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Flagler County to honor its veterans with social media tribute on Veterans Day, government offices closed

**November 10 2020** – Flagler County officials will honor the veterans within the organization with a social media tribute on Wednesday – Veterans Day – in gratitude for their service to the United States, and continued dedication to the county.

“It is our sincere hope that everyone will take a moment to reflect on the service of our veterans, and what that means to us as Americans,” said Veterans Services Officer David Lydon. “Servicemen and servicewomen protect our freedoms every day of the year so that we can continue to enjoy the benefits of living in the USA, and we should celebrate that.”

Individual recognition for the 18 participating veterans within the Flagler County Board of County Commissioners will be posted to the county’s Facebook page – [www.facebook.com/FlaglerCountyGovernment](http://www.facebook.com/FlaglerCountyGovernment) – alphabetically in 15 minute increments so that all are posted by 11 a.m.

Flagler County offices are closed on Veterans Day, and will reopen Thursday, November 12.

Listed below are the veterans who chose to participate in the tribute:

Danny Bowman  
Airport Operations  
United States Coast Guard  
Chief Boatswain Mate  
21.5 years

Alex Daugherty  
Firefighter Paramedic  
United States Navy  
4 years (2011-2015)

Robert S. Detherow  
Land Management Specialist
United States Marine Corps
Staff Sergeant
16 years (1986-2002)
Honors: Navy Achievement Medal, COMBAT Action Ribbon, Navy Unit Citation, Southwest Asia Service Medal with two stars, Sea Service Deployment with three stars, Good Conduct Medal with one star, Reserve Good Conduct with two Stars, Liberation of Kuwait Medal Kuwait, Liberation of Kuwait Medal Saudi Arabia, National Defense Medal
*Two of my sons – Riley and Hunter Detherow – who are Matanzas graduates are currently serving in the United States Marine Corps.

Christopher Ellis
Fire Rescue Squad Leader
United States Army
Sergeant
17 years total – Active Duty 13 years, and currently serving in the Reserves
Honors: Bronze Star, Combat Action Badge, three Army Accommodation Medals, six Army Achievement Medals, Outstanding volunteer Award, 36 Months Deployed

Charles F. Ericksen Jr.
County Commissioner
U.S. Army
First Lieutenant
6 years (2 Active, and 4 Ready Reserve)
Honors: U.S. Army Commendation Medal, and Distinguished Military Graduate – University of Connecticut

Eric Flores Febles
Veterans Service Officer Assistant
U.S. Army Reserve and U.S. Navy
Petty Officer First Class (Air Warfare)
Honors: Navy Achievement Medals (six awards), Good Conduct Medals (6 awards), Navy Battle “E” Ribbon (two awards), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Overseas Service Ribbons (seven awards), Coast Guard Special Operations Ribbon, Pistol Expert Ribbon, Rifle Sharpshooter Ribbon, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Navy Unit Commendation Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal (two awards), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, NATO Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, Sea Deployment Ribbon (two awards)

Greg Hansen
County Commissioner
United States Navy
Captain
27 Years
Honors: Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with two silver stars, Bronze Star with Combat “V,” Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal with bronze star, Combat Action Ribbon

Brian Houghton
IT Support Specialist I
United States Army
3.5 years

Nealon Joseph
Emergency Management Planner
United States Air Force
Staff Sergeant
10 years (2004-2014)

David P. Lydon Jr.
Veterans Services Officer
United States Air Force
Lieutenant Colonel
35 years+ (still in service)
Honors: Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Afghanistan Campaign Medal

James Melady
Firefighter Paramedic
United States Navy
10 years (2006-2016)

Jonathan Andrew Nemergut
Library Assistant III, Branch Manager of the Bunnell Branch Library
United States Army
Sergeant
6 Years (2001-2007)
Honors: Purple Heart, Valorous Unit Award, Combat Action Badge, Army Commendation Medal

Devrie Paradowski
Housing Program Coordinator
United States Navy
Petty Officer Second Class
7 years (1999-2006)
Honors: Letter of Commendation (2004 and 2006)

Roy Sieger
Airport Director
United States Marine Corps
Gunnery Sergeant
20 years (1984-2004)

Jesse Sintscha
Firefighter Paramedic
United States Navy
4 years (1998-2002)

David C. Sullivan
County Commissioner
United States Navy
Captain
Retired after 28 years of active service
Honors: Meritorious Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal

Steven “Todd” Whaley
FireFlight Pilot
United States Navy
5 years (1992-1997)

Samantha Whitfield
Risk Manager
United States Air Force
Master Sergeant
20 years
Honors: Achievement Medal, Commendation Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Longevity Medal, Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

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