



Fellow Legionnaires,

The month of February began and ended with two events which were among the highlights of my time as Department Commander thus far. February began with our Mid-Winter Conference which was a great day of training and networking with many members of our American Legion Family. The month ended with the National Washington Conference in Washington D.C. While in D.C. we heard from the new Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Doug Collins, about his vision for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. We also learned from our National staff about The American Legion's legislative priorities for the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress. We then had the opportunity to visit with the members of Connecticut's congressional delegation to ensure that they know where The American Legion stands on issues that are important to veterans, military personnel, and their families.

While in D.C. I took the time to visit the now completed World War I Memorial that was built by the United States World War I Centennial Commission. Connecticut has its proverbial fingerprints on that memorial in a couple of big ways. Connecticut Legionnaire John "Jack" Monahan from Post #18 in Essex was The American Legion's representative on the WWI Centennial Commission. The other larger than life Connecticut connection to this memorial is its sculptor Sabin Howard. Mr. Howard, a resident of Kent, created the memorial's centerpiece, a sixty foot long, twenty-five-ton bronze sculpture titled "A Soldier's Journey." While the WWI Memorial was long overdue, it now takes its place of honor among the other moving memorials in our nation's capital.

By the time you read this, the Department's Oratorical Contest will have been completed. Congratulations to all the contestants and best of luck to the winner who will represent the Department of Connecticut at the National Contest in May in Michigan. Thank you to the posts and districts that sponsor Oratorical Contests. The Oratorical is just one of many programs under The American Legion's Americanism pillar. All posts should be involved in one or more of these programs. If you don't know how to get involved, reach out and our Department Americanism Commission will work with you.

This spring we are on track to add a new program to our Americanism line-up. We are partnering with the Connecticut Army National Guard to run a youth leadership weekend modeled after our successful Connecticut State Police Youth Week. This new program is slated to run for the first time May 30 – June 1 at Camp Nett in Niantic. Be on the lookout for additional details. The Department will be seeking a handful of volunteers to assist with this new program. This would be a great opportunity for our younger Legionnaires to get involved and take an active roll in a Department program. Please reach out to me directly if you are interested in helping.

Lastly, please take note of our National Commander's visit to Connecticut April 1 – 3. Let's ensure that Connecticut's own National Commander Jim LaCoursiere receives a large welcome everywhere on his itinerary while he is visiting his home department. Jim, and his aide Butch Hansen, are representing us well at the National level. Let's show our appreciation for their hard work and dedication by coming together for them while they are home in Connecticut for a few days.

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



## **Sr. Vice Commander's Message**

Thank you to the following posts who have become 100% posts in the past month. Post 1, Post 89, Post 210, Post 66, Post 69 and Post 103. 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.

We had a great week in D.C. as the American Legion Family did our job advocating for our fellow veterans and national security. This action would not be possible without an active and informed membership. Please continue to help connect your members with a program that fits them as well as their personality and follow up with mentoring. Share your love and knowledge of our American Legion programs.

Between Now and June, I will be actively seeking comrades to fill department committees. Many of these committees are directly related to our Four Pillars; Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism as well as Children and Youth. If you have an interest in being on a committee or have a comrade that may be interested, please contact me.

As of February 28th, the Department of Connecticut stood at 85.72% and we needed 612 cards to achieve our goals of 90% before March 12th. We need to pick up the pace and intensity our efforts.

Over the past month I became aware of two items that posts and departments found useful for membership.

The first item was transferring members from the state holding post (in our case Post 200) into a local post. Several departments have found that the same individuals who will not pickup the phone during a call during a revitalization have been more than happy to respond to a text message. Inviting them to transfer into a local post via text is a productive tool. I myself watched the Department of Florida Commander's phone pickup 3 new members during a one hour period during a meeting. You just need to craft and save an invitation text as well as a thank you/welcome aboard text with information regarding the required eligibility documentation.

The second item came from closer to home. When membership renewal efforts via phone and email by Post 66 in Clinton slowed down to a crawl after multiple phone messages and emails, they went back to a simple first class letter. Renewals started flowing in. Was it the hand written address on the envelope, the real stamp on it or something else? We do not know, but something stirred comrades to respond to the letters in a positive way. If all else fails, maybe a letter will do the trick.

I have a boat load of 100% quota pins burning a hole in my pocket. Keep chasing down those renewals and new members. I look forward to presenting pins. **Keep Making it Happen and do it loudly!!**

Sincerely Yours in Service,

*Mike Kellett*

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# Adjutant Notes

Tel: 860-436-9986

E-mail: [ctadj@ctlegion.org](mailto:ctadj@ctlegion.org)

Website: [www.ctlegion.org](http://www.ctlegion.org)

Fax: 860-436-9491

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Volume 24-25

March 2025

Bulletin No. 6

## **This Month in Connecticut History: March 7, 1942**

**Hartford native and first African American to become a police officer in Hartford, Lemuel Custis was one of the first five to graduate from the Air Training at Tuskegee, Alabama and earn their Silver Wings. He flew more than 90 missions and earned the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal!**

### **Washington Conference**

Last week The American Legion met in Washington DC at our annual Conference. Your delegates from Connecticut were able to meet with our elected Senators and Representatives to discuss the Legion's legislative priorities. Remember to sign up for Legislative alerts:

[www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/Register](http://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/Register)

### **Oratorical Contest**

The Department Oratorical contest was held this past Saturday, and the students once again showed their knowledge and speaking talents were outstanding! Congratulations to Maggie Fleischman from Stamford, who will represent Connecticut at Hillsdale College , May 17th-18<sup>th</sup>.

