

The Aviator

American Legion James Ely Miller Post 833

51 Juniper Ave
Smithtown, NY 11787
Phone: 631-724-1804
Email: commander@alpost833ny.org
Website: alpost833ny.org



US95th Aero Squadron
the "Kicking Mules"



the first fighting aero squadron to the front



MEETING:

Post 833: 1st Monday of the Month
7pm Meeting

SONS: 3rd Wednesday of the Month
7pm Meeting

51 Juniper Ave Smithtown, NY 11787

Welcome

Welcome to The Aviator. Please read through as I hope you will find it informative.

As you know, the Grant for the parking lot was approved, as of 10/21/24, the parking lot has been replaced.

Veterans Day is right around the corner. This Veterans Day, Post 833 will be honoring James "Jimmy" Gouras for his 76+ years of service to the American Legion and Town of Smithtown. Jimmy graduated from Smithtown Branch High School and served in World War II. Please join us on Monday, November 11th 10:45am at Veterans Plaza in Smithtown. After the ceremony, we will return to the Hall to formally honor Jimmy with a dedication.

1st Vice Don Lettieri has been working hard organizing the Holiday Party. Please see the attached flyer on page 15 for more info as there are deadlines to RSVP.

Bill Coderre
Commander

Upcoming Events

NOV 04: Monthly Meeting

James Ely Miller Post 833
Smithtown, NY 11787
6pm: Dinner
7pm: Meeting

NOV 05: Election Day

GET OUT and VOTE!!!
Polls Open: 6am—9pm

NOV 10: VFW 12144 5K Run

Veterans Memorial Triangle
Islandia NY 11749

NOV 10: Veterans Day Service

LI National Cemetery Pinelawn
Farmingdale, NY 11735
Line Up: 1:30pm
Service Begins: 2pm

NOV 11: Veterans Day Ceremony

Veterans Plaza
Smithtown, NY 11787
Start: 10:45 am
(See Page 14 for Flyer)

NOV 20: SAL Monthly Meeting

James Ely Miller Post 833
Smithtown, NY 11787
7pm: Meeting

NOV 22: 2nd Division Meeting

Donald C Munro Post 944
Kings Park, NY 11754
6:30 pm: Dinner
7:00 pm: Meeting

DEC 11: Holiday Party

See Flyer on Page 15

Inside this issue

- Past Events2
- Membership.....10
- My Legion.....10
- Post Elections10
- Building Revitalization11
- Boys' State11
- Honor Flight12
- Walk-A-Thon12
- News You Can Use.....13

Post Officers

- Commander: Bill Coderre**
- 1st Vice: Don Lettieri**
- 2nd Vice: Richie Pandolf**
- 3rd Vice: George Garcia**
- Adjutant: Ron Fischer**
- Finance Officer: George Church**
- Chaplain: Anthony Cannella**
- Sgt. at Arms: Lou Forrisi**
- Judge Advocate: Ed Hemp**
- Service Officer: Courtney Nagle**
- Historian: George Church**
- Membership Chair: Al Krauth**
- Compliance: Wayne Crerend**
- Homeland Security: Kevin Eaton**

Past Events

"The secret of change is to focus all of you energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new."



Down the road from the home of Fred Wagner. (now the Byzantine Catholic Church Rectory) The gambrel barn, then belonging to Fred and Annie Wagner at their Sunny Brook Farm, is now the Captain James Ely Miller American Legion Post 833.

The land was once part of Fred's 180-acre Sunny Brook Farm. The land was purchased in 1928 from WWI American aviator Clarence Bernard Maloney who flew with the RAF until injured in France some seven months after Captain Miller was killed in action.

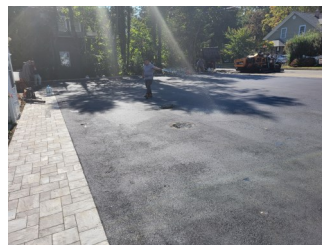
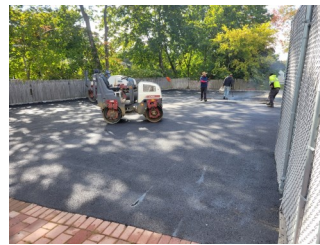
Paving of the Parking Lot

On Wednesday, October 9, 2024, North Shore Paving completed the final stage of the Parking Lot revitalization project by laying the asphalt. The project began on Monday, September 30, 2024 with the complete removal of the old lot. The following day the Belgium block border and new walkway were installed. On Wednesday, October 9, 2024, they returned and completed the project. The lot was officially accessible on Saturday, October 12, 2024.

Thank You North Shore Paving for doing a great job!!!



2



Past Events

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3

Honor Flight Long Island

On October 5th, Post 833 was at MacArthur Airport for Honor Flight. - Long Island.

After a full day of touring the Memorial sites in Washington and the surrounding the area, the Veterans and their Guardians returned to Long Island at 10pm.

They were met with a rousing reception by a few hundred people comprised of family, friend, various Veterans organizations, Scouts, Sea Cadets and Civil Air Patrol to name a few.

James Ely Miller Post 833 donated clothing and other goods to help the victims of Hurricane Helene.

Thank You to all who were able to attend .



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Interment of SFC Israel Ramos

On Friday, October 11, 2024, Kings Park native SFC Israel Ramos was interred at Calverton National Cemetery.

