

Good of the Legion

Items to share with your post members at your next post meeting or to display on the bulletin board.

Celebrate April as Children and Youth Month:

For the past 84 years, The American Legion has supported today's young people as we observe April as Children & Youth Month. During this month of celebration, I encourage American Legion Family members to show their local communities our dedication to young people by hosting youth activities or by becoming involved in programs and organizations that support young people.

For example, your American Legion post can:

- Host an arts and craft day, community picnic with relay races and face painting, organize a nature hike, or help plant a community garden.
- Reach out to the local schools to see if you can teach flag etiquette and why we recite the Pledge of Allegiance to youth in the classroom.
- Fundraise for American Legion children and youth programs. You can start by joining the third annual 100 Miles for Hope where registration fees and donations support The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation to ensure Temporary Financial Assistance grants are provided to help eligible military veterans and Legion members with children in the home who are facing a hardship. Or fundraise to support the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, which provides grants to nonprofits that contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of the children and youth of this country.

It's through The American Legion that youth can learn patriotism, respect for the American flag and develop leadership skills that will last a lifetime. And The American Legion is where families go to feel a sense of community and give back to those that gave us our freedom.

For further ideas on how to promote Children & Youth Month in your community, download the April Is Children & Youth Month brochure at www.legion.org/publications. And share with us on www.legiontown.org how you are observing April as Children & Youth Month.

By Paul Dillard, National Commander

\$53,000 From Mission Blue Grant To Michigan Posts

It's been two years since The American Legion's Mission Blue Post Assistance Program went into effect following the adoption of Resolution No. 36 by the National Executive Committee during the 2020 Fall Meetings. Since then, 28 posts in Michigan have received a combined total of \$53,000!

Could your Post use an additional \$1,000 to \$2,000? The Mission Blue Post Assistance Program (PAP) grant is intended to assist posts whose revenue has been negatively impacted from the effects of the COVID-19 health crisis within the community, as well as any government-mandated restrictions. The funds distributed from this grant are to be exclusively used to meet financial responsibilities associated with maintaining post facilities and community presence. Grants are only approved to cover costs and fees associated with mortgage payments, rent, insurance premiums, and/or utilities.

Posts who have not submitted and meet all of the qualifications on the application, can receive up to \$2,000. If a post has met all of the qualifications on the application, except for the insurance requirement and/or the CPR requirement, the post can receive up to \$1,000.

To get an application go to www.michiganlegion.org and click on Mission Blue Application link on the main page. Send the completed application to Kim at 212 N. Verlinden Ave Lansing, MI 48915 or email kim@michiganlegion.org.

The deadline for the Mission Blue Grant is July 1, 2022.



American Legion Boys State

What: The American Legion Boys State program is a non-partisan, non-political mock government exercise in a model state designed to mirror the structure and operation of its respective state government. It is intended to instill character, the importance of civic engagement and patriotism among rising high school seniors.

When: June 12-18, 2022

Where: Grand Valley State University- Allendale, MI

Eligibility: Male high school juniors going into their senior year in the fall of 2022.

Application Deadline: May 9, 2022

Cost: \$25 Delegate Application Fee
\$400 Sponsor Fee

Sponsor: A sponsor can be an American Legion Post, Son of the American Legion Squadron, an American Legion Auxiliary Unit, but it can also be the boy's parents, a business owner, a school, or other organization like the Elks, Knights of Columbus, or a Moose club.

Scholarships:

Samsung Scholarship: limited to students between their junior and senior years of high school who attend the current session of either an American Legion Boys State or American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program and are a direct descendant of a wartime U.S. military veteran who served on active duty during at least one of the periods of war officially designated as eligibility dates for American Legion membership. Up to \$10,000 scholarship awarded.

Additional Information:

Visit www.michiganboysstate.org for additional information on our Boys State Program or to download the application.

Questions can be directed to Ashley Zimmer, 517-220-2754 or legion@michiganlegion.org.



