



# Manuel Schneidmiller Post 154, Inc.

## Rathdrum Idaho

### Newsletter

Volume 6 Issue #8

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Editor: Jean Bledsoe



August is International Peace Month and a time to reflect on the First World War. On August 16, 1926, TIME Magazine wrote: "At Rheims, martyred memorial city of World War destruction, 4,000 pacifists from 30 countries assembled last week for the Fifth International Democratic Peace Conference. Nine hundred of the delegates were young Germans, representing almost every German city. At the first session, the present month of August 1926, was proclaimed "international peace month," the delegates voting to encamp in tents upon the onetime World War battlefields of France through Aug. 29, 'in order to pursue an intensive study of international peace work.'" From [www.nationaldaycalendar.com](http://www.nationaldaycalendar.com)



#### American Legion Post 154 Mission Statement

The American Legion Post 154 is a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness to support Veterans and the Community at large. We are committed to mentoring and sponsorship of youth programs, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting a strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service members, veterans, and their families in our communities. Our success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. This organization belongs to the people it serves and the community in which it thrives.

## Commander:

Hello American Legion Family,

Congratulations to all who worked the Rathdrum Days American Legion Booth, contributed to the parade and our wonderful Honor Guard. I salute you! Also, all the funeral services that our Honor Guard have participated in. Well Done! These members have all volunteered to give their time and effort to continue leading Post 154 as a great Post for our members, our family members and our community and for all the American Legion programs we participate in.

Please remember to renew as soon as you can. It will make our membership committee workload more manageable. Our post received several membership awards during the Departmental Convention in Burley. Thank you, Bill and Helen Kinder and thank you all for making us number one in the department.

I attended the Departmental Convention and represented Post 154 and the First District. The National Commander was there, and it was great meeting him. I was selected as a delegate for the National Convention this month in Phoenix. Because of your support I will represent our Post and North Idaho.

We are in need of a member to volunteer to chair the children and Youth Committee. I would love to have someone take on this job. It is very important to our community. Also, if you are interested in learning more about the Post and the Post Officers, please let me know if you would like to volunteer for the office of Judge Advocate. It is an office that does not have a lot to do. Great place to learn.

We will be having our Post picnic at the end of the month. It would be great if we have a great turnout. Once again, I want to thank everyone for supporting Post 154 and our community.

For God and Country - Dee Sasse, Commander

## Finance Officer:

The month of July was a very active month financially. A lot of membership renewal transactions, donations from both the activities of the Honor Guard and our participation in the Rathdrum Days celebration. We also had some sales of flags, hats and Legion shirts.

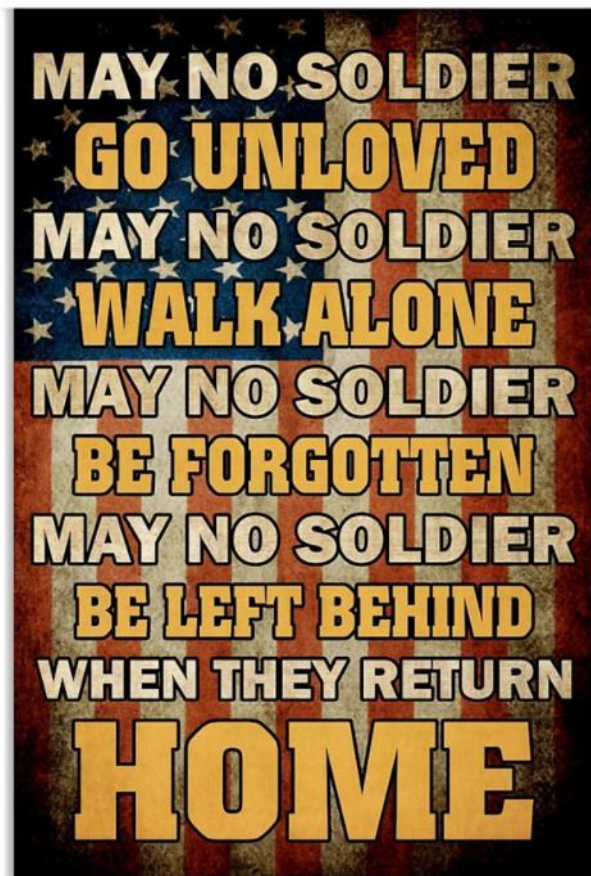
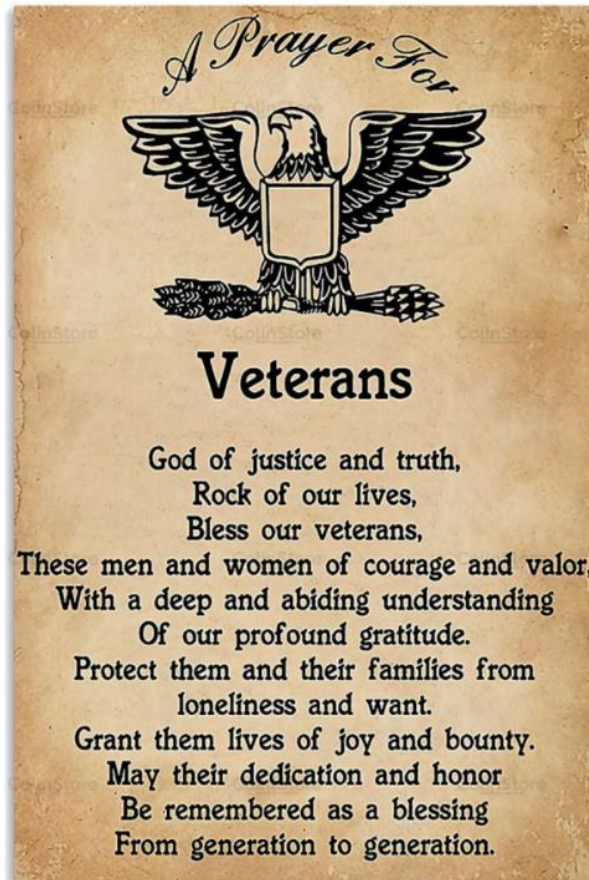
One of our CD's at ICCU matured in late July, and we renewed it for one year and increased it by \$10,000 - reducing our money market account by that amount. Although CD rates are still low, they are much higher than what we can earn by having that amount sitting in our money market. Additionally, we do not anticipate any major expenses over the next five months, so it was prudent to move those funds to a place where we can get some additional interest on our money.

The June financial reports were presented to the Membership and approved at our July meeting. The July financial reports will be completed within the first week of August (once we have received the bank statements) and will be available for review by the Executive Committee at its next meeting. Those reports will also be handed out at our July member meeting. In the interim, if you have any questions regarding the Post's financial position, please contact me via e-mail and I will be happy to answer any questions or send you the completed July financial report. Our banking relationships are with Washington Trust Bank and Idaho Central Credit Union, and our Post has a history of financial transparency and providing detailed financial reports to all our members.

In September and October, we will begin to put the 2022 budget together. That will go to the membership in late November or December for approval. I anticipate that we will see some increases in our standard operating costs, as the impact of inflation continues. At the end of the year, we also ask for at least four members to review all the financial transactions and reports for the year and perform an "audit" on our books and records. That committee reports to the full membership following the completion of their review.

This year, we should also consider doing a full inventory of the items in our storage closet and CONEX and organizing that space so that it will be easier to keep track of those items and find them when we need them. This will be a major undertaking and will require several willing volunteers who can help us count the beans and then organize them for the New Year. **If You Are Well Organized and Don't Mind Taking Inventory and Helping with This, it Would Be a Great Way to Help Our Post!!** - Len Crosby, Finance Officer

## Chaplain's Pew:



Submitted by Helen Kinder, Chaplain

## Legislative Chairman:

**PTSD Claims Improvement Act:** S. 1664— the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Processing Claims Improvement Act of 2021. This legislation would direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to update the ongoing national training program for claims adjudicators who review claims for PTSD and require mandatory annual training. Additionally, the bill would require VA to track the quality of PTSD claims.

