

June 2026

★ **Blue Star Mothers ROC** ★

We are mothers, stepmothers, grandmothers, foster mothers and female legal guardians who have children serving in the military, guard or reserves, or children who are veterans. We support each other and our children while promoting patriotism. Our organization focuses on our mission every single day and will never, ever, forsake our troops, our veterans or the families of our Fallen Heroes.



Meetings & Events

- * **Chapter Meeting June 20th**
@9:30am Henrietta Ely Fagan
American Legion 260 Middle
Rd Henrietta NY
- * **Future Strong Stars**
July 6th @7-8pm Panera
Bread 795 Jefferson Rd, Henri-
etta
- * **Women Veterans' Coffee**
House July 10th @5:30pm
New Location:
Gates Town Hall, Annex Rm
1605 Buffalo Rd, 14624
RSVP to 585-210-9779 See
page 6 for the 2026 schedule.

Upcoming Events June Care Packages

June 27th Webster Legion 818
Ridge Rd, Webster

Webster Garlic Fest

September 12th & 13th
Webster Parks & Recreation

Baby Shower

On Sunday, May 17th the Rochester Blue Star Mothers hosted the annual baby shower for nine military and veteran families and ten babies. Families received baby clothes, diapers, wipes and baby equipment. A photographer and the option for a chair massage was available to mothers. A delicious assortment of pastries, granola/yogurt parfait, and a waffle bar was served.



Blue Star Mothers of America



Blue Star Mothers ROC

MILITARY CARE PACKAGE DRIVE



*Help Us Send a Little Bit of Home to Our Deployed Military
Packages sent twice a year in June and November*

Items Needed by 6/12/26 for June Packages

Personal Care Items

*Wet Wipes (No Wet Ones) Cottonelle, Dude,
Equate Wipes-approximately 40-50 wipes each
Lip Balm/Chap Stick
Hygiene Products (Soap bars 3.7-4.0 oz,
Deodorant, shampoo 2-in-1 1 oz., toothpaste
less than 4 oz, toothbrush individually wrapped
Foot Powder, Tissues - travel size)
Black Cotton Socks - crew
Magazines (sports/fitness)
Dryer sheets (used to put in boots) small packs
(40 sheets or less)
Playing Card - any brand
Cross word/Word Search Puzzles books 8x5
inch size books*

Snacks/Treats

*Gatorade, Powerade, single serve size powder
Rice Krispie Treats
Instant Coffee single serve
Tea Bags-individually wrapped
Beef Jerky (snack size) or Slim Jims
Gum sticks
Oatmeal packets
Granola Bars Nature Valley
Oreos (Individual packs of 4 Oreos)
Peanut Nut Packets 1 oz size
Cereal Bars
Ritz bits -2 oz size individual packs
Pringles-snacks size*

***We prefer you visit our Amazon BSM Roc NY8 Care Package Wishlist and
purchase some items and have them shipped directly to us for packing.***

Amazon Care Package Link: <https://a.co/auDQ1bo>

Blue Star Mothers NY8

1335 Jefferson Road, # 93272

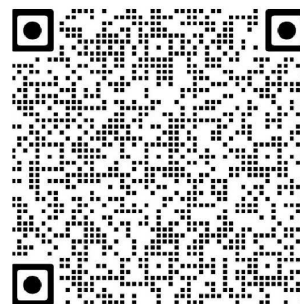
Rochester NY 14692

www.bluestarmomsroc.com

Email: president.ny8@bluestarmothers.us

Facebook: Blue Star Mothers Roc

585-943-1252



Pictures from the Baby Shower



NY8 Flower City Warrior Jersey

The Rochester Blue Star Mothers made a donation to the Flower City Warriors, a veteran hockey team. We were honored with a presentation by Chaz of a hockey jersey with our chapter logo in the upper right chest and our name Mom and #8 for our chapter



COMPEERCORPS
AND
VA WOMEN VETERAN'S PROGRAM
INVITE YOU TO JOIN OUR CELEBRATION OF
Women Veterans Recognition Day

THURSDAY
JUNE 11, 2026
3PM

AUDITORIUM (BUILDING 5)
CANANDAIGUA VA
400 FORT HILL AVE
PARKING AVAILABLE IN LOT 5

WE LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING WITH YOU!
All Are Welcome



