



May 30, 2014 (Issue 135)

VPD: A Year in Review, 2013

The **City of Vallejo's Police Department** (VPD) is filled with hard-working, dedicated employees who care deeply about the safety and well-being of Vallejo and its residents. During the VPD Awards and Recognition Luncheon, many police employees were honored for their accomplishments in 2013.

Among those who were honored at the luncheon was Shane Bower, 2013 Officer of the Year; Stephanie Boursaw, 2013 Civilian of the Year; Kelly Newman, 2013 Communication Operator of the Year; and Jeanie Widemann, 2013 Volunteer of the Year. Those honored only scratch the surface of the exceptional work being done in the Department. Fourteen of Vallejo's finest received promotions in 2013, and as of today the number of sworn officers is up to 94 after reaching a low of 77 just six months ago. Captain Jim O'Connell prepared this report reviewing and highlighting the many successes of the VPD in 2013.



During 2013, the VPD successfully created the Community Services Section (CSS), a three-civilian unit made to communicate and interact with

the Department and the public on a daily basis, by helping to address the important quality of life issues and reestablish Neighborhood Watch Groups throughout the community.

The department sponsored a gun-buy-back event, designed to get dangerous and unwanted firearms off the streets of Vallejo. Similar to the gun-buy-back event, the VPD participated in two Drug Enforcement Administration prescription drug take-back days, where community members could bring unwanted pharmaceuticals to be disposed of in a safe manner.

In an effort to increase transparency and connect with the community, the VPD welcomed Vallejo residents to attend an Open House, the first in VPD history. The event was complete with officer meet-and-greets and an inside look into the daily operations of the Department.

A section of Highway 37 was dedicated to a fallen police officer, and the Vallejo Police Officer James Capoot Memorial Highway sign stands to honor the memory of a community hero.



These accomplishments show an agency on the move, responsive to the needs of the community it serves with a sense of preparedness to move forward in all possible ways. The proudest accomplishments can be found in the day-in and day-out operation of the VPD and its partnership with its residents. The goal of the department is excellence, and the VPD is prepared to continue working hard to reach these goals. To view the full report [click here](#).



Pista sa Nayon 28th Anniversary

The 28th Annual Pista sa Nayon Filipino Festival is back this year with non-stop live entertainment from morning until night on Saturday, June 7.

The festivities kick-off with a parade starting at Capitol and Marin Streets at 9:30 a.m., then continues down to the waterfront with two stages, ending at 6:00 p.m. This free festival is for anyone who wants to sample Philippine cuisine, soak up the Filipino hospitality or enjoy entertainment for all ages, cultures and ethnicities.

Pista sa Nayon is the highlight of Philippine Cultural Month and is celebrated throughout the month of June. Filipinos around the world celebrate June 12 as Philippine Independence Day, when Filipinos first proclaimed their independence from Spain after more than 300 years of colonial rule.



New Six Flags Tsunami Soaker Ride

Six Flags Discovery Kingdom is proud to present its newest park attraction, guaranteed to get riders soaked! The all-new Tsunami Soaker is an interactive water ride, the first of its kind at this park.

The Tsunami Soaker is similar to a classic teacup ride, but with a wet and wild twist. Up to six guests can climb into one of nine boats and spin atop a pool of water. As the ride begins, the floor sinks away bringing your boat floating and splashing around, all while spinning in circles as the other boats twist around you, creating a disorienting yet exciting experience.



Each seat on the boat is armed with a giant water gun, so every rider can participate in the drenching action. While the boat rotates around, you can pump water into the gun, engaging in battles with other boats and innocent bystanders, soaking them with huge bursts of water. But be careful! Those innocent bystanders can also choose to fire back at you at any one of the stationary water guns positioned around the outside of the ride!

This new drenching water ride will be a great way to cool off on a hot day this summer at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom. The new ride will open on May 31. The theme park will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. [Click here](#) for the 2014 season Operating Calendar.

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VVMBC to Honor Vietnam War Veterans

The Vallejo Veterans Memorial Building Council (VVMBC) will be honoring Vietnam War Veterans on Saturday, August 9 at the Vallejo Memorial Building to coincide with the 50th Anniversary of the Tonkin Gulf Resolution.

The following criteria is required to be recognized in this memorial celebration:

- Resident of Vallejo
- Awarded the Vietnam Service Medal or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for pre-1965 Vietnam duty
- Desired to be recognized and honored

As Vallejo's 10,000 Veterans may include up to 3,000 Vietnam War Veterans, the U.S. Secretary of Defense and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff have recognized the VVMBC as a 'Commemorative Partner' for their willingness to assist and support our grateful nation in thanking and honoring our Vietnam War Veterans.

In 2011-2012, about 200 World War II Veterans were honored to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day, the Double Victory Campaign, and recipients of the Congressional Gold Medal.

Then in 2013, more than 400 Korean War Veterans were honored on the 60th anniversary of the Armistice with Certificates of Appreciation from U.S. Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, Republic of Korea Consul General Han Dong-man, Congressmen Mike Thompson and John Garamendi, State Senator Lois Wolk, Assemblymembers Susan Bonilla, Jim Frazier, and Mariko Yamada, Solano Board of Supervisors Erin Hannigan and Linda Seifert, and Vallejo Mayor Osby Davis.

For additional information, please contact [Nestor Aliga](#) at 707-853-0062. To receive various Certificates of Honor, VVMBC requests that Vietnam War Veterans submit their complete name, mailing address and phone number by June 9 to:

VVMBC Volunteer
Nestor Aliga
120 Sheila Court
Vallejo, CA 94591

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