

(Continued from previous page)

Later, now back in Boston, Grossman eventually went to her recruiter for assignments.

“He dragged me all over the place,” she said. “It was a great experience. I met all sorts of people.”

Grossman became a chaplain after joining the American Legion in Newton.

“I was the only woman and they really didn’t want me there,” she said.

They wouldn’t let her run for post vice commander so she said, “fine, then I’ll be the chaplain.”

And the rest is history.

“When you hear, ‘once a Marine always a Marine,’ it’s true,” Grossman said. “We never get over ourselves.”

White was born in Connecticut. She enlisted in 1951 during the Korean War and was inducted into the Navy in New York City.

“We went in a group by train to Great Lakes Training Center in Chicago,” she said. “It was a huge place.”

Women had to be 21 years old to join the Navy back then, she said.

There were nine weeks of boot camp.

“A lot of marching and classes all day long,” White said. “We had to learn Navy history and the names of planes and ships.”

If someone fainted at boot camp they had to stand inspection on Saturdays, White said. And if someone passed out they lost liberty.

Despite the rigorous training, women at the time were not allowed to go overseas.

“Now they can, but back then they couldn’t,” White said.

She was sent to San Diego to attend eight weeks of storekeepers’ school, which was part of the Navy supply system. She stayed on an additional week to learn dispersing. After school she served temporary duty at a storekeeper’s office, staying in San Diego for four months.

Then it was back to Great Lakes.

“I worked in shop stores which dealt with ordering supplies for Navy schools,” she said. “We had to order first

grade primers so these kids coming into the Army could learn to read and write.”

There were five women employed in the shop store.

White remained at Great Lakes for her entire military career, which came to about three years.

“After I got out of the service I took the Civil Service exam and went to work for the Navy,” she said. “I spent 24 years working for the Navy, and 10 years working for the Air Force. It was a great experience.”

Dowd grew up in Scituate. She went into the Marine Corps at age 19 and ended up in New York City.

“You can imagine how I felt when I looked up at those building,” she said. “I said, ‘what have I gotten myself into?’ Here I was a girl who grew up on a farm in Scituate in New York City.”

She served during the Korean and Vietnam eras.

After spending time in Boston, then California, Dowd was stationed in Hawaii for nearly four years.

She re-enlisted in Hawaii and was sent to “swamp lagoon” in North Carolina.

“I went to D.C. and marched in President Kennedy’s inauguration parade,” she said. “It was freezing.”

She went to recruiting school in Maryland before being shipped off to Okinawa.

“I visited Japan a lot,” she said.

She retired in 1971 but stayed on in the Reserves for another decade.

She lived in West Virginia for a while, she said, then in Florida before returning home to Scituate a few years ago.

“My family has a long history in Scituate,” she said. “My mother was a Turner.”

Asked if being in the service was harder for women in those days, Dowd replied, “anyone who made it hard for me I made it hard for them.”

All three veterans were honored to share a bit of their service stories with the members of the Rotary Club.

“How grateful we are for the service you gave to our country,” said Rotary Club member Lucille Sorrentino. *(Scituate Mariner)*



WARREN VETERANS' COUNCIL HOSTS SECOND PURPLE HEART BREAKFAST



Rodney Perkins (a member of West Brookfield American Legion Post 244) receives his recognition as a Purple Heart recipient.



Diane Kordek, Jim Kordek and Lloyd Rice all volunteer to put on a breakfast for Purple Heart recipients. (Jim and Lloyd are both members of West Brookfield American Legion Post 244.)

WEST WARREN – The Warren Veterans' Council hosted the second Purple Heart Appreciation Breakfast on Aug. 6.

The Purple Heart Medal was created by General George Washington in the year 1782 and was originally called the "Badge of Military Merit." This medal is awarded to those servicemen and women who shed their blood, or give the ultimate sacrifice in their service to this country. Purple Heart Appreciation Day is recognized nationally on August 7, the date on which this award was created. The town of Warren was designated back in February 2016.

Veterans and their families and residents crowded into the front room of the Warren Senior Center as the Veterans' Council invited the town to honor these servicemen and women during the Purple Heart Appreciation Breakfast, now in its second year. The Council also received donations from many local individuals and organizations to make this breakfast possible, including

the Firemen's Association, the Dunkin' Donuts located at Alltown Market, and the Warren Patrolman's Association.

"[We are] humbled by everyone's generous and unwavering support for our veterans," said Veterans' Council member Rebecca Acerra as she and the others on the Veterans' Council thanked residents for their support.

"To all Purple Heart Veterans, thank you," said state Sen. Anne Gobi, D-Spencer, also in attendance at the event, adding that everyone had an opportunity to give back to veterans in some way.

In addition, the Veterans' Council and Gobi also recognized the five Warren and West Warren residents who received the Purple Heart and presented each of them with a citation for their service: William Pratt; Gary Odiorne, who was not present during the breakfast; Rodney Perkins; Donald Nickerson; and Michael O'Keefe. (*Ware River News*)



CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE, MONDAY, SEPT. 11

CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE on Monday, Sept. 11 at Fire Service Group, 1010 Thorndike St., **Palmer** at 6:30 p.m. Town Councilor Mary Salzmann, together with **American Legion Post 130 Commander Sally Nay**, will lead the ceremony commemorating the events of 9-11-2001, as well as those who sacrificed during and after that day. State Sen. Anne Gobi, State Rep. Todd Smola and Town Council President Barbara Barry will take part. Also joining to remember those lost will be the Palmer High School Band and Chorus. (*The Journal Register*)



Post 215 Flag Retirement Ceremony 2017



Mortimer Giberson Robbins American Legion Post 215, Nahant, held its rescheduled annual Flag Retirement Ceremony on the beach outside The Post Quarters at the Nahant Life Saving Station on Monday, August 7, 2017. Post Commander William Cullen; along with Past Commanders Clarke Orzalli and Molly Conlin presided over the retirement ceremony of the tattered and worn American flags with members of The Post and the community. Sergeant at Arms Toby Quirk escorted the Flag Bearers and Comrade Robert Fields tended the fire.

The Herman Spears American Legion Post Honor Guard carried out a rifle salute and a presentation of Taps at the conclusion of the ceremony. Nahant Cub Scout Pack 50 presented the flags for disposal through respectful immolation.



