



# Santa Barbara County Education Office

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Susan C. Salcido, Superintendent of Schools

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**To:** All media  
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## **Operation Recognition to honor veterans by conferring high school diplomas March 7**

*Operation Recognition*, to be held at 2:30 p.m. on March 7 at the Santa Barbara County Education Office Auditorium, will award high school diplomas to seven individuals deserving of this long-overdue honor.

This group includes U.S. veterans who served in World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War and did not receive their high school diplomas. Two diplomas will be awarded posthumously.

The seven honorees being recognized are:

- Henry Alvarado, Buellton, United States Marine Corps
- John Robert Blomstrand, Goleta, United States Air Force
- Henry Thomas Davis, Santa Maria, United States Air Force
- Margarito Delgadillo, Goleta, United States Army
- Arley Allison Kittle, Santa Barbara, United States Marine Corps (deceased)
- Timothy Lane, Santa Barbara, United States Navy
- Harry Bernard Pico, Goleta, United States Army (deceased)

California Education Code provides county education offices with the discretionary authority to confer these diplomas. The Santa Barbara County Education Office will use that authority to elevate and honor the veterans who have proven to be so worthy of this distinguished recognition.

“It is an honor for us to be able to complete this piece of their story and have them join the ranks of those with a high school diploma,” said County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Susan Salcido, whose office is coordinating the ceremony.

Information and background stories about individual graduates will be provided at the event. Seating is limited and reservations are required. Interested individuals may contact Anna Freedland at (805) 964-4711, or [afreedland@sbceo.org](mailto:afreedland@sbceo.org), to check on availability.

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