**Maj. Richard Star Act:** (H.R. 1282/S.344) -- this legislation addresses the question of Concurrent Receipt the reduction of military retirement pay for those who retired after 20 or more years in the military and who are deemed to be less than 50% disabled due to combat related injuries. **Retirement and disability pay are two payments with two purposes:** Retired pay is for vested years of service paid by DoD, while disability compensation is for lifelong injury paid by VA. To reduce retirement pay because of a disability is an injustice.

**Title 10** requires a reduction, referred to as an offset, in retirement pay for every dollar of disability received. This cost-saving measure is borne on the back of retirees. The VA awards disability in 10% increments. Those who are awarded 50% disability and above who reached 20 years of service were granted concurrent receipt of DoD retired pay and VA disability in 2004. Left behind after that 2004 change are those 20-year retirees with a 40% disability rating and below, and those who were medically retired under Chapter 61 with less than 20 years of service. The American Legion supports the passage of the Major Richard Star Act to rectify this problem. (cont. below)

**Honor Flights to Resume:** More than a year after the pandemic forced the Honor Flight Network to halt trips to Washington, D.C., the group is ready to once again fly veterans to the nation's capital to visit memorials and share their stories with fellow vets.

The organization announced it will resume full operations Aug. 16. Participants must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or provide negative test results taken within 72 hours of departure, according to Honor Flight spokeswoman Carol Harlow. For more information contact the Inland Northwest Honor Flight chapter in Spokane at (509) 624-0222 or [info@inwhonorflight.org](mailto:info@inwhonorflight.org)

**National Park Access for Veterans Bill Introduced:** On Thursday, Rep. Miller-Meeks introduced the VFW-supported *Veterans in Parks Act*, which would provide free access to national parks and public lands for service members, veterans, and their families. This bill would codify the existing benefits of the annual [America the Beautiful Pass](#), ensuring that those who qualify for the pass would have a lifetime of free access to more than 2,000 of our nation's parks and federal recreation areas.

**Women Veterans Needed for Million Veteran Program:** The world's largest medical research biobank, Million Veteran Program, is [seeking women veterans](#). There are 2 million women veterans in the United States, but only 75,000 have participated in the Million Veteran Program so far. In general women are often under-represented in biomedical research which can leave gender-specific health questions unanswered. By contributing a blood sample to the biobank, women veterans can help ensure that the research is more comprehensive.

**Blood Donation Need Still Critical:** The American Red Cross currently has a severe shortage alert in regards to lifesaving blood products. Hospital demand continues to outpace donations, so the Red Cross strongly urges healthy, eligible individuals who are feeling well to give blood, platelets, or plasma to help maintain a sufficient supply for those battling COVID-19, cancers, other infections, or trauma victims. Those who donate July 7-31, 2021, will receive a \$10 Amazon gift card via email and be automatically entered for a chance to win gas for a year. Please schedule an appointment using the Red Cross Blood Donor app, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org), or calling 1.800.RED.CROSS (1.800.733.2767).

**Don't abandon the Afghans who help our troops:** American Legion National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford expressed "deep disappointment" the White House isn't offering a better plan to evacuate interpreters, family members and other Afghan allies who have served alongside U.S. forces during the last 20 years of war in Afghanistan.

The White House announced on Thursday the United States' military mission in Afghanistan will conclude on Aug. 31, putting the end to a "forever war" in sight. However, that does not go far enough to protect the 18,000 Afghan interpreters who are still waiting for approval of their Special Immigrants Visas — a promise the U.S. made to them in return for their service.

Earlier, the White House said they would house the interpreters and others in a third country pending their visa approval. The American Legion does not believe this action will ensure the safety of all the Afghanistan allies, due to the number and time remaining before the pullout.

There is a precedent of such a mass evacuation that the U.S. could emulate in this scenario.

In 1975, the United States evacuated about 130,000 Vietnamese refugees after the fall of Saigon. Most refugees were held temporarily in Guam before going to the U.S. as their visas were processed. More recently, in 1996, the U.S. evacuated thousands of Kurds at the end of the Iraqi Kurdish Civil War, with a stopover in Guam. Calling the Taliban "the enemy of all human rights," and welcoming an end to U.S. involvement in 20 years of conflict in Afghanistan, Oxford said the withdrawal must be conducted in an honorable and orderly manner and that the current pace of withdrawal is falling short on these counts.

"Abandonment of those who assisted us is literally an issue of life or death," Oxford said. "Any veteran who has worked with Afghan interpreters will tell you how valuable these brave heroes were to our mission there." (cont. below)

Their service alongside American forces has made them — along with their families — targets for retribution by the Taliban as the militant group gains ground across Afghanistan.

“It is a moral imperative that we offer them immediate and safe passage away from the enemy and to the United States,” Oxford added. “If we abandon such friends, how could we expect any assistance by potential allies in future missions?”

**MST Survivors Act:** H.R. 2724, the VA Peer Support Enhancement for MST Survivors Act would ensure that veterans who file claims related to military sexual assault would be assigned a peer support specialist throughout the duration of the claims process.

Filing claims for conditions related to military sexual trauma can, in itself, be re-traumatizing for survivors. It is important for these individuals to have access to specialized services they need as they work to recover from the physical and emotional trauma they have endured.

Peer support specialists could help create a more welcoming and personalized claims experience for veterans in these circumstances. These individuals would be trained victim advocates who would provide support to the claimant, help to answer their VA claims-related questions, prepare them for next steps and provide clarity about the process.

**More Education benefits under the G.I. Bill:** The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit decided Thursday that veterans who qualify for both the Montgomery GI Bill and the Post-9/11 GI Bill for multiple periods of military service should be allowed to draw benefits from each. Since the newer Post-9/11 GI Bill became effective in 2009, the VA has limited veterans to benefits from one program, not both.

Under the ruling, veterans who qualify for both programs would be eligible to use one year of benefits from the Montgomery GI Bill program on top of the three years of tuition and housing assistance available through the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

“We are extremely pleased with the outcome of this case and what it means for our country’s veterans,” said Timothy L. McHugh, the attorney on the case. “An estimated 1.7 million post-9/11 era veterans could benefit from this ruling, so it is truly an impactful decision for those who have bravely served.”

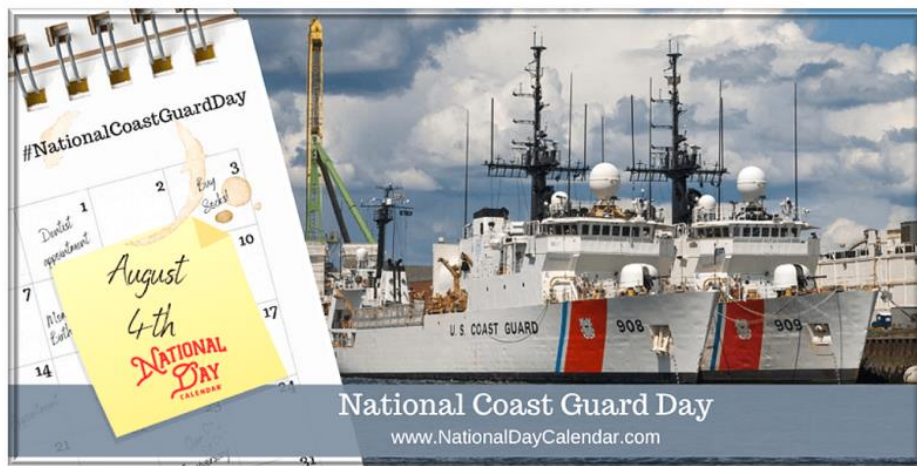
The court upheld the ruling from the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, which also ruled against the VA’s interpretation of the law. The VA could next try to take the case to the Supreme Court. It was uncertain Monday whether the department would continue to appeal.

