

May 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 May 16th**
@9:30am Henrietta Ely Fagan
American Legion 260 Middle
Rd Henrietta NY
- * **Future Strong Stars**
June 1st @7-8pm Panera
Bread 935 Holt Rd, Webster
- * **Women Veterans' Coffee
House June 12th @5:30pm**
New Location:
Gates Town Hall, Annex Rm
1605 Buffalo Rd, 14624
RSVP to 585-210-9779 See
page 4 for the 2026 schedule.

Upcoming Events

Baby Shower

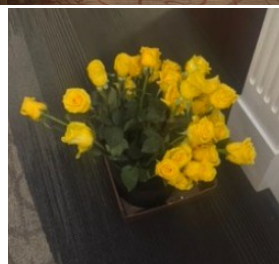
Sunday, May 17th
11am-1pm at the American
Legion, 818 Ridge Rd Webster

June Care Packages

See page 2 for items needed
for the June care packages

NY State Gold Star Mothers Convention

Several Rochester Blue Star Mothers attended the April 17th Gold Star Mothers Memorial Service. The names of all service members killed in action with family members present names, branch and date of death were read as the family members placed a yellow rose in a vase and a light on a gold star was lite. Gold Star Mother, Dorothy Reid is the NY State Gold Star Mother President and she presided over the service. Blue Star Mothers assisted with the Convention dinner the next evening.



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

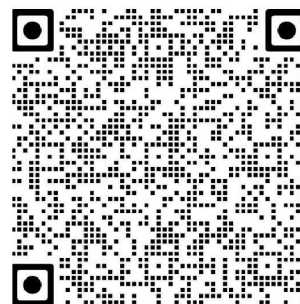
Rochester NY 14692

www.bluestarmomsroc.com

Email: president.ny8@bluestarmothers.us

Facebook: Blue Star Mothers Roc

585-943-1252





Veteran's



Financial Literacy

Series



Financial Foundation

Saturday, May 2, 2026 |
12:00–1:00 PM



Budgeting & Emergency Savings

Saturday, May 9, 2026 |
12:00–1:00 PM



Credit Cards & Debt Strategy

Saturday, June 6, 2026 |
12:00–1:00 PM



Investing Basics

Saturday, June 13, 2026 |
12:00–1:00 PM

ABOUT OUR FINANCIAL LITERACY SERIES

Brighton Securities, the Sunny Mike Foundation, and the DAV proudly present a **FREE** four-part financial education series designed specifically for veterans and their families.

This complimentary seminar series provides practical, real-world guidance to help you strengthen your financial foundation, build confidence, and plan for a secure future. Whether you're looking to better manage debt, grow your savings, or understand how to turn these into a long-term strategy, these sessions offer clear, actionable strategies in an open-format environment.

**40 LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE
CALL TO REGISTER TODAY!**

 **585-431-6770**

SERIES WILL BE HELD AT:

 DAV
1239 University Ave, Suite 4
Rochester, NY 14607

 Coffee and light refreshments
will be served.

"This series is about giving veterans practical tools and clear strategies to take control of their financial future. It's an honor to serve those who have served our country."

— Ethan Wade, *Presenter, Chief Development Officer, Senior Vice President*

1703 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618 - 585-340-2227 - Member FINRA & SIPC



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

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.

