



SOUND OFF



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Commander - James T. Randle September 2023 Editor - Dan Roper

COMMANDER'S REPORT

Commander James Randle

Summer is ending.

Senior citizen flu vaccination will again be held this year. The program is scheduled for Tuesday October 10, 2023 from 9 am to 1 pm at Williston Park American Legion Post 144. New York Northwell Health System is generously supporting this year's program by providing the vaccine. Please be so kind as to confirm the time of your availability at 1 (516) 571-2661. We hope to run a successful program thanks to Maureen C. O'Connell the Nassau County Clerk and to the many nurses and community members who volunteer.

The fall will be the time to get a booster against COVID-19.

The Veterans Picnic at Eisenhower Park September 14 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. RSVP by September 8th. Call 1- 516 -572-0564 if you plan to attend.

The POW-MIA - NIGHT VIGIL Friday, September 15th, 7:00 p.m. at Eisenhower Park Veterans Memorial Plaza parking fields 6&7. Sponsored by Nassau County Veterans Service Agency, Ralph Esposito.

The Nassau County American Legion Legislative Breakfast hosted by Massapequa Post 1066, 66 Veterans Boulevard, is Saturday October 7, 9:30 a.m. Make \$25 check payable to Nassau County American Legion, earmarked "Legislative Breakfast." Mail no later than Saturday, September 30, 2023, to Joseph M. Scarola, PCC 64 Vermont Street, Long Beach, NY 11561.

The Red Cross is low on blood donations. The Red Cross needs donors now. Call 1 (800) 733-2767 to find out where you can give blood. Use number 01234 so the post will get the credit.

A Marine veteran became the first vet to receive Qalsody, a new drug used in the treatment of a rare form of ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). Ask your VA provider about Qalsody.

Lung cancer is the deadliest cancer among veterans with 8,000 veterans diagnosed and treated for lung cancer every year. However, lung cancer is treatable. A low dose CT scan can save your life if it is administered early enough. Talk to your VA provider and see if cancer screening is for you.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- September 1 Friday Operation New Dawn - Iraq Begins (2011)
- September 2 Saturday V-J Day (1945) Japan's formal surrender (1945)
- September 4 Monday Labor Day
- September 10 Sunday Grandparent Day
- September 11 Monday Exactive Meeting 7:00 PM
- September 11 Monday Patriot Day National Day of Service and Remembrance
- September 14 Thursday Department of N.Y. Commander Nassau Visit
- September 14 Thursday Star-Spangled Written by Francis Scott Key (1814)
- September 14 Thursday VFW Ladies Auxiliary Organized (1914)
- September 15 Friday Pow/Mia Recognition Day
- September 15 Friday Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sunset
- September 16 Saturday American Legion Day
- September 17 Sunday U.S. Constitution Day Approved (1787)
- September 17 Williston Street Fair
- September 18 Monday Air Force Day Established (1947)
- September 19 Tuesday Auxiliary Unit Meeting 7:00 Pm
- September 21 Thursday General Meeting 7:30 Pm
- September 22 Friday Nassau County Committee Meeting at Rockville Center Post 303
- September 24 Sunday Yom Kippur Begins at Sunset
- September 24 Sunday Gold Star Mother's Day
- September 29 Friday VFW Day of Service and Established (1899)
- September 29 Friday Sukkot Begins at Sunday

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of death in the United States. Regular screening colonoscopies can decrease your risk of dying from CRC. My date for colonoscopy is May 2024.

The PACT ACT veterans who were exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange and other toxic substances are now eligible for benefits. However, those that file must file or submit an INTENT to file before August 9, 2023, or they will lose 12 months of back dates benefits. Go online to Va.gov/PACT for information.

Veterans can now file an electronic supplement claim on their own. If you have been denied a benefit and you believe that the VA failed to consider everything you submitted or failed to submit some evidence, you can file a supplemental claim or you can have the Nassau County Veterans Service Agency do it for you. Just go to Va.gov.

Next General Meeting - - Thursday, September 21st, 2023 at 7:30 P.M.

LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Legionnaire Eric Spinner on his selection as Legionnaire of the Year for Williston Post 144.



The honor awarded to Eric should not be a surprise to anyone familiar with the time and effort Eric puts in, not only for Post 144 where serves as the chaplain, but also for the service he provides for the Nassau County American Legion where he also serves as the chaplain.

Eric is a proud member of the Legion Riders, the Jewish-American War Veterans and volunteers at the Veterans Service Agency.

Thanks Eric for your service. We are all proud of you.

