



# The Greenlawn Bugle

March 2018

The Newsletter of American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244

Volume 12 Issue 1

Founded March 15, 1943

75th Anniversary Edition

## EVENTS

### Tri-Village Little League Season Opening Parade April 15

Post 1244 will provide a color guard for this parade of Little Leaguers. Come join us as we applaud the youngest participants in "America's Pastime" We will also have our recruiting booth at the ballfield. Time TBA.

### Memorial Day Parade May 28, 9:00 am

The annual Greenlawn Memorial Day Parade will step off from Broadway and West Maple Rd at 9 am, followed by a solemn ceremony at Greenlawn Memorial Park.

### Annual Post Cookout May 28, 2:00 pm

Our Legion Family and guests will gather for our annual cookout at the Knights of Columbus on Boulevard Ave. Food and beverages free of charge. At 3:00 pm we will observe the National Moment of Remembrance.

### Veterans Appreciation Breakfast

June 1, 9:00 am

Sponsored by the AP Government classes of Harborfields High School Bring your memories and memorabilia. The students want to hear your story.

Harborfields H.S. 98 Taylor Ave, Greenlawn.

## Post 1244 Celebrates 75 Years of Service

On March 14th, at a gala celebration, our American Legion post marked its place on the path set before it in 1943 by our predecessors as war raged in Europe, North Africa and throughout the Pacific. On this special day, we took time to pause and reflect with gratitude on their service and foresight.

Twenty-six local veterans of World War I, understood from their own experience that our service men and women, engaged in a new world war, would need to find a welcoming group of veterans to help ease their transition back to civilian life after the rigors and horrors of war.



Post Commander Dennis Madden

And so, American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244 was born.

In his opening remarks at the Woodbury Country Club, Commander Dennis

Madden expressed regret that we do not know more about these men, nor do we know very much about the post as it existed for many years due to the loss of most of its records. As frequently happens, post officers pass away, and their recollections and written records are often simply discarded.

Following the opening ceremony, Vice Commander Rich Russano detailed the many unique achievements of our post in the past fifteen years since the post underwent a major and ongoing revitalization. We have maintained a steady growth in membership, strong ties to our many community organizations, especially our schools, and a commitment to our veterans, their families and the children of our community.

We recognize that all the parts of our American Legion Family have an important part to play in the success of our post: American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion and American Legion Riders.

We were honored by the kind words and proclamations of so many distinguished elected officials. Supervisor Chad Lupinacci, Town Clerk Jo-Ann Raia, Councilmen Mark Cuthbertson, and Edmund Smyth, Councilwoman Joan Cergol and Receiver of Taxes Jillian Guthman represented the Town of Huntington.

*(Continued on page 7)*

New York American Legion Press Association's Best Paper Award 2009-2012-2013-2014-2015-2016-2017  
National American Legion Press Association's Third Place Award 2017

## Boys and Girls State 2018



It is hard to believe that ten years has gone by already since Post 1244 began giving local high school students the opportunity of attending Boy's State. Our Girl's State started program started five years ago.

Our first year we sent two students - Brian Lindo and Patrick Ryan, both from Harborfields High School. In the intervening years, we have been able to grow this wonderful program and are now able to offer this opportunity to additional students each year. At the same time, the interest level from the students has been growing as they learn about it from their friends that have attended.

We interviewed more potential candidates this year than in any previous year. Because of the support we get from the local community, we will be sending a total of twenty (20) students from Harborfields, Walt Whitman, Huntington, Half Hollow Hills West and Chaminade High Schools to the 2018 Boy's & Girl's State program.

Maybe this year we will have the added bonus of additional students being selected from these programs to attend Boy's Nation and Girl's Nation in Washington, DC, as Brenda Mendez, of Walt Whitman, did last year.

It would be impossible to overstate the importance of the continued support we have been receiving from the community. This is what allows us to continue, and grow, the program on an annual basis. Each and every donation aids in giving us the ability to offer this exceptional opportunity to additional qualified students and make a positive difference in their lives. All of the money collected is used to cover the tuition, housing, meals, and travel expense of the students.

The cost per student has remained relatively stable over the last ten years due to the fact that the programs are primarily being run by volunteers – the councilors, the instructors, the Marines, the guest speakers – who give up their time and vacations to help our youth. Each time we send a student to help them learn how our form of government is supposed to function, we are investing in the future continuity of our state and nation!

*Charlie Armstrong*

## Harborfields High School

### Boys State



L-R: Chairman Charlie Armstrong, delegates Carlos Gody, Matthew Miller, Luke Weiner, Wade Leskody, Yatharth Sharma, Ryan Lin, Co-Chairman Ed O'Shea and Principal Tim Russo.

### Girls State



L-R: Co-Chairman Ed O'Shea, delegate Caitlin Eivers; alternate Katherine Paradise, Chairman Charlie Armstrong and Principal Tim Russo.

## Walt Whitman High School

### Boys State



L-R: Principal John Murphy, Co-Chairman Ed O'Shea, delegates Andrew Harrigan, John Dugan, Kevin McKenna, Raj Shah, John Poplawski, and Parker Keller; Jon Macaluso - Chairperson Guidance; and Elizabeth Kenney - Leadership teacher.

