



PRESS RELEASE
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‘Welcome Home’ event to honor and thank Vietnam veterans

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — An event honoring America’s Vietnam veterans as part of the Vietnam War 50th Anniversary will take place in Seward March 26.

The Department of Military & Veteran Affairs has joined forces with the Vietnam War Commemorative Partners Program and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Alaska to put on the “Welcome Home, Vietnam Veterans” event. The official ceremony will be held at the Seward High School auditorium, 2100 Swetmann Ave., Seward, Alaska. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m. with the ceremony taking place from noon to 2 p.m. There will be a light finger-food reception hosted by the American Legion Post 5.

This collaboration is organized to help a grateful nation thank and honor Vietnam veterans and their families for service, valor and sacrifice.

“We are elated and proud that the State of Alaska has joined the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to honor veterans and their families who have sacrificed so much for this nation,” said Verdie Bowen, director of the State of Alaska Office of Veterans Affairs. “Many have given their lives, to include those who returned with a large portion of their innocence forever gone.”

The Vietnam War Commemorative Partnership Program started in Alaska March 29, 2014. Ceremonies have been held in the cities of Anchorage, Craig, Fairbanks, Homer, Kodiak, Unalaska, Wrangell and Sitka.

“I give our Vietnam veterans tremendous credit for their leadership and for their willingness to ensure that all veterans have total access to earned benefits,” Bowen added. “Our Vietnam veterans have passed a legacy onto this nation that we will always respect and honor the returning warrior and support each one individually and stand behind their families collectively. I believe their bravery, their resourcefulness and their patriotism marks them as America’s finest citizens. I am honored to ‘Welcome Home’ Alaska’s Vietnam Veterans.”

For more information, contact Forrest Powell at (907)334-0872 or visit www.veteran.alaska.gov.

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