



Hometown Hero Maureen Allain

Working as a Registered Nurse for 38 years, Maureen Allain has inspired hundreds of young individuals in the Bay Area to consider nursing as a profession. Maureen is the founder of the NorthBay Nursing Academy and the NorthBay Nurse Camp. Even with all of her volunteer work, Maureen still serves patients in the Intensive Care Unit for the NorthBay Healthcare system and fills in as an administrator and coordinates patient placement for the hospitals.



Hometown Heroes Ben & Pat Bezzerides

Ben is a proud Air Force veteran and Pat is successful career educator. For years as members of the Fairfield Church of Christ they have organized monthly "Community Feeds" that regularly serve 20-50 disadvantaged individuals. Furthermore they are avid supporters and volunteers at the Solano Christian Academy where they assist with fundraising and facility maintenance and repair activities.



Hometown Heroes Mike & Libby Bolin

Mike is retired from the US Coast Guard and Libby is a music teacher in our community. They humbly serve on a Military Relations Committee, a ministry with their church that supports military families. Additionally, they have been instrumental in furnishing school busses to impoverished students around the world who are without transportation, and are weekly volunteers at the Travis AFB Chapel.



Hometown Hero Aaron Dahl

Aaron Dahl has served as a law enforcement officer for over 20 years, 16 of those years have been for the Vacaville Police Department. Sergeant Dahl is currently the lead for the Community Response Unit where he works to end gang violence and control homelessness in the community. While being devoted to keeping his community safe, Aaron Dahl has received the Medal of Merit and is a key member of the Vacaville Police Department Honor Guard.



Hometown Hero Ed Daley

After a distinguished flying career as a pilot with the US Air Force and United Airlines, Ed Daley served as a founding board member of the all volunteer, non-profit Patriots Jet Team Foundation (PJFT). Since then, his efforts with PJFT have enabled over 15,000 student to succeed in aviation, space, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) subjects through innovative, hands-on programs.



Hometown Hero Bunny Dominguez

Bertha “Bunny” Dominguez has been a pillar at Travis AFB since 1982. She established the successful “Operation Drumstick” which provided Airmen dorm residents delicious home-cooked meals to help them feel at home. This initiative later influenced many of the programs offered by the Peak Café a true “home away from home” for young Airmen.



Hometown Hero Phil Doty

Phil Doty is a retired teacher who has volunteered almost every day at Rolling Hills Elementary School since the school opened in 2007. Phil is a Red hawks door greeter and starts his morning by helping out in classrooms for a couple of hours each day, assisting students with their math and reading skills. Currently, Mr. Doty volunteers in the cafeteria during morning breakfast before providing a helping hand in the classrooms.



Hometown Hero Ami Fabi

Ami Fabi is an extremely active member in the Vacaville Community! For the past 7 years she has been the coach of the Jr Giants Little League Baseball program. For 5 years she has volunteered as an after-school religious teacher at St. Joseph's Church. Ami also served as the Parent-Teacher Organization President for Browns Valley Elementary School. As a selfless volunteer, Ami personally raised \$7,000+ for Kairos Public Schools Vacaville Academy and Elise P. Buckingham Charter Magnet High School.



Hometown Heroes Steve Haynes

Steve Haynes is an outstanding school janitor at Armijo High School. Steve is sought out by students for social/emotional support or for a good laugh. He is the go-to person when working with at-risk youth who need a good role model. It is a role that Steve takes on with humbleness and honor. He is an excellent role model for ALL students from ALL backgrounds. He is also a key player in creating the loving and family feel that Armijo High creates on campus.



Hometown Hero Allen Horwedel

After retiring from 24 years of service in the US Air Force, Allen Horwedel has continued serving the community and the Air Force. Allen volunteered at the Space Available Counter at the Travis AFB terminal as well as the Hospital Information Desk and Pharmacy at David Grant USAF Medical Center. Now a two-time cancer survivor, Allen has raised more than \$300,000 for American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life".



Hometown Hero Norair Jemjemian

AS an advocate for first responders, Norair Jemjemian secured grant money to maintain people, services and resources. He has assisted numerous homeless assistance organizations and has offered employment opportunities to those in need. Mr. Jemjemian is also an avid volunteer and supporter for community schools and children.



Hometown Hero Emily Johnson

Emily Johnson is a Staff Sergeant in the 349th Air Mobility Wing. SSgt Johnson is currently going to school to become a doctor. On her way to class one evening, she witnessed a broken down car in the commuter lane, and realized it was in danger of being rear-ended by on-coming busy traffic. Emily quickly helped the elderly woman out of her car, which was then hit by an on-coming vehicle. Emily's medical qualification training kicked in, she quickly assessed injuries and began treating the accident victims until EMTs arrived. With total disregard for her own safety Emily continued to provide first aid and support to the three individuals involved in the accident.



Hometown Hero Diann Kitamura

Ms. Kitamura serves as the Superintendent of the Santa Rosa City School District and has dedicated her life to ensuring students of every background have the same opportunities to learn. Her leadership was on full display in the aftermath of the 2017 CA Wildfires. She was able to coordinate with local, state and national departments to make sure that students and staff had every possible resource available. She is a valuable member of the community and a major supporter of our recruiting efforts.



Hometown Hero Melyssa Laughlin

Melyssa Laughlin grew up witnessing the benefits of tourism through her parent's small travel agency. She now heads up Visit Vacaville where she promotes and markets the city of Vacaville. Her efforts bring jobs to the area, helps our local economy and highlights our great community to the world.



