

OAKLAND COUNTY

Vietnam documentary to premiere at Fox Theatre

The Keith Famie Visionalist Entertainment Productions documentary, "Our Vietnam Generation," will premiere at 7 p.m. Jan. 28 at the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit.

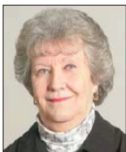
This new film, directed and produced by nine-time Emmy Award-winner Keith Famie, honors the Vietnam veterans for their service to the United States.

The premiere event will feature U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam Michael Michalak, U.S. Army Capt. Ivan Castro, the Michigan National Guard 126 Army 26-piece band led by singer/songwriter Stewart Franche in a special sound off to each branch of the current military and music paying homage to the era. Paul W. Smith of WJR-AM (760) will emcee, and the Michigan Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall will be on display in the lobby of the Fox Theatre throughout the evening.

The debut will open with the national anthem sung by 50 children from the Cornerstone Concert Choir and "Rock Me," a special chant performed by 50 Chandler Park Academy ROTC high school students.

There will be a special production of "One Soldier's Story," a 20-minute documentary about U.S. Army Sgt. Michael K. Ingram Jr. of Monroe who was killed in the line of duty in Afghanistan on April 17. The film portrays Ingram's life, his decision to join the Army, the ultimate sacrifice he made for his country and the honors he received when his remains were returned home.

VETERANS AFFAIRS



SHARON LONGMAN

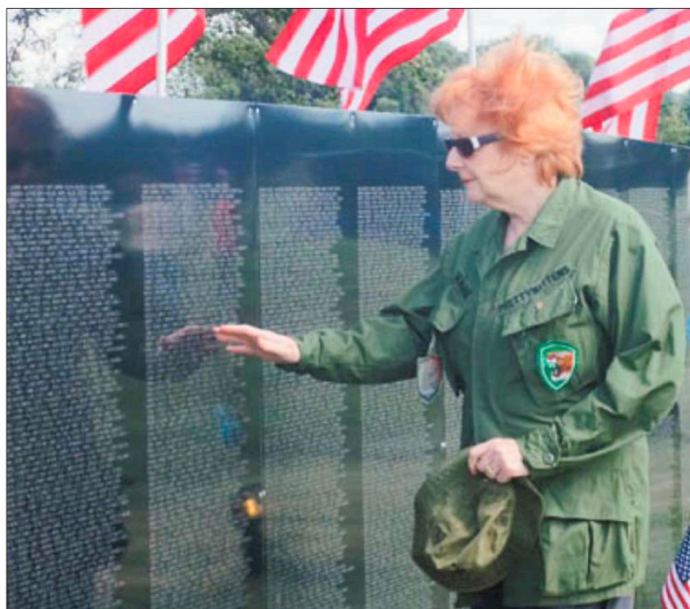


Photo courtesy of Visionalist Entertainment Productions

Diane Cameron of Rochester stands in front of the Vietnam Traveling Wall. She appears in Keith Famie's documentary film "Our Vietnam Generation," which premieres Jan. 28 at the Fox Theatre in Detroit. She also was the drummer and leader of an all-girl rock 'n roll band called the Pretty Kittens that toured Southeast Asia, including 150 shows in Vietnam where they would perform in clubs for noncommissioned officers and enlisted men.

Information will be included about "Mikie's Minutes," an organization paying tribute to Ingram that provides calling cards to soldiers abroad to call home.

The evening will close with a candlelight vigil in honor of the 2,654 Michigan men and women who died for their country in Vietnam, during which the 100 members of the Perfecting Church Choir led by the Rev. Marvin Wynans will sing "Amazing Grace."

Tickets for the film documentary are available beginning at \$25 and \$35 at Ticketmaster, at the Fox Box Office or by calling Visionalist Entertainment

Productions at 248-869-0096. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The Fox premiere will benefit the Veterans Memorial Park of Detroit and Red Cross of Michigan.

"Our Vietnam Generation" will air on Detroit Public Television at 9 p.m. Feb. 21, and then premiere at Fort Bragg in North Carolina and at a special event in Naples, Fla., in the spring.

Bob Gillette, founder of American House Senior Living Communities, is a co-executive producer of the film and the title presenting sponsor.

For more information and updates, visit www.ourvietnam.com.

Quilters meet

The Desert Angels Miracle Quilts group will meet from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday at the Oxford Public Library at 530 Pontiac St.

Group Director Carole Carroll says the meeting room has lots of space and the lighting is good. There will be no eating or drinking in the room.

Volunteers may drop in and do not have to stay all day. They can bring their sewing supplies and machine, if they choose to. The group will continue to have a monthly meeting the second Saturday of each month at Independence Village in Oxford.

The nonprofit organization will provide a donation form for taxes for any donations of a completed quilt, a quilt top, fabric, batting or gift cards. The group continues to grow and expand and now has volunteers in the Tri-County area, Florida, Arizona and Ohio.

For more information, call Carroll at 248-321-8669 or e-mail her at www.miraclequilts@att.net.

Sewing for veterans

A Sew Much Comfort sewing event will be 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Jan. 28 at Haberman Fabrics, 905 S. Main St., Royal Oak.

Sew Much Comfort is a volunteer organization that makes adaptive clothing customized to accommodate medical devices and situations to fit service personnel with injuries.

Sewing volunteers are asked to contact Pat Quintero to register for the event and to use a Janome sewing machine. They may bring their own machine and are asked to bring a sewer's kit. All sewing volunteers are welcome.

For more information, call Pat Quintero at 248-546-0038 or e-mail patquin@comcast.net and visit www.sewmuchcomfort.org.

Cookie sale benefits troops

Daisy Scout Eva Leinbach, 5, from Lake Orion Troop 74458, will be selling Girl Scout cookies for donations to help fill Miracle Boxes for Desert Angels Inc. to send to our troops.

Her mother, Camille, says Eva's grandfather served in Vietnam, and her father served during Desert Storm. Eva has two family friends who will be leaving in February to serve as military policeman in Afghanistan. Eva says "it feels good to help" and she "hopes that the troops will be excited to eat cookies."

Eva will sell cookies through Monday for the Miracle Boxes.

For more information or to purchase a box to donate, call Camille Leinbach 248-760-2128 or e-mail camille@skincareforoursoul.com.

American Legion Riders

The American Legion Riders Chapter 14 from Troy collected \$1,420 to donate to the Marine Corps League Toys for Tots Program in Oakland County.

Toys for Tots representative Derek Foster was presented the check by American Legion Riders Director Steve Stevens and his group including Dale Frushour, Road Captain Ron Sheffield, Treasurer Alice Jackson, Assistant Director Randy Jackson, Ann Marie Stevens, Terri Forrester and Gary St. Jean.

The next meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at 1340 W. Maple Road, Troy. For more information, call 248-362-2077.

The Oakland Press is interested in all veterans events in Oakland County. Please send info in the body of an e-mail with subject line "Veterans Affairs" to Sharon Longman at sslstart@aol.com. Allow two weeks' notice for scheduled events and include a phone number for readers to call for more information.