

Good evening, parents and guardians of our exceptional SMA cadets!

I am SMA-COL Christina Bowman, and welcome to your weekly SMA Briefing.

Let me begin by saying how proud I am of our cadets, faculty and staff, SMA families and our Board of Directors for their outstanding participation in the Veterans Day Parade this week. They marched proudly down Main Street to Honor all the men and women who have served and continue to serve this great Nation. The great appreciation from the veterans lining the streets was evident by their smiles and applause as our cadets passed alongside them.

The Annual Wreaths Across America (WAA) Campaign has kicked off in great fashion this week! Every year our goal is to ensure every veteran laid to rest at the Sarasota National Cemetery receives a remembrance wreath. The cost of each wreath is \$15 and SMA receives a rebate of \$5 for every wreath sponsored. Each School PTCC receives a share of the rebate which in turn provides grant funds for classroom activities, athletics and much more. Each cadet that "sponsors" three wreaths will receive a WAA t-shirt, and if the cadet "sponsors" 5 wreaths they receive the t-shirt and dress down days to be used after winter break. On-line sponsorship is recommended and may be found on the school website at sarasotamilitaryacademy.org and click on the WAA tab. Your sponsorship is greatly appreciated!

If your High School cadet is in need of volunteer hours, a fun way to receive the hours is to ring the Salvation Army bell at Morton's Gourmet Market on Osprey Avenue from 3:00pm to 5:00pm on a Thursday, Friday or Saturday from November 26th through December 23rd. Three cadets are needed for each shift. Come out and wear a Santa hat or reindeer antler, sing holiday songs or even play an instrument. Please see SMA-COL Bowman in the main office to sign up!

Thank you for allowing me into your home this evening, and I look forward to visiting with you every week. In the meantime, if you have any concerns, please feel free to reach out to me either by telephone or email.

I wish you and your family a wonderful weekend.

Stay safe, stay well and stay kind.