

# CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589  
Manassas, Virginia  
November 2021

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JIM HOUSTON / Ohio Department, Sons of Union  
Veterans of the Civil War

On October 23 Comrade Jerry Martin spoke at the long overdue headstone placement for a Civil War veteran. See article on page 5.

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**CANNON NEWS**—2015, 2018 & 2020 National VFW Publications Silver Award  
2013, 2014, 2015 and 2017 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for  
Most Outstanding Post Publication/Newsletter, VFW Department of Virginia

## Commander's Message



Wayne Moore

### Veterans Day: The Forgotten History of America's Veterans Day and What It Commemorates

For the first time in 20 plus years, our Armed Forces' young men and women will commemorate Veterans Day at peace rather than the battlefield of armed conflict. Those who answered the call stood in the gap, sacrificing life, limbs, health, and family. I "Salute" you for a "Job Well Done!" Rest easy on this day the country has set aside to pay its' Respect for your dedication, commitment, and love of country. God Bless!

Veterans Day, celebrated each year on November 11, was first celebrated on this same date in 1919, under Armistice Day. The holiday is in Remembrance of the temporary ceasefire that brought about the unofficial end to World War I. The Allied forces purportedly entered a truce with the Germans, halting live battle on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918.

A year later, and nearly five months after the official end of the First World War (which occurred on June 28, 1919, with the Treaty of Versailles), President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed November 11 the first commemoration with the following:

"To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with the gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

He called for parades and public gatherings and a moment of silence at 11 a.m. Two years later, on November 11, 1921, **an unidentified American soldier was buried at Arlington National Cemetery in what became known as the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.**

#### Celebrating America's Heroes: Armistice Day

It wasn't just the United States that remembered the end of the Great War; countries worldwide celebrated Armistice Day in 1919, and many still do today. In Canada, they call it Remembrance Day, and Great Britain celebrates Remembrance Sunday on the second Sunday of each November.

In 1926, a Congressional resolution was passed, making Armistice Day a recurring federal holiday, stating that it should be "commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through goodwill and mutual understanding between nations." As a side note, the federal government can't force the states into celebrating a holiday, as it's not within its jurisdiction, but most states adopt the federal holiday calendar.

*(See Commander on page 3)*

## Auxiliary President



Mary Corkhill



November is quickly approaching! There are many things to be thankful for, but most importantly, we are thankful for **YOU!!**

Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day" on November 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 for an annual observance, and on November 11 became a national holiday beginning in 1938. Unlike Memorial Day, Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans - living or deceased - but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their county honorably during war or peacetime.

The activities for Veterans Day in November will be as follows: on Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> the Post will host a breakfast starting at 7:00 AM and the Manassas Veterans Day parade will start at 11:00 AM. On Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup> the Post and Auxiliary will lay a wreath at the Manassas Veterans Memorial at 8:30 AM and at the Manassas cemetery, the 9:00 AM ceremony will start by laying a wreath at Francis Cannon's gravesite and then replacing flags on all of the veterans' graves.



Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday celebrating the harvest and other blessings of the past year. The traditional fare of the Thanksgiving meal typically includes turkey, bread stuffing, potatoes, cranberries, and pumpkin pie. With respect to travelers, the holiday is often the busiest time of the year, as family members gather with one another. This year Thanksgiving Day will be celebrated on Thursday, November 25.

The 8<sup>th</sup> District meeting will be at the Manassas Post 7589 on November 13. Unfortunately, since we are still observing social distancing, the Auxiliary will be doing a Zoom meeting at 10:00 AM to be set up by the District President, Vicki Butler. The members of 7589 would like to welcome the members of the new Auxiliary 12202 from King George. We look forward to working with them.

I would like to thank the Post for participating in our "**Wreaths Across America**" (WAA) fundraiser. This is our annual fundraiser and we need your assistance by purchasing a sponsorship (wreath) of \$15 from WAA. For every sponsorship, \$5 is returned to the Francis Cannon Auxiliary so we may continue to assist our veterans and families as well as our community. The National Wreaths Across America Day is December 18, 2021.

