



VFW Post 5864 Newsletter

1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood, IN 46143 – Phone 317-888-2488

Greenwood Memorial VFW Post 5864 – February 2024 Newsletter

"It's not the dues you pay to be a member, it's the price you paid to be eligible!"

"Like us" on [Facebook -- Greenwood VFW 5864](#) and visit our [Website--greenwoodvfw.com](#)

2017, 2018 and 2023 VFW First Place Award winner in the District / Post level for "Large Frequency" Publications. 2019, 2021, and 2022 Silver Award winner at the District / Post level



Honor Guard contributes \$1,000 to VFW Post 5864

The local Honor Guard, made up of Greenwood VFW Post 5864, American Legion Post 252, and New Whiteland VFW Post 6978, donated \$1,000 to Greenwood VFW at the recent Post meeting.

Eight hundred and fifty dollars (\$850) went to the Post's Relief Fund, and \$150 went to the Post's General Fund for "free" drinks provided by the Post after funerals.

At left, is Sherri Jones, Captain of the Honor Guard, and on the right is Richard Dennis, VFW Post 5864's Adjutant accepting the two checks.

The Honor Guard completed 57 funerals in 2023. Commander of the Honor Guard, Bob Tuttle, stated that, "We will continue to make every effort to remain a 100% asset to this Post."

Annual Post and Auxiliary elections, 62 days away

VFW Post 5864 and its Auxiliary will hold their annual elections in 62 days from February 1. The Post will hold an election for Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, Jr. Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplain, 3-year House Committee member and 3-year Trustee.

Nominations and the election for 2024-2025 officers will be held on Tuesday, April 2 at 7 p.m.

If you are interested in becoming part of the solution, have someone nominate you, then you accept the nomination. If there are no other nominations for the position you are seeking, the Post Adjutant will cast a unanimous ballot in your favor. All terms are 1-year except the House Committee and Trustee positions – they are both 3-years.

All of the positions listed above will require a certain amount of your time. Many of our current officers are retired, however that is not a requirement.

The VFW Auxiliary will hold an election for President, Sr. Vice President, Jr. Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, Conductor, Guard, and a 3-year Trustee.

Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen first place winners on pages 29, 30, 31, & 32

Banquet Rentals



Are you or one of your relatives or friends looking for a place to host a wedding reception, high school class reunion, meeting, birthday party, a Home-Owners Association meeting, training class or any get-together, please stop by and see our Banquet facilities.

Our Amentities Include

- | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| ■ Catering available | ■ 13 – 5 ft. round tables | ■ 174 parking spaces |
| ■ Air conditioned & heated | ■ 41 – 6 ft. long tables | ■ 4 restrooms |
| ■ On-site management | ■ 16 – 8 ft. long tables | ■ Very inexpensive |
| ■ Kitchen not available due to liability | ■ No alcohol allowed to be brought into VFW | ■ Seating for 140 to 280 individuals |

See our *Rental Agreement* and pricing on our website – greenwoodvfw.com. Be sure to stop by and look at our facility – you will be glad you did. Discounts are provided for veterans, members, and 501-C-3 organizations.

Please call

Cindy Reinert – Banquet Manager at 317-966-9582

or e-mail her at latitudesbelize@icloud.com for an appointment



Greenwood Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5864

1842 Veterans Way ■ Greenwood, Indiana 46143 ■ 317-888-2488



A Message from the Commander . . .

Dear Members, Supporters, and Friends:

In just two months our Post will hold its annual election of officers. For those of you who may be interested, please plan to attend the Tuesday, April 2, 2023, meeting. Our VFW is always looking for individuals who are willing to step up, become involved, and help lead the way with innovative ideas to generate additional income for the Post.

The VFW Auxiliary will also hold its election on the same evening. Both meetings begin at 7 p.m.

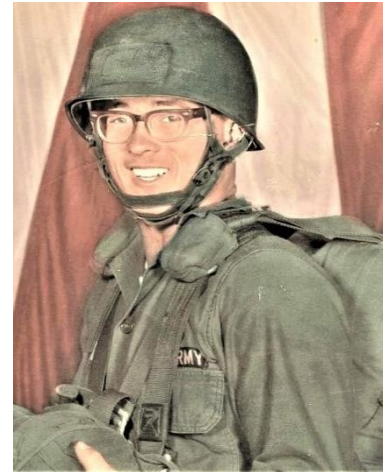
We have been in our new facility for four years. When Covid broke out, it gave our VFW a very tough beginning. We had a number of rental cancellations in 2020. That was quite a loss of income, however we did what we needed to do to keep forging ahead. We have recovered nicely.

We came up with pistol and rifle raffles, raffles of baskets of various items. In 2022, we were gifted 11 pistols, rifles, shotguns, and a couple of swords by Ken and Sue Hall after Ken passed away. We are extremely appreciative of both of them. Those items have generated over \$9,000 for the Post.

On Tuesday, March 19 beginning at 6:30 p.m. we will hold our annual Community Service Awards program. It will be held in our banquet room. The VFW and VFW Auxiliary will provide certificates and in some instances monetary awards for – Citizen of the Year, Police Officer of the Year, Firefighter of the Year, EMT of the Year; first, second, and third place, and honorable mention for the Voice of Democracy; first, second, third place, and two honorable mentions for the Patriot Pen Awards; and Boy Scout of the Year.

We are also ready to embark on our annual Golf Tournament. We will host the event at Valle Vista Golf Course on Saturday, June 8. If you are interested in playing golf, donating money for a sign at one of the 18 holes, or donating money toward the event to use as a tax write off, please contact Steve Milbourn at 317-525-7291 or steve.milbourn@aol.com. The event is a scramble and afterwards if you play in the tournament or make a donation, you are welcome to stop by the Post and eat.

Information and an application for playing golf are both on pages 38 and 39 of this newsletter.



Steve Milbourn
Post Commander

Greenwood VFW Post 5864 is looking into hosting

Weekly Trivia Night



Are you interested in playing? The cost would be minimal.

There will be prizes – some cash – some liquor -- etc.

We are looking at two different nights – Tuesday or Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Three (3) Tuesdays there are meetings, however many who will play

Trivia more than likely would not normally attend the meetings.

Every Thursday from May to September there is horseshoe throwing.

Please send a text or e-mail and express your interest to
Steve Milbourn – 317-525-7291 or steve.milbourn@aol.com

2023-2024 District 7 meetings are scheduled

There are two (2) District 7 meetings left for the 2023-2024 year.

The Sunday, March 17, 2024, meeting will be held at Vincennes VFW Post 1157; and the Sunday, May 19, 2024, meeting will be held at Clay City VFW Post 6606.

Meetings begin at 10:30 a.m. on the day listed above. District 7 has 18 Posts. They are included alphabetically by first name: Bloomington VFW Post 604, Brazil VFW Post 1127, Clay City VFW Post 6606, Crane VFW Post 9297, Gosport VFW Post 7850, Greenwood VFW Post 5864, Linton VFW Post 7118, Loogootee VFW Post 9395, Martinsville VFW Post 1257, Mooresville VFW Post 1111, New Whiteland VFW Post 6978, Odon VFW Post 9627, Shoals VFW Post 8589, Spencer VFW Post 1405, Sullivan VFW Post 2459, Vincennes VFW Post 1157, Washington VFW Post 3321; and Worthington VFW Post 7117.

Proof of service to establish eligibility to join the VFW rests entirely with the applicant. That proof could be a DD-214 or similar document.

THE PETERMAN FAMILY
FOUNDATION PRESENTS:

BACK TO THE 80'S *Prom*

2/10/24
CRANE BAY
INDIANAPOLIS

ALL PROCEEDS
BENEFITTING
INDY HONOR FLIGHT

DOORS OPEN AT: 06:00PM
TICKETS: \$100 PP - INCLUDES FREE ENTRY
DRINK & THREE COURSE DINNER & LIVE
ENTERTAINMENT

80'S PROM ATTIRE ENCOURAGED
FOR MORE INFO: [PETERMANFAMILYFOUNDATION.COM](https://petermanfamilyfoundation.com)

This includes all military-related non-renters, non-profit groups, and individuals

Use of facilities in the VFW must be requested

The use of any room in the VFW must be requested prior to its use. Generally, there is no charge to military-related organizations. There is, however, a charge for those individuals and companies who make a profit from what they are doing. **We do not allow anyone to use our kitchen due to insurance liability.**

Recently we had some folks show up and went into the Day Room to use it as a meeting room. On the surface that is not a problem. However, we keep a book for all groups or individuals who wish to rent or use our facilities so that we can maintain some type of order.

There are times when the Day Room and both Banquet Rooms are booked. If you showed up and did not have a reservation, you might be sitting in the bar room. On a Friday night, it is at times exceedingly difficult to hear anything with karaoke and music in the air.

We have a **Use of Facilities** form, which is required to be completed and the Banquet Manager and / or the Commander will review it to make sure nothing else is already booked for the day you need. After that, the form will be signed and you will be called to let you know everything is fine or you need to provide us with an alternate date for your meeting, etc.

Please do not advertise or promote your event at our location without having this signed document in your hands. The form is at the bar. Ask one of the bartenders and they will make sure you get a copy, and they will also let you know if the date you have selected is available or not.

Service dogs are welcome at the VFW, but leashed

Service dogs and other animals (check with us) are welcome in our establishment however the animal must be leashed at all times. The animal cannot walk or run throughout the VFW without having a leash on the animal and the owner must be with the animal at all times.



If you are working at a business or state/local government facility and it is unclear to you whether someone's dog is a service dog, **you may ask for certain information using two questions.**

You may ask: Is the dog a service animal required because of a disability and / or What work or task has the dog been trained to perform?

If you have questions, we are willing to answer them. We are a business and as such we must maintain our ability to make sure animals do not interfere with our food and kitchen areas.

Being a volunteer, -- they all live to serve . . .

The concept of giving one's time and energy to help or walk alongside other volunteers is a special and unique thing for many people. Some don't grasp how meaningful and important it can actually be, not just for those being helped, but also for those who volunteer.

Live to serve individually or as a team of dedicated volunteers. Collectively, as a Post, we can help a veteran, a family, or even members of our community.

If you would like to feel wanted, inspired, and empowered, consider spending some of your time and energy volunteering at your Post. It may be just a few minutes that will change everything for someone or for you as a volunteer.

We promise you an experience filled with fun, encouragement, laughter, camaraderie, and excitement with important and meaningful pride in yourself and your Post.

Consider joining us. Have a belief in something bigger than yourself.

– Anonymous



Named after Ralph D. Napier

Scholarship program applications now available

Greenwood VFW Post 5864's annual Scholarship program is named for former Greenwood VFW Post Commander, District, and State Commander, Ralph D. Napier. Ralph served with the U.S. Army in the Korean War and became eligible when he was awarded the Korean Service Medal with five bronze stars which was representative of five different battles he was involved in.

Napier, now deceased, was born in 1932 in Three Point, Harlan County, Kentucky. He was the 10th of 12 children. He was urged to quit school at age 17, joined the Army and spent 17 months in Korea. When he returned home, he married Ponciana "Poncie" (Garcia) Napier. They were parents of a son, Bradley; and two daughters, Teresa, and Rita.



Ralph was the first Cub Scoutmaster of Troop 260 in 1960 and in 1965 was the Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 266 earning numerous awards for his efforts. Also, in the early 1960's he was one of the founding fathers of the Greenwood Little League.

He and other founding members cleared the raw land, put in ball diamonds, fences, built dugouts, and coached. Mr. Napier stayed with the Little League long after his own children moved on and then became President of that organization.

Ralph was a very active veteran. He was a member of American Legion Post 355; Indianapolis Masonic Lodge 514 and the Scottish Rite of Indianapolis. A long-time member of VFW Post 5864, he was Post Quartermaster for 7 years; Post Commander; District 7 Commander; and finally, State Commander. According to his son Bradley, "He had that 'never give up attitude' and foresight."

■ *Application continued to page 7*

**Transportation
Associate**

Greenwood, IN



**We will pay you to get a
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Come build the future with us

Are you ready to drive commercial motor vehicles locally from building to building and help Amazon deliver world class service?

- ❖ You'll be home every day! Work 4-days, off for 3!
- ❖ Work/Life Balance!
- ❖ Get paid while training and earning a new skill-set!

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS

- High school or equivalent diploma
- Driver's license
- Are 21 years of age or older
- Work 40 hours/week, and overtime as required
- Work a flexible schedule/shift/work area, including weekends, nights, and/or holidays
- Can lift up to 49 pounds, stand/walk during shifts lasting up to 12 hours, and be able to frequently push, pull, squat, bend, and reach



Search "Military
Transportation"
and the city you're
interested in!

www.amazon.jobs





Greenwood Memorial

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5864

1842 Veterans Way -- Greenwood, IN 46143

Phone 317-888-2488

2024 Ralph D. Napier Scholarship Application

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5864, Greenwood, in order to assist a deserving young man or woman pursue their education after high school, will award at least two (2) graduates of the class of 2024 from an accredited high school the sum of \$1,000, to be applied as the recipient wishes to the costs associated with the education at an undergraduate degree granting college or university within the United States. The scholarship will be paid in two equal amounts, one payment per semester. The applicant must be a full-time student attending consecutive semesters. No exceptions to this attendance requirement are permitted.

Eligibility

Applicant must be a resident of Indiana who is currently a senior in high school in the class of 2024 or enrolled in an accredited university or college. Post Graduate education or other advanced degrees are not included in this scholarship fund.

The applicant must be the child, stepchild, grandchild, or step-grandchild sponsored by a member in good standing of VFW Post 5864. If the sponsor is deceased, he or she must have been a member in good standing in VFW Post 5864 at the time of death. The VFW membership number of the sponsor and the relationship must be provided on the application for verification.

Selection Criteria

- Academic achievement (e.g., GPA, official academic transcript requires)
- Leadership and participation in school and/or community activities
- Honors (e.g., academic, church, community, Scouting, etc.)
- Community Service
- Patriotic Involvement

A biographical essay including the above selection criteria (i.e., leadership, participation, and service in school, church, or community; honors received), the responsibilities of citizenship in a democratic society, and the personal goals for the future. The essay shall be the original work of the applicant. Any other material must be noted. The essay shall not be less than one page or longer than three typed pages, and will be formatted with one-inch margins, 1.5 line spacing and 12-point font. This essay will be reviewed and graded based on grammar, spelling, originality, context, and content at a level consistent with exceptional academic work. Please include a passport sized photo with the application.

A grade report and course registration for the second consecutive must be submitted in order to receive the second payment of the scholarship if the applicant is selected.

