



Fellow Legionnaires,

I write this as final preparations are underway for National Commander Jim LaCoursiere's visit to Connecticut April 1 – 3. Commander LaCoursiere has been well received by legionnaires all over the country and world. I have no doubt that the Legionnaires of Connecticut will give him a most well-deserved homecoming for the few days that he is back with us.

April is The American Legion's Children & Youth month. Our Children & Youth programs are designed to help in the areas of: Child Health, Child Safety, and Family Support. In the Department of Connecticut, Children & Youth month culminates on April 26th with our District Walk-A-Thons and April 27th with the Legion Family Bowling Tournament. Proceeds from that weekend's events are donated directly to Connecticut Children's Medical Center in Hartford. If you are not available to get involved locally that weekend, another way you can help The American Legion's Children & Youth initiatives is to make a donation to either The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation which helps fund our Temporary Financial Assistance grants or to The American Legion Child Well-Being Foundation which supports programs and activities benefiting the welfare of children and youth.

As the weather gets warmer and the days get longer, I would like to remind you of my theme for this year which is "No Veterans Left Indoors." I encourage everyone to put the following into a Google search: "Why is going outside good for you?" I promise that you will find a wealth of information about the physical health and mental health benefits of getting outside. In February and March, members of our Membership, Leadership and Learning Commission staffed American Legion information booths at the Springfield Sportsman Show and the Connecticut Fishing & Outdoor Show respectively. There they had an opportunity to interact with many fellow veterans who love the great outdoors. I had the opportunity to attend an event in Stamford to meet one of the founders of Patrol Base Abbate (<https://www.pbabbate.org>). Details about Patrol Base Abbate may be found on its website, but in short, it is a place where all veterans can reconnect with themselves and each other in the outdoors and it is certainly a place I hope to get to visit someday.

April sees us enter the final quarter of the Department of Connecticut's 2024 – 2025 administrative year as we head towards our Department Convention in July. This is a time to start planning and preparing for the future of our posts, districts and department. To be ready for the future, we must be knowledgeable about The American Legion. To that end, I ask all of our members to take The American Legion "Basic Training" online course which may be found at <https://www.legion.org/information-center/training>. This course will help prepare you to become a better legionnaire and hopefully to someday step up to serve in some way at the post, district, department or even national levels. If anyone is interested in becoming more involved NOW above the post level, please reach out to me and I will gladly work with you to help you find a place where your talents can be best utilized for the betterment of our American Legion.

I wish you all the best as we enter Spring, and I hope to see you outside!

Yours in Service,
John F. DeBisschop III
Department Commander
Email: j.debisschop@snet.net
Cell: 203-725-5005



Sr. Vice Commander's Message

Thank you to the following posts who have made 100% of their quota. Post Post 54, Post 34, Post 26, and Post 146. Your efforts are greatly appreciated and I look forward to visiting your post in the upcoming months to present your membership teams with 100% pins.

Our Posts across the state were very busy this month. It was a pleasure to join you at The Department Oratorical Contest, American Legion Birthday Parties, Legion Member 100th Birthday Parties, Vietnam Veterans Day programs and much more.

Our membership goal for April 9th is 95%. We presently stand at 88. We are 27th nationally and near 1,000 members away from our April goal. I understand that hitting 95% by April 9th is an extreme expectation, but closing the gap is possible. If we can turn in 50 renewals a day as a department between now and the 9th we can get past 90%, but, we have to reach out to members to renew and bring in new members to our post. They won't come to us. We must seek them out and go to them where they are. This would keep us within striking distance of our goal.

When we talk to younger veterans about joining the Legion, Oftentimes they say, 'I don't have time to participate.'. Make sure that they know that we are not asking for their participation in the post right now, but their membership is important because it gives The American Legion the voice to speak to the president of the United States and to Congress about its ongoing veterans advocacy efforts. Their service and participation with the organization may come along as life changes.

In the upcoming month the American Legion will be busy starting with National Commander's Visit April 1st thru 3rd, immediately followed by National Auxiliary President's visit. We will then be seeking Boys State Representatives, and taking part in Kids Walks across the state. Let our community and fellow veterans know what we are doing. Share all of these events with you local media, both paper and digital. legion.org has resources for improving media relation. Links to two of these resources are [Media & Communications Publications | The American Legion](#) and [Media Toolkit - The American Legion](#).

Getting new members is a challenge. Do not let all of your work go to waste. Make sure to welcome and engage them. National has published a new toolkit to make this happen. Veterans joining The American Legion want to feel welcomed. They want to belong to a post that's inviting and where members greet them the moment they walk through the post doors. And as much as members want to feel welcomed, posts want ideas on how to welcome new members that will create a lasting first impression. To support this need, The American Legion asked posts for best practices on welcoming new members and you answered. The result is a new member welcome toolkit. [View the toolkit here](#). The toolkit also is available for download and print at legion.org/publications under Membership.

Keep Making it Happen and do it loudly!!

Sincerely Yours in Service,

Mike Kellett

Adjutant Notes

Tel: 860-436-9986

E-mail: ctadj@ctlegion.org

Website: www.ctlegion.org

Fax: 860-436-9491

Volume 24-25

April 2025

Bulletin No. 7

This Month in Connecticut History: April 20, 1917

The unproven 102nd Regiment (Connecticut)/26th Infantry Division bore the brunt of an attack, in a surprise move by an elite unit of the Germans at Seicheprey, France.

These brave soldiers, though not battle tested, showed the rest of the world that America was a force to be reckoned with, and made it clear they had the will to fight and change the course of not only the Great War, but the future of world history!

Oratorical Contest

The winner of the Department contest was Maggie Fleischer of Stamford, sponsored by Post 3. The National Contest will take place May 16-18, 2025, at Hillsdale College, MI. Good luck to our Department winner!

Boys State Program

Schools and Posts have been notified of the details for this year's program. If you have seniors , or someone who attended Boys State, ask them to be an ambassador for the program and share their experiences. The earlier you start to recruit, the better for attendance at the program this year, at UNH. All information will be announced in the coming months, and you will have plenty of time to visit your local high schools to start recruiting attendees. Keep checking our Boys State website: www.ctboysstate.org Also, start thinking about how to help a young man attend if he does not have a sponsoring Post. I like to think of it as Posts that adopt a "Boys State delegate".