**Beware of VA Claim Sharks:** Last week, Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs Chairman Jon Tester (D-MT) and Ranking Member Jerry Moran (R-KS) sent a [letter](#) to VA Secretary McDonough highlighting the continued need for VA to work with veterans service organizations to inform and protect veterans from predatory claims consultants. These predatory companies, referred to as “claim sharks,” coach veterans in filing VA disability claims with promises of increasing their ratings while charging fees and taking a portion of the veterans’ compensation. Accredited veterans service organizations have service officers who provide claims assistance to veterans free of charge, as is the law.

**VA Discontinuing My HealtheVet Advanced Accounts:** As of September 2021, My HealtheVet Advanced accounts will be [discontinued and revert](#) to Basic, unless the accounts are upgraded to Premium. A Premium account allows access to request and track current VA prescriptions; view, download and print VA health information; send and receive secure online messages; and view, schedule, reschedule, and cancel VA appointments. (cont. below)

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**The United States Coast Guard's official motto in Latin reads *Semper Paratus* - Always Ready!**

You'll find a good Coast Guard story on page 20 submitted by Dee Sasse

### **Service Officer:**

**On May 27, 2021,** the VA released a Press Release regarding claims for benefits based on toxic exposures. In the release, the VA announced their plans to automatically review herbicide-related claims for bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, and Parkinsonism, as these conditions have now been added to the list of diseases presumptively associated with herbicides as part of the William M. Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) (NDAA). Vietnam veterans and their survivors who previously filed for and were denied benefits for one of these three new presumptive conditions will have their cases automatically reviewed without any action needed on their part and if benefits are granted, the VA will apply the provisions of the court orders related to *Nehmer v. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs*, which may result in an earlier date for entitlement to benefits. As part of this review, the VA also plans to send letters to impacted veterans and survivors. If a veteran has not previously filed a claim for one of these three conditions and would now qualify for service connection under these new regulations, a new claim for these conditions needs to be filed. (cont. Below)

**If you currently receive VA pension** payments or if you are thinking about applying for [Veterans Pension](#), [Survivors Pension](#), or [Aid and Attendance \(A&A\) and housebound benefits](#), you could be the target of a scam known as pension poaching. Don't let scammers take advantage of you. Read on to see how you can protect the benefits you have earned.

### **What is pension poaching?**

Every year, VA distributes a billion dollars in pension payments to help low-income Veterans who served in wartime and their families through financial challenges. Pension poaching is a financial scam that targets Veterans, survivors and family members who may be eligible for these benefits. The most popular type of pension poaching occurs when dishonest people falsely qualify Veterans and survivors for VA pension benefits. These individuals may be attorneys, financial planners or benefits advisors.

### **Veterans should be on the lookout for people or organizations who:**

- Tell you to move your money around to qualify for VA pension payments.
- Claim that pension benefits can be deposited into a caregiver's account.
- Charge you money for assisting with a VA pension claim.
- Take your credit card information over the phone.
- Charge you money upfront to represent your claim with VA.

Most poaching scams target Veterans and family members who do not qualify for VA pension benefits. If VA approves your pension benefits and later determines that eligibility did not exist, you may be required to repay the benefits to the government.

### **Protecting yourself from financial scammers**

The most important thing you can do to protect yourself and your family from pension poaching is to know the facts. Here are the top things you should know to keep your benefits safe.

1. Only approved individuals can help you file a claim. In addition to working directly with VA, there are [three types of representatives](#) that can help you with your claim: Veterans Service Organizations, attorneys and agents. VA's Office of the General Counsel maintains a [searchable list of approved individuals](#). Always check this list before discussing your pension benefits with anyone outside of VA.
2. You do not need to pay to submit your application. VA does not charge to process your application. No one can charge you to prepare or file an initial application without breaking federal law.
3. You should never pay money upfront. In some cases, an accredited attorney or claims agent may be able to charge you a fee for preparing your claim. This can only happen after a VA regional office issues a decision on your claim. The attorney or agent must also file a power of attorney and a fee agreement with VA.
4. No one can guarantee that you will receive benefits from VA. Even accredited individuals on the Office of the General Counsel list cannot guarantee that you will receive VA pension benefits after you apply. Only VA can determine eligibility and award benefits and services.
5. VA benefits can only go directly to Veterans or survivors. Pension payments cannot be placed into a caregiver's account.

Keep these five tips in mind when applying for VA pension benefits and you can "Spot a Scam, Stop a Scam" before it happens. **For more information:** Visit [VA.gov](#) to learn more about VA Pension benefits. You can also call 1-800-827-1000 or contact your [local regional office](#). - Ruth Aresvik, Service Officer

**PRESS RELEASE: Local Purple Heart Recipient Leonard Crosby to be Honored with Trip to the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, West Point**

*Post Falls Army Veteran Chosen to Represent Idaho's Purple Heart Veterans as Part of the 2021 Purple Heart Patriot Project*

(NEWBURGH, NY) – A local Purple Heart recipient has been chosen to be one of the nation's 2021 Purple Heart Patriot Project honorees. U.S. Army Captain Leonard Crosby of Post Falls, a Vietnam War veteran, will represent his fellow Purple Heart heroes as Idaho's representative at a multi-day tribute to the courage and sacrifice of America's combat wounded. The Purple Heart Patriot Project is a program of the National Purple Heart Honor Mission. The all-expense-paid trip includes visits to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, historic Washington's Headquarters, a special tour of the newly renovated National Purple Heart Hall of Honor and other tributes to service.

"Leonard and his fellow Patriot Project honorees are true American heroes," said Richie Lay, a Purple Heart recipient and chairman of the National Purple Heart Honor Mission. "America's Purple Heart veterans have given so much to defend freedom and that sacrifice must always be remembered. We are privileged to be able to provide this unique salute to service for our Purple Heart heroes."



"Our Purple Heart recipients have made enormous sacrifices for America, and this is our opportunity to say 'thank you' on behalf of a grateful nation. For some, this will be like the homecoming they never had. We received hundreds of nominations from across the country and we look forward to honoring Leonard for his lifelong sacrifice and service to his community," said Col. Russ Vernon (Ret.), executive director for the National Purple Heart Honor Mission.

When asked what his service meant to him, Mr. Crosby said he was, "proud to serve his country in combat." He also encouraged younger Americans to "give back to our country in some way. Either through service in the military, service in their community, or through their profession."

Leonard Crosby was commissioned in the U.S. Army in 1964, serving until 1970. During the Vietnam War, Crosby served two tours of duty, the first as a Platoon Leader with the 4th Infantry Division and the second as a Company Commander with the 101st Airborne Division. His service included action during Operation MacArthur, the Tet Offensive, Operation Nevada Eagle, and more. In April 1968, then-1Lt Crosby was wounded by shrapnel from an enemy mortar round. Later, Crosby would be shot in the neck by an enemy sniper. Along with his Purple Heart, CPT Crosby received numerous awards and commendations, including a Silver Star, two Bronze Star Medals, the Soldier's Medal and more.

After leaving military service, Mr. Crosby worked in banking and finance, and became active in his community. He has served on numerous commissions at the local and state level, as well as several non-profit boards. Crosby is also involved in veteran's organizations, including the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled Veterans of America, and the American Legion. Crosby has also been a leading advocate to secure funding from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to construct a veteran's home that will serve veterans throughout northern Idaho. He was nominated for the Patriot Project by his wife, Mary.



The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is located just north of West Point, New York, at the site where General George Washington first awarded the Medal for Military Merit in 1782 during the Revolutionary War. The badge, shaped like a purple heart was the forerunner of today's medal. In addition to creation of the museum, supporters of the National Purple Heart Honor Mission were instrumental in the creation of the Purple Heart Forever stamp now issued by the US Postal Service and are leading the effort in Congress to pass the National Purple Heart Commemorative Coin Act.