Send all required material and supporting documentation to:

VFW Post 5864, 1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood, IN 46143, Attention: Scholarship Committee

Please include your name, address and phone number and email address for contact information. Applications must be delivered to the VFW Post 5864 by Friday, May 31, 2024. The decision of the Scholarship Committee Judges will be final, and all applicants will receive written notification that a decision has been reached. The winner will be notified by U.S. Mail. The presentation of these awards will take place on the evening of August 6, 2024, at the VFW Post 5864 meeting.

■ **Application continued to page 8**



Greenwood Memorial

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5864

1842 Veterans Way -- Greenwood, IN 46143

Phone 317-888-2488

2024 Ralph D. Napier Scholarship Application

(Attach all Supporting Documentation)

■ **Continued from page 7**

Applicant Information:

Name: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

First M.I. Last

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Tel: _____ Mobile Tel: _____ Email: _____

Employed: ☐ Y ☐ N Employer Name: _____ City: _____

Position: _____ Volunteer: _____

Educational Institution Currently Being Attended:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Major or Type of Training: _____

Grade Point Average (GPA): _____ Expected Completion Date: _____

Educational Institution Planning to Attend:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Course of Study: _____ Degree Sought: _____

Expected Completion Date: _____ Semester Tuition/Books/Fees: _____

Semester Start Date: _____

Applicant Sponsor: _____ Relationship to Applicant: _____

Sponsor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sponsor VFW Membership No. _____ (Required)

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

VFW Post 5864 Auxiliary hosts Bar Bingo throughout the year!

Monday Night Bar



at 6 p.m. and Kitchen is open until 7 p.m.

♦ No Reserved Tables ♦ Limited Seating ♦

Bar Bingo continues to be a success. Those working must be listed with the Indiana Gaming Commission as a registered "Operator" or "Worker." A list of individuals who are eligible to work in Gaming is posted behind the bar in the Canteen area. The Annual Bingo License, Annual Raffle License, and the Annual Charity Game Night License # is 002855. If you need help, please let Sherri Jones, 253-278-1980 or Steve Milbourn, 317-525-7291 know so they can get the information that is needed to place you on VFW Post 5864's gaming license.

■ Public Welcome ■ Please sign the book at the door

■ No outside food or drinks – No exceptions

■ IGC Reference No. is 159060 / ■ License No. 002855

40 et 8 Voiture Locale 145 Chef de Gare's Corner . . .

Mark Your Calendars:

January 30, Promenade at 7 p.m.

February 27, Promenade at 7 p.m.

Grande Cheminot: Voiture Locale 145 hosted the Mid-Winter Grande Cheminot on January 27th. This was V-145's first opportunity in many years to host this Grande du Indiana meeting. Many of the Grande du Indiana Officers were in attendance.

Lunch was provided by The American Legion Auxiliary Post 1919. We send a big "shout out" to the Auxiliary members.



Americanism: I am still working on our "Honor Trip" to the D.C. monuments. We are at a stand-still until we receive a date and time to place a wreath at "The Tomb of The Unknowns." There will be room for 48 veterans on the bus; however, no spouses (unless spouse is also a member of Voiture Locale 145) or alcohol on the bus. This will be a no-expense trip for our fellow V-145 Voyageurs. **As soon as a firm date for the trip is announced details will be forthcoming.** First signed-up - first seated.

Voiture Membership: Our membership now stands at approximately 74 %. We still need 27 members to reach our goal of 100%. Please plan to pay your 2024 membership dues of only \$25.

Mail your check to: **Voiture Locale 145, Attn: Membership, 1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood, IN 46143.**

Congratulations: to our latest Life Members; "Butch" Umphrey and Timothy Morris.

Life Membership: Join our other Life Members by signing up today! A Great Deal! V-145 would like to work with you in obtaining that Life Membership. If you desire to become a Life Member contact any officer of V-145. We will base your Life Membership on your age at the \$18.50 per capita tax level. This reduces the total cost for a Life Membership considerably.

This year's celebration will be on Saturday, March 23, 2024

Vietnam Veterans War Day designated March 29

Senator Pat Toomey (R-PA) introduced legislation in 2017 to permanently designate March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day. It subsequently became law.

In March 2018, events were hosted throughout the United States to honor Vietnam veterans, many of whom did not receive the recognition they deserved when they came home following their service.

According to the American War Library, located in Long Beach, California, they have stated that **faulty record keeping resulted with no confirmed exact number of Americans who served in Vietnam.** The best estimate that the Department of Defense can conclude is that between 2,709,918 to 3,173,845 GI's served in-country and in-waters Vietnam between 1954 and 1975 (this does not count the handful of Americans who served in Vietnam during WW-2). However, veteran's groups estimate that approximately 9 to 12 million Americans fraudulently claim they served in Vietnam.



Veterans who served in the military during the Vietnam War often claims they are "Vietnam veterans." Simply put, they are not Vietnam veterans. Vietnam veterans, for the most part had to have "boots on the ground" in Vietnam, Laos, or Cambodia. U.S. Navy personnel who were off the coast of Vietnam are also included as "Vietnam veterans."

HEARTSTONE CROSSING

SAT
24
FEB

VFW GREENWOOD

DOORS OPEN 6PM BAND PLAYS 8PM-11PM.
\$6 IN ADVANCE \$8 AT DOOR



578 COMMERCE PRKWY WEST

FOR TICKET INFO CALL 317-888-2488



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greenwoodvfw.com

Anderson AM-15 Utility -- 30 round

Semi-Auto AR-15 Rifle

5.56 NATO / 223 Rem 16"

M-LOK Free Float | Black



- The Winner** →
- Model: AM-15 -- Utility Caliber: 5.56 -- Weight: 7 lbs. --
 - Black -- Barrel Length: 16 inches -- Bolt Carrier Group: Standard M16 Profile --
 - Hand Guard Type: M-Lok -- Muzzle Device: A2 Flash Hider --
 - Butt Stock/Brace: 6 Position Carbine Butt Stock --

100 Tickets @ \$10 each

Drawing to be held when all tickets are sold

For the benefit of VFW Post 5864

■ IGC Reference No. is 159060 / ■ License No. 002855

Greenwood VFW Post 5864



Bingo Every Wednesday

\$1,000

Cover-All Pot 50 Numbers or Less *

\$500 or more!

Cover-All Guaranteed Pot *

Early birds (Warm-ups) start at 6:30 p.m.

All games end around 10 p.m.

PUBLIC WELCOME!

Basic Starting Package -- \$17

- ◆ Large New Playing Room
- ◆ Social Distancing Is Practiced
- ◆ 2-3 Players per 6 or 8 foot table!



Masks & Hand Sanitizer Available

Food and Beverages Available! -- Join the Fun!!!

Go east on Main St. in Greenwood past Interstate 65. Continue east past Road Ranger Truck Stop approximately 100 yards. Turn right at the Burger King Restaurant. If you go to the traffic light (Graham Rd.) you have gone too far. Follow the road to Veterans Way (about 300 yards). Phone 317-888-2488.

*** Above Cover-Alls Paid With 90 Or More Players**

■ **Absolutely no outside food or drinks**

■ IGC Reference No. 159060

■ Bingo License 002855



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary to VFW Post 5864

1842 Veterans Way ♦ Greenwood, IN 46143 ♦ 317-888-2488

The Auxiliary in Progress

At the January 2 meeting, 7 members were present. The December treasurer's report was presented by the treasurer. One application was received and approved for membership. President Linda Kessinger announced that the Greenwood Auxiliary was at 91% for membership dues. Mary Canner was appointed chairman for the kid's Easter party that will be held on March 24. Mary requested volunteers to help with the party. Brenda Lippert volunteered to be chairman for the Mega Prize Bingo that will be held in August. Robin Wood will be co-chairman of the Mega Prize Bingo committee. Members purchased lap blankets that will be donated to Indiana Veterans Home in Lafayette. Linda Kessinger will be taking a \$100 check to the Spring Conference as a donation to the Patriot Guard Riders.

New Members: The Auxiliary welcomes new member: Ann Gifford.

February 6 – Auxiliary Meeting – Social meeting starts at 6 p.m. The official meeting starts at 7 p.m. Please come and be involved. We need your help. Volunteer to be a chairperson of an event or be on a planning event committee. New members come and pick up your membership packet and get acquainted with others.

February 10 – Spaghetti Dinner – Tickets are being sold by Auxiliary members for this fund-raising event. Tickets are \$12 each and can be purchased on Monday or Friday nights at the Post or by calling Trudy Umphrey, 317-702-3290. The meal will be served from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Menu consists of spaghetti with marinara sauce, meatballs (optional), salad, breadsticks, tea, and desserts. Cocktails, beer, and wine can be purchased at the bar. All proceeds will help support our veterans in need, the VFW Post, etc. Please come and enjoy a relaxing evening with your spouse, loved ones, friends, and / or relatives. A DJ will be providing music.

Bar Bingo at the Post: February 6, 13, 20, and 27. Food is available for ordering until 7 p.m.

Patrons can bring their own food in if the kitchen is not open. Drinks at the bar are available until closing. Bingo starts at 6 p.m. Bingo consists of 8 regular games at \$2 per sheet, two coverall games at \$5 per sheet and one "M" game at \$5 per sheet. Come and join us for a fun night out.

Help support your veterans by wearing a patriotic bracelet. The Auxiliary sells small (women) and large (men and women) bracelets for \$5 each. If you are interested in purchasing, contact Carol Bullock-Puckett, 317-714-7062, or Trudy Umphrey, 317-702-3290. These make nice gifts for friends and family, especially birthdays.

Renewal of Membership: If you did not pay your dues by December 31, 2023, your membership is not in good standing. Current year dues not paid by June 30, 2024, will result in your membership lapsing and you will be required to rejoin and complete an application. Thank you for promptly paying your \$20 dues in a timely manner and avoiding a rejoining process.

Effective October 1, 2021, a new rule allows more individuals to qualify for membership. We are seeking individuals to join our Auxiliary. Contact Trudy Umphrey for more information or to apply: 317-702-3290.

■ Continued to page 15

The Auxiliary in Progress . . . ■ Continued from page 14

Happy Birthday to all members who are celebrating birthdays in February.

For those members who are currently not well, please know you are always in our thoughts and prayers. We extend our sympathy to the families of any Auxiliary or Post member that has passed away recently.

Calendar Year 2024 Events:	February 10	6 - 7:30 p.m.	Spaghetti Dinner-VFW Post
	March 24	1 - 3 p.m.	Kid's Easter Party
	May 25	8 -10 a.m.	Veterans Free Breakfast
	August 4	1 - 6 p.m.	Mega Prize Bingo – VFW Post In the Banquet Rooms
	September 5	11 a.m. - 1 p.m.	911 Luncheon for Greenwood First Responders
	October 26	1 - 3 p.m.	Kid's Halloween Party
	November 9	8 - 10 a.m.	Veteran's Free Breakfast
	December 15	1 - 3 p.m.	Kid's Christmas Party

Volunteers are needed for all events held by the Auxiliary. Please contact Brenda Lippert at 317-432-5146 or e-mail, brenjobennett@gmail.com if you would like to be a volunteer for any of the above events. Your help and dedication to support are always appreciated.



The Auxiliary's common purpose is to improve the lives of veterans, service members and their families, and our communities.

Officers of the Auxiliary:

Linda Kessinger, President; Trudy Umphrey, Senior Vice-President;
Carol Bullock-Puckett, Secretary; Brenda Lippert, Treasurer

2024 Calendar from February 2 thru April 1, 2024

February 2, 2024	<u>Groundhog Day</u>	Friday
February 12, 2024	<u>Lincoln's Birthday</u>	Monday
February 13, 2024	<u>Mardi Gras Carnival</u> -- (New Orleans)	Tuesday
February 14, 2024	<u>Valentine's Day</u>	Wednesday
February 19, 2024	<u>Presidents Day and Washington's Birthday</u>	Monday
March 10, 2024	<u>Daylight Saving</u> -- (Start)	Sunday
March 17, 2024	<u>St. Patrick's Day</u>	Sunday
March 29, 2024	<u>Good Friday</u>	Friday
March 31, 2024	<u>Easter</u>	Sunday
April 1, 2024	<u>April Fool's Day</u>	Monday
April 1, 2024	<u>Easter Monday</u>	Monday

More than 31,000 Veterans sign up for new VA life insurance program in first year

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced that its new guaranteed-acceptance life insurance program, VALife, has issued more than \$950 million in coverage to 31,400 Veterans in its first year.

When VALife first launched in January 2023, it became the first new VA life insurance program for Veterans in more than 50 years and extended life insurance access to millions of Veterans. VALife provides up to \$40,000 of whole life insurance to our nation's Veterans. For all Veterans age 80 or under with service-connected disabilities from 0-100%, acceptance in the program is guaranteed and no medical underwriting is required. Veterans can apply online through VA.gov and receive an instant decision. This program also allows self-service functions like electronic payments and beneficiary updates.

President Biden believes we have a sacred obligation to care for our nation's Veterans and their families, and he has made delivering for Veterans is a key part of his Unity Agenda for the nation. In total, VA is now providing more insurance coverage to more policyholders than ever before in our nation's history – currently serving 5.6 million Veterans, service members, and their families with \$1.5 trillion of insurance.

"All Veterans deserve to know that their families will have financial support when they pass away," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Denis McDonough. "VALife helps make that happen, providing well-earned peace of mind to Veterans and their families nationwide."

VALife increases Veteran access to life insurance in several ways:

- **There is no time limit to apply:** VA's previous life insurance program for service-disabled Veterans, Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance (S-DVI), required most Veterans to apply for insurance within two years of receiving their disability rating. VALife has no such time constraint for Veterans aged 80 and under.
- **There is no health requirement to apply:** Under S-DVI, Veterans had to be in good health except for service-connected conditions. VALife has no medical evaluation tied to it.
- **Veterans are eligible for more coverage than before:** Under S-DVI, most Veterans could only receive up to \$10,000 of coverage. Under VALife, all Veterans are eligible for up to \$40,000 of coverage.

VALife premium rates are competitive with, or better than, rates for policies with similar coverage available in the private sector, and \$40,000 of coverage is more coverage than what other similar products offer. The policy will build cash value after the first two years of coverage when the face value goes into effect. If a Veteran passes away during this two-year waiting period, the named beneficiary will receive all premiums paid plus interest. VALife does not offer waiver of premiums. Veterans currently enrolled in S-DVI have the option to keep their current coverage or switch to VALife. These Veterans can apply for VALife at any time; however, if they apply before Dec. 31, 2025, they can also retain coverage under S-DVI during the two-year waiting period for the VALife death benefit to go into effect. To learn more visit va.gov/life-insurance/.

