



# INCOMING NEWS



March 2016



Bill Green

VNVDV President  
2016

*We look forward to seeing all our friends at the VSO Corn Beef & Cabbage Dinner Fund Raiser on Saturday March 12, 2016. Tickets - Contact Dennis*

*Giacovelli at: Houseworks@pacbell.net or available from LEE at the VMB in Danville*

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

**Register now for the "WALK of HONOR" for our Veterans Tickets Available for VMB Operations St. Pat's Fund Raiser on SAT - Mar. 12th**

**Visit County VSO for "Veteran" Status Certification for DMV**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WOW, it's March already and time to wish everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day, a day we're ALL IRISH!

Speaking of St. Paddy's Day, please support the VMB Corned Beef & Cabbage Fund Raiser at the Veterans Memorial Building on March 12<sup>th</sup>. This is OUR building (all Veterans) and it's a GREAT building and each VSO member needs to support this event. It is a fun time with friends & enjoyed by all... & you know the food is **GREAT since Jerry Yahiro** & his kitchen Crew will be doing the cooking!!! You can get your tickets at the Veterans Memorial Building from Lee Halverson or Dennis Giacovelli or 925/323-9404.

*Speaking of Great Events*, the VNVDV Crab Feed in Feb. was outstanding & a success, thanks to the **MANY** who "volunteered" & **WORKED their tails off** & those who came to support it. It was a GREAT DAY & a GREAT TIME and we cannot THANK all those who worked so very, very, very hard on it enough!!! This event helps support many projects during the next year. Again, THANK YOU for your hard work and support & donations. See you at

*Honor Your Hero Walk in their Honor on Armed Forces Day*

*SAT - May 21, 2016*

*At the Phillips 66*

**WALK of HONOR!**

*Carry a Photo Sign of your Veteran or Family Member to Honor them. Sign up early online or use the Walk Application in this edition!*

## **March Speaker**

**DENNIS EVANOSKY will discuss California's involvement in the Civil War - learn the origin of "Darned Rebels & Pesky Copperheads" Please Join Us Thursday.**

Donations for Corn Beef & Cabbage fund raiser on March 12th are **critically needed**. Bring them to our dinner or the VMB or call Dennis Giacovelli 925/323-9404 *Please help make this event a success!*



# 2016 VNVDV President Bill Green



# COMING EVENTS

## VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Monthly Dinner Meeting 1st Thursday  
**Crow Canyon Country Club**  
1700 - Social / 1800 Dinner  
Featured Speakers Monthly  
All dinner meetings are **OPEN**... Join US  
*"Proudly we Served... & we Continue to Serve"*

VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley  
Veterans Memorial Building  
400 Hartz Avenue  
P. O. Box 2079 - Danville, CA 94526  
Website: [www.VNVDV.org](http://www.VNVDV.org)



### CALENDAR of EVENTS

**WALK of HONOR** for our Veterans  
Sponsored by **PHILLIPS 66**

**Armed Forces Day 3rd SAT in May**  
MAY 21 - Bridge Walk / BBQ & more in Crockett, CA  
Guest Speaker - Arlington Tomb of Unknown Sentinel Guard  
Crockett Community Center - 850 Pomona - Crockett / 8-1PM

**Memorial Day - MON. May 26 Oak Hill Park**  
**4th of JULY Parade Flag Distribution - Danville**

2016 East Bay Stand Down (EBSD) is now being planned for September 8-11, 2016 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton

The First Public Community Planning & Information Meeting will be on **Tuesday - 8 March 2016** at 6PM at the Hillcrest Congregational Church - in their Fellowship Hall - located at 404 Gregory Lane in Pleasant Hill, CA. All organizations & community members are welcome to attend. This is a great venue to present your Major Sponsorship donation or your Tent Sponsor donation. See the EBSD website at: [EastBayStandDown.org](http://EastBayStandDown.org) for more details.

We look forward to seeing all of you on **MAR. 12<sup>th</sup>** at the VMB Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner - supporting the VMB Operation Expenses for the Veterans Wing used by all nine VSOs. Tickets available at the VMB & donations are still needed for the silent & live auction.

(Continued from Page One)

We are excited... members from the VNVDV participated in our 2nd planning meeting with Phillips 66 as we organize the 8th annual **Walk of Honor for our Veterans** on Armed Forces Day (3rd Sat. of May) - Saturday - May 21st. A **"Registration Form"** is included in this edition of the INCOMING for you to complete & mail with your registration fee. Also, New is the **Phillips 66 Walk of Honor website** at:

**SFRWalkofHonor.com** The 2016 ONLINE registration form will be active on Mar. 15th. Sign-up early & avoid the late registration fee & be sure to name the individuals you are **walking in Honor of** on Armed Forces Day - Sat. May 21st in Crockett. You can make a sign with a photo to pay tribute to a family member - favorite Veteran - or Hero you are Walking for on Armed Forces Day. Registration forms will be available at the dinner. **The featured speaker will be a "Sentinel" - the Guard from the Tomb of the Unknown at Arlington...** you will not want to miss this event. **Mark your calendars & plan to join us!**

My sincere thanks goes to the **Blue Star Moms** & the **Marines Memorial Association** for their tribute to CA Gold Star Parents & for including the VNVDV.

Lots of announcements on worthwhile events in this edition of the INCOMING and I strongly encourage all of our members - supporters - fellow VSO members & community members to take advantage of these programs and participate. You will be glad you did!

**"PROUDLY WE SERVED"** and continue to serve our troops - veterans and our community. Join Us at our monthly dinner meeting on the 1st Thursday of the month at Crow Canyon Country Club.

My Thanks to all...

