

# INCOMING NEWS







Business / Merchant Donations still needed for Silent Auction

VNVDV Super Sunday Crab Feed Fundraiser Sell-Out!





FEB 2020





Gary Estrella VNVDV President



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Great presentation by our Wheel Chair Vietnam Veteran travelers. Thank you, Dennis and Jon. Thanks to the rest of the members for foregoing our usual introductions for the abbreviated format to accommodate Dennis and Jon's presentation.

Our Super Sunday February 2<sup>nd</sup> Crab Feed appears to be another sold-out affair. Great work by all the Committee Members. Guests will enjoy a great all-you-can-eat Crab dinner along with all-day appetizers... and best yet - Amazing Desserts prepared / donated by our **BLUE STAR MOMS Thank You for** your support!

The auction and raffle items are sure to generate a lot of interest. Don't forget to bring your bidding enthusiasm.

Remember the King Pacific Fishing Trip for Two. Drawing to be held at the Crab Feed. If you haven't bought your ticket for this chance of lifetime, time is running out. Hopefully, there will still be tickets available prior to the drawing. This Trip is valued at more than \$7,000 USD. For tickets contact "Slatts" 925-837-6238. This is an amazing opportunity for someone... a fishing trip of a lifetime! You do not have to be present to win - so get your opMembers - Supporters & Friends:

We <u>urgently</u> need your personal support to obtain Donations for our "Super Sunday" - FEB. 2nd 2020

event! Final Countdown... Help us Obtain Needed Donations

All Donations go to Jim Murphy bring to meeting & for Tickets con-

tact Treasurer Mike "Slats" Slattengren @ 925 / 837-6238

Ideas & Donation Letter for Merchants provided in this edition of the Incoming

#### THE FEB **INCOMING**

Featured in this edition:

Crab Feed Donation Letter -Receipt & Idea List in this Edition

PLEASE NOTE: The Crab Feed **Donation Re**ceipt on Page 16 of this newsletter can be printed as a single page and given to the Do-



**Donation Ur**gently needed for Silent Auction & Super Raffle Please help & do your part! **THANKS** 

#### DON'T MISS FEBRUARY SPEAKER **MIKE MARTIN**

will discuss his service in Vietnam as a Naval Supply **Corps Officer at the Port** of Da Nang. This was the Port of ingress for all supply and ammo deliveries

from both Naval and Merchant Marine vessels.

**President's Message** (Continued on Page Two)

The next event to put on your calendar is the March 14th Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley Sixth Annual Combined Veterans Service Organization Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner Fundraiser. This is one of the two fundraisers the VMB has to raise funds to pay the operating expenses of our Building. It is incumbent upon all the VSO's to heartily support this fundraiser so we can continue to enjoy the benefits of our beautiful building. The Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner is also a great way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and welcome Spring five days later. Besides, any event that has a name as long as this one deserves our attention!!!

Little shorter President's message this month as we are going to get the Incoming out before the Crab Feed. See you there . . .



**Gary Estrella**President

PH: 925 / 962-9552 E: gamastar6@aol.com





2020 Crab Feed Merchant & Business

Donation Request Letter & Donor Receipts available at the JAN. Dinner Meeting & also <u>included</u> in this issue of the

INCOMING News. Pick-up or copy & keep request and receipt forms with you to use for soliciting your event merchant donations.

A donation idea list of items to request + 2020 Crab Feed poster for you to copy - use & keep in your car to ask local businesses you frequent in you neighborhood. *It's easy... just ask* 

Please remind everyone including supporters of the need to request & obtain donations for our Annual "Super Sunday" Crab Feed to be held on Sunday - FEB. 2nd!

# 2020 CRAB FEED is a FUNDRAISER

Crab Feed tickets for 2020 are SOLD OUT.

This is the largest VNVDV sponsored fundraiser each year & we need all members & supporters to dig in & participate to make it a success.

If every member gets just one contribution each, it will ensure a successful event.

Please do your part!

Donation Request I etter & receipt are in this newsl etter edition with poster & idea I ist.

Keep it with you and use them.

VIET NAM VETERANS OF DIABLO VALLEY



# **February 2, 2020**

Veterans Memorial Building, Danville, CA \$50.00 per person - Doors open at 1:00 PM

# **Buy a Ticket Today!**

Eat fresh crab, silent auction, raffle & door prizes support your local veterans.

