a pork loin dinner served from 11:30 am to 3:00 pm, raffles, silent auctions and more.

**Go Dragons!** The MSUM men’s basketball team is the no. 3 seed in the NCAA Central Region tournament and will play no. 5 seed Minnesota State University Mankato on March 12 in Sioux Falls, SD. The Dragons are the defending Central Region champions going to the Elite 8 in Evansville, IN in 2015. My Sweetie Bev and I were at the tournament in Indiana. For the first time in MSUM history, both the men’s and women’s basketball teams finished with 20 plus wins. The women’s team was eliminated from tournament play with a loss to Augustana College, SD in the conference tournament play. I am very proud of both teams and their great seasons. On March 8, I am scheduled for my first visit to the VA Hospital in Fargo. Next week’s column will include a review of the service I received.