**Bill**

**WILLIAM "BILL" GREEN**  
President 2016  
PH: 925 / 683-3293  
E: [BillGreen@aol.com](mailto:BillGreen@aol.com)



Located in beautiful Oak Hill Park  
3005 Stone Valley Road in Danville  
P. O. Box 158 - Danville, CA 94526

**All Wars Memorial "Pavers" available**  
\$250. each  
Only 25 blank Pavers Remaining

ALL WARS MEMORIAL  
Visit: [www.AllWarsMemorial.org](http://www.AllWarsMemorial.org)

**All Newsletters  
are On-Line at:  
[www.VNVDV.org](http://www.VNVDV.org)**

# Joint VSOs St. Patrick "Corned Beef & Cabbage" Dinner



**Community Friends & Supporters...**

Help us celebrate again and enjoy our third annual  
*combined*

**Veterans Service Organization**

**CORNED BEEF AND**

**CABBAGE DINNER**

**Fundraiser**

**Tickets \$35.00**

**Saturday March 12, 2016 at 5:00 PM**

**Veterans Memorial Building**

**400 Hartz Ave Danville, CA**

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT-SILENT AUCTION-**

**LIVE AUCTION-RAFFLE-DOOR PRIZES**

All funds collected go directly to the Veterans Memorial Building  
Operating Committee to pay for the operating expenses of the  
Veterans Wing of the building

**PURCHASE TICKETS AT THE VMB IN DANVILLE**

Or Contact Dennis Giacobelli at [houseworks@pacbell.net](mailto:houseworks@pacbell.net) or

Lee Halverson at [lhazmateer@aol.com](mailto:lhazmateer@aol.com) for tickets



**Donations Urgently Needed for this Fund Raiser!**  
**Tickets Available - Contact Lee or Dennis at the VMB/SRV in Danville**

# Phillips 66 "Walk of Honor" for our Veterans REGISTRATION FORM



Rodeo Refinery and  
Carbon Plant



Sign up today for the May 21, 2016 event! Enjoy a memorable leisurely walk across the "Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge" and share a delicious BBQ lunch at the Crockett Community Center – 850 Pomona St., Crockett. Invite your family, friends and neighbors; and enjoy yourself while honoring the service of loved ones who honored us by their service to our country.

Check-in 8:30 am - 9:30 am at the Crockett Community Center/ Walk will begin at 10:00 am

[www.SFRWalkofHonor.com](http://www.SFRWalkofHonor.com)

[www.SFRefinery.com](http://www.SFRefinery.com)

Tear along dotted line, keep top portion for your records

## Registration Form

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address City, State, Zip

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Walking in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_  
Veteran: Name(s)

Early Registration \$25.00, after May 1, 2016 Registration is \$30 (T-shirt and BBQ included)

T-Shirt Size: S / M / L / XL / 2XL / 3XL (Please circle one)

Please make checks payable to: SFR Community Fund, (Tax ID#45-2483804). Mail registration form along with check to:

Phillips 66, Attn: Aimee Lohr, 1380 San Pablo Avenue, Rodeo, CA 94572

Register online at [www.SFRWalkofHonor.com](http://www.SFRWalkofHonor.com)

**Participation waiver must be filled out completely. Application deadline is May 14, 2016.**

### Participant Waiver

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby agree that I will indemnify and hold harmless Phillips 66, its subsidiaries and affiliates, successors, assigns, agents, representatives, directors, officers, and employees, from any and all liability or claims of injury of whatsoever nature which may be incurred by me as a result of my voluntary participation in the Walk of Honor for our Veterans event sponsored by Phillips 66 on Saturday, May 21, 2016.

I further represent and certify to Phillips 66, its officers, employees, agents and assigns that I am physically able to do the various things enumerated above without limitation, and that I have no disabilities which might prevent me from doing the same.

All banners, flags, or apparel worn or carried in the WALK are subject to the approval of the Walk of Honor Committee. Non-compliance with this policy will subject offenders to eviction from the WALK or banquet and forfeiture of their application fee.

I certify that either I am eighteen (18) years of age or older, or that my parent or court-appointed guardian has full knowledge of my participation in this event and has given me permission to participate, as evidenced by his/her signature below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARTICIPANT (If not age 18 or older, parent/guardian must co-sign below.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT/GUARDIAN (Undersigned has read the above and understands this waiver.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

For additional information, please contact Aimee Lohr at 510.245.5130 or Paul Adler at 510.245.4400

Thank you for your support!

**Your Participation in the Walk of Honor supports dozens of worthwhile programs for Veterans.**

Complete this Registration Form & Mail with your Registration Fee to: Aimee Lohr - Phillips 66 - 1380 San Pablo Ave. - Rodeo, CA 94572

# FEBRUARY Dinner MEETING Brings LARGE GROUP of Veterans & Supporters



**Thank You for Attending our Monthly Dinners & Featured Speakers!**



**September 8 - 11**

**Alameda County**

**Fair Grounds**

The 2016 East Bay Stand Down (EBS D) is scheduled for September 8 to 11, 2016 at the Alameda County Fair Grounds in Pleasanton.

The first public informational / coordination planning meeting will be held on TUESDAY - 08 MARCH 2016 AT 1800 Hrs. (6PM) at the HILLCREST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH in the Fellowship Hall located at 404 Gregory Lane, in Pleasant Hill, CA.

Monthly planning meetings are open to the public & will rotate to various locations until final meetings which usually take place at the Alameda Fairgrounds to aid volunteers in becoming familiar with the event location. NOTE: The EBS D monthly - **public planning meetings is an excellent venue to present your 2016 "Sponsorship Donations" Minimum donation for "Major Sponsorship" is \$5,000. & "Tent Sponsors" are a minimum of \$500. Meal Sponsors must be coordinated with Food Services & Board.**

**The EBS D "Executive Board" meets prior to the public meeting at 1700 (5PM) at the same location each month. We respectfully request all Coordinators - Volunteers & Sponsors wait until 6PM before entering - allowing the Executive Board to complete their business meeting prior to the scheduled start of the Public Planning Meetings.**

**At each Planning Meeting there will be a "Sign-In" sheet requesting: Your Name— Organization you are representing - Your Mobile Phone & your best E-Mail contact address** allowing the Executive Board & Coordinators to contact you personally, if necessary between meetings. **This listing will be kept "confidential" & not be shared with any except those mentioned above. As monthly meetings progress... we hope to have all your contact information prepared in advance - & request you check & confirm your information at each meeting. If it is your first planning meeting - you will be requested to provide the information above. If you have questions about the monthly planning meetings, locations or times - please check the East Bay Stand Down website at: [EastBayStandDown.org](http://EastBayStandDown.org) The official 2016 "Volunteer Sign-Up" will NOT be available until late June or early July & be completed on the EBS D website.**

Signing-in at the monthly planning meetings DOES NOT register you as a Volunteer at EBS D. This is a separate process. Check-in at planning meetings assists the Executive Board with the names & organizations interested in helping plan the 2016 event. Again - check the website on a regular basis for additional information. Thank you for your support of East Bay Stand Down 2016.