In August 1950, SFC Ramos was a member of D Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. He went missing in action after his unit engaged in combat actions with the enemy along the Naktong River in the vicinity of Yongsan, South Korea, on Aug. 31. Due to intense fighting in the area, his body could not be recovered at that time. The exact circumstances of his death were unknown, and the U.S. Army determined him to be nonrecoverable.

In December 1950, members from the 565th Quartermaster Graves Registration Company located and recovered six sets of unidentified remains from the east side of Hill 311, roughly one mile northwest of Chilhyeon-ri village. The remains were reexamined in 1955 and all but X-328 were identified.

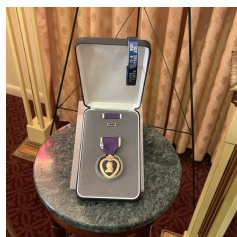
In June 2021, DPAA personnel disinterred Unknown X-328 and sent the remains to the DPAA laboratory for analysis. The DPAA used dental and anthropological analysis, as well as chest radiograph and mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) to identify SFC Ramos

He is survived by his sister as well as nieces and nephews

Welcome Home SFC Israel Ramos



4



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6

Veterans Picnic

On Saturday, October 12, 2024, the Smithtown Fire Department hosted a Veterans Picnic at their River Front property. This was a free event open to all Veterans in the greater Smithtown area.

It was a perfect day and so nice to see many Veterans coming together and having a good time.

THANK YOU Smithtown Fire Department for organizing the Picnic. It was a wonderful day and we at James Ely Miller Post 833 are truly grateful.



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7

Comedy Night Fundraiser

On Saturday, October 19, 2024, James Ely Miller Post 833 held its 3rd Comedy Night Fundraiser.

The night was filled with joy and laughter by all. The Chinese Auction and 50/50 were a blast and yes, once again, Anthony won the purse. :-)

I want to thank all who helped to organize and setup the nights activities. A special "shout-out" and "Thank You" to Denis Dapuzzo for securing the stage.

It is events like this help to support James Ely Miller Post 833 and allow us to continue to move forward and prosper. Thank You to all who supported/attended.



**AMERICAN LEGION
POST 833
COMEDY SHOW &
FUNDRAISER**

Saturday, Oct 19th
at American Legion Post 833
51 Juniper Ave
Smithtown, NY 11787
Doors Open at 6:00pm
Show Starts at 7:00pm
Tickets: \$40
Chinese Auction & 50/50
Light refreshments to be served

All proceeds will be used
to support
American Legion
James Ely Miller Post 833's
On Going Projects and
Annual Operations.

Tickets available at Post 833 Saturdays between 9-11am.
For more info call 631-724-1804



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8

Interment of SFC Raymond E. Hall

On Monday, October 21, 2024, SFC Raymond E. Hall was interred at Calverton National Cemetery. Members of Post 833 attended the ceremony to honor SFC Hall.

In July 1950, SFC Raymond E. Hall served with C Company, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. On July 31, 1950, he was reported missing in action after his unit engaged in intensive combat actions with the North Korean People's Army (NKPA) in the vicinity of Chungchon-ni, Republic of Korea, and he was captured by enemy forces. On October 20, 1950, SFC Hall was being transported north with other POWs when NKPA guards stopped the train in a tunnel near Sunchon and executed him along with 65 other U.S. POWs, in what would be called the "Sunchon Tunnel Massacre." The remains of the soldiers were found by U.S. forces the following day and were transported to the United Nations Military Cemetery (UNMC) Pyongyang for temporary interment. SFC Hall was initially identified by FBI fingerprint comparison while at UNMC, but Pyongyang had to be evacuated due to enemy activity and his remains were not recovered. During Operation GLORY, the exchange of war dead which took place following the end of the Korean war, the remains of over 2,900 American soldiers were returned by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Of those, the remains of 848 soldiers could not be identified at the time and were buried as Unknowns at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. In August 2017, one set of these Unknown remains was disinterred and sent to a DPAA laboratory for further study. The laboratory analysis and the totality of the circumstantial evidence available established the remains as those of SFC Hall.



E-T Soldiers Killed, Missing

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 — The Defense Department today announced the following East Tennessee Army casualties in the Korean area:

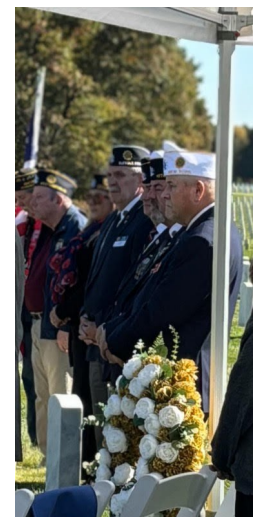
KILLED IN ACTION

Sgt. 1/c Raymond E. Hall, husband of Mrs. Elizabeth M. Hall, 216 Main Street, Jellico. (Previously prisoner of war.)

MISSING IN ACTION

Pfc. Richard C. Davidson, son of Mrs. Sally Davidson, Route 8, Kingsport.

Cpl. George C. Hagie, son of Mrs. Eula H. Hagie, Route 8, Kingsport.



Past Events

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9

Legislative Breakfast 2024

The Legislative Breakfast was held on Saturday, October 26, 2024. at Rusy-Bohm Post 411 in Islip, NY. It was a packed event with members from American Legion Posts from all over Suffolk County.

Politicians representing every level of government were there to discuss/explain how the policies they promote and enact are supporting Veterans.



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

Legislative Breakfast

2024

October 26, 2024

Rusy Bohm Post 411
39 Nassau Avenue, Islip, NY 11751

Time: 9 a.m.

