

## **Colonel Kenneth R. Stow Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament to Benefit Student Veterans**

Tournament Set for May 6 at Stockton Seaview Hotel and Golf Club

### ***For Immediate Release***

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**Galloway Township, NJ** - The Colonel Kenneth R. Stow Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament invites area golfers to tee off in support of Stockton University's student veterans on **Friday, May 6**.

The tournament, sponsored by the Office of Veteran Affairs and Stockton's Student Veterans Organization, will be held at the Stockton Seaview Hotel and Golf Club on the Bay Course in Galloway, with a four-person best ball scramble starting at noon. All proceeds directly benefit scholarships for Stockton student veterans.

Colonel Kenneth R. Stow was instrumental in founding the administrative component of Stockton during its early years and supported it with his time and talents. Colonel Stow served more than three decades in the U.S. Air Force. His wife, Dr. Jo Frances Stow, honors his memory each year through the Colonel Kenneth R. Stow Veterans Memorial Scholarship, which is awarded to returning U.S. military veterans attending Stockton.

Thomas O'Donnell, assistant dean of students/veteran affairs, said, "This will be our eighth annual event to help our student veterans with educational expenses. To date we have raised \$249,000 for our heroes and I am very proud to be a part of a university that is known for its Veteran Affairs initiatives."

Stockton's Office of Veteran Affairs provides comprehensive support for over 600 veterans and active service members to meet their unique academic needs. The program was recognized as one of the nation's best, ranked at No. 6 in the Best for Vets: Colleges 2016 listing by Military Times, an organization comprised of the Army Times, Navy Times, Air Force Times and Marine Corps Times. Stockton was also recognized as one of the "Best Colleges for Veterans" by U.S. News & World Report.

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The tournament fee of \$125 per person includes greens fees, golf cart, gift bag and awards dinner. Tournament sponsorships are also available. "We are very proud to announce that for the first time we received a full tournament sponsorship from the Northfield Army Recruiting Center," O'Donnell said.

The awards dinner will be held at 6 p.m., with Stockton's post 9/11 combat student veterans who qualify receiving Distinguished Service Medals or Meritorious Service Medals from the New Jersey Department of Veteran Affairs. Capt. George R. Riley, U.S. Army, will be this year's speaker. A special award, The Greatest Generation Award, will be given to World War II veteran John Thomas, a resident of Atlantic County.

Country music singer Nikki Briar will perform the National Anthem and also perform at an after-party after the banquet. Briar, a resident of New Jersey, records and performs in Nashville and has shown that a Jersey Girl can rock the country music scene, according to her online biography.

She has headlined at the legendary Stone Pony in Asbury Park, N.J., and opened shows for national and international acts such as Tim McGraw, Billy Currington, Parmalee, LoCash, Blackjack Billy, Outshyne, Steven Lee Olson, Meghan Linsey, Cassadee Pope, Blackhawk, Old Southern Moonshine Revival and Big Country.

For those who wish to attend the dinner and awards ceremony only, the cost is \$50, with a cash bar.

To register for the tournament, awards dinner or to become a sponsor, visit [www.stockton.edu/veteranaffairs](http://www.stockton.edu/veteranaffairs) or call Martha McGinnis at 609-652-4315.

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