

Family, Food & Fun Returns!

After our summer vacation this great get together returns and just in time to take a break from all of those Thanksgiving leftovers.

Please come out and join us if you can for a relaxing time of food & fellowship.



**9331 Adamo Drive
Tampa, FL 33619**

DIRECTIONS

DECEMBER



Pinellas Park Christmas Parade

Sat. Dec. 11th @ 4p.m.

We will be meeting to travel to the staging area where we will decorate our float and get everything ready to participate in this great community event.

Please remember you must RSVP to attend this event as space is limited.

Admin@USMCFamilySupport.org

More information will be posted as the time nears.

Beads, NOT candy, can be thrown but must be provided by each participant.

DUE TO MANY OF OUR MEMBERS BEING OUT OF TOWN OR BUSY DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON WE WILL HOLD OUR

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION IN JANUARY

WITH A FESTIVE "POST" HOLIDAY COMBO PARTY.

SAVE THE DATE: JANUARY 22ND



If you are doing any online shopping or travel reservations for the holiday season don't forget that T.A.M.P.A. gets a donation each time you use GiveBackAmerica.com.



We are currently collecting new unwrapped items for our Toys For Tots collection drive. If you would like to donate items and need them picked up please contact us:

Admin@USMCFamilySupport.org or
(813)965-2682.

Please be reminded that each year gifts for teenage boys and girls are in high demand.

What is a 'Virtual' Candy Bar?



We realize that times are tough for everyone lately, but could you possibly spare \$1 for our deployed troops?

Here is how the program works. Go to our website and you will find our 'virtual' candy bars for sale in our online store. Submit your payment, one is great - more is greatly appreciated, and a candy bar (LARGE Twix, 3Muskateers, Milky Way or Snickers) will be placed in one of our many outgoing care packages for deployed troops.

We would like to sell out before Christmas and get them all headed to where they will be enjoyed by our troops.

And best of all: **NO CALORIES** for you to have to worry about!!!

Please help today:

[PURCHASE VIRTUAL CANDY BAR](http://www.treesfortroops.org)

11a.m. – 1p.m.

Active Duty military & their families*

1-3p.m.

Everyone else with base access*

*660 trees will be available on a first-come, first-served basis

Limit one tree per family

For more information:

6 FSS Marketing @ (813)828-3055



**5th Annual Birthday Ball
Huge Success**

On Saturday, November 13th T.A.M.P.A. members, supporters and friends came together for a wonderful night of celebration Marine family style.

Samantha Quales delivered a gorgeous



cake for our event and husband Monty saw to it that the ceremony was worthy of Marine Corps

approval. Assisting in the ceremony was special guest Captain Shin from



FREE Fresh-Cut Christmas Trees!
Thursday, Dec. 9th
Bldg. 72 Parking Lot
MacDill AFB
Tampa, FL
(located across from the golf course, behind bldg. 65)

Washington DC. Our oldest Marine was Del Core (grandfather of Sgt. Joe Jennings Jr. MSG India) and our youngest Marine was Cpl Mike Duffney (son of Bonnie & Luther Coman).

We were also honored to have Mike Procopio (Gold Star Brother) as our guest speaker, and members of his family join us.



Mike's speech was moving and motivational and shared the long history of our Corps and its traditions and

service.

Special recognition was given to our newest "Veteran" parents, Bonnie & Luther Coman and Kim & Bruce Novatko, with the presentation of the Military Parent Award. T.A.M.P.A. officers and board members were recognized for their



continued work with the organization and Cyd Deathe was given a wonderful

Spa Gift Certificate from the group.

Kym Sardinas was surprised with a special presentation for her work with the Run For the Fallen event. Several congratulatory letters were read to Kym from all over the nation thanking her for her devotion to such an incredible cause and her continued dedication to "Never letting the Fallen be forgotten."



The Silent Auction, set up by Megan Smith & Courtney Blum, was again a huge success with purchases for the evening topping \$1,200. A portion of these proceeds will be used to help fund the Wounded Warrior Wilson family trip to Florida in early December.

