

November 2025

★ **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

- * **BSM Meeting Nov 15th
@8:30am Webster
American Legion 818
Ridge Rd Webster
Packing care packages**
- * Future Strong Stars
Dec 1st @7-8pm Panera
Bread 935 Holt Road
Webster
- * Women Veterans' Coffee
House: Dec 12th
@5:30pm Ely Fagan
American Legion. RSVP
to 585-210-9779



Garlic Fest Fundraiser

- * Upcoming Events
- * Lights of Honor Dec 7th
See page 2
- * Wreaths Across America
Dec 13th
- * Army Navy Game Dec
13th see page 3

NY8 President Amy VanDerwerken was presented with a check from Cherie Wood from the September Garlic Fest in Webster. This event has grown over the last several years to include more vendor, food trucks, and guests. It involves a lot of planning and work by Blue Star Mothers and community partners. The funds are used to further our mission to support service members past, present, future and military families.

LIGHTS OF HONOR

TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Honoring our Military Service Members and Veterans



LIGHTS OF HONOR Tree Lighting Ceremony Sunday, December 7, 2025

The Blue Star Mothers of Rochester will provide, at no cost to you, the original photo ornament to be hung on the trees at the War Memorial. These ornaments may be displayed annually on the Lights of Honor trees at the War Memorial during the month of December. You are invited back each year to hang those ornaments.

You may also order keepsake duplicate ornaments for \$15 each to bring home and hang on your tree or hand out as gifts. To order keepsake duplicate ornaments please contact us at BlueStarMothersRoc@gmail.com or Call (585) 210-9881.



BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF ROCHESTER NEW YORK CHAPTER 8

We invite everyone in the community to share this time to honor our military personnel, past and present. Remember to include parents, grandparents, siblings, spouses and friends. During the ceremony, one person representing each service branch will place an ornament on the tree - Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines. Then an ornament will be placed to represent each of the major combat eras in our country's history - *et. al.* and finally an ornament will be placed for National recognition of military awards.

When: Sunday, December 7, 2025

Where: One War Memorial Square
Rochester, NY 14614

Time: 2:00 pm

What: Each service branch and combat era will be honored by an ornament placed on the tree by a military person. At the end of the ceremony you may collect your keepsake ornament if you have ordered one.

How: Use this form to submit your pictures for the ornament to be prepared ahead of time. Additional copies of this form are available on our website:

www.BlueStarMomsROC.com

Please e-mail or mail the following information:

Your name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____

e-mail _____

Phone # _____

To Honor (name) _____

Branch of Service _____

Era/Dates of Service _____
(WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, War on Terror, etc.)

Circle the appropriate status for this person:

SILVER: wounded in the line of duty

GOLD: died in the line of duty

BLACK: Missing in Action or Prisoner of War

BLUE: all other service members

Please circle medals awarded:

Medal of Honor, Purple Heart, Silver Star, Bronze Star, Navy Cross, etc.

Number of keepsake ornaments requested _____

Information must be received by Nov 16th.

E-mail digital (jpeg format) photos to:

BlueStarMothersRoc@gmail.com

Or Call (585) 210-9881 and leave a message and we will get back to you to discuss arrangements to get the picture.

Join the Fun!

BLUE STAR MOTHERS ROC ARMY VS. NAVY GAME FUNDRAISER

December 13th, 2025 @ 1:30pm

Spencerport American Legion Post 330
691 Trimmer Rd, Spencerport, NY 14559



Pre-game, Raffles, 50/50, Food & Drinks

Come join the fun!
Service Dogs Welcome

Pre-game Starts at 1:00pm
Kickoff is at 3PM

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:
NANCY GENERAL

(585) 210-9881
BLUESTARMOTHERSROC@GMAIL.COM
www.BlueStarMomsRoc.com



GOLD & BLUE STAR MOTHERS

Thanksgiving

Turkey Dinner Giveaway

TURKEY AND ALL THE FIXINGS



**FREE to the
first 25
Military or
Veteran
personnel to
register**

**TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 25, 2025**

**Pick up time
1:00-4:00PM**

**National Guard Armory
Patriot Way,
Rochester, NY 14624**



**Turkey basket dinner will consist of a turkey
(12-15lbs), potatoes, stuffing, gravy, a vegetable,
cranberry sauce, dinner rolls and a pie.**

**To register contact
Larry Linville @ larry.d.linville.civ@army.mil
by November 11th**



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
Beginning October 17th, 2025
8:30am - 10:30am



Open to all Veterans enrolled in VA Finger Lakes Healthcare

FREE COFFEE & TEA WILL BE AVAILABLE



No RSVP Required

For question contact Gillian Olson 585-463-2608

MADE POSSIBLE BY



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





Marine Moms Enjoy Lunch with Their Kids

Local Marine moms meet for lunch at Mission BBQ in a booth that includes pictures of their Marine kids. There are 142 Mission BBQs located throughout the U.S. Mission BBQ's mission is to serve those who serve. Mission BBQ co-founder, Bill Kraus's son, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Andrew Krauss was one of four U.S. Army soldier killed in a helicopter crash during a routine flight training exercise in Washing State on September 17, 2025.



TRUNK Or TREAT



The Rochester Blue Star Mothers,
Lynne Marsh and Nancy General
participated in CompeerCORPS
Trunk or Treat



DONATIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



Three Non-Profits coming together to help the Veteran Community! Call the ReStore nearest you to arrange for a pickup of your furniture and/or appliance donation. Tell them the Sunny Mike Foundation or the Marine Corps Coordinating Council of Greater Rochester sent you. These organizations will receive a discount when purchasing items for in-need Veterans. It's that easy!

LOCATIONS

BayTowne ReStore
1900 Empire Blvd
Webster, NY 14580
(585) 697-2012

Henrietta ReStore
2199 E Henrietta Rd,
Rochester, NY 14623
(585) 444-9588

Canandaigua ReStore
3040 County Road 10,
Canandaigua, NY 14424
(585) 396-3040

People who donate to ReStore will get 20% off same day purchases.



Military discount is 10% daily, with the exception of Thursdays which is 15%. The coupon can't be used in conjunction with either of the daily discounts.

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.

