

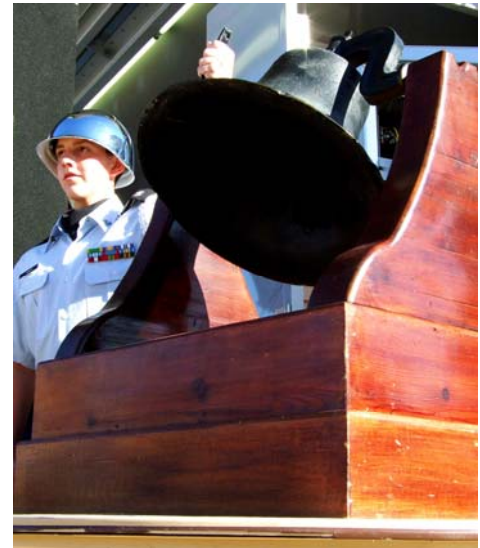
October 22, 2009

Sally Ellertson
Public Information Officer
141 West Renfro
Burleson, Texas 76028-4261
817-447-5400 ext. 286
F: 817-447-6885
sellertson@burlesontx.com
www.burlesontx.com

Strains of patriotic songs, including the Armed Forces Medley, will fill the air at Renfro Square on Nov. 7 when Soulful Sounds, the Burleson Community Theater, and the Fort Worth City Band pay tribute to local military veterans.

The event begins at 2 p.m. at the corner of Renfro Street and I-35W in Burleson's Old Town. Sgt. Vincent Rios, United States Marine Corps Retired, is the guest speaker.

Sgt. Rios served two tours in Vietnam. On his second tour, in 1969, Sgt. Rios was injured by an enemy explosive device and was medically retired. His military decorations include two Bronze Star medals with Combat "V" Device for valor, three Purple Heart medals, two Presidential Unit citations, two Navy Unit commendations with "V" Device, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm (two awards), the National Defense Service medal and the Combat Action Ribbon. The retired Marine Corps sergeant earned four university degrees and eventually retired as the assistant regional manager for two regions of the United States Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Service. Sgt. Rios is extremely active in veterans' affairs.



Saturday, Nov. 7, marks the third year that the City of Burleson, the developers of Renfro Square, and community volunteers have banded together to pay tribute to local military veterans. This year's ceremony will be marked by the unveiling of a 7-foot-tall bronze eagle as well as other symbolic and ceremonial presentations.

Councilmember Matt Powell is the emcee. The Burleson Fire Department's honor guard will post the colors. Mayor Ken Shetter will conduct the placing of the wreath. A bagpiper will play *Taps*.

For more information about the Military Veteran Tribute, call David McDowell at the City's parks and recreation department at 817-295-8168.