Those wishing to learn more about the National Purple Heart Honor Mission or donate to support the Purple Heart Patriot Project should visit [www.PurpleHeartMission.org](http://www.PurpleHeartMission.org).

**Press release from the National Purple Heart Honor Mission**

***As most of you know, Len is a charter member of Post 154 in Rathdrum and has served as our Finance Officer and Legislative Chairman since we formed. Congratulations Len, on this well-deserved honor. Jean***



Purple Heart Day, on August 7th, commemorates the creation of the oldest American military decoration for military merit. The Purple Heart honors the men and women who are of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. During the American Revolutionary War, the Badge for Military Merit decorated six known soldiers.

General George Washington created the Badge of Merit in 1782. Washington intended the honor to be presented to soldiers for “any singularly meritorious action.” Its design included a purple, heart-shaped piece of silk bound with a thin edge of silver. Across the face, the word Merit was embroidered in silver. While the badge symbolized the courage and devotion of an American Patriot, no one knows who designed the award.

Until Washington's 200th birthday, the Purple Heart persisted as a Revolutionary War footnote. Through the efforts of General Douglas MacArthur, the U.S. War Department created the Order of the Purple Heart. Today the medal bears a bust of George Washington and his coat of arms.

While an accurate and complete list of names no longer exists, National Geographic recently estimated that nearly 1.9 million service members have earned Purple Hearts since its creation. It is the oldest U.S. military honor still bestowed upon service members today. Until 1944, the Purple Heart recognized service members' commendable actions as well. Then in 1944, the requirements limited the award to only those wounded or killed in combat.

Taken from NationalDayCalendar.com

## ***Recognized and Honored American Legion Members of Rathdrum Post 154***

*The month of July has brought recognition to members of the American Legion, Rathdrum Post 154. This truly speaks for the investment these people have in our community. The cities of Coeur d'Alene, Rathdrum and Hayden have honored the following people in their "Hometown Parades".*

### ***Bryan Bledsoe***



*Bryan a Vietnam War veteran was named the 2021 Numerica Military Honoree of the Year. He was honored in the Coeur d'Alene American Hero's Parade on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Bryan was an Army helicopter crew chief and door gunner. He now devotes most of his time to veteran organizations and issues. He serves as a part of the American Legion Honor Guard and also on the board of the Rathdrum American Legion as Post Adjutant. He is an active member of Veterans Help Net, DAV, and VFW Post 889 among many others.*

### ***Mike & Sharron McPhail***



*Mike & Sharron were honored by being chosen as Grand Marshals for the Rathdrum Days Parade on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The McPhails are members of the Rathdrum Chamber of Commerce and volunteer in many facets in the community. Mike served in the Army during the Vietnam War and although he was not deployed, he has served in the capacity of Chaplin to veterans returning home. He is a current board member at the Rathdrum American Legion, Post 154. He has volunteered as a fire fighter, EMT, and police Chaplin. He and Sharron have a passion for serving the community and delight in playing Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus each year at Rathdrum locations.*

### ***Joan Genter***



*Joan was honored by the City of Hayden as Distinguished Veteran of the Year and was their Grand Marshal in the Hometown Heroes Parade on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Joan is a military veteran and served 22-years in the U.S. Air Force. Over half of her service time was as a military rapid deployment team member who performed humanitarian and firefighting missions. Joan & her husband Rod are members of the Rathdrum American Legion, Post 154 and volunteer their time in support of veterans.*

Submitted by Sharron McPhail

**Toxic Exposure** - Below is an pertinent article from the Spokesman-Review last week.

**Audit: Department of Defense slow to protect military from toxic chemicals**

**By John Flesher**

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Defense Department has dragged its feet on protecting service personnel from “forever chemicals” at military installations and isn’t doing enough to track health effects from exposure to the toxic compounds, according to an internal audit.

Officials have taken steps to find and clean groundwater contaminated with firefighting foam containing PFAS, or perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, the department’s inspector general found. But its recently released report said the Pentagon has fallen short on dealing with other sources of the chemicals as its rules require.

It also found that despite plans to test military firefighters’ blood for PFAS this year as required by Congress, officials have no plan for tracking and analyzing results on a department- wide basis.

The department “is missing an opportunity to capture comprehensive PFAS exposure data for DoD firefighters to be used for risk management, including future studies to assess significant long-term health effects relating to PFAS,” according to the audit, which is dated July 22.

The report included responses from two assistant secretaries of defense who largely agreed with the findings and promised to address them. The inspector general said the case will remain open until its recommendations are carried out.

“This inspector general’s report confirms that the Defense Department must urgently do more to protect service members and their families from PFAS chemicals,” Rep. Dan Kildee, a Michigan Democrat and co-chairman of the Congressional PFAS Task Force, said Tuesday.

A Pentagon spokesman had no immediate comment.

PFAS refers to thousands of man-made compounds used in countless products, including nonstick cookware, water- repellent sports gear, cosmetics and grease-resistant food packaging, along with firefighting foams.

Public health studies on exposed populations have associated the chemicals with an array of health problems, including some cancers, weakened immunity and low birth weight. Widespread testing in recent years has found high levels of PFAS in many public water systems. They’re called “forever chemicals” because they don’t degrade in the environment.

PFAS substances have been found in groundwater on or near more than 300 military bases, according to the nonprofit Environmental Working Group.

Military crews began using foam containing PFAS to extinguish petroleum- based fires in the 1970s, the audit said. The Pentagon was informed in 2000 that leading manufacturers were phasing out products, including foam, made with some of the chemicals after one was found to be toxic and to build up in blood over time.

Yet the department waited until 2011 to issue an alert and took an additional five years to list risk-management actions such as preventing uncontrolled releases of the foam during training and removal where practical, according to the audit.

“Some of highest detections anywhere in the world been found in groundwater” at military installations, said Scott Faber, the Environmental Working Group’s senior vice president for government affairs. That means personnel “were drinking extraordinarily polluted water for much longer than they should have been, in violation of the department’s own policies.”

In recent years, the Pentagon has tested wells and groundwater at bases for two widely used PFAS chemicals and begun removing foam containing one of them from its stockpiles, the audit said.

But aside from firefighting foam, the department hasn’t addressed potential pollution from other PFAS-containing materials as its rules require, the report said.

“As a result, people and the environment may continue to be exposed to preventable risks,” it said.

In comments attached to the report, acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment Paul Cramer said risk management options for PFAS-containing materials other than foam would be developed by early 2022.

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### **Post 154 Honor Guard:**

For those of you not aware, our Post has an Honor Guard. They march in parades, present the colors at ceremonies, and most importantly, provide a rifle salute to honor Veterans at their funerals. However, more members are always needed to serve in this capacity.

In July, the Honor Guard provided rifle salutes for three (3) US Navy veterans, five (5) US Army veterans, two (2) US Air Force veterans, and one (1) US Marine veteran. Each memorial service requires between 3 and 8 volunteers. The Honor Guard marched in and led the Rathdrum Parade.

This month required forty-six (46) volunteers, and they logged in 192 volunteer hours. Once a month the Honor Guard travels to the Washington State Veterans Cemetery and provides rifle salutes for any requests made by veteran families for services that day and there were four this month. Idaho veterans are interred there as well.

If you are interested in participating in this very fulfilling activity, contact Todd Halvorson at [keltod11@gmail.com](mailto:keltod11@gmail.com) or by phone at 509-226-5355.

Bryan Bledsoe, Honor Guard Member

### **A Healthier You:**

#### **VA wants to protect Veterans against the COVID-19 Delta Variant**

Since the COVID-19 vaccines were made available to the Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care System in December 2020, we have administered almost 27,000 COVID vaccines to Veterans. More than 13,500 of our Veterans are fully vaccinated. However, that is only 39% of our enrolled Veterans.

