

UPDATES

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 a ticket. The dedication ceremony will be rebroadcast on several TV channels during the month of July. Rebroadcast details can be found by going to the [Patriot Plaza website](#), clicking on the 'Dedication Ticket Information' button, and then on the 'Event Rebroadcast' tab.



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. Manasota Operation Troop Support (M.O.T.S.) and All Faiths Food Bank will be collecting items for US troops & their veterans programs. 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 [Finz Finds Motorcycle Freedom Ride](#).

This ride, which honors all veterans, active duty military and their families, is part of the [2014 Suncoast Super Boat Grand Prix](#) festivities. 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](#).

SEEN & HEARD

PATRIOT PLAZA PREVIEW ON JUNE 21



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

THE FINAL WORD

Thank you to our fantastically energetic and supportive dedication ticket outlets: [Bradenton Marauders](#), [New Balance Sarasota](#), [New Balance University Park](#), [Fleet Feet Sports](#), [Arcadia-DeSoto County Habitat for Humanity](#), and [Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity](#), who so graciously and efficiently distributed 2,800 tickets throughout our four-county area in less than two weeks!

DID YOU KNOW?

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.

UNIFIED LOV PARTNERS

GOODWILL MANASOTA

As a partner of the Unified Legacy of Valor Opportunity in 2013, Goodwill Manasota raised \$20,881 through 50 donations for their American Veterans and Their Families Initiative. The Patterson Foundation matched the funds for a grand total of \$41,762 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.

SUBMIT IDEAS

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

Stay Connected

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