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August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on Display at Siouxland Freedom Park

Siouxland Freedom Park board members are proud to announce a temporary exhibit, *Tomb of the Unknown Soldier*, on display inside the Brigadier General Bud and Doris Day Interpretive Center for the weekend leading up to 9/11, also known as Patriot Day. This display is made possible by the American Legion 697, Sioux City Scottish Rite, and Sioux City York Rite.

The Tomb is a half-scale replica of the *Tomb of the Unknown Soldier* on display at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. The *Tomb of the Unknown Soldier* serves as a symbolic grave for those lost during war whose remains have not been identified or found. The Tomb is the grave of three unidentified service members and today represents the memory of all military members lost throughout history.

This moving display will be available at no cost to the public on the following dates/times:

Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> – noon – 8 pm  
Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> – noon – 6 pm  
Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> – 4 – 9 pm

The South Sioux City Legion and Dakota County VFW Auxiliary will host an opening ceremony for the exhibit on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at noon. A Color Guard, taps and a gun salute will be part of the ceremony.

On Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, a ceremony along with a flag retirement will also take place at dusk (around 8 pm) outside at Siouxland Freedom Park. Flags in need of retirement are given to regional legion halls and those flags are burned at Siouxland Freedom Park. Members of the public may also

drop off flags in need of retirement during Saturday and Sunday's exhibit hours inside the Brigadier General Bud and Doris Day Interpretive Center.

Burning flags is in accordance with the United States Flag Code, Title 4, Section 8k which states, "The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem of display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning."

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About Siouxland Freedom Park:

*Siouxland Freedom Park is a 100% volunteer, non-profit organization. The park is located at 1801 Veterans Drive in South Sioux City, NE and is home to a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C. The 250-foot granite wall is engraved with the names of more than 58,000 fallen service members from the Vietnam War. Park officials are currently working on exhibits inside the Interpretive Center, which is set to open Veterans Day 2023. The Korean War Memorial is also set to open fall 2023.*

***Our debt to veterans can never truly be repaid to veterans, but on these hallowed grounds, we will strive to honor their memory, extend our hearts to aid their healing and educate young and old on the historic significance of their service.***

Please follow Siouxland Freedom Park on social media for updates and more information:

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/SFPFacebook>

Twitter: <http://bit.ly/SiouxlandP>

Instagram: <http://bit.ly/FreedomParkIG>

Website: [www.siouxlandfreedompark.org](http://www.siouxlandfreedompark.org)