Department Convention

We have another exciting convention planned this year, with some stimulating changes. First, The American Legion's National Director for our mission "Be the One" Tony Cross, will join us on Friday Morning for a two-hour session. I know many Posts, units and Squadrons have joined in this mission at the local level, and Tony will help you grow, develop and make your efforts more effective! In addition, we will have more speakers to bring you information to help you, your members and your families. To register for the hotel:

[Book your group rate for The American Legion](#)

Please copy and share all Bulletin information as widely as possible!

National Convention

The registration/housing forms are now available online, as well as included in this Bulletin. Join us to help our National Commander Jim LaCoursiere finish his year as Connecticut's second National Commander!

National American Legion College

Applications are now being accepted at National headquarters for this year's program, to be held at National Headquarters in Indianapolis. The dates for the college are November 16-21, 2025. The deadline for submitting them to Department headquarters is July 1, 2025. Please be sure to completely fill out the application, as they have changed the format. If you have any questions, feel free to give the department adjutant a call: (860) 436-9986. The course is demanding, but you will make life-long friends and have fun while you are there as well. The application can be found at [ctlegion.org/documents and forms or click: https://ctlegion.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/2025-NALC-Application-Packet.pdf](https://ctlegion.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/2025-NALC-Application-Packet.pdf)

Potpourri

Do you have an event coming up that your Post wants advertised? Send a flyer to me with the details and I will place it on the online department calendar and get it to me no later than the 27th of the month before it takes place, and I will put it in the Monthly Bulletin.

Want to learn more about how we affect the lives of veterans, their families and the children of our Nation? And, to use that information to help recruit new, and retain current members? Then check out a new addition to our Bulletin: the **Membership Impact Report**.

Please copy and share all Bulletin information as widely as possible!



ADJUTANT NOTES

BE THE ONE

Fellow Sons of The American Legion,

Spring is upon us and in April we should all be out in your communities' raising funds for the month of May. Set up a table at your local supermarket after getting permission from the store manger asking for donations, sell food at your posts to make, conduct basket raffles, use your imagination to raise funds for the many projects you can do in the month of May.

Talking about May, on Sunday May 18, 2025 at 1:00 pm. Sons of The American Legion will have a meeting at The American Legion Post 72 in Southington, Ct. if you are a paid Sons of the American Legion, you have every right to attend. We hope you can join us on this Sunday afternoon.

In May while you are selling flowers for Mother's Day, putting flags on veterans graves, arranging Memorial Day Processions or Parades remember to ask that guy that seems interested in what's being done or even those just looking, ask them did your father or grandfather or your mother ever served in the Armed Forces and they say yes they have ask them to fill out an application ask them to join if they agree arrange when you can obtain a copy of their DD214 and dues payment. Now is the time to recruit new people and have us all hit the 105% for the second year in a row. Let's all show them what Connecticut is made of besides college basketball and pizza.

Rich Kilby

Detachment Adjutant

860-329-2066

kilbyrich66@gmail.com

*REMEMBER TO TRANSMIT MEMBERSHIP AT ONCE, LET'S MAKE OUR CONNECTICUT
NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION PROUD OF CONNECTICUT SONS*



American Legion Family, are you ready to **“Be the One”** ? Take a Step Forward and raise funds for the Be the One mission as we walk around Bushnell Park on Thursday April 3, 2025, with our own National Commander, Jim LaCoursiere, Jr. between the hours of 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

We are asking All Posts, All Auxiliary, All Sons and All Riders to donate to this cause. This mission means so much to our Commander.

However, even if you cannot join us, you can still show your support: Posts, Units, Squadrons, District, Riders and individuals are welcome to donate whatever you are able: Checks should be payable to **VCF**. Please send all donations to: The American Legion, 269 Main Street, Cromwell, Ct. 06416.

Thank you all for this very important mission, together we can make a difference!



DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT

269 MAIN STREET, CROMWELL, CT 06416

TEL: 860-436-9986

FAX: 860-436-9491

WEB: www.ctlegion.org

TO: All Posts and Squadrons

FROM: Thomas K. Moore, Department Adjutant

DATE: March 28, 2025

SUBJECT: **ANNUAL CONSOLIDATED POST REPORT**
ANNUAL CONSOLIDATED SQUADRON REPORT

Enclosed is a Consolidated Post Report or Consolidated Squadron Report. Please follow the directions on the cover sheet and obtain input from everyone involved: Finance Officer, Service Officer, Americanism Chair, Children & Youth Chair, Adjutant, etc.

When completed, please send the white and yellow copies to Department HQ and keep the pink copy for your Post or Squadron records. The report needs to be received by Department HQ by June 1, 2025. **DO NOT** postal mail or email forms directly to National.

Commanders or Adjutants may complete the CPR electronically using MyLegion and submit directly to National. An instruction sheet prepared by Department that you might find helpful is enclosed. If the form is completed and submitted to National through MyLegion, no copy is required to be sent to Department HQ.

Mail completed forms to:
The American Legion
269 Main St.
Cromwell, CT 06416

Email completed forms to:
membership@ctlegion.org

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call 860-436-9986 or send an email to membership@ctlegion.org.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas K. Moore".

Thomas K. Moore, Department Adjutant
The American Legion Department of Connecticut



Susan Bysiewicz
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Friday, December 6, 2024

Dear Town CEO,

In partnership with Connecticut Veterans Affairs Commissioner Ron Welch and Major General Francis Evon of the Connecticut National Guard, it is my honor to host a ceremony to recognize all living World War II veterans, having served at any time from December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946. The ceremony will take place on Monday, May 19th, 2025, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Governor William A. O'Neill State Armory, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105.

The ceremony has been scheduled in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II, which ended in September 1945. It is important to thank these members of the Greatest Generation as it is because of their service and sacrifice that we live in a free and democratic state and nation today.

We are working with every town across the state to put together a meaningful ceremony in recognition of these veterans' sacrifice for our country. We are asking for your assistance to identify any living World War II veterans in your town and escort them to the ceremony. Once you have identified the living World War II veterans from your town, we ask that you send us a list of their names, branch of service, and age by **Monday, May 5th**. Please let us know if there are no living World War II veterans in your town.

We encourage you to coordinate with your town's American Legion post, Veterans of Foreign Wars post, and Municipal Veteran Representative in advance of this ceremony.