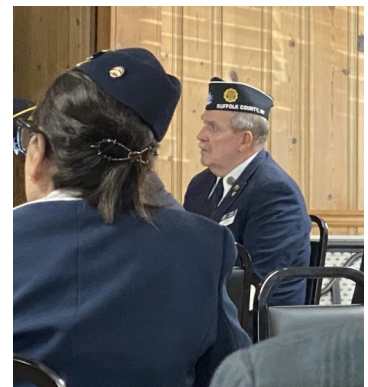
Cost: \$18 Per Person
\$162 Table of Ten (Prepaid)

Checks payable to: SCAL

Mail to:
Kenneth G. Dolan
Legislative Chairman
20 Stuyvesant Lane
Smithtown, NY 11787-2416

Don't miss this chance to meet with our representatives and learn what they are doing for YOU and the Veteran's Community.

Note: Please write *Legislative Breakfast* in Memo section of check & include the names of attendees to Legislative Chairman Ken Dolan





Membership

The renewal process for 2025 began July 1, 2024. The Legion Membership year is July 1st to June 31st. Renewal notices are sent out in the beginning of July.

If dues are paid to the local post, it takes a little longer for national to be notified about the renewal and the member may receive another renewal notice. If this occurs, please contact Post 833 to ensure that we have received your dues.

To avoid this, we **STRONGLY** suggest that you renew your membership online. By doing so, your membership will be renewed immediately avoiding any delays in notification to national.

Go to: <https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Membership/Renew>

You will need your Legion ID # and Last Name

Scroll Down (slightly) and you'll see where to enter your info.

VOAGC Members:

If you have not paid your 2025 dues by January 1, 2025, Your FOB will be deactivated.

Important Note: 2025 Dues Increase

Due to National and County raising dues, Post 833 dues will increase to \$55 for 2025 (This was voted on at the January meeting)

"Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices." Harry S. Truman, April 16, 1945



MYLEGION

All members are encouraged to register online at www.mylegion.org Once an account has been established, you will be able to:

- Update your personal information
- Sign up to receive the Digital Dispatch, a monthly e-newsletter sent directly to subscribers' e-mail inboxes that features stories from the print publication. The e-newsletter features headlines with clickable links to the full stories on the [Digital Dispatch website](#).
- Opt-in to receive E-newsletters on important Legion topics.



2025 - 2026 Elections

March Post 833 meeting: Nomination of candidates for elected positions are presented to the membership.

Nominations will be posted in the office and below.

April Meeting: Nominations for Election of new Officers are finalized.

May Meeting: Slate will be voted on by membership (See finalized nomination slate)

June Meeting: New Officers begin their office



Building Revitalization

The Roof has been replaced. All work was completed on 11/3/2023. The DASNY reimbursement check was received on 1/2/2024.

The Hall Floor has been replaced as well. There was extensive structural damage due to water and insects over the past 100 plus years. Due to Palermo Flooring, the floor is structurally sound and will last at least another 100 years. All work was completed 3/28/2024.

The parking lot was completed on October 9, 2024. North Shore Paving did a fantastic job. We look forward to many years of, worry free, service.

The Building Revitalization program was initiated so that James Ely Miller Post 833 will continue to be able to honor it's Mission:



Boys' State June 27—July 3, 2025

American Legion Boys' State is a week-long program that immerses high school youth (currently completing their junior year) in citizenship and leadership training.

Post 833 is looking to Interview and Sponsor up to 3 delegates for Boys' State 2025. If you know any young men, presently in 11th grade (Juniors), let them know about Boys' State.

For more information, please visit the Department of New York Boys State Webpage. [Click Here for the New York Boys State Webpage](#)



American Legion Auxiliary proudly hosts ALA Girls State, an amazing week of learning focused on responsible citizenship and love for God and country.

Girls State provides high school Juniors across the State the opportunity to create and govern a 51st mythical state. Girls are chosen by the Units after interviewing the candidates.

If you know any young women, presently in 11th grade (Juniors), let them know about Girls' State.

For more information, please visit the Department of New York Girls State Webpage. [Click Here for the New York Girls State Webpage](#)



AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE AND NATION AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE

Since 1935, American Legion Boys State has been one of the country's most revered and selective government instruction programs, teaching high school students about the operation of local, county and state governments. Fifty American Legion departments conduct this program, serving more than 17,000 young men each year. The American Legion Auxiliary sponsors a similar program for young women called Girls State.

At American Legion Boys State, young men learn about the rights, privileges, duties and responsibilities of a franchised citizen. Elected and appointed local officials offer participants objective, practical training in city, county and state governance, and activities are conducted such as legislative sessions, court proceedings, law enforcement presentations, assemblies, band, chorus and recreational programs.

American Legion posts select participants to attend their respective Boys State program after receiving recommendations from school officials. Usually posts, local businesses or community organizations pay the cost of attendance.

American Legion Boys State participants go on to achieve success in a variety of fields. Notable alumni include astronaut Neil Armstrong, basketball legend Michael Jordan and national television news journalist Tom Brokaw.



Honor Flight - Long Island

On May 29, 2004, President Bush dedicated the World War II Memorial to honor "The Greatest Generation," 59 years after the end of WWII. One year later, the Honor Flight Program was inaugurated.

Earl Morse and Jeff Miller, co-founders of Honor Flight, realized that many World War II veterans would never have the opportunity to visit the memorial that was erected in their honor.