Now that the deadline for the Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teacher contests has passed, I would like to congrat-

*(See Auxiliary on page 3)*

(Commander from page 2)

### Celebrating America's Veterans: Veterans Day

Perhaps the Allied forces showed too much sympathy with the Treaty of Versailles. At signing the documents ending the war, much of the Allied troops had returned home seven months earlier after the armistice in November. And no one, not the United States nor Britain nor France, wanted to remain in Germany or Austria to enforce the terms of the Treaty. What's more, the Treaty did not require an unconditional surrender; the German troops, although defeated, were not disbanded.

Marshal Ferdinand Foch of France embittered Allied forces, supreme commander, presciently concluded the Versailles settlement: *"This is not peace. It is an armistice for 20 years."*

Foch proved right. Twenty years after the 1919 settlement, the German army under Hitler – himself a decorated veteran of World War I – helped spin the yarn that the German military hadn't been defeated in the field. But, betrayed by the Jews at home – they invaded Poland to start World War II, which would cost the world roughly *four times as many lives* as World War I.

This time, over 16 million American soldiers, a whopping 42 percent of war-aged men, headed out to battle. And while we lost over 400,000 to the war, many of those men and women returned home. Shortly after that, tension began to rise in Korea, and by 1950, the Korean War began.

At the end of the summer of 1953, after the Korean War ended, about one in every two service-age men were veterans, and Armistice Day would be officially be changed to Veterans Day – honoring all veterans from all wars.

### Changing Throughout the Years: Veterans Day Today

Throughout the years, Veterans Day has changed, sometimes to its benefit and sometimes not. For example, in 1968, it switched to Mondays in hopes of encouraging travel and tourism.

A century from the original Remembrance of Armistice Day, the holiday remains celebrated on November 11. However, if the 11th day of the 11th month falls on a Saturday, the previous Friday becomes a holiday. If on a Sunday, the holiday is on the following Monday.

Different areas celebrate Veterans Day in different ways. There are parades and celebrations to honor veterans. Perhaps the most iconic is the annual wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Many areas still observe a moment of silence at 11 a.m. to remember all veterans, those that are still here, those that have gone on, and those that never made it home. It's also not uncommon to see the American flag flown at half-mast.

Regardless of political leanings, Veterans Day is about recognizing the dedication and sacrifice of America's veterans. If you want to show support, attend a parade. Visit a VA hospital and spend some time talking to the men and women unable to cele-

brate with you. Remember when you see a vet, shake their hand, and thank them for their service.

Adapted from: Molly Carter "Veterans Day: The Forgotten History of America's Veterans Day and What It Commemorates"

<https://ammo.com/articles/veterans-day-forgotten-history-what-it-commemorates>

(Auxiliary from page 2)

ulate the winners from the Post. The award celebration will

be December 5 at 4:00 PM at the Post. The Auxiliary will provide the refreshments.

The National VFW Auxiliary is encouraging annual members to pay their 2022 dues through **MALTA**. You can still pay your dues of \$20 to the Auxiliary Treasurer, Elanor Doczi, 7415 Roxbury Ave., Manassas, VA 20109. Thank you for your membership.

The Auxiliary meeting for December will be at Yorkshire Restaurant starting at 5:30 PM. A gift exchange will be on the agenda along with a very short meeting. Please come and join in the fun.

Families who need a fresh start can live in a safe and peaceful environment at the **VFW National Home for Children** campus community for up to four years and benefit from numerous community supports. Recognizing that the effects of war can last for generations, the National Home is open to families of active-duty military personnel, veterans, and descendants of members of the VFW and its Auxiliary. The National Home's Military and Veteran Family Helpline [800-313-4200] is the first step on the path to help for military and veteran families. Please consider becoming a Life member of the National Home for Children.

Please remember to keep John Sullivan (who is now in rehab) and other individuals and/or family members who are ill or hospitalized in your prayers. If you know of anyone who needs our assistance, please let us know.

Respectfully,

Mary Corkhill  
VFW Auxiliary President



## Youth Committee Update



Lou Filippone

The Youth Committee hopes all of our members are well during this time as we enter the holiday season. We held our last meeting on 21 October at the Post. Those in attendance were Alex and Tina Bliem, Peter Macleod and myself from the VFW and President Mary Corkhill from the Auxiliary. The main topic of discussion during the meeting was the ongoing student essay and teacher contests. In addition, Scouting and Veterans Day week activities as well as

the Annual Educational Awards Night in December were also addressed.

We are currently in the process of collecting, logging in and judging applications for Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teacher of the Year. As you know the VFW sponsors these contests annually with a long tradition of recognizing Americanism, Patriotism and service among our students and teachers.