Please feel free to reach out to my office at LtGovernor.Bysiewicz@ct.gov or at (860) 299-5965 if you have any follow-up questions.

Thank you,

OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR • STATE CAPITOL
210 CAPITOL AVENUE, ROOM 304 • HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
TEL (860) 524-7384 • FAX (860) 524-7304 • www.ltgovernor.ct.gov
LtGovernor.Bysiewicz@ct.gov



Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor



Commissioner Ron P. Welch
Connecticut Veterans Affairs



Major General Francis J. Evon, Jr.
Connecticut National Guard



WHAT CAN I DO?

The American Legion has been actively involved with children's issues since the early 1920s. In many instances, The American Legion has been the driving force on behalf of children on the federal, state and local levels.

In 1938, April was formally designated as Child Welfare Month (now called Children & Youth Month) and has continued on an annual basis. During this special time, we encourage each of you to show your community that the American Legion Family is dedicated to America's youth.

Each year the Committee on Children & Youth focuses on three primary areas of concern. They may include:

Child health

- Immunization programs
- School nutrition programs
- Teen pregnancy prevention programs

Child safety

- Child pornography
- Drug abuse prevention
- Drug trafficking
- Alcohol abuse prevention
- Child/sexual abuse and neglect
- Teen suicide prevention

Family support

- National Family Week activities
- Day care safety
- Foster care
- Temporary Financial Assistance
- Missing and exploited children

April is Children & Youth Month



P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206
1-800-433-3318

legion.org



Connect with The American Legion

April is Children & Youth Month

WHERE DO I BEGIN?

To start, consider:

- Obtaining speakers to talk about particular concerns or topics within your community.
- Asking local law enforcement to do a bike safety demonstration, finger printing or to talk about internet safety.
- Conducting a community project with and for children.
- Forming a Community Committee on Children & Youth to discuss current problems, generate solutions and then take action.
- Sponsoring a carnival or talent show featuring young people to raise money for a community project.
- Featuring a youth panel at a local school where participants can discuss some of their concerns.
- Using videos, if applicable, enlisting the aid of an individual familiar with the subject matter to both present it and be available to answer questions following the viewing.
- Use these suggestions, or develop your own projects, but get involved. Remember, the only limitation you have for youth programs and activities is your own imagination!

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Legislation to improve conditions for children is a focal point of The American Legion's Children & Youth program. By working on behalf of sound legislation, The American Legion, in accordance with mandated positions, strives to bring into enactment the laws necessary to meet the needs of all children.

Whether the legislation involves a local matter, pertains to a problem of a particular state or is an item of national concern, it requires the efforts of all interested in the well-being of children and youth if it is to become law.

Most state assemblies begin their sessions early in the year. This is the best time to present legislators with any new legislation or changes needed in current laws.

Within each community, there is a great deal of local legislative action, which deserves continued attention: city ordinances affecting children and youth, appropriations for schools and school budgets, immunization, child abuse and neglect statutes, juvenile courts, local public welfare departments, playgrounds, traffic regulations and other such matters relating to the health and welfare of children.

There is a great need for informed public participation in local government matters. And when it comes to local matters affecting our children and youth, The American Legion should make itself heard.

PROMOTE YOUR ACTIVITIES

You should publicize your programs and activities. Have the mayor or another local official issue a proclamation declaring April as Children & Youth Month. The post commander should issue a news release proclaiming April as Children & Youth Month and list what the post will be doing for this annual observance.

Remember, programs supporting the children and youth of your community are news! Invite the news media to your activities and keep them informed.

REPORT SUCCESSES

Following the observance of Children & Youth Month, the Children & Youth chairmen need to turn their attention to the annual reporting of expenditures and activities. Be sure you have an accurate record of all money spent for the benefit of children and youth by your post/unit during the current year, as well as the number of children who received services and assistance.

Shortly after the first of the year, American Legion departments receive copies of the Consolidated Post Report (CPR) for later distribution to posts. This form has been developed to track necessary information about The American Legion's overall program. It is the responsibility of the post Children & Youth chairman to report his/her program activities to the individual designated in the post to complete the Consolidated Post Report. The CPR can be done online at MyLegion.org by the post adjutant.





Connecticut American Legion Foundation Golf Classic

When: Monday, April 21, 2025 **Time:** Registration @ 10:00AM – Shotgun Start @ 12:00PM

Where: Lake of Isles South (Private) **Course:** Foxwoods

Entry Fee: \$165.00 per player. \$660.00 per team of four players

Includes greens fees, cart, range balls, box lunch, prime rib and carved turkey dinner and prizes (1st place team, 2nd place team, closest to the pin (2 holes) and men & women's longest drive)

Payment due by April 7, 2025

Players (please print)

1. _____

Name (team captain or individual), phone #, email address

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

SORRY – NO COOLERS

Enclose completed registration & check made payable to: **CT American Legion Foundation, Inc.**

Mailing address: **American Legion, Department of Connecticut, 269 Main Street, Cromwell, CT 06416**

Attn: Golf Tournament Committee

Points of Contact: Jeff DeClerck: 860-608-8111, email jadcmd@sbcglobal.net

Tom Moore: 860-436-9986, email ctadj@ctlegion.org

NOTE: This tournament is partnered with the Annual Plainfield Business Association Golf Classic. Both tournaments will merge for meal and raffle at the Clubhouse.

**Please look for the American Legion registration area at check-in.
Proceeds from this Tournament help fund American Legion Programs**



***CT American Legion Foundation
Annual Golf Classic
Sponsorship Opportunities***

****Gold Sponsor - \$2,500.00 (2 foursomes, 2 tee signs, printed recognition at Registration)***

Name or Organization

****Silver Sponsor - \$1,500.00 (1 foursome, 1 tee sign, printed recognition at Registration)***

Name of Organization

****Bronze Sponsor - \$500.00 (Cart Sponsor – sign in each Cart)***

Name or Organization

****Air Cannon Sponsor – \$375.00 (Name printed on Hole sign)***

Name of Organization

****Hole in One Sponsor - \$375.00 (Name on all Par 3 Holes)***

Name of Organization

Enclose completed registration & check made payable to: **CT American Legion Foundation, Inc.**
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Attn: Golf Tournament Committee
Points of Contact: Jeff DeClerck: 860-608-8111, email jadcmd@sbcglobal.net
Tom Moore: 860-436-9986, email ctadj@ctlegion.org