# We could use your support. Please donate an item for auction.

To purchase tickects & donate items please contact Michael Slattengren

Email: slattengren.vnvdv@gmail.com

### Help Obtain Donations for "Super Sunday" Charity Crab Feed Silent Auction

#### VNVDV Suggested Auction Items

- · Restaurant Dinner/Lunch for Two-Four persons Gift Cards/Gift Certificates
- Retail Merchandise Gifts/Gift Cards/Gift Certificate
- Gift Baskets from Professional/Service Businesses
- Wines Cases, Large Format Bottles, Premium Bottles, Tour & Tastings for four or more
- Special Spirits Whiskey, Scotch, Vodka, Gin, Tequila
- Professional Services from any service industry business
- Golf Foursomes with Cart from any local golf course
- Tickets to Events Pro Sports, Plays, Music or other events
- VIP Unique Donations Special one of a kind items like Tours/Events/Merchandise
- Hotel/Resort Packages Overnight stays with dinner for Two or more
- Sports Memorabilia Autographed Photos, equipment, Personal Items
- Personal Hosting of a Special Event at a Home/Business
- · Military Memorabilia- any branch or era (very Popular)
- Travel Airline Tickets/Mileage Coupons

Use your imagination, reach out to your family and friends for help and donation ideas. Just ask, believe it or not most local business want to support our organization. Supporting the local community keeps local businesses connected to their customers. The same idea works for businesses in general. Successful businesses donate to non-profits. It's good for their business and an important part of their marketing plan.

Thank you in advance for your support!



**OPENS AT 1 PM GET THERE EARLY** 

TO SELET YOUR SQUARES FOR THE "SUPER SUNDAY"

FOOTBALL ENTERTAINMENT GAME

"T.J." WILL HELP YOU PICK YOUR SOUAR



# **Crab Feed Tickets are Sold Out!**

Donations Needed for Silent Auction & Raffle -Contact Donation Chair Jim Murphy @ 925 / 858-2618 or Jim Hill @, 510 / 410-1040

#### **January Dinner Meeting Kicks Off - 2020**



# CHRISTY'S DONUTS

436 Diablo Rd. Danville, CA 94583 (925) 820-3394 Weekdays 5:30-2:00 Weekends 6:00-1:00



- Donuts
- Coffee
  - Pastries
    - Bagels

More Than 2 Dozen: Please Call Ahead (Special Discounts) Church • School • Scouts • Party Orders • Club Organizations

# FASTSIGNS.

More than fast. More than signs."

#### FASTSIGNS #48

uses FASTSIGNS 2551 San Ramon Valley Blvd. #113

San Ramon, CA 94583

ph. (925) 820-2202

fax. (925) 820-8911

Email: 48@fastsigns.com

# VMB DOCENT RECOGNITION





#### Bill LaVigne

President & CEO

Cell: (510) 368-4441 Toll Free: (866) 369-4446 Office: (877) 668-3677 (877) MOVE-677 Fax: (707) 644-2294

integritymoving@yahoo.com

Eliz. C. A. Johnson Attorney at Law



A Law Firm

Post Office Box 8, Danville, CA 94526 T.925.362.1010 F.925.362.1015 elizabeth@johnsonestateplanning.com

johnsonestateplanning.com

# Last Chance to WIN The Fishing Trip of a Lifetime!









The fishing trip of a lifetime!

Major VNVBV Fundraiser!

Trip for 2 for a 4 day/3-night stay

% Bay guided each day 5hrs/day. Self-guided unlimited hours of fishing

Luxury rooms feature a soaker tub with panoramic window views!

RoundIrip transportation from Vancouver, Canada South Terminal to Lodge

#### \$50 PER OPPORTUNITY

Maximum 300 tickets to be sold

Contact
Bill Green 925.683.3293
or
Jerry Yahiro 925.683.2541
for tickets

Winner will be drawn 2/2/2020 at the VNVDV

KING PACIFIC LODGE

TRIP FOR THE 2020 SEASON

An iconic luxury lodge to stay in while you fish...

West Sport fishing King Pacific Lodge is a luxury floating lodge, designed in the spirit of a modern and efficient fishing lodge; where understated elegance meets the wilderness with many quality details and finishing touches catering exclusively to 34 guests. This trip is currently valued at \$9590 CDN/\$7112 USD.

For more information on the lodge go to http://kingpacificlodge.com/

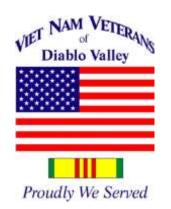
Dates will be determined upon availability at King Pacific Lodge. Reservations available after 5 Feb 2020. All-inclusive from Vancouver. Gratuities not included.



Your "donation" will support VNVDV projects & programs benefitting Veterans & those serving in 2020-2021

Your "donation" will support VNVDV projects & programs benefiting Veterans & those serving in 2020-2021.







# VNVDV 2020 King Pacific Lodge Fishing Trip A VNVDV Fundraiser

An iconic luxury lodge to stay in while you fish...

