



Post Script

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

www.post176.org

703-440-0336

January-February 2021



From the Desk of the Commander

First and foremost we are very concerned about the 101 Post 176 members that are 80 years old and older. We are doing all we can to keep them safe and cared for. Recently we provided several meals free of charge either at the Post or delivered to their home. While we are remaining open, we are following the newest guidance to the best of our ability. We are maximizing use of all our rooms to keep groups in compliance with Virginia's directives and being socially distanced. The Warrior Café remains open to provide excellent food at a low cost to many Veterans. Seating is available in the Café or the Banquet Hall. Wednesday Night Wings continues to be a big hit. Join us between 5 and 8 pm. The Special Forces Association Chapter XI Breakfast will take place on January 9th. The American Legion Riders meet for breakfast every Sunday morning at 9 am. Since all membership cards from 2020 expired on December 31st, please bring your new 2021 membership card to the post and show it to the staff during the month of January. And, very importantly, we will have in person socially distanced Membership and Executive Committee meetings at the regularly scheduled times. Post 176 is on a very positive roll and enjoying a tremendous number of new volunteers making things happen for Veterans. For God and country, Dennis Madtes, Commander Post 176



Wear your mask
to protect yourself and others.
If you have a bald head
Please wear a cover.
It's cold outside

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://www.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.

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Important Dates

| | |
|--------|----------------------------|
| Jan 1 | New Year's Day |
| Jan 18 | Martin Luther King, Jr Day |
| Jan 27 | U.S.—Vietnam Cease Fire |
| Feb 3 | Four Chaplains Day |
| Feb 12 | Lincoln's Birthday |
| Feb 14 | Valentine's Day |
| Feb 15 | Presidents' Day |
| Feb 22 | Washington's Birthday |
| Feb 23 | Flag raised on Iwo Jima |



Red Cross Blood Drive

In Honor of Comrade Joe Finch

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

1:30 PM to 7:30 PM



Go to <https://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 **February 9, 2021**. Due to Red Cross COVID regulations you must make an appointment. No walk ins are permitted. Post Contact: Theron Patrick (BloodDrive@post176.org).

April 13 June 8 Aug 10 Oct 12



Legion Auxiliary 176

Unit 176 hopes you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We are grateful for our families and our Legion family for all of the help they have given us with our tailgates and other programs. We especially thank Bob Sylva and Marty Pfeifer for their assistance with the tailgates. We are having our final tailgate on December 13 at 2:00 PM. The game starts at 4:25.

We really appreciate our members who are donating to all of the various charities and food banks this time of the year. We are holding our meetings virtually due to the virus. Hopefully next year everything returns to normal.

For God and Country, Stephanie Martin Dabbe, President Unit 176 American Legion Auxiliary

| OFFICE | NAME | OFFICE | NAME |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| President | Stephanie Dabbe | Chaplain | Lisa Wolf |
| Vice President | Susan Hendrick | Sergeant-at-Arms/Asst | Mary Slide |
| Secretary | Floy Lipscomb | Membership | Coleen Austin |
| Treasurer | Coleen Austin | Historian | Rita Newbegin |



Sons of The American Legion

I hope you had a fantastic holiday season. The year is starting off weaker than normal due to COVID-19 but there is an easy way to fix that issue.

I encourage you to pay your dues if you have not renewed for 2021. If you are **unsure, contact me or any Post officer. We'd be glad to assist.**

Please mail checks to:

American Legion Post 176

S.A.L. Membership Chair

6520 Amherst Ave

Springfield, VA 22150

Please remember dues have changed.

Membership dues are \$35.00 for regular members, \$30.00 for dual members, and \$20.00 for youth members. We are encouraging participation by our members to join us at our monthly General Membership Meeting, which will be held on the second Tuesday at 7:30 pm until further notice in the ATLAS Room.