### **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](http://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".

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

## **Connecticut Honor Flight**

For information to send a WWII, Korean War or Vietnam veteran on the next Honor Flight from Connecticut on May 3, 2025 follow this link: <https://honorflightct.org/home>

## **National Commander Visit**

Remember our National Commander will be back home for his official visit April 1-4. Go to the website to see his itinerary. Post 165 will host the dinner on Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Send your registration now to reserve your seats. Also, please join us as we walk in Bushnell Park for our mission to "Be the One". Donations will be collected for the Veterans & Children Foundation (VCF).

## **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!

## **Potpourri**

Have an event coming up that your Post wants advertised? Send a flyer to the Department Adjutant with the details and it will be placed on the online department calendar; get it in no later than the 27<sup>th</sup> of the month before it takes place and it will be placed 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,

Sons of The American Legion that attended the Mid-Winter Conference thank you for attending and we hope you learned a few things during the trainings.

Calling all Legion Family, our own National Commander, Jim LaCoursiere is returning to Connecticut in April, we are raising funds for his project of the year, VCF. We would like all Legion Posts, Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion and Legion Riders throughout our State what you can for Jim's project. You may send checks payable to VCF to The American Legion, 269 Main St., Cromwell, Ct. 06416. Or join us on Thursday April 3, 2005 at Bushnell Park in Hartford as Jim and others will be walking around the park between the hours of 9am to 12 noon, Let's make Jim proud of us all.

Rich Kilby

Detachment Adjutant

860-329-2066

[kilbyrich66@gmail.com](mailto:kilbyrich66@gmail.com)

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



**DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT**

269 MAIN STREET, CROMWELL, CT 06416

TEL: 860-436-9986      FAX: 860-436-9491      WEB: [www.ctlegion.org](http://www.ctlegion.org)

TO:            All Posts

FROM:        Thomas K. Moore, Department Adjutant

DATE:        February 26, 2025

**SUBJECT:    ANNUAL POST DATA REPORT**

Enclosed is the 2026 Member Year Post Data Report prepared specifically for your Post. Please review all data on the left side of the form and note corrections on the right side of the form. The first entry is for your post's physical post home and is not to be used as the meeting location for posts that do not have a physical building. There is space in the meeting section to enter a meeting location if needed.

National Headquarters uses the Post Data Form to prepare your post members' 2026 renewal notices. Please be sure that the postal mailing address, dues mailing address and amount of dues as well as all other contact information is correct. At the bottom of the form, please check the appropriate boxes. If your post provides Funeral Services or supports Baseball, Boys State, or the Oratorical Contest, please write that in so those items can be included with your post information in the MyLegion Post Locator.

**YOUR POST COMMANDER OR ADJUTANT MUST COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS ORIGINAL FORM TO DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS BY APRIL 1, 2025** (this is an earlier date than what is printed on the form to allow Department time to meet our form deadline for National). The blank fillable form provided on the Department website is only to be used for updates later in the year.

**Postal mail forms to:**

The American Legion Department Headquarters  
269 Main Street  
Cromwell, CT 06416

**Email forms to:** [membership@ctlegion.org](mailto:membership@ctlegion.org)

**DO NOT SEND FORMS TO NATIONAL.** Department will notify National of any changes.

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

Thank you,

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

*The American Legion, Department of Connecticut  
National Commander's Dinner*

*Honoring*



*James A. LaCoursiere, Jr.*

American Legion Post 165  
1253 Wolcott Road, Wolcott, CT 06716

**Wednesday, April 2, 2025**

Cash donation for Beer & Wine Social 6:00 PM

Dinner: 6:30 PM \$40.00 pp

Menu:

**Main Course:** Appetizers of cheese & crackers, fresh fruit and vegetable trays, Roasted Chicken, Roasted Pork Loin, Roasted Potatoes, Penne with Marinara sauce, Vegetable, Fresh Garden salad with dressing, Italian bread & butter, and dessert of chocolate, vanilla or marble sheet cake, coffee, tea, soda, water beverages.

Make checks payable to: The American Legion Dept. of CT

**Deadline for dinner reservations: March 25, 2025**

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**MAIL Dinner reservations to:** The American Legion, Dept. of Connecticut  
National Commander's Banquet  
864 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06114

Check enclosed in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$400.00 for a table of 10) **\*\*NOTE\*\*** Max seating is 150 people

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

District # \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Post # \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/TOWN: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Names on other side

## NAMES

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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!