The great news is that almost 77% of our VA employees are fully vaccinated.

Protecting Veterans, our staff and those in the VA community remains our top priority during the COVID-19 pandemic. While many states are relaxing their safety precautions, we must remain vigilant in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

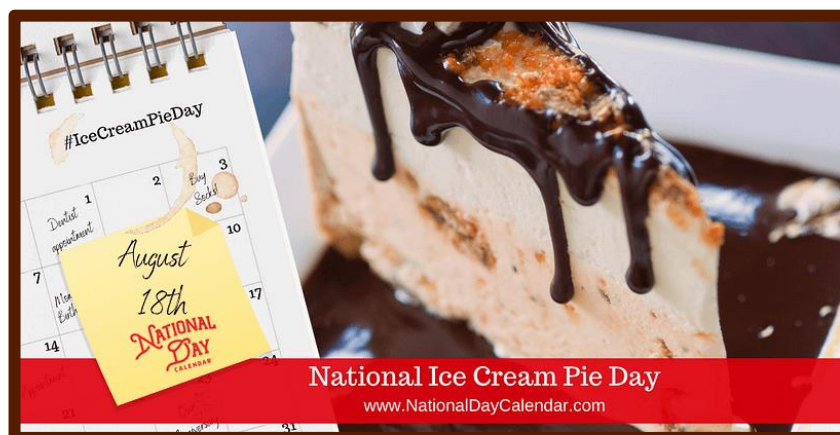
This new Delta variant, which was first detected in India and has been identified in 85 countries, now accounts for one in five infections in the United States. It is known to mostly impact those who are either unvaccinated or have only received the first of two doses of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines.

Go [HERE](#) to read the rest of this article.



## Bits & Pieces

- **From a post in Blue Water Navy:** I just won a lung cancer case at BVA based on herbicide exposure for a Johnston Island Veteran who served from 1970 to 1974. (VA didn't schedule any exams to evaluate, need to raise a little more hell (edit - they are already scheduling an exam so no worries).) These Johnston Island cases can be won at the BVA level. (Johnston Island is where the AO was sent to be burned and it leaked into the environment).
- **Good News!**  
On August 26 there will be a "topping out ceremony" for the Idaho State Veterans Home being built in Post Falls. It is anticipated that the governor and other dignitaries will be in attendance. We would love to have a large crowd of Veterans from Post 154, with their service hats or Veteran identification hats attend this ceremony and show the support this new facility has from Veterans and their families in Kootenai County. Once the time is announced we will provide it at our meetings, on the Facebook page and on our website.
- **The Senate Armed Services Committee's** proposed 2022 defense policy bill contains a provision that would require women to register for the draft. [Read More...](#)
- **Court Decides Millions of Veterans Are Eligible for More GI Bill Benefits.** a new court decision, if it holds, would require the VA to provide billions of dollars in education benefits to more than 1 million post-9/11 veterans. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit decided Thursday that veterans who qualify for both the *Montgomery GI Bill* and the *Post-9/11 GI Bill* for multiple periods of military service should be allowed to draw benefits from each. [Read More...](#)
- **Also, please remember** to send your volunteer hours to Len Crosby so he can compile them. These include hours devoted to Veterans, Youth, Honor Guard and Community. His email is: [crosbylenmary@frontier.com](mailto:crosbylenmary@frontier.com)



And guess what? There's a recipe for **No-Bake S'mores Ice Cream Pie** on page 22. Enjoy!

## Did you know...?

**MANN-GRANDSTAFF VA MEDICAL CENTER**  
**OFFICE OF COMMUNITY CARE**  
**PHONE NUMBER: (509) 484-7969**

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MGVAMC Office of Community Care is here to serve our Veterans and assist them in obtaining needed care when they are referred to the community.

*Please add our phone number to your phone book or contacts as "VA Office of Community Care" or "VA Community Care" to ensure that when you are contacted by us regarding your care you will know who is calling and know to answer your phone.*



### Mark Your Calendar:

August 2<sup>nd</sup> - Operation Desert Shield

August 4<sup>th</sup> - US Coast Guard Birthday – it was created August 4, 1790

August 7<sup>th</sup> - Purple Heart Day - see page 9

**August 12<sup>th</sup> - Post 154 Executive Committee Meeting @ 6 pm**

August 12<sup>th</sup> - American Legion Baseball World Series

August 14<sup>th</sup> - V-J Day (Victory over Japan 1945) The end of WWII

**August 26<sup>th</sup> - Post 154 Membership Meeting 6 pm & Potluck @ 5:30 pm**

August 27<sup>th</sup> - 102<sup>nd</sup> American Legion National Convention (Commander Sasse will attend)

August 28<sup>th</sup> - Post 154 annual picnic. See details on page 19



**Audie Murphy**, the kid from Farmersville, Texas, was only 46 years old when he died in a helicopter crash into the Virginia Mts. He was bothered all his life when he came back from the War, and it really affected his life. He never got the medical help he should have gotten. Not many young people know who Audie Murphy was or how big a war hero he was. Two or three of the medals he earned would make most service men proud, but to have earned his decorations in battle is truly unbelievable.

**List of Decorations for Audie Murphy:**

Medal of Honor

Distinguished Service Cross

Silver Star (with oak leaf cluster)

Legion of Merit

Bronze Star (with oak leaf cluster and Valor Device)

Purple Heart (with two oak leaf clusters)

U.S. Army Outstanding Civilian Service Medal

U.S. Army Good Conduct Medal

Presidential Unit Citation (with First Oak Leaf Cluster)

American Campaign Medal

European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign

Medal (with One Silver Star, Four Bronze

Service Stars (representing nine Campaigns)

and one Bronze Arrowhead (representing assault landing at Sicily and Southern France)

World War II Victory Medal

Army of Occupation Medal (with Germany Clasp)

Armed Forces Reserve Medal

French Fourrage in Colors of the Croix de Guerre

French Legion of Honor - Grade of Chevalier

French Croix de guerre (with Silver Star)

French Croix de guerre (with Palm)

Medal of Liberated France

Belgian Croix de guerre (with 1940 Palm)

Additionally, Murphy was awarded:

The Combat Infantry Marksman badge with Rifle Bar, Expert Badge with Bayonet Bar.

Isn't it sad the media can tell us all about the BAD that goes on, but ignores the GOOD people? If a movie Star or politician stubs their toe, we have to hear about it for Days!!!

**From the Los Angeles Times on April 15, 2010**

Pamela Murphy, widow of WWII hero and actor, Audie Murphy, died peacefully at her home on April 8, 2010. She was the widow of the most decorated WWII hero and actor, Audie Murphy, and established her own distinctive 35 year career working as a patient liaison at the Sepulveda Veterans Administration hospital, treating every veteran who visited the facility as if they were a VIP.

Any soldier or Marine who came into the hospital got the same special treatment from her. She would walk the hallways with her clipboard in hand making sure her boys got to see the specialist they needed. If they didn't, watch out.

Her boys weren't Medal of Honor recipients or movie stars like Audie, but that didn't matter to Pam. They had served their Country. That was good enough for her. She never called a veteran by his first name. It was always "Mister." Respect came with the job.

"Nobody could cut through VA red tape faster than Mrs. Murphy," said veteran Stephen Sherman, speaking for thousands of veterans she befriended over the years. "Many times, I watched her march a veteran who had been waiting more than an hour right into the doctor's office.

She was even reprimanded a few times, but it didn't matter to Mrs. Murphy. "Only her boys mattered. She was our angel." (cont. below)

Audie Murphy died broke in a plane crash in 1971, squandering millions of dollars on gambling, bad investments, and yes, other women. "Even with the adultery and desertion at the end, he always remained my hero," Pam told me.