# THANK YOU to "Super Sunday Crab Feed" Guests & Volunteers!



# **SUPER SUNDAY** CRAB FEED **Fun...** for *Volunteers & Guests*

*Thank You to all our Blue Star Moms - Rotary INTERACT from D/V High School - dedicated Supporters & Guests & all Volunteers!*



Photos by Jon Robbins - Newsletter Editor



# VNVDV Member *March* Birthdays

Frank Wallace - Marine - 3/3

Dennis Peterson - Army - 3/8

John Baker - Navy - 3/17

Robert Paulson - Army - 3/27

## VNVDV Thanks our February Dinner Speaker ROGER BAZELEY USCG-Auxiliary

**SPECIAL NOTIFICATION:** The Viet Nam Veterans appreciate the efforts of LTC Larry Janes, USAF (Ret) with VA VISA 21 Assets & Dr. Ronald Chun, MD - VA Oakland - NCHCS in the development of the V.A.'s Alameda Point Project. This Project deserves Veteran's support which can be directed to Congressional Representative Eric Swalwell. Visit his [website](#) or contact his East Bay offices at 510-370-3322 or 925-460-5100. To stay connected, join me on Twitter [@RepSwalwell](#), [Facebook](#), and, if you have not done so already, please [sign-up](#) on my website to receive my e-newsletter



Diablo Valley Flag Brigade and the Patriot Jet Team Honor Sr. Airman Christopher Roybal



# 11th Annual California

## Gold Star Parents

### Honor and Remembrance

*The Blue Star Moms - East Bay Chapter 101 & the Marines Memorial Association Club & Hotel Honored & Remembered the Gold Star Families of California in a two-day Tribute in San Francisco at a Reception & Memorial Program to Honor our California Fallen Heroes. The VNVDV was honored to attend.*



The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley thank the Blue Star Moms Chapter 101 & Marines Memorial Association for their dedication & tireless efforts to honor & support our Gold Star Families each year.



The VNVDV & the VMB are Proud Supporters of Historical Education in our Community & encourage visiting the "Spirit of the Old West"



## SPIRIT OF THE OLD WEST LECTURE SERIES - SPRING 2016



### LECTURE EVENTS

Saturday, February 27, 2016 • 10:30am

**Frederick Klink**

"The U.S. Cavalry: Cutting Through the Mythology"

Saturday, March 19, 2016 • 10:30am & 1:30pm

**Jerry Fick**

"The Life of a Plains Indian Woman" (10:30am)  
"The Horse and the Plains Indian Culture" (1:30pm)

Sunday, March 20, 2016 • 1:30pm

**Jerry Fick**

"The Battle of Little Big Horn"

Sunday, April 17, 2016 • 10:30am

**Larry Ford**

"The Gunfight at the O.K. Corral"

Saturday, April 23, 2016 • 10:30pm

**Craig MacDonald**

"Gold Rush Spirit & Spunk"

All events are free with admission to the Museums on the Day of the Event.

Members of the Museum are always free.

For More information: [museum@BlackhawkMuseum.org](mailto:museum@BlackhawkMuseum.org)

3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville, California 94506 • 925.736.2280 • [BlackhawkMuseum.org](http://BlackhawkMuseum.org)

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# GUITARS FOR VETS



**Gianni's Event: Monday**

April 4th 5PM - 8PM

THEY ENDURE SNIPER ATTACKS,  
RPG'S AND ROADSIDE BOMBS.  
YET, THE THING THAT SAVES  
THEIR LIFE IS A GUITAR.



**GIANNI'S SUPPORTS NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THROUGH THEIR MONDAY NIGHT "TIPS FOR CHANGE" FUNDRAISERS. THE PROGRAM AT GIANNI'S ITALIAN BRISTO - ALL TIPS & 10% OF RECEIPTS GO DIRECTLY TO SUPPORT THE G4V PROGRAM. Two local G4V Chapters serve the Livermore & Martinez VA Medical Centers**

**Gianni's Event: Monday - April 4th 5PM - 8PM**

Reservations: Call 925/820 6969 or go to [opentable.com](http://opentable.com)

For more information on G4V visit [www.guitarsforvets.org](http://www.guitarsforvets.org)

*"Take a delicious trip to Italy without leaving the East Bay"*

2065 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon, CA 94583

925/820 6969 - [www.GiannisSanRamon.com](http://www.GiannisSanRamon.com)

### SPOTLIGHT ON A VOLUNTEER:

Deb has been a part of the Gathering since her first trip to Branson in 2005. She always makes beautiful graphics for the raffle table and also makes videos and slide shows which are shown at our reunions. She has been volunteering at the Memphis, TN VA Medical Center, and started a chapter of *Guitars for Vets* in the fall of 2015, as a guitar instructor.

There are over 50 chapters nationwide, each with the same goal: a guitar

instruction program aimed at providing Veterans struggling with physical injuries, PTSD and other emotional distress a unique supportive program. *Guitars For Vets* pursues its mission to share the healing power of music by providing free guitar instruction, a new acoustic guitar and a guitar accessory kit in a structured program run by volunteers, primarily through the Department of Veterans Affairs facilities and community-based medical centers.