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

## 106<sup>th</sup> 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

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**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**

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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.**

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**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.

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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](#)

**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**

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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: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

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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.**

**Complete in duplicate**

**2025  
National Convention**

**DELEGATES and ALTERNATES**

As Commander of District No. \_\_\_\_\_, Department of Connecticut, The American Legion, I HEREBY CERTIFY that the following list of Delegates and Alternates to the **106<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of The American Legion to be held in Tampa, FL, August 22 – August 28, 2025** were elected for ratification in the order listed hereon at a meeting of the District held on \_\_\_\_\_.

DELEGATE	POST	ADDRESS (with zip)

ALTERNATE	POST	ADDRESS (with zip)

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Adjutant

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Commander

**RETURN TO DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS IMMEDIATELY UPON ELECTION**

**(Both copies MUST be received NO LATER THAN JULY 3, 2025)**



# CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT FAIR

TO RECRUIT

**SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS,  
AND THEIR FAMILIES**

**CONNECTING JOB SEEKERS WITH:**

- EMPLOYERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY
- APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
- SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

**TO PARTICIPATE AS AN EMPLOYER OR EXHIBITOR  
RESERVE A TABLE AT [CTCONSTRUCTION.ORG/FAIR-TABLE](http://CTCONSTRUCTION.ORG/FAIR-TABLE)**

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. SPACE IS LIMITED.**



**Date: Friday, March 21st, 2025**  
**Location: Sheraton Hartford South**  
**100 Capital Blvd.**  
**Rocky Hill CT, 06067**  
**NEW Time: Noon - 6 PM**  
**LUNCH AND DINNER PROVIDED.**

**CONTACT US: [EGUILD@CTCONSTRUCTION.ORG](mailto:EGUILD@CTCONSTRUCTION.ORG) 860.529.6855**



S.A.V.E. training to be offered by the Veterans Administration free to the Veterans, First Responders and their Families, at Shelton Post 16, as part of the American Legion's Be the One mission.

The VA S.A.V.E. Training fosters practical support for Veterans facing a crisis or experiencing suicidal thoughts. This comprehensive training educates caregivers and Veteran family members on recognizing the warning signs of suicidal thoughts. It guides them in engaging in compassionate conversations, identifying support needs and effectively connecting Veterans to mental health resources.

The American Legion is committed to reducing veteran suicide through its Be the One mission, empowering individuals to break the stigma surrounding mental health and save lives.

To support this effort, Shelton Post 16 will be hosting VA S.A.V.E. training for veterans, first responders and their families. This training will be offered at Sutter-Terlizzi American Legion Post 16 295 Old Bridgeport Ave in Shelton. The 60 to 90 minute program will be held on Tuesday March 18th at 6:00PM.

For more information, contact American Legion Post 16 of Shelton via email at [sheltonpost16@gmail.com](mailto:sheltonpost16@gmail.com).



**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 19<sup>th</sup>, 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 80<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup>**. 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](mailto: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](http://www.ltgovernor.ct.gov)  
[LtGovernor.Bysiewicz@ct.gov](mailto:LtGovernor.Bysiewicz@ct.gov)



Susan Bysiewicz  
Lt. Governor



Commissioner Ron P. Welch  
Connecticut Veterans Affairs



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





## A Special Offer for Our Nation's Heroes

Beginning Valentine's Day (February 14, 2025) through Memorial Day (May 26, 2025), FirstLight is offering new VA clients an extra hour of FREE care for every shift of three or more hours.

### Our Why

At FirstLight, "Thank you for your service" is more than just a phrase—we put these words into action. For over 10 years, we've proudly cared for veterans, understanding that starting home care can feel overwhelming. This program is our way of giving veterans a boost while providing family caregivers with a well-deserved break.

### Our Approach

If you're scheduled for a 6-hour shift funded by the VA, you'll receive an additional hour of care—free of charge. This applies to all shifts of 3+ hours and comes at no additional cost to you or the VA.

### Our Services



Personal Care: Bathing, grooming, mobility assistance, medication reminders, and more



Companion & Homemaking: Meal prep, light housekeeping, laundry, errands, and friendly companionship

### Why FirstLight?

- Serving Connecticut since 2015, with over 1 million hours of care provided
- Five locations: Norwalk, Ridgefield, Southbury, Woodbridge, Farmington
- Over 200 highly trained caregivers
- Hands-on owners, John & Wenjun Richards, personally committed to exceptional care

