

“Salute to Veterans” November 11, 2014 Brownwood Square

Parady Financial Group is again honoring all area military veterans on November 11, 2014 at Brownwood Square, The Villages, Florida. This second annual “Salute to Veterans” tribute is to recognize and **thank all veterans** for their service and to acknowledge the sacrifices they have made in permitting us to have the freedoms we enjoy.

For the second year Villages Honor Flight has been designated as the beneficiary of the proceeds from the event. This benefit will assist in providing funding to support the VHF mission of taking American war heroes to see the memorials dedicated to their service, without cost to them.

The event will begin at 5:00 pm with a motor cycle parade and demonstration by the Village Nomads. Music and live entertainment will be provided on stage by Johnny Cool & The Mobster Swing Band. Additionally the Village Cheerleaders, Villages Twirlers and Band and other local musical and dance groups will perform.

The veterans of Villages Honor Flight will be introduced in mass about 5:15 pm as they enter the Square led by the Village Twirlers and Band. Reserved seating and hospitality will be provided to VHF veterans by Parady Financial.

VHF veteran who wish to participate in the Parade of Veterans should contact Sally Byrnes by 11/4/14 at the number below. There is limited reserved seating and hospitality (dinner) provisions available, so reservations are required. Reservations are on a first come, first served, until they are gone. Villages Honor Flight Veterans who wish to be part of the Parade of Veterans SHOULD ASSEMBLE ALONGSIDE THE MOVIE THEATRE at Brownwood by 5:00 pm. Spouses and significant others who accompany the veterans will not be seated with the veterans but instead accommodated in an adjoining area. A limited number of hospitality (dinner) provisions are being provided for the spouse or significant other who may accompany a VHF veteran, and will be allocated on a first come basis until they are gone.

There are numerous ways the members of the VHF community may participate in this spectacular event. First and foremost, come out to the rain or shine event. Overflow attendance is expected, so plan on arriving early. Encourage your neighborhood communities and clubs to attend the event and bring an American flag to wave. If you know any military veteran, encourage them to attend...this is a salute to all military veterans.

At this point no provisions are being provided for transportation of veterans to and from Brownwood Square. Neither is specific reserved parking available.

This is an ideal time for previous Guardians to connect with the veteran they accompanied to DC, particularly in providing the necessary transportation. Dinner will

not be provided to the Guardians or VHF volunteers; however numerous commercial food venues will be available.

VHF will have a tent on the Square where we will promote our missions and programs. Branded merchandise will be available, donations accepted, our upcoming events promoted.

Parady Financial Group will be conducting several “Chinese Auctions” along with a mega 50/50 drawing. As the beneficiary of the proceeds from the event we have committed to help solicit items to be put into the baskets which are the basis of the Chinese Auction and to sell 50/50 tickets at several sale points around the Square. **VHF volunteers are needed for the event...staffing our tent, selling 50/50 tickets and soliciting items to go into the auction baskets. Call Sally Byrnes at 352-259-5890 or “sbyrnes123@yahoo.com” to volunteer.** The proceeds will benefit our mission!!! Please help.

We are most grateful to the Parady Financial Group for again undertaking this tribute. Those who attended last year testify it was truly a fitting, patriotic event...many saying it was the best event they had attended. Parady has made all the arrangements with the Villages Entertainment Department, have underwritten all the cost, have secured the entertainment and will provide the hospitality to our veterans. This is one of many similar programs they provide to support our community and we are truly blessed for having them designating VHF as the beneficiary. It is now our turn to show our appreciation by encouraging participation, volunteering as may be necessary and helping to get our veterans to and from the event.

If you have questions and to volunteer your support, contact Sally Byrnes, the event coordinator at 352-259-5890 or sbyrnes123@yahoo.com.