West Sport fishing King Pacific Lodge is a luxury floating lodge, designed in the spirit of a modern and efficient fishing lodge; where understated elegance meets the wilderness with many quality details and finishing touches catering exclusively to 34 guests. See Bill Green - Jerry Yahiro or Mike Slattengren for tickets -

\$50/opportunity/ticket - maximum 300 - opportunities /tickets

For information go to <u>King Pacific Lodge</u> website to see details on this outstanding fishing opportunity visit: **http://kingpacificlodge.com** 

To donate for this opportunity - Contact VNVDV Treasurer Mike Slattengren available at VNVDV Dinner Meeting "<u>Check-In</u>" at Crow Canyon Country Club

Drawing at VNVDV annual 2020 Super Sunday Crab Feed - 02FEB2020

Join us on Sunday Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley in the Town of Danville Need Not be present to Win







# Community Friends & Supporters...

Help us celebrate again and enjoy our SIXTH annual combined

**Veterans Service Organization** 

CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER

**Fundraiser** 

**Tickets \$45.00** 

Saturday March 14, 2020 at 5:00 PM

**Veterans Memorial Building** 

400 Hartz Ave Danville, CA

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 NOW at the VMB in Danville

Or Contact Dennis Giacovelli at <a href="https://honseworks@pachell.net">honseworks@pachell.net</a> or Lee Halverson at <a href="https://honseworks@pachell.net">honseworks@pach



Thanks to the January Speakers *Dennis Giacovelli and Jon Robbins* for their presentation on the November 2019 Wheel Chair Distribution trip to Vietnam.

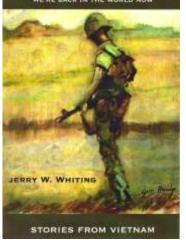


# WELCOME HOME FOR SGT DANNY BENNETT USMC

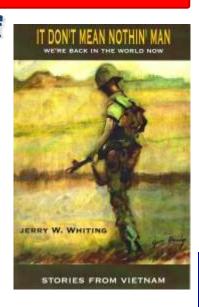


IT DON'T MEAN NOTHIN' MAN

Do YOU have your personal "autographed" copy of



JERRY WHITING's
new book about the VNVDV
"It don't Mean Nothin' Man
We're back in the world now"



The VA is now presuming service-connection for diseases related to Agent Orange for Veterans who served on Navy ships with 12 nautical miles from the shore of Vietnam (Blue Water Navy).

Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office can assist any Veteran in submitting a claim to the VA for compensation based on this exposure. Contact Nathan Johnson's outstanding team at: 925/313-1481

#### Blue Water Navy VietNam Veteran Act 2019

### Law Extends Benefits for Eligible Veterans

#### Public Law 116-23, (Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act 2019)

Public Law 116-23, (Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act 2019) was signed into law on June 25, 2019 and takes effect January 1, 2020. The law extends a presumption of herbicide exposure to Blue Water Navy Veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam and the offshore waters. Blue Water Navy survivors, and certain dependents may be entitled to benefits if the Veteran was exposed.

Under the law, certain Veterans, who served in the offshore waters of the Republic of Vietnam, or who had service in the Korean Demilitarized zone (DMZ), may be entitled to disability compensation for conditions that are related to herbicide exposure. The law also provides benefits for children born with spina bifida whose parent was a Veteran with verified herbicide exposure in Thailand.

To be entitled to disability compensation benefits, these Veterans must have served between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, and have one or more of the conditions that are listed in section 3.309(e) of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations.

#### Conditions related to presumed herbicide exposure':

- Manyloid light-chain (AL) amyloidosis
- Chloracne, or other acneform disease consistent with chloracne
- Chronic B-cell leukemias
- Diabetes mellitus, Type 2
- Ischemic heart disease
- Hodgkin's lymphoma, formerly known as Hodgkin's disease
- » Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Multiple myeloma
- Parkinson's disease
- Peripheral neuropathy, early-onset
- Porphyria cutanea tarda
- » Prostate cancer
- Respiratory cancers (lung, bronchus, larynx or trachea)
- Soft-tissue sarcoma (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or mesothelioma).
- A Veteran experiencing any of the conditions on this list may be eligible for presumptive service connection under 38 CFR 3.309(e); however, a Veteran may be entitled to service connection on a direct basis under 38 CFR 3.303, if herbicide exposure is established and scientific or medical evidence shows that the claimed condition is medically associated with dioxin exposures.

### How do I file a claim for disability compensation or survivor benefits?

- Apply using the guidance at www.va.gov, www.va.gov/burialsmemorials/dependency-indemnity-compensation OR
- For initial compensation claims, submit a VA Form 21-526EZ; For initial DIC claims, submit a VA Form 21P-534EZ; For previously denied claims, submit a VA Form 20-0995 OR
- VA-accredited Veterans Service Organization representative, attorney, or claims agent OR
- So to a VA regional office and have a VA employee assist you. You can find your regional office on our Facility Locator page at <a href="https://www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/offices.asp">https://www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/offices.asp</a>

#### What should be included when filing a claim?

- State on your application that you are filing for one of the conditions related to presumed herbicide exposure such as Agent Orange.
- Include any evidence you have of service in the offshore waters of the Republic of Vietnam during the required timeframe. Include the name(s) of the vessel(s) and the date(s) you served within 12 nautical miles of the Republic of Vietnam, if you have that information.
- Provide medical evidence showing a diagnosis of a current condition related to exposure to herbicide such as Agent Orange or tell us where you are being treated.
- For more information on how to apply and for tips on making sure your claim is ready to be processed by VA, visit our Disability Compensation web page at www.va.gov/disability/



For assistance with filing any VA claim for a service-connected disability – the VNVDV highly recommends you use the services of our outstanding Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office in Martinez or their location in Danville at the VMB on Wednesdays.