For God and Country,

Tyler Vanice, Squadron Adjutant, Detachment Vice Commander

Children & Youth Chairman

New Years Candlelight Dinner

January 15, 2021

5:00 PM

in the Elegant Post Banquet Hall



American Legion Post 176

6520 Amherst Avenue, Springfield, VA 22150

Sea Shore & Range \$15.00

Entertainment Legion Arts Production

Community Welcome

Veterans Administration (VA) & American Legion Post 176



Offering VA Care Closer to Your Home



ATLAS (Accessing Telehealth through Local Area Stations) is part of VA's Anywhere to Anywhere telehealth initiative, which sets out to better serve the nearly 9 million Veterans who receive care through VA – no matter where they are.

ATLAS has teamed up with American Legion Post 176, Springfield, Virginia, to enhance **underserved Veterans' access to VA health care by offering them this convenient location in Northern Virginia** to receive VA care closer to home. This new option reduces obstacles such as long travel times to appointments and poor internet connectivity at home.

VA Video Appointments at Post 176 ATLAS Site

This ATLAS site provides free, internet broadband access for Veterans to connect to their VA providers by video. During ATLAS appointments, Veterans meet with VA providers through [VA Video Connect](#), VA's secure videoconferencing software.

Clinical Services Offered at Post 176 ATLAS Site

Post 176 ATLAS site is open to all Veterans that are eligible to receive care through the VA health care system. This local VA facility associated with the ATLAS site determines which clinical services the this site offers. Clinical services offered by video may include primary care, mental health counseling, clinical pharmacy, nutrition services, social work, and more.

What to Expect at this ATLAS Appointment

Once Veterans arrive at this ATLAS site, they will be greeted by an on-site attendant who will guide them to the appointment room and help them check in to their appointment. The attendant can also help veterans troubleshoot basic technical issues. However, the attendants are not **VA employees and will not be present once the appointment begins, nor have access to Veterans' medical or personal information.**

This ATLAS site is currently located at American Legion Post 176 in Springfield, Virginia, location. For a Veteran to attend an appointment at an ATLAS site, the site must be associated with the VA Medical Center (VAMC) in which the Veteran is enrolled for care. Family members who receive care through VA can visit ATLAS sites for select VA appointments. Those interested in receiving care at an ATLAS site should reach out to the contact listed at this site information.

*Hours listed in Eastern Time

American Legion Post 176

6520 Amherst Ave, Springfield, VA 22150

Mon - Fri | 8am - 2pm

(Continued on page 5)

[Fort Belvoir VA Clinic](#)

9300 Dewitt Loop
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5285
Main number: [571-231-2408](#)
Mental health: [571-231-2408](#)

[Washington VA Medical Center](#)

50 Irving Street, Northwest
Washington, DC 20422-0001
Main number: [202-745-8000](#)
Mental health: [202-745-8000 x58127](#)

[Martinsburg VA Medical Center](#)

510 Butler Avenue
Martinsburg, WV 25405-9990
Main number: [800-817-3807](#)

An Important Message About ATLAS Sites Reopening Status:

The ATLAS site located at American Legion Post #176 in Springfield, Virginia, is open for Veterans to receive VA clinical services during their select hours of operation.

The ATLAS sites in Springfield, Virginia, have implemented infection control procedures based on guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for preventing the spread of COVID-19. These sites are also following local and state guidelines for COVID-19.

Veterans who have an internet connection and a smartphone, tablet, or computer are encouraged to participate in video appointments from home using [VA Video Connect](#). Veterans may also access care from home via a telephone appointment. To schedule a VA appointment, call your [preferred VA health facility](#).

[Fort Meade VA Clinic](#)

2479 5th Street
Fort Meade, MD 20755
Main number: [410-305-5300](#)
Mental health: [410-305-5300 x5323](#)

[Fredericksburg VA Clinic](#)

130 Executive Center Parkway
Fredericksburg, VA 22401-3100
Main number: [540-370-4468](#)



INOVA Announces Plans for New Hospital in Springfield

INOVA Health System has acquired more land near its Springfield HealthPlex, growing the footprint of a new hospital campus it intends to build there and sealing the fate of a mixed-use development the former owner had long-planned for the site. The latest deal of 8.8 acres on top of about 4.1 acres purchased in January adds to land Inova already owns there, forming a combined 21-acre property where it plans to construct a new acute-care facility adjacent to the existing HealthPlex.