Great food, dancing and much conversation filled the evening. Familiar

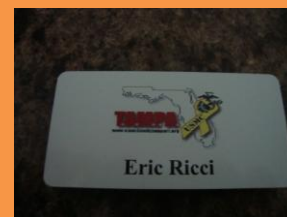


faces, new faces, many little devil pups and several wounded

warriors were able to attend.

Professional pictures were taken throughout the evening by Bob Campbell and will be available on disk for those who wish to purchase one. The cost of the pictures will be \$10/per disk and purchase can be made via our website. A portion of the proceeds from the pictures will go to **Paws for Patriots**.

To everyone who helped with this wonderful evening we would like to extend our most gracious thanks for your support, time and love. Without all of you we would not be able to hold this incredible night for our Marine families.





Family Day Desserts For 4th Tracks

On Sunday, November 21st some of the group transported and distributed hundreds of desserts for Marines and their families at the Family Day event the 4th Amphibious Assault Reserve in Tampa.



for Unit

The weather was gorgeous and there was plenty to do with lots of food and goodies to enjoy.

Highlights included displays and demonstrations of their equipment, a dragster to take pics of us take a ride Amtrack To all those there who bakers out helped with all the goodies, thank you so very much!



*One of T.A.M.P.A.'s
Marines needs.....
Letters From Home!*

Sgt. Brodey Vann is serving on his 5th deployment and can use some support. A short note, card or letter will help him out especially during this holiday season.

Sgt. Vann, Brodey

K Co, 1st Platoon

BLT 3/8 Det B

Unit 73281

FPO AE 09502-3281

WOUNDED WARRIOR NEWS:

Part of T.A.M.P.A.'s continued help & support is in reaching out to our Wounded Warriors and their families. Here is an email we recently received from a Marine wife that we were able to connect with great friends Tim & Shannon Maxwell of the SemperMax organization:

Hey Cyd,

I don't know if you remember me or not. You helped us get a hold of Tim and Shannon Maxwell for my husbands treatment. We held a benefit in Plant City this past July. I was going to let you know we have been able to go National with our story! I just want to say thank you for being part of our recovery! it means more than you will ever know! My husband is 100 times better now then he was back then. He actually is starting to feel like a man and I know that is the best thing that can happen because he is the man i married.

Here is the link for the article NewsWeek did on us!

<http://www.newsweek.com/2010/11/08/veteran-s-head-injuries-confound-military-doctors.html>

May God Bless you for everything yall do for us and for our brothers and sisters at arms!

Semper Fi,
Brooke Brown

BREAKING NEWS!!!!

Minutes before this publication was going to 'press' we received word that T.A.M.P.A. had been approved to purchase, with remaining FL Brave Grant funds, the children's book **Our Daddy is Invincible**. This book tells the story of two children as they deal with the news and life changing events that follow after their father is injured in war.

Like the Wounded Warrior Handbooks we distributed earlier this year, these books will be given **FREE** to wounded warrior children throughout central FL.



T.A.M.P.A. is pleased to announce that we will be serving as a Community Outreach Leader for this event. Consider joining TEAM T.A.M.P.A. as we volunteer and participate in this great event.

Start Location:

WWP's Soldier Ride team is speeding around to finalize the best start location for the ride. Please pedal back soon. Tentative info is hoping for the Florida State Fairgrounds.

Schedule of events:

- 7:00am Registration and Packet Pick-up Opens
- 8:45am Kick-off Celebration
- 9:00am Ride begins
- Post-ride Community Picnic

What Is Soldier Ride?

Soldier Ride is a WWP initiative that provides rehabilitative cycling opportunities across the country to help wounded warriors restore their physical and emotional well-being. It's also a wonderful opportunity for the public to participate in a cycling event that honors the men and women of our military who sacrificed so much. Soldier Ride offers the public a chance to ride alongside as our warriors promote their positive message of recovery. The event raises funds for WWP programs and initiatives that ensure this generation of wounded warriors is the most successful, well-adjusted generation of wounded warriors in our nation's history.

Feel the Honor . . . Show Your Support . . Join the Ride!

The men and women of the United States armed forces have responded with courage and resolve to the needs of our country. This is your opportunity to give while cycling alongside them!

