



Castle Oaks Covenant Church Uniform Services Support Ministry Newsletter

Issue 7: December 2022

Coffee and Biscuits at Bonaventure Retirement Center:

Special thanks to several volunteers who assisted with the Veterans Day recognition at Bonaventure of Castle Rock on November 10th. We had over 35 veterans and spouses including several other residents in a recognition celebration of the veterans. It is truly amazing listening to the stories of these veterans including one who is still proud of his service during World War II. Thanks to all the volunteers including the Wellspring bakery in cooking up 10 dozen cookies for the event.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wellspring Stars Christmas Concert:



A special **Wellspring Stars Christmas Concert** will be performed at the Bonaventure of Castle Rock retirement center on Monday, December 12th at 10:30. There is a need for additional USSM and Wellspring volunteers to assist in setting up the chairs for the residents in the main lobby as well as to replace the chairs afterwards. If you are interested in assisting during the Wellspring Stars Christmas concert, please notify Bob Nelson at the contact below or Nicole Stewart with Wellspring. nstewart@wearewellspring.org



National Wreaths Across America Day:



Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, the mission to remember, honor and teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at more than 3,400 locations in all 50 states including Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. We understand we have Veterans Day in the fall and Memorial Day in the spring, but our service members sacrifice their time and safety every single day of the year to preserve our freedoms.

In many homes, there is an empty seat for one who is serving or one who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. There is no better time to express our appreciation than during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season.

On December 17, 2022, at 09:00 am, Wreaths Across America will be at Cedar Hill Cemetery to Remember and Honor our veterans through the laying of Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes. There are over 450 veteran grave sites at Cedar Hill with veterans who had served during the Civil War to the present day.

We will never forget.

National Western Stock Show:



The 2023 NWSS is fast approaching. On Tuesday, January 17, 2023, there will be a special rodeo to recognize the selfless servicemen and women of our armed forces, at the **Military Appreciation Pro Rodeo**. Every year, the stock show comes together and acknowledge active-duty and retired servicemen and women from all branches of service.



This special Pro Rodeo includes fan-favorite rodeo events, Mutton Bustin', a performance by the Westernaires, world-champion rodeo contestants, and animal athletes. Wear your red, white, and blue, and come out to support our troops! Special military ticket discounts are available. To buy tickets, go to one of the following links:

[National Western Stock Show, Rodeo, Horse Show | Online Ticket Office | Military Appreciation Rodeo presented by Lifetime Windows \(evenue.net\)](#)

[BUY TICKETS](#)



VETERAN SERVICES FOCUS

Mt. Carmel Veterans Service Center

Last month we focused on an organization called Remount Foundation in Colorado Springs. Phil had an opportunity to interview Dr. Earl Gaughan on November 6th during our Veterans Day Recognition.

This month the focus is on an organization called **Mt Carmel Veterans Service Center** down in Colorado Springs servicing and supporting veterans of all branches.

Mt. Carmel Veterans Service Center provides transition and employment assistance, behavioral health and wellness, supportive services, connection to community resources, and safe event space for veterans, military members and their families. Mt. Carmel was a dream of Mr. Jay Cimino and his strong desire to support our veteran community in meaningful ways.

Transition and Employment team directly assists transitioning service members, veterans of all eras, and their family members in gaining meaningful employment, emphasized support for military spouses. The team collaborates with employers, military installations, and community partners to ensure success. The Colorado Governor recently extended state funding five years for the Veterans Service to Career program based on strong success of our pilot program.

Health and Wellness services include individual, group & couples therapy, no-cost therapeutic retreats, and non-traditional therapies including trauma-focused yoga, PTS-focused art and photo therapy, tai-chi and more. Services are confidential and open to veterans of all eras and regardless of discharge status.

Military, Veteran, and Family Services team offers a hand-up to members of the veteran community experiencing crisis. Working with national and community partners, the goal



is to help people stabilize their lives allowing them to access other wellness and career services they may need.

If you want additional information, volunteer opportunities, or to donate to the organization, go to the website: [Home - Mt. Carmel Veterans Center](#)

UPCOMING DATES:

Important dates are recognized through the fall and into the winter:

- Pear Harbor Day: December 7th
- National Guard Birthday: December 13th
- National Vietnam Veterans Day: March 29th

PASS THE WORD: If you know of other members of the church who are currently serving or have served in the military or they are currently a first responder, we want to be a support to themselves and their family! Please tell them about USSM. You can share this newsletter or an information card (available in the Welcome Center at Castle Oaks), or you can share our website.

[Uniform Services Support — Castle Oaks Covenant Church](#)

<https://www.castleoaks.org/ussm>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: There will be volunteer opportunities for both adults and children. Pick up a Castle Oaks Church Uniform Services Support Ministry information or visit the USSM web page.

We continually seek ideas and suggestions from our USSM members and friends, so if you have an idea that fits within our mission, please let us know. We'd love to hear from you!

CONTACT US: You can contact us by email at USSM@CastleOaks.Org, or reach out to USSM Team Leads,

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