Proceeds from this Tournament help fund the American Legion Programs



CT American Legion Foundation Annual Golf Classic Tee Sign Registration

When: Monday, April 21, 2025

Where: Lake of Isles South (Private) Course: Foxwoods

Tee Sponsor/Dedication: \$100.00

TEE SPONSOR

Name and business address (please print)

Phone Number: _____ Website: _____

TEE DEDICATION: (HONOR A VETERAN OR FAMILY MEMBER)

Name:

Branch and Dates of Service (for Veteran dedication):

Enclose completed registration & check made payable to: **CT American Legion Foundation, Inc.**
Mailing address: **American Legion, Department of Connecticut, 269 Main Street, Cromwell, CT 06416**
Attn: Golf Tournament Committee
Points of Contact: Jeff DeClerck: 860-608-8111, email jadcmd@sbcglobal.net
Tom Moore: 860-436-9986, email ctadj@ctlegion.org

Proceeds from this Tournament help fund the American Legion Programs

**THE GREATER WINDSOR VETERANS COUNCIL
AND THE TOWN OF WINDSOR PRESENT:**

VETERANS AND MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY

Saturday, April 12, 2025 10am - 2pm

L.P. Wilson Community Center, 599 Matianuck Ave. Windsor, CT 06095



Fun for the whole family:

- ★ **VETERAN RESOURCES**
- ★ **GUEST SPEAKERS**
- ★ **LIVE MUSIC**
- ★ **PIZZA & REFRESHMENTS**
- ★ **BOUNCE HOUSE**
- ★ **YARD GAMES**
- ★ **TOUCH-A-TRUCK**
- ★ **FACE PAINTING**

Guest Speakers include:

**COLONEL
NEAL R. BYRNE III**

Colonel Neal R. Byrne III is the commander of the 103d Airlift Wing at Bradley Air National Guard Base, Connecticut. As the Wing Commander, he is charged with providing the Joint Force with rapid global mobility and command and control via expert Tactical Airlift and Air Battle Management. He oversees the operational and training activities of 4 Groups, more than 1,100 Airmen, and 8 C-130H aircraft.

**CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT
RICHARD P. MARKS**

CMSgt Richard P. Marks is the Command Chief Master Sergeant of the 103d Airlift Wing at Bradley Air National Guard Base, Connecticut. He advises the commander on health, morale, welfare, readiness, and professional development for over 1,200 personnel, implements command policies, and fosters mission dedication. Additionally, he collaborates with other leaders to ensure personnel readiness, training, and well-being.

* Event News *

Illuminating Displays on Good Friday



BETHLEHEM CELEBRATES THE INAUGURAL EVENT OF AMERICA 250



TWO LIGHTS FOR TOMORROW

Two Lights for Tomorrow is a nationwide initiative to commence the celebration of the 250th birthday of the United States of America. The famous ride of Paul Revere occurred on the overnight of April 18 – 19, 1775. Two Lights for Tomorrow commemorates that famous ride and uses the imagery of that shining light today as a uniting call to action for our citizens to celebrate and serve.

LIGHTS OF HOPE

With the arrival of Spring and Easter, new life and renewal emerge. Bethlehem Parks & Recreation celebrates this season by hosting luminaries in the Center of Bethlehem for everyone to enjoy.

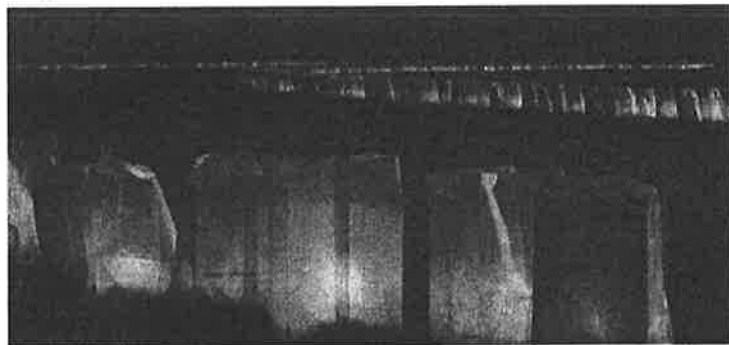
Residents near the center are encouraged to join in, and volunteers are warmly welcomed. For any inquiries, please reach out to recreation@bethlehemct.org.

On April 18, 2025, two lights will be displayed in the windows of The Bethlehem American Legion Post 146. They will be a visual reminder of a light shining out in the darkness commemorating Revere's ride. This is the first of multiple events to celebrate our nation's 250th birthday culminating with a gala town-wide celebration on July 4, 2026.

HISTORICAL REINACTMENT 7PM



At 7pm a reenactment of Revere's ride through the center of town and a reading of the poem "Paul Revere's Ride" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow





**9th Annual
Department of Connecticut
American Legion Family "FUN" Bowling Tournament**



Sunday April 27, 2025, 1pm - Practice begins 1:15pm

**Bowl-O-Rama
2143 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT**

Tournament is open to all American Legion Family members and guests.

We ask that each Team provide a prize for the Raffle Table.

Fundraiser for the Connecticut's Children's Medical Center

**If you can't bowl and would like to donate. Please send your donation on the slip below
and in the Memo on your check put "Connecticut Children's".**

Only 20 Lanes are currently reserved.

Any questions please contact Paul Spedaliere at 860-537-1372

\$25.00 per person: Includes shoe rental, 3 Games of Bowling and Pizza.

Please return this portion with the Names in the order you will be bowling and **send in by April 21, 2025.**

Mail Checks Payable to: "American Legion Dept. of CT"

**The American Legion, Dept. of Connecticut
864 Wethersfield Avenue
Hartford, CT 06114**

Team Name

Check#

Name	Post/Unit	District	Team Captain Contact Information
1.)			
2.)			
3.)			
4.)			

13TH ANNUAL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY JOINT FORCES LUNCHEON

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025 • 11:30 AM TO 2:00 PM
Back Nine Pavilion, 150 Savage Street, Plantsville, CT



CAMP
SOUTHERN
GROUND

WARRIOR
PATHH
PROGRAM

IN SUPPORT OF THE WARRIOR PATHH PROGRAM AT CAMP SOUTHERN GROUND

What is Warrior PATHH?