Pearl Harbor Memorial Event

**December 7, 2010
– 9:00a.m.
The Pier at Little Harbor**



Ceremony hosted by Ruskin VFW Post 6287 and will include the presentation of colors by the VFW Ladies Auxiliary Color Guard and the MCL #1226 will provide Taps & rifle volley. The ceremony also includes the National Anthem and a wreath thrown into Tampa Bay to pay tribute to Pearl Harbor veterans. Courtesy of Little Harbor, coffee will be provided by the pier in addition to extending a discount on their full breakfast buffet or from the menu.

Honor Flight of West Central Florida

Honor Flight Network is a non-profit organization created solely to honor America's veterans for all their sacrifices. We transport our heroes to Washington,



D.C. to visit and reflect at memorials. Top priority is given to the senior veterans –World War II survivors, along with those other veterans who may be terminally ill.

Now, with over one thousand World War II veterans dying each day, our time to express our thanks to these brave men and women is running out.

CONTACT

Honor Flight of West Central Florida
 P.O. Box 55661
 St. Petersburg, FL 33732
 Email: info@honorflightwcf.org
 Web: www.honorflightwcf.org

49 years later, dog tags returned to Marine vet

The Associated Press

Posted : Saturday Nov 13, 2010 12:00:31 EST

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — A Connecticut veteran has gotten his Marine dog tags back, almost 50 years after losing them on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques.

Richard Ward, who is now a University of New Haven dean, lost them during military exercises in spring 1961 while training in support of the Bay of Pigs invasion.

Relatives of Ann Tuttle of Oklahoma recently found the tags after spotting them tangled in a fallen palm tree's roots while snorkeling near Vieques. She mentioned the find after striking up a conversation with a retired

military officer, Doug Mitchell, while the two were on Vieques.

Mitchell volunteered to search for Ward, and eventually put him in touch with Tuttle.

Ward said he is shocked and grateful. He said the tags' return gave him a chance to reminisce about his military service.



As a U.S. Marine staff sergeant's wife, I know firsthand why it means so much that we honor the service of veterans everywhere. But my husband Dennis and I also know that, during his four deployments, a few others were serving too. Our children do whatever it takes to support this family and this country while their dad is away.

And they're not alone. Right now, more than 1.5 million military kids serve proudly, and too often they don't receive thanks for all they do. So today I'm asking you to help make sure military kids get some of the thanks they deserve.

From today until December 31, the National Military Family Association is inviting you to [build a wall of thanks to honor military kids](#). This wall will be built with as many photos, names, and messages as possible—and with your help, we'll make sure that the military kids in our programs see this amazing display of support throughout 2011.

During Dennis's most recent deployment, Jordan, our oldest son, really took on the role of "the man of the house" watching out for all of us. He even checked and double-checked the lock on the front door every night. Although our kids have always helped around the house, they stepped up in ways I couldn't have imagined while Dennis was gone. They were determined to keep brave faces as they tried to hide their worry about their dad's safety.

Each year at the National Military Family Association's Operation Purple® camps, kids of deployed parents create a "Wall of Honor" for their parents who serve. And now that Dennis is back home, our kids see people come up and thank him. It really means a lot to our whole family for Dennis to be recognized for his service. But let's also thank our kids. They give so much—they say goodbye, write letters, step up at home, and give up one of their parents for months at a time. It would mean so much to them to have their service recognized too.

[Check out our wall of thanks and add your photo.](#)

I'm so proud of the strength that my kids bring to our family and our country. Let's show them—and all military kids—just how much their service matters.

Kristy Leanes
 Proud wife and mother



By [Bobbie O'Brien](#)

TAMPA (2010-11-8) -

The Library of Congress is asking if you know a veteran that you pledge to record that veteran's story and submit it to them for safekeeping.

The Veterans History Project is 10 years old. But, this week it started a new focus on Florida because the state has one of the largest veteran populations.

Whether you know a WWII veteran or a soldier just returned from Afghanistan, the Library of Congress wants you to help collect their stories. The interviews can be audio or video and can be conducted by family, friends, neighbors or another veteran. The idea is to get the story.

"It can really be as simple as having a conversation, but the memories that are recorded are of priceless value to families to researchers and students and general public," said Jessica Souva, the Veterans History Project Florida coordinator.

Guidelines on how to participate, suggested questions and registration forms are all available on the Library of Congress web site. There's also a "field kit" that can be downloaded.