# Veterans need VHIC for in-person Commissary, Military Exchange, MWR access. Visit you VA Medical Clinic for enrollment.

This blog has been updated—at the bottom—to address a few common questions. If you have questions that are not answered in the blog below related to base access, commissary privileges and MWR, please call Military One Source at 1-800-342-9647.]

The Defense Department has announced expanded Commissary, Military Service Exchange and MWR access Jan. 1 and established a standard for physical access to military installations. Veterans who are eligible and want to take advantage of in-person benefits must have a Veterans Health Identification Card, or VHIC. Primary Family Caregivers must have an eligibility letter from VA's Office of Community Care.

Veterans use VHICs for identification and check-in at VA appointments, but will also use them for base access under the new program.. Veterans eligible solely under this act who are eligible to obtain a Veteran Health Identification Card must use this credential for in-person installation and privilege access. The card must display the Veteran's eligibility status (i.e., PURPLE HEART, FORMER POW or SERVICE CONNECTED).

Veterans eligible solely under this act who are not enrolled in or are not eligible to enroll in VA health care, or who are enrolled in VA health care, but do not possess a Veteran Health Identification Card will not have access to DoD and Coast Guard installations for in-person commissary, exchange, and MWR retail privileges, but will have full access to online exchanges and American Forces Travel.

How to get a VHIC: Veterans must be enrolled in the VA health care system to receive a VHIC. To enroll, you can complete an application for enrollment in VA health care by telephone without the need for a signed paper application. Just call 1-877-222-8387 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. Eastern. You can also apply for VA healthcare benefits online at www.va.gov/healthbenefits/enroll, or in person at your local VA medical facility. Once your enrollment is verified, you can have your picture taken at your local VA medical center, and VA will mail you a VHIC.

ID needed to get VHIC: To ensure a Veteran's identity, enrollees must provide one form of primary identification when requesting a VHIC. Acceptable forms of primary identification are:: Primary Identification (Unexpired) - State-Issued Driver's License - United States Passport or Passport Card - Other Government ID

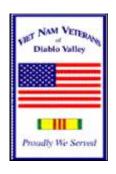
Once you have your picture taken, you should receive your VHIC within 10 days. If you have questions about the status of your VHIC, you may call your local VA medical facility where you receive your care or contact us at 1-877-222-VETS (8387).

The VHIC provides: Increased security for your personal information – no personally identifiable information contained on the magnetic stripe or barcode. Unique Member Identifier — Department of Defense assigns an electronic data interchange personal identifier (EDIPI) that allows VA to retrieve the Veteran's health record. A salute to your military service – The emblem of your latest branch of service is displayed on your card. Several special awards will also be listed. Accessibility – Braille "VA" helps visually impaired Veterans to recognize and use the card. Anti-Counterfeiting – Microtext helps prevent reproductions. Lost or stolen?

If your VHIC is lost or stolen, contact the VA medical facility where your picture was taken to request a new card be re-issued, or call 1-877-222-VETS (8387). Veterans will need to provide identification information, when reporting lost or stolen cards.

First visit: Upon the first visit to an installation, these eligible Veterans and caregivers must stop at the visitor control center. Depending on the type of installation, Veterans may enroll for recurring access, which would allow them to proceed to the gate for entry upon subsequent visits without having to stop again at the visitor control center.

As with all other individuals seeking access to DoD installations, all eligible Veterans must pass a basic on-the-spot background check prior to enrolling, and an automated check each time they enter the installation. Veterans with felony convictions, felony arrest warrants, or other types of derogatory information related to criminal history or terrorism will not be permitted entry.



December 2019

Dear Business Owner / Community Supporter -

The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) proudly announces their annual charity fund-raiser & we respectfully requests your support for this event. On Sunday, February 2, 2020, we will hold our 17<sup>th</sup> annual *Charity Crab Feed*, at the newly remodeled Veterans Memorial Building, in Danville, CA.

The VNVDV are an independent, "grass-roots" - non-profit / tax-exempt - 501(c)(19), veteran's organization, comprised primarily of Viet Nam combat veterans. We "proudly continue to serve" our community, with your support, through a variety of programs, projects and events. (Tax ID number below).

