

BLM
Montana/Dakotas
**Honoring Our Veterans and
their families**

Veterans Day
November 11, 2013

Veterans Day is an official United States holiday which honors people who have served in armed service also known as veterans. It is a federal holiday that is observed on November 11. It coincides with other holidays such as Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, which are celebrated in other parts of the world and also mark the anniversary of the end of World War I. (Major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the Armistice with Germany went into effect.)

Veterans Day is not to be confused with Memorial Day; Veterans Day celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans, while Memorial Day is a day of remembering the men and women who *died* while serving.



**VETERANS
DAY**

VALOR ★ COURAGE ★ SACRIFICE

2013

NOVEMBER 11, 2013
HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

www.va.gov

Seals of the Department of the Army, Department of the Navy, Department of the Air Force, Department of the Marine Corps, and the United States Coast Guard are visible at the top of the poster.

BLM Montana/Dakotas Veterans

Almost everyone in someway is personally connected to a veteran, whether a family member, friend or a veteran themselves.

In honor of their Service to the Nation and to the BLM we would like to take this opportunity to highlight our veterans.

Montana/Dakotas State Office

Employee: Brad Purdy (Photo Circa 1992)
Branches of Service: United States Marine Corps
Years served: 4
Specialties: Audio Visual Documentation Specialist-1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade/24th Air Logistics Squadron/3rd Marine Division
Locations: Marine Corps Air Station, Kaneohe Bay, HI



Eastern Montana/Dakotas District

Employee: Mark Jacobsen
Branches of Service: United States Coast Guard, Army
Years served: 24
Specialties: Field Artillery, Ordnance, Public Affairs
Operations: Desert Storm (Germany), Fuerte Apoyo (El Salvador), Joint Guardian (Kosovo), Iraqi Freedom (Iraq)



Eastern Montana/Dakotas District

Employee:
Branches of Service:
Years served:
Specialties:
Locations:

Robert Hoffman

United States Air Force, Hawaii ANG, Montana ANG
Active Duty - 10 years, Hawaii ANG - 5 years, MT ANG - Currently serving
F-15 Aircraft Avionics Technician, Combat Communications Technician
Germany, Netherlands, Okinawa, AZ, HI, WA.



Central Montana District

Veteran: Colonel Shane Hershman
Branch of Service: United States Air Force, 28 years
Specialty: Pilot (C-17, C-141, C-5, KC-10, T-37, T-38, UH-1)

Location: McChord, Travis, Charleston, Ft Dix, Ft Rucker, Carlisle Barracks, Stavanger Norway
Operations: Panama, Desert Storm/Shield, Somalia, Deep Freeze, Iraqi/Enduring Freedom. Ops in Africa, South America, Kosovo, Bosnia, Deny Flight, Northern/Southern Watch, recovered remains from Doolittle Raiders in Russia. If the world dialed 911, I was there. Led largest combat night time airdrop since DDay
Awards: Mackay Trophy, Distinguished Flying Cross and 29 other medals and awards.



Central Montana District

Employee:

Branch of Service:

Years served:

Specialty:

Location:

Mark Schaefer

United States Air Force

24

Security Forces/Air Base Defense/Anti-Terrorism

Numerous States, Persian Gulf (Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Bahrain, Qatar) Turkey, Italy, Germany, England, Central America, Korea (Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Southern Watch, Restore Hope, Provide Promise, Allied Force).



Central Montana District

Veteran: Joe Nardinger
Branch of Service: United States Navy
Years served: 4
Specialty: MS 3
Location: USS Nimitz, Persian Gulf (Operations Desert Storm, Southern Watch). Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal with Bronze Star, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with Bronze Star



Central Montana District

Employee: Steve Swanson
Branch of Service: United States Army
Years served: 4
Specialty: Motor Transport Operator, 5th Infantry Division
Location: Louisiana, Germany, Hawaii, Korea



Central Montana District

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Veteran: | Joe Lyon |
| Branch of Service: | United States Army |
| Years served: | 5 |
| Specialty: | Airborne Infantryman |
| Location: | Iraq, Afghanistan, Georgia, Alaska (Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom) |



Hi-Line District

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Veteran: | Dominic A. Judice (deceased) |
| Employee: | Donato J. Judice |
| Branch of Service: | United States Army |
| Years served: | 3 |
| Dates: | 12/12/1942 to 12/8/1945 |
| Specialty: | Lineman: laid, maintained and repaired communication lines |
| Location: | Rome Arno, Southern France, Rhineland (Western Germany) |
| Awards: | Good Conduct Medal, 3 Bronze Stars , Victory Medal |



Hi-Line District

- My son, Dylan Porter, enlisted in the Army at age 17. He served with the 7th Cavalry for seven years completing two tours in the Middle East.
- He took part in Operation Iraqi Freedom, 2008/2009. During that campaign, he was stationed in the Southwest corridor of Baghdad with Bravo troop 7-10. He served as a Team Leader responsible for training his men and leading them into battle operations. While in Iraq, Bravo troop 7-10 performed over 500 missions. These missions included: raids and seizures, clearing buildings and/or neighborhoods in search of hostiles, IEDs, EFPs, and the materials to make these weapons; they helped establish a stronghold for the Iraqi police; helped local economies; improved American and Iraqi relationships; and captured High Value Target #2. Dylan is proud to point out that none of his men were killed or injured.



HiLine District

- Dylan also took part in Operation Enduring Freedom. He was stationed in Spinbol Dak, Afghanistan, which is located near the Pakistani border. Again, he served as a Team Leader. They were on a personal security detail which involved escorting higher ranking officers and/or dignitaries from one location to another. They also provided security along the Pakistani border. During this tour, he left behind his newly-wed wife, Shelly.
- Dylan has since separated from the Army and is using his well earned GI bill to study Petroleum Engineering at Montana Tech.
- Needless to say, I am very proud of my son's courage, dedication, and selfless service to his country. Our nation is blessed to have so many young men and women of this caliber as members of it's military.



Submitted by Lisa-Marrie Whiteman
Petroleum Engineer Technician
Great Falls Oil and Gas Field Office

Western Montana District

Employee: David Abrams
Branch of Service: United States Army
Years served: 20
Specialty: Public Affairs
Location: Fort Bliss, TX, Fort Stewart, GA,
Fort McPherson, GA, Forts
Richardson & Wainwright, AK,
The Pentagon, and Operation
Iraqi Freedom, Iraq