It is the intention of Honor Flight Long Island to honor as many of our fellow Long Islanders, who helped to preserve our freedom, as we can by providing them a free trip to visit their memorial. Along with WWII, we are now taking Korean War, Vietnam War and other conflict veterans to Washington D.C.

Please see the website for Veteran and Guardian Applications under [Apply to Fly](#)

Website: <https://www.honorflightlongisland.org/>

Next Flight: Saturday, May 3, 2024

Join us in welcoming all of the Veterans and Guardians from this Honor Flight Home.

October 5th Flight Info: <https://www.honorflightlongisland.org/events-1/spring-flight-saturday-may-3-2025>



WALK-A-THON NYS



Sponsored by
Sons of the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary

“THEY MARCHED FOR US.....
LETS WALK FOR THEM”

A program operated in partnership for 17 years by the Sons of The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary

Date: **Ended June 14, 2024**

GOAL: **\$65,000**

PROCEEDS: Awarded equally to support the following:

SAL: NYS VA Medical Center Homeless Programs & NYS Veterans Homes

ALA: Hope For The Warriors:

Hope For The Warriors has advocated restoring a foundation of Stability, Strength, and Community for military families since 2006.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

**SAL Squadron 833 raised
\$4600**

**Thank You to ALL
Who Participated**

American Legion

James Ely Miller Post 833



Suffolk County American Legion

NEWS YOU CAN USE

[Click](#) below for the latest news and [UPCOMING EVENTS](#) from the Suffolk County American Legion



THE AMERICAN LEGION
VETERANS • DEFENSE • AMERICANISM • YOUTH

Suffolk County American Legion

"News You Can Use"



American Legion

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Smithtown, NY 11787

Phone: 631-724-1804
E-mail: commander@alpost833ny.org
Website: alpost833ny.org





AMERICAN LEGION POST 833
SMITHTOWN PRESENTS:



VETERANS

DAY

**CEREMONY &
HALL
DEDICATION**

10:45 CEREMONY AT
SMITHTOWN VETERANS PLAZA,
HALL DEDICATION TO FOLLOW
AT 51 JUNIPER AVENUE,
SMITHTOWN

JAMES ELY MILLER POST 833

Christmas Party

FOOD . DRINKS . FUN

RAGAZZI

2950 MIDDLE COUNTRY RD
NESCONSET, NY 11767

WEDNESDAY
START: 7:00 PM

11

DECEMBER
END: 10:00 PM

RSVP BY : NOVEMBER 22ND

COST:

LEGION FAMILY MEMBER: \$30

GUEST: \$60

(POST 833/SAL 833 MEMBER AND GUEST: \$75)

CHECK PAYABLE TO: JAMES ELY MILLER POST 833
MAIL TO: 51 JUNIPER AVE SMITHTOWN, NY 11787
ATTENTION: HOLIDAY PARTY



Vietnam Vet Radio

“The Music You Remember & The Respect You Earned”

VietnamVetRadio.org

Bennie and Delight Blount, US Army Retired

RESOURCE FAIR IN SUPPORT OF VETERANS, SERVICE MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY :
THE AMERICAN LEGION RUSY BOHM POST 411



SATURDAY, 09 NOVEMBER 2024

11 AM - 4 PM

39 NASSAU AVENUE
ISLIP, NEW YORK 11751



FEATURED VETERAN RESOURCES:

- * Northwell Military Liaison Services
 - * Northport VA Medical Center
 - *Suicide Prevention
- * Suffolk County Veterans Agency
- *Office of Emergency Preparedness
 - *Warrior Ranch Foundation
 - *Services for the UnderServed
 - *Paws of War
- * Employment Services
- *Army Reserve Family Programs
 - *VetCenter
 - *LI Cares

SCAN TO
REGISTER



***VETERANS DAY MASS
AND BREAKFAST***

A Veterans Day Mass will be held on
November 10th at 10:30 am
at the St. Patrick's R.C. Church
280 East Main Street in Smithtown.

Following the Mass, we will meet at The Hauppauge Palace Diner
for breakfast, 525 Smithtown By-pass, Hauppauge.

The cost for the breakfast will be \$25.00 pp.

Price includes tax and gratuity.

Please contact Rose D'Aversa if you are planning to attend the
breakfast at (631) 707-6701.

Veterans Thanksgiving Distribution



PSEG LONG ISLAND

BECAUSE IT TAKES MORE THAN FOOD TO FEED THE HUNGRY



PSEG Long Island and Suffolk County Veteran Service Agency are partnering with Long Island Cares to support Suffolk County Veterans this Thanksgiving.

ALL SUFFOLK COUNTY VETERANS WELCOME! **THANKSGIVING DRIVE THROUGH DISTRIBUTION**

**THURSDAY, NOV. 21ST
10AM - 2PM**

**H. Lee Dennison Bldg.
100 Veterans Memorial Hwy.
Hauppauge, NY 11788**

VETERANS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A THANKSGIVING BASKET!



Pre-registration is required.
To register, scan the QR
code or visit
bit.ly/Thanksgiving-Distribution

**All Suffolk County Veterans are welcome! Must show Veteran proof of ID.*

For more information please contact Isabel Fritz at 631.582.3663 ext. 142

You Must Pre-Register for this event.

<https://www.licares.org/calendar/veterans-thanksgiving-distribution/>

New York State Commemorative Medals for Korean War and Vietnam War Veterans

You can apply online at <https://dmna.ny.gov/awards> or fill out the paper application, which is attached below.

