



◆ UPDATES

REFLECTIONS ON THE COMMUNITY DEDICATION

Just over a month ago, our community rallied around The Patterson Foundation's Military Initiative mission to honor veterans, inspire patriotism and embrace freedom by assembling together for the Community Dedication of Patriot Plaza.



Alicia Chalmers, Legacy of Valor Coordinator and Community Dedication Volunteer Coordinator extraordinaire, reflects on the many volunteers who stepped up to create the memorable experience for everyone who attended Patriot Plaza on June 28 in her blog, Patriot Plaza volunteers show tremendous heart during dedication.

◆ WAYS TO CONNECT

NEWSLETTER SIGN UP

Let your friends and family know about this bi-weekly Freedom. Front and Center. newsletter. If they are not already receiving the newsletter and would like to stay informed on the latest updates regarding Patriot Plaza and the Sarasota National Cemetery, please have them send an email to Erika Kelly at ekellytpf@gmail.com requesting to be added to the email list.

◆ SEEN & HEARD

Chaplain Charles Caudill, Colonel, U.S. Air Force (Retired), recently reflected on patriotism in an article he wrote for the Military Officers Association of Sarasota's newsletter. You can access the MOAS newsletter to read the article by clicking here.

To read Chaplain Caudill's invocation from the Patriot Plaza Community Dedication, click here.

◆ THE FINAL WORD



John Berteau, Chairman of The Patterson Foundation, shared his reflections on a recent visit to Patriot Plaza in his blog, A legacy for the ages.

"Like the Washington Monument, the edifice itself is the point. Like the stone obelisk honoring Washington, the glass and steel, the photographs and flag — they all make up the monument honoring our veterans for generations to come."

Click here, to read the full blog.

◆ DID YOU KNOW?

July 29, 2014, was the 239th anniversary of the US Army Chaplain Corps.

Over the years, more than 25,000 chaplains have served in the U.S. Army as religious leaders for soldiers and their family members.

Currently more than 3,000 chaplains serve the U.S. Army representing 140 different religious organizations.

Always present with Army soldiers in war and peace, nearly 300 Army chaplains have laid down their lives in battle.

Eight members of the Chaplain Corps have been awarded the Medal of Honor.

The mission of the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps is to provide religious support to America's Army, assist commanders to ensure the right to free exercise of religion is upheld, and provide spiritual, moral and ethical leadership.

◆ 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

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