### Girls State



L-R: Jon Macaluso - Chairperson Guidance, Chairman Charlie Armstrong, delegate Gabrielle Safian, Principal John Murphy, alternate Elena Davis, Vice Cmdr. Carlo Giordano and Co-Chairman Ed O'Shea.

## Huntington High School



L-R: Chairman Charlie Armstrong, Joe Leavy, Chairman of Humanities, delegates Henry Cartwright, Thomas Peer, Matt Hearl, Nathan Gamboa and Co-Chairman Ed O'Shea.

## Missing In America Project

### **American Legion Riders: A Tribute from MIAP Chairman John Caldarelli**

What is a motorcycle? No easy question, there are unending answers and questions concerning this subject, for the motorcycle has a foggy pedigree.

For the sake of brevity we shall call motorcycles "bikes," from now on in this article. The present day bike is descended from the safety bicycle of the middle 1800's. It was a three wheel affair and all of the wheels were the same size. The rear wheel was the driver wheel. The irony of this bike to be descended from a so called "safety" bicycle is a bit bizarre as it had no braking system. The biker would step on a lever and the rear wheel would come off the ground to be replaced with two coasters, he would then wait until the bike came to a stop. The name of this bike was the "Butler Petrol Cycle."

Power for bikes comes in all manner of engines. There were coal and steam, and diesel engines, gas, helicopter and airplane engines. The latest are jet engines. Jets are the quietest of all the engines, but then, what's the fun? If one cannot peel off and not be accompanied by the thunder of the gods, then life has just lost its zest. Where is the panache? Why even waste the gas?

We now segue into our tale of the cavaliers of Post

1244, (a cavalier is a gentlemen who rides a horse). Bikes have replaced the steeds of the cavaliers, however. We are speaking of the riding gentlemen and women of our Post. Our Post 1244 American Legion Riders have taken a heavy piece of machinery and transformed it into a chariot that the Olympian gods would have been envious of.

Our riders have been imbued with a sense of grace and elegance, which they convey to their machines. These riders represent, not only the American Legion, but our Post as well. We know that their departed founder, Vice Commander, Dennis Giunta stands tall and straight and watches over them with pride when they roll by, proud that they have carried on with excellence and respect for their mission. The Riders current leader, President Bruce Blanco, has a tough needle to thread to maintain the riders excellence, but we all have confidence in his abilities to do so.

A special thanks to you all for those many days you stood the flag line in the driving rain. To many veterans, they are Santa Clauses in black leather, dispensing love and giving joy, making every day they roll, a Christmas day.

---

### **MIAP Mission Report**

Mr. Carlos Perez  
United States Army, WWII

Thursday, February 8, 2018  
Calverton National Cemetery

Mr. Perez, who had no family to accept his remains, received full military honors.  
We were his family on that day.

---

The mission of MIAP is to locate, identify and inter the unclaimed, cremated remains of American veterans. In addition to handling cremains, New York State Missing In America Project now accepts whole body remains from five New York City morgues under the auspices of the Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs. These remains are also interred in a national cemetery with full military honors.

Block Parties | Fund Raisers  
| Community Events | Sweet  
16's Reunions and More !

**Pro Audio LI**  
ENTERTAINMENT

**631-766-7889**

[ProAudioLIEntertainment.com](http://ProAudioLIEntertainment.com)

## SailAhead - Healing Wounded Veterans Through Sailing

SailAhead's Mates started out as the nametags of 219 veterans who have taken their lives on US soil. Now they are, in a way, themselves again - many of them young, spread all across the country. Each and every one of them has at least one family who loves them, but that has to continue life without them. Every ten days there are hundreds of families that go through immense suffering. The number 219 was not chosen by chance, it symbolizes that at least one veteran out of the 220 veterans who take their own lives every ten days can be saved.

SailAhead uses the therapeutic properties that the ocean has to offer and shares it with veterans and family members of lost veterans, suffering from PTSD, depression and a number of other mental illnesses. SailAhead's fight is to save lives. Since the birth of SailAhead 1,000 veterans have had access to the water thanks to their programs.



Our Mates and the 219 nautical flag that accompanies them. Seen here on Santiago Island in the Galapagos Islands.

Our Mates, as called by SailAhead, are name tags which represent 219 veterans who have taken their own lives. When SailAhead's Mates are on board sailing they become the metaphor for all that could have been. Their memory is carried on and shared. The nametags are always close by and visible to the public. The Mates are talked about whenever it's possible in order to ensure they will never be forgotten. "The worst thing that can happen to you is that you are forgotten." This was said by a mother of one of the Mates.

Their story is certainly being told! Currently, our

Mates are sailing on a sailboat named Madrigal, from Panama to the Galapagos Islands. They are sailing with members of the SailAhead family, making a trip that would make any sailor envious. They will spend thousands of miles exploring the Pacific. They have met the locals of each destination they've visited so far, and have listened as the crewmembers of Madrigal share their stories of people from exotic lands. The symbol of the mental and physical struggles of countless veterans is spreading awareness around the globe. The Mates serve not as a symbol, but of a reality. The lives and stories of Our Mates are being told across the Pacific! They are reliving a life of adventure, of acknowledgement and a life where they are not forgotten.