Eligibility requirements:

Korean War Veterans: Service members who served in one of the following locations between June 27, 1950 and January 31, 1955:

- Korean Peninsula
- its contiguous waters
- Korean airspace

Vietnam Veterans: Service members who served in one of the following locations between November 1, 1955 and May 17, 1975:

- Vietnam
- Thailand
- Laos
- Cambodia
- its contiguous waters
- Vietnam airspace

If you have any questions regarding this application process, please contact the NYS Military Awards Office at 518-786-0468.



<https://dmna.ny.gov/awards/>

**NEW YORK STATE
KOREAN WAR
COMMEMORATIVE
MEDAL**

<https://dmna.ny.gov/awards/korea.html>

**NEW YORK STATE
VIETNAM WAR
COMMEMORATIVE
MEDAL**

<https://dmna.ny.gov/awards/vietnam.html>



**NEW YORK STATE
SILVER ROSE VETERANS
SERVICE CERTIFICATE**

<https://dmna.ny.gov/awards/>





CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

JONATHAN DOE

In recognition of your service during the period of the Cold War,
2 September 1945 – 26 December 1991, in protecting peace and
stability for this nation, the people of the state of New York are forever grateful.

10 April 2024

Headquarters, New York Army
National Guard
Latham, NY 12110

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ray Shields".

RAYMOND F. SHIELDS, JR.
MAJOR GENERAL, NY ARNG
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

New York State Cold War Certificate

To whom awarded:

The Cold War Certificate may be awarded to any current New York State citizen or a person who was a New York State citizen while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States during the Cold War period, 2 September 1945 to 26 December 1991, whose entire service was honorable.

Standards:

This certificate may be awarded only to those persons whose discharge certificate indicates service under the conditions of "honorable" (Honorable Discharge) or "under honorable conditions" (General Discharge under Honorable Conditions).

This certificate may be awarded posthumously to a designated survivor of the deceased. Not more than one certificate shall be awarded to any one person. This is a one-time issue.

How awarded:

Applications for the New York State Cold War Certificate will be made using [DMNA Form 105](#).

Posthumous applications will be submitted using the same mechanisms, using [DMNA Form 105-1](#).

You will need to use Adobe Reader (or Adobe Acrobat) to view the applications above.

Adobe Reader can be downloaded for free from <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>

**Applications may be submitted By Mail to: Division of Military and Naval Affairs,
ATTN: MNGA-AWD,
330 Old Niskayuna Road
Latham, NY 12110**

or electronically by Email to: ng.ny.nyarnng.list.cold-war@army.mil

For security reasons, email attachments must be in 'PDF', 'JPG' or 'GIF' format.
Attachments in any other format are blocked by the email system.

All requests will be sent to the New York Division of Military and Naval Affairs with supporting documents attached/enclosed to validate service during the Cold War period.

Documentation will include a copy of the recipient's Report of Separation (i.e., WD AGO Form 53-55, DD Form 214, or NGB Form 22, etc.). Documentation must include a discharge certificate indicating the character of service as "honorable" (Honorable Discharge) or "under honorable conditions" (General Discharge under Honorable Conditions). Ensure documentation submitted clearly indicates New York State residency while on duty in the Armed Forces during the applicable dates.

Do not send original proof of military service documents. Please ensure only the last 4 digits of the Social Security number are visible. It is also recommended the Date of Birth be crossed off.

If you do not have, in your possession, the required documentation necessary for eligibility or require confirmation of your federal service, you may request a copy of your service record by writing to:

**National Personnel Records Center,
Veterans Special Actions Division,
9700 Page Boulevard,
St. Louis, MO 63132.**

Application for New York State Cold War Recognition Certificate

Privacy Notice

Authority: Military Law, section 247.

Principal Purpose: To secure sufficient information from an applicant or a requester to determine eligibility and to process requests for the Cold War Recognition Certificate.

Routine Uses: Information is used for official purposes within the Division of Military and Naval Affairs; specifically, to process requests for Cold War Certificates. This information may be used in accordance with established uses for the Division of Military and Naval Affairs.

Disclosure: Disclosure of the last four (4) digits of the Social Security Number and other personal information is voluntary. However, failure to provide complete information may hinder proper identification of the requester, and may prevent the agency from determining eligibility of the requester for the Cold War Certificate.

Instructions: Fill out this application and mail with **supporting documentation** to the Division of Military and Naval Affairs, ATTN: MNGA-AWD, with your proof of military service. Acceptable supporting documents include any official government or military document that contains the recipient's name, address indicating New York State residency, last four numerals of the recipient's Social Security Number, and dates of service showing at least one day of service during the Cold War era (September 2, 1945 to December 26, 1991). Examples of acceptable supporting documentation include DD Form 214, WD AGO 53-55, and NGB Form 22. **DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.**

You must certify your honorable service by signing and dating the application and returning it with a copy of supporting document(s) to:

First Class Mail:

Division of Military and Naval Affairs
ATTN: MNGA-AWD
330 Old Niskayuna Road
Latham, New York 12110-3514

Electronic Mail (Email):

ng.ny.nyarnng.list.cold-war@army.mil

Applicant's Name (First, MI, Last): _____

Last Four (4) Numerals of Recipient's Social Security Number: XXX-XX-_____

Mailing Address: _____

City:_____ **State:**_____ **Zip Code:**_____

Daytime Phone Number:_____

Contact Email Address (if applicable):_____

Contact Email Address (if applicable): _____

Please mail my Cold War certificate.

Please Email my Cold War certificate.

