**PATRIOT PLAZA DEDICATION TICKETS**

As anticipated, tickets for the June 28 Community Dedication of Patriot Plaza went quickly. Do not stress, though, if you were unable to get tickets. The dedication ceremony will be telecast live on several television stations throughout the month of July. Rebroadcast details can be found by going to the website.

You can also still participate in the dedication by becoming a volunteer to help with the event. From greeters and ushers to water stations and parking—your help would be greatly appreciated. For more information, please contact Alicia Chalmers: AliciaC0831@gmail.com

For those of you who did get a ticket, remember to “Pay it Forward” when you come to the dedication: Manatee Operation Troop Support (M.O.T.S.) and All Faiths Food Bank will be collecting items for US troops & their families. For a list of items to bring, click here, then click on “Dedication Ticket Information” and visit the “Pay it Forward” tab.

**WAYS TO CONNECT**

**UPCOMING MOTORCYCLE RIDE**

As a result of the successful Thunder By The Bay Legacy of Valor Ride through Patriot Plaza in January 2014, Patriot Plaza will have another annual motorcycle ride on Saturday, July 5 as part of the Two Firsts Motorcycle Freedom Ride.

This ride, which honors all veterans, active duty military and their families, is part of the Two Firsts Motorcycle Freedom Ride. Riders will depart from either Manatee River Harley-Davidson or Rossiter’s Harley-Davidson, drive through Patriot Plaza and finish at Power Boats By The Bay. For more information on the ride or to participate, click here.

**PATRIOT PLAZA PREVIEW ON JUNE 21**

Watch the Patriot Plaza Preview special ABC 7 this Saturday, June 21, at 7pm.

Thank you to our fantastically energetic and supportive dedication ticket vendors: Creation Ministry, Fleet Feet Sports, New Balance Sarasota, New Balance Galvarino, New Balance Venice, University Park, Past Fast Sports, Sarasota-DeSoto County Habitat for Humanity, and Bradenton Marauders-Angelina Chalmers, who so graciously and efficiently distributed 2,800 tickets throughout our four-county area in less than two weeks!

**JUNE 26**

Have an upcoming event honoring veterans, a way for the community to continue to connect with veteran related services or activities, or a special veteran-honoring project? Your organization is proud of that you want to share with the community through the newsletter? Please share by sending to: ekellytpf@gmail.com

Stay connected
@PatriotPlaza
@ThePattersonFdn

**July 12**

Only about 12% of veterans take advantage of their burial benefits. Over 1.5 million veterans live in Florida, making it the third highest veteran populated state in the US after California and Texas. There are more than 731,000 veterans over the age of 65 who call Florida home.

**GOODWILL MANASOTA**

As a partner of the Unifed Legacy of Valor Opportunity in 2013, Goodwill Manasota raised $21,681 through 50 donations for their American Veterans and Their Families Initiative. The Patterson Foundation matched the funds for a grand total of $41,362 raised.

Goodwill Manasota's American Veterans and Their Families Initiative focuses on providing comprehensive case management services to accommodate returning veterans facing heightened risks of unemployment, personal problems, and homelessness. Click here to learn more about Goodwill Manasota or to donate.

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