VFW Post 5864 opens at 2 p.m. Monday thru Friday

Greenwood VFW Post 5864 opens Monday through Friday at 2 p.m. On Saturdays, the building opens from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and then closes until 12 noon and then reopens. The doors are locked until the opening time. Closing time varies based on the amount of people who are in the building purchasing beer, liquor, and wine.

If the phone rings, the bartender for the day may be cleaning bathrooms, mopping, or doing other chores or any officer who may be present outside of the above hours **does not answer the phones**.

The bartenders get in about an hour ahead of opening time so they can stock, clean, make sure they have everything at the bar they will need for their shift.

“SOUP-ER BOWL”

& CHILI COOKOFF

When: Saturday, February 10th, 2024 (day before NFL Super Bowl)

Where: VFW Greenwood Post 5864
1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood, 46143

Time: 11am – 2:30pm

- Judging to begin ~11:15am
- Guest sampling/eating to begin ~11:30am
- Games & Entertainment ~12:15-1:45pm
- Awards Ceremony ~1:45pm

Cost: \$5 Admission ~ includes samples + a bowl for your favorite(s)
\$20 Cook-off Contest Entry ~ includes admission

**** Cash, Check or App payments *MUST BE RECEIVED BY 2/3/2024* ****

- Impartial judges will select winners in **EACH** category - Soup & Chili
- 1st place winners (in each category) will receive a Cash Prize & Trophy
- Add'l awards for Runner-Ups & Honorable Mentions

Fun Games & Silent Auction

***HALF-TIME ENTERTAINMENT by
MID-LIFE CRISIS***

\$ CASH BAR AVAILABLE \$



**** For questions, contact Crissy - Smedley11@sbcglobal.net or (317) 529-4341 ****

Proceeds from event to be donated to the 2024 Region 11 ABC State Charity Event



Spaghetti Dinner

**Saturday, February 10, 2024
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

VFW Auxiliary 5864 will host a Spaghetti Dinner
at 1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood in the bar area

"That's Amore"

**Enjoy – Spaghetti with Meat Balls, Bread Sticks,
Salad, Dessert, and Tea -- \$12.00 per person**

"Bon Appetit"

Cocktails, Beer, and Wine can be purchased at the bar

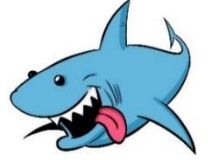
Tickets are limited and can be purchased from
VFW Auxiliary members **Trudy Umphrey, 317-702-3290**
Brenda Lippert, 317-432-5146 or
Carol Puckett 317-714-7062

Stop Veteran Claim Sharks Now

A Claim Shark is an individual or company that charges hefty fees to “assist” or “consult” veterans and survivors with filing their VA benefits claims. This practice is illegal! In fact, none of these private companies is better than the others. They are all operating illegally.

Claims Sharks are not VA-accredited, meaning they are not required to adhere to professional and ethical standards, so their advice can be misleading or even fraudulent.

Some of their predatory practices include guaranteeing an increased disability rating or percentage increase; advertising expedited VA claims decisions; requesting login credentials to access a veteran’s personal information through secure VA websites like eBenefits or VA.gov; imposing their predatory contracts; and telling veterans to forego VA medical examinations while consulting from their own network of doctors.



The VFW opposes proposed legislation like the *PLUS for Veterans Act* or any legislation that would assign future benefits and legalize these practices to allow companies to charge up to \$12,500 for claims assistance. No veteran should have to pay for earned benefits.

More operators and workers needed for gaming

With the advent of more bingo players coming to our Wednesday night game, we are in need of additional help. If you wish to help us with gaming once a month or more often, you will need to be an operator or a worker. Bingo, Bar Bingo, Euchre, selling raffle tickets or any other form of gaming requires those helping have an operator or worker’s status. **An operator is an individual who has been a member for a minimum of sixty (60) days or longer** and a worker must be a member for at least thirty (30) days.

Operators can perform any function including paying out large sums of money, selling tickets, tallying, and reconciling all the paperwork we complete after each event. Workers are limited in what they can do. Members who wish to be an Operator must have been a member for at least 60 days.



The Post would need some basic information including your full legal name, home address (no post office boxes), your driver’s license number, date of birth, daytime telephone number, and the date you joined the VFW or VFW Auxiliary. It takes about four to six weeks for the Indiana Gaming Commission to approve the applicants. Once you are approved, your name will be placed on a list, and it is posted in the Post. See Sherri Jones or Steve Milbourn to get added to the licenses.

Gaming workers cannot buy pull-tabs the same day

According to Kim Barnett -- Director of Operations of the Charity Gaming Division of the Indiana Gaming Commission, if you are working behind the bar and selling pull-tabs, a 50-50, or any other games of chance to customers, you cannot purchase tickets to any of the games the day that you worked. Operators may not receive remuneration (pay) for conducting or assisting in conducting any allowable event/activity. The only exception is the remunerated (paid) bartender(s) on an annual activity license.



An operator may never participate in charity gaming on the same day that they served as an operator. Indiana Code (IC) 4-32.3-5-11 (a) -- Example: Susie called bingo for ABC organization during the day, she can’t go to the bar area and purchase pull tabs that evening.

An individual may only serve as an operator on no more than three (3) qualified organization’s licenses during a calendar month IC 4-32.3-5-10 (b) -- That includes a Bingo worker (volunteer). The VFW can be fined, having the Indiana Gaming Commission shut us down for a specific time, and/or our license can be taken away.

Bartenders and others who are volunteers with gaming of any kind or sort cannot become involved in gaming during the times and days mentioned above.



Credit Cards accepted at VFW

The VFW's bar and kitchen have been accepting credit cards for about four years. Since that time gross and net income have increased tremendously.

Banquet rentals can also be paid by credit card as can VFW Post and Auxiliary membership and membership to American Legion Centennial Post 1919 and its' Auxiliary.

Also, dues can be paid for the 40 & 8 Voiture 145.

The only thing the VFW cannot accept credit cards for is anything to do with gaming. The Indiana Gaming Commission does not allow credit cards to be accepted for this type of purchase.

News and photo submission policy is announced

Members of the VFW, VFW Auxiliary, American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and the 40 & 8 are encouraged to submit news articles and photos to be published in the Post's monthly newsletter.

All news and photos can be e-mailed to Steve Milbourn. Information can also be dropped off at the VFW and given to the bartender on duty. It is important that you place your name and phone number on the item in case there are any questions. All names must be legible. The article may be edited for clarity.

All photos and / or news articles must have the following information with them -- who, what, when, where, why, and who is in the photo.

Please submit all articles by the date shown below for next month's publication. The Editor is Steve Milbourn, and his phone number is 317-525-7291 or steve.milbourn@aol.com. The deadline for the March 2024 newsletter is Thursday, February 15 at 5 p.m.



Free teeth cleaning at Ivy Tech for all Veterans

Please let all members know that they can get their teeth cleaned for free at the Ivy Tech Dental School in Anderson, Indiana.

Included in this service is a free dental exam, oral cancer screening, x-rays, and fluoride treatment. For an appointment call (765) 643-7133 extension 2321.

Make sure that you get your teeth cleaned for absolutely nothing. What a wonderful offer!

Greenwood VFW Post 5864's

**Annual Bingo License,
Annual Casino Game Night License,
and Annual Raffle License**

IGC Reference No. is 159060 ■ License No. is 002855

Damaged and retired U.S. Flag disposal ceremony

1. The flag should be folded in its customary manner.
2. It is important that the fire be large and of sufficient intensity to ensure complete burning of the flag.
3. Place the flag on the fire.
4. The individual(s) can come to attention, salute the flag, recite the Pledge of Allegiance and have a brief period of silent reflection.
5. After the flag is completely consumed, the fire should then be safely extinguished, and the ashes buried.
6. Please make sure you are conforming to local/state fire codes or ordinances.



Please call VFW Post 5864 at 317-888-2488 if you would like assistance with proper flag disposal.

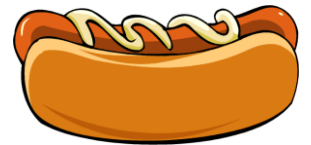
Items inside the VFW or on our property

No food or drinks can be brought into the Post

Just a note to remind members and guests that **you are not allowed to bring food or drinks into the Post.** Our business is like many other businesses – we wish to make money by selling food, beer, liquor, and wine so that we can continue in business and help veterans who are down on their luck or who simply need a helping hand for a brief period of time.



If you go to a public restaurant, they will not allow you to bring in your own food and drinks nor will they allow you to walk around and “bug” their customers selling them an item you may have.



Whether you are a member or a guest, you cannot sell any items for another organization or yourself to make money. Depending on the circumstances, we may give you permission in case of health issues or if we are unable to prepare food in the VFW’s kitchen.

Those requests must go through the House Committee.

VFW Post 5864 would certainly welcome any donations for the purpose of our Walk-in Cooler, Shelter House, a new floor for the bar room, new tables, and chairs, a soft drink machine and other needed items.

Thank you!

988 Veterans Crisis Hotline

Veterans now have the option to Dial 988, then press 11

to connect with caring, qualified responders for 24/7 crisis assistance. “During a crisis, every second counts,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “This new, shorter number makes it easier for veterans and those who care about them to reach lifesaving support without having to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care.”

While Dial 988 then Press 1 is a new option for contacting the Veterans Crisis Line, the original number, 1.800.273.8255 and press 1, remains available, and individuals can make contact via chat at

VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat
or by texting 838255



Founding of the U.S. Marine Corps in 1775

U.S. Stamp No. 1567 – The National Museum of the Marine Corps opened on this date in 2006 in Triangle, Virginia. The forerunner of the United States Marines was established on November 10, 1775, in the midst of the American Revolutionary War.

The earliest American Marines served with the British in the 1730s. Some 3,000 American colonists were recruited to serve with Admiral Edward Vernon’s fleet for service off the coast of South America. When hostilities ended there, the Colonial Marines disbanded. They were recalled to service several times in the ensuing years and by the start of the Revolutionary War, there were still some 4,500 Americans serving in the Colonial Marines.



At the start of the revolution, the Continental Congress was hesitant to form a Navy, as they feared fighting the world’s strongest fleet. It soon became apparent, however, that the revolution would have to include a naval war.

In October 1775, John Adams and other members of Congress pushed for a Continental Navy. It was formed on October 13 with a squadron of four merchantmen and two smaller ships. The Continental Congress met again on November 9 and spoke with the Naval Committee about launching an amphibious expedition to Halifax, Nova Scotia. They hoped to send Marines to fight at sea before pushing ashore and destroying the military base there, as well as securing supplies if possible. The next day, on November 10, the Naval Committee was instructed to raise two Marine battalions.

Samuel Nicholas was charged with recruiting the two battalions. A Philadelphia native, he set himself up in a local bar (either the Tun Tavern or the Conestoga Wagon) to recruit able men with experience at sea. Men flocked to the bar both for the cold beer and the chance to serve in the new Marines Corps. The Marines were officially resolved when Nicholas was commissioned a captain on November 28. Some 2,000 enlistees and 131 officers served with the Marines during the Revolution, aiding America in its victory over the British. In spite of this, the Marines and the Navy disbanded after the war ended in 1783.

Though the Marines have the fewest active-duty soldiers in the U.S. armed forces (less than 190,000), they are some of the world’s most elite military forces, able to launch major operations anywhere in the world with just two weeks’ notice.

Military funeral honors eligibility spelled out

The Dept. of Defense provides military funeral honors to recognize the sacrifice and contributions of our nation's veterans. The following individuals are eligible to receive military funeral honors:

- Military members who die while on active duty
- Veterans who served in the active military, naval or air service, and were discharged or released from that service by means of an "honorable" or "under honorable conditions" discharge
- Members or former members of the selected reserves who were discharged or released from service by means of an "honorable" or "under honorable conditions" discharge

Understanding military funeral honors and eligibility -- Providing military funeral honors is the nation's way of showing gratitude and paying final tribute to a veteran's honorable military service.

Other eligible beneficiaries include:



-- Members of the Commissioned Officers Corps of the Public Health Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

-- Certain civilian or contractual groups who have been given active-duty determinations may also be eligible for funeral honors, as they may have been named active-duty designees for the military, Navy or the Department of the Air Force services

eligible for military funeral honors:

- Individuals separated from the armed forces under dishonorable conditions or those who have been barred from veteran's benefits
- Those who have been convicted of a federal or state capital crime
- A person who is found to have committed but who has not yet been convicted of a federal or state capital crime by reason of their not being available for trial due to their death or flight to avoid prosecution
- A person convicted of a federal or state crime causing the person to be a Tier III sex offender
- Anyone who was ordered to report to an induction station but was not actually inducted into military service
- Any person who the secretaries of the military department deny military funeral honors

To establish a veteran's eligibility for military funeral honors, a DD Form 214, "Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty" or any discharge document showing honorable service is required. The DD Form 214 may be obtained by using the online order form or completing a Standard Form 180.

For all inquiries regarding military funeral honors, please contact the appropriate military funeral honors coordinator listed in the Military Funeral Honors Directory.

The following persons are not

Tickets for the Saturday, February 24 performance of

Heartstone Crossing Band

are available at the VFW -- \$6 in Advance or \$8 at the door

Theodore Roosevelt's Great White Fleet

U.S. Stamp No. 557 – from the Series of 1922-25. On December 16, 1907, Theodore Roosevelt's Great White Fleet departed the United States for a 434-day journey around the globe to demonstrate America's sea power. The practice of sending naval ships to other countries wasn't a new one. It was common practice in the 1800s to send ships for the birthdays of monarchs or other foreign celebrations.



In the case of the Great White Fleet, Roosevelt had many reasons. He wanted to show the U.S. and the world that America was a major sea power. Additionally, since Japan had recently emerged as another significant sea power, he wanted the fleet to demonstrate to them that America's Navy could go anywhere from any of its ports to defend the nation's interests.

On the home front, Roosevelt hoped the fleet would distract Americans from the economic depression at the time and rouse patriotism. The journey also gave the fleet more experience in navigation, communication, coal use, and maneuvering.

The U.S. Navy considers the Great White Fleet to be one of its greatest peacetime efforts. The Great White Fleet consisted of 16 battleships and several auxiliary ships. The ships were painted white with gilded bows. Roosevelt stood on the deck of the presidential yacht *Mayflower* as the ships passed. People watched from the shore as the song "The Girl I Left Behind Me" played.