Chaplain Ed Manzano Salutes a retiring Flag

Mortimer G. Robbins Post 215, P.O. Box 82, Nahant, Massachusetts 01908

(Submitted to VETS' NEWS by Bill Cullen, Commander, American Legion Post 215, Nahant)



ROBBER STEALS ATM, 400-POUND SAFE FROM PITTSFIELD AMERICAN LEGION



Damage to a door from the break-in. The ATM was bolted to the floor and contained around \$2,000, and a large gun safe in the manager's office contained around \$450 in cash. Both were taken.



Using a crowbar, a masked man forced his way into the Pittsfield American Legion at 5 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 20. The man stole both an ATM machine that was bolted to the floor and contained around \$2,000 and a large gun safe in the manager's office containing around \$450 in cash.

PITTSFIELD — City police are investigating the latest theft of an ATM, this time from the **Pittsfield American Legion post**.

Martha Read, club manager for the **American Legion Post 68** on Wendell Avenue, said an ATM and safe were both stolen from inside the building on Aug. 20.

She said there was about \$2,000 in the ATM and the five-foot tall gun safe in the office had about \$450 cash inside.

Read said the burglary is another blow to an already struggling club, which has seen its ranks decline as younger veterans tend to not become members and age claims the older ones. She noted the Legion post is the last military club in Pittsfield and lamented that someone would rob a business that supports area veterans.

Surveillance video footage from about 2:30 a.m. Aug. 10 shows someone trying to break into the building; first by attempting to pry open a pair of windows, then going after the back door.

When the suspect managed to breach the door, the club's alarm went off, prompting them to flee the area.

Then, about 5 a.m. Aug. 20, someone cut the wires at the back of the building, disabling the alarm and phone lines into the club.

The burglar gained access by prying open the exterior door.

An ATM at the base of a set of stairs into the club was removed from the floor, had its top section removed and was pulled up the stairs and out the door.

Video surveillance from inside the club shows a male wearing gray pants, a blue hooded sweatshirt, gloves and a mask, walking through the building and behind the bar.

Read said the burglar went for a cash drawer behind the bar, but it was empty at the time.

The suspect eventually found their way to an office that contained the safe.

The suspect apparently "walked" the 400-pound safe out of the office, used a rug to help drag it toward the stairs and got it out of the building, leaving behind damage caused by its removal.

Read said she's shown the footage to other staff members as well as club regulars, none of whom were able to recognize the suspect.

She said, from lights seen in the surveillance video, it appears the suspect may have had an accomplice in a vehicle parked outside of the camera's view.

This incident comes on the heels of several other thefts and attempted thefts of ATMs in the Berkshires over the last month.

An ATM containing about \$3,000 was taken from O'Brien's Market on Main Street in Lenox sometime before 3 a.m. Aug. 3.

A similar break-in was attempted that same morning from a Mobil service station on Route 102 in Lee. An employee discovered the attempted theft and the suspects fled before getting any cash.

Other similar thefts were also reported in Otis and Becket, according to state police.

It is not clear if police believe the same person is involved in all of the thefts.

Lenox Police Chief Stephen O'Brien was not available for comment Wednesday afternoon. No one from the Pittsfield Police Department was available to comment whether the incidents may be related. (*Berkshire Eagle*)



RED CROSS OFFERING HAIRCUTS FOR BLOOD DONORS

The American Red Cross and Sports Clips Haircuts are offering free haircut coupons for those who donate blood or platelets in September.

Blood and platelet donors of all blood types, especially type O negative and O positive, are needed to replenish the blood supply following a critical summer blood shortage.

“We are excited to continue the ‘Saving Lives Never Looked So Good’ campaign and partnership with Sport Clips this September,” said Donna Morrissey, director of national partnerships, Red Cross Biomedical Services. “We are grateful for Sport Clips showing its support of the Red Cross and saying ‘thank you’ to those helping save lives through blood donations.”

Those who come out to give blood or platelets Sept. 1-30 will receive a coupon for a free haircut via email several days after their donation. The coupon is valid

through Nov. 11 at participating Sport Clips locations. Donors must have a valid email address on record to receive the coupon.

“Sport Clips is proud to support the blood collection efforts of the Red Cross on a national level,” said Amanda Palm, corporate communications manager of Sport Clips. “There is always a need to maintain the blood supply in our country, and a free haircut is a simple way we can thank donors for their lifesaving donation.”

Donors are urged to make an appointment to donate using the free Blood Donor App, online at <http://red-crossblood.org> or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Among the donation opportunities:

Sept. 12: 1-7 p.m., American Legion Burlington, 162 Winn St. (*WickedLocal Lancaster*)



LOBSTER LUNCHEON AT LEGION A SUCCESS – LETTER

Sandwich American Legion Post 188 once again treated 70 senior citizens to a superb lobster luncheon that included clam chowder, steamed lobster, cole slaw, corn and watermelon. The pavilion was freshly painted and looked very nice, and the surprise was the tables now had chairs instead of the benches! Many of the attendees were so happy to see the new addition of the chairs.

The following American Legion volunteers worked this event—many of whom took a day off work to make this event possible: Jacquie Rice, Irene Barr, Phyllis Cullinaro, Linda Parent, Kyla Darmon, Kolbie Darmon, Linda Crocker, Judy Aslams, Elaine Dunne, Carolyn Motta, Fran Dockham, Bill English, Jimmy Earl, Mark Motta, Bill Chase, Bob Rezendez, and Richard Nycz. Thank you also to Ray Tourville for helping coordinate this event.

Appreciation also goes to our council on aging volunteer who sold tickets—Rosie Rhodes.

It was another successful Lobster Luncheon for Sandwich senior citizens. Everyone enjoyed this event and, as always, you [legion volunteers, staff] went out of your way to make sure everyone was welcomed. You make it look effortless to present the event—your volunteers are so good at what they do.

Please know that your ongoing support for the council on aging and Sandwich senior citizens is very much appreciated.

Please support the efforts of the American Legion—their support so many activities in Sandwich.

Janet A. Timmons, Director, Sandwich Council on Aging
(*Sandwich Enterprise*)



FLAG AT HALF-STAFF

In accordance with Public Law 107-89, the President of the United States is requested to issue a proclamation (per the requirements of Flag Code section 7(m)) for the United States Flag to be displayed at half-staff from sunrise to sunset on Patriot Day, Monday, September 11.

It is anticipated that the President will issue the proclamation; when issued it can be found on the White House website, it can be read by [clicking here](#).



AIR NATIONAL GUARD SERGEANT TALKS BOMBS IN AFGHANISTAN, JUSTICE FOR 9-11, AND AN OVERSEAS MEMORIAL



Chris Pereira talks about his six-month stint overseas at Marisol's Cafe.