**WIN TWO (2)
ROCHESTER AMERICANS
HALF-SEASON TICKETS!**

**SUPPORT THE
FLOWER CITY WARRIORS
VETERAN HOCKEY TEAM**

**ONE (1) ENTRY PER
\$10 DONATION**

DRAWING 9/7/26



GIVEBUTTER.COM/DONATE-TO-THE-FLOWER-CITY-WARRIORS-S3FCOI



2026 Veteran Women's Coffee House



hosted by the Blue Star Mothers NY8



**Gates Town Hall – Annex Room
1605 Buffalo Rd.
Rochester, NY 14624
Time: 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM**

*A welcoming, casual gathering for **women veterans only** to connect, relax, and build community.*

*Enjoy a **free** light supper and refreshments in a safe, supportive, alcohol- and drug-free environment.*

📞 RSVP / MORE INFORMATION

Dory or Nancy – Co-Chairs, Women's Vet Coffee House

Phone: (585) 210-9881

Email: BlueStarMothersROC@gmail.com

2026 COFFEE HOUSE DATE

- **April 10th**
- **May 8th**
- **June 12th**
- **July 10th**
- **August 14th**
- **September 18th**
- **October 9th**
- **November 13th**
- **December 11th**

2026 Future Strong Stars



Come dine with us at Panera Bread locations, 7-8 p.m.

Help us in building bridges with the Families of all Branches of the Armed Forces.

05 JAN	Henrietta	795 Jefferson Road
02 FEB	Gates	1501 Howard Road
02 MAR	Brighton	1902 Monroe Avenue
06 APR	Greece	800 Greece Ridge Center Drive
04 MAY	Fairport	16 Courtney Drive
01 JUN	Webster	935 Holt Road
06 JUL	Henrietta	795 Jefferson Road
03 AUG	Gates	1501 Howard Road
07 SEP (Labor Day)	Brighton	1902 Monroe Avenue
05 OCT	Greece	800 Greece Ridge Center Drive
02 NOV	Fairport	16 Courtney Drive
07 DEC	Webster	935 Holt Road

Blue Star Mothers: 585-210-9881 or bluestarmomsroc.com

Our Community Salutes

NY8 Blue Star Mothers; Sue, Lara and, Tracy were at the ESL Ballpark on Monday, May 18th to join in the Our Community Salutes event to celebrate over 65 area high school seniors who after graduation will be entering the military. Through a generous directed donation to support young men and women joining the military the Rochester Blue Star Mothers were able to speak with 49 seniors and their families about Blue Star Mothers and give them an AFES gift card.

Our Community Salutes is a nationwide program that honors area high school seniors who have made the commitment to join the military. The keynote speaker was Command Sergeant Major Michelle Jones (USA, Ret.). She shared the values that motivated her to meet all challenges she encountered in the Army. She was the first woman to reach the position of Command Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army Reserve and held that post from 2002 to 2006.





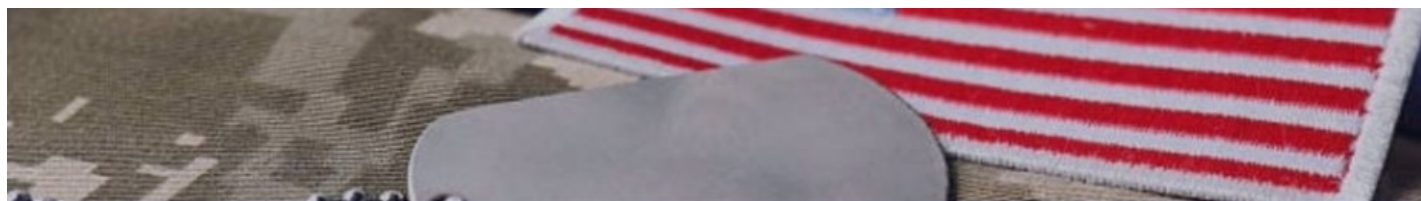
— ★ JUNE 12 ★ —

NATIONAL WOMEN VETERANS *Recognition Day*

On June 12, 1948, the Women's Armed Services Integration Act was signed into law, granting women the right to serve as permanent members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

HONORING GENERATIONS OF WOMEN WHO HAVE SERVED

Their Service. ★ Their Sacrifice. ★ Our Freedom.

2026 FINGER LAKES VETERANS' MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT

This year's summit will focus on Military Culture, Suicide Prevention, Aging Veterans, Women's Health, Whole Health and Caregiver Support.

Friday, August 21, 2026
08:00 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.

Finger Lakes Community College
Virtual Hybrid Option available

SAVE THE DATE

VA  U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
VA Finger Lakes Healthcare System

VA FINGER LAKES PRESENTS
WITH THE PARTNERSHIP CCICM & CDCE



FINGER LAKES VETERAN

Connection Cafe

Come connect with other local Veterans,
build VA connections, and learn about
resources available to you.



