



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

NO ONE DOES MORE **FOR VETERANS.**

1 February 2024 / Volume 5, Issue 1

## VFW Post 8555 Newsletter/Calendar

### HISTORY Vault: Operation Desert Storm

Explore Operation Desert Storm, the 42-day U.S. led air offensive in response to Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait.

Though the long-running war between Iran and Iraq had ended in a United Nations-brokered ceasefire in August 1988, by mid-1990 the two states had yet to begin negotiating a permanent peace treaty. When their foreign ministers met in Geneva that July, prospects for peace seemed bright. Two weeks later, however, Saddam Hussein delivered a speech in which he accused neighboring Kuwait of siphoning crude oil from their common border, claiming that Kuwait and Saudi Arabia were conspiring to keep oil prices low in an effort to pander to Western oil-buying nations.

In addition to Hussein's incendiary speech, Iraq had begun amassing troops on Kuwait's border. Alarmed by these actions, President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt initiated negotiations between Iraq and Kuwait, but Hussein broke off the negotiations after only two hours, and on August 2, 1990 ordered the invasion of Kuwait. Hussein's assumption that his fellow Arab states would stand by him proved to be a miscalculation. Alarmed by these actions, two-thirds of the 21 members of the Arab League condemned Iraq's act of aggression, and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, along with Kuwait's government-in-exile, turned to the United States and other members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) for support.



U.S. President George H.W. Bush immediately condemned the invasion, as did the governments of Britain and the Soviet Union. On November 29, 1990, the U.N. Security Council authorized the use of "all necessary means" of force against Iraq if it did not withdraw from Kuwait by the following January 15. Hussein defied the Security Council, and early on the morning of January 17, 1991 the Persian Gulf War began with a massive U.S.-led air offensive known as **Operation Desert**

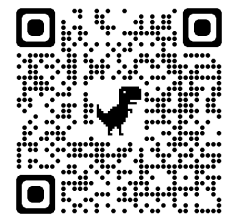
**Storm.** The U.S. was accompanied by troops sent by NATO allies as well as Egypt and several other Arab nations. The coalition effort benefited from the latest military technology, including Stealth bombers, Cruise missiles, so-called "Smart" bombs with laser-guidance systems and infrared night-bombing equipment. The Iraqi air force was either destroyed early on or opted out of combat under the relentless attack.

After 42 days of relentless attacks by the allied coalition in the air and on the ground, President Bush declared a cease-fire on February 28; by that time, most Iraqi forces in Kuwait had either surrendered or fled. Though the Persian Gulf War was initially considered an unqualified success for the international coalition, simmering conflict in the troubled region led to a second Gulf War—known as the Iraq War—that began in 2003.



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VFW-

Post8555@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/Veterans-of-Foreign-Wars-Post-8555-179838536027305/>



# VFW Post 8555 Spotlight



## Veterans Services Office



**Ray Herrera**

Please call or email for appointment.

830-393-7376

ray.herrera@wilsoncountytexas.gov

2 Library Ln., Ste 105  
Floresville, TX 78114



**SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 17TH  
8:30AM-12PM**



**CHURCH OF CHRIST  
633 STATE HWY 123 N  
STOCKDALE TX**

1. Register by scanning the QR code
2. Show up on event day at the Church of the Christ  
633 State Highway 123 N, Stockdale, TX,  
United States, Texas
3. Enjoy a great breakfast catered by  
The Den

**Point of Contact: Ray Herrera @ (830) 393-7376**  
7376 Wilson County Courthouse, Veterans Service Office, 2 Library Lane (Next to the Courthouse), Floresville, TX 78114  
**Registration Deadline: Wednesday 5pm before the event**





# Property tax breaks, disabled veterans exemptions

To receive a disabled veteran exemption, you must either be a veteran who was disabled while serving with the U.S. armed forces or the surviving spouse or child (under age 18 and unmarried) of a disabled veteran or of a member of the armed forces who was killed while on active duty. You must be a veteran of the U.S. armed forces who is classified as disabled by the Veteran's Administration or the armed services branch in which you served and have a service-connected disability. The disabled veteran must be a Texas resident and must choose one property to receive the exemption.

In Texas, veterans with a disability rating of:

- 100% are exempt from all property taxes
- 70 to 100% receive a \$12,000 property tax exemption
- 50 to 69% receive a \$10,000 property tax exemption
- 30 to 49% receive a \$7,500 property tax exemption
- 10 to 29% receive a \$5,000 property tax exemption



**Tax Code Section 11.22** provides a partial exemption for any property owned by a disabled veteran. The amount of the exemption varies depending on the disabled veteran's disability rating. The surviving spouse who remains unmarried and surviving children of a disabled veteran may also qualify for an exemption under this section.

**Tax Code Section 11.132** provides a partial exemption for a residence homestead donated to a disabled veteran by a charitable organization which may also extend to the surviving spouse of the disabled veteran who has not remarried. The amount of the exemption is based on the disabled veteran's disability rating.

**Tax Code Section 11.133** entitles a surviving spouse of a member of the U.S. armed services killed or fatally injured in the line of duty to a total property tax exemption on his or her residence homestead if the surviving spouse has not remarried since the death of the armed services member.

**Tax Code Section 11.131** entitles a disabled veteran awarded 100 percent disability compensation due to a service-connected disability and a rating of 100 percent disabled or of individual unemployability to a total property tax exemption on the disabled veteran's residence homestead.

This exemption extends to a surviving spouse who was married to a disabled veteran who qualified or would have qualified for this exemption if it has been in effect at the time of the veteran's death provided:

- the surviving spouse has not remarried;
- the property was the residence homestead of the surviving spouse when the veteran died; and

the property remains the residence homestead of the surviving spouse.



# FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Groundhog Day	3
4	5	6	7 Food Distribution	8	9	10 Chinese New Year
11	12 Lincoln's B-Day VFW Meeting	13 Mardi Gras	14 Valentine's Day Ash Wednesday	15	16	17 WC Veterans Breakfast 0830-1200
18	19 Presidents' Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 VPR Operation Desert Storm	29		

# MARCH 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
					1	2																																																																																				
3	4	5	6 Food Distribution	7	8	9																																																																																				
10 Daylight Saving	11 Ramadan begins  VFW Meeting	12	13	14	15	16  District Mtg Post 4815																																																																																				
17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Vernal equinox	21	22	23																																																																																				
24  VPR Kosovo Campaign	25	26	27	28	29 Good Friday	30																																																																																				
31 Easter  VPR Somalia	<div>February 2024</div> <table><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>Sa</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <div>April 2024</div> <table><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>Sa</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr><tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>				S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa				1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29			S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					Notes:	
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