### GUITARS FOR VETS - THEIR STORY:

In 2007, Patrick Nettesheim, a Milwaukee guitar instructor was introduced to Vietnam vet, Dan Van Buskirk. For years Dan wanted to learn to play guitar but felt the lasting effects of combat, in the form of PTSD, would make it difficult for him to succeed. After only a few months of working with Patrick, Dan discovered that the strong spirit that helped him throughout his time in Vietnam was all he needed to play music. Together, the men realized that guitar lessons were both opportunities for self-expression and positive human interaction. Dan and Patrick shared what they learned and *Guitars for Vets* was born.



From Deb: I would encourage any veteran struggling with PTSD to contact their local VA's Recreation Therapy department. Even if there isn't a *Guitars For Vets* chapter in your local area, a lot of good is possible with the right help. To see what our Memphis chapter is doing on Facebook, visit: *Guitars For Vets Memphis*



**The VNVDV & other local VSOs support Guitars for Vets.**

# SENTINELS OF FREEDOM

April 9, 2016

VNVDV

"Gold Supporters"



**Go to Sentinels  
Website & Order  
Your Gala Tickets**

2016 Annual  
Sentinels of Freedom Gala

Saturday, April the Ninth, 2016  
Blackhawk Automotive Museum,  
Danville, CA

Celebrate our Sentinels and our  
guests of honor,

General Joseph Votel,  
United States Army

and

Master Sergeant Leroy Petry,  
United States Army (Ret.),  
Medal of Honor recipient

[www.sentinelsoffreedom.org](http://www.sentinelsoffreedom.org)



General Joseph Votel, US Army  
Commander U.S. Special Operations  
Command

General Votel commanded the 75th Ranger Regiment and participated in Operation Enduring Freedom, in Afghanistan, and Operation Iraqi Freedom, in Iraq. General Votel served in the Pentagon as the Director of the Army and Joint Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Defeat Task Force.



Master Sergeant Leroy Petry, US Army (Ret.)

Petry became only the second living recipient of the Medal of Honor. On 26 May 2008, Petry, despite being wounded in both legs by gunfire, he continued to fight and give orders. When a grenade landed between him and two other soldiers, Petry grabbed it and attempted to throw it away from them when it exploded, saving the soldiers' lives but severing his right hand.

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## VENTURE RESEARCH

**Commercial Real Estate  
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Helen S. Reese

PH: 925 / 935 - 4294

E: [HReese@sbcglobal.net](mailto:HReese@sbcglobal.net)

Website: [www.VentureResearch.biz](http://www.VentureResearch.biz)

"Experience the Quality Difference... over 30 years  
serving California and beyond with Excellence"



### Celebrate Special Days With Us This Spring

The best kept secret in San Francisco dining is out! With its incredible city views and distinctive elegant ambiance, Leatherneck Steakhouse is quickly becoming the most in-demand upscale restaurant in Union Square. Reserve your table now for a romantic date or intimate group dinner in a sophisticated setting, complete with live piano music in the evening hours and a classic steakhouse menu.

MARINES' MEMORIAL CLUB & HOTEL  
UNION SQUARE - SAN FRANCISCO - WWW.MARINECLUB.COM

## Marines Memorial Club & Hotel

609 Sutter Street | San Francisco, CA 94102-1027 | United States  
Tel: (415) 673-6672 | FAX: (415) 441-3695

### San Francisco & Club Events | February - April



**Adam Grant:**  
Success and Originality

Thursday, February 25, 2016



5th Annual Salute to Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans

Thursday, March 3, 2016



Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus - LIVE!

Friday, April 22, 2016

## Veteran on CA Drivers' License has increased number of visits to all County Service Offices

A big veteran's thank you to Assembly member Jim Frazier for his leadership, tenacity and drive to help veterans. Because of his AB 935, there are at least 1458 veterans who have filed claims through their CVSO to receive federal benefits that they had earned through their military service who were unaware that they were qualified for federal benefits.

AB 935 passed in 2014 and was implemented on Veterans Day 2015. During the period November 12, 2015 through January 31, 2016 (only 53 DMV working days), the county veterans service offices have issued 14,184 eligibility forms for veterans to take to the Department of Motor Vehicles in order to receive a new drivers licenses with "veteran" on their driver's license

Of those 14,184 veteran visitors to their local county veterans service office, 1458 California veterans have filed claims with the federal Veterans Administration (VA) for federal benefits through their local county veterans service office.

The average veterans claim in California is \$18,000 annually. Using the average amount per claim, these 1458 new veterans' claims will bring in an additional \$26,244,000 in new federal dollars which will go directly to the veteran.

The number of veterans who will have the designation on their driver's license is estimated to be 30,000 per year. California is home to approximately 1.8 million veterans with more Iraq and Afghanistan veterans returning every month.

It is an easy three step process - see our FEB edition of the Incoming News or the County Veterans Service Office websites for the details on how to complete this process!

## "FACES NOT FORGOTTEN"

Janna Hoehn is slowly but surly moving towards the objective of matching a photo for each Service Member recorded on the Viet Nam Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. The most recent addition from Contra Costa County is JOHN PATRICK BURKE. Please refer to the FEBRUARY 2016 INCOMING NEWSLETTER for a list of Service Members from Contra Costa County that still require a photo. For information please contact: [neverforgotten2014@gmail.com](mailto:neverforgotten2014@gmail.com).



JOHN PATRICK BURKE

The VNVDV Proudly Supports & Thanks Danville/Sycamore Valley Rotary Members for their Support of all Veterans & our VMB & encourages Your Support of the Blackhawk Film Festival!



Rotary Club of Danville/Sycamore Valley  
Community Foundation

Presents the 26th Annual

# BLACKHAWK FOOD, WINE & FILM FESTIVAL

Date: Thursday, May 19th, 2016  
Time: 5:30 – 8:30 PM  
Location: The Blackhawk Museum  
3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville, California



Featuring the movie "007 in Casino Royale"

An Evening of Great Food, Wine & Entertainment!