Like every year, this year SailAhead will be organizing its annual events throughout the summer months. SailAhead will honor their Mates and their family members at these events, while spreading veteran PTSD and suicide awareness among the civilian, military, and sailing communities. Every week veterans will be sailing aboard Stargazer, which is a Hunter 38' given to SailAhead by the US Merchant Marine Academy Sailing Foundation.

This year's major sailing events are called "Let's Take a Veteran Sailing Events" which are meant to serve for veteran awareness, to heal, meet new people and have a great time sailing! SailAhead's hope is that veterans interested in sailing will continue to learn how to sail with the skippers and people they meet.

### Coming Events:

**June 30th, 2018:** 2nd Annual SailAhead Event with Tacoma YC at the Tacoma YC in Washington State

**July 15th, 2018:** 1st Annual SailAhead Event with Babylon YC at Babylon YC on Long Island

**July 29th, 2018:** 4th Annual SailAhead Event with Centerport YC at Centerport YC on Long Island

**August 19th, 2018:** 3rd Annual SailAhead Event with South Bay Cruising Club out of Snapper Inn, Long Island.

SailAhead is also a proud volunteer at the "**Clagett Regatta**" which will be held on September 28. SailAhead will be the Safety Support team on the water acting as the first responders in case of an emergency.

If you are a volunteer interested in helping SailAhead, please do not hesitate to contact them. You can visit their website at [www.sailahead.org](http://www.sailahead.org) to learn more!

**American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244 is proud to have partnered with SailAhead since 2015, helping to spread awareness of veteran suicide, honor the victims of suicide and their surviving families and offer healing experiences to veterans suffering from PTSD.**

## The Story of The POW / MIA Flag

By Carol Jose

In 1971, Mrs. Michael Hoff of Jacksonville, Florida, wife of MIA Michael Hoff, a Navy Pilot, had the idea that the National League of Families of POW/MIA should have a banner, or flag, to represent its important cause. The League agreed, and told her to proceed to have a flag for the League designed. Mrs. Hoff went to Annin Flag Company, and met with Alan Rivkees, the Vice President. He agreed that Annin would design a flag for the POW/MIA and the League of Families, and assigned it to their advertising agency in New Jersey. Newt Heisley, a World War II Veteran pilot (who passed away on May 14, 2009) was Creative Director at that agency and the project of designing the POW/MIA Flag emblem became his project.

I had the pleasure of meeting Newt and spending two days with him in Colorado in October of 2008. He took me on a tour of the Air Force Academy. He told me then that he had submitted three rough sketch designs to Mrs. Hoff, and her committee chose the one you see on that flag today. Evelyn Grubb, wife of POW “Newk” Grubb, as National Coordinator of the National League of Families, then submitted that final design to the National Board for their approval. Heisley had discussed colors with Evie, and there was some discussion about whether it should be red and white, or other colors, but the final decision was to produce the flag in black and white, which represented the sorrow, anxiety and hope of their cause, and made it different from other flags.

The flag’s design features a silhouette of a Prisoner of War against an unbroken white circle of hope. The young man who modeled for the silhouette is Newt Heisley’s son Jeff, who had just returned from Marine boot camp. Jeff had been very ill, and looked emaciated, the way Newt had seen POWs look in the Bataan Death March of WWII. The guard tower and barbed wire symbolize his prison. The words “You Are Not Forgotten,” emblazoned across the lower part of the flag, are the motto of the National League of Families of POW/MIA. Heisley said that when he was flying in the South Pacific in World War II, he thought about how awful it would be to be shot down, captured and then put into a desolate POW prison camp and forgotten by his fellow Americans. Thus “You Are Not Forgotten” became the League’s symbol for remembering our prisoners and missing troops.

Evelyn Grubb and Carol Jose chose that for the title of the book about the founding of the League of Families



and the domestic/U.S. Government/Geneva Convention aspects of the POW/MIA issue, which continue to resonate today. Heisley decided that the flag and his design should belong to all Americans, and that it would remain in the public domain. So it was never copyrighted. The flag was to honor all U.S. military missing and/or imprisoned troops. Unfortunately, parts of Newt Heisley’s original flag design have been copied by other flag companies, not always in the proper design chosen by the League of Families of POW/MIA, and has also been used for many other sales articles, from medallions to patches to Zippo lighters, knives, hats, bumper stickers, and the like.

In October, 1971, Evelyn Grubb, as National Coordinator of the League of Families of POW/MIA, presented the first rendition of the League’s, and the Nation’s, official POW/MIA flag to then Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird, accompanied by Jan Ray, her office assistant, whose brother was MIA. It remains so today. The POW/MIA flag also has become the national symbol of the suffering and sacrifice of our troops far from home. It flew over the White House for the first time on National POW/MIA Recognition Day in 1988. In 1989, it became the only flag on permanent display in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol. Other than the Stars and

*(Continued on page 9)*

## Operation Enduring Care

I am asking for your help to provide basic meals and comfort items for our needy veterans and family members of veterans. I am striving to collect items donation to the Northport VA Community Living Centers or CLCs (Nursing Home & Community Living for the aged or infirmed), the Food Pantry at the Northport VA Medical Center in Northport, New York.