The money raised through our 2020 Charity Crab Feed will support local veteran, active-duty military & community-service events and programs that we conduct and proudly support throughout the year. These include:

- ➤ The East Bay Stand Down
- Memorial Day Program at Oak Hill Park
- ➤ **Danville's 4**<sup>th</sup> of July Parade
- San Ramon Valley **Veteran's Day Program**
- The VNVDV School Speaker's Bureau
- Operation Welcome Home Returning Vets
- ➤ Armed Forces Day "Walk of Honor"

- > The Blue Star Moms
- > The Sentinels of Freedom
- Diablo Valley Flag Brigade
- ➤ All Wars Memorial at Oak Hill Park
- ➤ The Wheelchair Foundation
- > Operation Santa Claus / Toys for Tots
- Memorials Dedicated to Fallen Service Members.

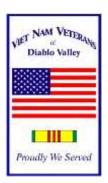
We respectfully request your business support for this event - through a discount on goods purchased for this event, "monetary sponsorship" - ticket purchase - donated items or gift cards /certificates for your goods & services. Your donated items will be used in our Silent Auction or Raffle held during the 2020 *Charity Crab Feed*, to raise the necessary funds to continue these & many other worthwhile projects for our community.

For more information on the VNVDV, its programs, events, membership, our monthly newsletter, or how you can contribute to our Crab Feed, visit our website at www.VNVDV.com - or e-mail us at the address below.

We look forward to you joining us in support of our 2020 "Tribute to our Troops" Charity Crab Feed and are grateful for your generosity to our veterans, serving military, and community programs. Thank you.

Gary Estrella - President Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Telephone: (925) 693-9552 E-mail: gamastar6@aol.com



#### DONATION RECEIPT

To:		
The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVD) charity fund-raiser. The VNVDV is a non-profit org vices in exchange for your donation. We sincerely event.	ganization and the VNVDV provided	d no goods or ser-
Your Donation Details		\$ - Value
The money raised through our 2020 Charity Crab community-service programs and events the VNV year. We thank you again for your support of the V	DV conducts and proudly supports	
Sincerely,		
Coordinator Crab Feed Donation Committee 2019		

VNVDV Contact: President Gary Estrella - Telephone: (925) 963-9552 - E-mail: gamstra6@aol.com..com Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

### VNVDV Member February Birthdays

Russ Kennedy Air Force Alex Giouis Army

Alvin Webb Navy Eric Ardell Navy

Harold Griggs Army Tom Corbett Marine

Bob Musor Army Jim Kuhn Air Force

Ray Hill Air Force Pete Garcia Navy

Dick Harrow Navy Tim Hart Marine

Don Love Marine Jim Hardy Army

Mike Speakman Navy Dave Brown Army

John Rehnberg Air Force Wayne Rice Army

Rudy Rodriquez Navy

## SIGN UP EARLY FOR THE "SUPER SUNDAY" GAME SHEETS TJ WILL HELP YOU PICK YOUR SQUARE







direct: 925.736.1500 mweber@rockcliff.com



ENTURE RESEARCH

4105 Blackhawk Plaza Circle Danville, CA 94506 CalBRE#00441586



### All Wars Memorial Granite Paver Order Form

Yes, I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the All Wars Memorial Foundation or purchase an AVM Paver To honor the service or contribution made by an Individual Serving-Veteran or Patriot with a Paver - or Honor your Organization or Unit

PURCHASER'S INFORMATION: (If paying by credit card Use the information as on the billing statement) Name of Purchaser Address City / State / Zip Please provide Contact Phone & E-Mail Address (utilize separate sheet & attach, if needed to clearly provide requested information. INDIVIDUAL Paver - Granite 8" x 8" @ \$300.00 each IN MEMORY (for those who died while serving their country) IN HONOR (for all other pavers) NAME (to be shown on paver) Can add Rank for those who that served in the military. Up to two lines available - maximum of 15 characters on each line - including spaces. Please PRINT all letters. BRANCH of SERVICE: (circle one) U. S. Army - USMC - U. S. Navy - USAF - USCG - Army/Air Corps Merchant Marines - National Guard - or - PATRIOT (for all others) Organization / Unit Paver - Granite 8" x 8" @ \$300.00 each PAYMENT METHOD: Enclosed Check for: \$ → Payable to: ALL WARS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION - (AWMF) Post Office Box 158 - Danville, CA 94526 Mall to Charge my: Visa - MasterCard (Please Print) Card Number **Expiration Date** Signature and Date... & mail to: AVMF (address above)

#### ARF MOBILE CLINIC for VETERANS at VA Clinic in Martinez

Free Vaccines and Wellness Exams for Veterans' Pets

ARF's Mobile Clinic visits the Martinez VA and Livermore VA on an ongoing basis to perform free wellness exams, give vaccinations, provides flea & tick plus heartworm medication and answer questions about basic pet wellness for veterans.

Cats and dogs only - and a limit 2 pets per veteran [per visit].

Services are provided at no cost to veterans presenting Military ID or

**VA Photo Health Care ID Card.** 

Dogs must always be on-leash and under control.

Cats must be in carriers.

Please clean up after your pets.

Clinic Opens at 9 AM Wait times vary; please wear comfortable clothes.