Registration: HCA0000982

## Get Started Today



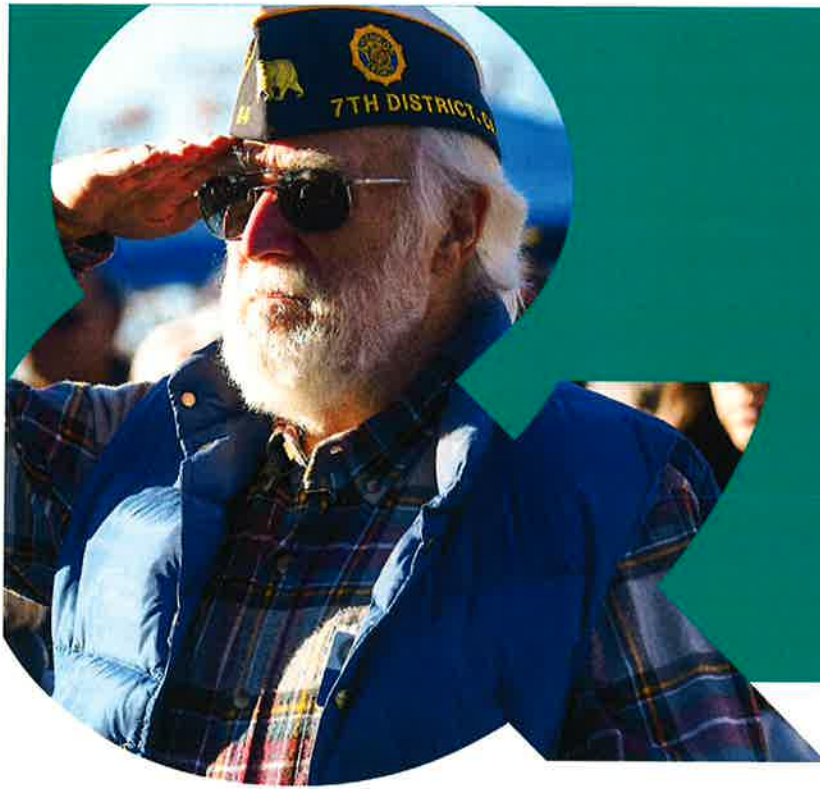
203-636-0991



[jrichards@firstlighthousecare.com](mailto:jrichards@firstlighthousecare.com)



[WesternCt.FirstLightHomeCare.com](http://WesternCt.FirstLightHomeCare.com)



wellcare

## Wellcare & The American Legion partner to benefit Veterans.

### Get a Wellcare Medicare Advantage plan & more daily support for your unique needs.

So many Veterans and their families aren't getting the support, clear answers, and coverage they need for their unique situations. Wellcare Medicare Advantage plans work together with your VA benefits to provide more coverage than Original Medicare — giving you more of the benefits you can use every day.

#### Wellcare plan options include:

- & Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan (D-SNP)
- & Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plans (MAPD)
- & Medicare Advantage Plans (MA)

As a Veteran, you deserve access to the right doctors, the benefits you can use every day to stay healthy, and straight answers about your coverage.

### You showed up for your country. You deserve a Medicare Advantage plan that shows up for you.

Find out which Wellcare Medicare Advantage plan options are available in your area.

***The coverage you need & more***

### Or call your local licensed representative.

**Christopher Mccoy**

Licensed Representative

LIC#LA-1293819

(917) 385-2763

[WWW.WELLCAREREP.COM/16972680](http://WWW.WELLCAREREP.COM/16972680)

 **AMERICAN  
LEGION**

wellcare

THE OFFICIAL MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PROVIDER  
OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

**Find out which Wellcare Medicare Advantage plan options are available in your area.**



Visit us at [Wellcare4Veterans.com](https://Wellcare4Veterans.com)



Or call (917) 385-2763 (TTY: 711)



THE OFFICIAL MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PROVIDER  
OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

'Ohana Health Plan, a plan offered by WellCare Health Insurance of Arizona, Inc. Wellcare is the Medicare brand for Centene Corporation, an HMO, PPO, PFFS, PDP plan with a Medicare contract and is an approved Part D Sponsor. Our D-SNP plans have a contract with the state Medicaid program. Enrollment in our plans depends on contract renewal. Washington residents: Health Net Life Insurance Company is contracted with Medicare for PPO plans. "Wellcare by Health Net" is issued by Health Net Life Insurance Company. Washington residents: "Wellcare" is issued by Wellcare of Washington, Inc. Washington residents: "Wellcare" is issued by Wellcare Health Insurance Company of Washington, Inc. Arizona D-SNP plans: Contract services are funded in part under contract with the State of Arizona. New Mexico (NM) Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan (DSNP) Members: As a Wellcare by Allwell D-SNP member, you have coverage from both Medicare and Medicaid. Medicaid services are funded in part by the state of New Mexico. NM Medicaid benefits may be limited to payment of Medicare premiums for some members. Louisiana D-SNP prospective enrollees: For detailed information about Louisiana Medicaid benefits, please visit the Medicaid website at <https://ldh.la.gov/medicaid> or <https://www.louisianahealthconnect.com>. To request a written copy of our Medicaid Provider Directory, please contact us. Notice: TennCare is not responsible for payment for these benefits, except for appropriate cost sharing amounts. TennCare is not responsible for guaranteeing the availability or quality of these benefits. Any benefits above and beyond traditional Medicare benefits are applicable to Wellcare Medicare Advantage only and do not indicate increased Medicaid benefits. For Indiana D-SNP prospective enrollees: For detailed information about Indiana Medicaid benefits, please visit the Medicaid website at <https://www.in.gov/medicaid/> Wellcare (HMO and HMO SNP) includes products that are underwritten by WellCare of Texas, Inc., WellCare National Health Insurance Company, and SelectCare of Texas, Inc. Wellcare by Allwell (HMO and HMO SNP) includes products that are underwritten by Superior HealthPlan, Inc. and Superior HealthPlan Community Solutions, Inc.

