

◆ UPDATES

PATRIOT PLAZA GUIDES NOW OFFERING TOURS



Public tours of [Patriot Plaza](#) began this week! On Oct. 7, Patriot Plaza guides conducted their first official public tour. Through a partnership with [The Patterson Foundation](#) and the [Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County](#), 20 Sarasota National Cemetery volunteers have been recruited and trained on the history and meaning of the many elements at Patriot Plaza to provide visitors with a deeper understanding of its purpose.

Cindy Balistreri, Business Coordinator and Arts Education Manager for the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County, shares about the Patriot Plaza Guide Program in her recent [blog](#).

Public tours are scheduled at 10 a.m. every Tuesday, except for federal holidays. Private group tours and school tours for students in grades 4-12 begin in November. All tours are free and open to everyone who is interested. To schedule a group or school tour, contact Cindy Balistreri at the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County, (941) 365-5118, x301 or cbalistreri@sarasotaarts.org.

◆ WAYS TO CONNECT



The Ralph A. Bantle Memorial AMVETS Post 301 is hosting their First Annual R-Oktoberfest on Saturday, Oct. 18 starting at 2 p.m. The event will be sponsored by the Sons of AMVETS Squadron and the AMVET Riders of Post 301. Proceeds will go towards increasing awareness of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in the Manatee-Sarasota community and the Southeast Guide Dogs "Paws for Patriots" Program which develops and provides Veteran Service Dogs to military veterans living with PTSD.

For more information, click [here](#), or contact Marv at (586) 713-8901 or Glenn at (941) 224-0063.

◆ SEEN & HEARD

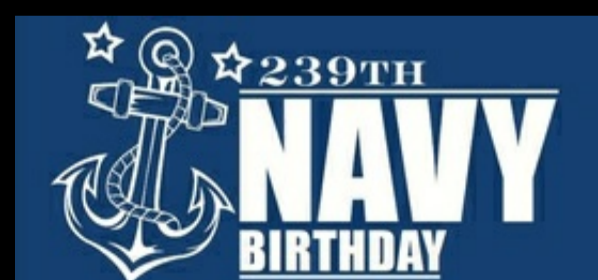
AMERICAN VETERANS DISABLED FOR LIFE MEMORIAL



Thousands attended the dedication of the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial this past Sunday in Washington, D.C. Patriot Plaza artist [Larry Kirkland](#) contributed the sculptures and installations throughout the space!

To read more about the memorial and dedication, click [here](#).

◆ THE FINAL WORD



"A good Navy is not a provocation to war. It is the surest guaranty of peace."

- President Theodore Roosevelt

patriotplaza.thepattersonfoundation.org
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◆ DID YOU KNOW?

The U.S. Navy will celebrate its 239th birthday on Oct. 13. Its origins are traced to the Continental Navy, which the Continental Congress established on Oct. 13, 1775.

Currently, there are over 325,000 men and women in active duty for the U.S. Navy and over 100,000 in the U.S. Navy Reserves.

The U.S. Navy has 289 deployable battle force ships and over 3,700 operational aircraft in its fleet.

There are seven types of ships in the U.S. Navy: Aircraft Carriers, Amphibious Assault Ships, Cruisers, Littoral Combat Ships, Destroyers, Frigates, and Submarines.

The Secretary of the Navy is in charge of naming ships. Generally, names are compiled by the Naval Historical Center based on the suggestions of the public, sailors, and retirees, and from naval history.

Naval ships named for individuals are christened by the eldest living female descendant of that individual.

Commissioned Naval ships are prefixed with USS, which stands for United States Ship.

◆ 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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