



Post Script

American Legion Springfield ❖ Post 176 6520 Amherst Avenue ❖ Springfield, VA 22150

www.post176.org

703-440-0336

November-December 2020



From the Desk of the Commander

November and December are here and Wow! The biggest news on the horizon is the opening of Project ATLAS at our Post, on November 6, 2019.

Project ATLAS is a joint venture between the Veterans Administration Medical Center. We win! For the past two weeks, we have not seen a single leak from the roof. Thanks to Paul Dzierski and everyone involved in getting good contractors to fix this more than five-year problem. The Depart-

ment Fall Conference will not take place in-person. We are not sure what we will or can do for Veterans Day. We will continue to plan small special events in our Social Quarters and Banquet Hall, for example, Joe Clay is providing DJ music about twice a month. We are having food specials about once a week in the evening, i.e., Wednesday Wing Night. We will continue being COVID compliant: social distancing, and wearing masks. See you at our Post.

For God and Country
Dennis W. Madtes
Commander

Site Picture

2021 membership renewals are in full swing. Our goal was to be at 55% renewal by November 3, 2020. Good for you. We are already at 66%. There are more than 440 members who need to renew. Renew today and your membership will extend until December 31, 2021. **Don't wait until the end of the calendar year.**

The easiest way to renew your membership and keep current is online. All you need is your membership number and last name. Go to www.legion/renew.org. It's automated and you do not have to use the mail or write a check. For God and Country,

Marty Pfeifer
1st Vice Commander

What's Happening?

Post 176 publishes a weekly email newsletter that will keep you up to date on Post 176 happenings. If you are not getting the e-newsletter, it means we don't have your email address.

To get on our emailing list. Go to <http://post176.org/> and click on the subscribe box and fill out the form. In the "Organization" box, put in Legionnaire, Sons, Auxiliary, or Friend. Then click on the "SUBSCRIBE" button.

SUBSCRIBE to Post 176 E-News

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Important Dates

1 Nov	Daylight Saving Time Ends
3 Nov	Election Day
10 Nov	USMC Established 1775
11 Nov	Veterans Day
26 Nov	Thanksgiving Day
7 Dec	Pearl Harbor Day
10 Dec	Hanukkah Begins
25 Dec	Christmas Day Post Closed
31 Dec	New Years Eve
1 Jan	New Years Day Post Closed



Red Cross Blood Drive



In Honor of Comrade Joe Finch

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

1:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Go to www.redcrossblood.org

Put in sponsor Code “AMERICANLEGION176VA” in the search box

To talk to a live person, call 1-800-RED-CROSS (option 3). Tell the representative you want to donate at the American Legion in Springfield (sponsor code above) on **December 8, 2020**. Due to Red Cross COVID regulations you must make an appointment. No walk ins are permitted.



Wear your mask
and
Protect yourself &
Others



Sons of The American Legion

The Sons Fourth Annual Pig Roast occurred on September 19, 2020 with great success. Detachment Commander Victor Graulau was present as was our own Detachment Vice Commander Tyler Vanice. The Squadron would like to thank Grover Gaming for their sponsorship. We look forward to working with them in the future. We also thank the Post for their assistance: Mike Wolfe for the Vietnam War memorabilia display and all the volunteers who made it possible.



Please renew your membership with the Sons at your earliest convenience. You can drop off your dues at the post or you can mail them to us. Please remember dues are \$35 for regular members, \$30 for dual members, and \$20 for youth members. We hope you enjoy the holiday season.

For God and Country,
Tyler Vanice, Adjutant

Jason Rodriguez SALCommander@post176.org	Commander	Marty Pfeifer SALFirstVice@post176.org	First Vice Commander
Tyler Vanice SALAdjutant@post176.org	Adjutant	Kevin Campbell SALFinance@post176.org	Finance Officer
Michael Wolfe	Historian	Paul Kaepfel	Chaplain
Chuck Sward SALSergeant-at-Arms@post176.org	Sergeant-at-Arms	Jason Rodriguez SALmembership@post176.org	Membership Chair



FROM THE LEDGER DOMAIN

As the COVID situation evolves, we are optimistic that our revenue sources will become sufficient to support ongoing Post improvements. We are putting all lockdown issues relating to finance behind us. We are preparing for an audit. The books for the past few months have been reconciled. The finance team: Carl, Ray, Rex, Tony, Denise, Mike, Marty, etc. have made **heroic efforts to restore and improve upon Post 176's very strong financial position.**