American Legion Auxiliary Girls State

What: The American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program is a non-partisan, non-political mock government exercise in a model state designed to mirror the structure and operation of its respective state government. It is intended to instill character, the importance of civic engagement and patriotism among rising high school seniors.

When: June 12-17, 2022

Where: Virtual

Eligibility— Female high school juniors going into their senior year in the fall of 2022.

Sponsor Reservation Deadline: April 30, 2022

Online Delegate Registration Deadline: May 31, 2022

Cost: \$30 Delegate Registration Fee
\$175 Sponsor Fee

Sponsor: Girls State delegates' registration fees are paid for by the sponsoring local American Legion Auxiliary unit with additional support and funding sometimes coming from various civic and nonprofit organizations.

Scholarship:

Samsung scholarship: limited to students between their junior and senior years of high school who attend the current session of either an American Legion Boys State or American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program and are a direct descendant of a wartime U.S. military veteran who served on active duty during at least one of the periods of war officially designated as eligibility dates for American Legion membership. Up to \$10,000 scholarship awarded.

Additional Information:

Visit www.michalaux.org/girls-state/ for applications, sponsorship information and additional details.

Questions should be directed to Beryl Robbins, 313-318-6845 or alamigirlsstate@gmail.com

Important Dates for 2022

American Legion Programs

April 2022 (Children and Youth Month)

April 1st - End of 2nd round postal match competition. Targets due to the CMP -must be postmarked on or before April 1st to be eligible for scoring.

April 4th - Teacher of the Year submission deadline

April 22nd-24th-National Oratorical Contest in Indianapolis, IN

May 2022

May 9th-Boys State Application submission deadline

May 15th - Baseball insurance purchase deadline

June 2022

June 1st - Final day for Baseball teams to register

June 12th-18th-Boys State Program IN-PERSON at Grand Valley State University-Allendale Campus

July 2022

July 1st - Robert Turner Baseball Scholarship submission deadline

July 20 - 23 - JSSP American Legion National Championship

July 27-30- Class AA Baseball State Tournament in Mt. Pleasant.

July 27-30- Class A Baseball State Tournament in Trenton.

August 2022: SPECIAL EVENT

August 3-7- American Legion Great Lakes Regional Baseball Tournament held in Midland.

Events Around the State:

Wilwin Spring Clean-Up Weekend:

The annual Spring clean-up is scheduled for April 23-24. Volunteers are needed to get Wilwin ready to serve veterans and their families for the year. Wilwin is located at 3383 E. Hawley Rd. in Custer, MI.

For more information on Wilwin you can visit www.wilwinlodge.com or check out their Facebook page, Wilwin Lodge at Cygnet Cove.

5K Take a Hike Help Fight the Fight (Veteran Suicide Awareness Hike)– Hosted by 22-2-None:

Come hike a 5K with us around South Boardman to help raise awareness of veteran suicide and the inner struggles of men and women that have served our county.

This is a free event. Join us for a day of community and grab some food from local food trucks and enjoy some live music when you are finished hiking.

Schedule: April 23, 2022 11 a.m.– 8 p.m.

Check-in for awareness hike 11:00 am

Opening Ceremony 11:30 am

Hike step-off 12:00 Noon

Cost: Free to hike, but bring money for donation, swag and food trucks.

Register for the hike by visiting:

<https://www.222none.org/eventspage/2022/5khike>

Legion Family Day with the Detroit Tigers!

We are sponsoring the inaugural "American Legion Family Day" with the Detroit Tigers on Wednesday, May 4, for an afternoon game with the Pirates. Open to all Legion Family Members across Michigan. Attendees have the option of different-priced seats, pre-purchase for food, and parking.

Visit https://fevo.me/american_legion_22 to get your tickets. We hope to see you and your whole family there!

-Erin Dunn, District 18/Post 377 Commander

If you have an event you would like included in the next Good Of The Legion, email all pertinent information to legion@michiganlegion.org. Please give as much advance notice from the event date as possible.