Featuring the wines of Livermore Valley, local fine restaurants, and great musical entertainment, Silent and Live Auctions

2016 FUND-A-CAUSE to benefit Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation  
assist veterans with severe service-related injuries who have the aptitude,  
attitude, and drive to become independent and successful members of society.



Featuring Wineries from the Livermore Valley & the Finest Restaurants  
Throughout the San Ramon Valley

Proceeds go to the Rotary Club of Danville/Sycamore Valley Community Foundation a 501 (c) 3 charitable organization in support of local charitable and non-profit organizations and international service projects.

A Private Event for the Donors of the Rotary Club of Danville/Sycamore Valley Community Foundation with a minimum annual donation of \$50.00 or more.

Advance Invitations Only. Information at [Newell@ADarch.com](mailto:Newell@ADarch.com) or call 510.366.0716

To obtain an "Invitation" for donors to the Rotary Foundation  
Contact: Helen Reese - David Behring or Newell Arnerich



Department of  
Veterans Affairs



**VA** | Defining  
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in the 21st Century



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
VETERANS AFFAIRS

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Martinez Primary Care Clinic  
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Advice Nurse-Appointment Line  
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Pharmacy(Toll Free)Line  
866-600-8279  
Martinez, CA. 94553

Fax: (925) 372-2804

**FLU IS CAUSING SERIOUS ILLNESS & DEATH!**  
**Please visit one of our VA Clinics in Martinez**  
**- Oakland or other locations now to obtain your**  
**FLU shot - available to all Veterans! Don't Wait!**

**Check VA's MyHealthVet  
or the VA online for Flu Shot  
details or Call VA's  
"Advise Nurse" for answers!**

California's Veteran Benefit Book Available and the New

Federal Veteran Benefit Handbook - See CCC VSO for copy.

**Veterans... Are You Utilizing  
Your VA Health Care Benefits?**

The VNVDV encourages all Veterans to Enroll in VA  
Health Care coverage & utilizing trained  
professional advocates at our Contra Costa County VSO.  
The VA Health Care System is the Best - get help

**Visit our VNVDV Website  
for more Benefit details.**

**Watch CCTV "VETERAN VOICES" each Month**

Featuring Nathan Johnson - our Contra Costa County Veteran Service Officer & Guests

**Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office  
is a FREE service for all Veterans!**

Find out about all the Veteran Benefits  
You earned through your Military Service  
Visit the County VSO Office NOW...

for your **FREE "Benefit Check-Up"** - You Earned it!

Our Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office is "the place" to have all of your VA  
paperwork completed - by a qualified, experienced service rep. & this service is for all  
veterans **FREE** & available **M - F** in Martinez & **on Wednesdays in Danville 10-2**

**Veterans Benefits Contact:**

**Nathan D. Johnson**  
**Veterans Service Officer**  
**Contra Costa County**

10 Douglas Dr. Suite 100  
Martinez, CA 94553

**Tel: (925) 313-1481**

Fax: (925) 313-1490

[Nathan.johnson@vs.cccounty.us](mailto:Nathan.johnson@vs.cccounty.us)



**Veterans  
Services**

*Because You Chose To Proudly Serve*

Oakmont Memorial Park Cemetery in Lafayette is offering  
major financial assistance to all Veterans and Veteran Spous-  
es on both Traditional and Cremation Property.

Pre-Planning Lifts the Burdens Off Your Loved Ones

Contact: Thomas Corbett, Vet-  
eran Liaison Officer, LIC# 44629  
(925) 935-3311, (925) 216-4785  
[TCOAK8@gmail.com](mailto:TCOAK8@gmail.com)



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Hayward, CA 94541  
925.323.1093

[www.AskMikeMartin.com](http://www.AskMikeMartin.com) | [info@askmikemartin.com](mailto:info@askmikemartin.com)





**Yes - 2016 EBSD**  
**is beginning!**  
**September 7 thru 11**

**Mark Your Calendars... Plan on attending Monthly Planning Meetings & providing Active Support & Participation in 2016.**

VNVDV Members are proud supporters of the

Wheelchair  
Foundation

"Serving the World"



Outstanding  
community events  
supporting mobility,  
including WW II  
Freedom Flights  
for our Veterans  
& EBSD

The VietNam Veterans made distribution trips in 2006 & again in 2012 to VietNam to provide mobility for those lacking this basic freedom.

Thank you for your support of VNVDV

More information at: [www.wheelchairfoundation.org](http://www.wheelchairfoundation.org)

& if donating a wheelchair - mark "VNVDV" on your WCF note. Thanks!



Contra Costa County

County Administrator's Office • 651 Pine Street • Martinez, CA 94553 •  
[www.contracosta.ca.gov](http://www.contracosta.ca.gov)

February's Edition featured a Focus on Moral Injury

**Veterans' Voices - our VSO TV Show Airs Live Every 3rd Monday at 7PM.**

War can leave lasting scars on service men and women, both physical and psychological. But what happens when a soldier is asked to commit an act that goes against his or her own ethical beliefs? Or witnesses it? Or fails to take steps to prevent it? Those injuries are called moral injuries, the kind that inevitably lead to serious inner conflict because the experience is at odds with the person's core ethical and moral beliefs.

Monday night, the guests and crew of "Veterans' Voices" navigated the difficult subject of moral injury. Guests included veterans who have struggled with moral injury, as well as those who have expertise in treating it & helped vets put it into perspective. Each month you're invited to call in, text or live chat with the hosts & guests. Be a part of the conversation and you can help other vets who are struggling with the same issue. New topics every month - 3rd Monday!

Veterans' Voices was broadcast live/online on CCTV on Monday, February 15, from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. The show is a joint production of the Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office & Contra Costa Television (CCTV.) It is underwritten by a grant from the California Department of Veterans Affairs. "Veterans' Voices" airs the third Monday every month at 7:00 p.m. on CCTV, which can be found on Comcast Channel 27, Astound Channel 32 and AT&T U-Verse Channel 99 throughout Contra Costa County. If you missed this edition... Catch it and all other prior shows or watch the show live online by visiting: <http://www.contracostatv.org/veteransvoices>. All previous shows are on-demand 24/7 & if your organization can help support an episode of Veterans' Voices - contact Nathan Johnson our County VSO for more info.

