Honoring Veterans, Inspiring Patriotism, and Embracing Freedom Continues at Patriot Plaza

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA (WAA) 2021
With some COVID restrictions still in place as per the National Cemetery Administration's Directives, on December 17–18, 2021, more than 300 volunteers known as the Mission Staff directed by Meshia Richardson, Chairman of the Sarasota Wreaths Across America mission, assisted with unloading, distribution, and monitoring 4,500 family members, survivors, and volunteers who registered to lay Veterans Remembrance Wreaths on 17,200 memorial sites at Sarasota National Cemetery.

The truck drivers who transported the wreaths from the WAA in Maine volunteered their time and transport. The delivery at Sarasota National Cemetery was met and accompanied by a Motorcycle Honor Escort of local veterans. Except for families that requested not to be included, every site had a wreath placed at the headstone, on the grounds, or in the columbarium. Volunteers spoke each individual's name aloud as they thanked them for their service and sacrifice.

Extra wreaths were available for those interred after Wreaths Across America Day. Those wreaths were placed at the gravesites of those newly interred until January 7, 2022. Wreath Retirement was held on January 8, 2022, and within 2 hours, all wreaths were removed and retired.
The Community Foundation of Tampa Bay and the South Shore Community Action Council, Inc. sponsored the sixth honor tour to Patriot Plaza on Presidents’ Day. Over 80 attendees experienced the lasting tribute to veterans and their families. With an additional new guide in training, five Patriot Plaza Guides enhanced the first-time visit of residents from Sun City Center near Tampa.

The Patterson Foundation Fellows Visit Patriot Plaza

Through a collaboration with the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, The Patterson Foundation Fellows Program provides graduates of the world’s first school dedicated solely to the study and teaching of philanthropy with a year-long career-building opportunity to learn
innovative philanthropic principles and share their expertise through engaging initiatives tied to their personal passions. Through the Fellows Program, The Patterson Foundation aspires to create a network of future leaders aligned in their innovative approach to philanthropy. Click here to learn more about the collaboration with this unique university.

SUNCOAST REMAKE LEARNING DAYS — Save The Date!

Learning is the life of this party, and we’re embracing it at every turn. Don’t worry...you're all invited! #SuncoastRemakeDays

The Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading is bringing Remake Learning Days to Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties in the spring of 2022, and we want YOU to be a part of it!

Suncoast Remake Learning Days is a 10-day festival of free events for children and families…think of it as the world’s largest multi-site open house from April 29 to May 8, 2022.

Suncoast Remake Learning Days will build on the assets and strengths of our region, reinforcing the knowledge that Learning Happens Everywhere and affirming that we are working together toward greater outcomes for our children and families.

CONTINUE READING

PATRIOT PLAZA FAMILY ACTIVITY BOOKS
The Patriot Plaza Family Engagement Activity Books are tools to educate the little ones and promote family bonding experiences with educational activities that honor veterans, inspire patriotism, and embrace freedom. All activity books are downloadable from the sidebar on the Patriot Plaza initiative page on The Patterson Foundation’s website. Enjoy!

View the Patriot Plaza Family Engagement Activity Book Archive

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

#PatriotPlaza
@ThePattersonFoundation