



Patriot Plaza Newsletter

August 30, 2018

UPDATES FROM THE EDITOR

From Memorial Day weekend 2018 to the start of school in August, it's been a long, hot and rainy summer! Over the summer [Patriot Plaza](#) continued to have visitors from near and far. Now that school has begun the number of visitors will pick up exponentially with many students coming from the Sarasota County Schools. [EdExploreSRQ](#), an online website of experiential learning opportunities, has field trips to Patriot Plaza for grades 4-6, 7-8 and 9-12. This particular EdExploration is embedded in the 8th grade Civics classes throughout Sarasota County.

Any visit is enhanced dramatically when a Patriot Plaza Guide is with you! Contact the [Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County](#) to schedule a guided tour. Are you looking for a unique and rewarding volunteer experience? Consider becoming a Patriot Plaza Guide. You will register first as a volunteer at [Sarasota National Cemetery](#) and then take [specialized training](#) from the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County. The next training is scheduled for September 25. The registration deadline is September 20. For more information contact education@sarasotaarts.org.

Please share this newsletter with your friends, family, and co-workers. To be added to the distribution, just let me know, Linda Gould, LLGouldsrq@gmail.com.

Follow and "Like" our [Legacy of Valor Facebook page](#) for inspirational and informative posts covering national and local topics concerning veterans.

VISITORS



SHARE YOUR STORY

Please share your experiences after visiting Patriot Plaza by sending your stories to Linda Gould at LLGouldsrq@gmail.com.

DID YOU KNOW?

Patriot Plaza at Sarasota National Cemetery is available free of cost for you and the community to use for events honoring veterans.

Events at Patriot Plaza need to:

- 1) Be free and open to the public
- 2) Honor veterans
- 3) Maintain the dignity of a national cemetery

Download the [Event Hosting Guidelines](#) and contact John Rosentrater, Sarasota National Cemetery Director at john.rosentrater@va.gov or (941) 922-7200 to request holding an event at Patriot Plaza.

Click [here](#) to learn more about Sarasota National Cemetery.

GUIDED TOURS & EDEXPLORATIONS

Public tours of [Patriot Plaza](#) are currently conducted every Tuesday at 10am, except on federal holidays. Private group and school tours can be scheduled Monday through Friday.

Through a partnership with [The Patterson Foundation](#) and the [Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County](#), Guides are recruited from the Sarasota National Cemetery (SNC) volunteers and



Dianne and Ray Parkyn moved from London, England to Sarasota, Florida 10 years ago and over the years became good friends with Darrell Cascio, a Patriot Plaza Guide. Due to health reasons the Parkyns returned to Surrey, England last summer. Prior to their departure they took a guided tour of Patriot Plaza and presented Darrell with copies of four British newspapers printed pre and post D-Day, June 6, 1944. They are pictured here with one of the British newspapers. The photo shown here is known as "Into the Jaws of Death", photographed by Robert F. Sargent, a Coast Guard Petty Officer. The photo depicts the troops of Company E, 16th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division landing on Omaha Beach on D-Day. Sargent managed to preserve his film by saving it in a milk can.

PATRIOT PLAZA GUIDES



Each year a Patriot Plaza Guide Appreciation Breakfast is hosted by The Patterson Foundation as a means of thanking the 20+ guides that volunteer their time to provide tours of Patriot Plaza. These individuals are already giving the gift of their time by volunteering at the [Sarasota National Cemetery](#). They each requested the additional training offered by the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County in order to give tours to visitors and also students from the [Sarasota County School](#) system. The first group of Patriot Plaza Guides was trained in

trained on the history and meaning of the art elements at Patriot Plaza to provide visitors with a deeper understanding of service and sacrifice.

Tours are free and open to everyone who is interested. To schedule a group or school tour, contact the Arts Education Manager for the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County, (941) 365-5118, x301 or education@sarasotaarts.org

VETERAN APPRECIATION DAY WITH THE BALTIMORE ORIOLES



The [Baltimore Orioles](#) partnered with the [Military Officers Association of Sarasota](#) to present a Veteran Appreciation Day at the ballpark. The [Sarasota Military Academy](#) provided the color guard and the [U.S. Special Operations Command \(SOCOM\) Para-Commandos](#) parachute team from MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa parachuted the U.S. Flag into the stadium. Over 30 local organizations and businesses were on hand during the August 14 Gulf Coast League baseball game to highlight their services to local veterans and their families as well as to the general public.



first group of Patriot Plaza Guides was trained in 2014 after the Community Dedication of Patriot Plaza. Tours continue to multiply and new Patriot Plaza Guides are always welcome.



MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE



Deputy Pat Robinson is pictured here with his son Kyle. The 2018 Memorial Day program was a Tribute to Fallen Troops. The Sarasota National Cemetery Advisory Committee did a superb job planning this year's homage which took place on Saturday, May 26. The American Legion NO-VEL Post 159, from Venice, presented the colors. Booker High School's Visual and Performing Arts Music department sang the national anthem and performed other musical selections. The Keynote Address was given by local Vietnam Veteran and Purple Heart recipient, David Taylor, U.S. Army. More than 600 residents and Vietnam veterans attended the tribute.



ED-STRAVAGANZA 2018





STAY CONNECTED

[#PatriotPlaza](https://twitter.com/PatriotPlaza)

[@ThePattersonFdn](https://www.instagram.com/ThePattersonFdn)



Patriot Plaza Guides were on hand at the [EdExploreSRQ](#) EDStravaganza Open House, a means of demonstrating many of the experiential learning opportunities available in Sarasota County. Patriot Plaza model was one of over 43 explorations present to give teachers throughout Sarasota County a first hand look at these tremendous learning tools.

SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

VETERANS DAY MASS

[Sarasota National Cemetery](#)

Sunday, November 11, 3:00pm

(Plan to arrive by 2:30 for the entire program)

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

[Sarasota National Cemetery](#)

Saturday, December 15, 10:00am