

Residents walk to honor veterans

Walk of Honor benefits local veterans organization

by **Jessica Lipsky**

Photos



The Carquinez Bridge will be awash in flags this weekend as hundreds of patriots walk in honor of those who have served in the Armed Forces.

The fifth annual Walk of Honor on Saturday, May 18 brings together community members and veterans organizations for leisurely walk across the "Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge" and barbeque. The event regularly draws over 600 participants, many of whom walk in honor of a family or friend who is currently serving.



"This is a tribute to their service," said John Reese, an organizer of VietNam Veterans of the Diablo Valley. "All names put on the wall of honor at the event, which wraps around the Crockett Community Center. "

Registration fees for the walk benefit local nonprofits and VietNam Veterans of the Diablo Valley (VNDV) has been among the recipients for four years. Reese estimates that VNDV has received over \$50,000 from the walk since its inception.

"This is a significant fundraiser for the VietNam Vets because we turn around and utilize the money for programs like East Bay Stand Down and the Memorial Day program on Monday the 27th," Reese said.

In past years, funds from the Walk of Honor have been used to give gas cards to Contra Costa County veterans who would otherwise be unable to get to medical appointments or job interviews. Fees from the fifth annual walk will also be split with the Crockett Veterans Memorial Building, a historical structure built by C&H Sugar just after WWI, which needs renovations.

Check in for the event will be held from 8 a.m. To 9 a.m. at the Crockett Community Center (850 Pomona Street, Crockett) and the walk begins at 10 a.m. An information fair with booths on veteran benefits, services and available programs for servicemembers and their families will be held from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

A Huey helicopter will conduct a fly-over during the walk and a second helicopter will be available for children to explore and play on. Historic vehicles will also be parked at the event.

To register for the walk, mail at \$25 check to
Phillips 66, Attn: Aimee Lohr
1380 San Pablo Ave., Rodeo, Calif., 94572

along with a copy of the registration form printed from the Walk of Honor [website](#). Interested

parties can also register the day of the event. Make checks payable to SFR Community Fund, (Tax ID#45-2483804).

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