I am a veteran, also a volunteer firefighter in our community and a cancer patient who is currently struggling to survive multiple medically diagnosed different cancers and clinical depression relating to the cancers.

During my treatments and follow up care at the Northport Veterans Medical Center, I was informed that the Food Pantry, and Community Living Centers were suffering from a severe shortage of food, personal comfort and care items. These donated items are provided to veterans and their families that are in need of help, without cost. These items are for veterans that have no one else or anywhere else to go. Many of these veterans feel abandoned and alone. In an effort to aid in my recovery, I am focusing my positive energy on helping others as I have in the past. I wish to ask all that are able to contribute items from the attached list to help. I will be collecting daily with a goal of providing 10,000 meals by December 2018.

I have collected enough items to provide 8,500

meals and over 10,000 health and hygiene items to date. I am willing to arrange pick up of donated items. All items are given directly to the facilities at the Northport Veterans Affairs Medical Center. I may be reached by telephone at the following number: 631-835-3851. Please leave a voicemail and I will return all phone calls as soon as possible.

I do wish to thank you for your assistance. As you may be or know of a veteran, please donate in their honor or memory. A warm meal and new items for hygiene are a wonderful way to show we care.

Sincerely, Albert Statton III

Post 1244 Chaplain and Collection Organizer

### Needed Items

Alcohol free mouthwash	Hair Brushes, combs
Toothpaste	Hand & Body Lotion
Deodorant	Body Wash
Razors	Tooth Brushes
Shaving Cream	Under shirts (new)
Denture cleaning Tablets	Nail Care items
Denture Adhesive	Individual snacks/treats

Donations by check can be made payable to:  
American Legion Post 1244

Memo line: "Operation Enduring Care."

Mail to: OEC c/o American Legion Post 1244  
PO Box 238, Greenlawn, NY 11740

### 75th Anniversary (Continued from page 1)

Former town councilwoman Susan Berland and now Suffolk County Legislator for the 16th District was also on hand. Ms. Guthman brought greetings from our legislator for the 18th District, Dr. William Spencer. Jo-Ann Raia brought well wishes from her son Assemblyman Andrew Raia of the 12th A.D.

Of equal importance was the presence of so many of our fellow Legionnaires from across Suffolk County. We have made it a priority to collaborate with our sister posts. We learn from each other and willingly extend our support when needed. "Strength in numbers" is a key element of success for the American Legion.

Many thanks to Our Suffolk County American Legion Commander, Mike Pankowski, who traveled from far-away Riverhead to celebrate with us as well as Suffolk County Membership Chairman Bob Robesch who came all the way from Aquebogue. Thanks also to the ten Legionnaires from Eastport Post 1545, another ten from Smith-Wever Post 651 in Sayville, and others from

Hunter Squires Jackson Post 1218 in Amityville and Sgt. John Sardiello 1634 Post in West Babylon as well as Huntington Post 360 who all made their way to celebrate with us that evening.

The future looks bright for our Post. When we finally move into our new headquarters at the James Conte Community Center we will be in a position to provide opportunities for the Post 911 generation of veterans to reconnect with the community they left behind. They are the first "all volunteer" generation of warriors in our recent history. It will be important for us to listen to them and understand their needs and concerns. We will continue to seek out and empower veterans, both young and old, to join us and help serve our veterans, community and youth.

Our vision for the future is a post responding to the changes around it. We will continue to "innovate, adapt and overcome" (to borrow from our Marine Corps comrades) for the benefit of all our veterans and their families. **"Together we can make a difference."**

# The Sons of The American Legion

## Why I Am a Dual Member

I am Legionnaire and a Son of The American Legion.



I chose to be a member of the Sons of The American Legion to honor my father's memory. His name was Antonio Braccia. Born on October 3, 1918, the youngest of ten children, he had three brothers and a sister who were old enough to be his parents.

He got married on July 19, 1942 and was drafted on October 8, 1942. His daughter was born April 21, 1943. He received a seven-day pass to go home and see his daughter. He spent the better part of five days travelling. Before he went to Europe on October 5, 1943, he only saw his daughter four more times

I know that he was in England, France, Poland, Holland and Belgium. Once, he showed me pictures of a concentration camp and the prisoners who were there. This was to teach me that there were people in this world who had it a lot harder than we did. My father died on March 15, 2000.

Four of my first cousins fought in Europe. In June of 2003, I was taking my cousin Frank to a wedding in

Staten Island. Frank had been wounded in France in WW II and had a steel plate in his head. That's when I found out what my father had gone through. My father had landed on Omaha beach in the second wave and fought all across Europe. He was with a unit that liberated a concentration camp, with the Germans shooting at them as they approached. He fought in the battle of the Bulge and into Germany and was on his way to Japan when the atom bombs were dropped.

