



# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DISTRICT #10 NEWSLETTER



## Officers

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## Second Newsletter

This has some of the last mailing and new information as well. Please get this important info to your members.

**District 10 Meeting - Sunday,  
Sept.15, 2024 10:00 AM  
VFW Post 5952, Plainview,  
1221 Old Country Rd.  
Plainview, NY 11803  
Rear Building**

*(coffee, bagels, and donuts will be served)*



***District 10 is Hosting the  
POW/MIA Remembrance  
Ceremony, on September 20<sup>th</sup>.  
Bring your Color Guard, members,  
friends, and family. We need your  
support!***

The main idea for this newsletter is for our Posts to be able to communicate with each other and hopefully it will be informative as well. We would like all posts to contribute to this newsletter. Please send us information about what your post is doing in your communities and what activities you may be having so that other comrades could have the opportunity to contribute to your endeavors. Let us work together to help build District 10.

**The District Schedule is in this email. All Post are required to attend the district meetings. At least one representative from your post should be present at all district meetings.**

Important dates will be mailed out to all Post Commanders and Post Quartermasters. Your post-participation in all district meetings and functions must be adhered to. Our district's success will take teamwork. Let us all help fill the gaps in this newsletter and be one team. **Please email your contributions to the newsletter to drumjack2@gmail.com**

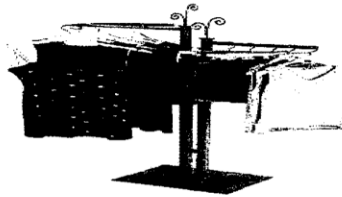
**All your work and dedication to the VFW is  
Appreciated!**

***Have you checked your Mem stats?***

**We need your post to contribute to this newsletter.**

**This could be your space!**

**ATTENTION VETERANS  
and  
SUPPORTERS**



Did You Know About the **Veterans Clothing Room**  
Located on the Grounds of the Medical Center?

You Will Find an Assortment of New and Gently Used  
Ladies and Men's Seasonal Clothing, [REDACTED] and  
Housewares Available for All Veterans at No Charge.

**Location: Basement of Bldg. 62**

**Loading Dock in Rear of Building for Donation Drop-Off**



Hours To Visit or Donate: M-F 9:00am -12 Noon.

Phone (631) 261-4400 EXT. 2478

**District 10 will have its own OTI—on October 20<sup>th</sup>. 9 am at the Farmingdale Post.**

**Luke Magliaro Jr. is the dean for our OTI.**

The Department of New York will provide one Officer Training opportunity to the membership of the Department of New York during the 2024-2025 membership year. The OTI is scheduled to take place on Saturday, September 21, 2024, at the Marriott Hotel in Albany, NY. This training opportunity will satisfy the requirements set forth in the Department Commander's Membership Program.

State Commander Kell has approved each District Commander to conduct a District OTI within your respective Districts. This training must meet the requirements as outlined in Department of New York Policy Directive 2022-2023 No. 1 "Department Officer Training Institute".

Specifically, District OTIs must be completed by February 28, 2025, OTIs must be taught by a qualified Instructor, and District Officer's Training must include the following training curriculum:

- a. Service Officer Training
- b. Quartermaster/Trustee Duties/Responsibilities and Inspections
- c. Adjutant Responsibilities/All American Dashboard
- d. Community Service
- e. Use of OMS and Department Website
- f. Membership
- g. Programs
- h. Sexual Harassment Training

Additionally, for a Post to qualify for "All-State" in the Department Commander's 2024-2025 Membership Program, the Post Adjutant and two (2) Post Trustees must attend a department or District OTI. Please direct your District OTI proposals to the attention of Department Sr. Vice Commander/OTI Dean James MacArthur and copy both the State Commander and State Adjutant. You will receive a written response approving your request.