# California Launches **Veteran** Driver License and ID Card

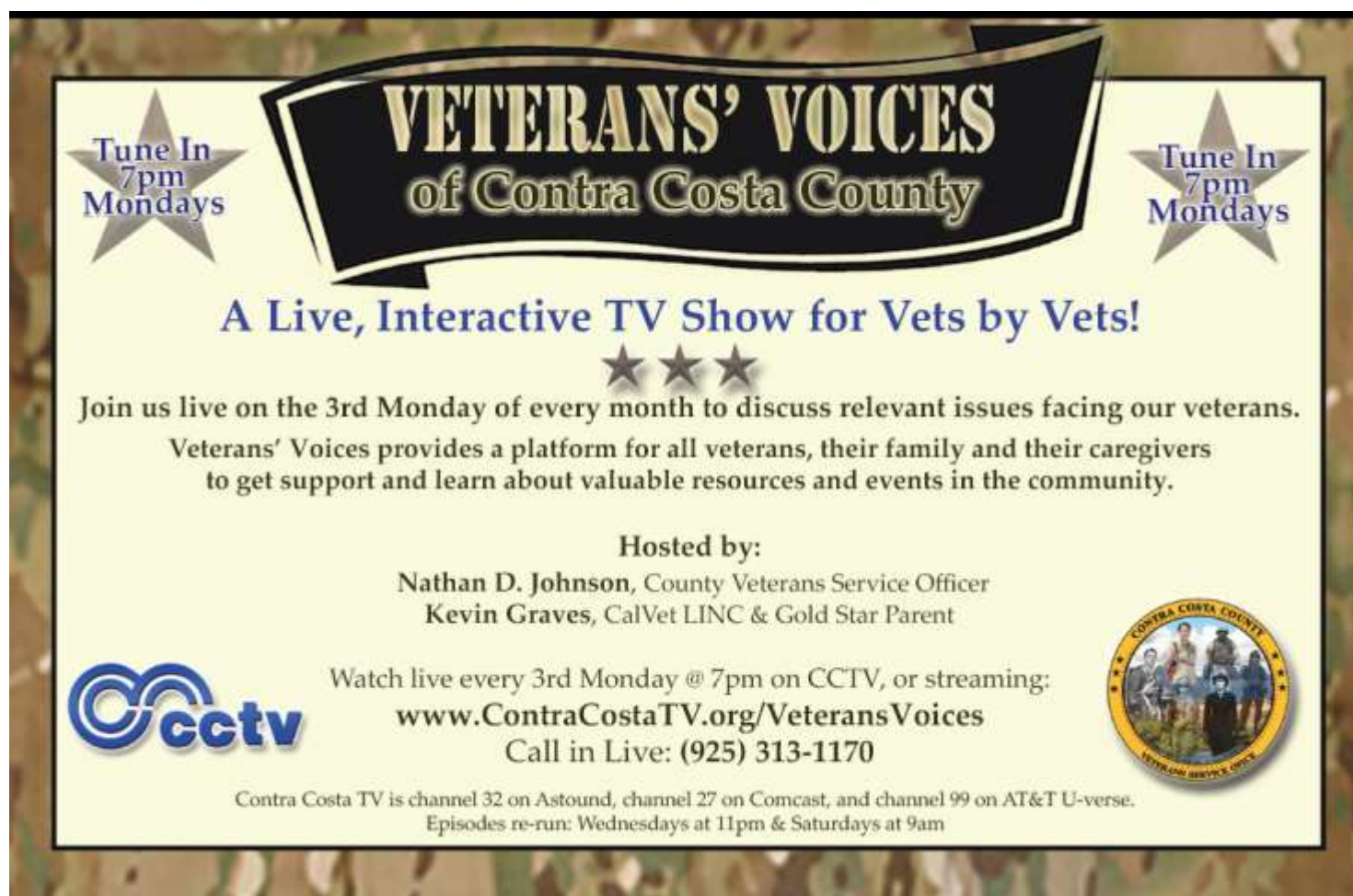
**DMV "Veteran" designation program began Veterans Day 2015**

The California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) has a new program honoring Veterans & recognizes the military service by allowing them to apply for a "Veteran" designation on California driver licenses & identification (ID) cards.

All Veterans are encouraged to contact our local Contra Costa County Veteran Service Office in Martinez or one of their outstations to start the process. In addition, Veterans can learn about "earned benefits" from their military service. A "Veteran" designation on a California Driver's License or ID Card will aid Veterans show their status as a certified Veteran and take advantage of businesses proving offers and/or discounts to Veterans.

## **To obtain your "Veteran" designation for a driver license or ID card is easy:**

- ◆ Get Records. Find your military discharge certificate (DD214). If you need assistance obtaining your military records, then contact our County Veteran Service Officer (CVSO) in Martinez.
- ◆ Visit any Contra Costa County Veteran Service Office. Take your DD214 and government identification to the CVSO to obtain your Veteran Status Verification Form. For faster CVSO service, you can contact our local CVSO by calling 925/ 323-1481 to find out locations of CVSO outstations.
- ◆ Visit Any DMV. Go online or call DMV for an appointment. Then bring your Veteran Status Verification Form to any DMV field office. Pay any application fees, in addition to a \$5.00 Veteran designation fee, and complete all application & testing requirements. To schedule an appointment at a DMV office, visit [www.dmv.ca.gov](http://www.dmv.ca.gov) or call 800-777-0133.



**Tune In 7pm Mondays**

# VETERANS' VOICES of Contra Costa County

**Tune In 7pm Mondays**



## A Live, Interactive TV Show for Vets by Vets!

★ ★ ★

Join us live on the 3rd Monday of every month to discuss relevant issues facing our veterans. Veterans' Voices provides a platform for all veterans, their family and their caregivers to get support and learn about valuable resources and events in the community.

