

On 13 June, the Moorhead American Legion held elections and we have a new commander – Tim Haugen. We thank DeLyle Ishaug for his three years as commander and for all the work he has done for our Post. At the meeting, Tim outlined some changes he would like to make with the goal of increasing membership, promoting our Post and moving some processes into the technology age. In this process, change may be viewed by some as a ‘four-letter word’. Tim is a friend and I wish him well and ask all Post members to give him strong support.

Monday 20 June from 5:30 – 7:30 pm, our Legion Post will be holding a fund raiser burger night for the Cowboy Up and Roger Maris Cancer Center. All of the proceeds will go to the Roger Maris Cancer Center. Everyone is welcome and we will be serving burgers, cheeseburgers, brats and hot dogs with beans, macaroni salad and chips.

Here is one more example of the good work of our Post taken from the Fargo VA Health Care System website “Mr. John Young was on hospice care at the Fargo VA and as one of his last wishes, he wanted to have a meal with his family at one of his favorite places - the American Legion in Moorhead, MN. John was a fixture at the Legion for years, well respected, and liked by all. The Fargo VA’s Wishes on Wings program, a program dedicated to helping Veterans fulfill their last wishes with the limited time they have left, made the arrangements to help make John’s wish a reality. John was taken to the American Legion in Moorhead on June 7. In attendance were his 5 grandchildren, 2 siblings, 2 daughters, a brother in law, and 2 close friends. The meal was provided by the American Legion ... the same thing John ordered whenever he was there: soup, sandwich and a beer. John died at the Fargo VA later that day. He was 80 years old. We thank John for his service to the country and his dedication to public service and his community.”

Our Veterans work and serve in all aspects of our lives. This year’s Midwestern Invitational Exhibition of Fine Art will feature at least two Vietnam Veterans Jim Fletcher and George Pfeifer.

Since 18 June 1960, the Rourke Art Museum has been welcoming the best of the region’s visual artists to showcase their work in a remarkable invitational exhibition. To celebrate the 57th year of championing great art from the Midwest and beyond, the Rourke presents an exhibition on the theme ‘Home.’ With over 90 artists represented, we invite you to observe, reflect, and engage the array of expressions that “home” can embody and imply. The preview is 18 June at 7:30 pm and the exhibition runs through 4 September. The Museum was founded by James O’Rourke, who served in the US Army from 1957 – 1960. The exhibition’s theme Home brings back memories of home while I was serving. Museum hours are 1-5 Friday, Saturday and Sunday, dress is casual.

For the next couple weeks, I will be writing about the 4th of July and its history.