Chairs & Water will be provided for people and pets.

The ARF Mobile Clinic travels throughout the regions of Contra Costa County working with residents who cannot otherwise access services and on Friday's works with our partners at our local Departments of Veterans Affairs [VA] to administer wellness checks for the pets of Veterans.

ARF's 33-foot, custom-built, state-of-the-art Stephen Ball Mobile Clinic is named in memory of Stephen Ball with gratitude for his generous legacy gift, a reflection of his love for nature and animals.

ARF's Mobile Clinic comes to VA Northern California Health Care System's Martinez Clinic at 150 Muir Road in Martinez (in parking lot next to Building 19) to administer free vaccines and wellness checks for the pets of veterans. Checkin begins at 9:00 AM & goes until 12 Noon or until full [usually 20 vets]

Must present military or Veteran Health ID. All services first-come, first served

#### **ARF Mobile Clinic Calendar at VA**

Every other Friday at Martinez VA Clinic from 9 AM until 12 Noon

Every other Friday at Livermore VA Clinic from 9 AM until 12 Noon

#### MILITARY EXCHANGE ON-LINE SYSTEM OPEN TO VETERANS!

The Military Exchange System - the Department of Defenses oldest and largest military retailer is honored to serve all honorably discharged Veterans with a lifelong **online military exchange shopping benefit.** 

Your online shopping benefits include:

Tax-free shopping

Military-exclusive pricing

**Members-only credit options** 

Free shipping on orders over \$49 or any amount when you use your MILITARY STAR™ Card

Check your eligibility and start saving today!

GET VERIFIED Go to Exchange LINK: https://www.shopmyexchange.com/account/register

#### The Basics

#### Who is eligible for this benefit?

Honorably discharged Veterans of all United States Armed Forces, including the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard as well as the Air Force Reserve, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Coast Guard Reserve and National Guard.

#### What is the benefit?

Approved Veterans can shop the online exchanges, including ShopMyExchange.com! Shopping with the Exchange online gives you access to exclusive military pricing and offers, tax-free shopping and more. This is a lifelong benefit that will be extended to all who discharge honorably from service.

#### When did this benefit take effect?

The Department of Defense announced this benefit it became effective on Nov. 11, 2017.

#### Where can I use this benefit?

Online with any of the military exchanges. This benefit does not grant installation access. \*[Service-Conected Veterans]

#### Why have these shopping privileges been extended to Veterans?

To recognize and honor your service, make your life better and improve the overall military community. Expanding online shopping privileges strengthens funding of military Quality-of-Life programs including Army Child Development Centers, Youth Programs and Fitness Centers, Air Force Outdoor Recreation programs, affordable school lunches for Warfighters' children overseas, combat uniforms below cost and more.

#### How do I know if I'm eligible?

Click here to sign up for an account! Note: You may be asked to submit discharge paperwork for review to verify your eligibility. This can be for several reasons, but most likely, the record we have for you is missing a type of discharge (commonly called "Character of Service" or "Character of Separation"). You will be provided a link to VetVerify.org, a shared service of the four military exchanges, to upload your documentation. This process can take up to three days to complete; you will be notified by the VetVerify customer service team when your documentation has been reviewed.

Additional benefits for all Service-Connected Veterans with a VA Health Care ID Card Effective in January 2020. See additional information on this benefit in other flyer. If you do not have a VA Health Care Card - visit our County Veterans Service Office to Assist and determine if you are eligible to receive this VA Health Care Card for your Service Connected disabilities that can be rated from 0% or more! For on-base shopping.

Animal Services Department

4800 Imhoff Place Martinez, California 94553-4300 (925) 608-8400

910 San Pablo Avenue Pinole, California 94564-2347 (510) 942-4544 Contra Costa County



CONTACT:

Steve Burdo steve burdo@asd.cccounty.us (925) 393-6826 cell

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

December 30, 2019

#### Contra Costa Animal Services New Fee Structure to Take Effect on January 1st

Martinez, CA – Beginning on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, Contra Costa Animal Services (CCAS) will be implementing a new fee structure, updating exiting fees to reflect the actual costs of services provided by the Department and to comply with new state laws. Approved by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors on November 19, the new fee structure amends the Department's current fees – adjusting certain fees and creating new fees – and changes the licensing options available to County residents to better reflect the licensing needs of pet owners in Contra Costa County.

Highlights of changes incorporated in the Department's new fee structure include:

- Shifting from a line item adoption fee structure to a flat-rate adoption fee structure, based on breed, age and sex of the animal.
- Allowing seniors (65yrs or older), veterans and current service members to license their first pet for free, and each additional pet for a 50% reduced license fee.
- Increasing the cost, and decreasing the penalty, for pet licensing.
- Amending the options for pet licensing from three options (1-year, 2-year & 3-year licenses) to two (3-12 months & 12-36 months licenses).

