
THE PEOPLE'S PATRIOT PROJECT

PATRIOT PRESS

"We remember those who were called upon to give all a person can give, and we remember those who were prepared to make that sacrifice if it were demanded of them in the line of duty, though it never was. Most of all, we remember the devotion and gallantry with which all of them ennobled their nation as they became champions of a noble cause."

- Ronald Reagan



WELCOME

Welcome to The People's Patriot Project's official monthly Newsletter!

Thank you so much for your support and collaboration! We are glad to have you here!

In this Newsletter, you will find information on the who, what, when, where, and why behind The People's Patriot Project.



If you or someone you know needs help,
do not hesitate to call.
WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

CONNECT WITH US



The People's Patriot Project



WEP3RADIOLIVE



[https://thepeoplespatriotproject.org/
home](https://thepeoplespatriotproject.org/home)



Crisis Hotline: 988-1
PPP: 763-238-5971

We Be People...

WE, THE PEOPLE, THE PEOPLE'S PATRIOT PROJECT, have adopted the Mission of Honoring and Empowering those who have served by being the shock and awe when combating the silent and deadly enemy of our veterans and first responders, the enemy that leaves mortal and invisible wounds.

CORE VALUES

- Aid those who sacrificed for us
- Support the families of civil servants
- Heal the traumas of service
- Share the burdens of our community
- Create opportunities for Patriots

OUR VISION

Our Vision is to provide a community and network of support, with the necessary tools, insights, and resources to aid in the rehabilitation of veteran and current service members and civil servants to go through a recovery process and transition into real-world opportunities and situations.

WE DO WHAT WE DO IN THE NAME OF HONOR FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED; COMBATING THE SILENT, INVISIBLE, AND DEADLY ENEMY OF OUR VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS, THE ENEMY THAT LEAVES MORTAL AND INVISIBLE WOUNDS.

WE want to help provide more fulfilling life memories and experiences by providing resources and facilities that will show an appreciation for the sacrifices and service these members have already provided to our country and community. Adding to their memories and experiences for the main purpose as they have sacrificed their livelihood to promote the life securities and freedoms we all share as Americans.



Board Member Spotlight



Catherine Gauthier, Social Media

Born and raised in Minnesota, Catherine grew up in a family grounded in volunteering and giving back. That spirit made it easy for her to dive in when she met Mark and Wep3, where she now supports social media, communications, and events. With deep family ties to military service – including a grandfather who served in WWII and an uncle who served in the Navy, both laid to rest at Fort Snelling in St. Paul – she carries a strong sense of patriot pride and a commitment to honoring those who have sacrificed for our freedoms.

Professionally, Catherine works full-time as a Cybersecurity Healthcare Project Manager, coordinating the efforts of “the actual smart people,” as she likes to put it. Outside of work, she’s passionate about food (both cooking and eating), does spray-paint art, and the occasional furniture-refurbishing project. She’s also completely obsessed with golf. If you show her a photo of your dog or cat, or offer a putting tip, you’ve made a lifelong friend.

Jonathan is a United States Army veteran and community leader dedicated to empowering the veteran population of South Louisiana. Serving from 2002 to 2006 in communications, his military career was defined by multiple combat deployments in support of the 82nd Airborne, 1st Cavalry, and 2nd Infantry Divisions.

As the President of The People’s Patriot Project, Jonathan is currently leading the strategic startup of the organization’s first Bayou Region chapter. His mission is to build a robust support network for those who have served, ensuring that the spirit of patriotism and community remains alive in South Louisiana.



Racquel Parfait is a U.S. Army Veteran, Veteran Peer Support Specialist, and dedicated Suicide Prevention Advocate from Dulac, Louisiana. A proud mother of three and grandmother of six, she is deeply committed to serving Veterans and strengthening her community across Louisiana.

Currently serving with START Corporation’s Veteran Suicide Prevention Program at the Behavioral Health Walk-In Crisis Center, Racquel works as a Veteran Peer Support Specialist, Community Outreach Coordinator, and Region 3 Mobile Crisis Response Team member. She assists at-risk Veterans with accessing VA services, provides crisis intervention, and connects individuals to critical resources addressing housing, financial, medical, and behavioral health needs.