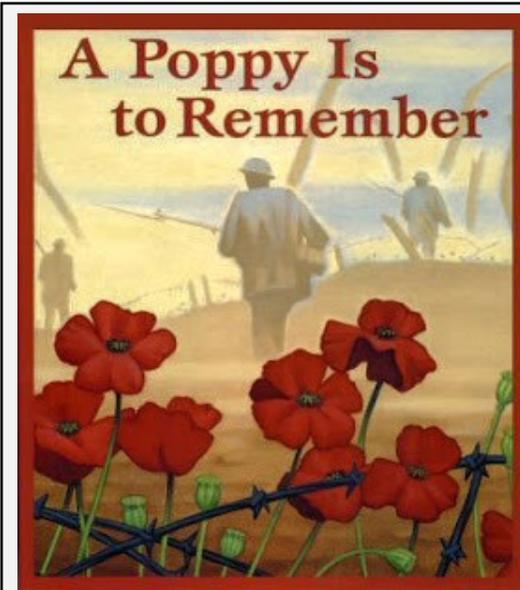
He never spoke about it to me. I know he spoke with my cousins, uncles and fellow VFW members but he never complained.

I am a son of the American Legion to honor my father's service. If you are a veteran and your father served you can become a dual member.

**Become a Son of the American Legion.**

*Tony Braccia*

Commander  
Sons of The American Legion  
Greenlawn Squadron 1244



Our 2018 Poppy Drive is now being organized. Most of our charitable giving and assistance to veterans and families is funded by the distribution of poppies to the public in the month of May.

The red crepe paper poppies are hand made by veterans as part of their therapeutic rehabilitation.

Our volunteers spend a few hours at supermarkets and other locations offering these flowers to the public in exchange for donations. They all will tell you that this is one of their most meaningful activities of the year.

We are looking for additional volunteers this year to expand our presence in the community. If you would be interested in lending a hand contact Cmdr. Dennis Madden at 516-523-9391 or [dam9245@optonline.net](mailto:dam9245@optonline.net)



## American Legion Scholarships

Parents and Grandparents. You may be surprised to learn that the American Legion Family (Legion, Auxiliary, Sons and American Legion Riders) offers a number of scholarships and other resources to assist young people in their pursuit of higher education. There are opportunities for everyone, including relatives of wartime veterans and participants in Legion programs. For a summary of each scholarship and links to details and applications please see this link:

**[www.suffolkcountylegion.org/scholarships](http://www.suffolkcountylegion.org/scholarships)**

## Veterans Testimonial Project

Half Hollow Hills Community Library is offering local veterans the opportunity to share their military experiences so that future generations will know their story.

The library is looking for U.S. veterans from any conflict. A number of Post 1244 veterans have already participated in the interviews.

All interviews will be conducted and recorded at the Library. Each will be added to the Library's local history collection. All participating veterans will receive a personal copy of the recording as a DVD.

Each year, a reception is given for family, friends and community members in recognition of participating veterans who will be presented with a DVD copy of their interview.

This year's reception will be on Saturday, May 12 from 2 pm - 4 pm. As is customary, Greenlawn Post 1244 will provide the color guard.



**Some familiar Post 1244 faces assisting at last year's reception. L-R Ken Carlson, Charlie Armstrong, Ed O'Shea, Bob Santo and Alex Samuels. Edna Susman of the Library is on the right. Edna conducts all the veterans interviews.**

## *POW / MIA Flag*

*(Continued from page 6)*

Stripes, it is the only flag to fly over the White House. National POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed annually on the third Friday in September.

The League POW/MIA flag flies at military installations, many government buildings, monuments. Also at Andersonville, the infamous former Civil War Prison Camp in Georgia, where more than 30,000 Union POWs were incarcerated and more than 12,000 perished from disease and starvation. They and others are buried there in the Anderson National Historic Site Cemetery, home of the National POW/MIA Museum. The book, "You Are Not Forgotten" is in the bookstore there.

In 2006, the POW/MIA flag flew from the nose area of the C-141 Starlifter #177, dubbed the "Hanoi Taxi," on its final flight, with many former POWs it had ferried

home in 1973 aboard. The famous craft then landed its final time, and was ceremoniously, and tearfully, retired. Rolling Thunder motorcycle escorts fly the POW/MIA flag when escorting the Moving Walls, as do the American Legion Riders. Rolling Thunder is named from the 1965 Bombing missions over North Vietnam in which Larry Guarino of Indian Harbour Beach, FL and many other POW/MIA were shot down and captured or went missing. Larry remained a POW for over 7 brutal years in Hanoi. Fortunately, he survived to return. The C-141 Starlifter #177, the Hanoi Taxi, flew him home to freedom in 1973.

He and his wife Evelyn, whose book "Saved By Love" depicts her time as a POW wife and mother of four sons, and the aftermath when Larry returned, reside in Indian Harbour Beach, FL.