**Hosted by:**  
Nathan D. Johnson, County Veterans Service Officer  
Kevin Graves, CalVet LINC & Gold Star Parent

Watch live every 3rd Monday @ 7pm on CCTV, or streaming:  
[www.ContraCostaTV.org/VeteransVoices](http://www.ContraCostaTV.org/VeteransVoices)  
Call in Live: (925) 313-1170



Contra Costa TV is channel 32 on Astound, channel 27 on Comcast, and channel 99 on AT&T U-verse.  
Episodes re-run: Wednesdays at 11pm & Saturdays at 9am

# The VNVDV Thanks the Blackhawk Chorus Members for their Support our our Crab Feed & the Sentinels of Freedom Foundation & Encourages Your Support of their Spring Concerts!



Save the dates! Blackhawk Chorus Best of the Beatles on May  
21& 22!



Mark your calendars now for [The Blackhawk Chorus](#) (BHC) spring concert series, Best of the Beatles on May 21 and 22!

Whether you were around for the British Invasion by the Fab Four, or you're one of the generations to discover the Beatles in the 50 years since they first touched down at JFK, the Blackhawk Chorus spring concert series is sure to delight audiences of all ages.

With rich choral renditions of timeless Beatles classics like *All You Need is Love*, *I Want to Hold Your Hand*, *Here Comes the Sun*, and *Yesterday*, this *Best of the Beatles* program will also explore their rich collection of early rock 'n' roll hits, such as *She Loves You* and *Can't Buy Me Love*, beautiful ballads like *Michelle*, as well as the iconic anthems of *Let It Be* and *Hey Jude*.

Tickets to our 2 performances are \$25 for adults and \$17 for kids 12 and under. The concerts are:

**Saturday, May 21 at 8 p.m. in Walnut Creek at the Leshner Center for the Arts**

**Sunday, May 22 at 4:30 p.m. in San Ramon, at St. Joan of Arc Church**

The May 22 concert benefits our [BHC Music Education Support Fund](#), in honor of long time member Debbie Frey. This fund supports vocal music programs in our area Middle & High Schools. To date, BHC has raised and donated almost \$60,000 to local schools through this 501C3 charity. For information on contributing to this fund, or applying for a choral education grant, please contact our [Chorus Manager](#).

The Blackhawk Chorus, beginning its 25<sup>th</sup> year under the direction of Diane Gilfether, has entertained thousands each year at concerts in the Bay Area, New York and several tours in Europe. With humble beginnings with only a dozen women in 1991 under Gilfether's experienced, operatic and classical tutelage, the chorus has grown and matured into the auditioned, 130+ members of today's chorus. Two smaller groups "born" from BHC, Blackhawk Jazz and Special Blend, will perform in the spring series.

Follow us on [Facebook](#) for the latest concert information plus ongoing Beatles trivia to help build excitement for the program; check in regularly at our [Blackhawk Chorus website](#), join our [tickets interest list](#) today, or let your favorite chorus member know to notify you as soon as tickets become available!

**Don't Miss the "BEATLES" Musical Concert by the Blackhawk Chorus in May.  
The VNVDV encourages you to Order your Tickets Early! Contact Helen Reese**



**Contra Costa County**  
**VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**  
 OPEN Every Wednesday  
 10AM - 2PM  
 Appointments: 925 / 313 - 1481

Visit the local County Veterans Service Organization - Let them work for you



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**"Save the Date"**

**Armed Forces Day 2016**  
**Phillips 66 & the Carbon Plant**  
**Walk of Honor for our Veterans**

Nathan Johnson  
 County VSO Director  
 at the Danville VMB



Phillips 66 - SFR  
 Rodeo & Carbon Plant  
 WALK of HONOR  
 Sponsors



**Armed Forces Day is the 3rd Saturday in May**

**Danville VMB's County Veterans Service Office**  
 is OPEN every Wednesday 10-2 to serve Veterans

Danville "VSO" Outstation - 400 Hartz Ave.  
 Open every Wednesday from 10 to 2 for veterans & your family. Schedule your appointment by calling 925/ 313-1481

**All Wars Memorial Paver UPDATE**

Have you Reserved YOUR All Wars Memorial PAVER at Oak Hill Park ?  
 These solid granite stones set in the walkway at Oak Hill Park are now limited...  
 Less than thirty blank pavers remain!  
 Honor a veteran, friend, neighbor, family member with a paver tribute it will last for **ever...** Only - \$250.00 Engraving is completed in the Spring & Fall. Engraving cannot be completed during the winter due to wet conditions. Visit the website for an order form. [www.AllWarsMemorial.org](http://www.AllWarsMemorial.org)

**Your VNVDV 2016 MEMBERSHIP... is DUE in Jan 2016 - See Slatts**

**VNVDV MEMBERSHIP... only \$25. year! Life only - \$200.**

Please CHECK-OUT & FOLLOW MONTHLY some of our SUPPORTERS & FRIENDS WEBSITES:

All "Operation Welcome Home" event updates can be found at: [www.DiabloValleyFlagBrigade.com](http://www.DiabloValleyFlagBrigade.com) for upcoming events.

All Wars Memorial and obtaining AWM Pavers at Oak Hill Park - visit: [www.AllWarsMemorial.org](http://www.AllWarsMemorial.org)

Marines Memorial Association / Hotel / Club in SF - Visit their website at: [www.MarineClub.com](http://www.MarineClub.com)

Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation - visit: [www.SentinelsofFreedom.org](http://www.SentinelsofFreedom.org)

Wheelchair Foundation & Wine for Wheels - Support our those in need of mobility - Visit: [www.WineforWheels.org](http://www.WineforWheels.org) & see VNVDV

Blue Star Moms #101 website: [www.bluestarmoms.org](http://www.bluestarmoms.org) & Blue Star Moms #20 website: [www.ccbluestarmoms.org](http://www.ccbluestarmoms.org)

Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office - Open in Danville every Wednesday - call 925 / 313-1481 for Appt.

