



As the days following the Veterans Legacy Summit (VLS) pass, The Patterson Foundation team, as well as participants, volunteers and attendees, reflect. We ponder on new relationships built, the impact the summit had on past, present and future veterans and their families, and memories made. Here is some of the great feedback Debra Jacobs, president and CEO of The Patterson Foundation, received following VLS.

*Your warm words match the superb hospitality shown by your staff and the thorough planning surrounding the Veterans Legacy Summit. Thank you for the opportunity to honor service. We welcome future collaboration.*

- Colonel Steven Parker, Joining Forces

*I just wanted you to know that many of the bus riders commented that Sunday was a beautifully organized event, and they were so grateful that The Patterson Foundation provided them the opportunity to participate. Dispensing gifts and information on the bus ride was a brilliant idea and was enjoyed immensely by the riders. On the return trip, I had the pleasure of partnering with an opera-singing bus driver who was more than happy to lead some patriotic sing-alongs as we traveled back to the parking area. What a fun way to end the day.*

- Sheila Weiss, Volunteer Bus Ambassador

*I left feeling like the community truly valued my service--my bet is so did all the other veterans in attendance. Perhaps more important, I think the citizens in attendance began to gain an appreciation for military service and value what our men and women in uniform do every day. Some of my reaction was to the event, but I must say that every time I visit Patriot Plaza, just the venue makes me feel special as a veteran. So I think you accomplished at least two things. First, you did indeed honor veterans--in a heartfelt and meaningful way. Second, you raised the level of awareness for the protected--those who may not have served. As a veteran I am personally grateful for both. Thank you--you and The Patterson Foundation--for all you do to make our community's veterans*

The Veterans Legacy Summit (VLS) was a 4-day event that encompassed 13 unique events including an art symposium, film festival, community concert and panel discussions featuring national veteran-serving organizations.

VLS events took place at seven different locations throughout Sarasota County.

VLS featured three veteran-related films at two locations, North Port High School & Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.

VLS had attendees from 25 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

VLS Schedule at a Glance:

#### 11.13.14

- Gallery Walk
- Creative Conversations

#### 11.14.14

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- Lt. Col. Scott Lempe, USAF, Volunteer Bus Ambassador

*Words cannot adequately capture the impact that this week has had on our Nation and its support to our Veterans.*

*The work done by you, and your team far exceeded expectations and your impact vastly exceeded a small event in Sarasota.*

*Thank you for caring enough to make a huge difference in the lives of Veterans and their families. Your vision and leadership made a huge difference literally in the lives of tens of thousands.*

*And I cannot say enough about the impact that Sandy (Beckley) has had and the difference she has made, not only to Sarasota National Cemetery and the team there, but to all national cemeteries and our future of focusing on our customer - the Veteran and eligible family members.*

*It was my honor and privilege to attend this great event! Well done to the entire Patterson Foundation team and your hundreds of volunteers who made this week a success!*

- Tom Muir, Deputy Undersecretary, National Cemetery Administration



Please share your experiences, comments and photos from the Veterans Legacy Summit with us on [Facebook](#) or Twitter using [#VeteransLegacy](#).



The Veterans Legacy Summit was featured several times over the weekend. Click below to read some of the articles.

[A brief history of sculpture, leading to Patriot Plaza](#)

[Sarasota summit focuses on service and support of vets](#)

[White House takes note of Veterans Legacy Summit](#)

[Combat vet to commemorate Patriot Plaza](#)

[West Point Band Community Concert at Patriot Plaza](#)

Click [here](#) to see photos of the weekend taken by Staff Sgt. Chrissy Rivers

- Film Festival  
Featuring:

*We the People*

*Veterans of Color*

*Good Morning  
Vietnam*

*The War Comes Home*

- Patriot Plaza  
Artist Panel
- Documentary  
Photographers  
Panel
- Breakout  
Photography  
Sessions

11.15.14

- Zoned In
- Legacy Zone
- Celebrate Service  
& Sacrifice

11.16.14

- West Point Band  
Community Concert



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:

Erika Kelly  
[ekellytpf@gmail.com](mailto:ekellytpf@gmail.com)

**Stay Connected**

of the West Point Band.

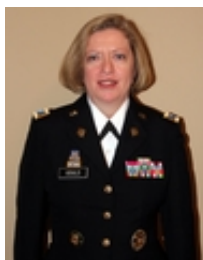
[#VeteransLegacy](#)

[#PatriotPlaza](#)

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Please join us in congratulating [Linda Gould](#), TPF consultant and retired U.S. Army Col., for being awarded Veteran of the Year during the Veterans Day Ceremony at J.D. Hamel Park on Nov. 11. Linda's outstanding dedication and passion for those who have served, are serving or may serve is truly inspiring.



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