© October 2008, Carol Jose



**ST. JOSEPH COUNCIL #4810 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
631-754-9488 Rentals / Membership

**Our newly refurbished hall is available for all your special occasions.  
Call now and reserve! 631-754-9488**



## Final Salute

Frank Ostroff  
February 1, 2018

United States Navy



Walter R. Fay  
February 21, 2018

United States Navy  
United States Coast Guard



Their sense of duty continues to preserve our past,  
safeguard our present, and sustain our future.

## Fallen Patriots Celebration



Our first annual “Fallen Patriots Celebration” will be held at 11:00 hrs. on **June 16, 2018** in the Greenlawn K of C Hall. It will honor and celebrate the lives of those members of our Post family who are no longer with us.

Since this will be our first event of its kind, we will be honoring our Post 1244 brothers and sisters that passed away since 2004. Subsequent ceremonies will honor those that left us during each previous calendar year.

The celebration will commence immediately after our Flag Retirement Ceremony scheduled to begin at 10:00 hrs. at the Greenlawn Fire Department. Holding both events on the same day won’t require taking additional time out of our busy schedules to attend these activities on separate days. We encourage everyone to attend both of these very special events. Lunch and refreshments will be served so come one, come all and come hungry!

## Vice Commander's Call to Members



Congratulations to all Post 1244 members who assisted us in recruiting a record number of new members in 2018. The nineteen first timers are more than any other post in Nassau or Suffolk Counties and we still have several months remaining in this fiscal year. Further, there is a substantial number of transfers into 1244 as well as a significant increase in Sons and a revitalization of the Auxiliary.

These new members will more than offset the dozen or so we lost to Post everlasting, non-renewals, and transfers out by way of relocation. Post 1244 will have a strong membership profile in 2019.

We all should continuously strive to recruit new

members. You never know when you will see a veteran in your daily excursions. Invite them to visit us and encourage them to join. We are no longer "the little Post that could" but a bigger, stronger Post that can !!

**Just ask!**

As a result of our 75th anniversary party, we are all invited to Tony Braccia's house to watch some TV.



Tony Braccia - proud winner of the 43" TV door prize

*Richard Russano*

### Welcome To Our Newest American Legion Members!

#### The American Legion:

**Hillary DiPasquale  
Melinda Gobin  
Kevin Harrington  
Amarilis Lantigua  
Michele Martin**

**Catherine Mattes  
Thomas E. McCready  
Joval Nance  
Victor Smith**

#### Sons of The American Legion:

**Nicholas Ciappetta**



### Operation Paperback

Under the direction of Legionnaire Donna Boyle, our Post has been partnering with **Operation Paperback**, sending hundreds of books to active duty military around the world since April, 2012.

Operation Paperback is a non-profit organization that collects gently used paperback books nationwide and sends them to American troops overseas, as well as veterans and military families here at home. Since 1999, they have shipped over 1.9 million books to locations around the globe.

We will accept paperbacks, as long as they are in good condition, at any of our meeting nights. If you are unable to bring them to one of our meetings, please let us know and we will make arrangements to pick them up or receive them from you at another time. **Many thanks to Donna and Joe for all their efforts!** Contact Donna at [39DPIP@Gmail.com](mailto:39DPIP@Gmail.com) for more information

**Paperback Books for the troops may now be dropped off at:  
Apple Bank  
167 Walt Whitman Rd. Huntington Station, NY 11746**

## The Commander's Corner



Oh, boy! Welcome to the spring of 2018 and the beginning of our busy, outdoor seasons. There is much to do and not all that much time to plan and execute all the events that we will sponsor this year.

We will begin with our annual major fundraiser, our raffle for the two seats on the C47 flight on Memorial Day weekend, followed immediately by Poppy season, developing our 10 teams to distribute our ample supply of poppies. Team Captains, please begin to make arrangements at your favorite venues. Volunteers, we will be asking for you to step forward as this is a team effort. Then, our Memorial Day parade in our wonderful and supportive hamlet of Greenlawn, followed by our annual Post 1244 BBQ. We will need volunteers for the planning, shopping, setup and breakdown of that great event as well. What a day it always has been!

The next event, one you have not heard of yet, is our Post 1244 Fallen Patriots Celebration luncheon that will be held on Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 1100 hours at our legion hall. The K of C has been kind enough to make it available to us for this first ever occasion, to

honor those members of Post 1244 that have gone on before us. We will surely need a headcount in advance to order the proper amount of food for this one. And then, the summer season, with all of its own commitments and requirements for our presence.

Buckle up troops. It's going to be a busy two seasons ahead.

And then, there was the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party that so many attended and thoroughly enjoyed. If you missed this event you missed a barn burner for sure. The Woodbury Country Club was a most gracious host venue, thanks to the efforts of our own Vinnie Crimardo. The food was out of this world good, our DJ, Andrew Schild, was his usual spectacular self and only the weather tried to dampen the evening but failed. This was put together in a mere three months by a group of willing and dedicated members that we assembled for this effort. Everyone, to the man, played his part well, but none quite as well as Hal Dieterle who was our MVP! He spent more time and gave a yeoman's effort to help make this event the best event ever, and it was! Thanks to everyone on the team who played their part so very well.