She went from a comfortable ranch-style home in Van Nuys where she raised two sons to a small apartment - taking a clerk's job at the nearby VA to support herself and start paying off her faded movie star husband's debts. At first, no one knew who she was. Soon, though, word spread through the VA that the nice woman with the clipboard was Audie Murphy's widow. It was like saying General Patton had just walked in the front door. Men with tears in their eyes walked up to her and gave her a Hug.

"Thank you," they said, over and over.

The first couple of years, I think the hugs were more for Audie's memory as a war hero. The last 30 years, they were for Pam.

One year I asked her to be the focus of a Veteran's Day column for all the work she had done. Pam just shook her head no. "Honor them, not me," she said, pointing to a group of veterans down the hallway. "They're the ones who deserve it."

The vets disagreed. Mrs. Murphy deserved the accolades, they said. Incredibly, in 2002, Pam's job was going to be eliminated in budget cuts. She was considered "excess staff." "I don't think helping cut down on veterans' complaints and showing them the respect they deserve should be considered excess staff," she told me.

Neither did the veterans. They went ballistic, holding a rally for her outside the VA gates. Pretty soon, word came down from the top of the VA. Pam Murphy was no longer considered "excess staff."

She remained working full time at the VA until 2007 when she was 87.

"The last time she was here was a couple of years ago for the conference we had for homeless veterans," said Becky James, coordinator of the VA's Veterans History Project. Pam wanted to see if there was anything she could do to help some more of her boys. Pam Murphy was 90 when she died. What a lady.

by Dennis McCarthy,

Los Angeles Times on April 15, 2010 Submitted by Paula Atwood



*The Dog Face Daily*

Page 2 • January 26, 2008

## Today in Marne history ...

January 26, 1945

Second Lt. Audie Murphy, commander of Company B, 15th Infantry, 3rd Infantry Division, was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions on this date near Holtzwihr, France. His company was attacked by six tanks and waves of infantry. He ordered his men to withdraw to prepared positions in a woods, while he remained at his command post and continued to give fire directions to the artillery by telephone. Behind him, to his right, one U.S. tank destroyer received a direct hit and began to burn.

Murphy continued to direct artillery fire which killed large numbers of the advancing enemy infantry. With the enemy tanks abreast of his position, he climbed on the burning tank destroyer, which was in danger of blowing up at any moment, and employed its .50 caliber machine gun

against the enemy. He was alone and exposed to German fire from three sides, but his deadly fire killed dozens of Germans and caused their infantry attack to waver. The enemy tanks, losing infantry support, began to fall back. For an hour, the Germans tried every available weapon to eliminate Murphy, but he continued to hold his position and wiped out a squad which was trying to creep up unnoticed on his right flank. Germans reached as close as 10 yards, only to be mowed down by his fire. He received a leg wound, but ignored it and continued the single-handed fight until his ammunition was exhausted. He then made his way to his company, refused medical attention, and organized the company in a counterattack which forced the Germans to withdraw.

Murphy's directing of artillery



fire wiped out many of the enemy; he killed or wounded about 50. His indomitable courage and his refusal to give an inch of ground saved his company from possible encirclement and destruction, and enabled it to hold the woods, which had been the enemy's objective.



## VA Individual Unemployability (Veterans Who Can't Work Due to a Disability)

If you can't work because of a disability related to your service in the military (a service-connected disability), you may qualify for what's called "individual unemployability." This means you may be able to get disability compensation or benefits at the same level as a Veteran who has a 100% disability rating.

### Can I get disability benefits from VA?

You may be able to get disability benefits if you meet both of the requirements listed below.

Both of these must be true:

- You have at least 1 service-connected disability rated at 60% or more disabling, or 2 or more service-connected disabilities—with at least 1 rated at 40% or more disabling and a combined rating of 70% or more—and
- You can't hold down a steady job that supports you financially (known as substantially gainful employment) because of your service-connected disability. Odd jobs (marginal employment) don't count.
- Note: In certain cases—for example, if you need to be in the hospital often—you may qualify at a lower disability rating.

### Who's covered?

Veterans

### What kind of benefits can I get?

Health care

Compensation (payments)

### How do I get these benefits?

You'll need to file a claim for disability compensation. When you file, you'll have to provide evidence (supporting documents like a doctor's report or medical test results) showing that your disability prevents you from holding down a steady job. We'll also review your work and education history.

[Find out how to file a claim for disability compensation.](#)

**Example:** A Veteran has a service-connected heart condition and a 60% disability rating. She was still able to work until last year when she began to get chest pain when doing anything physical, like walking or lifting boxes. Her doctor told her to retire as soon as possible. She filed a claim for more disability compensation. We reviewed her work and education history and agreed that she was individually unemployable because of her service-connected disability. So we increased her disability compensation to the same rate as a 100% disabled Veteran.

Submitted by Ruth Aresvik





**If you wish to purchase a shirt or sweatshirt with our Post 154 logo, here are your options:**

- Short Sleeved polo with pocket - sizes S-XL \$26; 2XL \$31; 3XL \$32; 4XL \$32
- Short Sleeved polo WITHOUT pocket \$26 (other sizes as above)
- Short Sleeved moisture wick polo - sizes S-XL \$34; 2XL \$35; 3XL \$37; 4XL \$39
- Long Sleeved polo - sizes S-XL \$30; 2XL \$34; 3XL and 4XL not available
- Short Sleeved button down with pocket sizes S-XL \$36; 2XL \$39; 3XL \$43; 4XL \$45
- Pullover hoodie - sizes S-XL \$30; 2XL \$35; 3XL \$38; 4XL \$41
- Zip up hoodie - sizes S-XL \$34; 2XL \$40; 3XL \$42; 4XL \$43

These prices reflect the purchase price of the shirt (all dark blue), patch and embroidery logo. Sizes range from S to 2XL. Sizes 3XL and 4XL are available at a slightly increased price. Options 1-2 can be ordered with or without a left sided pocket at the same price. With this selection, the logo will appear on the RIGHT side of the garment, otherwise the logo will appear on the LEFT side of the garment.

See size chart below.

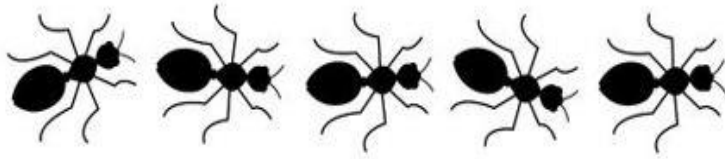
Our first order was submitted at the end of July, hopefully ready by the end of August at which time we will arrange pick-up or delivery options.

If you wish to order and are unable to do so at a membership meeting, contact Ruth Aresvik at 208-699-6615 or email: [rmavik47@gmail.com](mailto:rmavik47@gmail.com).

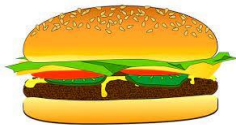
Make checks payable to "American Legion Post #154" and can be mailed to:

Ruth Aresvik  
6610 W Covenant St  
Rathdrum, ID 83858

**Note from Ruth:** Not surprisingly, there has been a slight price increase in the cost of the shirts since we took the first orders. The increases include only orders after July 24<sup>th</sup>. Thanks!