Warrior PATHH provides the training to transform struggle into strength in the aftermath of trauma. Warrior PATHH (Progressive and Alternative Training for Helping Heroes) is based on the science of Posttraumatic Growth (PTG). It is a 90-day, non-pharmacological, peer-delivered training program that begins with a 7-day intensive and immersive initiation. This is followed by three months of dedicated support, training, accountability, and connection from a team of trained combat veterans.

Joining Us from Camp Southern Ground:

President & CEO - Mike Dobbs

VP of Strategic Initiatives- Warrior Path Guide- Jake Dukes

Warrior PATHH Alumni- Kyle Butcher Fmr. Army Airborne Ranger

Warrior PATHH is...

- A lifelong journey of growth and transformation that begins with 90 days of intensive training.
- Learning to thrive because of your Warrior training and experiences (PTG).
- Intensive training designed by Warriors for Warriors.
- Focused on providing you with direction and the opportunity to live a great life.

Warrior PATHH is not...

- A 1-week program to help you feel temporarily better only to return to unhealthy habits and toxic relationships.
- Learning how to exist as a diminished version of yourself.
- Therapy or coddling.
- A faith-based or religious program.
- Sitting around the fire, singing kumbaya, and telling war stories.

Sponsorships

\$5,000 Brigade

\$3,500 Battalion

\$2,500 Company

\$2,000 Platoon

\$1,500 Squad

\$1,000 Fire Team

All donors will be featured at the event, in the CCIA Highlights e-newsletter, in CONNstruction magazine, and on the CCIA website Tally Board.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.

REGISTER TO ATTEND OR SPONSOR at
ctconstruction.org/2025JointForces

All proceeds will be contributed to **Camp Southern Ground**.
Thank you for your generosity.

Visit ctconstruction.org/JF for more information.
Questions? Contact Erin Guild | eguild@ctconstruction.org



CEUCA

CRBA

CRMCA

Divisions of the **Connecticut Construction Industries Association**

Steve Curran Veterans' Memorial Day Appreciation Outing For All Veterans

Sponsored by AFSCME Council 4

Saturday, May 24, 2025

11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Connecticut Trees of Honor
Veterans Memorial Park
Middletown, CT**



For volunteer information or for questions about donating, please
contact: Megan Batchelder at 860-224-4000 or
mcbatchelder@council4.org.



Event will take place rain or shine!

AFSCME Council 4
444 East Main St. New Britain, CT 06051
860-224-4000
www.council4.org





11TH ANNUAL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY JOINT FORCES LUNCHEON

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025 • 11:30 AM TO 2:00 PM

Back Nine Pavilion, 150 Savage Street, Plantsville, CT

Joint Forces Luncheon Registration

RSVP by Friday, April 25, 2025. Questions? Contact: Erin Guild eguild@ctconstruction.org | 860-529-6855.

► Register with credit card at: www.ctconstruction.org/2025JointForces or complete the form below.

Contact Person: _____ Company: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Cost: \$75 per person or Table for 10 at \$750.

_____ Number Attending at \$75 Per Person. \$_____ Registration Total.

_____ Table for 10 at \$750



► Select a donation level:

- ☐ Brigade: \$5,000
- ☐ Battalion: \$3,500
- ☐ Company: \$2,500

- ☐ Platoon: \$2,000
- ☐ Squad: \$1,500
- ☐ Other Amount \$_____.

► List attendee names below.

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

► Choose your payment option:

- ☐ Mail Payment (Check payable to: **CRBA**) ☐ Request Invoice

\$_____ Total Amount Enclosed (Registration plus donation.)

Register Online with Credit Card:
www.ctconstruction.org/2025JointForces

*Contributions or gifts to CRBA are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.
Registration and attendance at CRBA events constitutes an agreement by the attendee to the use and distribution of photos.*

CTMOM 2024 FREE DENTAL CLINIC



VETERANS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

**Connecticut
Mission of Mercy
Free Dental Clinic**



Making CT Smiles Healthier

**Clinic Doors Open
@ 7:00 AM**

**Connecticut Foundation
for Dental Outreach**



A Project of the Connecticut Foundation
for Dental Outreach

For more information, visit
our website www.cfdo.org or
call (860) 863-5940

JUNE 20-21, 2024

New Britain High School

110 Mill St

New Britain, CT 06051

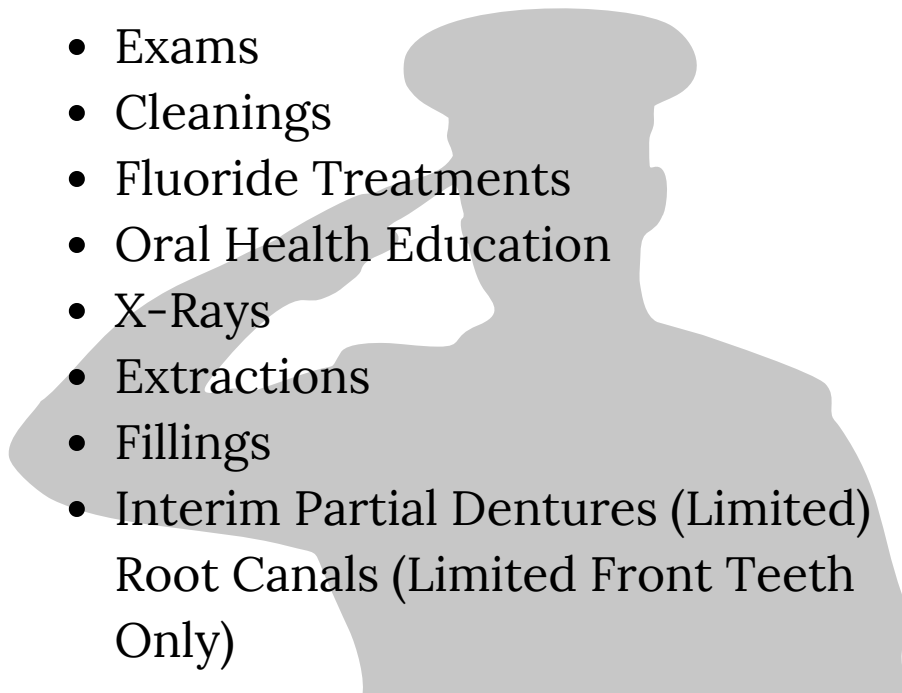
No Appointment Needed

First Come, First Served

Children under 18 must be accompanied by a
parent or legal guardian

SERVICES PROVIDED:

- Exams
- Cleanings
- Fluoride Treatments
- Oral Health Education
- X-Rays
- Extractions
- Fillings
- Interim Partial Dentures (Limited)
- Root Canals (Limited Front Teeth Only)



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

CTMOM 2025 NEW BRITAIN

The Connecticut Foundation for Dental Outreach (CFDO) facilitates the delivery of charitable dental care to the underserved. Each year, the CFDO organizes the Connecticut Mission of Mercy (CTMOM) Free Dental Clinic. These clinics provide much needed dental care to patients free of charge. Every year, the CTMOM project is held in a different location throughout the state

Let's Do This!