We do not offer every plan available in your area. Currently we represent organizations which offer products in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program to get information on all of your options.

## **Veterans Are Heroes Forever: Strengthening Support for Veterans in 2024 & 2025**

In 2024, *Veterans Are Heroes Forever* made a profound impact on the lives of veterans and their families by addressing food insecurity, providing financial assistance, distributing warm-weather clothing, and fostering a sense of community. Thanks to the generosity of donors and the dedication of our team, we distributed 500 brand-new coats and 250 gently used coats to veterans in need, ensuring they stayed warm during the cold months.

Recognizing that food insecurity remains a critical issue, we are expanding our efforts in 2025. A **Mobile Food Pantry** will now be available twice a month throughout the entire year, providing a vital resource for veterans and their families. This initiative, which began on January 9, 2025, will continue every other Thursday at 2071 Baldwin Street, Waterbury, at Our Lady of Fatima Church (next to the VFW).

No registration or ID is required—just show up! The truck arrives at 12:30 PM, and individuals can begin lining up as early as 11:15 AM. This is also open to the public, and we strongly encourage veterans and their families to take advantage of this great opportunity to receive fresh and nutritious food.

### **Free Membership Now Available**

Starting March 12, 2025, *Veterans Are Heroes Forever* will begin new membership sign-ups, on the second Tuesday of every month and there after starting at 6:30 PM at the Wolcott Public Library. Everyone is welcome, and veterans are especially encouraged to attend to learn about the many benefits of membership.

One of the best parts? Membership is completely free—no dues, no fees. Our goal is to build a strong network of support for veterans, ensuring they have access to resources, assistance, and a community that truly understands their needs.

As we continue our mission in 2025, we invite veterans, their families, and the community to join us in making a difference.

For more information or to get involved, visit [www.vetahf.com](http://www.vetahf.com) or call 203-509-3994.

Thank you

*Dan Di Virgilio*

Founder/President



JOIN US IN THANKING OUR FEMALE VETERANS  
**SHE SERVED TOO, LLC. PRESENTS**



**HONORING**  
**OUR WOMAN WARRIORS**  
**—MARCH 7, 2025—**

CEREMONY  LIGHT LUNCH  GATHERING



Any questions, please contact  
Gladys Silva-Perales at (860)888-8422

**— EVENT BEGINS AT 11 A.M. —**



STATE CAPITAL  
Legislative Office Building 2E  
300 Capitol Ave  
Hartford, CT 06106



PLEASE RSVP TO  
FAY WILLIAMS AT  
(203)850-8368



**NEW VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS BUILDING  
Memorial Gallery Service Wall of Honor Form  
Remembrance display for all to see**

**The entrance will feature a Wall of Honor to recognize anyone who is serving, has served, living or deceased.**

We are making available 6.5"x 2.5" memorial plaques to be placed on the wall naming your loved one. The plaques are a one time charge and remain on the wall as long as the building stands.

You may order multiple plaques.

If ordering more than one plaque, please provide each inscription customization below.

The plaques will be a three line memorial where you place the service members name on line one and the additional information desired on lines two and three. Examples: Branch and Years of service.

You can place as many plaques on the Wall of Honor as individuals you wish to recognize.

There will be separate sections of the wall to honor military veterans, police officers, fire, and EMS responders.



Please Provide Your Contact Information:

First & Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Provide up to three lines of text for the Memorial Plaque(s): Add additional plaques on reverse

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please make your check payable to: "Veterans Building Fund" \$125.00 per plaque.**

**Mail this form and check to: Veterans Building Fund, PO Box 110205, 50 Quality St, Trumbull, CT 06611**

For additional information visit: [trumbullveteranscenter.com](http://trumbullveteranscenter.com) or [vfw10059.org](http://vfw10059.org)

For questions please contact: Dan Sacco at (203) 858-6371 - [vfwpost10059@gmail.com](mailto:vfwpost10059@gmail.com)



# SPECIAL THANKS



## Town of Putnam

USS Henry Breault Association, Inc

American Legion Post #13

Alfred J. Breault VFW Post 1523

Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse

Mo Codere (National Anthem)

Veterans Advisory Committee

Putnam Recreation Department

Kyle Knickerbocker - Connecticut Native

Natchaug River Young Marines

USSVI - Unites States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

American Legion Post 91 Moosup, CT

Putnam Police Department



# Henry Breault Day

March 8, 2025

12 Noon

Putnam Veterans Park

Putnam, CT



Celebrate and learn about Putnam, Connecticut's own Henry Breault, a U.S. Navy Torpedo-man. The first and only enlisted Submariner to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor and the Grassroots effort to name a Virginia-Class Submarine after him.