American Legion Post 176
Classic Christmas Holidays

with
Joe Clay the DJ

Christmas Music
Song Along



Fabulous Holiday Dinner

December 11, 2020

\$15.00

COMMUNITY WELCOME

Post Officers & Event Managers 2019-2020

Commander Dennis Madtes Commander@post176.org	First Vice Commander Bob Eidsvoog FirstVice@post176.org	Second Vice Commander Marty Pfeifer SecondVice@post176.org	Third Vice Commander Paul Kaepfel ThirdVice@post176.org
Adjutant Matt Toomer Adjutant@post176.org	Finance Officer Jon Taylor FinanceOfficer@post176.org	Chaplain Janet Prall Chaplain@post176.org	Sergeant-at-Arms Kevin Gaddis Sergeant-at-Arms@post176.org
Service Officer Ali Nikolai ServiceOfficer@post176.org	Judge Advocate Michael Farabaugh JudgeAdvocate@post176.org	Historian Bob Loach Historian@post176.org	General Manager Bob Eidsvoog GeneralManager@post176.org
Members-at-Large 1-year Rex Cunningham 1YrMember-at-large@post176.org-	Members-at-Large 2-year Floyd Cline NO EMAIL	Members-at-Large 3-year Michel Harnist 3YrMembe-at-Large@post176.org	Auxiliary President Stephanie Dabbe AuxiliaryPresident@post176.org
Legion Riders Craig Hendrickson ALRDirector@post176.org	SAL Bryan Steele SALCommander@post176.org	Public Relation Officer Paul Kaepfel PROfficer@post176.org	Post Script Editor Mack Brooks PostScript@post176.org
Membership Committee Chairman Bob Eidsvoog Membership@post176.org	Bridge Club Bonnie Norem 703-477-4496	E-News Theron Patrick E-News@post176.org	Blood Drive Theron Patrick BloodDrive@post176.org
Web Master Jim Fisher webmaster@post176.org	Cribbage Paul McFarland cribbage@post176.org 703-491-1928	Karaoke Joe Clay KARAOKE@POST176.ORG	House Committee Chairman Robert Sylvia Housecommittee@post176.org

Post 176 American Legion Riders



September and October have seen increased activity for Riders. Charity rides that were delayed in the Spring have been rescheduled for Fall. The Riders are participating in as many as possible. The service for Legionnaire Walter Best held at our Post saw Janet Prall, Post and Rider Chaplain, perform the memorial ceremony. Jack Moar brought together an Honor Guard of himself, Ric Licardo, Mike Tomsey and Dennis Jones representing the Legion in paying respect to Mr. Best. Mike Tomsey participated in an escort to Quantico Cemetery. Thank you to everyone that helped make the Riders first tailgate of the season a success. In October we rode to the Shanksville Flight 93 memorial. Upcoming Rider tailgates, 15 November, 6 December. For God and Country, Craig Hendrickson, Director

Director	Craig Hendrickson	Road Captain	Mark Hammond
Assistant Director	Dennis W. Madtes	Sergeant-at- Arms	Dennis Jones
Treasurer	Don Strawder	Chaplain	Janet Prall
Adjutant	Laura Wages		



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 22, 2020

VA opens new ATLAS site
*Public and private organization collaboration provides increased access to
VA health care services*

SPRINGFIELD, Va. — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today, the joint opening with The American Legion and Philips North America of the newest [Accessing Telehealth through Local Area Stations \(ATLAS\)](#) site at American Legion Post 176 in Springfield.

ATLAS is part of VA's [Anywhere to Anywhere](#) initiative which works to better serve almost 9 million Veterans — no matter where they are — who receive care through VA.

ATLAS sites provide Veterans with private appointment space to meet with VA providers through [VA Video Connect](#), VA's secure videoconferencing platform. They offer services that do not require hands-on exams, such as primary care, nutrition, mental health counseling and social work. Establishing these points of care closer to Veterans' homes, ATLAS reduces obstacles to care and increases access.

“VA's latest ATLAS site reaffirms the effectiveness of collaborating with private organizations to provide cutting-edge care to Veterans,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. “The American Legion and Philips North America are providing the space and technology for these sites so Veterans can conveniently access VA health care services in their communities.”

“The events of the last few months have reinforced the value of telehealth and the relationship between VA, The American Legion and Philips,” said James W. “Bill” Oxford, national commander of The American Legion. “Not all Veterans live close to a VA Medical Center. Travel can be expensive, frustrating and time-consuming. With COVID-19 in the mix it can also be dangerous. ATLAS sites will make health care delivery safer and more efficient for those Veterans in particular.”

