### May 2024

Blue Star Mothers of Americ



#### Upcoming Events/Meetings

- BSM Meeting: May 18th @9:30am
  Henrietta Ely Fagan
  American Legion,
  260 Middle Road,
  Henrietta NY
- Future Strong Stars: June 3rd @7pm at Panera 935 Holt Rd, Webster
- Women Veterans' Coffee House: May 10th @5:30pm Ely Fagan American Legion. RSVP to 585-210-9779
- June is Care Package Month: Get those addresses of deployed service members to bluestarmothersroc@gmail.com
- A Time to Honor and Remember Saturday, May 25th 10am Gold Star Family Memorial White Memorial Park. See last page for details.

## **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.

## **Month of the Military Child**

The Rochester Blue Star Mothers along with five other military and veteran serving community groups celebrated the Month of the Military Child (MOMC) with an afternoon of bowling for military families. This year's official MOMC theme is the Military Child: Brave, Fearless, and Resilient!!Many of the military kids attending were bowling for the first time and they loved it. Pizza, drinks and cake was provided to the families.



A Big Blue Star Mother THANKS to all the groups and individuals that made this year's Military Baby Shower a huge success!!!!

# June 2024 Care Packages

The Rochester Blue Star Mothers will be sending care packages to deployed service member in June. If you know of deployed service members and they will be overseas through the end of July 2024 please send their postal address to President.ny8@bluestarmothers.us and they will be added to our list. Please use the link below to shop via Amazon for care package items https://a.co/auDQ1bo Or shop from the list to send a little love from home to our men and women

serving overseas.



### 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 6/10/24 for June Packages

#### Personal Care Items

#### Snacks/Treats

Baby Wipes Lip Balm/ChapStick Gum/Breath Mints Q-Tips Foot Powder Mouthwash (non-alcoholic) Tissues Sunscreen Black Cotton Socks Magazines (sports/fitness) Dryer sheets (used to put in boots) Playing Cards Cards/Letters

Beef Jerky-Slim Jims Powdered Drink Mixes (Powerade, Gatorade, Cystal Light) Protein Bars Granola/Cereal/Fruit Bars Cookies (Individual packs of Oreos and Girl Scout Cookies) Trail Mix Nuts (Peanuts/Mixed Nut/Almonds) Individual packs Oatmeal packets Pringles (snack size) Pretzels/Cheetos/Chex Mix/Crackers – snack size Hard Candy (Life Savers/Mints/Butterscotch)

Save time and visit our Amazon BSM Roc NY8 Care Package Wishlist and purchase some items and have them shipped directly to us for packing.



amazon

#### Amazon Care Package Link: https://a.co/auDQ1bo

Blue Star Mothers NY8 459 South Avenue Rochester, NY 14620 www.bluestarmomsroc.com Email: president.ny8@bluestarmothers.us Facebook: Blue Star Mothers Roc 585-943-1252

## Rochester BSM Keynote Speaker at Red Cross Military Resource Brunch

On Saturday, May 4th, Blue Star Mother, Army Veteran, and Military Spouse, Katherine Quinones was the keynote speaker the 2024 American Red Cross Military Resource Brunch at Finger Lakes Community College. Kathy shared her experiences joining the Army National Guard just out of high school and her 32 + year career including deploying to Afghanistan with her son. Kathy's service was recognized as she was awarded with a Quilt of Valor by Barb Frost from the Finger Lakes Quilts of Valor group. Kathy's husband, Pedro and her daughters, daughter in law and grandchildren were in attendance.



## **Rochester Blue Star Mothers Host the 2024 Military Family Baby Shower**

Seven military families were showered with all the items needed for a new baby; clothes, equipment, hand knitted and crocheted jackets and hats and of course diapers!!! The annual event hosted by the Rochester Blue Star Mothers NY8 also provided massages for the moms, food, and gifts for military and veteran families with an infant ages 6 months or young or expecting a child. With help from a grateful community these families are all ready for their new bundle of joy!!







## Join US for a Special Memorial Day Event "A TIME TO HONOR AND REMEMBER"

The true meaning of Memorial Day is to honor and remember those families who lost a loved one while serving our great county. Gold Star Families deserve and appreciate our recognition of their sacrifice and find comfort in knowing that our community will never forget them or their loved one.

## Saturday, May 25, 2024 @10 AM

## Gold Star Families Memorial at White Haven Memorial Park, 210 Marsh Road, Pittsford, NY

Keynote Speaker - Todd Baxter, Monroe County Sheriff

Master of Ceremonies-Eric Wheeler, MCC Director of Veteran Services

Honor Guard/Gun Salute-Monroe County American Legion Honor Guard

**Bugler-Master Bugler Tom Allen** 

Patriotic Tribute-The Patriot Guard Riders



## The Gold Star Families Memorial at White Haven Memorial Park was dedicated on June 10, 2016 with Medial of Honor Recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams and driving force beyond the erection of these monuments in attendance

Gold Star Families Memorial Monuments are a two-sided tribute made of black granite. One side bears the words: Gold Star Families Memorial Monument, a tribute to Gold Star Families and Relatives who sacrificed a Loved One for our Freedom. On the other side of the monument, there are scenes etches on each of the four panels:

### Homeland, Family, Patriot and Sacrifice.

At the center of this tribute, is a silhouette of a saluting service member which represents the Legacy of the Loved Ones who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our Freedom.