

## INCOMING NEWS











**AUG 2022** 

# Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley VNVDV AUGUST 4TH DINNER MEETING CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB



**ZOOM CONNECTION FOR AUG 4tH MEETING IN COVER LETTER** 

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade was a great success. Thanks to all those who carried flags, the banner or gave out flags. A special thanks to Jim Taylor who hung out with us all day. He must have been tired as I walked his boots off. And thanks to Lee Halverson and the VFW for the great BBQ. Also a big thanks to everyone involved with the Huey. Scott, our driver along with Denny and the Hoggs. If you popped your head in, you would have seen the new seats that Steve and Jim secured. And I am sure I missed someone, if so-Thank you.

I was lucky to be a part of the Celebration of Life for **Mickey Ganitch** on the Hornet last Saturday. Standing room only. A fitting tribute to a giant of a man.

# FOURTH OF JULY PARADE RETURNS



## AUG 4TH DINNER MEETING SPEAKER, ALAN BURNS, Chief Docent for the Red

Oak Victory ship will discuss the SS Red



Oak Victory, a U.S. Victory ship of the Boulder Victory-class cargo ships used in the Second World War. I also attended the **Celebration of Life for Pat Behring**, mother of member David Behring. Pat was a huge supporter of Veterans and the Veteran Memorial Building. The family put together a wonderful timeline in photos and stories depicting the remarkable woman she was.

As I stated at last month's meeting, we recently lost Blue Star Mom, Docent, Quilter and VMB staple, Marilyn Steichen. Her Celebration of Life will be on Saturday August 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 at the Veterans Memorial Building is open to all.

The LHCC (Library and Historical Collection Committee) at the Veterans Memorial Building is asking for your help with this year's Veterans Day (weekend) **pop-up museum.** They are asking each Veterans Organization to be responsible for two tables worth of display items. The items can be anything related to your time in the military. I am sure you all have items you would like to share with the community. Additional to this, the special theme this year is "Space". If you have anything related to space or even the Space Force, please let me know. Please email me your ideas, your list of display items, etc. at houseworks@pacbell.net.

And if you would like to come help out at the **Wheelchair Foundation's Golf Tournament Fundraiser**, please let me know. See enclosed flyer.

It's August already, Please enjoy your summer, get out, see friends and visit family but please do it safely.

President
PH (925) 383-6455
houseworks@pacbell.net









## **AUGUST Dinner Meeting - 2022**



## **FOURTH OF JULY PARADE 2022**



#### VIET NAM VETERANS DIABLO VALLEY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Jack Enright Army Denver Mills Navy

Ed Meshinsky Army Carl Swanson Army

James Hart Marine Bill Picton Marine

Mike Martin Navy Doye Sivils Army

Mimi Steel Air Force Gary Sponseller Army

**Tony Bettencourt** Army

THANKS TO JULY SPEAKER Jon Dunphy discussion of his experiences when he served as a platoon medic, radioman, and sniper at Seal Team Eight and Seal Team Two.













If you have any questions or would like to schedule a viewing, call or email me-

Mike Weber 925.487.7609 mike@mikeweberrealtor.com



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



Next Show: Monday, August 8 @ 7:00 PM

Show Topic: "Medics, Corpsmen & Doctors"

Watch on: Comcast Channel 27

-or- Facebook: veteransvoices1







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Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley Proud Supporters of the Wheelchair Foundation

## VA HEALTH CARE in MARTINEZ

#### **VA NCHCS Call Center**

1-800-382-VETS (1-800-382-8387)

Answers to your health and eligibility questions are just a phone call away through our toll-free telephone care program.

For eligibility and benefits questions, or to schedule or cancel an appointment or to message your provider, please call center number. Our call center agents are available Monday - Friday, 7:00 am to 6:00 pm, excluding federal holidays.

Speak with an **Advice Nurse** if you have health care questions, or need help understanding your options or deciding what to do next. Advice nurses are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

#### PHARMACY ADVICE AND REFILLS

1-866-600-VARX (1-866-600-8279)

Consult with an Advice Pharmacist if you have questions about your medications. Available from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays.

