



# COUNTY OF KENOSHA

# COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Jim Kreuser, County Executive

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## News Release

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## **World War II Veterans to be honored, original scale-model of National WWII Memorial to be unveiled, at special event**

**Kenosha** – Kenosha County Executive Jim Kreuser and Ret. Lt. Col. Derrell Greene, the Kenosha County Veterans Service Officer, in cooperation with Pillars of Honor Inc., a non-profit organization, are pleased to invite World War II Veterans, family, friends and the general public to a:

### **Day of Honor & Unveiling of the Original Scale-Model of the National World War II Memorial 2 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 9 UAW Local 72 Hall 3615 Washington Road Kenosha, WI 53144**

This special reception will feature the beautiful, original-scale model of the WWII Memorial in Washington D.C., designed by world renowned architect Frederick St. Florian. **Pillars of Honor Inc.**, ([www.pillarsofhoror.org](http://www.pillarsofhoror.org)) is a non-profit organization dedicated to honoring WWII veterans unable to travel to Washington D.C. to see their memorial in person. Pillars of Honor has the **Traveling WWII Memorial model** on loan for a limited time before it will have to be returned and placed in the Smithsonian Institution.

The event will also honor World War II veterans with a special certificate and preferred seating. WWII veterans are asked to **register their attendance** at their earliest convenience and **no later than Sept. 2**, by contacting Pillars of Honor Inc., 770 Lee Street, Suite 103, Des Plaines, IL

60016, or calling 847-954-0520. WWII Veterans may also call Kenosha CVSOS Ret. Lt. Col. Derrell Greene for assistance with registering attendance, 8600 Sheridan Road, Suite 700, Kenosha, WI 53143, or calling 262-605-6690.

WWII veterans, their families, friends and the public will also enjoy this Day of Honor, which will feature a patriotic program that will include a formal presentation of the colors, live patriotic musical performances, a historical presentation of the WWII Memorial, guest speakers, members of the military and representatives from multiple Veteran Service Organizations.

This event is made possible through the dedicated members, volunteers, donors, and sponsors of Pillars of Honor Inc. who have produced this patriotic program for WWII Veterans unable to visit the actual WWII Memorial in Washington D.C.

The country's WWII veterans now number fewer than 3 million. The average age of these veterans is 89.

“The Day of Honor is an opportunity to recognize our World War II veterans for their contributions to our nation and for them to experience the Traveling WWII Memorial model,” County Executive Kreuser said. “Veterans will be able to learn about the memorial and share their experiences and memories. It is also an opportunity for all of us to raise our awareness about this ‘Greatest Generation’ and this important time and world-changing event in our history.”

For more information about the event, call 262-605-6690.

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Guest Speaker for the Sept. 9, Pillars of Honor Event in Kenosha:

### **BIOGRAPHY OF COMMANDER LEE DONALDSON, U.S. NAVY**

CDR Donaldson is a 1993 graduate of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI earning a BS in Biology. Upon completion of the Surface Warfare Officer's School (SWOS) Division Officer Course in Newport, RI, he reported to USS SHENANDOAH (AD 44) in Norfolk, VA as the Electrical and Auxiliaries Officer in May 1994. During this tour, he completed a deployment to the Mediterranean. His next billet was Navigation Officer, which he held until SHENANDOAH's decommissioning in September 1996. He then reported to USS ANZIO (CG 68) in Norfolk, VA as the Strike Officer, where he completed a Baltic Sea Operations deployment and a deployment to the Mediterranean and Middle East. He transferred from ANZIO in June 1998.

CDR Donaldson then reported to Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet in Pearl Harbor, HI as flag lieutenant to the Deputy Director for C4I, Resources, Requirements and Assessments (N6N8). During his tour in Pearl Harbor, he completed a MA in Economics from the University of Oklahoma in July 2000.

Upon graduation from SWOS Department Head School, CDR Donaldson reported to USS HOPPER (DDG 70) in Pearl Harbor, HI in October of 2001 as the Weapons Officer and Combat Systems Officer. He completed two deployments to the Middle East in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM.

In November 2004, CDR Donaldson reported to Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command in Manama, Bahrain as the Tomahawk Strike Warfare Officer and Assistant Current Operations Officer. CDR Donaldson reported to USS CHOSIN (CG 65) as Executive Officer in March 2006 and deployed to the Western Pacific and Arabian Gulf.

In December of 2007, CDR Donaldson reported to the Navy Staff's Strategy and Policy Branch (N51) in the Pentagon.

CDR Donaldson reported to Naval Recruiting District Chicago in November 2009 and is currently serving as the Executive Officer. He is married and has four beautiful children.

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