TM2 Henry Breault receiving the Medal of Honor from President Calvin Coolidge at the White House in 1924

## The Grassroots effort to name a Submarine in his honor.

A campaign is underway to honor Breault's legacy by naming a Virginia-class submarine USS Henry Breault.

This initiative, led by the USS Henry Breault Association and supported by veterans, historians and local leaders, seeks to recognize his heroism on a national stage. Through advocacy, public support, and official petitions, the effort is gaining momentum.

**Join us to learn how you can be part of this historic movement.**

## SIGN THE PETITION!

Name a Virginia-Class Submarine after Medal of Honor Recipient Henry Breault



## Save the Date!

**HENRY BREAULT**  
MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT



**Monday, September 15, 2025 • 9 AM**  
Connecticut National Golf Club • Putnam, CT

# Henry Breault Day Program

Saturday, March 8, 2025

**Opening - Emcee**  
Brian Maynard

**Presentation of Colors**  
Albert J. Breault VFW Post 1523 - American Legion Post #13

**Invocation**  
Dennis P Bousquet, Sr. - Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse

**National Anthem**  
Mo Coderre

**Wreath Laying**  
Color Guard United States Submarine Veterans

**Taps**  
By Retired Navy Master Chief Don Sherman  
American Legion Post #91 Honor Guard

**Welcome**

- ♦ Brian Maynard
- ♦ Barney Seney, Mayor, Putnam CT
- ♦ State Senator Mae Flexer & State Senator Jeff Gordon
- ♦ Committee for Military and Veterans Affairs
- ♦ American Legion State Commander, Commander John DeBisschop
- ♦ Connecticut Veterans Affairs Commissioner, Commissioner Ron Welch
- ♦ United State Submarine Veterans, Inc. - Jeff Walsh, Northeast Regional District
- ♦ Ryan Walker - Author The Silent Services First Here

**Closing**  
Brian Maynard

**Benediction**  
Dennis P Bousquet, Sr. - Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse





# American Legion Post 12

**50/50**  
\$\$\$



**Sunday March 16, 2025**



***Live Music By BOBBY MORRILL***

***Traditional Irish Music 1-4pm***

**Bar Opens at 12 Noon Food Served at 2 pm**

**Traditional Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes**

**\$25 Per Person Tickets at the Bar**



**60 County St Norwalk, CT**

**(203) 866-8249**





**Free Online Virtual Town Hall  
Featuring Representative John Larson (D-CT)**



**Tuesday, March 18, 2025 from 1:30 - 2:30 PM ET**

We welcome you to join Rep. John Larson, the Center for Medicare Advocacy, and the Community Outreach and Education Project Team for a discussion on Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.

**With gratitude to our partners:**



**[Click Here to Register Now or Use the Link Below](https://secure.everyaction.com/X4voHOn4OkuSh1DApeeCgw2)**

**<https://secure.everyaction.com/X4voHOn4OkuSh1DApeeCgw2>**

**For More Info Call (860) 456-7790**

# New Date - Wednesday, March 19, 2025

(previous cancelled 3-12-25)

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

## UFO Presentation with Q & A's

American Legion Post 68

154 Porter's Pass, Berlin, CT

# "The Roswell UFO/Crash Retrieval"

What we now know almost 80 years later.

## RJ Teles, Ph.D.

Anomalous Science and UFO Investigator

Former Cyber Security Specialist for the US Government and Aeronautics Industry

Author of the book, The Final Revelation: The Sun Project



Why is the Roswell story so enduring? Since 1978 there have been many versions of the Roswell story and many assessments both pro and con. However, over the years we have seen a growing number of credible witnesses who testify to the alien nature of the events in July 1947. And, there remain some very important questions that have never been answered or explained by the government or anyone else! What really happened in 1947 and how does it affect us today?

## Free Event

However, a \$5.00 donation to benefit our monthly "Coffee With Vets" would be appreciated! Cash or check donation taken at door.

# To reserve your spot call

## Bev St. Onge 860-983-5914



# BINGO NIGHT



To Benefit:

**The May-Davis-Stotzer American  
Legion Post 117**

**PRIZES | FOOD | FUN**

**Raymour & Flanigan**  
FURNITURE | MATTRESSES ®

**FRIDAY, MARCH 21 ST | AT 5:30PM**

3375 Berlin Turnpike  
Newington, CT 06111

Call 860-665-9732 to RSVP



# AMERICAN LEGION POST 12



PLEASE JOIN US FOR POST 12'S



## **CHILI COOK OFF EVENT**

**SATURDAY MARCH 22nd, 2025**

**DOWNSTAIRS HALL 1-4 PM**

### **ATTENTION ALL CHILI CHEFS !!**

You are all cordially invited to cook up your best batch of chili and bring it down to Post 12 for our Contest.