VNVDV website to see more about the VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley at: [www.VNVDV.com](http://www.VNVDV.com)

See other website LINKS listed inside this edition of the INCOMING News & on our website.

**VISIT THE VMB's WEBSITE - for the VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING visit: [www.VMBSRV.org](http://www.VMBSRV.org)**

# VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Mar 2016



Use the new Medal of Honor Forever Postage Stamps



## Official Mailing Address:

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Post Office Box 2079

Danville, CA 94526 - 2079

E-Mail: [VNVDV1@gmail.com](mailto:VNVDV1@gmail.com)

Web: [www.VNVDV.com](http://www.VNVDV.com)

**Jonathan "JON" Robbins**  
Director of Information - 2015  
EDITOR/PUBLISHER "INCOMING" NEWS

**Veterans Memorial Building**  
400 Hartz Avenue  
Danville, CA 94526  
News E-Mail:  
[VNVDV.News@gmail.com](mailto:VNVDV.News@gmail.com)

*Keep your e-mail address current please!*

Visit the VNVDV Website  
for our latest news -  
online at:



# Electronic News

## To: VNVDV Members & VIPs

**The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley** - established in 1991 as a local, grass-roots, non-profit, & all-volunteer Veteran Service Organization (VSO) to promote & enhance the image of the Viet Nam Veteran through Community Service & Support of our fellow Veterans, and value & maintain a high level of dignity & respect for the young men & women currently serving our nation today in all branches of our military services. **Danville's Veteran's Memorial Building for the San Ramon Valley** is home for the VNVDV and designed for the next 100 years - to serve our veterans now - those returning & our future veterans - while serving as a lasting reminder & Memorial for all those who served before us in the name of Freedom... **leaving a "legacy"**

The VNVDV meets monthly on the **1st Thursday of every month** at the **Crow Canyon Country Club** in Danville.

VNVDV monthly Board of Directors Meetings are held on the **3rd Thursday** each month at the Veterans Memorial Building in the Library / Board Room at **1800 Hrs.** in Danville. To find out more about programs & projects the VNVDV supports & events sponsored... visit the website at: [www.VNVDV.com](http://www.VNVDV.com). All veterans & guests are welcome to attend our **"open"** membership meetings. This VNVDV is a casual - **"fun"** - social veterans group - always looking for new members who enjoy friendship & the special bond as military veterans. **We are Proud of our Military Service...** & of our continued contributions to fellow veterans & community. Our dinner meetings consist of a social dinner & guest speaker of interest to veterans & military. Please join us... All dinner meetings are **OPEN** - bring fellow VietNam veterans - active duty military - history buffs - friends - community supporters... *see what a difference volunteering makes in the lives of others. All veterans welcome!*

# OPEN - SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS with SPEAKER!

# VIET NAM VETERANS of Diablo Valley

## MONTHLY SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS with FEATURED GUEST SPEAKERS

### 1st THURSDAY of each Month - Every Month

### at Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville, CA

### Social Hour starts at 1700 - Buffet Dinner at 1815 - Join Us in 2016!

### Featuring "Chef's Choice Buffet Dinner" - \$25.

### Reservation **NOT** Required - Except December Appreciation Dinner

### Meeting are OPEN to ALL Veterans - Supporter & Guests

# the "INCOMING" - Official Newsletter of the VNVDV

## 2016 OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

### PRESIDENT -

William **"Bill"** Green

### VICE PRESIDENT -

Dennis Giacovelli

### TREASURER

Mike Slattengren

### SECRETARY

Clifford DeCuir

### MEMBERSHIP

Joe Callaway

### DIRECTOR - at - LARGE

John Schafgans

### DIRECTOR of EVENTS

Jerry Yahiro

### SPEAKERS BUREAU

Mike Martin

### INFORMATION

Jon Robbins

### PROCUREMENT

John **"T. J."** Trujillo

### PUBLIC RELATIONS

John **"jgr"** Reese

## PAST PRESIDENTS

Ray La Rochelle  
Michael Slattengren

Jerry Yahiro

John Estes

Del Loewe

Tim Hart

Mike Weber

Mike McDaniel

Rich Lambert

Ron Azarcon

Bill Picton

Norm Mahalich



Established in 1991



## **DONATION IDEAS**

Sample IDEA list of "donation items" which would greatly assist our VNVDV fundraising event:

- *Gift Certificates / Gift Cards (various values)*
- *Large Bottles or Unique – Special Wine or Liquors*
- *Merchandise and/or Gift Items for our "silent auction" & "Super Raffle"*
- *Cases of Wine – for "silent auction"*
- *Gift Baskets from Professional / Service Businesses & Companies*
- *Military Memorabilia – any Branch or Era (very popular)*
- *Restaurant Dinners or Brunch for Two - Four at area dining*
- *Golf Foursomes with Cart at any golf course*
- *Limo Services or Tours - or other Professional Services*
- *Wine Tasting & Special Tour of Winery s for a group*
- *Sports Memorabilia – Signed / Autographed*
- *Tickets to Music / Art / Play or Pro Sporting or other Special Events*
- *Lodging / Hotel Nights — Private Club or Resort Weekends with dinner*
- *Travel – Trips - Vacations - Airline Tickets or Mileage Coupon Tickets*
- *Professional Services from Service Industry businesses*
- *Balloon - Airplane or Historic Aircraft Rides*
- *Certificates / Passes for Group Events for 2 – 4 – 6 - 8 or more*
- *VIP or Unique "One-of-a-Kind" Opportunities "YOU CAN'T BUY"*
- *Personal Hosting of a DINNER or Special Event at your Home/Business*
- *MAJOR Event SPONSOR for the Crab Feed's Appetizers – Desserts - Wines – Beers – Beverages*
- *Use your imagination or this list to help merchants & donors to support our only fundraising event*
- *Personalize the VNVDV Donation Request Letter to a business or merchant you personally know. Request specific items/merchandise or gift cards & asked they be mailed to our official address - or pick up in person and hand-deliver the "Donation Receipt" included in this packet of materials..*