Hometown Hero Kasama Lee

Kasama Lee is a community realtor serving families in Solano and Napa counties since 2004. Her passion is working with and supporting youth, teachers and school programs. She's a community contributor to local schools and non-profit organizations. Kasama donates her time volunteering and speaking to others about leadership skills. In addition, she has financially sponsored and supported over 19 youth and non-profit organizations.



Hometown Heroes Dan Lowery

Dan Lowery has dedicated many years of his life to serving. He has served in the United States Marine Corps, the National Guard and the Stockton Police Department. Since working for the department, Dan has received a Letter of Good Police Work and a Department Recognition Award. Dan has served in many different sections of the SPD and was the recipient of the Top Motor Award of Excellence during the Peace Officer Memorial Ceremony in 2008.



Hometown Hero Lisa McDowell

Lisa McDowell is a 12 year veteran of the Rio Vista Police Department, a great supervisor and Field Training Officer to the newly appointed officers to the department and is also the President of the Police Officers Association. She is also serves as Rio Vista's Youth Services President, where is she is actively involved in many community programs, while building an alliance in the Rio Vista community. She serves the youth in the community and is even responsible for collecting \$30K to construct a skate park. Lisa demonstrates an unwavering love and dedication to the City of Rio Vista and its citizens.



Hometown Hero Keedra McNeill

Dr. Keedra McNeill was born and raised in Fairfield, Ca. After completing medical school, she returned to practice medicine and give back to her community through volunteerism. Dr. McNeill's enthusiasm for giving back facilitated additional physician volunteers, who focus on the uninsured/underinsured. Keedra and her team provide resources such as sports physicals for students in the Fairfield Police Athletic League, as well as "Community Baby Showers" to help young mom's with pre-natal education and resources for both mom and baby.



Hometown Hero Matt Moreno

Matt was born and raised in Vacaville. He is honored to be able to call himself a Firefighter/ Paramedic and serve our community. Matt has previously been honored by his peers as Firefighter of the Year. Beyond his job responsibilities Matt gives in so many other ways. Most notable he is the president of the Vacaville Firefighters Local 3501. Through this organization he engages in dozen of community focused events. These events have returned close to \$400,000 back to the community.



Hometown Hero Kathryn Nance

Kathryn Nance has been faithfully protecting our community since 1996. She has served on numerous distinguished assignments where she has combatted gang violence, homicides, and even brought to justice criminals in a robbery case where over 1 million dollars worth of goods were stolen.



Hometown Hero Trevor Noguiera

Trevor Noguiera or “Stitch” as his student call him, is a dedicated educator and coach. As a mentor he has a special bond with the children he teaches and leads by example with his amazing attitude. He is key to the Fairfield Suisun Unified School District fun runs where he promotes healthier living for students in our community.



Hometown Hero Jessica Ostrowski

Over the last four years Jessica Ostrowski has tirelessly served to provide relief to families affected by the Northern CA wildfires. During these devastating times she has organized extensive networks of volunteers and developed innovative technology to coordinate large scale material and monetary donations for affected families.



Hometown Hero Cully Pratt

Deputy Pratt is an U.S. Army veteran and an exceptional member of the Solano Co Sheriff's Dept. He has been instrumental in helping families through The Leaven organization, which provides tutoring and mentoring to children in at-risk neighborhoods. Furthermore, he founded a non-profit service providing support to first-responders.



Hometown Hero Cragen Retherford

During the most destructive wildfire in CA history Officer Retherford voluntarily deployed to assist the Paradise PD and Butte County Sheriff's Office. He selflessly worked 11 days in an environment of unpredictable wildfires, dense smoke, toxic materials and criminal activity while completing patrols, structural surveys, remains recovery and evidence collection.



Hometown Hero Aracely Romo Flores

Ms. Romo Flores is a dedicated career educator. She has committed her life to ensuring students from all backgrounds have equal opportunities to learn and succeed. She serves on the Board of Education for the city of Healdsburg where she has excelled as a Director for Santa Rosa City Schools.



Hometown Hero Rochelle Sherlock

Rochelle Sherlock has contributed over \$100k in pro bono consulting to local non-profits and community groups, turned around a failing non-profit serving a vulnerable population and her collaboration with Public Health's Community Advisory Board increased support for low-income families with children. Rochelle was co-founder of the Senior Coalition of Solano County, founded the Fall Prevention Partnership and secured funding for fall prevention programs in the County. She established the award-winning Mini-Medical School, Centenarian Commemoration, and Dynamic Aging Conference. She built partnerships addressing senior poverty, led creation of a video on senior poverty, founded the Building Bridges initiative, and brought the Savvy Saving Seniors program to Solano. Rochelle was co-founder of the Volunteer Center of Solano County, and Solano Commission for Women and Girls, which she chairs. She was critical in the launch of Network of Care and the Give Local campaign. Rochelle brought \$6M into the County for Prop 47 reentry services, works on transportation, pedestrian safety, and equity. She is Chair of the City of Fairfield's Measure P Oversight committee, a committee she has served on for the last 5 years.



Hometown Hero Dave Tannahill

For the past four years Dave Tannahill has joyfully worked as a Special Education teacher. He partners with the Delta Program helping students with severe disabilities to integrate back into the general education populace. Furthermore he tutors twice a week and takes pride in seeing students succeed when others say they cannot.