DARTMOUTH -- Motivated by the September 11 terrorist attacks, Christopher Pereira (a member of Massachusetts American Legion Post 462) knew he wanted to serve his country. But the Dartmouth native pushed it to the back burner because of his studies at Bridgewater State University and his campaign for the town's School Committee, which he won.

When Operation Iraqi Freedom was launched in 2003, Pereira knew he could no longer put it off. He signed up to be a citizen soldier with the Air National Guard — a requirement of one weekend per month and 15 days — that landed him in a six-month deployment overseas as a tech sergeant 14 years later. Pereira returned from the stint in Qatar and Afghanistan this July, shortly after his 37th birthday.

Now readjusted to his full-time employment as a sales executive for New Horizons Computer Learning Centers in Lincoln, Rhode Island, Pereira chatted about his experience.



Tech Sergeant Chris Pereira in Afghanistan.

Why were you sent to Qatar and Afghanistan?

In the Air Force, I'm a logistical planner. We do short-term and long-term planning for exercises and missions. Whenever another branch of the military is looking for specialized personnel, that's where we come in.

I spent two months in Qatar [where the Air Force's central command is located; all Middle Eastern operations are overseen there], two months in Afghanistan, and returned to Qatar for the remainder of my deployment.

I volunteered to go to Afghanistan. That was a no-brainer for me. They have a small staff of about six [people], and we have to support about 350 airmen.

How were the living conditions overseas compared to those of the United States?

In Qatar, air quality is a big problem. They burn their trash, and they don't really have recycling, so you're breathing in that stuff. And, it's 120 degrees, but feels like 140.

In Afghanistan, your air quality's even worse because they don't have any kind of infrastructure really. Their airport was probably the size

of Marisol's Cafe. It's a remote, poor country. We had indoor plumbing, but you can't drink that water.

Being new to that type of environment, what sorts of emotions arose during your trip?

Bagram Air Base is the largest base in Afghanistan, but it's in a bowl surrounded by mountains. Terrorists get as close as they can and launch rockets and artillery shells hoping to damage airplanes and kill people. Thankfully, I was only outside two or three times when they hit us.

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You have to rely on your training, the people you serve with, and your faith. Guys got killed [off base] while I was there. It makes you remember what's important and keeps your eye on the prize.

Attending Mass every week in Afghanistan was a unique experience. You were still on edge. There were armed guards outside the church [which was on base], but you try to have that 45-minutes of peace.

I got to go to the NATO headquarters in Kabul [Afghanistan], and see some of the airmen that we were supporting there. That was rewarding. I went one time with the British Royal Air Force and got to see how they operate.

How have the September 11 attack, your grandfather's service in World War II, and your Dartmouth upbringing influenced your military involvement?

I saw the September 11 attack unravel on TV. It was a 21st century Pearl Harbor. Landing in Afghanistan — where terrorists were harbored — and to have justice done was important to me. We get to prevent Afghanistan from becoming a hotspot for terrorists ever again. I'm proud of that.

But, I didn't do anything compared to those who serve in regular combat, got injured, gave their lives... those guys are heroes. I'm just a guy from Dartmouth.

My maternal grandfather — Manuel Sylvia, Jr. — served as a private in the army in the Pacific. I had a chance to talk to him about that, and growing up in through the Great Depression. They truly were the greatest generation. He passed away four years ago at 92 years old.

What's one moment from your deployment that you'll never forget?

The first time in our headquarters building, there's a small room called the Heritage Room. There's an unused dinner plate, a candle, and a Bible that are to remain unused. It's a reminder of all those that gave their lives, and it symbolizes breaking of bread with your fellow soldiers. It's very powerful.

How have you changed since returning from your deployment?

[My experience] reinforced a lot of what I believe, and it strengthened my faith. Before returning to Qatar, a man from Uganda asked me if I'd like to pray. Those moments help you. You understand that there's someone much larger in charge, and you give your burden to Him.

While overseas, you enrolled for another two years with the Air National Guard. What influenced that decision?

I reenlisted on July 4. Other than Christmas, that's my favorite holiday. I said, "I might not get this opportunity again." [Pereira's service term would have otherwise concluded in September.]

Pereira was awarded a coin for excellence by Major General Jeff Taliaferro, Commander 9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force—Afghanistan, and Commander, NATO Air Command—Afghanistan and Command Chief Master Sergeant Lisa Arnold, 9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force—Afghanistan. He has also been recommended for the Air Force Commendation Medal for distinctive meritorious service and achievement during his tour.

Pereira is a Town Meeting member for Precinct No. 9, a member of the Dartmouth Veterans Advisory Board, former Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus council #14236, and a former School Committee member (2002-2008).

He is assigned to the 102nd Intel Wing at Otis Air National Guard Base on Cape Cod. (*Dartmouth Week*)



DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S CALENDAR

Mike Davis, Dept. of Mass. American Legion Commander

Sunday September 10th:

POW-MIA Ceremony USS Massachusetts Fall River 12 noon-finish (Obviously, we should have a strong showing from Department)

Suggested Attire for the POW-MIA ceremony is the summer uniform, especially if you have a role in the ceremony such as calling the names or answering "missing" or laying a wreath, etc., etc.

Friday September 15th: Military Appreciation Day at Big E Fairgrounds

Saturday September 16th:

Department DEC Herman Spear Post 331 Beverley 11am-finish

Saturday September 16th:

Testimonial Dinner VFW State Commander Leominster Hilton 6pm

Sunday September 17th:

Nonantum Post 440 Dual Installation SAL and Post, Nonantum Post Newton

Saturday September 23rd:

District 7 Council Meeting West Roxbury VA 1pm- finish

Sunday September 24th: Combined Meetings Sutton Post 414 10am-finish

Saturday September 30th:

Department Training The Basics Vernon Hill Post 435, Worcester 10am-finish

Saturday September 30th: Stoneham Post 115 Installation 5pm

Yours in comradeship

Mike Davis Department Commander



Mike Davis
Department Commander

DUDLEY GENDRON POST IN SUTTON RECEIVES BEER, WINE LICENSE FOR FUNDRAISER

If you've lived in Sutton long enough, you know the Dudley Gendron American Legion Post 414 is always hosting fundraisers to give back to the town.

During the Aug. 15 Board of Selectmen meeting, Bar Manager David Karacius (a member of Sutton Sons of the Legion Squadron 414) asked for a one-day beer and wine license for its annual barbecue chicken fundraiser, planned for Saturday, Sept. 9, from noon to 5 p.m.