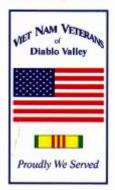
"At its core, this updated fee structure represents a commitment to our community," said Beth Ward, Director of Contra Costa Animal Services. "While the update will certainly bring our fees into balance with the true costs we incur, we are most excited about the benefits our patrons will enjoy, including lower overall adoption costs and allowing veterans and elders in our community to license their pets for free or at a reduced rate."

To view the entire updated 2020 fee structure, <u>click here</u>. To view the existing 2019 fee structure, <u>click here</u>.

For more information, contact Contra Costa County Animal Services' Media and Community Relations Manager Steve Burdo at 925-393-6836, or by email at <a href="mailto:steve.burdo@asd.cccounty.us">steve.burdo@asd.cccounty.us</a>.

Beth Ward Animal Services Director Thanks to Procurement Director John "T.J." Trujillo for his monthly display of VNVDV Hats and Shirts. Order your VNVDV NAME TAGS contact "T.J."

For all vour VNVDV Shirts and **Hats team** with TJ and Power Stitch



#### John T.J. Trujillo

Director of Procurement

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley P.O. Box 2079 Danville, CA 94526

> 925-997-5253 trujillo.tj.john@gmail.com www.VNVDV.com

#### POWER STITCH

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### **VNVDV Members THANK David Behring**

Wheelchair Foundation "Serving the World" the Globe with Friendship

Looking for a unique BIRTHDAY Gift? Donate a new

WCF wheelchair in their honor... great for someone who has everything! The VietNam Veterans made 3 Wheel Chair distribution trips, 2006, 2012 and the Fall 2019 to VietNam.. Wheel Chairs Provide freedom of mobility for those lacking this basic need.

We Thank David Behring & the Wheel Chair Foundation for the support of VNVDV & our three amazing wheel chair distribution trips to Vietnam.

The VNVDV participated in the distribution of 460 Wheelchairs during the NOV 2019 trip to Vietnam. Thanks to the support of the Wheelchair Foundation & Supporters

#### **VietNam 50th Commemoration Honors** our VietNam War Veteran Members

VNVDV LIFE MEMBERSHIP Special 50th VN Commercation -Honoring Your Service - ONLY \$50.

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

### Wars Memorial

Oak Hill Park Memorial Expands The New Paver Section with 600 Pavers Do you have an AWM Paver? Don't wait -Honor a veteran, friend, neighbor, family member or patriot with a special AWM Paver Tribute!

#### **ENGRAVING DELAYED DUE TO RAIN!**

**Custom Engraving is performed Spring & Fall.** Take time to visit the AWM - then the website for an application form. Order your AWM Paver www.AllWarsMemorial.org

**Questions? See link on AWM Website** 

Please SUPPORT & FOLLOW NEWS from some of our SUPPORTERS & FRIENDS WEBSITES: Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office - Open in Danville every Wednesday - call 925 / 313-1481 for Appt. All Wars Memorial and obtaining AWM Pavers at Oak Hill Park - visit: www.AllWarsMemorial.org Marines Memorial Association / Hotel / Club in SF - Visit their website at: www.MarineClub.com Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation - visit: www.SentinelsofFreedom.org Wheelchair Foundation & Wine for Wheels - Support our those in need of mobility - Visit: www.WineforWheels.org Blue Star Moms #101 website: www.bluestarmoms.org & Blue Star Moms #20 website: www.ccbluestarmoms.org VNVDV website to see more about the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley at: www.VNVDV.org

VISIT THE WEBSITE for the VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING at: www.VMBSRV.org

SUPPORT OUR BLUE STAR MOMS "DROP-OFF" LOCATIONS









U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Monday-Friday 8:00a.m.-4:30p.m. Martinez Primary Care Clinic 150 Muir Road, Martinez, Calif.94553

Advice Nurse-Appointment Line 800-382-8387 Pharmacy(Toll Free)Line 866-600-8279 Martinez, CA 94553

Fax: (925) 372-2804

#### FLU IS CAUSING SERIOUS ILLNESS & DEATHI

Please visit one of our VA Clinics in Martinez

Oakland or other locations now to obtain your
 FLU shot - available to all Veteransi Don't Walti

# VA's FLU SHOTS AVAILABLE NOW - Get Yours! ARF Mobile Veteran Pet Exam Van Monthly! Get your Veteran Certification for DMV License

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.

### Are You Watching CCTV "VETERAN VOICES" on 3rd Monday?

Monthly Show Topics IMPORTANT to VETERANS & Recently Discharged/Returning VETS SUPPORT Nathan Johnson - our Contra Costa County Veteran Service Officer



Hosted by:

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

Cctv Water

facebook

Watch live every 3rd Monday at 7pm on CCTV, or streamingwww.ContraCostaTV.org/VeteransVoices Call in Live: (925) 313-1170

ontro Couta TV is channel 12 on Astronal, channel 17 on Concest, and channel 99 on AT&T U-ver Episodes In-Eart Montage to Year, Westnesdays #11 per & Seturdays #19as "VETERAN VOICES"
on THIRD MONDAY OF MONTH

TUNE-IN AND ASK YOUR
QUESTIONS ABOUT VETERAN
SERVICE OR VETERAN ISSUE.



