

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver
Proclamation No. CP12-0928

Celebrating the 113th Anniversary of the John S. Stewart Veterans of Foreign Wars - VFW Post 1 – and its long time service on behalf of our veterans

WHEREAS, on December 1, 1899 members of the First Colorado Volunteers, under the direction of General Irving Hale, returning from the Philippines, met in the basement of the State Capitol in Denver, Colorado where these Spanish American War soldiers laid the foundation of what would become the largest veterans' organization in the country; and

WHEREAS, after this initial meeting the group, originally known as the Army of the Philippines, has been meeting monthly ever since, earning its fond epithet - as Post 1; and

WHEREAS, in 1914, the VFW was formed with the merger of several Spanish-American War veteran groups and the group became the VFW Post 1; and

WHEREAS, the post is named for much-beloved Captain John S. Stewart who was killed in the Philippines during the Spanish-American War; and

WHEREAS, VFW Post 1 continues the tradition of being on the forefront of service to veterans and to our country, actively selecting programs and partners who assist veterans from WWII to Operation Enduring Freedom; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the diversity of the current-day veteran community, VFW Post 1 is committed to gaining new members who are of all ages, genders, and conflicts; and

WHEREAS, the John S. Stewart VFW Post 1 has had several homes, and most recently in 2007 the post sold its building at 955 Bannock, and is now located at 4300 Pecos Street, Denver, CO 80211; and

WHEREAS, on December 2, 2012, John S. Stewart VFW Post 1 had its Founder's Day Banquet commemorating the 113th Anniversary founding of the VFW with keynote speaker Brigadier General Steve Ritchie, a 1964 Air Force Academy graduate and the only Vietnam pilot to shoot down five MiG-21s.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That Denver City Council congratulates the John S. Stewart VFW Post 1 on its passion for serving veterans for the past 113 years and looks forward to many, many more.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Izzy Abbass, Post 1 Commander.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL December 10, 2012

PRESIDENT