**JUNE
20-21**



WHO VOLUNTEERS WITH US?

- 🦷 Dentists
- 🦷 Hygienists
- 🦷 Certified Dental Assistants
- 🦷 Medical Professionals
- 🦷 Community members



For more information:

🌐 www.CFDO.org

📞 (860) 863-5940

**REGISTER
NOW!**



American Legion

Connecticut State Police

Youth Week

2025 Announcement



The American Legion Department of Connecticut and the Connecticut State Police, announce their joint sponsorship of the 20th Annual State Police Youth Week. The program, a law enforcement practicum for high school students completing their JUNIOR YEAR in 2025 at an accredited high school in the state of Connecticut, will be held at the State Police Training Academy in Meriden, CT, from Sunday, July 27th to Saturday, August 2nd, 2025.

The program offers insight into the training, duties and expectations of Law Enforcement Officers. The program provides realistic experience, patterned after recruit training at the Connecticut State Police Academy, and affords individuals considering a law enforcement career the opportunity to gain knowledge of the professional life of a police officer.

Cadets will participate in a variety of mentally and physically demanding instructional sessions, including patrol techniques, the Connecticut Penal and Motor Vehicle Codes, criminal and accident investigation, firearms safety and training, water safety training, team building and confidence training, defensive driving techniques, and other law enforcement skill training. Cadets will experience the daily activities of recruit training, including 5:15 reveille, physical conditioning, inspection of quarters, and participation in assigned details.

Selected Cadets will be required to stay overnight in a dormitory type of environment, there are no exceptions. If your son or daughter is unable to stay overnight, they will not be considered.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL POST, THEY MAY BE WILLING TO SPONSOR YOU.

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS, INCLUDING PERSONAL STATEMENTS

AND RECOMMENDATIONS, ACCOMPANIED BY THE \$125.00 FEE,

MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, June 6, 2025.

DUE TO STRICT LIMITATIONS ON THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS (30 STUDENTS),

LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

SELECTION DATE THIS YEAR WILL BE June 13, 2025. IF YOU HAVE NOT HEARD ANYTHING BY June 20th PLEASE CONTACT THE AMERICAN LEGION AT THE PHONE NUMBER BELOW

For further information contact your Guidance Counselor, School Resource Officer, local Post of the American Legion, or the American Legion Department Treasurer, 864 Wethersfield Ave, Hartford, CT 06114.
Telephone 860.296.0719.

It is DESPP's policy to foster a diverse and fair environment, and to offer programs and services in a manner that is consistent with state and federal laws that prohibit discrimination and harassment based on a person's protected class.

**What do they think of it?
Graduates write:**

“They taught us discipline and to work together as a team, so that we could achieve our goals. The desire to accomplish and succeed was always there.”

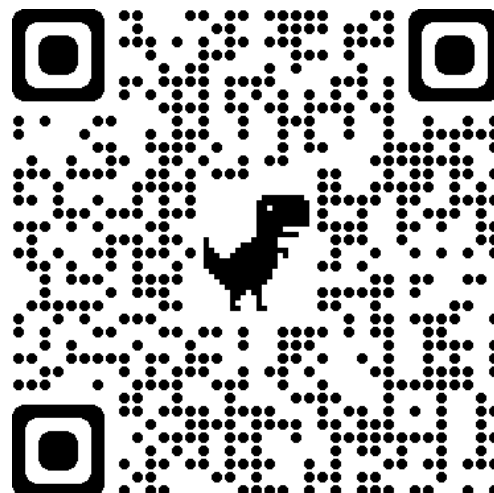
“Thanks to the American Legion and to all the Troopers who participated in State Police Youth Week. I had a great time and learned a lot. It was a great experience.”

“I would like to thank all of the Troopers who volunteered their time and energy in giving me the experience of a lifetime.”

“I wasn’t really thinking of joining the police before this. Now, I think that law enforcement is the direction I am heading. I truly hope that the cadets in the next State Police Youth Week get as much out of it as I did.”



Connecticut State Police



***The American Legion
Department of Connecticut***

864 Wethersfield Ave
Hartford, CT 06114
860-296-0719

*The American Legion
Department of Connecticut*



***STATE POLICE
YOUTH WEEK***



July 27 to August 2, 2025

Sponsored by

**The American Legion
Department of Connecticut
and
The Connecticut State Police**

The Program



Connecticut State Troopers

The American Legion Connecticut State Police Youth Week is designed to provide an insight into the training and professional expectations of a police officer. The program is mentally and physically demanding, patterned after recruit training at the State Police Training Academy. It offers an excellent opportunity for students considering a career in law enforcement to gain first-hand knowledge of the training and duties of a police officer. The program is NOT a recreational camp, nor a disciplinary camp for problem youths. Students must be recommended for the program, be in good academic standing, and physically fit. Training is conducted in a paramilitary atmosphere, fostering a positive attitude among the cadets and enabling them to achieve goals they may have imagined as unattainable.

A TYPICAL DAY

Cadets awake early, prepare quarters for inspection and participate in physical training. They march in formation to all scheduled classes and activities. Cadets attend instruction in subjects such as: Connecticut Penal and Motor Vehicle Codes, police radar use, firearms safety and familiarization, tactical operations, motor vehicle operation, self-defense, employment of trained dogs as well as other police skills. The program is conducted at the Connecticut Police Academy, 285 Preston Road, Meriden, CT. Participation in the program is STRICTLY LIMITED.