By submission of this form and supporting documentation, I confirm my faithful and honorable service to the state of New York and the nation during the Cold War Era. Please enter initials in box and enter date below if submitting electronically:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

You may print and sign and scan this application and email it to ng.ny.nyarnng.list.cold-war@army.mil with the supporting documents.

Lifetime Liberty Pass



Starting April 1, 2024, New York veterans and Gold Star families will be granted free access to state parks, campgrounds, historic sites and recreational day areas throughout the state, thanks to an expansion of the Lifetime Liberty Pass Program, the governor's office announced.



This program will now give the following benefits:

- Free vehicle parking at New York State Parks and DEC-operated campgrounds, day use areas, boat launch sites, historic sites, arboretums, and park preserves
- No greens fees at State Park-operated golf courses
- No swimming pool entrance fees at State Park-operated pools
- Discounted campsite and cabin rentals at State Park and DEC-operated campgrounds

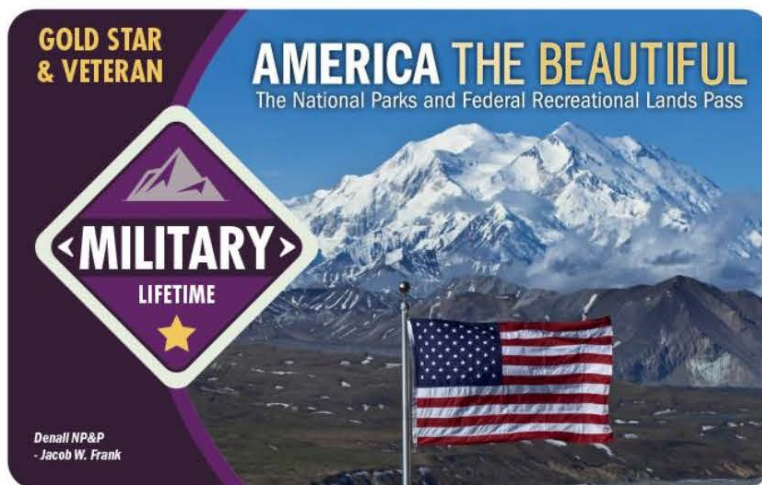
Gold Star Family Members will receive the program's benefits when they present a Lifetime Liberty Pass card to employees at staffed parks. Lifetime Liberty Pass applications will be available on the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation's website starting on April 1. **Veterans who have a veteran status designation on their New York State DMV ID can present their ID to employees and don't need to apply for a card.**

More information about the Lifetime Liberty Pass Program can be found at <https://parks.ny.gov/admission/lifetime-liberty-pass.aspx>

LIFETIME VETERANS PASS

The lifetime pass covers entrance fees for a driver and all passengers in a personal vehicle (or passholder and up to three adults at sites that charge per person) at national parks and national wildlife refuges, as well as standard amenity fees at national forests and grasslands, and at lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Veterans can present one of the four forms of acceptable ID (Department of Defense ID Card, Veteran Health ID (VHIC), Veteran ID Card, or veteran's designation on a state-issued US driver's license or ID card) at [participating federal recreation areas](#) that normally charge an entrance fee. Gold Star Families obtain information, self-certify they qualify and download a voucher on NPS.gov.



The new lifetime pass for Gold Star Families and Military Veterans provides free entrance to national parks and other federal recreation areas.

To obtain a Lifetime Pass:

1. In Person: Visit a Federal Recreation Area

Fire Island National Seashore SHIRLEY, NY
Phone: (631) 281-3010
Passes Available: Access Pass, Military Pass

Long Island NWR Complex SHIRLEY, NY
Phone: (631) 286-0485

Wertheim NWR SHIRLEY, NY
Phone: (631) 286-0485

Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt NHS HYDE PARK, NY
Phone: (845) 229-9115

Sagamore Hill National Historic Site OYSTER BAY, NY
Phone: (516) 922-4788

2. Online <https://store.usgs.gov/MilitaryPass>

Click: Determine Military Pass Eligibility

Click: I am a Veteran (In new window)

Click: Add to cart

(There will be a \$10 service fee)

JOSEPH DWYER VETERANS PEER SUPPORT PROJECT

IN PERSON GROUPS:

Liberty Village - 600 Albany Avenue, N. Amityville
Every Monday: 6-7 pm

Liberty Landing - 58 Portion Road, Lake Ronkonkoma
Every Wednesday: 4-5 pm

United Methodist Church - 158 W Montauk Hwy,
Hampton Bays Every 1st & 3rd Thursday: 4 - 5 pm

Sag Harbor - 3330 Noyac Road Building D Sag Harbor
Every 2nd & 4th Thursday 5 - 6pm

Senior Veteran Group: Rose Caracappa Senior Center
- 739 Route 25A, Mt Sinai *Open to Veterans 60 & up
Every 2nd & 4th Thursday: 10-11 am

American Legion Monthly Community Breakfast - Post
269 215 South Ocean Ave. Patchogue
Every 3rd Saturday: 10 - 11am *Open to all

WOMEN VETERANS ZOOM GROUPS:

Women's Main Group -
MEETING ID: 932 2123 8672
Every 1st and 3rd Saturday: 11:30am-1:30pm

New Moms Group - MEETING ID: 857 3879 4618
Every 2nd and 4th Saturday: 11:30am-12:30pm

MST Group - MEETING ID: 886 6132 0754
Every Tuesday: 6-7 pm

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK:

**JOSEPH P. DWYER VETERANS PEER SUPPORT
PROJECT**



**DWYER GROUPS
ARE OPEN TO ALL
VETERANS AND
SERVICE
MEMBERS.**

**GROUPS ARE
ANONYMOUS,
CONFIDENTIAL,
AND FREE.**

**REGISTRATION
AND PROOF OF
SERVICE ARE NOT
REQUIRED**

For more
information:
(631) 853-8345

In The News

Articles sent in by members



JOHN ROCA

Pulaski Street Intermediate School JROTC members attend ceremony to honor the legacy of Pfc. Garfield M. Langhorn, who grew up in Riverhead with his three sisters. The Vietnam War hero's Medal of Honor for valor in action is on display at town hall until Veterans Day.