Interestingly, Roosevelt hadn't made his plan for the fleet to travel the globe public until shortly after the fleet departed. Once other nations learned of this, they quickly sent invitations for the fleet to visit their ports. The fleet first went to the South Atlantic and made its first visit at Port of Spain in Trinidad on December 23.

As the fleet made its way around the world, groups greeted them in the thousands at every port. They stopped in California in May 1908 and the officers were treated to a grand ball. In Japan, the fleet was greeted with a friendly welcome, as the Japanese wanted to show their desire for peace.

The Great White Fleet returned to Hampton Roads, Virginia, on February 22, 1909. Roosevelt was again present for the ceremony and stated, "Other nations may do what you have done, but they'll have to follow you."

In all, the fleet consisted of four squadrons manned by 14,000 sailors and Marines commanded by Rear Admiral Robley "Fighting Bob" Evans. Over the course of 14 months, they traveled 43,000 miles and made 20 port calls on six continents.

A hint when renting banquet space at the VFW

Currently there are two individuals working with individuals who are interested in renting either one or both of our banquet rooms throughout the year. They are Banquet Manager Cindy Reinert and Commander Steve Milbourn.

Recently Steve discussed a date and time in April for both of the rooms with a local group. We have had a steadfast rule that **we do not "pencil" anyone in** for a date and time until we receive a deposit for the event. At that time, we write a contract and get as much information as we can concerning the event.

The folks who were going to rent the rooms had to end up cancelling and are working on another date later in the year. Sometimes we will make a note, not on the calendars, but in our notebooks that a particular individual or group wants a specific date, and we did that.

Unfortunately, the folks who wanted the space told another individual they were cancelling, who was not involved with the rentals in any way, and that person failed to tell us that the group was cancelling. Please remember all rentals and cancellations must be discussed with either Cindy or Steve otherwise there could be a lot of confusion. Thank you.

– Steve Milbourn



Central Indiana Division
of the
National Model Railroad Association
presents the 2024



FRANKLIN TRAIN SHOW

Saturday, Aug. 3th, 10am to 4pm

Sunday, Aug. 4th, 10am to 3pm

- 4 Buildings filled with vendors and portable layouts
- 1 Building for demonstrations



Admission: \$7.00 per Adult

(Kids under 16 free with parents)

(\$5.00 with proof of current NMRA membership with card)

JOHNSON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

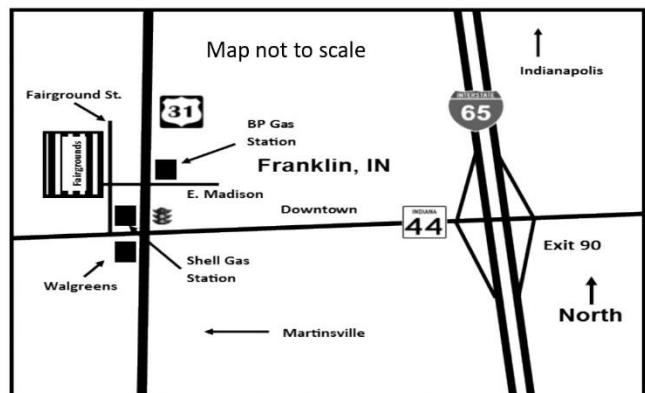
250 Fairground St., Franklin, IN • Check in at Shooting Sports Building

Show Features:

- Operating Layouts
- Displays
- Dealer Tables
- Demo's
- Manufacturers
- Door Prizes
- Free Parking
- Food

★ Popular Vote Contest ★

Bring what you are working on



Check out our website at
<http://www.cidnmra.org>

For information contact Michael Roderick at (317) 833-3556 or FranklinTrainShow@gmail.com

NOTE: The next CID train show is at Danville, IN on November 23, 2024

John A. Lejeune, second in his class at Naval Academy

U.S. Stamp No. 3961 – from the Distinguished Marines issue. Marine Corps Commandant John Archer Lejeune was born on January 10, 1867, in Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana.

Lejeune was the son of a Confederate Army Captain. He graduated second in his class from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1888 before completing a two-year cruise as a midshipman. Lejeune was then appointed to Naval Engineering but wanted to join the Marines.



Eventually, Lejeune contacted his senator who helped him get an appointment with the Marine Corps on July 25, 1890. Lejeune served as a young officer during the 1898 Spanish-American War, taking command of Marine Guard aboard the USS *Cincinnati*. He fought in campaigns in Panama, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic. Lejeune also led a 30-man landing party in Puerto Rico that covered the withdrawal of U.S. Navy bluejackets after the Battle of Fajardo.

Lejeune spent the next several years in command duties in Panama, the Philippines, and Cuba. He participated in the 1912 occupation of Nicaragua and the occupation of Veracruz, Mexico, in 1914, before being made assistant commandant of the Marine Corps.

Lejeune commanded the U.S. Army 2nd Division at St. Mihiel and received several awards for his service and leadership.

During World War I, Lejeune received the Legion of Honor and the Croix de Guerre from the French and Distinguished Service Medals from the U.S. Army and Navy. He was the second Marine general to command an Army division – leading the U.S. Army 2nd Division at the Battle of St. Mihiel.

Lejeune once described his philosophy: “The key to combat effectiveness is unity – an esprit that characterizes itself in complete, irrevocable, mutual trust. Now my infantry trusts my artillery and engineers, and my artillery and engineers know this so they will go through hell itself before they let down the infantry. My infantry believes that with such support they are invincible-and they are.”

On July 1, 1920, Lejeune was promoted to major general and made commandant of the Marine Corps. Lejeune was determined to make the Marine Corps into an important amphibious force for expeditionary use by the Navy. As commandant, he emphasized equipping and training the Marines to be instantly ready to support the naval fleet in time of war, in the air, on land, and sea.

In 1923, Lejeune helped found the U.S. Marine Corps League, the only Marine veteran organization to receive a Congressional Charter. After serving with the Marines for nearly 40 years, Lejeune retired in 1929. He then served as superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute until 1937. Following Hitler's invasion of Poland in 1939, Lejeune wrote to the then-current commandant of the Marines offering his services, but they were politely declined due to his age.

Lejeune, often called “the greatest of all leathernecks,” died on November 20, 1942. Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, is named in his honor.

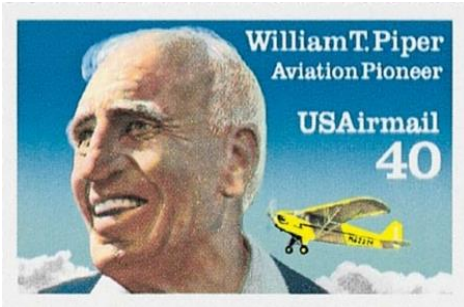
**Greenwood VFW Post 5864 is not responsible
for Lost, Stolen or Misplaced Items**

**Please make sure you know where your belongings
are at all times or leave them with someone you can
trust if you need to be out of the room.**

William Piper served in the Spanish-American War

U.S. Stamp No. C129 pictures Piper and his Piper Cub. William Thomas Piper was born on January 8, 1881, in Knapp Creek, New York. From a young age, Piper worked on his family's dairy farm. At the age of nine, he began helping his father's oil business, repairing well pumps. Over time his father made enough money to move the family to Bradford, Pennsylvania.

Following the sinking of the USS *Maine* in 1898, Piper lied about his age so that he could join the U.S. Army and fight in the Spanish-American War. After the war, he attended Harvard University. Piper graduated in 1903 with honors, earning degrees in business and mechanical engineering. During World War I, he reached the rank of captain in the Corps of Engineers.



Piper then went on to earn his fortune in oil wells. Though he's known for his contributions to aviation today, his entrance into the industry wasn't planned. While working at an oil business in Bradford, Pennsylvania, Piper's partner (without Piper's knowledge) pledged \$400 toward an airplane manufacturing facility. When the Taylor Brothers Aircraft Corporation was established, Piper was elected to the board. The Great Depression caused the company to go bankrupt. Piper was the only person to bid on it during the public sale. He bought the company for \$761.

Soon after, Piper designed and built the Cub, a reliable, inexpensive aircraft. It cost \$1,325 (about \$51,200 in today's wages) and included free flying lessons. Cubs became so popular; Piper became known as the "Henry Ford of Aviation." In spite of the country's economic hardship, the company grew, and Piper converted an old silk mill in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, into the new factory for Piper Aircraft Corporation.

As World War II approached, President Roosevelt began a pilot training program using Cubs. During the Army war games, the planes proved their worth by directing artillery fire and infantry. During this time, the planes were given the nickname "Grasshopper." When the U.S. entered the war, Piper's planes joined the fight. In addition to directing firepower, Grasshoppers flew reconnaissance missions, some were modified as ambulance planes, and some were armed with bazookas to take out tanks or enemy artillery. By the time the war ended, four out of five American pilots had been trained on Piper Cubs. The Piper Cub was the most-produced fabric-covered monoplane in history, with more than 20,000 built between 1938 and 1947.

After the war, Piper expanded his inventory to include bigger planes. Piper continued to direct the company until he was 87 years old. During his career of almost four decades, Piper established the role of private airplanes in America as well as helping change the course of World War II.

Piper died at home on January 15, 1970. Piper was posthumously inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame and the International Air and Space Hall of Fame. An airport in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania was also named in his honor.

Veterans Affairs has 3 different administrations

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is comprised of three different administrations:

- (1) Veterans Health Administration (VHA) - Provides health care at 1,298 facilities, including 171 hospitals and 1,113 outpatient clinics, serving 9 million enrolled Veterans each year.
- (2) Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) - Provides a variety of benefits and services for Service Members, Veterans, and their families including compensation, pension and fiduciary, insurance, education, loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation, and employment, and more.

- (3) National Cemetery Administration (NCA) - Provides burial space for Veterans and their eligible family members, and maintains national cemeteries as national shrines, sacred to the honor and memory of those interred or memorialized there.



Franklin D. Roosevelt's Four Freedoms

U.S. Stamp No. 908 – Franklin D. Roosevelt personally selected this stamp design to show the world why the U.S. entered the war. On January 6, 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt gave his “Four Freedoms” speech while delivering the State of the Union Address.



By January 1941, World War II had wreaked havoc across the globe. Germany invaded Poland, Belgium, and Holland. Additionally, France had been defeated by a German blitz, the Soviet Union invaded Finland, and Japan was ruthlessly battling China.

In America, President Franklin Roosevelt was just elected to an unprecedented third term. Across the nation, Americans did not want to get involved in the war. The president earnestly tried to convince them that completely ignoring the war was dangerous not just to other countries, but also America. He knew America would eventually be forced into the war and, more than anything, worried the nation would not be ready.

When President Roosevelt delivered his State of the Union address on January 6, 1941, he stressed the serious nature of the situation and that “at no previous time has American security been as seriously threatened from without as it is today.” He continued to explain that the U.S. must assist the Allied nations in defeating the Axis powers from taking over all of Europe.

President Roosevelt continued with perhaps one of his most famous speeches, saying, “In these future days which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms.” ***Those freedoms are the freedom of speech and expression, the freedom to worship God in one’s own way, freedom from want, and freedom from fear.*** He concluded his speech stating that “Our strength is our unity of purpose. To that high concept, there can be no end save victory.” Roosevelt’s speech resonated around the world, offering hope to civilians suffering under Nazi oppression.

The following year, Norman Rockwell began a series of four paintings that pictured ordinary Americans in scenes portraying the ideals for which the United States had gone to war. Called The Four Freedoms, the series consisted of *Freedom of Worship*, *Freedom of Speech*, *Freedom from Fear*, and *Freedom from Want*.

Unlike much of his other work, these paintings were not designed as illustrations, but as original works of art. More than one million people saw the original paintings in the 16-city tour to promote the sale of war bonds. The tour was so successful that it raised over \$130 million for the cause.

Publishing the paintings as inside illustrations, *The Saturday Evening Post* generated an equally impressive response from its readers. The government agencies that had turned the series down when Rockwell offered it to them soon realized their error – these powerful images struck a chord that reverberated around the country.

-- Indianapolis Colts Games --

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who came out and supported the Colts! We had our ups, and downs; but most important of all is we celebrated and suffered together.

Vietnam veterans volunteered to bartend to raise money for the Vietnam veterans party in March. All contributions (tips) went into the fund for the party.

-- Cindy Coram



VFW Post 5864's Riders Group eating lunch

The VFW Rider's Group meets once a month on Sunday at noon, at various places for a luncheon get-together. January's meeting was at Mikie's Pub, at 5135 S. Emerson St. Those in attendance included Rodney and Elaine Davis, Mark and Barb Quinn, Tim Morris, Phil Carson, Lee and Lesa Leiter, John Kemp, and Ken and Josie Seal. The Riders Group holds their regular monthly meetings on the third Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Post's Dayroom.

Recognizing those who have gone above and beyond

2024 annual Community Service Awards

The 2024 annual Community Service Awards, hosted by VFW Post 5864 and VFW Post 5864 Auxiliary, will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The VFW and its Auxiliary recognize students in the area who have competed in the VFW's Voice of Democracy and the Patriot's Pen programs.

The two programs begin at the Post level, then the District level, State level, and then on to the National VFW level in Washington, D.C.

There are four recipients for the Voice of Democracy, and five recipients for the Patriot's Pen program. An essay with that year's selected topic is written by the students and then they are judged by a number of different people. Also recognized is a Boy / Girl Scout of the year.

A special award or awards are presented to unknown individuals by Commander Steve Milbourn for the person's outstanding performance during the past year. To date, none of the recipients have ever known they were receiving a certificate.

In conjunction with the City of Greenwood, an Outstanding Citizen, Outstanding Police Officer, an Outstanding Firefighter, and an Outstanding EMT are presented awards for their outstanding service during the past year. These four awards are presented by the individuals who oversee the various city departments.

Plan to attend this event and see the real work we do in the community.

■ ***Continued to page 30, 31, and 32***

VFW District 7 and VFW Post 5864 have dual winners

Raelyn Smith, Evan Ayro earn two first places each

The annual Voice of Democracy program and the Patriot's Pen program both had the same winners in the VFW District 7 and VFW Post 5864 programs. The two first place winners participated against 67 students from 19 VFW Posts in District 7.

The 2023-2024 Greenwood VFW Post 5864 Voice of Democracy program ended up with the 1st place winner as Raelyn L. Smith and she will receive \$300. She attends Iron Rock Prep Academy in Cartage, Indiana. The 2nd place winner was Zoe E. Lowe, and she will receive \$200. She attends Indiana Online from Whiteland, Indiana. The 3rd place winner was Cara J. Daly, and she will receive \$100. She attends Center Grove High School in Greenwood, Indiana. There was one Honorable Mention recipient, and his name is Josiah A. DuFault, and he will receive \$75. He attends DuFault Academy in New Castle, Indiana. There were four entrants to the Voice of Democracy at VFW 5864.