COURSE INFORMATION

STAFF

The Connecticut State Police provide personnel from the staff of the State Police Academy and community trust liaisons who serve as Training/Activities Director, Curriculum Director, and Staff Instructors. The Program Director is a member of the American Legion. Counselors and medical personnel are members of the State Police Academy staff. Instructors are drawn from various components of the law enforcement community and have previously included instructors from the Judicial Department, the Department of Criminal Justice and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

EQUIPMENT

Cadets are issued an official cap, t-shirts, trousers and belt to be worn during training (except recreational periods). Each student must furnish additional equipment: white sneakers, white athletic socks, khaki pants personal toilet articles, towels, clothing for athletic activities, swimwear (female-one piece tank-type) and athletic shorts. Detailed equipment requirements will be provided in the Letter of Acceptance to the program. Washers and dryers are available at the Academy.

GRADUATION

Graduation exercises will be held at the Connecticut State Police Training Academy on Saturday, August 2nd, 2025. Details will be provided in acceptance letter.

REGISTRATION AND CHECKOUT

Registration will be held on Sunday, June 27, 2025. Specific reporting time to be provided in the Letter of Acceptance to the program. Checkout will commence immediately after graduation on Saturday, August 2, 2025. Individuals providing transportation will be permitted to pick up cadets at the Training Academy ONLY. NO EXCEPTIONS will be made.

SPONSORSHIP

Cadets (male or female) may be sponsored by an American Legion Post, District, Auxiliary Unit or Civic Group (i.e. FOP, Rotary, Lions, Elks, etc.). Sponsors are responsible for attendance of the cadet, payment of tuition, and transport to and from the Academy.

SELECTION

Applicants must have completed Junior Year (11th Grade) prior to attendance. Post or District Commanders may interview and nominate applicants. Nominees must be in good health and academic standing. Applicants must desire to attend the program. Selection for attendance will be made by a joint committee of The American Legion and State Police Academy cadre.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION / INSURANCE

A medical examination performed within ten months of attendance, a signed Waiver and Indemnification and a consent to Medical Treatment and Hospital Services must be executed prior to attendance. Parents/Guardians are responsible for treatment and disclosure of pre-existing conditions and are required to provide insurance coverage for required care.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2025,

in order to allow sufficient time for selection and notification. Applications must be signed by the Commander/President of the sponsoring organization (if applicable) and must be submitted with all supporting documentation (Photograph, Personal Statement and Recommendation). Applications must be accompanied by a NON-REFUNDABLE fee payment check in the amount of \$125.00, payable to The American Legion Department of Connecticut. Payment received for those not selected for attendance will be refunded.



**COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKET
AND \$125.00 NON-REFUNDABLE REGISTRATION FEE
MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN June 6, 2025.**



**American Legion Post 91
66 Prospect Street
Moosup, CT 06354
860-564-8005**

Dear Friend,

The Godreau-McMahon American Legion Post 91 VJ Day Parade Committee proudly announces that the theme for this year's parade is "*Remembering Those Who Served and are Still Serving*", dedicated to the men and women who have and continue to bravely serve and sacrifice for this country in uniform. This will be the 64th annual VJ Day Parade as well as the 80th anniversary of VJ Day. It will be held on 10 August 2025.

Additionally, the parade continues with our commitment to honor and pay tribute to our Greatest Generation who served bravely and honorably in World War II.

Step off time will be at 1:01PM, rain or shine.

All participants MUST sign in at the registration point, NOT at the American Legion Post. Please do not report to a staging location without checking in with Registration.

If you plan to participate, please mail the enclosed form to:

**VJ Day Parade Committee
American Legion Post 91
66 Prospect Street
Moosup, CT 06354**

Please ensure to include an email address (if available) on the registration form for future notifications.

Thank You,

VJ Day Parade Committee

The American Legion, Department of Connecticut
269 Main St
Cromwell, CT 06416

106th NATIONAL CONVENTION HOUSING APPLICATION

Deadline for receipt of this form in Department Headquarters
Friday, June 27, 2025, 4:00 PM

I hereby make application for housing at the 2024 NATIONAL CONVENTION of The American Legion to be held in **Tampa, FL, August 22 – August 28, 2025.**

THE CONNECTICUT HEADQUARTERS will be the Tampa Marriott Water Street, 505 Water Street, Tampa, FL 33602

ACCOMMODATIONS: King Rate at Marriott (1 to 2 people) \$149.00
Plus, tax rate = 13.5% + \$1.95 Queen Rate at Marriott (two beds) (1 to 4 people) \$149.00
ADA Room at Marriott (1 to 4 people) \$149.00
One Bedroom Luxury Suite (1 to 4 people) \$480.00

Suites at Marriott are limited to first come first served (Check with Department Adjutant)

Parking: Valet - per Day - \$28.00

Delegates and Alternates of The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary ACCOMMODATED as follows:
FIRST – Delegates, SECOND - Alternates, THIRD – Call-ins, FOURTH - others as space is available. Guests will not be considered until all specified are placed. Note: AL Call-ins & Delegates must stay in the assigned hotel.

HOUSING DEPOSITS: A one-day deposit is required for each room plus any additional daily fees

REGISTRATION FEE: All persons attending Convention - Delegates, Alternates and Guests (age 18 or over) MUST pay \$35.00 registration fee before room assignments are made. All housing is **assigned based on three (3) Night's minimum occupancy.** On CHECKOUT - be sure your deposit is credited to your account.

ROOM TO BE OCCUPIED BY: (list full name, address of each occupant).

Indicate if **Delegate, Alternate or Guest.**

Name

Address - Phone Number - Email

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Arrival date: _____

Departure date: _____

Total days: _____

Information about activities may be found through the National web site [National Convention](#)

- OVER -



**American Legion Post 91
VJ Day Parade Committee
66 Prospect Street
Moosup, CT 06354
860-564-8005**

**Entry Form
64th Annual VJ Day Parade
10 August 2025**

Nature of Entry: (Color Guard, Band, Float, etc.)

Sponsoring Organization:

Contact Person: (Phone #, Address & email if available)

Please submit by 25 July 2025. NOTE: APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR AWARDS

All participants will be at the staging area by 12:30 A.M.

NO CANDY MAY BE THROWN FROM FLOATS OR VEHICLES. You may have people hand out candy along the parade route.