*Dennis Madden*



### Post Decals Are Now Available

Display your pride as a member of American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244

These long lasting vinyl decals can be displayed on your rear windshield. They are available for \$6 at our monthly meetings or just e mail us at [Post1244@verizon.net](mailto:Post1244@verizon.net) to order yours.



If you have E Mail service and are not receiving Our weekly **E Bulletin** from us, we invite you to let us add you to our list. We will let you know of Post 1244 news of interest, and activities and events you may wish to take part in. **No chain letters, political messages or jokes.** Only **"The News You Can Use."** **And you can unsubscribe at any time!** Just send an e mail to: [Post 1244@verizon.net](mailto:Post1244@verizon.net). We'll do the rest.

*The Greenlawn Bugle: Editor and Publisher Manager, Bob Santo*

*Contributing Writers: Charlie Armstrong, Bruce Blanco, Shannon King, Dennis Madden,*

*Richard Russano, Bob Santo, Charlie Tritto*

*Copy Editor, Photography, Envelope Labeling, Stuffing, Circulation and Morale Officer: Madelaine Santo*



# OUR SUPPORTERS



**Andrew P. Raia**  
Member of Assembly  
12th District  
Suffolk County



75 Woodbine Ave.  
Northport, NY 11768  
(631)-261-4151  
Fax (631)-261-2992

[raiaa@assembly.state.ny.us](mailto:raiaa@assembly.state.ny.us)



*Thank you to our  
Veterans  
and their families for  
serving our country.*

**Councilman Eugene Cook**  
Town of Huntington  
631-351-3174  
[ecook@huntingtonny.gov](mailto:ecook@huntingtonny.gov)

**GREENLAWN  
HARDWARE Co. | Since  
Inc. | 1964**

[WWW.GREENLAWNHARDWARE.COM](http://WWW.GREENLAWNHARDWARE.COM)  
PAINT - ELECTRICAL - PLUMBING - KEYS - GLASS  
BENJAMIN MOORE PAINTS - CABOT STAINS  
83 BROADWAY  
GREENLAWN, NY 11740  
(631) 261-0119  
FAX (631) 261-9344



**Councilman Edmund J.M. Smyth, USMCR,**  
*Veteran*  
*Semper Fi*  
[esmyth@huntingtonny.gov](mailto:esmyth@huntingtonny.gov)  
631-351-3175

**VRC**

**Long Island & Queens  
Vitreoretinal Consultants, PC**

Locations in:  
Great Neck, Hauppauge, Elmhurst, Riverhead  
and Rockville Center

For directions and contact information:  
[www.longislandretina.com](http://www.longislandretina.com)  
**Thank You, Veterans**

 Supporting the  
American  
Legion 

**M.A.  
Connell** SINCE 1923  
**FUNERAL HOME** INC

Where Caring is a Family Tradition  
Serving our community for 90 years  
Family owned and operated

Web: [www.maconnellfuneralhome.com](http://www.maconnellfuneralhome.com)

*Personalized services arranged  
We specialize in all Veteran's Services*

934 New York Avenue  
Huntington Station, New York 11746  
Phone: 631-427-1123, Fax: 631-385-2306

**GREENLAWN**



**Volunteer Fire Department**

**The Officers and Members of  
Greenlawn Volunteer Fire Department Support  
American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244**



# OUR SUPPORTERS



**William R. Spencer, MD**  
Suffolk County Legislator  
18<sup>th</sup> Legislative District  
15 Park Circle, Suite 209  
Centerport, NY 11721  
(631)854-4500  
Fax (631)854-4503



**Susan A. Berland, Esq.**  
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATOR  
16<sup>th</sup> Legislative District  
1842 E. Jericho Turnpike, Suite P  
Huntington, N.Y. 11743  
Phone: 631-854-5100  
Fax: 631-854-5103  
susan.berland@suffolkcountyny.gov



**Allstate**  
You're in good hands.

Tom Kidby Ronald Szabo  
(631) 754-2500

Proudly helping protect families  
from Mayhem for over 30 years!!

**Nicole's Treasures**  
Unique Chakra Jewelry & More  
[www.nicolestreasures.com](http://www.nicolestreasures.com)  
631-745-9336

*Proudly Serving Long Island for Over 10 years!*



Totally Free Checking for Life – Personal and Business

Matt Nartowicz  
Vice President - Regional Manager

**Commack**  
(In the Meat Farms Shopping Center)  
100 Commack Road  
631-864-9800

**East Northport**  
(In the Elwood Shopping Center)  
1968 Jericho Tpke  
631-864-9800

[www.ACBAways.com](http://www.ACBAways.com)

Member FDIC

Equal Opportunity Lender



Computers- Internet - E Mail –Photoshop- Genealogy  
Classroom Training –Remote Learning- Seminars

The world's largest training organization for adults 50 and over.  
Courses are designed specifically for seniors and are taught by  
caring volunteer instructors and coaches...in our Huntington or  
East Yaphank Locations.