The 2023-2024 Greenwood VFW Post 5864 Patriot's Pen program ended up with the 1st place winner as Evan Ayro, and he will receive \$150. He attends Greenwood Middle School, Greenwood, Indiana. The 2nd place winner was Amelia S. Agresta, and she will receive \$125. She attends Greenwood Middle School, Greenwood, Indiana. The 3rd place winner was Evan L. Strong, and he will receive \$100.00. He attends Greenwood Middle School, Greenwood, Indiana. There were two Honorable Mention winners -- Elyza Tschopp, and she will receive \$75. She attends Greenwood Middle School, Greenwood, Indiana. And Ngun Tha Par, and he will receive \$75. He attends Greenwood Middle School, Greenwood, Indiana. There were 120 entrants to the Patriot's Pen contest, mostly which came from the Greenwood Middle School to VFW 5864.

Below are the two winners' entries into the Voice of Democracy and the Patriot's Pen contest.

What are the Greatest Attributes of our Democracy?

"History is not there for you to like or dislike. It is there for you to learn from."

-- Lieutenant Colonel Allen West

By Raelyn L. Smith – Voice of Democracy Winner

We must not forget the many memorial walls scattered across our nation, or the many families who have had to move on and make new memories without their loved ones. If we forget, we are doomed to repeat our mistakes. One of my favorite subjects in school is history: the rise and fall of nations and how our country has endured many trials. It's been almost two hundred and fifty years since this great nation was founded.



What makes America the land of the free and home of the brave? Our foundation consisted of many selfless men and women who gave their lives for our freedom. In order for our nation to live, we must protect the tree of liberty. So, what are the greatest attributes of our democracy? Let's look at it like a tree. Not just any tree, but a liberty tree, One: the leaves - of the people, two: the branches - by the people, and three: the roots - for the people.

1. The shade of the leaves helps us remember the first crucial attribute of our democracy: of the people. In the First Amendment, we see "freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of assembly." Unlike other tyrannical countries where officials in power cast down the needs of their people, America was constructed differently. The main reason for this was because the most prevalent memory in the minds of our founding fathers was the ax to the root to the tree of liberty by Great Britain. If we disagree with something that those

■ **Continued to page 31**

Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen contests . . .

■ Continued from page 30

in office have said, we can speak out. But will we? For a long time, we have trusted those in power and have relied on their decisions. We the people must continue to investigate, but more importantly, care about what our representatives say and do. Because in order for our nation to live, we must protect the tree of liberty.

2. We come to the branches that support the leaves picturing the attributes of our democracy: by the people. Under the construction of our nation, the people are in control. We have a right to choose our representatives in government. The representatives of the people sign bills. The people know who enact laws. We must know who is in office and protect our rights by not allowing someone into office that would abuse or infringe upon our freedoms. Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, and John Adams were citizens who cared and knew the status quo couldn't last. These leaders in our nation were still elected by the people.

It all comes down to how much we the people care. If we lose interest in what those in authority have to say, they will begin to sap the tree's health rather than help it grow. In America, we must not lose the same passion that drove the founding fathers to write the Constitution: by setting up a system to promote freedom, liberty, justice, and morals, these important attributes must not be cut down by our desire for comfort. We must continue to be a government by the people. Because in order for our nation to strive, we must protect the tree of liberty.

3. As we dig deeper we come to the roots: for the people- Digging deep into truth and God's word, our nation was founded to ward off tyrants. Like a tree deeply rooted to never be moved by the brutal winds. In God we trust a phrase stamped on dollar bills and license plates is not just a saying. It's a reality. Along with our constitution being founded on Godly principles. The loss of a constitutional democracy leads to a regime that steals voices and cuts down any other ideology that does not fit their narrative. Each citizen plays a crucial role in our democracy. Each voice and opinion must not be silenced, because the day we let down our guard around the tree, our nation will die.

Many men and women have given their lives for our nation. Their courage should push us onward. Remember the liberty tree? The leaves showed us the attribute of the people, the branches reminded us we are by the people, and lastly, the roots that dig deep into the ground, not swaying but remaining firm, for the people. These are the greatest attributes of our democracy.

As Abraham Lincoln said in The Gettysburg Address from Bliss's Copy. "... we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain - that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom .. and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Why America Inspires Me

By Evan Ayro – Patriot's Pen Winner

I am constantly impressed with the American spirit and drive for excellence. The United States has given us such a vast array of inventions, innovations, and advancements in healthcare, science, transportation, and communication that have helped shape our lives. From discovering cures to diseases to developing robots and space exploration missions, America has had a positive impact on our lives and continues to propel humanity forward.

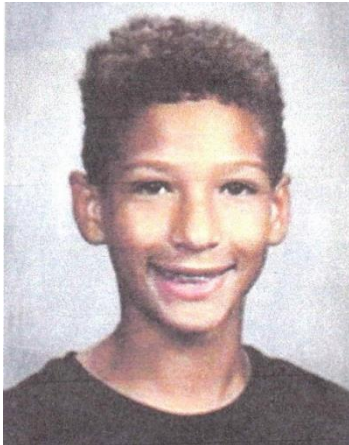
I am inspired by America's spirit of innovation. It seems like everywhere you look, there's a new technology or product being developed, an opportunity to start a new business, or a new scientific

■ Continued to page 32

Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen contests . . .

■ Continued from page 31

breakthrough. This spirit of innovation reminds me that there are always opportunities to improve the world and make life better for everyone. It encourages me to think outside the box and push the boundaries of what is possible.



I am also inspired by the diverse range of people in America. The melting pot of cultures, religions, and backgrounds has created a unique landscape of ideas and perspectives. It is awe-inspiring to witness people from different backgrounds coming together to make amazing things happen.

Finally, I am inspired by the freedom in America. From the moment the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776, Americans have been fighting to create and defend a nation of freedom and equal rights for all. Through civil rights protests, grassroots campaigns, and court decisions, America has actively fought to ensure all citizens have the opportunities and rights they deserve.

America has taught me that anything is possible, with enough hard work and dedication. It has shown me that every individual has the potential to be great. Every time I look around, I am reminded of the inspiring stories of ordinary people who have become extraordinary. For these reasons and many others, America has been a source of great inspiration in my life.



Displaying Military Service Symbols

Military service flags, insignias, etc., should be displayed in the following order above (left to right as you face the flags): Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and then Space Force.

POW / MIA Flag -- Official Display Days

Public Law 105-85 (Nov. 16, 1997) indicates the days that federal agencies, military installations and U.S. Post Offices are required to display the POW/MIA flag. The days are: Armed Forces Day, May 15, 2021 (third Saturday in May); Memorial Day, May 31, 2021 (last Monday in May); Flag Day, June 14; Independence Day, July 4; National POW/MIA Day, Sept. 18, 2020 (third Friday in Sept.); and Veterans Day, Nov. 11.



VFW Post 5864 hosts 51 years out of 'Nam, honoring **Vietnam Veterans**

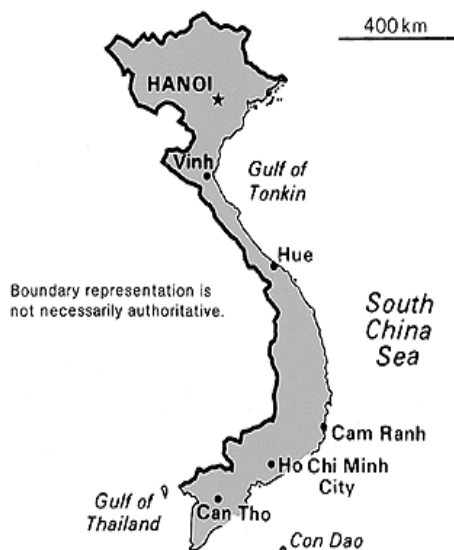
Saturday

March 23, 2024

6 p.m. until midnight

Menu

**BBQ Sandwiches
Mac & Cheese
Baked Beans
Potato Salad
Macaroni Salad
Coleslaw
Chips
Dessert**



From left – National Defense Service Ribbon, Vietnam
Service Ribbon and Vietnam Campaign Ribbon

**2 Free Drink
Coupons
For all**

**Vietnam Veterans
& their guest**



Entertainment ■ Raffles & 50 / 50

Hosted by Colts Fans' Contributions

All Veterans are welcome

Passage of the Pendleton Civil Service Act

U.S. Stamp No. 2053 was issued for the 100th anniversary of the act. On January 16, 1883, President Chester A. Arthur signed the Pendleton Civil Service Reform Act, making major changes to American Civil Service System.



When a new U.S. President began his term in the early 1800s, one of his first duties was to dismiss thousands of Federal employees and replace them with members of his own party. The “spoils system” was part of the privilege of the position, and recipients of the jobs were expected to contribute to the President and party’s campaign.

One of those who received a generous salary from the system was Chester A. Arthur. He was appointed the Collector of the Port of New York as a reward for his support of Roscoe Conkling, a powerful New York congressman. Arthur’s earnings from his salary, and a portion of the fines paid, were more than the President’s at the time.

When Rutherford B. Hayes became President in 1877, he began reforming the Civil Service. His first target was the overstuffed Customs House. Eventually, he replaced Arthur.

When Chester A. Arthur unexpectedly became President, those in favor of the spoils system considered him an ally. In Garfield’s short time as President, he pushed for reform and did not fill empty positions with supporters of Conkling’s political machine. Charles J. Guiteau, who felt he should have received a position in exchange for his party support, shot Garfield. The assassination showed the need for reform of the spoils system.

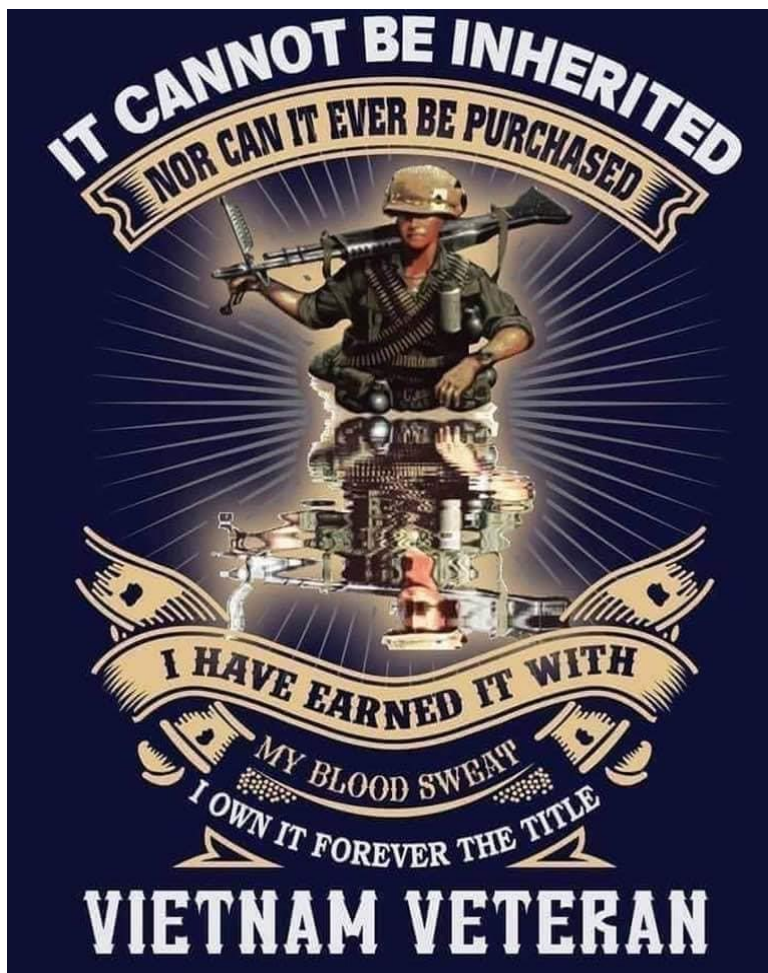
In Arthur’s first presidential address to Congress, he asked for civil service reform legislation, going against his former political allies. Democratic Senator George Pendleton of Ohio had

introduced legislation in 1880, but the Republican Congress did not act on it. His proposed positions would be based on merit, determined by an examination. When reintroduced, Pendleton’s bill passed through Congress and was signed by Arthur on January 16, 1883.

As well as qualifying civil service candidates through testing, rather than party loyalty, the act also made it illegal to fire an employee for political reasons.

“Assessments” or mandatory party donations were no longer allowed. The United States Civil Service Commission was created to oversee the law. The Civil Service Commission was implemented to oversee appointments and ensure political activities did not take place at the work site. Arthur appointed three reformers to the commission, who published their first set of rules in 1883.

When first passed, the Pendleton Act affected about 10% of Federal jobs. Because of a provision that allowed outgoing Presidents to keep their appointees in a position by converting it to a civil service job, today about 90% of Federal jobs are Civil Service positions.



Post Relief Fund used for specific items only

The Post Relief Fund was established by the National Veterans of Foreign Wars to aid those in need; sick and so forth. The information below concerning the Relief Fund is contained in the 2022 Podium Edition of the Manual of Procedures, Article II – Posts, Section 219 – Relief Fund, pages 76 and 77.



The Quartermaster of the Post will be the custodian of the Relief Fund and will expend monies as directed by the Post for the eight purposes only:

1. Aid, assistance, relief, and comfort of needy or disabled veterans or members of the Armed Forces and their dependents, and the surviving spouses and orphans of deceased veterans.
2. Maintenance and expansion of the VFW National Home for Children and other facilities devoted exclusively to the benefit and welfare of the dependents, surviving spouses, and orphans of disabled, needy, or deceased veterans or members of the Armed Forces.
3. Necessary expenses in providing entertainment, care, and assistance to hospitalized veterans or members of the Armed Forces.
4. Veterans rehabilitation, welfare, and service work.
5. To perpetuate the memory of deceased veterans and members of the Armed Forces, and to comfort their survivors.
6. To foster true patriotism through historical and educational programs.
7. Remission of dues of sick, needy, or disabled veterans.
8. Necessary expenses to support the Relief Fund such as the purchase of Buddy Poppies.



Relief Funds may be invested in approved securities but shall not be loaned to the Post or other units or transferred from the Relief Fund in any manner or under any guise.

Most of the income for the Relief Fund comes directly from the offering of Buddy Poppies on or near Memorial Day and, also on or near Veterans Day. One hundred percent (100%) of all money donated to the Relief Fund is used to help veterans and/or their families.