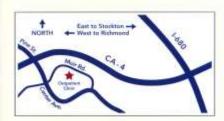
Order Refills or obtain information about pending prescriptions through our automated prescription refill system. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You may also order refills at one of our Patient Education Kiosks or on-line at www.myhealth.va.gov

#### FINDING US IS EASY

Martinez VA Outpatient Clinic 150 Muir Road Martinez, CA 94553 (925) 372-2000

#### **Hours of Operation**

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (Excluding Federal Holidays)

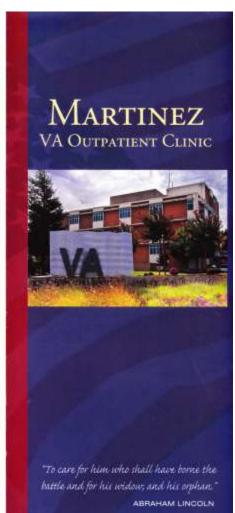






#### Our Healthy Home

www.northerncalifornia.va.gov



To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his unidow, and his opphan." ABBAHAM LINCOLN



#### HEALTH CARE

The Martinez VA Outpatient Clinic offers a wide range of outpatient health care services to veterans in Contra Costa County and surrounding areas.

Out team of dedicated, compassionate and caring health care professionals work together to provide you with high quality health care services close to where you live and work.

We want to improve your health and well being. As part of our commitment to you, we provide personalized health care services based on your individual needs. Patients requiring health care services that are not available at this location may be referred to another VA facility for treatment.



#### ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

Enrolling is fast and easy. Stop by today and complete an Application for Medical Benefits, VA Form 10-EZ. Please bring a copy of your DD-214 or discharge certificate to help us verify your eligibility. You can also complete the form on-line or mail us a copy of the completed form.

For more information:

- Call VA NCHCS Call Center Number at 1-800-382-VETS (1-800-382-8387) to speak with a Health Benefits Advisor, Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., exhuding federal holidays.
- Visit the VA Health Eligibility Web Site at www.va.gov/elig

#### APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

Medical visits are by appointment only. This helps us provide our patients with timely and convenient access to care. If you are not feeling well and need to schedule an appointment, or if you have questions about your care, please call us.



#### PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Ambulatory Surgery Audiology Cardiology Day Treatment Program Dermatology Diagnostic Imaging including CT and MRI Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Envioromental Exposure Program Gastroenterology General Surgery & Surgical Subspecialties Home Based Primary Care Homeless Outreach Program Hematology/Oncology Infectious Diseases Laboratory Mental Health

Nephrology Nuclear Medicine Nutrition Ophthalmology Optical Shop Optometry Orthopedics Pain Clinic Pharmacy Physical Therapy Podiatry Post Traumatic Stree Disorder Primary Cars Pulmatory Medicine Research Rheumatology Social Work Services Speech Pathology Substance Abuse Urgent Care Urology Women's Health Services including Mammography

The Center for Rehabilitation and Extended Care (CREC) offers a wide

range of geriatric and extended care to veterans who require in patient care to address specific needs. For more information call the Admissions Coordinator at (925) 370-4704



## **VA National Cemetery Honors Veterans**

The National Cemetery Administration honors Veterans with final resting places in national shrines and with lasting tributes that commemorate their service to our Nation.

n July 17, 1862, Congress enacted legislation that authorized President Lincoln to purchase "cemetery grounds" to be used as national cemeteries "for soldiers who shall have died in the service of the country." Fourteen cemeteries were established that first year.

By 1870, the remains of nearly 300,000 Union dead had been buried in 73 national cemeteries. Most of the cemeteries were located in the southeast, near the battlefields and campgrounds of the Civil War.

The National Cemetery Administration has evolved slowly since the initial period of great challenge related

to the Civil War. All honorably discharged Veterans became eligible for burial in 1873.

In the 1930s, new national



Fort Logan National Cemetery, Colorado

cemeteries were established to serve Veterans living in major metropolitan areas such as New York, Baltimore, Minneapolis, San Diego, San Francisco and San Antonio.

