



Grand Traverse County Commission on Aging Senior Center Network

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Subject: Free Veterans Appreciation Luncheon

The Senior Center Network and Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home & Cremation Services, will honor all veterans at the annual Veterans Luncheon on Tuesday, November 10 at 11:30 am at the Grand Traverse County Civic Center. This event is to let all veterans know that their service to our country does not go unnoticed or unappreciated – and to show we are excessively proud of them.

The VFW Honor Guard will be presenting the colors, followed by the National Anthem by the chorus from Traverse City Central High School. After a delicious lunch, a member of Team Rubicon will be speaking about their mission. Team Rubicon unites the skills and experiences of military veterans with first responders to rapidly deploy emergency response teams. Team Rubicon seeks to provide our veterans with three things they lose after leaving the military: a purpose, gained through disaster relief; community, built by serving with others; and self-worth, from recognizing the impact one individual can make. Coupled with leadership development and other opportunities, TR also aims to "bridge the gap" between military and civilian life. Their primary mission is to provide disaster relief between the moment a disaster happens and the point at which conventional aid organizations respond and once conventional aid organizations arrive – they move on.

“This annual event is always special,” says Ericca Hovie, Program Coordinator, “It’s a wonderful way to acknowledge the veterans in our lives.”

Veterans attending the event will receive a special challenge coin commemorating their service. Tickets for the Veterans lunch are free for Veterans and \$13.25 for guests. Everyone must pick up their ticket in advance by November 4 at the Senior Center Network at 801 E. Front Street, Traverse City.