It is time for your 2023-2024 membership dues.

VFW Post 5864 -- \$35 per year

VFW Post 5864 Auxiliary -- \$20 per year

VFW Post 5864 Riders Group -- \$25 per year

VFW Post 5864 Riders Group -- \$150 for Lifetime

40 & 8 Voiture (Post) Locale 145 -- \$25 per year

American Legion Centennial Post 1919 -- \$45 per year

American Legion Centennial Post 1919 Auxiliary -- \$35 per year

You can mail a check to the Post, or you can stop in the Post and pay by Check, Cash or Credit Card. The bartender will give you a receipt and you will get a card in about two weeks. Anyone who served one day of honorable service may join the American Legion or the 40 & 8.

Frances Perkins is first female Cabinet Member

U.S. Stamp # 1821 was issued on Perkins' 100th birthday. On February 28, 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed Frances Perkins as head of the Department of Labor, making her the first woman to serve on a presidential cabinet.

Born on April 10, 1880, in Boston, Massachusetts, Perkins attended Mt. Holyoke College, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in chemistry and physics in 1902. She also earned a master's in political science from Columbia in 1910.



That same year, Perkins became well known throughout New York when she served as head of that state's Consumers League. In that role, she fought for improved working conditions and reasonable hours. After witnessing a tragic factory fire, Perkins decided to leave her office and become executive secretary for the Committee on Safety in the City of New York.

In the coming years, she would hold several other positions within the New York government. This included an appointment to the state's Industrial Commission by Governor Alfred Smith. And in 1929, then-governor Franklin Roosevelt made her the first Industrial Commissioner of the New York State Department of Labor.

As head of the New York Department of Labor, several different political factions in the state respected Perkins. She helped make major reforms such as increased factory investigations, shortened the workweek for women, and fought for minimum wage and unemployment insurance laws. She also worked to end child labor and improve safety for female workers.

Having seen how effectively Perkins had performed in New York, newly elected President Franklin Roosevelt wanted to bring her to Washington, DC, in a similar capacity. On February 28, 1933, he appointed her secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor. She was the first woman to ever be appointed to a cabinet position in the U.S. (this also made her the first woman to enter the presidential line of succession). She was officially sworn in on March 4, 1933, the same day Roosevelt was sworn in as president.

As head of the Labor Department, Perkins worked closely with Roosevelt in the drafting of his New Deal legislation, particularly minimum wage laws. In 1934, she served as chair of the president's Committee on Economic Security (CES). In that role, she helped to create the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and She-She-She Camps, a female version of the CCC.

Perkins served as head of the Labor Dept. for 12 years, more than anyone else in history. In 1945, President Harry Truman asked her to serve on the U.S. Civil Service Commission, which she did until 1952. Perkins retired from government work but continued to work as a teacher in New York. She died May 14, 1965. The U.S. Dept. of Labor headquarters was named in her honor in 1980.

Regular card games can be played at the VFW

According to Kim Barnett, Director of Operations of the Indiana Gaming Commission, based on information provided to them indicates that a card game being played with no payment or wager and no prizes or payouts would not require a charity gaming approval.

If at any time, card games were being played beyond the information provided above, charity gaming approval would be necessary.

Also, anytime that anything would be used in place of money, that in itself would also be illegal and require a permit. In other words, if toothpicks, buttons, marbles, or if the card players are marking something down – that is illegal. If you are planning to play cards, you must notify the bartender and they can notify a member of the House Committee.

If the Indiana Gaming Commission were to visit the VFW and find that any individual or group was in violation of the rules, the VFW could be fined substantially.

Bar Bingo on Mondays at 6 p.m. & Regular Bingo on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Also, the same goes for the bar

Please do not enter kitchen unless you work there!

The headline above says it all.

Every day and night that the kitchen is open many people think they need to stick their head in the door and in a number of cases feel they need to go in to place an order or just use the kitchen as a “pass-thru.” To these particular individuals and the rest of the customers who visit the VFW, it needs to be said – **the Kitchen is off limits**. In fact, going into the kitchen without being asked or wearing the proper attire could be considered a violation of the Johnson County and State Board of Health.

Unless you are actually working in the kitchen or volunteering to work in the kitchen, **no one should go into the kitchen.**

The kitchen normally has 2 to 4 individuals in it when working in prime time. They do not have as much room as they need – so before you attempt to go into the kitchen, think about this news article.

If you need to order something on Wednesdays or Fridays, there are normally 2 servers. They will get to you. The bartender normally has menus on the bar.

A good thing to remember is that you should arrive 30 to 45 minutes earlier than you usually do, and it will be easier to get your food cooked and delivered to you. Sometimes when everyone arrives at the same time, it is much more difficult to get everything completed in a timely manner.

The same thing goes for the bar. No one should go behind the bar unless the bartender asks you to help get ice, beer, liquor or wine, or something else for them. Going in the kitchen or behind the bar can “jam” things up, cause confusion and slow the process of making drinks and / or food. We want to make sure our customers get what they ordered in a timely manner. Thank you!

Allies win Battle of Midway although outnumbered

The U.S. lost the *Yorktown* and one destroyer while the Japanese lost four aircraft carriers and a heavy cruiser. On June 7, 1942, the Allies won the Battle of Midway in the Pacific, turning the tide of the war. Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941, the Japanese began mapping out a plan to take down America’s carrier forces. Realizing Pearl Harbor was now too well defended, they set their sights north-west on Midway Island, at the end of the Hawaiian Island chain.

Admiral Chester Nimitz was Commander in Chief of Pacific Ocean areas during the battle. Although they had naval superiority over the U.S. and were essentially able to attack as they pleased, the Doolittle Raids on Tokyo and several other major cities had damaged the Japanese psychologically months earlier.

The Japanese plan was to disperse their ships around the area, hidden from American view. Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto planned to invade the small islands and establish a Japanese air base there. Yamamoto’s plans were thwarted when the Imperial Navy’s JN-25 code was cracked and their plans were discovered in mid-May.

In addition to knowing where and when the attack was planned, Admiral Nimitz knew the battle order. Another part of the Japanese plan that weighed against them was the fact that the ships were too far dispersed and were never able to aid the ships that were engaged in battle.

Admiral Nimitz ordered every available U.S. flight deck to make its way to Midway. By June 3, 1942, he had three carriers and a total of 124 aircraft ready and waiting for battle. American forces sent out their first planes on June 3. American torpedo bombers then drew Japanese fighters away from their ships, allowing dive-bombers from the *Enterprise* and *Yorktown* to take out three Japanese vessels. The destruction of the fourth Japanese ship later that afternoon forced their retreat.

Though they managed to sink the *Yorktown* before dispersing. The last air attacks of the battle took place on June 6, when Douglas SBD Dauntless dive-bombers from the *Hornet* and *Enterprise* bombed and sunk the Japanese heavy cruiser *Mikuma*. American forces attempted to salvage the *Yorktown* into June 7, but when it was deemed impossible, efforts ended and so did the battle.

17th annual VFW Golf Tournament set for June 8

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5864 in Greenwood, Indiana will host their 17th Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, June 8, 2024, at Valle Vista Golf Course.

The net proceeds of the tournament will be used to fund programs for homeless veterans and many local charitable programs which include the Patriot's Pen for junior high school students; Voice of Democracy for high school students; Boy and Girl Scouts of the Year; Teacher of the Year in elementary, junior, and senior high school categories; and two or three college scholarships.

VFW Post 5864 awards plaques annually to the Outstanding Citizen of the Year; Police Officer of the Year; Firefighter of the Year and EMT of the Year in the City of Greenwood. The Post helps homeless veterans in the community; and assists local veterans and their families in financial need.

VFW Post 5864 acts as a resource to veterans by locating other organizations as needed to help the veteran confront the issues they may be facing today.



You can join with VFW Post 5864 to achieve the mission of helping veterans by becoming a sponsor of our 17th Annual Golf Tournament. If you are unable to provide a sponsorship with a cash donation, please consider donating merchandise to be awarded as prizes to our players or items to raffle to help pay for the annual program. Each player will be provided with a "Ditty Bag" which will include coupons and business gratuities.

Contributions and Sponsorships are 100% tax deductible as VFW Post 5864 is a non-profit organization. Sponsors will receive a letter acknowledging the contribution or donation provided.

There are seven levels of sponsorship available to both businesses and individuals: Presenting and Co-Sponsor - \$2,500; Diamond - \$1,000; Platinum - \$750; Gold - \$500; Silver - \$250; Bronze - \$100; and Individual Sponsors - \$50.

Sponsors will receive a complimentary meal at the VFW after the golf tournament concludes.

We thank you in advance for your support of VFW Post 5864 and the veterans of this area.

By the way, the VFW is now located at 1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood. You can Google 578 Commerce Parkway West Dr., Greenwood to locate us. That was the former address.

Thank you very much for your participation in this event and we also welcome you to sign up to play golf for our tournament. If you have any questions, please call Steve Milbourn, 317-525-7291 or e-mail him at steve.milbourn@aol.com.

Greenwood Memorial VFW Post 5864

1842 Veterans Way ■ Greenwood, IN 46143

317-888-2488

Golf Tournament played at Valle Vista Golf Course on

Saturday, June 8, 2024





Greenwood VFW Post 5864

17th Annual Golf Tournament

Saturday, June 8, 2024

Valle Vista Golf Course



Check In – 7:30 a.m. – Shotgun Start – 8:30 a.m. – Florida Scramble

Team Registration (First 25 Teams to pay will play)

Prizes:

01. -- Putting contest prior to start of event – **Starts at 7:30 a.m.** – Winner gets \$40
 02. -- 4 – 1st Place -- \$50 in Cash to each golfer
 03. -- 4 – 2nd Place -- \$35 in Cash to each golfer
 04. -- 4 – 3rd Place -- \$25 in Cash to each golfer
 05. -- 1st Place team gets their team's name proudly displayed on our Winner's Plaque.
 06. -- Closest to pin on Holes 3, 8, 11, and 17
 07. -- Longest Drive – Men – Hole 2 and Women – Hole 13
 08. -- Longest Drive – 65 and Over – Hole 1
 09. -- Longest Putt – Hole 9
- Fantastic Door Prizes after the Golf Tournament**
- 4 -- \$25 Gift Certificates (4 Holes)
2 -- \$25 Gift Certificates (2 People)
1 -- \$25 Gift Certificate
1 -- \$25 Gift Certificate

The Cost is \$280 per foursome or \$70 per person. The price includes green fees, cart, unlimited beverages on the course, a buffet with hamburgers / bratwurst, baked beans, potato salad, chips, and of course various beverages at the VFW after the tournament.

Please mail or drop off this entry form with payment to VFW Post 5864, 1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood Indiana 46143. Make checks payable to VFW Post 5864 and write Golf in the memo area. **Please print** the team information below.

This form must accompany your payment. No exceptions!

Name	Phone	E-mail
Team Captain		
Player 2 Name		
Player 3 Name		
Player 4 Name		

Stop by VFW Post 5864 at 1842 Veterans Way in Greenwood if you need an additional registration form or go to our website – greenwoodvfw.com and go to the Events / Events Calendar and print. For additional information call Steve Milbourn at 317-525-7291.

A message from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Dear Veteran or Beneficiary,

On behalf of all Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) staff, I want to thank you for allowing us to serve you. We want you to experience the best care and service possible in a place that is healing, safe, and welcoming. Maintaining the safety and well-being of you, your caregivers, and other visitors and staff is of the utmost importance to us. It is crucial that our medical facilities, staff offices, regional benefits offices, and the sacred grounds of our cemeteries are places where we are all considerate of one another and treat each other with civility and respect. Although most of us recognize how our words and actions affect one another, there is still more we can collectively do to promote a culture of respect and safety.



VA is serious about its long-standing anti-harassment and anti-sexual assault policy. Although legislation, policies, and programs chart the way forward, we need your help to meet the ongoing challenges of ensuring we maintain a safe and welcoming environment for all. Let us continue to unite to treat others with dignity and respect. One way you can help is to take the online Bystander Intervention Training for Veterans at www.veterantraining.va.gov/bystandertraining, which includes practical techniques to enable you to feel confident in your ability to know if harassment or sexual assault is taking place; how to get help; and what to do or say to help prevent the situation from escalating.

Also, I ask you to consider joining thousands who have taken the White Ribbon VA pledge. This pledge is your promise to never commit, excuse, or stay silent about sexual harassment, sexual assault, or domestic violence.

I encourage you take the pledge today at www.va.gov/health/harassment-free.

If you or someone you know has been harassed or sexually assaulted at a VA facility, I encourage you to report the harassment or sexual assault following the guidance found at www.va.gov/report-harassment. I recognize reporting may feel uncomfortable, but we are trained to help you and to ensure that you, or others who may have been harmed, are offered health care support and resources. We are working continually to improve reporting processes and want you to know there is no wrong door for reporting. Please refer to the attached brochure for additional information.

Thank you for choosing VA as the place to receive your benefits and services. Our commitment to you is to ensure that you and everyone entering our facilities are treated with dignity and respect in a safe and welcoming environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denis McDonough".

Denis McDonough

Link to VA Benefits for Disabled Veterans

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gW9Ta2lW9Qc4>

American Credo U.S. Postage Stamp Series

The American Credo (from the Latin for 'I believe. . .') Series of 1960-1961, issued to underscore the ideals upon which the nation stands, features quotations from six heroes of the Republic. A poll of one hundred distinguished Americans, including leaders in public life, historians, and presidents of state universities, helped determine the included quotations.

The featured individuals include George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Frances Scott Key, Abraham Lincoln, and Patrick Henry.

On January 20, 1960, the U.S. Post Office Department issued the first stamp in the American Credo Series. The Post Office Department created the American Credo Series to "re-emphasize the ideals upon which America was founded and to honor those great Americans who wrote or uttered the credos." The stamps were designed to resemble colonial currency. Also, symbols that relate to the statement are used in the designs, as well as a likeness of the author's signature. One hundred distinguished Americans chose the individual principles.



U.S. Stamp No. 1139 was issued in 1960 in Mt. Vernon, Virginia.

"Observe good faith and justice towards all nations" –

This U.S. Stamp was the first of the American Credo Series stamps to be issued. It pictures the scales of justice and was first released at Washington's home in Mount Vernon, Virginia. The stamp includes a line from George Washington's farewell speech in 1796. Washington's speech served as the foundation for a substantial portion of American domestic and foreign policy.



U.S. Stamp No. 1140 was issued on March 31, 1960.