The board unanimously approved the request, citing how well it's been run in the past.

"The Legion is a very hard working organization," Vice Chair John Hebert said. "It supports a lot in town and has

contributed to many different things. I support what you are doing that day."

Karacius said proceeds from this year's fundraiser would go toward memorial plaques for the Sutton Fire Department.

The menu will be the same as before. Attendees can expect chicken, baked potato, salad, watermelon, corn, hamburgers and hot dogs.

"We're moving it out front," Karacius said. "Hopefully it will attract more people."

An added bonus this year will be a dunk tank that another fire department donated.

Chair Jesse Limanek said he would put on his swimming trunks and hop in the tank.

"This is a wonderful event," he said. "It's a great crowd. You're always giving back to the community."

The Sutton Police Department will have an officer on site for emergencies. The band On Tap will provide musical entertainment.

"You've been doing this a long time, and you do it well," Selectman David Hall said. "I'm happy to promote your event. Good luck with it." (*Millbury Sutton Chronicle*)



POW-MIA RECOGNITION DAY A TOUCHING, SOLEMN OCCASION

More than 80,000 men and women from World War II to the present day are still unaccounted for. Their families have not been able to lie to rest a loved one, nor have they been rid of the worry that still remains.

The third Friday in September is [National POW/MIA Recognition Day](#). Please join me and the other members of [American Legion Auxiliary of Hampden County](#) in taking a moment to remember those who are lost but never forgotten.

I would also like to invite you to attend a local POW/MIA remembrance service. Whether or not you are a service member, veteran or loved one of either, witnessing the service in its entirety is a touching, solemn occasion – a yellow ribbon represents that they are properly accounted for; an empty chair and table awaits their return; the tablecloth is white to show the purity of their intentions; a red rose symbolizes the blood shed; salt sprinkled on a plate reminds us of tears shed; a slice of lemon represents a bitter fate; an inverted glass shows they cannot toast with us; and a single lit candle is the hope that illuminates the path of their return.

We will never forget those who have not returned home.

POW Recognition Service will be held on the grounds of the Big E at 9:00 a.m. on opening day on Sept. 15. This will be held in the Meeting House (white church) on Storrowton.

American Legion Auxiliary members have dedicated themselves for nearly a century to meeting the needs of our nation's veterans, military and their families both here and abroad. They volunteer millions of hours yearly, with a value of nearly \$3.1 billion. As part of the world's largest women's patriotic service organization, Auxiliary volunteers across the country also step up to honor veterans and military through annual scholarships and with ALA Girls State programs, teaching high school juniors to be leaders grounded in patriotism and Americanism. To learn more about the Auxiliary's mission or to volunteer, donate or join, visit www.ALForVeterans.org.

*Maureen Cragen, President
Department of Massachusetts
American Legion Auxiliary
(MassLive.com)*

AMERICAN LEGION ANNOUNCES EXPANSION OF KIT PROGRAM

[Leominster American Legion Post 151 and Auxiliary Unit 151](#) announce that they have started a new program called "Coffee and Cards for Vets" starting on Sept. 6, at the Leominster Veterans' Memorial Center, 100 West St.

The program will offer vets an opportunity to meet with other veterans while engaging in a friendly game of cards. In addition, coffee and donuts will be available at no cost.

"Coffee and Cards for Vets" Chairman Frank Ardinger noted that "Coffee and Cards" is an extension of the Legions KIT, Keep In Touch, outreach program. With the KIT outreach, members of the post visit veterans confined to nursing homes. During the Christmas season, members of the post visit the two homes for veterans in Leominster and provide them with gift cards for use at a local store.



Members of the "Coffee and Cards for Vets" committee plan for the first Wednesday of the program — from left, Elaine Legay, Post 151 Commander John Casey, committee Chairman Frank Ardinger, Cindy Henderson, Unit 151 President Phyllis Yelle and Bonnie Hanlon.

Ardinger said that many veterans have memories of the cribbage and pitch games played during their years of service. In addition to the card games, chess, checkers, dominoes and an assortment of board games will be available. The Veterans' Center also has an extensive library if a veteran would like to relax on the comfortable couch or chair by the fireplace and enjoy a good book. (*Leominster Champion*)

LETTER: HELPING LEGIONNAIRES IN HOUSTON

To the editor (*Gloucester Times*):

By now the citizens of Gloucester have been overwhelmed by the heart-wrenching scenes of devastation and misery that have been inflicted upon the citizens of Houston and surrounding communities by Hurricane Harvey. I am sure that for most of us, the damage and toll that these residents endured and continue to endure is unfathomable. Our hearts and sympathy reach out to them, and it cries for our support. I understand the sense of frustration when you consider how many people have been impacted by this hurricane and just how much relief that they need. How can we, as citizens of just one city, help?

As the **commander of the Capt. Lester S. Wass American Legion Post No. 3**, one segment of the population of Houston immediately comes to mind. Namely, my fellow legionnaires who have been terribly affected by this unwarranted catastrophe. These are men and women who, when called upon, donned a uniform and swore to protect and defend this country. Many of these same men and women, throughout the years, without hesitation, have placed themselves in harm's way, often at great personal cost, and rose to defend this nation against all odds.

These individuals now deserve that this community as well as all other communities throughout this great nation should immediately respond to their needs and losses in this terrible time of distress. Many have lost everything -- their homes, their possessions and their livelihoods. Many have no insurance or the financial means to recover or replace.

I acknowledge that there are thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, of other veterans living in the Houston area who also need assistance and relief and I hope that my fellow veterans organizations, both in this community as well as statewide, will answer the challenge. My post unfortunately does not have the resources to support them all. As a result of this devastation and disaster, **the Capt. Lester S. Wass, American Legion Post No.**

3 has just established the **Hurricane Harvey Legionnaires Assistance Fund**. The intent of this fund is to help our fellow legionnaires and their families in the Houston area who are the victims of this disaster. One hundred percent of the donations provided will go to assist those Houston who are in need.

I have already reached out to American Legion posts in Houston as well as the Texas State Department of the American Legion with the simple question "How can we help?" We will respond to their requests. We have already had one successful fundraiser this weekend but we are seeking additional funds from our fellow veterans and citizens of Gloucester in order to make as significant an impact and assist as many veterans and their families as we can.