#### Because You Chose To Proudly Serve

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

Pre-Planning Lifts the Burdens Off Your Loved Ones

Contact: Thomas Corbett, Veteran Liaison Officer, LIC# 44629 (925) 935-3311, (925) 216-4785 TCOAK8@gmail.com







# EBSD 2020 MEETINGS START 2ND TUES OF FEBRUARY IN DANVILLE AT 6 PM AT VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING

Greetings **EBSD Coordinators**, Volunteers and Supporters!

#### EAST BAY STAND DOWN 2020 PUBLIC PLANNING MEETINGS WILL START 2ND TUESDAY in FEB.

This message is to give you an update on what has happened since our last EBSD, held this time last year, in 2018, and to share our plans for EBSD going forward. Yes, there will be an EBSD 2020, our 17th Stand Down!!!

Before going further, I want to thank all of you for volunteering and serving as coordinators/co-coordinators in 2018. A special THANK YOU to those of you who have been with the East Bay Stand Down (EBSD) over many years, especially those who have been with me since its inception in 1999. I think that we all need to congratulate ourselves for a job well done! **BRAVO ZULU** (to use a US Navy term for "a job well done").

Going forward, we have some organizational changes for the EBSD Team. **MG Ron Lowe,** USA (Ret.) has elected to "Retire" and step down as our Executive Director of the Board. Thank you, Ron, for your years of service, not only to our Nation, but to all the other organizations and activities that have supported and benefited so many Veterans.

I will move to the Executive Director / Chairman of the Executive Board position. **Scott Whitacre** will take my old position, becoming the new Director of EBSD. **Scott**, a Marine Veteran (we won't hold that against him...), has been associated with the EBSD since its beginning. Early on he was our Public Relations contact from AT & T, one of our Major Corporate Sponsors. Over the years Scott has volunteered in many different areas at EBSD and served as Tent Leader multiple times. He has been active in many other aspects of the Stand Down, as well as recruiting volunteers and arranging for much needed resources at our event. Our Veterans and EBSD will be in good hands under Scott's leadership. Please join me in saying: "Welcome, Scott and Thank You!!!"

We anticipate there will be some other changes to our EBSD organization in the near future. We will let you know of them as soon as we can.

With all of this in mind, please respond back to this email as to whether you wish to return as a Coordinator/Co-coordinator for EBSD 2020. Also, please indicate your desire to serve in your previous coordinator position, or a new/different area or capacity. Also, please indicate your willingness to consider/serve in another capacity, other than your previous positions, at the EBSD Board's request, should the need arise to staff all positions with some measure of expertise. Please, get back to us with your response and input no later than October 15, 2019, so that we can move forward with staffing. We would also appreciate your input/suggestions/ recommendations you may have to improve the overall EBSD experience, for all our Veterans and Volunteers.

Additionally, Scott will be contacting each Coordinator to formally introduce himself and understand your role with more familiarity and how he can help you succeed in providing our veterans with top notch support.

**EBSD 2020** will be held in the **September** time frame, with specific dates yet "To Be Determined" by the Alameda County Fairgrounds, pending space availability at their facility. Community planning meetings will begin **on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at 6:00 PM, at the SRV Veterans Memorial Building, 115 East Prospect <b>Ave., Danville**. Successive meetings will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, at the same time, same location, until the event.

Once again, I want to thank all of you for what we accomplished!

Jerry

# Official Mailing Address:

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley Veterans Memorial Building of SRV

400 Hartz Avenue Post Office Box 2079

> Danville, CA 94526 - 2079 E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com Web: www.VNVDV.org





To:

#### **VNVDV Members & VIPs**

# 2020 OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

#### PRESIDENT -

Proudly We Served

Gary Estrella

VICE PRESIDENT 
Dennis Giacovelli

TREASURER

**Mike Slattengren** 

SECRETARY

Clifford DeCuir MEMBERSHIP

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Jerry Yahiro SPEAKERS BUREAU

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Tim Hart

Mike Weber

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**Bill Picton** 

Norm Mahalich

Established 1991

Lille I

Jonathan "JON" Robbins

Director of Information

Editor / Publisher "INCOMING" News

News E-Mail: VNVDV.News@gmail.com

Keep your e-mail address current please!

Visit the VNVDV Web
Past Newsletters & our
latest news on-line



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. 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 - JOIN US!**



MONTHLY SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS with FEATURED GUEST SPEAKERS

1st THURSDAY of each Month

at CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB in Danville, CA

Social Hour at 1700 - Dinner at 1815 - Guest Speaker - Join Us!

Featuring "Chef's Special Buffet Dinner" - \$25. RSVP NOT Required!