**The Post Picnic will be on Saturday August 28<sup>th</sup>. The Rathdrum City Park is reserved until 5 pm with potluck at noon. The Post will provide**



**&**



**buns, water, cups, plates, napkins & plasticware, salt & pepper. The Post will also provide mustard, ketchup & mayo. People should bring their picnic specialty dish to share, a main dish, salad or dessert, chips, pickles, onions, and lettuce for the burgers. Be sure to bring serving utensils for your dish.**

**We will be sitting at picnic tables & the benches don't move so you may want to bring a picnic. We will be eating in an enclosed area shaded from the sun. Electricity is available to plug in hot dishes. We have a kitchen with sink & fridge. People can email Sue Fevold at [Schoolmarm66@hotmail.com](mailto:Schoolmarm66@hotmail.com) so she can get a head count. Service will start at noon. You can start arriving around 11:30 to visit & enjoy the park.**

## The Coast Guard Women Who Kept LORAN Running in WWII



A Christmas card from Unit 21, 1944 (USCG) BY [U.S. COAST GUARD NEWS 12-24-2019 08:23:00](#)

*[By Donna Vojvodich and Senior Chief Petty Officer Tina Claflin (USCG, ret'd.)]*

During World War II, the Coast Guard established the Women's Reserve. The women who joined were known as SPARs, which stands for "Semper Paratus Always Ready." Recruited and trained to "release a man for sea," the SPARs served in a

variety of shore jobs, including clerical, recruiting, radiomen, parachute riggers, drivers, pharmacist's mates and cooks.

A small contingent served in more novel roles. In 1944, a group of SPARs led by Ensign Vera Hamerschlag arrived in Chatham, Massachusetts, replacing all the men at Unit 21, a top-secret LORAN monitoring station. This narrative is based on Van Hamerschlag's account, quotes from newspaper articles and stories relayed by the descendants of Unit 21 SPARs.

*"In the summer of 1943, Headquarters decided that LORAN Monitor Stations within continental United States should be manned by SPARs. . . . The monitor station is equipped with the same type of receiver-indicator, but being a fixed station, is able to check the accuracy and general operations of the transmitting stations. The SPAR operators had to stand watch 24 hours a day, taking and recording these measurements every two minutes. Having worked as an assistant to the Naval Liaison Officer for LORAN at Radiation Lab and thereby becoming familiar with the LORAN System, I was selected to be in charge of the first SPAR monitor station at Chatham, Massachusetts. One enlisted SPAR and I were assigned to a two months' course at M.I.T. in LORAN operation and maintenance of receiving equipment. We were the only women in the whole LORAN section of the Naval Training School and, needless to say, caused comment. . . . LORAN was so 'hush-hush' that not even the Training Officer had any conception of what the duties of these SPARs would be, nor what their qualifications should be." - Ensign Vera Hamerschlag, Commanding Officer*  
*"[During training] all of our class work, paperwork and notebooks had to be confiscated every day and secured. Even when we went to the station, it was still carried in a secure pouch." - Radioman Third Class Marion Withe*

*"Everybody hated us. They thought we were snobs because we couldn't talk to anybody."*

- Radioman Third Class Anita Freeman

*"Unit 21 was manned 100 percent by men and the idea was for them to leave for overseas assignments as quickly as we were capable of taking over. We did this within one month – 100 percent SPARs with the exception of one male radio technician who was a veritable 'man Friday' to us all. He acted as instructor as well, and left six months later when we felt qualified to accept the responsibility of technical maintenance."* - Ens. Van Hamerschlag

*I was apprehensive about serving under a woman commanding officer because I was not sure how to act."* - Radio Technician First Class Raymond Rathjen

*"The station consisted of one small building about 50 feet long and 30 feet wide. This provided sleeping quarters, recreation room, office space, operations room, repair shop and storage space!...I was operations and engineering officer, medical officer, barracks officer, personnel officer, training officer – and even Captain of the Head. I had to learn the intricacies of plumbing, of a coal furnace, of a Kohler engine that supplied emergency power when the main line was out – and being on the Cape where nor'easters are frequent, the times were many. I remember the feeling I had when I looked at the 125' mast for the station's antenna and wondered which SPAR would climb the riggin' if something went wrong. I asked the CO whom I was replacing who took care of it. His nonchalant answer was not to worry since nothing would happen to it short of a hurricane."* - Ens. Van Hamerschlag

*"On the night of September 14, 1944, the Great Atlantic Hurricane hit Chatham with winds up to 105 miles per hour. The CO was worried about the mast toppling over and smashing one of the buildings. Operations were suspended and the evacuated SPARs were moved around from building to building while guesses were made as to which building might be damaged."* - Radioman Freeman

Hurricanes were not the only threat. U-boats patrolled the coast and German agents were a concern. All the SPARs were issued firearms, and the lighthouse was the backdrop for target practice.

*"[We were] ordered to shoot anyone who entered the LORAN building without authorization."* - Radioman Freeman

*"The monitor room was locked at all times. One night we heard a noise in the entry area and called out asking the person to identify him or herself. There was no answer, so we armed ourselves. I was shaking. Could I really shoot someone? No shots were fired, as we determined that the intruder was the CO's dog."* - Radioman Simmons

*"The thought that we were participating in a system that was playing such an important part in winning the war gave us a feeling of being as close to the front lines as it was possible for SPARs to be."* - Ens. Van Hamerschlag

This article appears courtesy of Coast Guard Compass and may be found in its original form [here](#).





## No-Bake S'mores Ice Cream Pie

RECIPE COURTESY OF RONNIE WOO

- Total: 2 hr 40 min (includes freezing time)
- Active: 30 min
- Yield: 8 to 10 servings

### Ingredients

#### Graham Cracker Crust:

1/2 stick (4 tablespoons) unsalted butter  
1/2 cup semisweet chocolate chips  
1 3/4 cups finely ground graham cracker crumbs

#### Homemade Magic Chocolate Shell:

2 tablespoons coconut oil  
1 cup semisweet chocolate chips

### Directions

**For the graham cracker crust:** Melt the butter in a small saucepan over medium heat. Remove from the heat and whisk in the chocolate chips until melted and combined.

Combine the graham cracker crumbs and melted butter mixture in a large mixing bowl. Mix with a wooden spoon until combined.

Press the crumb mixture into the bottom and sides of a 9-inch pie dish. Transfer to the freezer for 10 minutes to firm up.

**For the homemade magic chocolate shell:** Melt the coconut oil and chocolate chips in a small saucepan over low heat, just until smooth. Remove from the heat.

**To assemble the pie:** Evenly spread half of the softened ice cream on the bottom of the pie crust. Drizzle a layer of chocolate shell over the ice cream, followed by the graham cracker crumbs and chocolate chips. Add the second half of the ice cream, followed by another drizzle of chocolate shell. Lastly, add a layer of marshmallow creme and a layer of marshmallows on top. Freeze for at least 2 hours or overnight.

**Serving options:** Place under a broiler to toast the marshmallows, 20 to 30 seconds. Keep an eye on the marshmallows as they toast up extremely quick. Or you can torch the top for the burnt marshmallow flavor.

#### Pie Components:

3 cups vanilla ice cream, softened  
1/4 cup finely ground graham cracker crumbs  
1/2 cup semisweet chocolate chips  
7 1/2 ounces marshmallow creme  
20 to 24 miniature marshmallows





**W**in this exquisite quilt entitled "American Beauty" created by Lynette and Darienn Sisk, volunteers of Quilts of Valor Patriotic Piecers - Post Falls. Patriot Piecers has a goal of providing a Quilt of Valor to every veteran that will reside at the Veterans Home being built in Post falls with an estimated completion date of 2023. The home will have private rooms for 64 veterans. The cost of each Quilt of Valor is about \$300 in materials.

Tickets: \$2.00 each or 3 tickets for \$5.00

Contact Char Carstensen 208-777-9684 for tickets.