Patriot's Pen is open to 6th, 7th and 8th graders and requires each student to submit a written essay of 300-400 words. This year's theme is "How Can I Be A Good American?" Last year 138,000 students participated nationally in the contest and scholarship awards totaled \$55,000.

Voice of Democracy is our contest for high school age students and last year nearly 57,000 students competed for more than \$2,000,000 in scholarships. The top prize is a \$30,000 college scholarship. This year's theme is "America: Where Do We Go From Here?" The applicant is asked to submit a typed essay along with an audio recording on an audio file. The audio recording must be three to five minutes in duration. Both contests require the student to submit an application along with the essay.

Our Teacher of the Year contest recognizes teachers who care about America and teach citizenship education topics regularly and promote America's history and traditions effectively. Teachers who promote civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism are prime candidates for this award. Elementary, junior high and high school teachers are invited to compete. Teachers are first nominated and are then required to submit documentation regarding their teaching activities which demonstrate their commitment to Americanism and patriotism. Awards and prizes are given to all contest winners at all levels of the competition with the National award for the first place winner totaling \$1,000 for both the teacher and their school.

The deadline for all three contests was 31 October. Consequently, the Youth Committee is extremely busy collecting and judging completed applications. If you would like to help us judge the contests please let me or any one on the Youth Committee know as soon as possible. All Post judging must be completed by 15 November and all District judging must be completed by 5 December. Our last deadline is Department judging which must be finished NLT 22 December. All finalists at the Department

level will be recognized at the Awards Banquet at the Winter Council meeting in Portsmouth, Virginia on 8 January 2022.

Alex Bliem provided us with the following Scouting report. He mentions that the Scouts recently had their Fall Camporee at Verdun Adventure Bound in Rixeyville, Va. The Scouts won 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in various cooking competitions. This is a good reflection on their teamwork and leadership. The Scouts and Pack also had their Halloween parties with lots of games and refreshments. They had a great time together and much fun. All Scout units are preparing for a busy November and December with Veterans Day activities, service projects for the holidays and numerous camping, hiking and rock climbing activities. Specifically, on Veterans Day the Scouts traditionally participate in the wreath laying ceremony at the grave of Francis Cannon and with graveside flag placements at the Manassas Cemetery.

Just a reminder about our Annual Educational Awards Ceremony which recognizes our Post youth and teacher contest winners. This year it is scheduled for Sunday, 5 December at the Post at 4:00 PM. Through the efforts of Comrade Peter MacLeod I am pleased to announce that this year's guest speaker will be Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger from the city of Manassas. I recently met her and she is quite an impressive and charismatic individual and speaker. We should all enjoy her presentation at the awards ceremony.

Lastly, our next Youth Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 18 November at the Post at 7:00 PM. We hope to see you there.

With best regards,

Lou Filippone  
Youth Committee Chair

### Orthodontic assistant needed

Compensation: **Entry level**

Employment type: **full-time**

ENTRY LEVEL orthodontic assistant. We prefer no experience so we can train you to our standards. Entry level position with entry level pay. We are looking for a quick learner who likes to work as part of a team. Must be reliable, well spoken, have good communication skills and like working with people. If interested, please reply with salary requirement and resume. Responses without salary requirement and resume will not be reviewed. If you are interested in the field of orthodontic assisting and possess the qualities we have listed this might be a great opportunity. You can either call the office at (703)815-0127 or email us at

[orthoforyou@aol.com](mailto:orthoforyou@aol.com). We look forward to your response.

## Legislative Updates



The group of widows that are helping JLC Initiative #2 have created a Facebook page *Virginia Military Widows Property Tax Waiver*. They have been meeting with legislators and County Boards of Supervisors to move this into a viable piece of legislation with the help of the Joint Leadership Council of Veteran Services.

**Monti Zimmerman** We will need to advocate for the third initiative to support honor guards and funeral firing parties from veteran service organizations too!