ALR continues to have successful tailgates. This success is due to all who support and participate. Thank you.

We are in the process of identifying rides or events for Calendar Year 2021.
We're always looking for new members.

Get the word out.

For God and Country, Craig Hendrickson
Director
Post 176 Legion Riders



Post Improvements Update

IT improvements are progressing satisfactorily changing to Windows 10 system and networking throughout the post to service all members and guests of the post satisfactorily. At the General Membership Meeting on November 10th a motion was approved to authorize the expenditure of funds for IT improvements.

We have taken appointments for Project ATLAS (Accessing Telehealth through Local Area Stations) (Veterans Administration) to be services at the Post 176.

There have been a number of meetings and events at the Post:

- a. Wings Wednesday continue.
- b. Football tailgates.
- c. **Several rentals of the “Banquet Hall”**
- d. Begun hosting the Civil Air Patrol on Thursdays.
- e. Please check the calendar for events in the Warrior Café.

New COVID-19 restrictions announced by Governor Northam on November 13, 2020 will have an **impact on our ability to rent the “Banquet Hall” for events.**

Collecting “Toys for Tots” during November and December was a great success.

Participating in the Chamber of Commerce Veterans Committee. The Vets Committee will collect new socks needed by our less fortunate vets. Please keep our vets in mind during these trying times when shopping during these trying times.

Greet Karin McLaughlin as she assumes the duties of “Lead Bartender”. Karen is responsible for scheduling bartenders, ordering beer and supplies, tracking our charitable gaming, and conduct training for bartenders in addition to her regular duties as a bartender. This allows Mike and Marty to work on other projects.

Post 176 needs a volunteer to head the Grounds Maintenance team, so we are looking for a volunteer to take the lead. Charlie will assist during the transition. When you see Charlie or a member of the Grounds Maintenance team, please give them thanks for their outstanding work in service of Post 176.

More volunteers are needed. We are very fortunate that members step forward to be volunteers. This saves Post 176 a significant amount of money. If you know someone who would like to volunteer, please get them involved.

For God and Country, Marty Pfeifer, Interim General Manager.

*Happy New Year
2021*



Veteran and Family Support (VVFS) (formerly the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program) monitors and coordinates behavioral health, rehabilitative, and supportive services through an integrated, and responsive system of care.

The following was received from VVFS and confirmed still effective:

For the health and safety of our clientele and staff, DVS offices are not meeting face to face with clients until further notice, however we are open for business and available to assist veterans and their families remotely, communicating via mail, email and telephone. Your calls will be returned within 1 business day. Note: Our return calls may appear as a Blocked Call. Please don't hesitate to contact me at Samara.Alexander@dvs.virginia.gov or by phone at 703-417-9090. The Springfield office mailing address is 6564 Loisdale Ct Ste 301 Springfield VA 22150.

Chaplains Corner

The Reign of the Lord's Anointed

Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?

The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed, saying, "Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us." He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, "As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill." I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel." Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him. Amen. For God and Country, Janet Prall, Post 176 Chaplain



From the Ledger Domain

Post 176's financial position remains strong, with consolidated cash balances more than sufficient to sustain operations, come what may, due to the evolving Covid-19 situation. The post appears profitable on a consolidated basis. Our ability to sustain all the capital improvement and maintenance projects, including the IT system upgrades, all of which have been approved by the executive committee and management, is incontrovertible. We have been aligning account and trust signatory procedures with current personnel configuration. We have been making improvements in our financial control and records keeping practices. Our accounting procedures have been improved notably in terms of accuracy and transparency. We are working on having a CPA perform a "proof of cash" type of review, which will be less expensive than a full fledged audit. This will allow us, however, to improve our finance and management control practices further, and consolidate banking accounts, as needed. (hopefully this can be done before the end of the year or early in 2021).