Mail completed application to VJ Day Parade Committee, American Legion Post 91, 66 Prospect Street, Moosup, CT 06354

CONN. OFFICIAL HEADQUARTERS:

**Tampa Marriott Water Street
505 Water Street
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 221-4900**

CONVENTION REGISTRATION:

**A NATIONAL CONVENTION
REGISTRATION FEE OF \$35.00
MUST BE PAID BY EVERY LEGIONNAIRE
AND GUESTS ATTENDING THE
CONVENTION**

AL DEPARTMENT CAUCUS

SUNDAY, August 24, 2024

1:00-3:00 PM – Location TBD

***Registration: THU 8/21 & FRI 8/22 1-5 p.m.
Location TBD***

**IMPORTANT - NO PHONE RESERVATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED
BY DEPARTMENT OR CONVENTION HOTEL**

ENCLOSE CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO: THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPT. OF CONN

Circle preferences: King or Double or Suite All rooms are Non-Smoking

HOUSING DEPOSIT: (\$171.07 min. for Regular Rooms) \$ _____

HOUSING DEPOSIT: (\$546.75 min. for 1 BDR Suite) \$ _____

REGISTRATION FEE: \$ 35.00 per person X _____ \$ _____

(Questions Please call Adjutant)

TOTAL: \$ _____

Contact
NAME: _____ TEL: _____ POST #: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ DIST #: _____

EMAIL: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

**BE SURE THAT ALL ITEMS ARE ANSWERED IN FULL. REMEMBER THAT THIS
APPLICATION MUST REACH DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS ON OR BEFORE JUNE 27, 2025, by 4:00 pm.**



VOICES

"Young people who have been told that military service will leave them broken or unsupported in the end will think twice about their propensity to serve at all. And that is a matter of national security. We need to change the narrative. We can change the narrative."

- American Legion National Commander James A. LaCoursiere Jr., testifying Feb. 26 before a joint hearing of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs



60

Percentage of constituent calls to members of Congress that are related to issues with the Department of Veterans Affairs, according to VA Secretary Doug Collins, who spoke Feb. 24 at the Commander's Call for the 65th American Legion Washington Conference.



1,431,061

Number of local veterans served through The American Legion's Buddy Check program after 2024 assistance numbers – a record 341,049 by no fewer than 4,624 posts – were tabulated from the most recent Consolidated Post Report.



\$19,038.18

Amount in American Legion National Emergency Fund grants disbursed in February, all to assist after damages from the Los Angeles wildfires.



85

Participants in a Feb. 21 American Legion- Small Business Administration conference in Washington D.C. where they learned about accessing capital, navigating difficulties in business and franchise opportunities.



9

American Legion Samsung Scholars who participated in activities, tours and ceremonies as part of the 65th Washington Conference in the nation's capital.



\$17,000

Amount in American Legion Operation Comfort Warriors grants disbursed in February, to the Birmingham, Ala., VA Medical Center and, through The American Legion Department of Indiana, to the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival.



275

Number of American Legion Baseball teams that had completed registration for the 2025 season through February.



91

Scouting recognition certificates distributed to local American Legion posts in February – 75 for Eagle Scouts, seven for Gold Star Girl Scouts and nine for Summit Awards.



\$535,000

Amount in American Legion Child Well-Being Foundation grants disbursed in February to assist non-profit organizations that help children facing challenges beyond their control.



125

Homeless veterans who received donated gift cards, blankets, personal hygiene products, socks and more Feb. 25 in a visit to three shelters in Washington D.C. by Past National Vice Commander Patricia Harris, Legionnaires and the American Legion Veterans Employment & Education Division during the 65th Washington Conference.



3,737

Number of military and veterans memorials that had been posted on the national American Legion memorials database on legion.org through February.



661

Downloads of the American Legion Tango Alpha Lima podcast, highest in February, featuring Kamin Samuel, the Navy's first Black female helicopter pilot.

VOICES

"If I can train others that might catch somebody that I'll never know, that's another life saved. By being a trainer, the more you get out, the more people you train, people are going to get saved. It's just going to multiply to the point where hopefully there won't be any veteran out there that cannot find somebody to listen to them."

— Richard Schwerdtfeger of American Legion Post 374 in Des Moines, Iowa, during a Feb. 14 American Legion Be The One QPR (question, persuade, refer) training session at the Department of Iowa's Mid-Winter Conference, where 10 American Legion Family members were certified to assist veterans at risk for suicide and train others to help, as well.



146,583,674

Potential audience in the Washington, D.C., media market of a national American Legion press release that advanced the 65th Washington Conference.



\$5,432,942

Amount in retroactive VA benefits secured in February, with free representation from American Legion appeals experts, for disabled veterans who had disputed earlier claims decisions.



898

VA Informal Hearing Presentations prepared for veterans, free of charge, by American Legion claims appeals representatives in February.



331

U.S. Board of Veterans Appeals dispositions achieved in February, with free representation by American Legion national staff.



\$2,208,586

Amount in VA debt waived in February for veterans or family members using free American Legion representation.



93

New VA pension claims handled free of charge by American Legion representatives in February.



51

New American Legion service officers who received VA accreditation in February.



8

Number of brand-new U.S. flags distributed Feb. 11 by the American Legion Family of Post 77 in Henderson County, N.C., to schools that were damaged – and flags ruined – when Hurricane Helene struck last fall.



25

Number of Central Catholic High School Junior ROTC students in San Antonio, Texas, who were awarded "Cyber Patriot" scholarships through Task Force Movement, with support from Google and the Justamere Foundation; The American Legion has a seat on the steering committee of TFM, which made the announcement in February.



5

New American Legion posts chartered in February: 395 in Mobile, Ala.; 422 in Lee, Fla.; 422 in Lafayette, La.; 293 in Spring Mountain, Tenn; and 1938 in College Station, Texas.



11

New Sons of The American Legion squadrons chartered in February: four in Wisconsin; two in Minnesota; and one each in Florida, the District of Columbia, Connecticut, Texas and Ohio.



2,480

Rounds of ceremonial ammo, to go along with 68 rifles, distributed to posts and departments in February through The American Legion Military Surplus Program, administered by the National Security Division in Washington, D.C.



4

Junior ROTC achievement certificates distributed to local posts from The American Legion National Security Division in February, two for military excellence and two for scholastics.