The 2022 JLC Initiatives in order of priority are:

1. Maintain Momentum on state-level efforts on Suicide Prevention among Service Members, Veterans and their Families
2. Expand Tax Relief for Surviving Spouses of Military Services Members "Killed in Action" to also include "Died in Line-of Duty / not due to the member's own misconduct"
3. VSO Color and Honor Guards Protections
4. State Veterans Cemeteries – Eliminate Spousal Burial Fees
5. Grants for Employers Who Hire National Guard and Reserves
6. Free entry to state parks for Guard members
7. Income Tax Deduction for Guard members

## Veterans Day Luncheon

Sponsored by American Legion Post 10 Ladies Auxiliary

**Thursday, November 11**

≈12:30 — 4:00 PM

(Immediately following Veterans Day ceremony)

at

American Legion Post 10

**Veterans FREE, all others \$16.00**

Roast Beef

scalloped potatoes, vegetable

salad, roll and cake



## Civil War veteran finally gets a headstone

by Jerry Martin

Comrade Jerry Martin took a lead role in securing a headstone for a Civil War veteran who had been buried in an unmarked grave.

Comrade Martin had worked for over a year to obtain an official headstone for a Civil War Veteran who died tragically in an accident (In 1917 he was hit by a train picking up coal to heat his home) and was buried in an unmarked grave. The VA finally provided one that was an exact replica of the original type provided to Civil War veterans.

The Veteran was Sgt. John Humphrey, Co A. 4th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry who served from 1861 to 1865. He was always present for duty in over 12 battles and was even a POW for a short time.

Inasmuch as DD-214s did not exist during the time of Humphrey's service, documentation from the state of Ohio and information from the National Archives was submitted to the VA to verify his service.

The Sons of Union Veterans, Ohio Department had been in touch with Miami Township and planned to provide appropriate military honors for placement of the headstone when notified by cemetery personnel.

On Oct. 23rd his headstone was finally placed in Miami Township, Ohio. Comrade Martin was invited to speak at the ceremony which was well attended by several veterans groups as well as members of the public.



JIM HOUSTON / Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

The VA finally provided a headstone that is an exact replica of the original type provided to Civil War veterans.

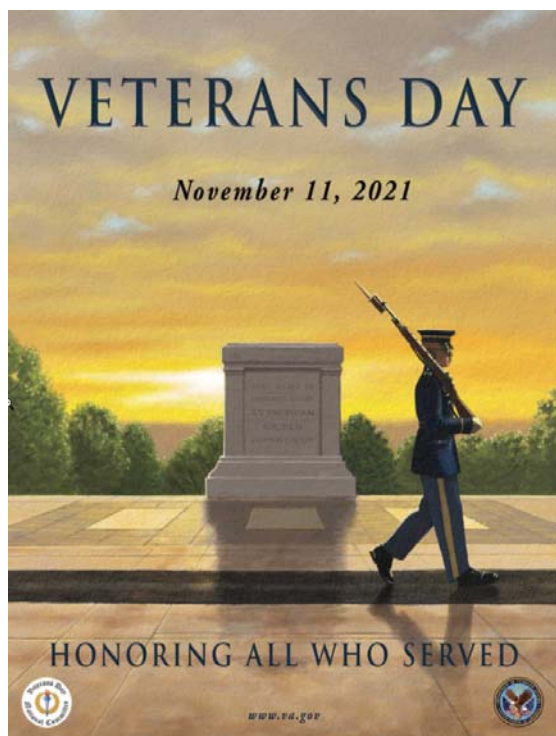
## Manassas proclaims November Veterans Appreciation Month

On October 25th Manassas Mayor Davis-Younger and the City Council presented the VFW, American Legion, Vietnam Veterans Association and VetPar with a proclamation designating the month of November as Veterans Appreciation month in the City of Manassas. Councilmember Mark Wolfe presented the award. Besides those pictured the event was also attended by comrades Lou Filippone and Jerry Martin.



LOU FILIPPONE / VFW POST 7589

L-R Desi Arnaz; Vietnam Veterans Association, Mark Stein; American Legion, Wayne Moore; VFW Post 7589, Jay Wilson; VetPar and Councilman Mark Wolfe.



## Contributions Desired for the Community Service Book

As you may or may not know I am working on the Community Service Book this year which covers 1 May 2021 thru 30 April 2022. The guidelines for the book are detailed in minutiae - this makes it more challenging.

**NO** Post events such as elections, installation, meetings, dances, etc. shall be included in the book or mentioned. **ONLY COMMUNITY SERVICE** to include monetary donations and the cost of any projects for the community.

