



NEWS RELEASE August 21, 2014

Book Discussion: *What It Is Like to Go to War* by Karl Marlantes

The Santa Maria Public Library staff encourages the community to engage in a book discussion, movies, and panel discussions about War Comes Home and Veterans experiences. The Library is proud to be participating in this special series with libraries throughout California in the California Reads Program sponsored by Cal Humanities.

The California Reads programs are based on the book, *What It Is Like to Go to War* by Karl Marlantes. Mr. Marlantes discusses his experiences in the Vietnam War and how these experiences have impacted his life.

The library has 50 copies of the book available at the main library and the Cuyama, Guadalupe, and Orcutt branches. One Book Club in a Bag kit for book clubs includes 10 books and a discussion guide. Patrons are invited to read the book and join the free book discussion on September 9, 2014 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. There are no sign-ups required but seating is limited and is offered on a first come first served basis.

The book discussion will be one of many events presented throughout September, October, and November to discuss War Comes Home and Veterans issues. Three films will be screened: *Rescue Dawn*, *To Hell and Back*, and *U-571*. The library will also be having two panel discussions: one with current military personnel and one with retired military veterans. In November, Jim Galvez, Vietnam Medic, will give a presentation about the Vietnam culture, history and his war experiences.

California Reads is a program of Cal Humanities in partnership with the California Center for the Book. It is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this press release, the related Santa Maria Public Library programs, and during the book discussion do not necessarily represent those of Cal Humanities or the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Questions may be directed to the Reference Office [925-0994](tel:925-0994) ext. 331.

Department: Santa Maria Public Library
Contact Person: Joyce Fischer, Library Technician
Telephone Number: (805) 925-0994 ext. 331
E-mail Address: libraryreference@cityofsantamaria.org