

The American Legion



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For Immediate Release

American Legion Posts to Help Wisconsin Communities through Outreach

PORTAGE (March 5, 2012) – American Legion State Commander Denise Rohan of Verona, Wisconsin's 1st female state commander, along with National Vice Commander Milt Heifner of the Indianapolis-based American Legion National Headquarters will tour northern Wisconsin to kick off a community and veteran service campaign.

Wartime veterans and their families living in the following counties; Ashland, Iron, Lincoln, Oneida, Price, Taylor and Vilas have an outlet through which to serve the community. The American Legion, the nation's largest veteran's service organization, is inviting all wartime era veterans to join them at one of the local American Legion posts to provide service to the community and veterans in the surrounding area.

Wednesday, March 14th Park Falls and Tomahawk Events

Mid-Day event: We invite all wartime veterans and their families in this area to visit us at the Park Falls American Legion Post 182 located at 274 3rd Avenue N. Park Falls, WI 54552 on Wednesday, March 14th from 11:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.

American Legion Officers will be available for all area veterans with claims or other veteran-related questions during these times.

Evening event: we invite all wartime veterans and their families in this area to visit us at the Tomahawk Post 93 located at 327 W Wisconsin Ave. Tomahawk, WI 54487 March 14th from 6-8 p.m.

American Legion Officers will be available for all area veterans with claims or other veteran-related questions during these times.

In keeping with the 92-year tradition of The American Legion, the rejuvenated American Legion Posts in the surrounding area will focus on community service and assistance to veterans. The scope and nature of the posts' community service will be determined by its members and inputs from local civic and community officials.

“Service! That’s what The American Legion is all about,” said Denise Rohan, Commander of The American Legion for the Department of Wisconsin. “We exist to help each and every veteran, their families and the communities they live in. Northern Wisconsin is an ideal place to strengthen partnerships between the veterans and the community. The people here care about their community and practice good citizenship every day. Now, wartime veterans have a special place from which they can make a difference.”

Since its inception in 1919, The American Legion has been a key advocate for veterans' benefits, children & youth, patriotic American values, a strong national defense and quality-of-life issues for those serving in today's armed forces.

The organization, which spearheaded the original GI Bill, has been advocating reform of the veteran's health care system under its GI Bill of Health. Creation of the federal forerunner of the Department of Veterans Affairs as well as the agency's ascent to cabinet-level status is due in part to The American Legion's advocacy. The American Legion was also instrumental in the establishment of the Veterans Home Loan, veterans hiring preference and just compensation to veterans suffering from illnesses related to their military service, including those whose ailments stem from exposure to Agent Orange and mysterious Persian Gulf origins.

The Wisconsin American Legion has operated Camp American Legion in Northern Wisconsin since 1925 for the benefit of all Wisconsin veterans. The Camp in the Town of Lake Tomahawk in Oneida County has recently instituted programs directly benefiting Wisconsin veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan including a family reunification facility.

Equally aggressive are The American Legion's efforts to instill values in young people through numerous programs, including American Legion Badger Boys State, American Legion Boys Nation, Junior Shooting Sports, the National High School Oratorical Contest, American Legion Baseball, Teenage Suicide Prevention, Child Health and a McGruff Safe Kids Program. The American Legion has supported Scouting since 1919. Many American Legion posts also support Junior ROTC high school units, fund-raising for handicapped children, and partnerships with other nonprofit organizations such as Special Olympics.

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