**Comrades,**

**The newly revised 2024-2025 Commander's, Quartermaster's, and Trustee Guides are now available online at [vfw.org](http://vfw.org).**

**To access the full guides and individual sections please log in to the VFW website and navigate to the "My VFW" page. The guides are accessible under "Member/Post Resources" by clicking on "Bylaws: Training, Forms & Templates."**

**Strive to be an All-American Post!**

**Let us strive to be an All-American District!**

**Input your community activity reports between July 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup>.**



VFW Member promoted to Colonel in U.S. Army Reserve. On Saturday, July 20, 2024, a ceremony was held at the Marine Corps League, Sunrise Detachment in Massapequa, for Kevin Fernandez, a member of the Gus Scutari VFW Post 6394 in Syosset. The ceremony was largely attended by Kevin's family, friends from the Marine Corps League, and former shipmates from as far away as Florida. Also making a brief appearance was Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman. Kevin started his military career in the U.S. Marine Corps, where he served during Operation Desert Storm, and was subsequently discharged as a Lance Corporal. After his time in the Corps, he attended college and received his Bachelor's degree. The tragic events of 9/11 prompted him to return to the military to further serve his country. Kevin was accepted into the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve as an Ensign. He continued his career, rising to the rank of Commander (O-5). Unfortunately, after having attended numerous training schools in the Intelligence field, the Coast Guard did not offer any advancement capabilities. Having networked with command-level officers in the other branches during his Coast Guard time, Kevin was able to affect a transfer to the Army Reserve in the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He is currently serving as the Defense Support of Civil Authorities Officer for the state of Delaware. His Army time included duty in numerous states and at the Pentagon. Effective in June 2024, he was selected for the rank of Colonel (O-6). During the ceremony at the Marine Corps League, Kevin was sworn in and administered the oath of office by CAPT Jay Caputo, USN (Ret.), who is also a member of the Gus Scutari VFW Post 6394 in Syosset. Other members of the Post in attendance were Phil Rhoads, Joe Grehan, and Frank Urso. All members of Post 6394 offer Kevin their sincere congratulations and best of luck in his continuing Army Reserve career.



The order (originally known as the Military Order of the Cootie, U.S.A.) was established on September 17, 1920, in Washington, D.C., by Fred C. Madden and F. L. Gransbury. The organization was modeled after the Imperial Order of the Dragon, an auxiliary to the United Spanish American War Veterans. The name "cootie" is a reference to the lice that plagued soldiers in World War I. Cooties were credited with keeping soldiers' heads down in the trenches.

**Call Bob Spicer or Rick Gales for information**

**Jay Caputo:** As the Chairman of the District 10 **Safety Committee**, I am taking this opportunity to remind you about the Public Servant Awards. There are awards for Law Enforcement, Fire Fighter, Emergency Medical Technician and 9-1-1 Dispatchers. I have attached copies of the information that I send out to the local departments in the area of my Post. You are welcome to use them or adapt them for your own use. I picked an arbitrary date of Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> for them to respond to me. That allows time for the Post to choose the best from the entries, and to get them to the district, in time for the district to submit them to the Department.

Yours in Comradeship.

Jay Caputo, PPC, PCC

District 10 Chairman, Safety Committee

**If you have not received Jay's email, please contact him for further information.**

**The Veterans of Foreign Wars is proud to honor, each year, a local law enforcement officer who has served for several years and is a strong supporter of his/her community. The following are the criteria that should be used in nominating an officer from your command.**

**CRITERIA: Candidates must have demonstrated: Recognition by their colleagues or those they serve. Consistent excellence in the performance of their duties. Documentation is the key, such as awards, letters, newspaper coverage, TV coverage, etc. Consistent dedication to their official responsibilities over years and continuous growth in responsibilities and skills within their profession. Please understand that this award is not to be based on one specific act or event. We understand that your department has its own established award procedure to recognize those who perform above and beyond. We are looking to recognize someone who has continually and professionally done their job and has shown commitment to the community to which they are assigned. Since our VFW Post covers a wide area, we are seeking input from not only your department but all of the departments that provide coverage within our catchment area, which includes Syosset, Woodbury, Jericho, Oyster Bay Cove, Oyster Bay, Bayville, Mattinecock, Muttontown, Cove Neck, East Norwich, Brookville, Old Brookville, Centre Island, Upper Brookville, and Laurel Hollow. Unfortunately, we are allowed to only select one honoree each year, so we therefore rely on your judgment to submit the best-qualified officer. This will allow us to choose the best of the best for this award.**





BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN  
NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE



RALPH ESPOSITO  
DIRECTOR  
NASSAU COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY

**SALUTE TO VETERANS**  
**CEREMONY & CONCERT**

Featuring

**THE AMERICAN BOMBSHELLS** & **FACE TO FACE LI**  
*The Ultimate Billy Joel & Elton John Experience*

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup> | 6:30PM**

**EISENHOWER PARK | LAKESIDE THEATRE**

Parking Fields 6 & 6A • Merrick & Stewart Avenues • East Meadow  
Weather Information: 516-572-0200

NCPB



**Veterans  
Crisis Line**  
DIAL 988 then **PRESS 1**

**Veterans Crisis Line and Suicide Prevention • The Veterans Crisis Line is available 24/7 with free, confidential support to veterans, their families, and friends. • You can connect with a call, text to 838255, or chat through the website. • You don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or healthcare to connect. • The phone number has been updated to the easy-to-remember 988 then Press 1.**

District 10 is hosting this POW/MIA VIGIL

We need full participation in this Program!  
Bring friends and family.  
Show your Post Colors!



The poster features a dark blue background with a red border. At the top, there are seven white stars. Below the stars, on the left, is the name and title of Bruce A. Blakeman, Nassau County Executive, next to the Nassau County Seal. On the right is the name and title of Ralph Esposito, Director of the Nassau County Veterans Service Agency. The central text reads "POW-MIA NIGHT VIGIL REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY" in large white letters. To the right of this text is a circular logo with a silhouette of a soldier and the text "POW MIA YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN". Below the main title is a paragraph explaining the purpose of the ceremony. Further down is a photograph of four American flags waving on poles against a blue sky. To the right of the flags is the logo for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). Below the flags is a red banner with white text stating the date and time: "FRIDAY • SEPTEMBER 20TH • 5:00pm". Below that is another red banner with white text for the location: "EISENHOWER PARK | VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA" and "Merrick and Stewart Avenues • East Meadow". At the bottom, there is a dark blue banner with the Nassau County Veterans Service Agency logo, name, address, and phone number. A small "NCPD" logo is in the bottom right corner.

BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN  
NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE

RALPH ESPOSITO  
DIRECTOR  
NASSAU COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY

**POW-MIA  
NIGHT VIGIL  
REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY**

To honor the POWs and MIAs from Nassau County by reading the names of these local heroes.

HOST ORGANIZATION:  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

**VFW**  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

*Please join us in remembering their sacrifice.*

**FRIDAY • SEPTEMBER 20TH • 5:00pm**

**EISENHOWER PARK | VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA**  
Merrick and Stewart Avenues • East Meadow

**NASSAU COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY**  
2201 Hempstead Tpke. Bldg Q • East Meadow • 516-572-6565



**FULLFILLING OUR PROMISES  
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED**

## **DAV CLAIMS**

- **TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY  
10AM-2PM**
- **YOUR DD214 AND A VALID PHOTO ID ARE  
REQUIRED.**
- **A VA DECISION LETTER LISTING CURRENT  
SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES IS  
SUGGESTED.**
- **PHONE: (631) 261-4400 EXT.7191 - 7260**

**THANK YOU....**



**Good afternoon comrade commanders.** I had a meeting yesterday with Steve Cohen, the vice president of the Brooklyn Cyclones. They are planning a Military Appreciation Night on Thursday, August 22nd. The game starts at 7 pm. I told him I was commander for Brooklyn and Queens, and he asked me to extend the invitation to Nassau and Suffolk for the event.

If you want tickets please contact him directly, with a request for a reasonable amount at [steve@brooklyncyclones.com](mailto:steve@brooklyncyclones.com)

He will send out tickets via FedEx or UPS to one address for each county for you to distribute.

We want to try to fill the place. It is open to Vet's, Auxiliaries & their families.

For whoever does go, please wear VFW, Auxiliary, or branch of service attire to show who we are.

We know some of our Fellow vets are sensitive to fireworks. Please let them know there will be NO fireworks display that night.

Please let your people know.