If you want to donate, please send a check, for any amount, to "Capt. Lester S. Wass, American Legion Post No. 3, P.O. Box 133, Gloucester, MA 01931-0122," and annotate on the check "Legionnaires Assistance Fund". Whatever financial or other situation that we as the citizens of Gloucester currently face, it pales in the face of what those residents of Houston and the surrounding area are currently experiencing. There is a well-known saying in the military that "no one is left behind" and that is what we are facing here. We cannot ignore nor can we leave behind those who have gallantly served our country in its time of need. The gauntlet has been thrown down and it is our obligation to pick it up and extend a hand of support and assistance in any way that we can.

On behalf of all my fellow legionnaires of the Capt. Lester S. Wass, American Legion Post No. 3, I would like to thank the citizens of Gloucester in advance for their generous and enthusiastic support in the face of this emergency.

Mark L. Nestor
Commander
Capt. Lester S. Wass American Legion Post No. 3



POST EVENTS

AND OTHER VETERANS ACTIVITIES



2017 GAUDETTE-KIRK POST 138, AMERICAN LEGION CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Leicester County Club, Leicester, MA • Saturday, September 9, 2017

7:45 Service for Veterans

8:00 Shotgun Start – Florida Style Tournament



PLAYER REGISTRATION

\$95 Entry Fee for each player includes:
18 Hole Greens Fee, golf cart, dinner, raffles

TEAM CAPITAN

Name _____
Address _____
City/Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

TEAM PLAYERS

Player 2 _____
Player 3 _____
Player 4 _____

ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUESTED TO
ALLOW FOR ADEQUATE PLANNING

RAFFLE PRIZES WELCOME • HOLE SPONSORSHIPS \$100

CONTACT: Carol Perron (774) 745-0068 or cperron@leominstercu.com

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Gaudette Kirk Post 138

MAIL TO: Gaudette Kirk Post 138
ATTN: Golf
175 Main Street
Spencer, MA 01562

ABOUT THE LEGION

The Spencer American Legion (Gaudette-Kirk Post 138) was organized in the 1920's. We are located at 175 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562. As a veteran's organization and the only veterans service hall in Spencer, we are proud to support our local veterans and the local community. Our building is used by several Boy and Girl Scout groups not to mention the elderly as well as any other not for profit groups looking for a safe environment to host activities.



BOSTON RED SOX BUS TRIP

On Sept. 9, 2017, the **American Legion Women's Auxiliary Monson Unit 241** will sponsor a bus trip to see the Boston Red Sox play the Tampa Bay Rays. The cost per person is \$95 leaving Tee Jay's Lounge, 143 Palmer Road, Monson at 1 p.m. The game starts at 7:10 p.m. The bus leaves Boston at 10:30 p.m. For tickets and further information contact the American Legion Post 241 at 413-267-5570. (*Palmer Journal-Register*)



THE AMERICAN LEGION

**DEPARTMENT OF
MASSACHUSETTS**



~~ANNUAL~~

**POW-MIA
REMEMBRANCE
CEREMONY**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2017
(SECOND SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER)

**ABOARD THE BATTLESHIP
USS MASSACHUSETTS
BATTLESHIP COVE
FALL RIVER, MASS.**

**BOARD THE SHIP
STARTING AT 12:00 NOON
PROGRAM STARTS AT 1:00 P.M.**





Thanks To Yanks

11th Annual 9/11 Tribute Dinner

All present and past military service members and families are cordially invited to a special tribute dinner to recognize your sacrifices and to honor and remember the heroes and victims of 9/11/01. This non-political free dinner is our gift to you. Merely our way to say **THANK YOU** for all your service and sacrifices.

When: Monday, September 11, 2017
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.
Where: DoubleTree by Hilton
11 Beaver Street, Milford, MA 01757

The dinner will also include:

- Flag Line with Patriot Guard Riders
- Presentation of Colors
- Blessing of our Heroes
- Presentations
- Flag Tower
- Missing Man Table Ceremony
- Speakers



Reservations required before August 31st, 2017.

Those who are registering as a group should have one person make the reservations and list the members of the group.

Reserve now at www.thankstoyanks.org





Wm. E. Carter American Legion Post 16

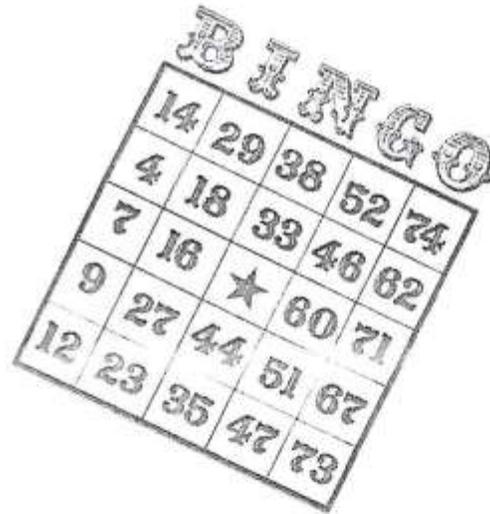
Hosts a

Night of Fun

BINGO NIGHT

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2017

6:PM — 10:PM



Suggested donation: \$10

{ 3 card strips 7 games }

Come out and play some faux Bingo; win gifts and prizes

Help us with our fundraising campaign

For more info contact 617-696-0024

Thursday nights we have Yoga at 6:15PM, Spades , Bid whist, dominoes, and line dancing practice.

Last Friday of the month is Karaoke at 9PM

wmecarter16@hotmail.com facebook: friends of William carter post 16

AMERICAN LEGION POST 40 TO PRESENT COMEDIAN TOM HAYES

PLYMOUTH — The American Legion Post 40, 199 Federal Furnace Road, will present comedian Tom Hayes at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the bar at the American Legion.

Applefest Chicken BBQ

Saturday, September 16th

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

American Legion Post 234, 402 West Main Street, Northborough, MA



Enjoy a delicious Chicken Barbeque at the
American Legion Post #234 on Applefest Weekend.
Tickets (\$10.00) are on sale at the American Legion Hall.



Stop by our Chicken BBQ and enjoy a great meal
while supporting the American Legion.





Women Veterans Network



Women Veterans Self Defense Classes



*****This is a 12 hour series of instruction please plan on attending all sessions*****

BRING A BUDDY (ALL BUDDIES MUST BE AT LEAST 14 YRS OLD)

Location: Chelsea Soldiers Home Auditorium

Time: 6:00 p.m.— 9:00 p.m.