“Our mission as an organization is to improve the lives of 3 billion people a year by 2030 and there is no community more deserving than our nation's Veterans,” said Vitor Rocha, chief market leader of Philips North America. “Working with VA, The American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars enables us to drive innovations and programs to help improve Veterans' health and allow them to get the care they need, when then need it, in a safe convenient place, regardless of where they live.”

The [VA Secretary's Center for Strategic Partnerships](#) facilitated the collaboration between The American Legion and Philips North America that helps increase Veteran access to VA health care. American Legion Post 176 has donated private appointment space and will provide operational support for the Springfield ATLAS site. Philips North America donated telehealth equipment and co-created telehealth-capable appointment spaces that will be used at the multiple ATLAS sites.

VA has established procedures at ATLAS sites to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These procedures are based on guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Environmental Protection Agency. The ATLAS site at The American Legion in Springfield is also following local and state guidelines for COVID-19.

To learn more about ATLAS, visit the [VA Office of Connected Care](#).

General Manager's Report



Management has made several essential repairs to the Post. We resurfaced the patio area so that it can continue to be a place for elegant dining. Michael Farabaugh, the Post Judge Advocate, continues to work on patio roof and electrical repairs.

A new air conditioning compressor was ordered. It is expected to arrive before the end of September. Repairs to the air conditioner will ensure climate control **to the Post's upper floors. Social Quarters is open but under COVID-19 restrictions. It cost \$2,257.09 to repair the Post's cold food preparation station. The Post purchased new kitchen and bar equipment, to support that effort.**

The Post was scheduled to have the following meetings and events: Census Training, Volunteer staffed Taco Night, 17th District Organizational Meeting, SAL 17th District Organizational Meeting, Labor Day Picnic, Patriot Dinner, Walter Best Funeral Service, Sons of The American Legion Pig Roast, and Tailgates.

Bar operations have been moved to Social Quarters. The facility has been configured to comply with COVID-19 requirements. As part of the reconfiguration, the beer cooler was repaired. Post 176 ATLAS is fully operational. See other sections of this Post Script for the Veterans Administration News Release.

A curtain was purchased for the stage area of the Banquet Hall to support other meeting activities. **The curtain enhances the Banquet Hall's appearance. Anyone wanting to rent the Banquet Hall** should coordinate with Ms. Erika Escobar, (703) 440-0335, our Banquet Hall/Cafe manager.

Ms. Erica Escobar and Marty Pfeifer are reviewing the Café menu. They are considering increasing prices because of increased food costs. Current Café prices have not changed for over five years and COVID-19 has drastically affected costs. Prices will be kept as low as possible to Legion members and customers with minimum subsidizing from the Lounge.

After two weeks of intermittent service, the Post's internet service which has been repaired. This problem was resolved through the efforts of Theron Patrick, our IT manager and Cox Communications.

Many thanks to our new Finance Officer, Peter Adam, for assuming that position. Much appreciated. **Thanks also to Ray Jechorek for reconciliation the Post's July and August banking statements.** Carl Simchick continues to assist with financial operations. His role has substantially improved our operations. The Post continues to build teams to address Post financial matters. Thanks to Post Adjutant, Carl Simchick, our Judge Advocate, and Facilities Manager, Mike Farabaugh, Members-at-Large Rex Cunningham and Scott Logan, and Tony Esteves. They count the money to ensure our ATMs are stocked and service our E-Gaming machines. Their role allows the Finance Officer to focus on our accounting system.

We have hired a new bartender, Dianne Smith. She only works several days a week. Say hello to Diane. The Post managers continue to look for ways to make our operation more efficient, while still providing quality service to members and guests.

Thanks to the many volunteers who contribute to these efforts.
For God and Country,
Marty Pfeifer,

American Legion Post 176 Monthly Designations

January	New Year Month
March	Community Service Month
May	Auxiliary Month
July	Independence Month
September	Legion Riders Month
November	Veterans Month

February	Americanism Month
April	Children and Youth Month
June	Lend a Hand for Veterans Month
August	Sons of The American Legion Month
October	Membership Month
December	Freedom Month



Service to Veterans



Because of COVID 19, many veteran families have turned to the Post for help. We continue to provide financial support to Legionnaires and veterans through our VA & R funds and private donations. Additionally, we continue to help veterans with disability benefits and claims and referrals for assisted living. We will continue to help low-income families for Thanksgiving. The Post and Auxiliary will again provide stipends and gifts for our veterans at Christmas. Thanks for your generous support. Anyone with questions about entitlements or needing to file a claim can contact me (ServiceOfficer@post176.org) or my associate, Bob White, at etihwr2@verizon.net, weekdays from 0900 to 1900 at 240-898-4011.

