



**VA Medical Center
510 Butler Avenue
Martinsburg, WV 25405**

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 15, 2009

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Martinsburg VA Medical Center Honors Area POWs and Families

On Friday, September 18, at 1 p.m. in Room 1B114, Martinsburg VA Medical Center will host a special program in recognition of National POW/MIA Recognition Day. This program will honor area POW/MIAs and their families. The guest speaker will be Mr. Ed Kemp, local author and historian, who has written extensively to preserve the stories of the American POW and their experiences.

Also included in the program will be a Missing Man Table ceremony to represent the empty places of Americans still missing from each of the five services – Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard - and our civilian force. This will be followed by the Laying of The Wreaths for WWII, Korea and Vietnam War.

America's former prisoners of war are among our nation's most revered heroes who served with dignity and honor. There are nearly 200 known former prisoners of war in the 4-state area serviced by the Medical Center. Families of deceased POWs and those still missing in action were invited to attend.

Journalists, please advise if you plan to attend and security escort and parking will be arranged.

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