Her passion for suicide prevention is rooted in personal loss, including the deaths of several loved ones and fellow Veterans. These experiences fuel her mission to ensure no Veteran or family member struggles alone. Racquel holds leadership roles within the VFW at the post, district, and state levels, serves as Louisiana’s VFW National Women Veteran Committee Chair, and is actively involved with the Louisiana Governor’s Challenge, AFSP’s Out of the Darkness Walk, and multiple regional coalitions. She is a Louisiana Licensed Recognized Peer Support Specialist, suicide prevention trainer, and is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology at Nicholls State University.

Through advocacy, outreach, training, and direct crisis response, Racquel remains steadfast in her mission: to serve those who have served and bring hope to individuals and families across her community.



Boots of the Fallen

By Phil Cook






Origin of the Boot Display

In 2012, Theresa Johnson, a military Spouse previously stationed at Fort Campbell, created the idea for the boot display in Hawaii to promote the Fisher House and to honor and remember Fallen Service Members. The inaugural event took place just three weeks before Sept 11, 2012, on Pearl Harbor's historic Ford Island. It began with an opening ceremony, a 21-gun salute and a bugler playing Taps prior to a run and walk. Some 6,400 boots, adorned with the names and photos of Fallen Service Members who were lost since 9/11, lined the run route. After runners passed by, the boots were moved to a field and were to be on display for the weekend.

While the Fisher House Run, Walk and Roll event continues in Hawaii, the original idea has expanded into events at three other installations – Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Fort Hood, Texas and Fort Campbell, which has incorporated a boot display into its Military Survivor Appreciation Week.

This original display was created to raise awareness on behalf of the Fisher House, when the event founder was personally touched by her experience with the Fort Campbell Fisher House. This event was dedicated in honor of a close Family friend from Fort Campbell, PFC Timothy Vimoto, who was KIA on 5 June 2007.


The Boots of the Fallen

The boots of the fallen has become an annual event at various military bases to include fort Bragg in North Carolina, Fort hood in Texas and Fort Campbell in Kentucky. Last years display had over 7, 450 boots lined up in order from 9-11 up to a week before the display opened for people to visit. The boot represents those lost at the pentagon and every soldier from that day forward from Iraq and Afghanistan during the global war on terror. To many gold star families, it has become a tradition to come visit their loved one's boot on the field every year replacing it with a new boot and reading the messages people for their families.

All the effort and work behind the displays is something a lot don't see or know about. From the cataloging and verification to the correct order and dates of the soldiers lost on 9-11 at the pentagon to the latest soldier lost from the global war of terrorism. All the boots are placed by date carefully put in numeric order for each soldier lost. From verifying the name , boot and place where they were lost at to the correct dates as well. There is a master list and book they have to go by ensuring every person has a boot for them. This takes a week alone just to get all the boots accounted for and then begin to start setting them up with the first one and proper spacing to the right number of boots for that row.

With a group of staff from the survivor's outreach office and 20 soldier volunteers they begin the task of laying out the boots one row at a time and verifying every boot is that row by the names that should be in it. The time put into getting this large-scale display exceeds up to two weeks to make sure everything is right. Sometimes Gold star parents will help with the process volunteering to place flags in all the boots and make sure the boots are all in right order. The displays usually run for two weeks then are broke down and packed up in reverse order making sure each boot is packed with care.

As these displays are put together the locations become a sacred ground while they are on display for soldiers and families to pay respect and remember those we have lost. As the global war of terrorism comes to an end all the names of the fallen will not be forgotten and live on in these displays. May every Soldier, Sailor, Airman and Marine be remembered. What the future holds dear and close to our hearts is moving to a better place to where everyone will be able to see and pay tribute to our fallen this may with the effort from memories of honor and all of its donations and support to Franklin Tennessee. For more information on the boots of the fallen and the upcoming display in Franklin contact www.memoriesofhonor.org

THE GODFATHER'S BOOTH

With Derrick Iozzio



When Will We Learn?

Trigger Warning: This article discusses suicide. If you are in crisis, dial 988 or 911.

