



# The Navigator

The Exchange Club of Greater Newburyport

P.O. Box 31, Newburyport, MA 01950

Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 6 p.m. at Starboard Galley

August 28, 2019

[www.exchangeclubofgreaternewburyport.org](http://www.exchangeclubofgreaternewburyport.org)

President-Erin Fournier, Secretary-Stuart Deane, Treasurer-Barbara Griffith, President Elect-Jane Collins  
Newsletter Editor-Stuart Deane

## AmVet rep explains military care package program

By Stuart Deane

The August 20 meeting, preceded by a Board of Directors planning meeting, hosted local AmVet Dudley Farquhar, who outlined his efforts to supply servicemen with essentials that are surprisingly not provided by the military.

Farquhar, a Newburyport native and foster child who graduated from Pentucket, is a Vietnam veteran on disability after a liver transplant due to the long-term effects of Agent Orange.

Working through Telecom Pioneers (Lucent Technologies), he calls his program “Operation Platoon Mom” to supply, at first, coffee, but now other requested items, to servicemen stationed away from home.

One unit, he said, requested nothing for itself but rather school supplies and soccer equipment for local children in Africa.

He credited local establishments, such as Tendercrop Farm and Cider Hill Farm, for their generosity, as well as the Boston Red Sox and the New England Patriots.

“Mail call is the highlight of a soldier’s day,” he said, noting the impact of the arrival of the packages.

Wrote one parent, “I want to thank you for all the assistance you have provided. Your selfless acts of support to Jake’s platoon while they were deployed to a volatile area of Afghanistan will never be forgotten and most likely never be outdone...There are few words that my wife and I can come up with to express the heartfelt thanks



we have for all the care packages that you sent to Jake’s platoon. The few times we did speak with him and his comrades, they never once forgot to pass on their thanks to you...As you know, Jake was seriously injured towards the end of this deployment...What has helped immensely is knowing that there are great people like yourself that supported him while deployed...Please accept our unwavering support of your program and know that our home is always open to you, your family and the troops you have supported for the last 30+ years. Keep up the good work – you’re really making a difference.”

### Schedule

- Sept. 2: Regular Meeting
- Sept. 5-12: “Field of Honor” on the Bartlet Mall, with set-up on the 4<sup>th</sup>, ceremony on the 8<sup>th</sup> at noon, 9/11 remembrance on the 11<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. and take-down on the 12<sup>th</sup>
- Sept. 16: Regular Meeting



The Exchange Club of Greater  
Newburyport proudly presents

10TH ANNUAL



**September 5<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

The Field of Honor® display of the Stars and Stripes is a tribute  
to our veterans, Service Men and Women, First Responders,  
and Personal Heroes

The event is FREE of charge and open to the public daily beginning of  
Wed., Sept. 11 at the Bartlett Mall in Newburyport.

You may purchase a flag and pole at the Bartlett Mall for \$40 during those days. Your flag  
dedication will be displayed on your flag during the week, and read aloud at the Field Dedication  
and Ceremony on Sunday, September 8th.

Flags may also be purchased at the Newburyport Daily News now through Sept. 10th.

*Proceeds from this event fund the Exchange Club's Mission.*

Sept. 5th - 11th

Viewing of flags and flag sales 9am to 7pm

Sept. 8 at 12noon

Field Dedication Ceremony with "Verbal Wall"

Sept. 11 at 9am

Remembrance Ceremony

**Our keynote speaker will be Air Force veteran William Shuttleworth,  
who is walking across America to raise awareness of veterans' issues.**

Flag pick-up Sept. 11 3pm-7pm or Sept. 12 8am-2pm

For online flag orders please visit: [www.healingfield.org/newburyport19/](http://www.healingfield.org/newburyport19/)

Additional event information: [exchangeclubnewburyport@gmail.com](mailto:exchangeclubnewburyport@gmail.com) ExchangeClubofGreaterNewburyport.org



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