Dates: September 19 & 20, 26 & 27

Attire: Workout clothing is recommended



**BURGER BURN AT THE
DRACUT AMERICAN LEGION**

SEPTEMBER 21ST 6P-7:30P

**HOSTED BY THE
NAMIKNIGHTS MC
MERRIMACK VALLEY**



ALL ARE WELCOME





William E. Carter Post #16
1531 Blue Hill Avenue
Mattapan, MA 02126
617-696-0024



MEAT RAFFLE

PLEASE SUPPORT & JOIN US FOR OUR



MEAT RAFFLE

**Friday, September 22, 2017
7:30PM**

Light Refreshments will be served





**Join us on September 23, 2017
for the 2nd annual motorcycle ride to honor**

Army Specialist Brian K. Arsenault,

KIA in Afghanistan September 4, 2014.

Registration for the ride will begin at 9:30 am

Kickstands up at 12:00 pm

Tickets \$15 (passenger) - \$20 (Rider)

The ride will begin and end at:

The American Legion

Vincent F. Picard Post 234

402 West Main Street

Northborough, MA 01532





Department of Massachusetts

Announcing the return of training starting with

The Basics

Ever wonder when the American Legion came to be? What the 4 Pillars represent? Why we influence congress? Where it all began? How we make a difference? Who we are? Why we are a power force in our communities and nation?

The Basics covers it!

**Saturday September 30th
at 10am**

Vernon Hill Post 435

267 Providence St.
Worcester, MA 01607



SIGN UP NOW!

To sign up (or for more information) Contact:

Email: deptadjutant@masslegion.org or skeeisme@hotmail.com

Phone: Department Office at 617-727-2966

NOTE: This training module is American Legion Extension Institute soon to be known as Basic Training





Dare to Soar



Testimonial Banquet in honor of Department President

Maureen Cragen

Date: October 1, 2017

*Time: Social Time - 1:30 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.
Dinner - 2:00 P.M.*

*Place: Log Cabin - Easthampton Room
500 Easthampton Rd
Easthampton, MA 01040*

*Donation:
\$40.00*

*Please make checks payable to:
Donna Kmelius earmark: Maureen Cragen Banquet*

Deadline: September 15, 2017

*Please mail checks to Ticket Chairman:
Donna Kmelius
18 Smith Ave.
Granby, MA 01033*



DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT AD BOOK

LOG CABIN
500 Easthampton Road
Holyoke, MA 01040

October 1, 2017

Full page \$60.00
Half page \$40.00
1/4 page \$20.00

*Pictures will be accepted for **FULL PAGE ONLY**

***PICUTE MUST BE AT LEAST 5X7 BLACK AND WHITE GLOSSY**

DEADLINE FOR ALL COPIES – SEPTEMBER 22, 2017

Please enclosed check with AD, and make check payable to: **Dept of Massachusetts American Legion Auxiliary**

Earmark check "AD ONLY" and mail to:

Robert A. Baranowski
6 Gardens Drive
Springfield, MA 01119-2534
(413) 782-3620
Poppy7227@comcast.net

PLEASE PRINT:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

Zip: _____ Phone _____

CIRCLE AD DESIRED

\$60 FULL PAGE

\$40.00 HALP PAGE

\$20.00 QUARTER PAGE



Mega Meat Raffle

Sunday, October 8th, 2017

1:00 - 3:00p.m.

Meet Me At The
Meat Raffle

At The American Legion
Vincent F. Picard Post 234
Northborough



Many Tables of Prizes

Meat from Lowe's Market

Tickets on sale that day.



I find it ironic that the colors red, white, and blue stand for freedom until they are flashing behind you.

Money talks ...but all mine ever says is good-bye.

If you think nobody cares whether you're alive, try missing a couple of payments.

The reason Mayberry was so peaceful and quiet was because nobody was married. Andy, Aunt Bea, Barney, Floyd, Howard, Goober, Gomer, Sam, Earnest T Bass, Helen, Thelma Lou, Clara and, of course, Opie were all single. The only married person was Otis, and he stayed drunk.

Now, go have a nice day!



Sheffield American Legion Post 340

P. O. Box 784
Sheffield, MA 01257
413-229-8614

August 2, 2017

Comrades,

Our District 1/Berkshire County, is holding a steak bake at the Sheffield American Legion Post 340.

There recently have been many conversations concerning the well-being of Districts in Western Massachusetts, and this fund-raiser is part of District 1's plan in re-vitalizing our Posts. As part of the stories and legends emanating out of memories, much has been recounted about a South County Steak dinner with such Legionnaires as James Small, Milt Barnum, and their contemporaries hosting such events.

The funds raised are to be used to strengthen this District's programs.

We would appreciate your support, so please plan to attend this event. The leaves should be in their Fall mode, and, hopefully, you can plan a Berkshire County trip for the whole day, surrounded by the dinner at Post 340 for with us.

Information:

Please RSVP and/or send the payment(s) for your tickets (that will be held at the door) to Dale Alden:

AMERICAN LEGION
District 1 Appreciation Steak Bake
(Brought back by Popular Demand)
Saturday, Oct 14, 2017
Social Hour at 12:30PM Dinner at 1:00PM
\$20/Person

RSVP by October 7, 2017

To:

Dale Alden (413)229-8163; or
P. O. Box 193, Ashley Falls, MA 01222-0193

To be Held at:

Sheffield American Legion Post 340
Rte. 7
619 N. Main Street, Sheffield, MA 01257-0784



AMERICAN LEGION

District 1



Appreciation Steak Bake

(Brought back by Popular Demand)

Oct 14 @ 1PM

\$20/Person

RSVP by Oct 7

**To: Dale Alden @ (413)229-8163; or
P. O. Box 193 Ashley Falls, MA 01222**

To be Held at:

Sheffield American Legion Post 340

Rte. 7

619 N. Main Street, Sheffield, MA 01257-0784



CRAFT FAIR

The **American Legion Post 138 in Spencer** is hosting a CRAFT FAIR on October 21 and they are currently looking for crafters to reserve space. A 6' space is just \$30. Crafters only, no vendors. See below for contact information to reserve space.

Looking for Crafters

to reserve space for the

American Legion Post 138

Spencer Craft Fair

Sat., Oct. 21 ~ 9-2

6' Space: \$30 • Crafters Only

Contact Cindy 774.745.8399

or cyn364@yahoo.com

(Spencer New Leader)

Relationships are a lot like algebra. Have you ever looked at your X and wondered Y

America is a country which produces citizens who will cross the ocean to fight for democracy but won't cross the street to vote.