**Rathdrum Community Center**  
8037 Montana Street, Rathdrum 208-687-2028



# AUGUST 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Rental 10 AM-6 PM	2	3 Lunch @ Noon Generations Bingo 3:00 PM Bingo 6:00 PM	4 Bible Study 9 AM "Remembering". Grief Sharing 1 PM	5 Lunch @ Noon Rental 6-8 PM	6 Painting With Hannah Millard 5-8 PM	7 Thrift Store & Farmer's Market 10 AM - 4 PM
8 Rental 10 AM -6 PM	9	10 Music 11 AM Lunch @ Noon  Bingo 6:00 PM	11 Bible Study 9 AM "Remembering". Grief Sharing 1 PM	12 Lunch @ Noon Board Meeting 1:00 PM  Rental 5:30 PM	13 Painting With Hannah Millard 5-8 PM	14 Thrift Store & Farmer's Market 10 AM - 4 PM  Community Business Fair 12-6 PM Majestic Park
15 Rental 10 AM -6 PM	16	17 Lunch @ Noon  Bingo 6:00 PM	18 Bible Study 9 AM "Remembering". Grief Sharing 1 PM	19 Lunch @ Noon  Family Night Bingo 6:00 PM	20 Painting With Hannah Millard 5-8 PM	21 Thrift Store & Farmer's Market 10 AM - 4 PM
22 Rental 10 AM -6 PM	23	24 Music 11 AM Lunch @ Noon  Bingo 6:00 PM	25 Bible Study 9 AM "Remembering". Grief Sharing 1 PM	26 Lunch @ Noon	27 Painting With Hannah Millard 5-8 PM	28 Thrift Store & Farmer's Market 10 AM - 4 PM
29 Rental 10 AM -6 PM	30 Casino Excursion 10 AM	31				

**Facility Rentals:**

Our center is available for special event rentals.

See Rhonda for more details

**Thrift Store & Farmer's Market:**  
Every Saturday from 10 AM - 4PM

**Bible Study:**

Wednesdays @ 9 AM

**"Remembrance"**

Grief Sharing: Wednesdays @ 1PM

**BINGO:**

Generations Bingo Every Tuesday @ 3:00 PM

RCC Bingo

Every Tuesday @ 6:00 PM

18 & Older - Cash Prizes

Family Night Bingo 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 6 PM

Great Prizes -All Ages Are Welcome

**Painting with**

**Hannah:**

Fridays 5 -8 PM

**Rathdrum**

**Business Fair:**

Saturday

August 14<sup>th</sup>

12 - 6 pm

Majestic Park

**Meal Donation:**

\$5.00

For Seniors & Children

Under 10

\$7.00

For Adults Under 60

Drive Thru Meals:

Available for those who are not ready for social interaction

OUR DELICIOUS MENU PREPARED BY OUR INCREDIBLE KITCHEN STAFF - IS ON THE BACK OF THIS CALENDAR





### RATHDRUM COMMUNITY CENTER

#### Menu - August 2021




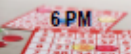
3rd	TUESDAY	French Onion & Ground Beef Sliders, Carrots, Fruit, Apple bars
5th	THURSDAY	Chicken in a Creamy Tomato Basil Sauce, Garlic Butter Pasta, Bread Sticks Green Beans, Salad, Fruit, Chocolate Chip Cookies Made from Scratch
10th	TUESDAY	Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Deviled Eggs, Cowboy Beans, Pineapple Cole Slaw Fruit, Sandwich Roll, Carmel Apple Fluff
12th	THURSDAY	Orange Chicken, Fried Rice Oriental Cabbage Salad, Green Beans Fruit, Pineapple Upside Down Cake
17th	TUESDAY	Pizza & Pasta Bake, Garlic Bread, Green Salad, Fruit, Coffee Cake
19th	THURSDAY	Beef & Broccoli, Rice Medley, Green Salad, Fruit Parfait
24th	TUESDAY	Loaded Potato Casserole with Chicken, Biscuits, Peas & Carrots Fruit, Molasses Cookies
26th	THURSDAY	Birthday Lunch, Cheesy Bacon BBQ Chicken, Oven Roasted Potatoes, Green Salad, Biscuits, Fruit and Birthday Cake
31st	TUESDAY	Mushroom Steak Stroganoff, Butter Noodles, Corn, Green Salad, Cottage Cheese & Sliced Tomatoes, Pumpkin Bars

If you have restrictions or food allergies and need to substitute, please let us know ahead of time.

Note: This is the calendar for Post 149 in Athol. They are welcoming our members to visit their bar and join their newly formed AL Riders.

AMERICAN  
LEGION  
POST 149  
ATHOL, IDAHO  
208-683-2614

# August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Bloody Mary Sundays \$4 and 4 PM BBingo & Potluck/ham, beans cornbread/bring a dish & get \$1 off 1st drink	2 MARGARITA MONDAY \$4 5 TO 7 PM	3 6 PM POTLUCK— ALL ARE WELCOME Bring a dish to share 7 PM LEGION MEETING	4 WHISKEY WEDNESDAY 5 TO 7 PM \$2.50 WELL \$4 CALL	5 6 PM PREP & PISTOL CLASS THIRSTY THUR 5 TO 7 PM \$2.50 WELL \$2.50 DRAFT	6 FIREBALL FRIDAY \$3 5 TO 7 PM  5:30 PM	7 9 AM AUXILIARY MEETING SATURDAY 5-7 SPECIAL BOGO 1/2 OFF
8 BLOODY MARY SUNDAY \$4 4 PM BBingo POTLUCK—bring a dish to share for \$1 off 1st drink	9 MARGARITA MONDAY \$4 5 TO 7 PM	10 6 PM Legion Riders Meeting TEQUILA TUES 5 TO 7 PM \$2.50 WELL \$4 CALL	11 WHISKEY WEDNESDAY 5 TO 7 PM \$2.50 WELL \$4 CALL	12 6 PM PREP & PISTOL CLASS THIRSTY THUR 5 TO 7 PM \$2.50 WELL \$2.50 DRAFT	13 FIREBALL FRIDAY \$3 5 TO 7 PM 5P HAMBURGERS & FRIES \$5 6 PM  6 PM	14 ATHOL DAZE 8:30 a.m. Parade lineup Beergarden in Park Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Cole Slaw & Potato Salad \$8
15 BLOODY MARY SUNDAY \$4 4 PM BBingo POTLUCK— bring a dish to share for \$1 off 1st drink	16 MARGARITA MONDAY \$4 5 TO 7 PM	17 TEQUILA TUESDAY 5 TO 7 PM \$2.50 WELL \$4 CALL	18 WHISKEY WEDNESDAY 5 TO 7 PM \$2.50 WELL \$4 CALL	19 6 PM PREP & PISTOL CLASS THIRSTY THUR 5 TO 7 PM \$2.50 WELL \$2.50 DRAFT	20 FIREBALL FRIDAY \$3 5 TO 7 PM  5:30 PM	21 Legion Huetter Rest Stop SATURDAY 5-7 SPECIAL BOGO 1/2 OFF
22 Legion Huetter RestStop BLOODY MARY SUNDAY \$4 4 PM BBingo POTLUCK—bring a dish to share	23 MARGARITA MONDAY \$4 5 TO 7 PM	24 TEQUILA TUESDAY 5 TO 7 PM \$2.50 WELL \$4 CALL	25 WHISKEY WEDNESDAY 5 TO 7 PM \$2.50 WELL \$4 CALL	26 6 PM PREP & PISTOL CLASS THIRSTY THUR 5 TO 7 PM \$2.50 WELL \$2.50 DRAFT	27 FIREBALL FRIDAY \$3 5 TO 7 PM 5P HAMBURGERS & FRIES \$5 6 PM  6 PM	28 6 PM AUXILIARY DINNER SATURDAY 5-7 SPECIAL BOGO 1/2 OFF
29 BLOODY MARY SUNDAY \$4 4 PM BBingo POTLUCK— bring a dish to share for \$1 off 1st drink	30 MARGARITA MONDAY \$4 5 TO 7 PM	31 TEQUILA TUESDAY 6:30 PM HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING				

A Note from Commander Darren: All Legion, Sal and Auxiliary Members Are Invited To The Club At 5 Pm this Coming Sunday, August 1, 2021 For A Free Drink.