Please drop off your entry between 12pm-1pm

Please Bring Your Own CrockPot or Warming Tray

### **Judges Will Be:**

**Mayor Harry Rilling, Legion Commander Rich Olson**

**VFW Commander Matt Seebeck**



**GIFT CARDS COURTESY OF STEW LEONARD'S**

Event Starts At 1pm Cost is \$10 for Adults  
\$5 for Kids 6-18, and Kids under 5 eat for Free



**60 COUNTY STREET  
NORWALK, CT 06851**

**Legion12Events@gmail.com**





Lumos  
DENTAL

BRIGHTENING THE WORLD, ONE SMILE AT A TIME.

# VETERANS FREE DENTAL DAY

8:00 AM  
TO 1:00 PM

FRIDAY  
MARCH

28  
2025

Lumos Dental is offering **ONE** free service of either a cleaning, filling or extraction for Veterans of all ages.

\*Must call ahead for appointment: 203-865-2245  
We kindly ask for military or VA ID

\*NOTE: This event has a first appointed, first served policy. If we reach capacity, we can put you on the waiting list.

**LUMOS DENTAL**  
921 STATE ST.  
NEW HAVEN, CT 06511



# National Vietnam War Veterans Day

Join us as we honor and remember  
our Vietnam War veterans

**Wreath-Laying Ceremony**

at the

**CT Vietnam War Veterans Memorial**

**Saturday, March 29, 2025 at Noon**

**Veterans Memorial Green,  
234 Lake Street, Coventry, CT**

# Vietnam Veterans Day

## 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion

On the Milford Green  
*Welcome Home*

**Saturday March 29, 2025**

### EVENT SCHEDULE

- Ceremonies on the Green: 11:00 AM.
- (Invocation, Pledge. Anthem, Music, Guest Speakers)
- Migrate to Veterans Auditorium: 12:30 PM.
- Special Ceremonies and Live Entertainment 1:00 To 4:00PM.
- Adjourn to City Hall for Veterans Social 4:00 PM

*(This Event is Open to the Public)*

### Food Available At Restaurants On the Green

Shuttle BUS service available 10:00 to 4:00  
(R.R.Station-Green- Auditorium)

### Milford Green Field of Flags

March 16 to 29

**PURCHASE A FLAG**  
**IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF**  
**A VETERAN,**  
**A FAMILY MEMBER OR A FRIEND**

( For Event & Field of Flags Info Visit)

**[www.Vnamvet50reunion.com](http://www.Vnamvet50reunion.com)**





**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



★ **BOUNCE HOUSE**

★ **YARD GAMES**

★ **TOUCH-A-TRUCK**

★ **FACE PAINTING**

★ **VETERAN RESOURCES**

★ **GUEST SPEAKERS**

★ **LIVE MUSIC**

★ **PIZZA & REFRESHMENTS**

## **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.

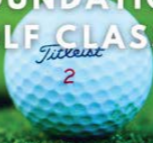
CONNECTICUT

Foundation

AMERICAN LEGION



# CT AMERICAN LEGION FOUNDATION GOLF CLASSIC



**MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025**

Lake of Isles South Course

1 Clubhouse Drive, North Stonington, CT 06359

## Schedule of Events

10AM: Registration

12PM: Shotgun Start

5PM: Dinner & Awards



## Cost to Participate

\$660.00 per team

\$165.00 per player

Sponsorships available

**Deadline to Register: April 7, 2025**

**\*\*Fee includes Box Lunch\*\***



## *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 (1<sup>st</sup> place team, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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**  
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](mailto:jadcmd@sbcglobal.net)  
Tom Moore: 860-436-9986, email [ctadj@ctlegion.org](mailto: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)*

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**Name or Organization**

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

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**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)*

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**Name of Organization**

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

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**Name of Organization**

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](mailto:jadcmd@sbcglobal.net)  
Tom Moore: 860-436-9986, email [ctadj@ctlegion.org](mailto: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**



***PROUD SPONSOR***

**CONNECTICUT AMERICAN LEGION FOUNDATION**

**GOLF CLASSIC**

**April 21, 2025**

**Lake of Isles**



**9<sup>th</sup> 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.)			



**FRIDAY MAY 30 – SUNDAY JUNE 1, 2025**

**IF YOU HAVE FINISHED YOUR JUNIOR YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL AND WANT TO SPEND A WEEKEND EXPERIENCING THREE MONTHS OF MILITARY BASIC TRAINING IN ONE WEEKEND, THIS IS FOR YOU.**

**THE CONNECTICUT ARMY NATIONAL GUARD IS PREPARED TO GIVE YOU THE “REAL DEAL” TRAINING TO INCLUDE THE FIELD EXPERIENCE OF SLEEPING, EATING AND TRAINING OUTDOORS.**

