



**Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs**  
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## ***Press Release***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Time Capsule Artifacts from 1934 Revealed at Mpls. Vets Home**

**SAINT PAUL, Minn.** – A Masonic medal, pictures, a VFW magazine, a map and newspaper clippings were discovered in a cornerstone of building 9 at the Minneapolis Veterans Home. The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs, together with members of the Veterans community, opened the time capsule from 1934 during a ceremony to remove the cornerstone of the historic building.

The capsule also contained several historical books, including the “History of Hiawatha,” “Minnesota in the Civil War” and “Minnesota in the Indian War.” For a complete list of the time capsule content and pictures visit [www.mdva.state.mn.us/VeteransHomes/Minneapolis/](http://www.mdva.state.mn.us/VeteransHomes/Minneapolis/).

Minneapolis Veterans Home Resident Armin Fiemeyer, who previously lived in building 9, assisted Commissioner Clark Dyrud, Deputy Commissioner Gilbert Acevedo, and Minneapolis Veterans Home Administrator Judy Kurki-Coleman with the ceremonial opening of the capsule.

“I was honored to be part of this event. The time capsule included items that date back to the founding of our Veterans Homes, and it was awe-inspiring to view these artifacts that were deeply significant to the Minnesota Veterans community 75 years ago,” said MDVA Commissioner Clark Dyrud.

The original cornerstone is dated at the start of construction, Nov. 11, 1934. Completed in 1937, building 9 was constructed almost entirely by hand over a span of nearly three years. Today’s ceremony also marked the demolition of the existing structure and subsequent construction of a new 100 bed skilled nursing care facility on the site. Residents were moved from the current building 9 in November 2007 after structural problems were discovered.

Construction of the new facility is scheduled to be complete by fall of 2011. The project is funded in part, 65 percent, by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, which awarded the state of Minnesota \$18.7 million for demolition and construction of a replacement facility. Legislation was passed and signed by Governor Pawlenty approving a 35 percent state match of federal dollars. The state match is \$10.1 million of the total project.

In an effort to preserve some of the historical elements from building 9, a number of original features and decor will be incorporated and displayed in the new building, including the cornerstone.

#### **The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA)**

The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs is a cabinet level state agency dedicated to serving Minnesota veterans and their families. In addition to overseeing the five State Veterans Homes, MDVA helps eligible veterans and families secure state and federal benefits and provides programs and services relating to higher education, benefits, burial, claims, outreach and veterans preference. For more information visit [www.mdva.state.mn.us](http://www.mdva.state.mn.us) or call 1-(888)-LinkVet.

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