FUNDRAISER BEGINS

Things are now underway for Post 144's annual fundraiser. Jack Afonso and Dan Roper have been coordinating to get things rolling. The prizes will be the same as we have offered in the past, \$1,000 first prize, \$500 second prize and \$250 third prize. Hopefully recognition of the work we do in the community and a desire to win will entice our community to take the chancebooks we have sent out.



90,000 chances ready to go!! Please take both books if you can. Maybe even give a book as a gift!!!!

POST REPAIRS

Now and then the post requires a little maintenance. Part of keeping the building and its surroundings updated and safe was the recent work that had to be done on the north side of the building. Before our repairs water was



Jackhammer at work removing the old sidewalk

able to get into the joint between the side wall and the walkway below and also often pool on the concrete walkway. During the winter this was an additional problem because the water could also freeze making the walkway icy and potentially dangerous. As a result an outside construction company was contracted to tear up the old sidewalk and replace it with a new properly-graded one. This alleviated the problem with the water flowing toward the building and entering at the base of the building where it often pooled and became hazardous due to snow and icy conditions



New re-graded sidewalk... note the rain graded away from building

NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

by Marilyn Bauman

Hi everyone. Hope you have enjoyed this summer. It's now time to get back to meetings. This is an informational article to bring you up to speed. Please note the following:

The Williston Street Fair is on Sunday, September 17. It starts at 11 a.m., but Ellen could use some help in setting up the raffle prizes that we will be offering as our fundraiser. We are still looking for donations for our table and if a couple of members go together on a prize and split the cost that would be fine. It would help us with more prizes to offer for the raffle. Please let Chris or Ellen know what you intend to donate. The prizes we have already are valued at \$75.00 as a low and up. So please keep that in mind.

Please note that we are also in need of additional scratch off lottery tickets for our lottery board, which will be displayed at the fair. Mail to Chris Horvath at 206 Arlington Street, Mineola, NY 11501-2001 or drop off. Thanks in advance.

Chris Horvath: 516.248.4103 - Ellen Randle: 516-270.3876

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 19, starting at 7:00 p.m. Try to attend as this is the new 2023-2024 year.

On another note, it has been decided to postpone the Chinese Auction until the spring, in April.

You should receive a robo call about all of the above. Hope to see you at the fair and our next meeting.

Please note also: Margo Bores will be hosting *Exercise with Margo* at the Williston Park Village Hall, 3rd floor, starting on Tuesday, September 12 at 9:45 a.m.

GOD BLESS AMERICA, OUR VETERANS,
AND OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

SUPPORTING SCOUTING

Post 144 has always supported scouting. Scout Troops 200, 210 and 45 have also assisted the post thru many of their Eagle projects. They landscaped the front of the Legion Hall and painted the downstairs Legion

Room, both tasks helping to keep our Legion home looking good.

Recently Bob Mitchell attended an Eagle ceremony at Mineola High School for Troop 200 and presented eight young men Certificates of Merit from our post. We are proud of each and every one of these students for their hard work and accomplishments. Keep up the good work!!!



Scout Chairman Bob Mitchell (l) with Post 144 Commander James Randle (r) addresses guests



Boys Scout Troop 200 honorees Steven Mushorn, Alan Nanu, John William Villani, Luke Eberlein, Ian M. Kelly, Aidan Levin, Thomas Daly, Jason Mushorn

POST MEMBER RECEIVES AWARD

On Saturday, August 5, 2023, the Nassau County Veterans Service Agency held its 36th Annual "Salute to Veterans" at Harry Chapin Lakeside Theater, in Eisenhower Park. During the program Ralph Esposito, Director of the Agency, awarded the Service to Veterans Medal to Williston Post 144's Eric Spinner.

Eric is a well-deserved recipient of the medal. The medal was awarded to him for his volunteerism, including participating in the Veterans Stand Down event, helping with food donations to needy veterans, participating in local veterans events and advocating on behalf of veterans legislation. Eric has also created an information network for veterans to get news and updates about veterans initiatives to the community. Eric has become one of the premier volunteers in Nassau County, donating all of his free time to helping veterans. It has been said in recent years that Eric is a phone call away with helping anyone and everyone in the veterans community. He has displayed a genuine kindness and concern for our veterans and he was truly deserving of this honor. The Legionnaires of Williston Post 144 are proud of him. Congratulations Eric!!!



AROUND THE POST



Thanks to the Legionnaires who volunteered to carry the colors at the program honoring veterans at North Hempstead Town Beach, (t to r) Bob Langenbach, Cmdr. James Randle, Bob Valentine, Tom Rumore, Ray Cross and Jack Afonso.



Tom Rumore and Anthony Candelaria awaiting the start of the Veterans Service Agency program at Eisenhower Park



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