In addition to individual interviews, Souva is setting up a network of Florida universities that have agreed to partner and record veteran interviews. So far, three have signed up:

Florida State University Reichelt Oral History Program, Tallahassee at 850-644-4966 or roh@fsu.edu.

University of Florida Samuel Proctor Oral History Program, Gainesville at 352-392-7168 or portiz@ufl.edu.

University of Central Florida RICHES Program, Orlando. Register online at www.ucf.edu (search under "Veterans History Project") or call 407-823-0242.

To schedule a workshop, speaking engagement, or explore ways to collaborate with VHP in Florida, contact Jessica Souva at Jessica@jsouva.com.



"No event in American history is more misunderstood than the Vietnam War. It was misreported then, and it is misremembered now."

Richard Nixon, New York Times, March 28, 1985

In Accordance With Public Law 110-181 SEC. 598; the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the Secretary of Defense to conduct a program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War and "in conducting the commemorative program, the Secretary shall coordinate, support, and facilitate other programs and activities of the Federal Government, State and local governments, and other persons and organizations in commemoration of the Vietnam War."

For more information:

<http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/>



2011 Armed Forces Salute Military Tickets

Travel Dates: October 24, 2010 – October 1, 2011

Walt Disney World has just announced that Active and Retired U.S. Military, including members of the U.S.

Coast Guard and active members of the National Guard or Reservists, may purchase 4-Day Walt Disney World Armed Forces Salute

Tickets for themselves and up to five (5) family members and/or friends from \$138 each. That is a maximum total of 6 tickets that can be purchased by each military member.

For all details and options please visit:

<http://www.shadesofgreen.org/4DAY2011.htm>

Ladies Auxiliary Holiday Bazaar



American Legion Post #5

3810 W. Kennedy Blvd.

Tampa 33609

Saturday, December 4th - 8 a.m.

Tag Items, Crafts & Local Vendors

Table Rental (inside) \$10.00

Table Rental (outside) \$5.00

Set up begins at 6a.m.

Drawings every hour for prizes

Patriotic Quilt RAFFLE

Tickets for quilt = \$2/each

For more information:

Rosemary Hamblin

bgammo@aol.com

WARNING TO VETERANS

Forwarded by Kevin Secor, VSO Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

An organization called Veterans Affairs Services (VAS) is providing benefit and general information on VA and gathering personal information on veterans...

This organization is not affiliated with VA in any way.

<http://www.vaservices.org/us/index.html>

VAS may be gaining access to military personnel through their close resemblance to the VA name and seal. Our Legal Counsel has requested that we coordinate with DoD to inform military installations, particularly mobilization sites, of this group and their lack of affiliation or endorsement by VA to provide any services.

In addition, GC requests that if you have any examples of VAS acts that violate chapter 59 of Title 38 United States Code, such as VAS employees assisting veterans in the preparation and presentation of claims for benefits, please pass any additional information to Mr. Daugherty at the address below.

Michael G. Daugherty

Staff Attorney

Department of Veterans Affairs

Office of General Counsel (022G2)

Attention Dog and Puppy Lovers!

Southeastern Guide Dogs will host its next Open House on Saturday, December 4th from 9 a.m. to noon at its beautiful, 23-acre campus in Palmetto. The event is free and open to the public! **Special appearance by Santa!**

Open House visitors will enjoy a guided, walking tour of our Freedom Walk and our puppy and dog training kennels. You will learn how guide dogs are trained and the valuable service they provide. Get an opportunity to experience what it's like to walk blindfolded with a trained dog.

Southeastern Guide Dogs is one of only 12 fully certified guide dog schools in the country, and the only guide dog school in the Southeastern United States. The school is just minutes off I-75 at 4210 77th Street East in Palmetto, Florida. **Share the puppy love!**



If you would like to receive notification, via email, on Florida Fallen Heroes, you will need to 'OPT IN' to our email distribution list. We will



notify you when we receive DOD announcements and also give you information to online guest books for signature.

Simply email:

Admin@USMCFamilySupport.org

and place 'OPT IN' in the subject line of your email. Likewise, if you ever wish to be removed from the list just place 'OPT OUT' in the subject line.