I have been involved in mental health, peer support, and suicide awareness since 2004. I, in no way, claim to be a subject matter expert, nor do I claim to have the answers. The following are my observations based on my experiences and work in the suicide prevention field.

For those readers who don't know me, I am an Army veteran, 100% VA rated disabled, and I am also a former law enforcement officer (17 years). I have a degree in Psychology, and am a state-certified Mental Health Peer Support Specialist.

We are in a crisis in this country, a major health crisis. A crisis that is preventable. That crisis is the suicide deaths of our brothers and sisters on active duty, the veterans, and our first responders. We are experiencing a tragedy on a major scale.

There is a lot of controversy out there involving numbers and statistics. We are all familiar with the number 22, when it comes to veteran suicide. Some say it is too high, others say it is low. It boils down to how the death is classified and reported. The basic truth is that 1 is one too many.

At this point, I want to make it clear that my purpose for this article is NOT to bash any group or agency; rather, I would like to encourage them to reach out and work with us to explore solutions.

That being said, I want to point out that there have been many attempts to address the suicide crisis; you can find these reports from the VA website and/or the DSPO (Defence Suicide Prevention Office) website.

In 2008, the VA and DoD had a joint suicide prevention conference, shortly after, the S.A.V.E suicide gatekeeper training was implemented. In 2018 The PREVENTS executive order was signed by the President. In between, there have been other initiatives.

I want to note here that I personally worked for a company that was awarded a DSPO contract named Be There Peer Support. I will focus on this for a moment because it is relevant to what I am writing about. This was a 2 year, 10-million-dollar contract!

I was hired in March of 2017 and worked in a call center environment in El Paso, TX. Keep in mind that Ft. Bliss is in El Paso. A huge military base with members from all branches.

Our focus in Be There was to address the active duty suicide crisis. There were 33 employers working this contract, some in Washington state, some in Arizona, and the majority in El Paso. We "manned the phones" 24/7. The majority of our callers were veterans, and very few were active duty. We had "phone meetings" and even a visit from a DSPO higher up who "praised us" for doing a "great job". My question was, and still is- If our target is active duty, and we are hitting veterans, then something is amiss. I began to feel as if we were just whitewashing the problem. There was no real effort put into doing any type of outreach. There was a PR company that should have advertised the program; instead, they sent stuff to one of my co-workers and asked that it be posted on social media!

Since we were so close to a major military base, with thousands of military personnel, I made an attempt to carry some Be There business cards to hand out whenever I met someone in uniform. I was informally counseled to not do that.

So, back to my point for this article- these government programs do not work- period. The grants and support go to the big players, tons of money in the pockets of those who already have tons of money.

There are many veterans out here who refuse to have anything to do with the VA or other veteran service organizations because they did not receive the help they were seeking. Disagree? Look at how many veterans die by suicide on VA property- tragic!

As I stated earlier, I do not have the answers, but I do have an idea- those of us who have been the "boots on the ground" know that our brothers and sisters are more likely to open up to another vet. Why? Because we know how to listen, we know how to get help, we know how to survive.

My idea- let the government, the powers that be, offer support and/or funding to those local veteran organizations. We do not need to have high-level conferences at 5-star convention centers; the statistics are already out there, and the numbers aren't really declining.

This is what we have learned- our brothers and sisters do not want to die, they want the pain to end, they want someone to listen without judging. We are the frontline defense, the support that our brothers and sisters need.

In closing, I offer no apology to those who may read this and feel offended because they are in that higher-level position. I invite you to take off the tie, the high heels, and get into the trenches with those of us who are willing to do what it takes to save a life. To those of you that are in the trenches, trying to make a difference- I salute you! Keep in the fight!

Patriot Pride!

WE GOT YOUR 6 @ 6

Every week at 1800 central time, we share our guests' stories on our live streamed Podcast. We come together to discuss anything from tragedy to triumph, music and laughter, and so much more. There is nothing separating us from the mission we set out to conquer! So tune in every Sunday at 6pm on Facebook and Youtube and be a part of the solution with us!

This month, we have some awesome guest speakers and musicians who want to do just that! Listen in as they offer empowerment and healing in the body and mind through peer support, intervention, mental and holistic wellness, art, music, self discovery, and so much more. There is something for everyone this month of January!