In 1973, Congress transferred 82 national cemeteries from the Department of the Army to the Veterans Administration, now the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). These were added to the 21 VA cemeteries at hospitals and nursing homes to comprise 103 cemeteries in what was then the National Cemetery System.

On November 11, 1998, the Veterans Programs Enhancement Act was signed, changing the name of the National Cemetery System to the National Cemetery Administration.



Tahoma National Cemetery, Washingto

Today, there are a total of 147 national cemeteries. The National Cemetery Administration is responsible for 131 of them, while the National Park Service maintains 14 and the Department of the Army maintains two cemeteries – including Arlington National Cemetery.

In the midst of the largest cemetery expansion since the Civil War, VA operates 131 national cemeteries in 39 states and Puerto Rico. VA's newest national cemetery, Washington Crossing National Cemetery in Pennsylvania, opened in January 2010.

More than 3 million Americans, including Veterans of every war and conflict - from the

Revolutionary War to the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan - are buried in VA's national cemeteries.



Chattangoga National Cemetery, Tennessee

Visit us on the web at: www.cem.va.gov

For additional information on your benefits ~ Contact: County Veterans Service Office in Martinez or Danville. Call 925/313~1481 for an Appointment

### Movie Review by: FORWARD OBSERVER



#### "MIDWAY - 2019 Version"

This newer version of MIDWAY, released in 2019 is a technically accurate production starring Patrick Evans and Luke Wilson. It is an expansive production covering Pearl Harbor, Doo-little's raid on Tokyo and the Battle of Midway itself. One of the interesting details is the "Walk-down" where crew members form a line and walk the length of the carrier deck while picking up loose nuts, bolts and debris. One distracting person in the casting, however, is Woody Harrelson who plays Admiral Chester Nimitz. It is difficult to take the goofy bartender from Cheers seriously.

While this reviewer still prefers the 1976 version with Charlton Heston and Henry Fonda, Director Roland Emmerich does a fair job of depicting one of the biggest battles in naval history.

Reviewers Rating (Out of 5 Stars)





Available on NETFLIX, AMAZON.

## Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation (Veterans' Clinic) Wellness Clinic for Veterans' Pets

Free veterinary wellness care is available through our in-house clinic on Wednesdays, <u>by appointment only</u>. For information or to schedule an appointment, Veterans may call (925) 296-3125 (option 7) and leave a message. Clinic staff will call you back for scheduling.

Clinics are open to dogs and cats belonging to Veterans of any era (up to two pets per visit). No non-military civilians will be accepted. Clients must furnish valid military identification at the time of check-in. Acceptable forms of military identification include military I.D. card, VA health identification card, discharge pa-

Acceptable forms of military identification include military I.D. card, VA health identification card, discharge paperwork with matching photo identification, or Department of Defense Form 214 with matching photo identification.

#### Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation (Veterans' Clinic)

2890 Mitchell Drive Walnut Creek, CA 94598 United States (925) 296-3125 (option 7)

#### Wellness Clinic FAQs

How do I Make an Appointment to Receive Services?

Our wellness clinics for Veterans' pets are by appointment only. For information or to schedule an appointment, Veterans may call (925) 296-3125 (option 7) and leave a message. Clinic staff will call you back for scheduling.

#### What Services Does ARF's Clinic Offer to Veterans?

Complimentary services provided include:

- Annual wellness exam
- Vaccines
- Heartworm testing for dogs
- FeLV/FIV testing for cats
- Year-round flea, tick, and parasite preventative products
- Spay and neuter (by appointment, clients must visit our wellness clinic for exam first)



Where do I Go for My Appointment?

Our Veterans clinic entrance can be found past the main adoption entrance and spay/neuter clinic entrance,

What Can I Expect from My Appointment?

If you are a new client, your Veterans' ID will be checked, and you will be given an information form to fill out about your pet(s). Dogs must be on leash and under control at all times. Cats must be in carriers.

Are There Limits on How Many Pets Can be Seen?

In order to serve as many Veterans as possible, we limit services to two pets per household per clinic and we provide services to a lifetime maximum of six pets per veterans' household.