Yours in comradeship,  
John Pieprzak  
District 1 Commander

Please get back to me and I will order tickets for our district.  
**drumjack2@gmail.com or call c-516-297-5510**





# **Become a Volunteer at the Northport VAMC**

**For an Application Contact Jennifer Pohl**

**Email: JENNIFER.POHL2@VA.GOV**

**\*\*\*Please Include Your Full Name and  
Contact Phone Number\*\*\***

**Department of Veterans Affairs  
Voluntary Service  
79 Middleville Road  
Northport, NY 11768  
Building 9, Room 110  
(631) 261 -4400 ext. 7182**



VA NORTHPORT  
MEDICAL CENTER

SUFFOLK POLICE  
VETERANS  
ASSOCIATION

BBQ  
BRETHREN

**BBQ**

**FOR VETERANS  
& FAMILIES**



**SATURDAY  
AUGUST  
17**



**MONSKEY FIELD  
11:00AM - 3:00PM**

**LIVE MUSIC, FOOD &  
DRINKS, RAFFLE PRIZES  
AND MORE...**

**RAIN OR SHINE**



**79 MIDDLEVILLE RD.  
NORTHPORT, NY 11768**





**T-SHIRTS AND ASSORTED SUNDRIES  
WERE DONATED TO THE NORTHPORT VA.**



**CANTEEN BOOKS WERE HANDED  
OUT TO VETERANS AT THE VA CAFE**



**Several Veterans were treated to lunch!  
Canteen Books were donated by Post  
5253 in Memory of Past County  
Commander Vincent DiMartino.**





**BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN**  
NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**RALPH ESPOSITO**  
DIRECTOR  
NASSAU COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY

# NASSAU COUNTY VETERANS PICNIC RESOURCE FAIR

THURSDAY,  
**SEPTEMBER 19, 2024**  
11:30am-2:30pm

**EISENHOWER  
PARK**

**PARKING FIELD 6**

RSVP required by September 13<sup>th</sup>  
call 516-572-0564 - Veteran & Guest  
Monday-Friday - 9:00am-4:00pm

*Musical Performance by* **TANGERINE**  
*and*  
**THE AMERICAN BOMBSHELLS**



**NASSAU COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY**

2201 Hempstead Tpke. Bldg Q • East Meadow • 516-572-6565







**BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN**  
NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Nassau County Office for the Aging presents

# SENIOR VETERANS' LUNCH



**Friday, August 9, 2024**  
Doors open at 11:30 am

**AVAILABLE AT 2 LOCATIONS**

**BETHPAGE COMMUNITY CENTER**

**103 Grumman Road West, Bethpage, 11714**

***RSVP REQUIRED BY AUGUST 5, 2024***

phone: 516-571-9910 | e-mail: [seniors@hhsnassaucountyny.us](mailto:seniors@hhsnassaucountyny.us)

**ST. MARY'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**78 Hempstead Avenue, Lynbrook, 11563**

***RSVP REQUIRED BY AUGUST 5, 2024***

phone: 516-227-8900 | e-mail: [seniors@hhsnassaucountyny.us](mailto:seniors@hhsnassaucountyny.us)

**OFFICE FOR THE AGING**

**60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard, Uniondale | 516-227-8900**

*The Area Agency on Aging for Nassau County under the Older Americans Act. This program is made possible with funding from the New York State Office for the Aging and the U. S. Administration on Aging.*

## **District 10 Schedule**

**At our District 10 officers meeting held last night, July 23, 2024, we scheduled the following dates to be included in the Department of New York - V.F.W. Planning Calendar:**

**District 10 Meeting - Sunday, Sept. 15, 2024 10:00 AM  
VFW Post 5952, Plainview, 1221 Old Country Rd. Plainview, NY  
11803**

**District 10 - OTI - Sunday, October 20, 2024 - 9:00 AM  
VFW Post 516, Farmingdale - 635 Main St. Farmingdale, NY 11735**

**District 10 Meeting - Sunday, December 8, 2024 10:00 AM  
This meeting will begin with our Annual Memorial Service.  
VFW Post 5952, Plainview, 1221 Old Country Rd. Plainview, NY  
11803**

**District 10 - Convention - Sunday, April 27, 2025 10:00 AM  
VFW Post 5952, Plainview, 1221 Old Country Rd. Plainview, NY  
11803**