MARCH GUEST LINEUP

DATE	EPISODE NUMBER	GUEST
01-March-2026	#294	Stephen Cochran, Musician
01-March-2026	#294	Ryan Brimmer, Vet Deal MAker
08-March-2026	#295	Malachias Rafal Gaskin, Musician
08-March-2026	#295	Rich Creamer, First Responder Reset Podcast
15-March-2026	#296	Matt Rawls, Musician
15-March-2026	#296	Shane Schreck, The Schreck Methoc
22-March-2026	#297	Justin Jeansonne, Musician
22-March-2026	#297	TBD
29-March-2026	#298	Mickey Lamantia, Musician
29-March-2026	#298	David Bowden, Guest

March Veteran Spotlight

Dylan Pitre



My name is Dylan Pitre, and I retired from the Army National Guard in June 2025 after fifteen years of service. I completed one combat tour to Iraq in 2021, and like many veterans, returning home was harder than I ever expected.

After coming back stateside, I struggled to adjust to civilian life. I began dealing with substance abuse and felt lost, unsure of my purpose or what direction my life was headed.

That's when I found The People's Patriot Project.

From the beginning, they gave me a place to belong – a space to vent, to stay busy, and to take my mind off the challenges I was facing. More importantly, they helped me learn how to support other veterans who were walking similar paths. When I entered a rehab facility to address my opioid addiction, they didn't disappear. They checked on me, stood by me, and reminded me that I wasn't alone.

Today, I'm proud to say I've been sober for 16 months. I continue to learn through the tools and resources shared by The People's Patriot Project, including the podcast on Facebook, and I enjoy being part of a community that reminds veterans they matter.

Giving back now means everything to me. I'm simply returning what The People's Patriot Project gave me – a place in the world and the reassurance that none of us have to face this journey alone.

AUTHOR OF THE YEAR

Vote For Frank Demith



Our very own, Frank Demith , the resident news and podcast personnel for The People's Patriot Project is up for nomination for his book, Defending the Eagle for Author of the Year - 2026.

Help recognize this outstanding author who has made a significant impact through their book, message, and influence.

Cast your vote today and be part of their journey!

Voting is open until April 14th and only one vote per person is allowed.

<https://apply.internationalimpactbookawards.com/public-voting-form#section-Zpw1UwZ1wV>



THE PEOPLE'S PATRIOT PROJECT Auction

Bid with purpose for The Peoples Patriot Project. Your participation helps veterans and first responders facing the unseen wounds of service - PTSD, stress, and transition challenges - by funding emergency assistance, restorative retreats, and ongoing community support. Every item you win helps deliver real relief, renewed hope, and practical resources to heroes and their families.

[Here's how you can participate:](#)

WE are holding an online auction to raise money for THE PEOPLE'S PATRIOT PROJECT (WeP3) starting on Thu May 7th, 2026 @ 6:00 AM CST and ending on Thu May 14th, 2026 @ 6:00 PM CST.

WE are holding this online auction to help raise much needed funds for our cause! If you or someone you know would like to donate an item or service to the auction, have them follow this link:

https://yourcharityauction.com/item_donation.php?a=3940 or if you have any questions, email us at catherine.gauthier@thepeoplespatriotproject.org by 5/5/2026.

Please forward this email to anyone you know that may be interested in helping!

You can view our auction at YourCharityAuction.com/WeP3.

Your generosity and assistance is what keeps THE PEOPLE'S PATRIOT PROJECT (WeP3) thriving. WE hope that you will participate in the auction! Thank you for your continued support.

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

OUR MISSION CAN ONLY EXIST WITH THE HELP AND SUPPORT OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU!

IF YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW WOULD LIKE TO BE A NEWSLETTER SPONSOR - SEE BELOW.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP.



WE APPRECIATE YOU!

FOR MONTHLY SPONSORSHIP, PLEASE MAKE THE PAYMENT VIA VENMO OR PAYPAL @THEPEOPLES PATRIOTPROJECT

1/4 PAGE \$10.0

1/2 PAGE \$ 25.00

FULL PAGE \$ 50.00