Schedule of Events for Veterans - Wellness Clinics for Veterans' Pet at ARF Headquarters in Walnut Creek on Wednesdays Appointment Required

Wednesday - August 10 @ 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Wednesday - August 17 @ 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Wednesday - August 24 @ 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

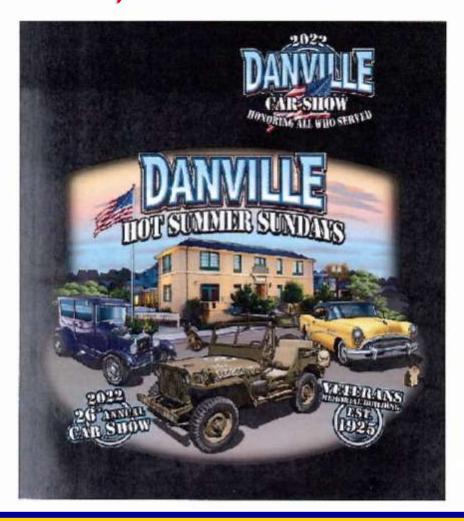
Wednesday - August 31 @ 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

arf

Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation

Each month ARF will publish a schedule for the new month on ARFlife.org website.

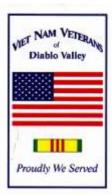
# SUNDAY, AUGUST 21ST



A CROWD-PLEASING FAVORITE RETURNS TO DANVILLE UNDER THE SUMMER SUN. THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY IN DOWNTOWN DANVILLE AT THE 26TH HOT SUMMER SUNDAYS CAR SHOW, FOR HOT RODS, CLASSICS AND CUSTOMS TO EXOTICS AND FOREIGN COLLECTIBLES.

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
your
VNVDV
Shirts and
Hats team
with TJ
and Power Stitch



the Globe with Friendship

#### 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



VNVDV Hats and Shirts available at monthly meetings

#### VNVDV Members THANK David Behring

Wheelchair Foundation

"Serving the World"

Outle Velop Outle Velop Prouds to knowl 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 Commeration Honoring Your Service - ONLY \$50.

Danville VMB's County Veterans Service Office

OPEN every Wednesday 10-2 to serve Veterans

## **All 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!

1st ENGRAVING COMPLETED—Hopefully 1 in May!

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 - <u>Call the County VSO Office for Assistance</u> - call 925 / 313-1481 for Appt.

All Wars Memorial and obtaining AWM Pavers at Oak Hill Park - visit: <u>www.AllWarsMemorial.org</u>

Marines Memorial Association / Hotel / Club in SF - Visit their website at: <u>www.MarineClub.com</u>

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 Voteransi Don't Walti

# VA is now offering Covid vaccines to non-veteran spouses and veteran caregivers

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

isit our VNVDV Website for more Benefit details.

## **Are You Watching CCTV "VETERAN**

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



Kevin Graves, CalVet LINC & Gold Star Parent

Watch live every 2nd Monday at 7 pm on CCTV www.ContraCostaTV.org/VeteransVoices Call in Live: (925) 313-1170

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#### "VETERAN VOICES" on SECOND MONDAY OF MONTH

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





Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley Veterans Memorial Building of SRV

400 Hartz Avenue

2021 OFFICERS & Danville C

Danville, CA 94526 - 2079 E-Mail: VNVDV1@qmail.com

Web: www.VNVDV.org





To:

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

PRESIDENT Dennis Giacovelli
VICE PRESIDENT Steve Burchik
TREASURER
Mike Slattengren

**BOARD MEMBERS** 

NAM VETERAND

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John "jgr" Reese

WEBSITE Chelle Clements

#### 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!

#### PAST PRESIDENTS

Gary Estella William "Bill" Green Ray La Rochelle Michael Slattengren Jerry Yahiro

> NAM VETERA Diablo Valley

John Estes Del Loewe

Tim Hart

Mike Weber

Mike McDaniel

Rich Lambert

Ron Azarcon

**Bill Picton** 

Norm Mahalich

Established 1991

## **OPEN - SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS - JOIN US!**

#### DINNER MEETING AUGUST 4, 2022 CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB

#### 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!