Honoring hero's sacrifice

Riverhead displays Vietnam soldier's Medal of Honor

BY MAUREN MULLARKEY
maureen.mullarkey@newsday.com

Ever since Joseph Garfield Reid can remember, his late uncle's Medal of Honor was the first thing he saw when he walked into his grandparents' Riverhead home.

The medal, accompanied by a light blue ribbon, was given in honor of Garfield M. Langhorn, a private first class who sacrificed his life to save his fellow soldiers by throwing himself on a live grenade during the Vietnam War, stood "front and center" on their mantel for "everybody to see."

"I've never seen it not there," said Reid.

But for the first time since President Richard Nixon granted the medal to Langhorn's family in 1969, the medal will be the first thing the public sees at Riverhead town hall. The medal, along with Langhorn's uniform, personal photographs and items, went on display on Friday, or officially Pfc. Garfield M. Langhorn Day in the Town of Riverhead. It



Pfc. Garfield M. Langhorn jumped on a live grenade in 1969 to help save his platoon.

will be showcased to the public until Veterans Day on Nov. 11.

It was one of two ceremonies Friday honoring Langhorn. Pulaski Street Intermediate School hosted its 20th annual memorial ceremony dedicated to him with an assembly.

Born Sept. 10, 1948, in Cumberland, Virginia, Langhorn was raised in Riverhead along with his three sisters. He attended Riverhead High School and was a track star, running the 400-meter and 800-meter races.

His sisters, Yvonne Reid, 78, Anna Mack, 74, and April Armstead, 72, who now live in Virginia, described their brother as a kind soul. Armstead said he taught her how to skip rocks, and

that he would make kites for his family. Mack recalled her older brother would help her with geometry. Math was Langhorn's favorite subject, she said.

"He sat in the cafeteria each day to eat his lunch. He ran the track. He sat at this auditorium for assemblies. He stood at attention to pledge to the flag, never knowing his allegiance and his loyalty to his country would be tested only a few short years," said Mack.

After graduating in 1967, he worked as a computer processor and became engaged to his girlfriend, Joan Brown. But in October 1968, Langhorn was drafted and deployed to the jungles of Vietnam, working as a radio operator, said Tim Hewlitt, a music educator with the Riverhead school district, who spoke at the town hall ceremony.

On Jan. 15, 1969, only three months after arriving in Vietnam, Langhorn's platoon was sent on a rescue mission to retrieve two soldiers shot down in a helicopter. After navigating the jungle using only geographic coordinates, the troops discovered that the helicopter crewmen had died.

As they attempted to retrieve the bodies to be returned home, the platoon came under enemy fire. While soldiers fired back

in defense, many of them were wounded, and a grenade landed a few feet away from Langhorn.

Langhorn then threw himself over the grenade "without thought for his own safety," shielding his troop from harm, Hewlitt said. His final words, according to his fellow soldier were: "Someone's got to care."

Hewlitt said: "He sacrificed his own life to protect the lives of those soldiers."

Nixon awarded the Medal of Honor on April 7, 1970, to Langhorn's family. It is the highest military decoration given to those who have distinguished themselves by acts of valor.

Since then, the Town of Riverhead, as well as Langhorn's loved ones, have paid tribute to him. In 1993, a bronze bust of Langhorn was erected in front of Riverhead's town hall. The town post office was renamed in his honor in 2010.

In 2021, the town officially declared the second Friday in October Langhorn's namesake day, in order to honor his sacrifice and continue to educate others.

Councilman Ken Rothwell said at the display ceremony: "Everyone that lives in Riverhead, travels through Riverhead, should know exactly what Garfield Langhorn did."

In The News

Articles sent in by members

VA Expands Burial Benefits



The VA last year announced new burial allowance rates for veterans who have died in nonservice-related incidents since October.

VA announced several updates to burial benefits aimed at providing support to veterans and their families. These updates, according to VA, reflect the department's commitment to honoring U.S. veterans around the world.

TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES

In the past, VA covered costs for transporting remains to eligible national cemeteries. Now, this benefit has been extended to include transportation expenses to state and tribal veteran cemeteries.

"[For service-related deaths], VA will pay up to \$2,000 toward burial expenses for deaths on or after Sept. 11, 2001, or up to \$1,500 for deaths prior to Sept. 11, 2001," according to VA. "If the veteran is buried in a VA national cemetery, some or all of the cost of transporting the deceased may be reimbursed."

For nonservice-related deaths, VA will pay a \$948 burial allowance and \$948 for a plot if the veteran died on or after Oct. 1, 2023. If the veteran died between Jan. 5, 2023, and Oct. 1, 2023, VA would pay an \$893 burial allowance and \$893 for a plot. Learn more about allowance rates at <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/veterans-burial-allowance>.

