



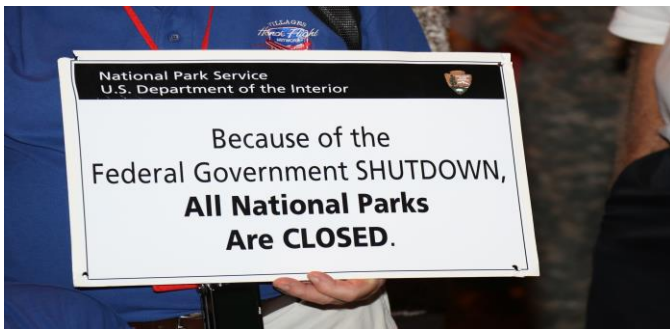
Villages Honor Flight

Serving Lake, Sumter and Marion, Citrus and Hernando Counties

October 2013

OPERATIONS

The 5-Oct'2013 flight planning and preparation progressed as normal, while the cloud of uncertainty about which memorials would be accessible due to the Government shutdown hung over the flight. All of the veterans had served during WWII and would not be denied this once in a lifetime opportunity to visit their memorials. The flight went on as planned, the memorials were all visited (albeit the USMC Memorial from afar) and the veterans had the added bonus of being visited during their trip by area Congressional Representatives Nugent, Webster and Yoho. Their welcome home was loud and patriotic as they were greeted by families, friends, neighbors and well-wishers. One vet brought home a souvenir of the trip (which he found on the ground near the WWII Memorial).



The final flight of 2013, our 7th, carrying 25 WWII veterans will depart 2-Nov 2013. The sendoff from the American Legion Post 347 is scheduled for about 0420 hours (4:20 am) and return about 2225 hours (10:25 pm). Homecoming activities at the Legion will begin about 2100 hours (9:00 pm). Entertainment will be provided by John Rogerson and Jill Demarrese, Village Cheerleaders, Village Twirlers and Clown Alley 179. All are encouraged to come out and bring a flag, chair and friend. Everyone will be treated to a surprise by one of the returning vets, Mary "Dixie" Booth, when the vets arrive home.

Don't miss it and let's make this finale the largest and loudest crowd possible!

P.S. Share this newsletter with a friend or neighbor

UPCOMING EVENTS and there are many (see web site for more details).

2-Nov'2013 Government Day sponsored by The Villages will be at Colony Cottage Rec Center, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. We will have a display, be telling our story and recruiting veterans. Come visit us and learn about your local government.

7-Nov'2013 Bob Evans Restaurant, 2199 Parr Drive, The Villages will be the scene of a one day community fundraiser. For every patron who presents the flyer, (which is available at our web site under fundraisers and will be passed out at the homecoming) at the time they pay their bill, Bob Evans will donate 15% of the bill to **Villages Honor Flight**.

8-Nov'2013 VA Outpatient Clinic Salute to Veterans Day, Mulberry Plaza The Clinic will sponsor a celebration for all veterans from 2-4:00 pm. All veterans are welcome and **Villages Honor Flight** will have a booth to promote our cause.

9-Nov'2013 Belk's Charity Sale will take place at the Belk's Department Store in The Villages. For every \$5 donated to **Villages Honor Flight**, donors receive a \$5 coupon that is good at the store on 9-Nov'2013. Coupons are for sale at Homecoming and at the Bob Evan dine-in on 7-November.

11-Nov'2013 Veterans 4, a local veterans group, are sponsoring their Third Annual Veterans Day Tournament one day golf outing at the Links at Spruce Creek South. They have generously designated **Villages Honor Flight** as the beneficiary. The event is sold out.

11-Nov'2013 Parady Financial Group is sponsoring a "Tribute to Veterans" at Paddock Square in Brownwood, The Villages. This free event, which runs from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., is open to the public and is a benefit for **Villages Honor Flight**. It will feature music by renowned Garrett Miles, entertainment by local performing groups, a Chinese auction, 50/50 chance drawing, food vendors, a Color Guard and much more. Villages Honor Flight veterans will be there to relate their military stories and their Honor Flight experience. Thank you Parady Financial Group.

7-Dec'2013 (a date that will live in infamy) **The Villages Swing Band** will perform a concert, "Songs We Remember from the 40's" at American Legion Post 347, for the benefit of **Villages Honor Flight**. Information is available on our web site or contact Marilyn at 352-753-2603 or mgagen@me.com.

