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Honor Flight Soars onto the Big Screen

Thousands of U.S. Veterans from Ohio and across the country have visited the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. for free, thanks to the leadership of an organization called Honor Flight and its many supporters. Now the inspiring story of Honor Flight has been made into a documentary movie, and Stein Hospice is proud to sponsor three showings of the film. The Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky is hosting the event.

"Honor Flight" will be shown Thursday, April 18 in the Great Room in the Veterans Hall of the Ohio Veterans Home. Show times are 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for the general public. A 2 p.m. screening is for residents and staff at the Ohio Veterans Home.

Tickets are free, but reservations are needed for the general public showings. Call 800-625-5269 or visit www.steinhospice.org to reserve a seat. There is a four-ticket limit. Facilities, schools and other groups interested in attending should contact Julie Yeager, Veteran Services Director, 800-625-5269, jyeager@steinhospice.org.

Refreshments will be served, and representatives from local Honor Flight organizations will be on hand to explain the program and promote future flights.

Stein Hospice works with local Honor Flight organizations in Cleveland and Toledo to transport interested Veterans who are hospice patients. The 24-hour trip, which begins and ends at a regional airport, includes stops at other war memorials.

"The Veterans come home exhausted, but filled with heartwarming memories. Wherever they go that day, they are thanked by strangers and treated like heroes," said Ron Brooks, a Stein Hospice nurse who has accompanied several Stein patients on the trip.

Veterans fly for free, but guardians pay for the trip. For more information, visit www.honorflight.org.

The film chronicles the story of four World War II veterans in Wisconsin who have been touched by Honor Flight. The story of these four men is repeated across the country, as Veterans in their late 80s and 90s overcome obstacles to visit the memorial and volunteers do everything they can to make it happen.

"Many veterans say, with the exception of their wedding day and the birth of their children, the trip is the best day of their life," according to the filmmakers.