

Blue Star Mothers NY



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.

August 2026 Newsletter



Meetings & Events

Chapter Meeting

Aug 15th @9:30am
Henrietta Ely Fagan
American Legion 260
Middle Rd, Henrietta NY

Future Strong Stars

Sept 7th (Labor Day)
@7-8pm Panera Bread 1902
Monroe Ave, Brighton

Women Veterans' Coffee House August 14th

@5:30pm Gates Town Hall,
Annex Rm 1605 Buffalo Rd,
14624 RSVP to 585-210-9779

Parade News

Many thanks to BSM Jenny Morrill for driving in the Irondequoit 4th of July parade. The rain stopped just in time for the parade.

SAVE THE DATE

Lights of Honor

Sunday, December 6th

Army Navy Game

Saturday, December 12th

Wreaths Across America

Saturday, December 19th

Upcoming Events

Gold Star Mother's and Family Day

Sunday, Sept 27th
2pm at White Haven
Memorial Park, 210 Marsh
Rd, Pittsford, NY 14534

Webster Garlic Fest

Sept 12-13th, Webster Rec
Center, 1350 Chiyoda Dr

Volunteers Need

Garlic Fest Sept 12-13th Volunteers needed for registration, support for vendors, directing the public to various vendor areas. Email BlueStarMothersroc@gmail.com or call 585-210-9881 to see how you can help.

Stand Down and Job Fair Sept 23rd 11am-2pm at the Rochester Public Market. Volunteers needed for the BSM vendor table and to help serve lunch.

Stokoe Farms Military Appreciation Day Sept 20th Volunteers needed for the BSM vendor table



The advertisement features a festive design with fireworks at the top. The text reads: "AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY Summer Fundraiser TOTE & MUG SALE". Below this, three items are displayed with price tags: a large tote bag for \$25, a medium tote bag for \$20, and an 11oz coffee mug for \$5. Each item has a small American Legion Auxiliary logo. At the bottom, it provides payment and pickup information.

Large Zipper Heavyweight Cotton Canvas Tote 14" X 24" X 7" \$25

Medium Cotton Tote 13" x 18" x 6" \$20

11oz Coffee Mug \$5

You can by Cash or Check (Payable to ALA Unit 330)
VENMO accepted @ALAUnit330

You can pick up your order at
Ferris Goodridge American Legion Post 330
691 Trimmer Rd • 585-392-6691

Please call before picking up as our hours vary.

**Celebrate
America's 250th
and Support
the Spencerport
Legion Auxillary**

The Spencerport
Legion Auxillary is
selling tote bags and
mugs to celebrate our
nation's 250th
birthday.



Rochester Blue Star Mothers at the Canandaigua VA's 250 Celebration

BSM Nancy L and Sue L got to meet nearly 400 veterans and their families at the Canandaigua VA 250th Celebration. We shared information about the chapter, our activities, and passed out Oreos. There was music, games, even some ponies to pet.

VETERANS OUTREACH CENTER Inc.
Serving Those Who Serve U.S.

PRESENTS

2026
STAND DOWN
AND JOB FAIR

FOR ALL MILITARY VETERANS
BRING YOUR DD-214 IF AVAILABLE

Live music provided by
defenders



**WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 23RD**

11 A.M. - 2 P.M.

**CITY OF ROCHESTER PUBLIC
MARKET**
**280 UNION STREET N.
ROCHESTER, NY 14609**

ON-SITE SERVICES OFFERED

Veterans Benefits	Senior Services
Housing	Peer Mentoring
Social Security	Veterans
Employment	Organizations
Health Care	Education
Public	Counseling
Assistance	Legal Assistance
VA Eligibility	& More!

★ **LUNCH & GIVEAWAYS PROVIDED!** ★

Scan this code with your phone's camera
or visit vocroc.org/standdown2026 to
pre-register and skip the line!

Registration will also be available
the day of the event.

For questions, please call 585.295.7818.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY VOC, OUR PARTNERS, AND OUR SPONSORS





Honor Our Heroes
Give Blood



Gary Beikirch Memorial Blood Drive

**Saturday, August 22, 2026
9-2pm**

First Bible Baptist Church
990 Manitou Rd
Hilton, NY 14468

For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org
and enter sponsor keyword: IMOGaryBeikirch
Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).



A former U.S. Army Special Forces combat medic, Beikirch, received the Medal of Honor, for his heroic actions at Camp Dak Seang, Vietnam, on April 1, 1970. Despite serious wounds, Sergeant Beikirch worked to defend the camp and tend to wounded soldiers. Gary went on to be active in his community as a school guidance counselor and minister. He died December 26, 2021, surrounded by his wife, Lolly, and family.



American
Red Cross

Honor Our Heroes

Give Blood



SSG Nicholas Reid Memorial Blood Drive

**Wednesday, September 2nd,
2026**

1pm-6pm

Brockport Exempts Club

248 West Ave

Brockport, NY 14420

For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org
and enter sponsor keyword: [brockportcommunity](#)
Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).



Army SSG. Nicholas Reid leading his EOD team and another EOD team from 53rd EOD Company were working with Special Forces. They were tasked with clearing the IEDs from around a building. This mission was to ensure safe passage for Afghan children walking in that area. During the mission an IED exploded, severely injuring Reid, who succumbed to wounds four days later at Landstuhl Medical Hospital in Germany. SSG. Reid was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart for his selfless efforts during this mission.

CARE PACKAGES

Some of the June care packages reached a Red Cross Service to Armed Forces Service Station in Poland. We got a very nice email and pictures from Red Cross staff and service members.

Dear Blue Star Mothers,

Thank you for your generous care packages- they made it to our soldiers here at DCTC Poland! It was a great mix of items, and many troops have been very excited coming and seeing something special they have been missing.

The notes, pictures, and "Deployment Sucks" lollipop bags have been spreading laughs. The love put into the packages was definitely felt. We will share the Girl Scout cookies at our coffee bar socials this weekend.

Sincerely,

Amy Goldstein

SAF/ IS Program Specialist

DCTC-Poland



HONORED WITH A CHALLENGE COIN

In November 2025 we sent a number of care packages to a local service member, SGM Dave Oliver, stationed in Jordan. Due to hostilities, mail was shut down shortly after our care packages reached them. There were very few supplies available for the soldiers under SGM Oliver's command, so these care packages were important not only for necessities such as soap and toothpaste, etc. but also for morale. In thanks to the Rochester Blue Star Mothers, Sargent Major David Oliver presented us with a challenge coin he had received from his commander, Col Gurpreet Singh. We are honored to do our small part in supporting all service members when they are away from home.