Chaplain Workshop

When: Saturday May. 7, 2022

Time: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Where: Department Headquarters
(212 N. Verlinden Ave, Lansing, Michigan)

Topics:

- Post Chaplain 101
- Veterans Funerals
- Auxiliary Funerals
- Grief Counseling
- Suicide Prevention

Keynote Speaker: SAL Past National Chaplain
Rodney Tolbert

This Workshop is open to Everyone in the American Legion Family from all Post, Units, and Districts

RSVP to Deb Weatherbee by May 1st
email - deb560@hotmail.com
Phone - 616-723-2398

If Joining by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89092122157?pwd=cHI1VHlIS3dwTTJFdK9zOGRtcDVpQT09>

Meeting ID: 890 9212 2157

Passcode: 220765

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,89092122157# US (New York)

"Integrating Spiritual Needs From Service Member To Veteran"

SAVE THE DATE!!!
**2022 Dept. of Michigan American Legion Riders
Legacy Scholarship Fund Run**

June 10, 11, 12th

 Hosted by: Lapeer Post #16 American Legion Riders
1701 W. Genesee Street.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
June 10, 2022

 Location: Lapeer Post #16
Meet & Greet: 7-11 pm
Early Registration/Social Hr: 6-7 pm
Dinner: 7 pm
Cash Bar, Live music, raffles, 50/50

June 11, 2022

 Start Location: Lapeer Post #16
Registration and Breakfast: 7-8:30 am
Kickstands Up: 9:00 a.m.

Day One Stops:

 Swartz Creek-Post #294-(Bloody Mary Bar)
Lansing-Post #183 – Lunch Available
Hastings – Post #45
Grand Rapids-Post #2
Grand Haven – Post #28- Dinner Available

June 12, 2022

 Registration and Breakfast – 7-8:30 am
Kickstands Up: 9:00 a.m.

Day Two Stops:

 Hesperia – Post #411-(Bloody Mary Bar)
Ludington – Post #76-Lunch Available
Gas Stop/Short Break Halfway point
Frankfort – Post #221
Fife Lake – Post #219 – Dinner Available

Rider	Passenger	Car
\$40	\$40	\$40

Hotel Information: DEADLINE TO RESERVE ROOMS MAY 12th
JUNE 10th
Lapeer – Best Western

770 West Street

Lapeer, MI 48446

810-667-9444

83 Rooms available

2 Queen Beds \$80

1 King Bed \$82

Suite Rooms \$98-\$120

JUNE 11th
Baymont by Wyndham Hotel-Grand Haven

1500 S. Beacon Blvd

Grand Haven MI

616-842-1999

83 Rooms Available

2 Queen Beds \$248.40

1 King Bed \$248.40

When making reservations you must mention American Legion Riders to receive the discounted rates.

Contact:

 Tom Lossing, (810-488-4046) or email: tomlossing@gmail.com

 Steve Clark, steveclark2841@gmail.com

Updates and new information available on Facebook:

[American Legion Riders Chanter 16](#)

Important Numbers:

Don't Face the VA Alone! Use an American Legion accredited Veteran Service Officer. Find one near you by calling 313-964-6641.

Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency: 800– mich-vet (642-4883)

Veteran Suicide Hotline—800– 273-8255

VA Veteran Homeless resources—877-424-3838

Department of Michigan Headquarters: 517-371-4720

2021-2022 Commander Coins Still Available!

Commander Richard T. Dubay would like to help assist with ending Veteran homelessness. Your contribution will go towards our program aimed at helping veterans with homelessness in Michigan. A \$20 donation for each coin is requested. Use the order form below or visit www.michiganlegion.org to order online through the PayPal link at the bottom of the homepage. Thank you for your support!



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2021-2022 Commanders Coin Order Form

YES! I want to Support Commander Dubay's project: Reaching Out to Veterans

Please send me _____ at each \$20 donation to the following address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Enclosed is my check/money order for qty: _____ x \$20 donation Total: _____

Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Make check to Michigan American Legion Memo; Commanders Coin. Send to Michigan American Legion Attn: Commanders Coin 212 N. Verlinden Ave. Lansing, MI 48915. Price includes shipping/handling/taxes.