

## HOLLY AREA VETERANS' RESOURCE CENTER OCTOBER MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

October is upon us and that brings fall. The Center is busy with a number of projects. The Holly Area Veterans' Resource Center is a 501(c)3. We are a resource center and our primary mission is helping veterans and their families. The Holly Area Veterans' Resource Center is **not** part of the VA.

We help with employment, food, housing, benefits, and more. The Center will point you in the right direction. We love it when people just come in and talk. Remember you are not alone.

We are open from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays or by appointment.

Service Officers: Bruce Freimark is at the Center Monday and Thursday of each week from 8:00 am-4:00 pm. Bruce is with the Vietnam Veterans of America and is an Air Force Veteran. When you come to see him bring your discharge paper and other information that might be relevant to your claim or the claim you are going to file.

Oakland County Service Officers are here on the second Tuesday of every month from 8:30 am-4:00 pm. **None** of our service officers are from the VA. They prefer appointments: call

**A tip:** When you are at a VA facility and you are about to leave, drop in at the travel office. They will fill out a travel form for you. Takes longer than if you do it by computer, although very few people can apply via computer. Fill out the form and save yourself some grief.

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday we have our Vet-to-Vet Dinner at the American Legion Hall at the corner of Sherman and S. Saginaw Streets. Dinner Starts at 5:30pm and is free. The dinner is open to all veterans and spouse, veteran's families, and Gold Star families. Join us for good food and conversation. Bruce Freimark, the project chair, usually has someone speak for a few minutes and then opens it up to the audience. Thank you to Jeff from Mission Point for the cookies we served at the last dinner. Thanks to everyone who brought a dessert or a dish to pass.

We are in the process of reorganizing the Hometown Heroes Project Committee. If you are interested in working on the project, please contact us. We met with returning veteran Paul Butler at the tree and removed his ribbon. His family and others were present. He served in the USMC on the Pacific. Paul talked about his service and places he'd been.

If you know of anyone going into the service, please let us know. We will plan a day to put their ribbon on the tree and give them a send off. If you know of someone who is getting out of the service, let us know. We will set a day to remove their ribbon and welcome them home.

Holly is a veteran friendly community.

We are holding yoga at the American Legion on Wednesday. Give Mike Patterson a call if you are interested in joining the group. Mike's number is 248-525-5460.

Paul Butler, who served in the USMC, was the most recent veteran to have his ribbon removed from the tree on Maple St and will be one of the Grand Marshals of the parade. April Brandon, who is a Gold Star Mother, will be the other Grand Marshal. Her son Kenny Smith died aboard the USS John McCain. She also represents Gold Star Families.

We have received book donations to our library. We have nearly 3,500 military and history books, and we have a large collection DVDs on the same subjects. Our librarian Karen Healy would love to have you come and peruse our collection. There is no fee

So the center is a busy place.

Another big project on our list is the Traveling Wall coming to Holly next August 3-8, 2022. Rick Powers and Joe Mishler are the co-chairs. We will have t-shirts for sale before Veterans Day. If you would like to be on one of the committees or part of the project, let us know. We would be glad to have you.

We are working on a project Welcome Home Veterans that will happen before you get this newsletter. But it is a project that came to us from Jeremy Watson, Village of Holly Firefighter. We are having a parade on October 2 at noon, followed by events downtown. They have kept our country safe. We are indebted to them and their service.

We are bringing the Traveling Wall August 3<sup>rd</sup>- August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The American Legion is sponsoring the project. The co-chairs are Joe Mishler and Rick Powers. The Wall will be located at Cyclone Park located on Baird St. If you want to be involved, contact us. We will need a lot of help.

A fundraising dinner/theatre will be held at the Vault in downtown Holly. More details on this event soon.

According to Congresswoman Slotkin's office we understand that the dedication of the post office new name will take place on Veterans Day at 1pm at the VFW. Unfortunately, even though we were involved and came up with the new name, we have had no contact with the Post Office. Join us at the dedication, a large veteran presence would be good.

Enjoy the All. Stop in an visit us.

***Joseph Michael Mishler, Editor***

#### **Upcoming events:**

Legion Mtg.: 10/5, 7pm, Legion Hall 408 S. Saginaw

Legion Open Mic: 10/9, 7pm, Legion Hall

VFW Mtg: 10/13, 7pm, 201 Airport Dr.

Vet to Vet Dinner: October 18, 5:30 to 7pm.

Legion Halloween Party: October 30, 7pm

Veterans Day: 11/11/11: Lakeside Cemetery

Dedication of the Post Office Name Change 11/11, 1pm, VFW.

Veteran's Day Salute: 11/11/11 at 7pm Veterans Day Salute at Holly High School.

Moose Valued Veteran Program: 11/13, 9am-1pm

Traveling Wall Dinner Fundraiser: 11/19 7pm. At the Vault