

Veterans Corner

Corcoran recipient of donation for veterans memorial park

Corcoran resident and Kings County Supervisor Richard Valle presented a check for \$1 million to Corcoran Veterans at the annual Veterans dinner on November 8, 2019, which was held in the Corcoran Technology Learning Center (TLC). Valle and the Kings County Board of Supervisors obtained the funds as part of a settlement agreement between Kings County and the High Speed Rail Authority. The funds will be used to build a Corcoran Veterans Memorial Park.

As keynote speaker for the event, Valle began his address to the audience with a story about his father, Ruben Flores who has attended the dinners with him in the past, prior to his passing away.

Valle went on to say that the new park has been a dream of many local veterans. "This community deserves its own centerpiece. A place where we can all go to remember our beloved veterans," Valle noted.

Supervisor Valle went on to recognize his colleague, Supervisor Doug Verboon, who attended the dinner representing the Kings County Board of Supervisors--Verboon was a leader in protecting the county during HSR planning and his family has a large history of service to the country dating back to WWII, Valle added.

Valle has big plans for the Veterans Memorial Park. Plans which will make the new park the "centerpiece" of Corcoran; and so special that it will be a must-see attraction for veterans across the nation which will have the ability to draw people to the City of Corcoran, "Washington has the Iwo Jima Memorial and soon Corcoran will have one equally as beautiful," Valle said.

The park will beautify the area East of Corcoran which was affected by High Speed Rail construction.

(Reprinted in part from a story by Tina Botill, Managing Editor, The Corcoran Journal)

The Kings County Veterans Service Office can complete the DMV Veteran Status Verification Form for the California Veteran Designation on your driver's license and also issues Veteran I.D. cards to honorably discharged veterans. There are many state and federal benefits and programs available to veterans and their dependents. To determine if you are eligible for any of these benefits, visit or call our office. We can and will assist you in completing all required application forms. You can get information on the Web from the Kings County Veterans Service Office webpage at www.countyofkings.com/vets.

Scott Holwell, retired Navy Master Chief Petty Officer, is the Veterans Service Officer for Kings County. Send your questions to the Veterans Service Office, 1400 W. Lacey Blvd, Hanford, CA 93230; call (559)852-2669; or e-mail scott.holwell@co.kings.ca.us.