"Fear to do ill, and you need fear nought else" – The stamp was issued in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where Ben Franklin made his home as one of America's Founding Fathers. The stamp shares one of the sayings for which Franklin became famous, taken from his pamphlet, *Poor Richard's Almanack*.

U.S. Stamp No. 1141 was issued on May 18, 1960.

"I have sworn... Hostility against every form of TYRANNY over

the minds of men." -- The third stamp, was issued in Charlottesville, Virginia. The quote was taken from the *Collected Writings (Volume 10) of Thomas Jefferson*. The original quote was part of an 1800 letter from Jefferson to Benjamin Rush. In addition to the quote and Jefferson's signature, the stamp also pictures a hand holding a flaming sword.

U.S. Stamp No. 1142 was issued on September 14, 1960.



"And this be our Motto, in GOD is our

TRUST." – This stamp was issued in Baltimore, Maryland, on the anniversary and at the location where Francis Scott Key wrote the "Defense of Fort McHenry." The poem, once set to a tune popular at the time called "To Anacreon in Heaven," became the "Star-Spangled Banner," and our nation's national anthem. The popular form of the anthem only features the first stanza. Key's lyrics included four stanzas,

with the highlighted quotation appearing at the end of the song: "And this be our motto: 'In God is our trust' / And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave / O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!"

U.S. Stamp No. 1143 was issued on November 19, 1960.

"Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves." -- The fifth stamp in the series, was issued on the anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. The quote on the stamp was taken from an April 1859 letter Lincoln wrote to



American Credo U.S. Postage Stamps ■ Continued from page 41

Henry L. Pierce, about having to decline an invitation to attend a festival in Boston in honor of Thomas Jefferson's birthday. Lincoln's letter remarked upon the development of the two-party political system in America and Jefferson's role as the head of one of them. Lincoln further explored the ideas of freedom and responsibility, and how it applied to the debate over slavery that was dividing the nation. The line before the quote above stated, "This is a world of compensation, and he who would be no slave must consent to have no slave."



U.S. Stamp No. 1144 was issued on January 11, 1961.

"Give me liberty or give me death." -- The final stamp in the series, was issued on January 11, 1961, in Richmond, Virginia. Patrick Henry is best known for his 1775 speech to the House of Burgesses in which he urged the legislature to take military action against the British. The divided house was close to deciding against committing troops when Henry rose to speak. He ended his speech with his most famous words, "I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!" The speech is credited with convincing Virginians to join the Revolutionary War.

Good and/or bad

Compliments, complaints to the House Committee

Compliments and complaints are part of the VFW's everyday life. Whether they are good or bad, they should be directed to the House Committee or to the Commander. They will be logged in as a compliment, complaint, or as "something that needs to be reviewed, repaired, changed, etc."

The House Committee will then discuss everything in front of them, and a determination will be made as to what should be done.

Please remember, no matter what the compliment or complaint is, we need your name, and phone number in case we need to get in touch with you. We also need something in writing that we can read with your signature. In the case of complaints, the House Committee is not a court of law, however if sufficient evidence is not provided, then we have no standing to bar, ban, or otherwise provide any type of punishment to anyone. Compliments are generally self-standing.

There have been individuals who have sent in complaints that were unsigned, however they had the name of an organization on them. That is not sufficient information.

If an employee, patron, or visitor is suspected of doing something wrong they could in fact file a lawsuit against our VFW and members of the House Committee, and or those who are involved.

There have been some individuals who have gone outside of the House Committee to the District, or the State VFW. In this day and age, anyone can go to a higher power, however they may want to go to the House Committee first to "evaluate a specific situation." This is the right and proper thing that needs to be done.

Not all of us like each other, and I am sure that we can all find fault with most everyone, whether they are an officer, an employee, a member, or a visitor to our Post. What you need to keep in mind is that you should be here for the "greater good", to help veterans and their families and enjoy yourself when you visit.

My final thoughts on any and all complaints is simply this – if you were in the same position, doing the same thing as the individual you may not like, what would you do to help make things better?

We need many more individuals who are willing to help keep our VFW thriving by volunteering to help in various areas.

Thanks – Steve Milbourn, Commander

Helped to train Nurses for the battlefield

Elizabeth Blackwell, America's first female Doctor

U.S. Stamp No. 1399 was issued on the 125th anniversary of Blackwell's graduation. On January 23, 1849, Elizabeth Blackwell became the first woman in America to graduate from medical school. Blackwell was born on February 3, 1821, in Bristol, Gloucestershire, England. Her family moved to America in 1832, living first in New York and later Cincinnati, Ohio.

As a young woman, Blackwell opened a school with her sisters to help raise money for her family, though it eventually closed. Blackwell was very interested in education and reform and spent time studying art, attending lectures, writing short stories, and visiting the services of a variety of different religions. She was also interested in women's rights and the political campaign of William Henry Harrison.



Initially, Blackwell had no interest in medicine, stating that she “hated everything connected with the body, and could not bear the sight of a medical book... the very thought of dwelling on the physical structure of the body and its various ailments filled me with disgust.” However, when Blackwell was in her mid-20s, a female friend had a terminal illness but was too embarrassed to go to a male doctor. Blackwell's friend told her that she believed she would have recovered if she had a female doctor.

Blackwell was moved by her friend's situation and became inspired to become a doctor. She spoke to family friends that were doctors, but they all told her it was impossible because it was too expensive, and women weren't allowed to become doctors. These challenges only encouraged her more. Blackwell recruited the help of her physician friends, who let her study with them for a year. She then applied to every medical school in New York and Philadelphia. Everyone turned her down.

One of the schools Blackwell applied to, Geneva Medical College (now Hobart and William Smith Colleges) decided to let the students vote to decide her fate there, saying that if even one student voted no, she would be barred from admission. The school was convinced that the all-male student body would surely vote against her. However, the students saw it as an opportunity to play a joke on the school and voted unanimously in favor of admitting Blackwell.

She may have been admitted as a joke, but Blackwell took the opportunity seriously and excelled at Geneva. Her hard work paid off on January 23, 1849, when she graduated first in her class.

Blackwell went on to work and train further in London and Paris, though she lost sight in her left eye and could no longer work as a surgeon. She then opened an infirmary in New York City.

Blackwell knew that sanitary conditions were important, especially in times of war. So, in 1861, she helped to establish the U.S. Sanitary Commission. Also, during the Civil War, Blackwell and her sister Emily helped train nurses for the battlefields. Blackwell helped found two medical colleges for women before her death on May 31, 1910.

New Identification and Privilege cards available

If you are in need of a new updated Department of Defense or Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card, you can go to Camp Atterbury and pick up a new one. You will need two forms of identification, i.e., DD-214, Driver's License, Passport, Current ID Card, Voter's Registration Card, Birth Certificate, or a State ID card with photo.



The Identification and Privilege Cards are only available for military retirees, current members of the military, and those veterans who are 100% Disabled, and their spouses. The ID Card Office (DEERS / RAPIDS) is located in Building 338 off Fairbanks and 5th North St. at Camp Atterbury.

Enter the building through the door at the East end.

You can reach them by phone at 812-526-1499, Ext. 61278.

In first year of new policy

VA provides free emergency suicide prevention care to nearly 50,000 Veterans and former service members

In the first year of VA's new policy allowing eligible Veterans and certain former service members in acute suicidal crisis to go to any VA or non-VA health care facility for no-cost emergency health care, 49,714 Veterans and former service members have used this benefit — providing them with lifesaving care and saving more than \$64 million in health care costs.

This policy has helped prevent Veteran suicide by guaranteeing no cost, world-class care to eligible individuals in times of crisis — including emergency room care, inpatient, or crisis residential care for up to 30 days, outpatient care for up to 90 days, and transportation costs. The policy has also increased access to no-cost emergent suicide care for up to 9 million Veterans, because eligible Veterans do not need to be enrolled in the VA system or go to a department facility to use this benefit.

Ending Veteran suicide is VA's top clinical priority and a key part of President Biden's Unity Agenda. Since 2021, VA has worked aggressively to expand support for Veterans in crisis, including launching the 988 (then press 1) to help Veterans connect more quickly with caring, qualified responders through the Veterans Crisis Line; partnering with community-based suicide prevention organizations to provide Veterans with on-the-ground support; expanding firearm suicide prevention efforts; and encouraging Veterans to reach out for help through a national Veteran suicide prevention awareness campaign.

Moving forward, VA and the Biden-Harris Administration will continue to work urgently to end Veteran suicide through a public health approach that combines both community-based and clinically based strategies to save lives. "There is nothing more important to VA than preventing Veteran suicide — and this expansion of no-cost care has likely saved many lives this year," said VA Secretary. Denis McDonough. "We want Veterans to know they can get the care they need, when they need it, no matter where they are."

Any Veteran – enrolled in VA or not – can go to a VA or non-VA emergency room for no cost emergency suicidal care under this policy. Additionally, this benefit covers certain individuals who do not meet the requirements to be considered a Veteran, including those who were released from active duty under conditions other than dishonorable.

It also covers service members — including reservists and national guard members — who served at least 100 days on active duty under a combat exclusion or in support of a contingency operation either directly or by operating an unmanned aerial vehicle from another location. Veterans who experienced military sexual trauma are also covered.

This benefit was created by the Veterans Comprehensive Prevention, Access to Care, and Treatment (COMPACT) Act of 2020. Under this policy, eligible individuals receive:

- Emergent suicide care provided by, paid for, or reimbursed by VA.
- Expanded access and eligibility (Individuals do not need to be enrolled in the VA system to use this benefit).
- Assurance that they will not be responsible for costs associated with emergency suicide care, including emergency transportation.
- Referral for appropriate VA programs and benefits they may be eligible for following the period of emergent suicide care.

To use this benefit, any eligible individual who is experiencing an emergency suicidal crisis should go to the nearest ER as soon as possible — transportation costs are covered by VA — and tell the ER staff that they are covered by this policy.

The ER staff or someone acting on the individual's behalf should notify VA right away by calling 844-724-7842 (TTY: 711) or using VA's Emergency Care Reporting (ECR) portal.

Battle of Osan – America's first fight in Korean War

U.S. Stamp No. 3187e from the Celebrate the Century sheet. On July 5, 1950, U.S. forces had their first fight of the Korean War at the Battle of Osan. On June 25, 1950, 75,000 North Korean soldiers poured across the 38th Parallel to begin their takeover of the South Korean peninsula. Soviet tanks and heavy artillery supported them.

The South's Republic of Korea (ROK) troops had no tanks or weapons to combat tank attacks.



Within days, they were pushed south and Seoul, the capital, fell to the northern forces. ROK soldiers retreated or defected to the Northern army.

Fearing the invasion would advance the spread of communism worldwide, the United Nations Security Council condemned North Korea's actions and called for a ceasefire. On the 27th, the council decided to send UN forces to help the ROK defend itself. In a speech supporting U.S. involvement, President Truman said, "I felt certain that if South Korea was allowed to fall, Communist leaders would be emboldened to override nations closer to our shores."

The U.S. committed the majority of forces in the UN command and led the operation. America's military had been greatly reduced after World War II because of budget cuts and an emphasis on funding research on nuclear bombs.

U.S. forces stationed in Japan were the first to go to Korea. The 21st Infantry Regiment of the 24th Infantry Division was considered the most combat ready. On June 30, a force of 400 poorly equipped and inexperienced American soldiers were transported from Japan to South Korea.

Named Task Force Smith, their mission was to establish a line of defense as far north as possible and slow the North Korean army so the other American divisions could be brought in to establish a stronger defensive line in the South. On July 4, Lt. Col. Charles Smith established a one-mile-long line along the road to the north of Osan, near Seoul.



The next morning, a column of North Korean tanks approached. The U.S. soldiers were dangerously ill-equipped, lacking anti-tank guns. Instead, they had 2.35-inch rocket launchers and 57-mm recoilless rifles. U.S. artillery fire caused little damage, and most of the tanks continued on. At 11 a.m. more tanks were spotted, and a column of trucks carrying about 5,000 soldiers.

Smith ordered his forces to fire with everything they had. Several trucks were destroyed, but the Northern infantry quickly formed and advanced on the Americans. The task force held their lines for three hours but had to retreat because their ammunition was low, and they had lost communications.

Though it was clearly a victory for the North, Task Force Smith had achieved its goal of slowing down the much larger enemy force for seven hours. This delaying action enabled other troops to set up at Pyeongtaek, 15 miles south. U.S. troops fought several more delaying battles over the next few months while they built up the Pusan Perimeter, where they earned a resounding victory against the North Koreans.

VA provides free emergency suicide prevention care

■ Continued from page 44

If an eligible individual receives a bill for community care after receiving emergency care during or after a suicidal crisis that they believe should be covered by VA, they should contact VA's customer service center as soon as possible at 877-881-7618.

If you or someone you know is having thoughts of suicide, contact the Veterans Crisis Line to receive free, confidential support and crisis intervention available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Dial 988 then Press 1, chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat, or text 838255.

Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. E.T., April 26, 2024

VA to award \$52.5 million in grants to organizations

The VA has announced the availability of \$52.5 million in funding for grants to community-based organizations that provide or coordinate suicide prevention services for Veterans and their families — including conducting Veteran mental health screenings, providing case management and peer support services, delivering emergency clinical services, reaching out to Veterans at risk of suicide, and more.

These grants will be awarded through VA's Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program. The Notice of Funding Opportunity provides information about the program, eligibility, and award process. Applications are due by 11:59 pm E.T., April 26 and awards will be granted to eligible entities by Sept. 30, 2024. The funds will be used by the selected organizations in the fiscal year 2025.

Ending Veteran suicide is VA's top clinical priority and a key part of fulfilling President Biden's Unity Agenda for the nation. Since 2021, VA has worked aggressively to expand support for Veterans in crisis, including offering no-cost health care to Veterans in suicidal crisis at VA or non-VA facilities; launching the 988 (then press 1) to help Veterans connect more quickly with caring, qualified responders through the Veterans Crisis Line; partnering with community-based suicide prevention organizations to provide Veterans with on-the-ground support; expanding firearm suicide prevention efforts; and encouraging Veterans to reach out for help through a national Veteran suicide prevention awareness campaign.

"Veterans in crisis should always have access to the services and support they need – including mental health screenings, peer support, emergency services, and more," said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. "There are countless great organizations across America that work side-by-side with VA to do this life-saving work, and we are proud to support their efforts."

This will be the third round of grants awarded as part of VA's Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program. In September 2023, VA awarded grants totaling \$52.5 million to 80 community-based organizations in 43 states, Washington, D.C., Guam, and American Samoa. The grant program is named after Parker Gordon Fox, a sniper instructor who died by suicide at the age of 25.