Did you know that dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish?

The Massachusetts Governor's Advisory Committee on Women Veterans
And The Women Veterans' Network
Cordially invites you to its
30th Annual Luncheon

A TRIBUTE TO WOMEN VETERANS'

Saturday, October 21, 2017
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Luncheon Served at 12 Noon

Lombardo's 6 Billings Street Randolph, MA

Tickets - \$25.00 per person
New England Roasted Turkey Dinner

Jewelry Sale and Drawing



Please complete the registration below and return with your check or money order to:

Stephanie Landry
290 Newport Road
Hull, MA 02045
781-925-4486
Stephanie.Landry@comcast.net

Make checks payable to "Women Veterans Committee". Your cancelled check will be your receipt.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY/TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
HOME PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____
E-MAIL _____
BRANCH of SERVICE _____
Years of Service _____

Number of tickets _____ x \$25.00 each = \$ _____
(Please indicate choices by number, not a check mark if ordering more than one ticket)

*****NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR*****

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 16th





LOBSTER SHOOT & PORK DINNER BENEFIT

**Sunday – October 22, 2017
2:00 – 5:00 pm**

**Lobster Shoot to benefit the
Phil Samko District 4 Legion
Baseball Scholarship Fund**

**American Legion
Vernon Hill Post 435
267 Providence Street
Worcester, MA 01607**

**2 pm – Raffles & Roast Pork Dinner
Lobster Shoot to Follow**



Women Veterans Town Hall Meeting

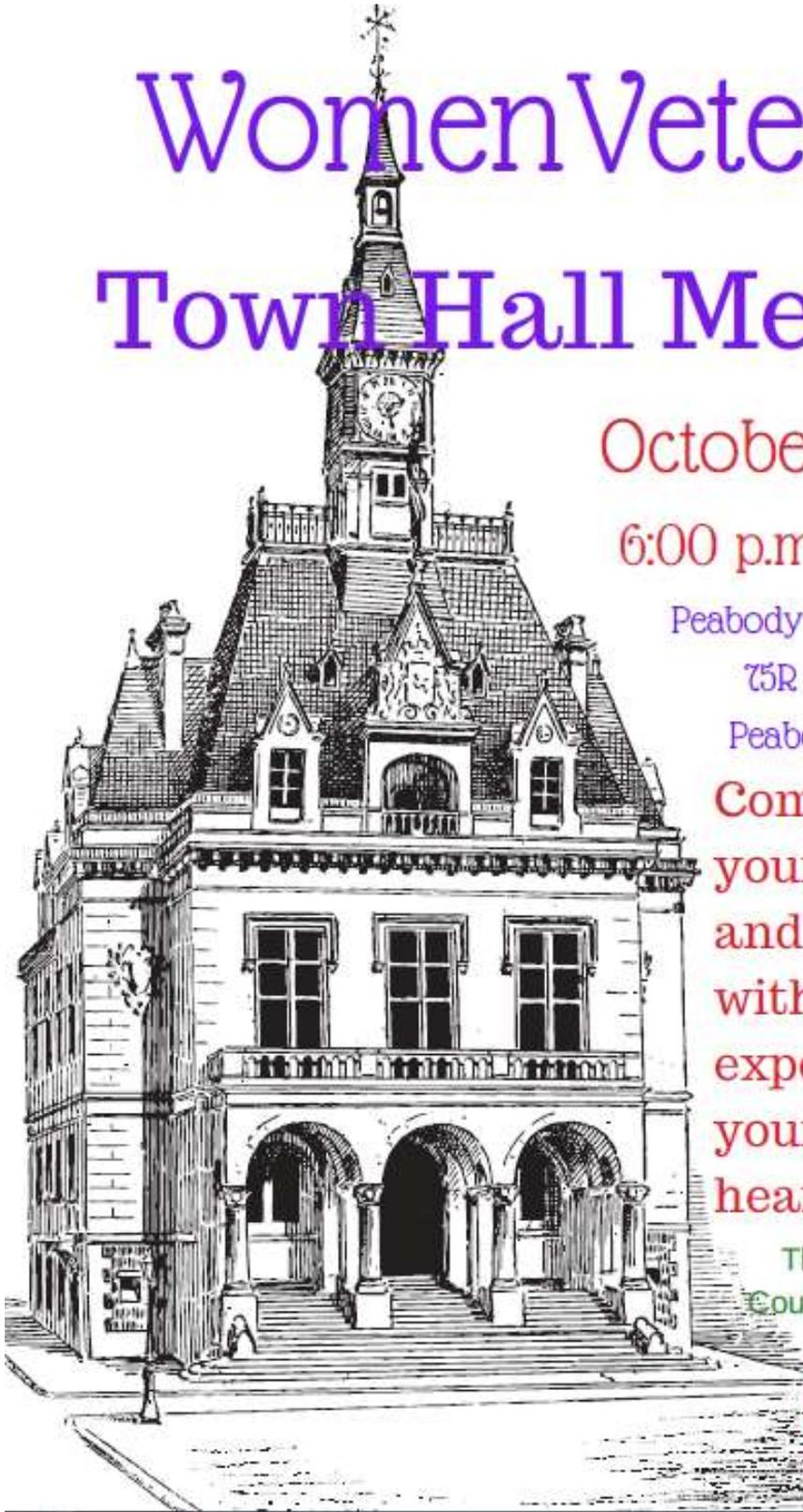
October 25, 2017

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Peabody Council on Aging
75R Central Street
Peabody, MA 01960

Come and discuss
your questions
and concerns
with our panel of
experts and let
your voices be
heard by them.

The Governor's Advisory
Council on Women Veterans



COMEDY SHOW

COMEDY SHOW Saturday, October 28: The **Oxford American Legion Auxiliary** will be holding our Fall Comedy Show and since it is the weekend before Halloween it will be a dress up. We will be presenting 5 Quilts of Valor to local veterans and possibly some Blue Star banners to military families. This is from 6 p.m. until 11 p.m. (*Webster Times*)



Honor your hero. Be a hero. **Donate blood.**



**American
Red Cross**

Chicopee Community Blood Drive

Charles C. Kennedy American Legion Hall Post 275
41 Robbins Road
Chicopee, MA 01020

**Saturday, November 4, 2017
8:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

To make an appointment see Louie Brault or Please call 1-800-RED CROSS
(1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment.

All presenting donors will receive a Red Cross Cap!