Rochester Calkins VA Clinic

260 Calkins Rd

Rochester, NY 14623

Susan B. Anthony Conference Room

THIRD FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM 8:30AM - 10:30 AM



Canandaigua VA Medical Center

400 Fort Hill Ave

Canandaigua, NY 14424

Outpatient Clinic

FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM 8:30AM - 10:30 AM



Open to all Veterans enrolled in VA Finger Lakes Healthcare

FREE COFFEE & TEA WILL BE AVAILABLE



NO RSVP REQUIRED

For questions contact Gillian Olson 585-463-2608

MADE POSSIBLE BY



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
VA Finger Lakes Healthcare System





GREEN STAR
FAMILIES
OF AMERICA



H.R. 6022 GREEN STAR VETERANS SERVICE ACT



*Recognition for families
impacted by **Veteran suicide.***



RECOGNIZE

These families deserve
to be seen.



HONOR

Their love, their loss,
their sacrifice.



SUPPORT

No family should have to
grieve in silence.



REMEMBER

Together, we ensure they
are never forgotten.



H.R. 6022 would establish federal
recognition for families impacted by
Veteran suicide through the
Green Star Service Banner.

SHARE YOUR STORY. HELP CHANGE THE FUTURE.

If your family has been impacted by Veteran suicide,
you are not alone.



MESSAGE US PRIVATELY



VISIT [GREENSTARFAMILIES.ORG](https://www.greenstarfamilies.org)

No family impacted by Veteran suicide should feel invisible.

Do you know how to get an emergency communication to your service member in when there is a death, serious injury/illness in an immediate family member at home?

The Red Cross Hero Care Network provides easy access to emergency communication assistance for service members and their families 24/7/365



Call Hero Care Center 877-272-7337

Go Online to the Hero Care website
redcross.org/HeroCareNetwork

Download for free from app store or text “GetHeroCare” to 90999

Supporting the VA Food Pantry For Veterans

Support the Canandaigua and Rochester VA Food Pantry by bringing something for the Pantry to our monthly Blue Star Mothers meeting.

Pantry List

Canned chicken	Canned Tuna
Pasta	Pasta Sauce (glass/plastic jar or cans)
Rice-A-Roni Meals	Peanut Butter
Oatmeal	Cereal
Canned Fruit	Canned Vegetables
Personal care items (soap, toothpaste, shampoo)	
Shelf stable milk or juice	
Reusable Shopping Bags	

Volunteer Opportunities

Our chapter grows and is able to help more service members, veterans and military families because of volunteers. We need the support of all members, associate members, and those thankful for our military to have successful events like The Veteran Stand Down, Lights of Honor, Care Packages etc. Please look at the opportunities below, see how you can help. Our kids stood up and volunteered, now we need YOU to do the same.

Military Baby Shower: Annual in April, a community baby shower for military and veteran families expecting a child or have an infant less than 6 months old. Help needed: collect shower gifts, ask for donations, create baskets, support at event: decorating, picking up food items, welcoming moms, serving food, set-up/clean-up. Contact Amy VanDerwerken at president.ny8@bluestarmothers.us or Jill Harris at 1vp.ny8@bluestarmothers.us to volunteer.

Care Packages: Boxes packed/mailed in June & November to service members deployed overseas. Help needed: solicit postal addresses for deployed service members, collect care package items, promote our Amazon gift list for needed care package items. Friday night before packing: set-up of donated items. Saturday morning: put together mailing boxes, fill boxes, seal boxes. Contact Debbie Trevett at treas.ny8@bluestarmothers.us or Kathy Dodsworth at kdodsworth@frontiernet.net to volunteer.

Veteran Women's Coffee House: Monthly get-together for veteran women. Dinner is served. Help needed: preparing food for dinner, set-up/clean-up. CoChairs are Nancy Bird and Dory Braun. Contact Dory Braun at dbraun4@gmail.com to volunteer.

Webster Garlic Fest Annual in September. Contact Cherie Wood at WebsterGarlicFest@gmail.com to get involved in this stinkin good time.

Veteran Stand Down: Organized annually by Veteran Outreach Center in September for area veterans with information on community services, employment and support. Held during the day on Friday at the Public Market in Rochester. Help needed: serving lunch to veterans, staffing BSM table and handing out hygiene supplies, set-up/clean-up. Contact Amy VanDerwerken at president.ny8@bluestarmothers.us to volunteer.