**THE QUESTION YOU HAVE TO ASK YOURSELF:**

**“AM I READY TO BE THE PERSON I CAN BE?”**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:  
AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT COMMANDER  
JOHN DEBISSCHOP  
J.DEBISSCHOP@SNET.NET**



# 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](http://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](http://www.CFDO.org)

📞 (860) 863-5940

**REGISTER  
NOW!**



**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 64<sup>th</sup> annual VJ Day Parade as well as the 80<sup>th</sup> 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**



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

**Entry Form  
64<sup>th</sup> 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**



## VOICES

*"It's a family. It's The American Legion Family. We will be back. We will rebuild. We're a part of this community. This is a good community. It's a strong community. It will return, and hopefully, it will return better than ever."*

*- Tom Doran, Sons of The American Legion Squadron 283, Pacific Palisades, Calif., who was among thousands who lost their homes in the January wildfires in Los Angeles and assisted with relief efforts*



# \$87,994.58

Amount of 23 American Legion National Emergency Fund grants issued in January to assist Legionnaires and Sons of The American Legion in recovery from natural disasters.



# 8.2 million

Approximate number of Veterans Crisis Line calls fielded by VA since 2009 when the mission of the late Dr. Janet Kemp, VA's first director of suicide prevention, was formally supported by resolution at the 91st American Legion National Convention, in Louisville, Ky.



# 22

Number of homeless and at-risk veterans who will be housed in a new facility at American Legion Post 3 in Westfield, N.J., where ground was broken Jan. 14. Four other New Jersey posts have similar facilities in the works.



# 254

Number of Washington, D.C., media outlets that published a news release announcing The American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball through Jan. 20.



# 825

Downloads, third most among the previous 50 episodes, of the American Legion Tango Alpha Lima podcast episode featuring Mary Gauthier, a singer-songwriter who supports veterans.



# 22

Number of Medal of Honor recipients who attended The American Legion's sold-out Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball on Jan. 20 in Washington, D.C., after Donald J. Trump was sworn in as the 47th President of the United States.



# 870

VA Informal Hearing Presentations prepared, free of charge by American Legion staff appeals representatives, for veterans disputing their claims decisions in January.



# 44

Certified accreditations of American Legion service officers in January.



# \$3,991,092

Retroactive VA disability benefits secured for veterans using free American Legion representation in appeals of their claims decisions.



# 253

Board of Veterans Appeals dispositions received on cases worked free of charge by American Legion representatives in January, including 55 (21.7%) granted in favor of the veteran, 138 (54.5%) remanded for further documentation and 50 (19.8%) that were denied.



# 57

U.S. Flag Code inquiries fielded by the national American Legion Americanism Division in January.



# 21

American Legion national youth scholarships disbursed in January, amounting to \$54,866.

## VOICES

*"Sometimes, VA makes mistakes. Just because VA said something doesn't always make it true, or in accordance with your evidence. Remember, you're your own best advocate. VA, they're doing their job, and they're trying to do their best job. But at the end of the day, who's going to fight better for you? Nobody but yourself."*

- American Legion Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Division healthcare analyst Andrew Petrie, at a Jan. 4 breakout session on the PACT Act and the massive increase in claims from post-9/11 veterans exposed to toxic contamination in the service



# 786,654

Participants in the American Legion Grassroots Advocacy Center, managed by the national Legislative Division, as of Jan. 1, 2025.



# \$3,472,478

Amount in VA debt waivers granted in January with free assistance from American Legion national representatives.



# 353

Number of American Legion Baseball teams that in January began the registration process for the centennial season of play.



# \$2,000

Amount in gift cards donated in January by American Legion Post 27 in Wyandotte, Mich., to the local police department to assist community members they encounter who are in need.



# 2

Increase in American Legion Baseball alumni set to be inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in July, when it was announced Jan. 21 that former Legion players C.C. Sabathia and Dick Allen will be enshrined. Pitcher Sabathia played for Post 550 in Vallejo, Calif., and infielder Allen, who died in 2020, played for Post 749 in Wampum, Pa.



# 2

New American Legion posts chartered in January, Indiana FireVets No. 911 and No. 294 in Rutledge, Tenn.



# 5

New Sons of The American Legion squadrons chartered in January: Arkansas 111, Idaho 203, North Dakota 69, Florida 239 and Nebraska 353.



# \$28,062

Amount in American Legion Child Welfare Foundation grants disbursed in January to three youth-serving non-profit organizations.





1

Operation Comfort Warriors grant issued in January, to help meet basic needs, like food and clothing through the Birmingham, Ala., VA Medica Center-Phoenix Clinic.



\$4,485

Temporary Financial Assistance grant funds disbursed in January, stabilizing homes for four children in the homes of veterans in need.



71

Scouting recognition certificates distributed from The American Legion National Headquarters in January: 65 Eagle Scouts, three Sea Scouts and one Summit Award.



422

Participants in the Department of Utah's Be the One Facebook group, an active forum where American Legion Family members exchange information about the organization's primary mission.