PLAN 'END-OF-LIFE BENEFITS' NOW

VA Under Secretary for Benefits Joshua Jacobs noted in a VA press release that in fiscal year 2022, VA delivered more than 84,000 burial benefits to families.

"Expanding burial benefits means we are able to ensure veterans are honored in their final resting place and assist their family, caregivers and survivors during the difficult time of their loved one's passing," Jacobs said.


VA's national cemeteries provide benefits for traditional casket or cremation burials. For eligible veterans and family members, VA national cemetery

burial benefits include:

- Opening and closing of the gravesite
- Inscribed headstones or markers
- Burial flag
- Award of the Presidential Memorial Certificate
- Perpetual care of the gravesite

For those being placed in private cemeteries, benefits only include:

- Headstones, markers or medallions for the gravesite
- Burial flag
- Presidential Memorial Certificate

VA also may provide burial allowances to assist with a family member's burial and funeral costs for those eligible. VA encourages veterans to consider their "end-of-life benefits" provided by the department. To learn more, visit <https://www.va.gov/plan-ahead>. More information about VA burial benefits can be found at <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials>. 

EMAIL dspiva@cfw.org

In The News

Articles sent in by members

Veterans org slams Delta shirt shaming

The founder of a company dedicated to ending veteran suicides slammed Delta Airlines for forcing a Marine on Friday to remove a T-shirt sporting his company's slogan.

Korey Shaffer offered Saturday to cover Catherine Banks' airfare — saying she “deserved better” than the humiliating treatment.

“To hear someone was mistreated for wearing our gear that helps pay for the memorials delivered to families of fallen heroes and therapy for veterans, is appalling,” Shaffer, a USMC vet who founded the Til Valhalla Project organization, wrote on Facebook.

Banks, a 22-year veteran of the Marines, was wearing a Til Valhalla Project shirt when she boarded the Delta flight at San Francisco International Airport earlier this week.

The T-shirt, reading “Do Not Give In To The War Within. End Veteran Suicide,” is meant to raise awareness of the estimated 22 veteran suicides that occur per day.

A flight attendant escorted Banks off the plane, calling the message “threatening.” He demanded Banks remove the tee or lose her seat.

Banks tried to explain the T-shirt's message and its connection to her military record, but the attendant responded: “I don't care about your service.”

After relenting, Banks was allowed to re-board wearing a sweatshirt — but sitting near the rear after giving away the seat she paid extra for.

Delta Airlines did not respond to The Post's request for comment on Shaffer's statement, but previously claimed the matter was resolved. A Delta spokesperson said of Banks, “We appreciate her patience,” adding, “Most importantly, we are thankful for her service.”

Katherine Donlevy

NSSF LAUNCHES WEBSITE AND FIREARMS FACT SHEET TO SUPPORT U.S. MILITARY VETERANS

Washington, D.C.— Ahead of Veteran's Day, Nov. 11, the National Shooting Sports Foundation has developed a webpage containing resources for military veterans, including a fact sheet discussing mistaken beliefs the organization said causes some veterans to forego seeking health care from the Dept. of Veterans Affairs (VA) because of concerns about having their firearms taken away.

The fact sheet is titled "Correcting Mistaken Beliefs about VA Confiscating Veterans' Guns." The webpage shares information and resources that can benefit veterans' health and resiliency, and that highlights their role as employees and leaders in America's firearm industry."

The site includes information about several NSSF veterans-focused initiatives. They include programs to help prevent suicide among veteran and non-veteran populations and a careers center that lists job opportunities in the firearm industry, which employs thousands of veterans. The goal of the fact sheet is to dispel misinformation about veterans, health care and personal firearms and was developed by the Veterans Healthcare Policy Institute. The website is: www.nssf.org/nssf-supports-veterans/.

MEMBERSHIP

All Are Welcome

Membership is open to both men and women.
Friends, supporters, and families.
We encourage associate membership.

If you served in the U.S. Armed Forces anytime from February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975, you are eligible for membership in Vietnam Veterans of America.

Dues are \$ 20.00 per year.



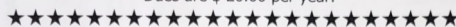
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VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA CHAPTER 11 SERVICES & PROGRAMS

TIMOTHY DUFFY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Annual scholarship for dependents of Vietnam veterans.

SSGT. ALAN F. SCHAEFER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Annual scholarship for Vietnam era veterans.

POW/MIA REMEMBRANCE SCHOLARSHIP

Annual scholarship for Vietnam era veterans, their dependents and Chapter 11 members.

AGENT ORANGE INFORMATION

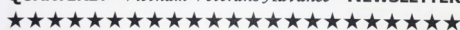
POW/MIA INFORMATION

SOCIAL & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

QUARTERLY "Interchange" NYS PUBLICATION

MONTHLY "Veteran" NATIONAL PUBLICATION

QUARTERLY "Vietnam Veterans Advance" NEWSLETTER



Web Site Addresses

Veterans Employment & Training Services

www.dol.gov/vets

Governor's Program to Hire Disabled Vets

www.cs.state.ny.us

N.Y.S. Dept. of Labor Workforce NY

www.labor.state.ny.us

Helping Young Vets In Employment (Senator Craig)

<http://veterans.senate.gov>

Public Law 107-288 - Jobs for Veterans Act

www.hirevetsfirst.org

Helmets to Hard Hats

www.helmetstohardhats.org

Center for Minority Affairs

www.va.gov/centerforminorityveterans

Gravesite Locator

<http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov>

New York State Council Web Site

www.NYVietnamVets.org

Vietnam Vets Donation Pickup

www.WePickUp.com