

Veterans Day Ceremony, November 11, 2020
11a.m., Wednesday, Montana Veterans Memorial, Great Falls, Mont.
*(As per public health guidance, the ceremony is limited to participants **only** and will be broadcast live to a **'virtual audience'** thru Facebook Live and will be posted on the memorial's website. The media is welcome to cover the event.)*

- Welcome**.....President, Montana Veterans Memorial Assoc. (MVMA)
- Master of Ceremonies**.....Retired Army Command Sgt. Maj. Starnell Darko
- Presentation of the Colors**.....Malmstrom Air Force Base Honor Guard
- Invocation**.....Air Force Chaplain (Lt. Col) Heather Bodwell
- National Anthem**.....Retired Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Dana Darko
- Pledge of Allegiance**.....Air Force Junior ROTC Cadets, Great Falls High School
- Keynote Speaker**.....341st Missile Wing Commander Col. Anita A. Feugate Opperman
- 'Bagpipe Salute'**.....Jesse Callender, Great Falls Pipe Band
- 100th Anniversary of DAV Recognition**DAV 2nd Vice Commander Joe Parsetich
- Benediction**.....Air Force Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Heather Bodwell
- Taps**.....Marine Corps League Detachment 688

The Montana Veterans Memorial Association has established and maintains this memorial to honor and recognize all veterans. A veteran is defined as any man or woman of any age who has served in any branch of the military of the United States of America in any capacity, and to honor men and women living and deceased equally. Memorial tiles are available for \$250. Contact the MVMA with your request at:

Montana Veterans Memorial Association, PO Box 3524, Great Falls, Montana 59403-3524 (406)454-9070, www.montanaveteransmemorial.org, Non-Profit Tax ID #0530543



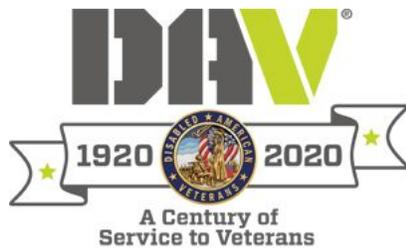
Col. Anita A. Feugate Opperman became 341st Missile Wing's commander at Malmstrom Air Force Base in August 2020 and leads the wing's 4,000 service members to defend the USA with combat-ready warriors and nuclear forces. Her responsibility includes base support, maintenance, security and the operation of the Minuteman III ICBMs, 15 missile alert posts and 150 launch sites throughout central Montana. She was commissioned through the Air Force ROTC in 1994 at Indiana University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in political science and then onto operations with the Minuteman III ICBM, Space and Satellite Systems, missile combat crew assignments, including command, operations, training and instruction and from 2016 to 2018 she was the 341st Operations Group at Malmstrom.

Before returning to Malmstrom, Col. Feugate Opperman served as the director in the Office of Security Cooperation at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq. She held numerous joint and senior staff assignments at United States Air Force Space Command and at the Pentagon involving Strategic Deterrence, Congressional Relations and United States Air Force Force Development. Col. Feugate Opperman earned a Master's degree in management science in 1998 from Lesley College, Mass., and in 2006 graduated from the Air Command and Staff College and the Air War College at Maxwell AFB, Ala. in 2014. Her many awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters.

JOE PARSETICH joined the Air Force in 1968 and served in combat at Tan Son Nhut Air Force Base, Vietnam with the 377th Security Police Squadron from 1968-69. He was honorably discharged in 1972. Parsetich was elected National 2nd Junior Vice Commander of more than 1 million members of the DAV (Disabled American Veterans). He is very active locally as a mentor coordinator and mentor for the Veterans Treatment Court, he hosts the "On Point – Veterans Talk Radio" show on local KGPR public radio 89.9 FM, and serves on boards to help End Veteran Homelessness in Great Falls. He also serves as a member of the Cascade County Suicide Prevention Team and the Veterans Advisory Council for the Great Falls Vet Center. Parsetich was also appointed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to serve on the Veterans Rural Health Advisory Committee.

Parsetich has received many local honors from service groups including the Daughters of the American Revolution in 2017 and was the first 'non-Marine' to earn the "Distinguished Citizens Award" from the Marine Corps League in 2018. He has also served as a DAV volunteer van driver and on the Military Funeral Honor Guard. Parsetich and his wife, Meg live in Great Falls and have seven children, three foster children, 32 grand-children and six great-grand children.

A Legacy of Service, Hope for the Future www.dav.org



DAV is a nonprofit charity that provides a lifetime of support for veterans of all generations and their families, helping more than 1 million veterans in positive, life-changing ways each year. Annually, the organization provides more than 600,000 rides to veterans attending medical appointments and assists veterans with well over 200,000 benefit claims. In 2019, DAV helped veterans receive more than \$21 billion in earned benefits. DAV's services are offered at no cost to all generations of veterans, their families and survivors.

DAV is also a leader in connecting veterans with meaningful employment, hosting job fairs and providing resources to ensure they have the opportunity to participate in the American Dream their sacrifices have made possible.

With nearly 1,300 chapters and more than 1 million members across the country, DAV empowers our nation's heroes and their families by helping to provide the resources they need and ensuring our nation keeps the promises made to them.

The hard facts of history brought about DAV's creation. But compassion and service have been the tools that made our organization what it is today.

A great deal has changed since DAV was founded, but this much has remained the same: those who return from war must have men and women waiting for them at home who will stand with them as they work to take back their lives. Through DAV, veterans and civilians alike can fully express their appreciation and concern for those who have risked so much for our country.

The historical account of DAV starts after World War I to the men and women of today returning from Iraq, Afghanistan and beyond. It tells the story of the veterans, families and civilians who made the commitment that none of America's heroes should ever go it alone.