

FORWARD FLAG NEWSLETTER



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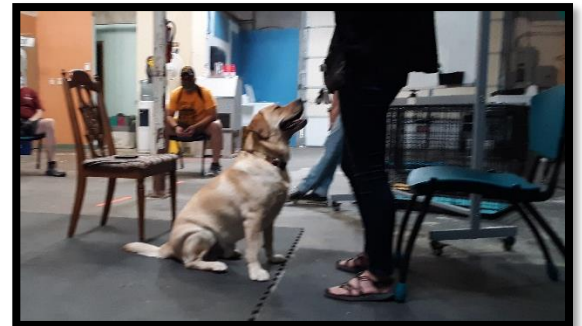
Holiday Happiness

A great big thank you to all those who made the first ever Christmas Dinner at the TN Forward Flag a huge success. We were able to enjoy a holiday meal with over 30 veterans in celebration of the holiday season. There is nothing better than sharing a meal with your brothers and sisters in arms, enjoying wonderful conversation and delicious homecooked dishes!



Warrior Canine Connection

After a brief holiday break, we are excited to welcome back the Assistance Dogs of the West (ADW) trainers, Chloe & Ari, and the new batch of service dogs in training for the start of the 2021 Warrior Canine Connection (WCC) classes. Join us Mondays at 11 a.m. to take part in the WCC; there is no better way to start off the week than with a group of playful pups working with our veteran volunteers to master the over 90 basic commands that all ADW service dogs learn before being trained specifically for their future placements and forever homes. If you have ever been curious about the service dog training process or wanted to see some serious dog whispering in action, come on by and check out the program.



www.forwardflag.org



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THE MUSIC MAN

Veteran volunteer, Larry Lucero, would like to share the healing power of music with you. Every Tuesday at 2:30 P.M. Larry comes to the NM Forward Flag to offer guitar lessons to anyone interested. Join Larry to fill the Flag with your beautiful melodies. If you do not have a guitar, or you prefer to just listen, you are welcome, we would love to have you join us for an afternoon filled of music appreciation .



IT'S ALL FUN AND GAMES

TN Forward Flag has been making weekends even better by holding a Saturday game night every other week. They get together to enjoy Bingo, Bridge, Jenga and a slew of other exciting games. As with all Forward Flag activities, we encourage you to bring your family and friends. For more information check out the TN Calendar on the forwardflag.org website. Show up ready to have a great time!



FOUR DIRECTIONS ACUPUNCTURE

Dr. Diana Herrera came to the NM Flag for her first session of community veteran auricular acupuncture. Dr. Diana, has generously offered to travel down here the first Friday of every month to offer this incredible service to veterans, their family members and friend. If interested in joining this group in February, please call us at 505-933-0549 to reserve your spot.



THEY'RE CRAFTY

The exciting things to take part in at TN Forward Flag continues to grow. In addition to their regular weekly fluid art class on Tuesdays, they have now added a crafts group on Wednesdays starting at 3 P.M. The crafts class is planning to undertake a plethora of exciting and fun DIY projects. The first one they have completed is transforming mason jars into awesome lights. All you have to do is show up; all materials and logistical planning will be provided. Just bring yourself, your friends and family members on down to the Rogersville Forward Flag.



STRAIGHT FROM OUR VETS

12-30-2020

Testimony provided by Mike Burtch



I began coming to Forward Flag in August of 2020. The staff immediately made me feel at home and part of the family. I live alone with my animals and before Forward Flag I did not participate in many activities outside of my home other than medical appointments and errands for necessary supplies for personal needs. Since my time at Forward Flag, I have found that I enjoy painting, crafts and working out. I now make it a priority to visit the Flag on a daily basis for conversation and activities, but mostly to lift my spirits. No matter what my mood is, when I leave the facility I am always smiling and in a great mood. I enjoy being a part of such a great organization and have made many friends that I now call family. If anyone is looking for a place to feel welcomed, safe and always included without judgement Forward Flag is the place to be. I am sincerely grateful for the changes they have made in my life.

Sincerely,

Mike Burtch



Testimony provided by Eric Bindner, U.S. Air Force Veteran

I have been coming to Forward Flag for nearly 3 years. When I had to go in for major dental surgery almost a year ago, I had no one to drive me or make sure that I was okay following the procedure. The staff at Forward Flag did not hesitate to jump in and take care of me. Not only did they drive me to my appointment, they also picked me up afterwards, filled my prescriptions, checked me into a hotel room for my recovery and made sure that I had enough pudding and popsicles to get me through. They always make me feel like this place is home for me. I travel all over the western part of the country but always make my way back to Forward Flag and the people there that have very much become my close friends and like family. I am on a journey towards happiness and they are an important part of my travels! Thanks to everyone who makes the work of Forward Flag possible!

Sincerely,

Eric Bindner



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