We have been in touch with the state authorities to ensure our tax payments are up to date. We intend to have the Jar Treck Point of Sale system up and running this week. We have assigned one of the bartenders greater responsibilities as Bar Manager and expect that this will make it easier to account for all gaming and social quarters activities. We are looking into making the Warrior Cafe more cost/efficient as well. (Thanks, Paul!) We will be reviewing donation procedures and practices between now and year end, as well as how the Denz trust fund is monitored and how its principal and proceeds are accounted for and utilized. Many thanks as well to the Finance Team, Carl, Rex, Scott, Tony, etc. And particularly Mike who has been doing a truly herculean job, along with Marty and Dennis. For God and Country, Peter Adam, Post 176 Finance Officer



Virginia Department of Veterans Services

www.dvs.virginia.gov

VIRGINIA VETERANS

We're here to Advocate for You and Connect You

To The Benefits And Services You Earned.

We can give you the most current information on federal, state and local veterans programs, entitlements and referral services.

We are a state agency with 34 offices throughout the Commonwealth. All our services are available free of charge.

Due to the current COVID-19 emergency, our offices are closed to protect the health and safety of our clients and staff. But our Veterans Service Representatives are still available to assist you and your families by telephone or email.

For more information – including how to contact us directly-please visit

<http://www.dvs.virginia.gov/benefits/>

<https://www.facebook.com/VirginiaVeteransServices>

Or telephone us at our main number at 703-4127-9090

American Legion Post 176 Monthly Designations

| | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| January | New Year Month | February | Americanism Month |
| March | Community Service Month | April | Children and Youth Month |
| May | Auxiliary Month | June | Lend a Hand for Veterans Month |
| July | Independence Month | August | Sons of The American Legion Month |
| September | Legion Riders Month | October | Membership Month |
| November | Veterans Month | December | Freedom Month |

Post Officers & Event Managers 2020-2021

| | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| Commander Dennis Madtes Commander@post176.org | First Vice Commander Marty Pfeifer FirstVice@post176.org | Second Vice Commander Kevin Gaddis SecondVice@post176.org | Third Vice Commander Paul Kaepfel ThirdVice@post176.org |
| Adjutant Carl Simchick Adjutant@post176.org | Finance Officer Peter Adam FinanceOfficer@post176.org | Chaplain Janet Prall Chaplain@post176.org | Sergeant-at-Arms Kay Croll 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 | Acting General Manager Marty Pfeifer GeneralManager@post176.org |
| Members-at-Large 1-year Floyd Cline No E-Mail | Members-at-Large 2-year Scott Logan 2YrMember-at-large@post176.org | Members-at-Large 3-year Rex Cunningham 3YrMember-at-large@post176.org | Auxiliary President Stephanie Dabbe AuxiliaryPresident@post176.org |
| Legion Riders Craig Hendrickson ALRDirector@post176.org | SAL Commander Jason Rodriguez SALCommander@post176.org | Public Relations Paul H Kaepfel PublicRelations@Post176.org | Post Script Editor Mack Brooks NO POST 176 EMAIL |
| Past Commander Ed Amoros PastCommander@post176.org | Bridge Club Bonnie Norem 703-491-1928 | E-News Theron Patrick E-News@post176.org | Blood Drive Theron Patrick BloodDrive@post176.org |
| Web Master | Cribbage Paul McFarland cribbage@post176.org 703-491-1928 | Karaoke Joe Clay KARAOKE@POST176.ORG | House Committee Chairman Robert Sylvia Housecommittee@post176.org |

Local 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) ADMIN@ECHO-INC.ORG



Service Officer

Again, thanks to our VA&R budget, we were able to provide financial aid to veterans in need of help. All of the families were impacted by COVID and were in arrears for rent, medical expenses, and/or other necessities. **In addition, we're continuing to help veterans with disability benefits and claims, and we're working referrals through AmericaServes and Virginia Veteran and Family Support (VVFS).** This year, we received three Thanksgiving baskets from a local Church and they were distributed to families in need.