Grant funding will be divided into two priorities. Under Priority 1, VA will provide opportunities for funding to those entities with existing SSG Fox SPGP awards. Under Priority 2, new organizations can apply for grants worth up to \$750,000. Following the selection of Priority 1 grantee applicants, any remaining funds will be awarded according to Priority 2.

VA may prioritize the distribution of suicide prevention services grants under this priority to: (i) Rural communities; (ii) Tribal lands; (iii) Territories of the United States; (iv) Medically underserved areas; (v) Areas with a high number or percentage of minority Veterans or women Veterans; and (vi) Areas with a high number or percentage of calls to the Veterans Crisis Line.

If you or someone you know is having thoughts of suicide, contact the Veterans Crisis Line to receive free, confidential support and crisis intervention available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Dial 988 then press 1, chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat, or text 838255.

Miranda rights are established by Supreme Court

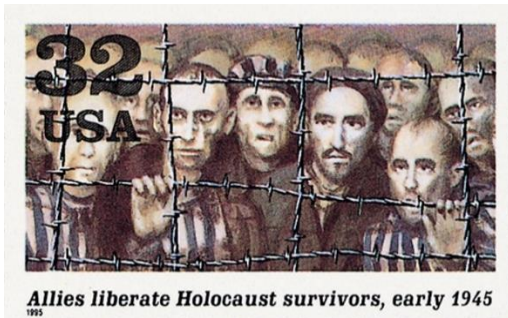
The roots of the Miranda decision go back to March 2, 1963, when an 18-year-old Phoenix woman told police that she had been abducted, driven to the desert and raped. Detectives questioning her story gave her a polygraph test, but the results were inconclusive. Tracking the license plate number of a car that resembled that of her attacker's brought police to Ernesto Miranda, who had a prior record as a "peeping tom."

The confession was extremely brief and differed in certain respects from the victim's account of the crime. However, Miranda's appointed defense attorney (who was paid \$100) didn't call any witnesses at the ensuing trial, and Miranda was convicted. While he was in Arizona state prison, the American Civil Liberties Union took up his appeal, claiming the confession was false and coerced.

The Supreme Court overturned his conviction, but Miranda was retried and convicted in October 1966. He was in prison until 1972, Ernesto Miranda was later stabbed to death in the men's room of a bar after a poker game in January 1976. As a result of the case against Miranda, each and every person must now be informed of his or her rights when in custody and about to be interrogated.

Liberation of Auschwitz Concentration Camp

U.S. Stamp No. 2981e from the “1945: Victory at Last” World War II sheet. On January 27, 1945, Soviet troops liberated the Auschwitz concentration camp, marking the beginning of the end of the Holocaust. The Nazis targeted European Jews and other ethnic groups, such as Gypsies, Poles, and Slavs, during World War II. Adolf Hitler considered these groups to be genetically inferior to his “Aryan” master race. Removing the Jews was one of the steps in Hitler’s plan for world domination.



To facilitate this mass murder the Nazis built concentration camps. At first, these highly organized camps were used to terrorize and intimidate, but in 1941 when Hitler decided to murder all of the Jews, the camps became killing factories. About 2.5 million people were murdered at the concentration camp in Auschwitz, Poland, alone.

Witold Pilecki was the only person known to voluntarily be imprisoned by the Nazis at Auschwitz Concentration Camp. Pilecki was a Polish cavalry officer who saw heavy fighting at the outset of World War II. When the Soviet Union invaded Poland from the east, the Polish resistance collapsed. Pilecki

then helped found the “Secret Polish Army,” an underground resistance unit. As news of the Auschwitz camp surfaced, he volunteered to investigate and allowed himself to be captured.

For two and a half years Pilecki organized resistance, fed information about the camp to the outside world, and wrote about the details of the camp. Pilecki helped create resistance cells and smuggled information out of the camp. But by 1943, he realized no help was coming. Pilecki decided to escape to give his report in person, and one night he and two other prisoners succeeded. Pilecki’s reports were dismissed as unbelievable and neither the British nor the Russians would help.

Then in mid-1944, about half of the 130,000 prisoners were moved to other camps. That November, the Soviet Red Army began approaching Auschwitz through Poland. Aware of their impending arrival, the camp’s Nazi organizers quickly began to dismantle the crematoriums and convert them into air raid shelters. They destroyed most written records and other evidence of what had occurred there, including many of the buildings.

Then, on January 27, 1945, the Soviets arrived and liberated the remaining 7,500 prisoners. Though the Nazis had destroyed much of the camp, the liberators were still shocked at what they found there, including the belongings of over a million people. By the end of the war approximately 6 million Jews, about two-thirds of all the Jews in Europe, had been killed by the Nazis. The total number of civilians killed by the Nazis is estimated to be at least 11 million.

Fifty years later, the United Nations named January 27 as “International Holocaust Remembrance Day,” to honor the victims of the Nazi era. Secretary-General Kofi Annan called the Holocaust “a unique evil that cannot simply be consigned to the past and forgotten.”

GI Bill took effect June 22, 1944

Members of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, as well as other veteran’s organizations, mobilized to encourage Congress to pass a bill for Veteran’s. Ernest McFarland and Warren Atherton are considered the fathers of the GI Bill while Edith Nourse Rogers helped write and co-sponsor it and is considered the mother of the bill.

President Roosevelt suggested the bill offer one year of funding to poor veterans and four years of college to those that earned high marks on a written text. The final bill offered full benefits to all veterans, regardless of their wealth. The bill was signed into law on June 22, 1944.

The GI Bill included paid tuition and living expenses for veterans to attend high school, college, or vocational schools. It also offered low-cost mortgages and low-interest loans to start businesses plus one year of unemployment compensation. Any veteran who had been on active duty for at least 90 days during the war and wasn’t dishonorably discharged was eligible – they didn’t need to have seen combat. They also didn’t have to pay income tax on their benefits.

2.6 million Americans fought in Vietnam

Paris Peace Accords end U.S. involvement in War

U.S. Stamp No. 3188g – About 2.6 million Americans fought in Vietnam. On January 27, 1973, the Paris Peace Accords ended U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. In the years leading up to the war, Vietnam had been under the control of both France and Japan before earning its independence in 1954.



The country of Vietnam was divided along the 17th parallel, with a communist North and an anti-communist South Vietnam. A general election was planned for 1956, when the country would reunite under the form of government chosen by its citizens.

A total of 257 Medals of Honor were awarded to Vietnam veterans in all branches of the U.S. military. Ngo Dinh Diem was appointed prime minister of the State of Vietnam, in the South, in 1954. The next year he was elected president of the renamed Republic of Vietnam in an election that showed clear evidence of rampant fraud.

Diem announced that South Vietnam would not participate in the upcoming joint North/South elections, claiming there could be no free elections in the communist North. The United States supported him in his fight against what Senator John Kennedy called “the Red Tide of Communism.”

Those who opposed Diem’s government formed the National Liberation Front (NLF), commonly known as the Viet Cong, in the southern delta of South Vietnam. With the help of Ho Chi Minh in the North, they planned to rid Vietnam of President Diem and his American allies. On November 2, 1963, Diem was assassinated. A period of political instability began, while military generals fought for control of the government.

The number of American advisors in Vietnam grew, and by the end of 1963, there were 16,000 U.S. military personnel in Vietnam. That number increased significantly after the Gulf of Tonkin Incident on August 2, 1964. During the night of August 1-2, South Vietnamese commandos raided a North Vietnamese radio transmitter located on an offshore island. The following morning, the USS Maddox was patrolling in international waters off the coast of North Vietnam near where the raid had occurred and was fired on by North Vietnamese boats.

Two days later, a second attack was alleged to have taken place against the USS Maddox, and the USS Turner Joy. However, military reports quickly cast doubts on whether the attack happened but was actually the result of overeager sonar men. When the attack was first reported, a single aircraft was launched from the nearby USS Ticonderoga. The pilot later reported, “I had the best seat in the house to watch that event and our destroyers were just shooting at phantom targets – there were no PT boats there... there was nothing there but black water and American firepower.”

The second attack was reported to Congress as having definitely happened though, and on August 7, Congress passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, giving President Johnson power to increase the country’s involvement in Vietnam without declaring war.

The first ground troops, 3,500 Marines, landed in Southeast Asia the following March. 400,000 American soldiers were fighting in Vietnam by the end of 1966. The goal of American intervention was to destroy the Viet Cong and train the South Vietnamese Army to defend itself against the further spread of communism.

The Viet Cong, with support from North Vietnam, grew in numbers and skill as the years



2.6 million Americans fought in Vietnam

■ Continued from page 48

progressed. Rather than running from helicopter or tank assaults, as they had initially, they dug trenches and fought. Their intricate system of tunnels and knowledge of the land gave them the ability to attack and then disappear. The NLF used civilians to build booby traps or feed the troops, making it difficult for Americans to tell friend from enemy.

Peace talks began in Paris in May 1968, but were repeatedly stalled. After Richard Nixon took office as U.S. president in 1969, he introduced a plan to end America's involvement in the war – "Vietnamization." Nixon began removing troops from Vietnam, with the hope the South Vietnamese would continue fighting.

In May 1972, Nixon made a major concession, announcing that the U.S. would begin removing troops from South Vietnam without requiring North Vietnam to do the same. This ended the deadlock and allowed the talks to progress in the coming months. Then, after much debate, Nixon announced on January 15, 1973, that the U.S. was suspending actions against North Vietnam. American, and South and North Vietnamese delegates met at the Hotel Majestic in Paris on January 27 to sign the agreement.

Though **the last Americans left Vietnam on March 29, 1973**, North and South Vietnam continued to fight. The South Vietnamese Army was unable to hold back the communists attacking from the North and within their own country. Two years later, South Vietnam's capital, Saigon, fell and the government surrendered. Vietnam was reunited as the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in 1976.

Critical Minerals Security Act to counter Chinese

The Chinese Communist Party is aggressively attempting to monopolize critical mineral resources, and the United States urgently needs to diversify our supply chain and strengthen ties with our allies. I recently joined several of my colleagues in introducing the Critical Minerals Security Act, which would help the U.S. secure access to critical mineral supply chains and counter Chinese dominance in the industry.

Our legislation would respond to China's actions by better tracking global mineral reserves and devising a national strategy for advancing mining technologies and international cooperation. The bill directs the U.S. Department of the Interior to evaluate the global supply and ownership of critical minerals operations in foreign countries and develop a method for sharing intellectual property for clean mining and processing technologies with U.S. allies and partners.

To help address existing information gaps, the Critical Minerals Security Act will also require the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to submit a report to Congress no later than one year after enactment and subsequently every two years, detailing all critical mineral and rare earth element resources internationally.

U.S. Senator Todd Young – Indiana

The VFW would like to thank each and every one of you for stopping in periodically and spending a few dollars. If you have any ideas of what else we can do, let us know.



Are you a SON?

We want you!

*to be a member of the **Sons of The American Legion***

Sons of The American Legion Eligibility

All male descendants, adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War I, and December 7, 1941, to date, as set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion.

contact

Dave Everett
317-502-1080

- *Serving State & Nation*
- *Veterans & Families*
- *Children & Youth*
- *Veterans Rehabilitation (VAVS)*
- *Youth Programs*
- *Americanism*
- *Community Service*

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



Dedication of Vietnam Veterans Memorial -- 1982

U.S. Stamp No. 2109 was issued two years after the memorial's dedication. On November 13, 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was officially dedicated in Washington, DC. In the 1950s, Vietnam was divided along the 17th parallel, into communist North and anti-communist South Vietnam. Following the assassination of the despotic president of South Vietnam, a period of political instability began while military generals fought for control of the government.

The number of American advisors in Vietnam grew, and by the end of 1963, there were 16,000



U.S. military personnel in Vietnam. That number increased significantly after the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, which gave President Johnson the power to increase the country's involvement in Vietnam without declaring war.

By the end of 1966, there were 400,000 Americans fighting in Vietnam. Peace talks began in 1968 but were repeatedly stalled. After Richard Nixon took office as U.S. president in 1969, he began Vietnamization, to remove

American troops and leave the fighting to the South Vietnamese.

The last Americans left Vietnam in 1973, and the war continued until the fall of Saigon two years later. Vietnam was reunited as the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in 1976. Three years later, back in America, Vietnam veterans grew frustrated with the "invisibility" imposed on them by Americans due to public discontent with the war. In 1979, they formed the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) to publicly acknowledge those who died or are listed as missing in action in the Vietnam War. Over time they raised \$8.4 million for the memorial. In 1980, they selected a site near the Lincoln Memorial and received permission from Congress to demolish an old World War I Munitions Building.

The design of the memorial was open to competition. Some 1,421 designs were submitted and then reviewed by a selection committee. Yale undergraduate Maya Lin won the competition. The Ohio-born student's design featured an over 493-footlong V-shaped reflective black granite wall. Its two ends point to the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument.

At first, many opposed the design because it was unconventional, black, and lacked ornamentation, calling it a "black gash of shame." Eventually, they reached a compromise, agreeing to add a bronze statue of American soldiers on one side. Construction on the memorial began on March 26, 1982. The stone for the memorial came from India and was specifically selected for its highly reflective surface. The stone cutting was done in Vermont and the 57,939 names were etched in Tennessee. They used a sandblasting process to etch the names on the stone.

Construction on the wall was completed in late October and preparations immediately began for a dedication ceremony. The dedication of the wall was preceded by a week-long salute to Vietnam veterans. Then on November 13, 1982, thousands of Vietnam veterans took part in a march through Washington to attend the dedication ceremony.

At the wall, a sound system played the dramatic theme from *Chariots of Fire*. The ceremony, attended by some 150,000 people, was broadcast live over the radio. There was a presentation of the state and territorial flags and a series of speeches. One veteran declared, "I, like many others, found that being known as a Vietnam veteran was a very dubious distinction.

But today this situation has changed." Another speaker proclaimed, "This Memorial symbolizes not only the supreme gift of nearly 58,000 young Americans but also the priceless gift of renewed awareness in our capacity as a people."

Two years after this ceremony, the sculpture, *The Three Soldiers or The Three Servicemen*, was unveiled at the memorial. It depicts a Marine and two Army soldiers of different races. In 1993, another statue was added – the *Vietnam Women's Memorial*. It depicts uniformed women, who mostly served as nurses, aiding a wounded soldier. Finally, in 2004, a memorial plaque was added "In memory of the men and women who served in the Vietnam War and later died as a result of their service. We honor and remember their sacrifice." The memorial, maintained by the National Park service, hosts over 3 million visitors annually, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.