Registration and Education - Call (631) 470-6757  
Development and Direct line to Slava Vero - Call (631) 470-6922  
[www.SeniorNetLL.org](http://www.SeniorNetLL.org)

**Harbor Carting Corp**  
**Empire Waste Removal Corp**  
(631) 499-3431

Residential & Commercial Roll-Off's  
4 - 40 Yard Containers

Weekly Commercial Garbage Service

Manure Removal &  
Bobcat Service

[www.Harborcarting.com](http://www.Harborcarting.com)

Ron Colatosti

Established 1969

Ed Colatosti



**OUR SUPPORTERS**

**Huntington Tri Village  
LITTLE LEAGUE / SENIOR LEAGUE**



**UNITED STATES COLUMBARIUM CO.**



**Fresh Pond Crematory  
61-40 Mount Olivet Crescent  
Middle Village, NY 11379  
718-821-9700**

[www.freshpondcrematory.com](http://www.freshpondcrematory.com)

**J.P. Di Troia President**

Serving the community since 1884

Cremation Chapel Services    Columbarium Niches  
Memorial Urns                      Pre-need Memorials

**Call our Expert Memorial Counselors For Details**

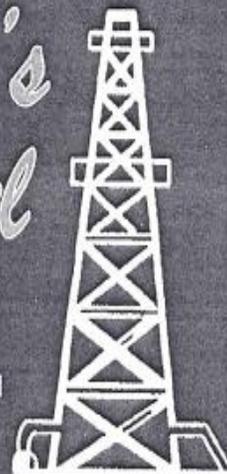


41 Commack Road Commack, NY 11725  
Phone: 631-499-8600  
Janine Maiorca, Vice President,  
Branch Manager

775 Pulaski Rd Greenlawn, NY 11740  
Phone: 631-757-6100  
Maria Selvaggio, Assistant Treasurer,  
Branch Manager

167 Walt Whitman Rd Huntington Station,  
NY 11746  
Phone: 631-547-5370  
Kathleen Benoit, Vice President  
Branch Manager

*Larry's  
Fuel*



**SINCE 1978**

Family Owned & Operated

- GAS SERVICE & INSTALLATIONS
- FULL SERVICE COVERAGE
- CONTRACTS & AUTOMATIC DELIVERY AVAILABLE
- ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

**DISCOUNTED  
PREMIUM GRADE NO. 2 FUEL**



**631-757-8543 • 631-754-3015**

Fax: 631-757-3214



# OUR SUPPORTERS

**Support  
The Greenlawn Bugle  
Be an Advertising  
Supporter**

**Contact Bob Santo for  
Information**

**516-458-7881 or  
Post 1244@verizon.net**

[www.greenlawncivic.org](http://www.greenlawncivic.org)



**The  
Greenlawn  
Civic Association**

P.O. Box 332 - Greenlawn - Long Island - New York - 11740

**We join you in support of Our Troops.  
We thank them for their dedicated service  
and sacrifice for our Country.**

**Mark Cuthbertson  
Councilman**



**Town of Huntington  
100 Main Street  
Huntington, NY 11743  
631-351-3172**

[mcuthbertson@huntingtonny.gov](mailto:mcuthbertson@huntingtonny.gov)

**DELEA**

**Sod Farms**

**Quality Sod For Any Application**

440 Elwood Rd. East Northport 11731  
**444 Elwood Rd., East Northport, NY 11731**



**EXECUTIVE  
LIMOUSINE**

**Douglas Schwartz  
President**



**Serving NYC**

2200 Bellmore Ave.  
Bellmore, NY 11710  
office 516-826-8172  
cell 516-233-7272

[doug@executivelimousine.org](mailto:doug@executivelimousine.org)  
[www.executivelimousine.org](http://www.executivelimousine.org)

**Thomas J. Morra, CFP®, MSFS,  
ChFC®, CLU®**  
Associate Financial Advisor

**Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.**  
1 Huntington Quadrangle  
Suite 1S03A  
Melville, NY 11747-4426

T: 631.396.2075  
F: 631.396.2079

[thomas.j.morra@ampf.com](mailto:thomas.j.morra@ampf.com)  
[ameripriseadvisors.com/thomas.j.morra](http://ameripriseadvisors.com/thomas.j.morra)

Associate with an Ameriprise  
Financial franchise



**Everett Auto Body**  
Ciro Depalo • LIC. #1A949641

PH (631) 423-0242  
FAX (631) 423-0239  
Email: [everett1707@aol.com](mailto:everett1707@aol.com)

1707 New York Ave.  
Huntington Station, NY 11746  
**NY DMV LIC. # 152-0573**




**(631)754-2400**  
[www.nthfh.com](http://www.nthfh.com)

**NOLAN & TAYLOR-HOWE  
FUNERAL HOME, INC.**

**FIVE LAUREL AVENUE,  
NORTHPORT, NY 1768-3166**

**DIX HILLS**

**DINER-RESTAURANT**

1800 E. Jericho Turnpike, Huntington, NY 11743  
631.499.5899 - Fax 631.623.6131  
[www.mydixhillsdiner.com](http://www.mydixhillsdiner.com)  
Eatery - Bakery - Bar