**Streamline your donation experience and save up to
15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass
to complete your pre-donation reading and health
history questions on the day of your appointment.**

Power to: -03-1-001-0000-2015-APL-0105

redcrossblood.org | 1-800 RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767  **Download the Blood Donor App today!**

© 2015 The American Red Cross | 2015-APL-00753



SAVE THE DATE

WOMEN VETERANS
APPRECIATION DAY

November 9, 2017 @ The Statehouse

Nominate an Outstanding Women Veteran for the
Deborah Sampson Award





Veteran's Day Parade

All Department Officers

Post Color Guards

Legionnaires

Legion Family Members

are invited to march.

Saturday November 11, 2017

1:00 PM

Kick off at corner of

Boylston and Tremont Streets

You're not fat, you're just... easier to see.

My 60 year kindergarten reunion is coming up soon and I'm worried about the 175 pounds I've gained since then.

Money can't buy happiness, but it keeps the kids in touch!



The American Legion
Department of Massachusetts, Inc.
RM 546 – 2 State House
Boston, MA 02133-1044
(617) 727-2966 Fax (617) 727-2969
Email: deptadjutant@masslegion.org

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S TESTIMONIAL

August 10, 2017

Dear Legion, Auxiliary and SAL Members:

Our Department Commander Michael P Davis Testimonial will be held on Saturday, November 18, 2017 at the Best Western Royal Hotel, 181 Boston Post Road, West Marlborough, MA 01752.

A social will be held at 6:00 PM and dinner will be served at 7:00 PM

Ticket donations are \$40.00 per person and may be purchased from your District Ticket Chairperson. Please make checks payable to "American Legion Department of MA" and mark "Tickets Only". Tables will be set for 10 people.

All room reservations must be made directly through the:

- Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel at (508) 460-0700
- The room rate per night is \$129.00 plus 11.7% tax = **\$144.09**
- The American Legion code is **American Legion**
- The cutoff date for reservation is **October 25, 2017**

On behalf of the Committee, we thank you for your co-operation.

Yours in comradeship:

Co-Chairman: Robert Baranowski
Anthony Heath
Ticket Chairman: James Army
Ad Book Chairman: Robert Baranowski
Members: 10 District Chairman

DISTRICT TICKET CHAIRMEN ON NEXT PAGE

District Ticket Chairpersons
For
Department Commander's Testimonial

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT DOOR
Deadline for tickets November 4, 2017

District One

Dennis St Pierre
18 Orchard Street
Adams, MA 01220
413-743-1947

District Two

Ed Bezio Sr.
PO Box 54
Orange, MA 01364
(413)-325-7276

District Three

Bob Baranowski
6 Gardens Drive
Springfield, MA 01119
(413) 531-0117

District Four

Douglas Harvey
11 Glenwood Street
Holden, MA 01520
(978) 230-6208

District Five

James Blake
160 Western Ave Unit 101
Lowell, MA 01851
(978)-710-5608

District Six

James Fratolillo
374 Manet Avenue
Quincy, MA 02169
(617) 471-0614

District Seven

Milton Lashus
RM 546-2 State House
Boston, MA 02133
(617)-727-2966

District Eight

Anthony Heath
PO Box 659
Middleton, MA 01949
(978) 777-6509

District Nine

Anthony Dias
40 Roosevelt Avenue
Somerset, MA 02726
(774) 644-1369

District Ten

Frank MacDonald Jr.
PO Box 81
Sandwich, MA 02563
508-477-0955



**Department Commander's Testimonial
The Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel
181 Boston Post Road West
Marlborough, MA 01752**

Saturday, November 18, 2017

Copy deadline is November 4, 2017

Advertising rates for the commander's book

Full Page	\$60.00
Half Page	\$40.00
Quarter Page	\$25.00
Business Card	\$20.00

**Pictures will be accepted for full page ads only
All pictures must be at least 5x7 black and white glossy**

**Please enclosed check with Ad Payable to "The American Legion"
Mail to: Bob Baranowski, 6 Gardens Drive, Springfield, MA 01119-2534
or email to poppy7227@comcast.net**

Please attached copy desired

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
Zip Code: _____

Circle Ad desired: Full Half Quarter Business Card



Department Commander's Testimonial

Booster Sheet

Post _____ District _____

\$1.00 per person

\$2.00 per Mr. & Mrs.

Make check to: **The American Legion Department of MA**

Copy deadline is November 4, 2017

*****PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY*****

1 _____	21 _____
2 _____	22 _____
3 _____	23 _____
4 _____	24 _____
5 _____	25 _____
6 _____	26 _____
7 _____	27 _____
8 _____	28 _____
9 _____	29 _____
10 _____	30 _____
11 _____	31 _____
12 _____	32 _____
13 _____	33 _____
14 _____	34 _____
15 _____	35 _____
16 _____	36 _____
17 _____	37 _____
18 _____	38 _____
19 _____	39 _____
20 _____	40 _____

Send Booster Sheet and check(s) to Bob Baranowski, 6 Gardens Drive, Springfield, MA 01119-2534



Remember the Date:
June 15, 2019

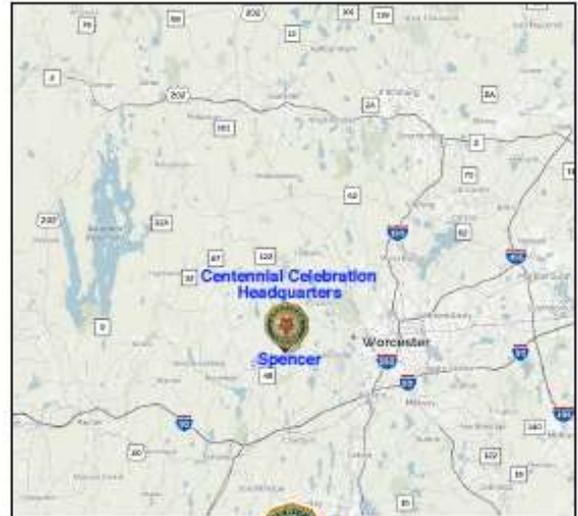


THE AMERICAN LEGION
Centennial celebration



100th
Anniversary Celebration

Hosted by
Gaudette-Kirk Post 138
Spencer, Massachusetts



Anniversary Celebration
June 15, 2019
Spencer, Massachusetts

Grand Parade
Spencer Fairgrounds
Family Fun Day
Static Displays
Live Entertainment
Live Music

Be a part of the celebration! For more info:
George 508-284-0212 Jerry 774-200-3202
Scott 508-885-5618



END!