N.B.: Our Post also received the Department Service Trophy for 2019-2020
Service Officer, Ali Nikolai

Legion Auxiliary Post 176



Auxiliary Unit 176 hopes you had a wonderful late summer. Even though we cannot have our Poppy Distribution this year for Veterans Day, the good news is that contributions to the Poppy Fund are accepted all year long. These funds are used for veteran and active duty service members. Our September and October meetings were conducted via telephone. We will let our members know of our future plans at the November meeting.

We had our first tailgate on September 20. Thanks to everyone who contributed. We have two more **tailgates on November 8 and December 13. I can't wait to see you again. In closing, stay safe.**
For God and Country,
Stephanie Dabbe, President, Unit 176

OFFICE	NAME	OFFICE	NAME
President	Stephanie Dabbe	Chaplain	Lisa Wolf
Vice President	Susan Hedrick	Sergeant-at-Arms	Mary Siwik
Secretary	Floy Lipscomb	Membership	Coleen Austin
Treasurer	Coleen Austin	Historian	Rita Newbegin
Asst Sgt -at-Arms	Kimberly Palmer		

Post 176 Activities

Sons of The American Legion Pig Roast	Labor Day Picnic
Volunteer Staffed Taco Night	Tailgates
17 th District Organizational Meeting	Patriot Dinner
SAL 17 th District Organizational Meeting	Census Training



Accessing Telehealth through Local Area Stations (ATLAS)

We are Open for You!

American Legion Post 176 has been chosen by the Veterans Administration (VA) to be the first American Legion facility and one of the first of any description to host Accessing Telehealth through Local Area Stations (ATLAS). ATLAS is a high-tech system providing veterans with private appointment space to meet with VA providers through VA **Video Connect, VA's secure videoconferencing platform. They offer services that do not require hands-on exams, such as primary care, nutrition, mental health counseling and social work. These points of care are closer to the veteran's home. ATLAS reduces obstacles to care and increases access.**

Post 176 provides space and other facilities such as rest rooms, waiting areas, power, heat/air conditioning, internet access and general support. The Veterans Administration schedules the appointments and provides the medical care. This program is open to all veterans.

The National Museum of the United States Army will open its doors on November 11, 2020. The Foundation welcomes active duty, Reserve, retired, veterans, friends, and visitors to its tribute to the American Soldier. The museum is located just off Fort Belvoir, VA. Free timed-tickets **are available through the Museum's website** at theNMUSA.org. Tickets will be required for entry are expect them to be in high demand.



mote social distancing by limiting the number of visitors in the **building, offering 'grab and go'** refreshments in the café, modifying some of the interactive exhibits, and enhancing cleaning procedures.

The Museum is preparing to open doors under CDC guidelines. The Museum will pro-

The opening ceremony will be limited to a small gathering of Army leaders, but the occasion will be livestreamed to allow people around the world to witness the historic moment. A link to the **livestream will be posted on the Museum's website and social media channels as soon as it's available.**

Hours of

Warrior Café

Breakfast & Lunch
Monday - Saturday
7:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Sunday
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Friday Night
Dinner
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Tier-1 Lounge

Sunday-Thursday
11:30 AM - 7:00 PM

Friday - Saturday
11:30 AM - 9:00 PM



Post 176



YOUTH & CHILDREN'S

Boy Scouts	Troop 1344	Troop1344.org
Boys State	Marty Pfeifer	FirstVice@post176
Girls State	Floy Lipscom	Auxiliary
Baseball	Albert Vaxmonsky	Manager
Sea Scouts	Joel Davis	jdavid5151@aol.com
Youth Cadet Law Enforcement	W J Leonard	Law Enforcement
Oratorical	First Vice	Vapost176@cox.net
Civil Air Patrol	Lt. Col. Bill Eliason	dc045.natcapwing.org



Youth and Family Help ECHO

Ecumenical Community Helping Others
7205 Old Keene Mill Rd, Springfield, VA 22150
703-565-7972
[http:// WWW.ECHO-INC.ORG](http://WWW.ECHO-INC.ORG)



KOINONIA

6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310
703-971-1991
<http://WWW.KOINONIACARES.ORG>
INFO@KOINONIACARES.ORG



US Department of Veterans Affairs Hot Line



Virginia Department of Veterans Services

Connects Virginia's veterans and their families to federal and state benefits, support, quality care, and recognition they have earned. CALL FIRST LIMITED HOURS

Springfield Benefit Office Service Area

Pentagon, Henderson Hall-Fort Myers, Fort Belvoir, Arlington County, Alexandria-Fairfax Counties, Springfield-Franconia, Lorton, Loudoun, Fredericksburg and surrounding areas.

Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Veterans seen: 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Address: 6564 Loisdale Ct.; Suite 301 Springfield, VA 22150; 703-417-9090

November-December 2020 PostScript

Editor: Mack Brooks

Senior Editor: Comrade Paul Kaepfel, Public Relations, 3rd Vice Commander

Editors: Comrades Dennis Madtes, Marty Pfeifer

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/legionpost176>

Story ideas, suggestions, or comments to improve the Post Script

POST 176 EVENTS SCHEDULE

November 2020 Veteran Month		
3	ALL DAY	Election Day
4	7:00 PM	Bridge
7	7:00 PM	Cribbage
8	1:00 PM	Tailgate: Redskins vs New York Giants
10	6:00 PM	Legion Riders Meeting
10	7:00 PM	General Membership/Auxiliary Meeting
12	7:00 PM	Cribbage
14	8:00 AM	Ranger & Special Forces Breakfast
12	7:00 PM	Cribbage
15	1:00 PM	Tailgate: Redskins vs Detroit Lions
17	7:00 PM	Executive Committee/SAL Meeting
18	7:00 PM	Bridge
19	7:00 PM	Cribbage
21	1:00 PM	Purple Heart Chapter 353
22	1:00 PM	Tailgate: Redskins vs Cincinnati Bengals
26	2: PM - Till	Thanksgiving at the Post See Posting
26	7:00 PM	Cribbage

December 2020: Freedom Month		
2	7:00 PM	Bridge
3	7:00 PM	Cribbage
6	1:00 PM	Tailgate: Redskins vs Pittsburgh Steelers
8	1:30 PM	Blood Drive
10	7:00 PM	Cribbage
11	5:30 PM	Classic Christmas Banquet
12	8:00 AM	Ranger & Special Forces Breakfast
13	4:25 PM	Tailgate: Redskins vs San Francisco 49ers
15	7:00 PM	Executive Committee
16	7:00 PM	Bridge
17	7:00 PM	Cribbage
19		Wreaths Across American
20	1:00 PM	Tailgate: Redskins vs Seattle Seahawks
25		Christmas Day Post Closed
27	1:00 PM	Tailgate: Redskins vs Carolina Panthers
31	7:30 PM	New Year's Eve Gala
1		New Year's Day Post Closed

Tier-1

DJ Music

Joe Clay

**Dates and Times
to be
Posted**



Nov 26, 2019
See Posting
In
**Warrior's
Cafe**

New Years Eve Gala

DEC 31, 2020



COVID-19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE

BE INFORMED:

Know Your Risk During COVID-19

On a scale of 1 to 10, how risky is...

Ranked by physicians from the TMA COVID-19 Task Force and the TMA Committee on Infectious Diseases.

Please assume that participants in these activities are following currently recommended safety protocols when possible.



Texas Medical Association | 401 W. 15th St. | Austin, TX 78701-1680

www.texmed.org

[f](#) [t](#) [@texmed](#)

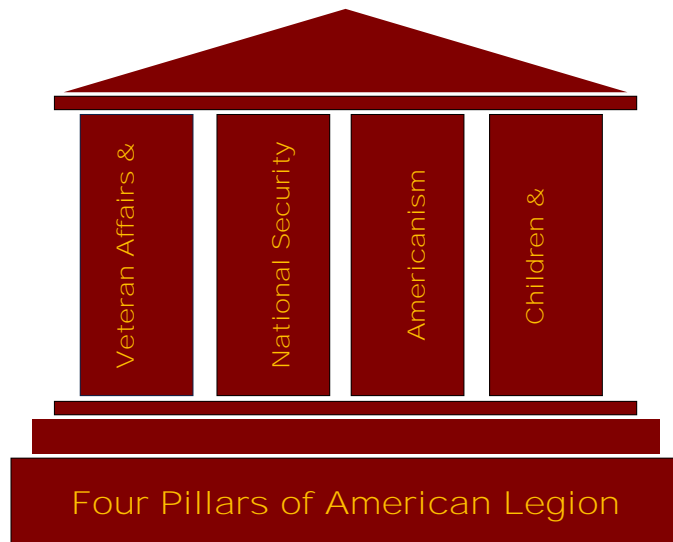
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AMERICAN LEGION

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For God and Country



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