For Christmas, the Post and Auxiliary gave stipends and gifts to veterans who could not afford to buy presents for their children. Families receiving stipends were vetted by the Service Officer. Anyone with questions about entitlements or needing to file a claim can contact me (ServiceOfficer@post176.org) or my associate, Bob White, at etihrw2@verizon.net, or weekdays from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM at 240-898-4011. Ali Nikolai, Service Officer



US Department of Veterans Affairs Hot Line

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
PROGRAMS



| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Boy Scouts | Troop 1347 | Troop1347.org |
| Boys State | Marty Pfeifer | boysstate@post176.org |
| Girls State | Floy Lipscom | Auxiliary |
| Baseball | Albert Vaxmonsky | Manager |
| Sea Scouts Ship 1176 | Joel Davis | jddavid515@aolcom |
| Youth Cadet Law Enforcement | WJ Leonard | Law Enforcement Chair |
| Oratorical | First Vice | vapost176@cox.net |
| Civil Air Patrol | Lt Col William Eliason | dc045.natcapwing.org |



<https://warriorcanineconnection.org>



Virginia Department of Veteran Services (VDS)

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

Jan/Feb 2021 PostScript

Editor: Mack Brooks

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

Post Scrip Review: Dennis Madtes, Commander

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

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

e-mail us at PostScript@Post176.org (Subject: Post Script)

POST 176 EVENTS SCHEDULE

January 2021: New Years Month

| | | |
|----|--------------------|--|
| 1 | Closed All Day | Enjoy the Holiday |
| 3 | 1:00 PM | Tailgate: Redskins vs Philadelphia SAL |
| 5 | 6:00 PM 7:00 PM | Legion Riders Meeting General Membership and Auxiliary Meetings |
| 6 | 7:00 PM | Bridge |
| 7 | 7:00 PM | Cribbage |
| 9 | 8:00 AM | Ranger and Special Forces Breakfast |
| 12 | 7:00 PM | Sons of The American Legion Meeting / EXCOM |
| 14 | 7:00 PM | Cribbage |
| 15 | 5:00 PM | Candlelight Dinner |
| 16 | 1:00 PM | Chapter 353 Military Order of The Purple Heart Meeting |
| 19 | 7:00 pm | EXCOM |
| 20 | 7:00 pm | Bridge |
| 21 | 7:00 pm | Cribbage |
| 30 | 4:00 PM | Chili Cookoff |

February 2021: Americanism Month

| | | |
|--------|--------------------|--|
| 2 | 6:00 PM 7:00 PM | Legion Riders Meeting General Membership and Auxiliary Meetings |
| 3 | 7:00 PM | Bridge |
| 4 | 7:00 PM | Cribbage |
| 6 | 8:00 AM | Ranger and Special Forces breakfast |
| 7 | 10:30 AM | Four Chaplains Memorial Post 177 |
| 7 | | Tailgate: Super Bowl Post Sponsored |
| 9 | 1:30 PM | Blood Drive |
| 9 | 7:00 PM | Sons of The American Legion Meeting |
| 11 | 7:00 PM | Cribbage |
| 13 | 1:00 PM | Chapter 353 Military Order of The Purple Heart Meeting |
| 16 | 7:00 PM | EXCOM |
| 17 | 7:00 PM | Bridge |
| 18 | 7:00 PM | Cribbage |
| Feb 26 | All Day | Department Spring Conference ? |

TIER-1 Lounge Events



Post 176
Tier-1 Lounge

January 30, 2021

Contest Judging
begins at 4:00 PM

CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

PREAMBLE

For God and country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;

to maintain law and order;

to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;

to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars;

to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;

to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;

to make right the master of might;

to promote peace and goodwill on earth;

to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;

to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

Happy New Year
2021