

Podcast Episode 388: Norma Guitron, Indio Veterans Program

SPEAKERS

Bob Firing, Norma Guitron

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Bob Firing 00:00

Good morning, Shadow Hills. This is Bob Firing. And today's podcast deals with a new memorial for 911 that is going to be constructed in the city of Indio. And here to tell us about that and more is Norma Guitron. Norma, welcome to the podcast.

Norma Guitron 00:23

Well, good morning. Thank you for having me with you guys today.

Bob Firing 00:25

Well, so tell the audience what is planned in downtown Indio and where the memorial is planned to be placed?

Norma Guitron 00:37

Well, the memorial is going to be placed in the new building for the public safety, which is it means the police department and the fire department, also the telephone operators, which is called the dispatchers. That is off of Dr. Carreon and Jackson. The existing police department and fire department is there but they they're building the new state of an art facility and that's where they're the city of Indio is going to build a memorial for the 911. And also, for our to honor our veterans.

Bob Firing 01:20

Veterans from all the services, correct?

Norma Guitron 01:23

Correct.

Bob Firing 01:25

Okay. And in addition to that, there is a flags program honoring individual veterans, correct? Tell us about that.

Norma Guitron 01:37

Yes. And that is a very, it's a program that is very dear to me, because my son is in the Air Force. And so, when I heard about it, I was extremely, extremely thrilled to, in thankful to the city of Indio for doing that. The city of Coachella has started this a long, long time ago. And when I saw that, I brought it up to the council members, which back then it was Michael Wilson and Glenn Miller. I spoke with them. And they say that they that was extremely wonderful idea, Lo and behold, years down the road, the program

is flourishing, the program is going on. And this is to honor all of our veterans that have served, whether they have served or they're still active in all the armed forces. It's so nice, it is so wonderful. And it's such an amazing feeling to go down 111 to go down Towne street to go down Miles Avenue downtown, you know. So anyhow, so that's, that's an amazing and amazing program. That it's going on right now you have to be you filed the application for the city of Indio, you have to be a resident or you have been a resident of the city of Indio. And they will tell you what exactly are the requirements for you to do that. So the city of Indio, I'm thrilled I'm happy and thankful to them for, you know, for doing this.

Bob Firing 03:11

Yeah. Well, the reason I wanted to have you on is that we have a very active Veterans Club here. And they may well have people that they would like to see honored. And so what is the procedure that they would follow if they have an interest in putting someone on a flag?

Norma Guitron 03:34

Oh, that's, that's wonderful. I'm so glad that you asked that question. You just go down to the city of Indio, or you can download it through their website. And all you have to do is you just have to have your, your dismissal papers, and proof of that, okay. And then I'll photo of your when you were in the service and be a resident of the city of Indio. You file that it's free, everything is free. You file there with the city of Indio, and they will tell you, they will let you know within two to three weeks no later than two to three weeks. And they will let you know that your flag or your member or your. It will be honored in one other streets.

Bob Firing 04:20

Once it goes up, it's there indefinitely. Is that true?

Norma Guitron 04:25

I know that they're expand that Indio is growing so they have plenty of room for you know, your family member's flag to be up indefinitely.

Bob Firing 04:34

Oh, that's good. So then there is there a limit on how many people how many flags there's going to be or is it basically unlimited at this point?

Norma Guitron 04:45

I think it's unlimited at this point. I haven't heard any anything about having a limit. But I think up until right now it's unlimited.

Bob Firing 04:54

Okay. Well, I strongly suspect that there's going to be some interest from our veterans clubs here.

Norma Guitron 05:01

I really hope so.

Bob Firing 05:02

Yeah. And so, the timetable on the 911 Memorial is approximately a year from now, right?

Norma Guitron 05:14

I think hopefully by next year, if not sooner than that, because like I said, they're way ahead of schedule.

Bob Firing 05:20

Okay, that's great. Well, thank you so much for telling us about this program. And I think that there will be a lot of interest here. And we very well may have some of our residents on flags downtown. So, thank you very much, and to the audience, until next time, bye-bye.