The book shall be divided into tabs:

- Tab 1, Community Involvement
- Tab 2, Cooperation with Others
- Tab 3, Aid to Others
- Tab 4, School & Church Assistance
- Tab 5, Safety
- Tab 6, Americanism/Loyalty Day
- Tab 7, Youth & Voice of Democracy

Many of our community service events fall into several categories but only one can be chosen.

I am respectfully requesting each and every one of you to send me any and all info on the above to include photographs, newspaper articles, money expended, etc. Again, no internal events. Dates to be included are listed above. I am currently reviewing monthly **CANNON NEWS** editions but there must be more that has not been included in the newsletters.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance. Remember the CSB will reflect on us!

V/r  
SS SF  
Gunny Lewis

[gysgt\\_mc@yahoo.com](mailto:gysgt_mc@yahoo.com)

*Note: The Community Service Book is required for the Post to achieve All-State. — Ed.*

Virginia Department of Veterans  
Services Manassas Office

9300 W. Courthouse Rd.  
Suite 305  
703-479-7437

## Honor Flight #OperationHerStory

Ninety-three female veterans departed Midway Airport this morning [October 6] on Honor Flight Chicago #OperationHerStory, Illinois' first ever all female flight.

[It] was a special day for women veterans as [#OperationHerStory](#) and [Honor Flight Chicago](#) brought ... WW2, Korea, Vietnam, and Operation Desert Storm veterans to Washington DC.

One of the veterans was a shipmate that I served with for many years in the Navy Intelligence community, Master Chief Mary Arvidson. Mary was a dedicated sailor and senior leader in our community.

I served at the registration table ... at Washington Dulles International Airport. Hopefully next flight I will be back on my bus. Fellow Navy veteran Heidi BruMar and Evelyn BruMar [were there with me] waiting for the planes to land. Heidi is a fellow member of American Legion Post 10 and VFW Post 7589.

*Dave Mattingly*



Mary Arvidson & Dave Mattingly



Dave Mattingly with Evelyn & Heidi BruMar

PHOTOS FROM FACEBOOK

## A Visit to Ron Knowles' Memorial Garden

by Clark Knowles

On October 4th, 52 members of the Lifelong Learning Institute of Manassas (LLI) visited the home of Post Chaplain Ronald S. Knowles. LLI is an educational and social organization open to adults over the age of 50. They offer a wide range of classes, discussion groups, social events, and trips.

They came to Ron's home to tour the memorial garden that he began after the passing of his beloved wife Betty in 2014, and which has grown to encompass nearly a third of his property.

Visitors follow a custom built sidewalk to an arched arbor that serves as an entry point to the garden's intricate design: hundreds of plantings of dozens of varieties of flowers, shrubs, and trees. The centerpiece of the garden is the meditative seating area and granite benches.

The group also visited Ron's home and extensive shop, out of which he has run his framing business, Knowles Custom Creations, Inc. for over fifty years. They marveled at his wide array of tools, equipment, framed art, military insignia, career commendations, and presidential memorabilia. It was a marvelously successful event, and a good time was had by all.



RON KNOWLES

Ron Knowles' Memorial Garden is located behind his residence in Manassas



## Wittman, Case Introduce the BRAVE Act

WASHINGTON, D.C. - [On October 12] Congressman Rob Wittman (R-VA) and Congressman Ed Case (D-HI) announced the introduction of H.R. 5548, the Be Ready to Assist Veterans in Extremis Act (BRAVE Act) to create a notification system that can notify select veterans of counseling and mental health options in response to crises.

The BRAVE Act would direct the Department of Veterans Affairs to establish a system for patient outreach relating to mental health care while giving the Department of Veterans Affairs the freedom to implement the system as they see best. Additionally,

this legislation would prioritize privacy concerns of Veterans by allowing them to opt-in to receive these notifications.

"Many of our nation's veterans carry invisible scars from their incredible sacrifices in pursuit of the freedoms that we are allowed each and every day," said Congressman Wittman (VA-01). "We owe these selfless heroes a debt that can never be fully repaid. By empowering the Department of Veterans Affairs to create this critical outreach program, those who sacrificed for our country will not only have the tools they need, but will also be reminded that their service will never be forgotten."

"The clear shortcomings in our health care system to address the mental health needs of our veterans can be tragically seen in their disproportionate rates of suicide and homelessness," said Congressman Ed Case (HI-01). "Enactment of the BRAVE Act will do more than just address this unacceptable gap; it is indispensable to repaying our debt to those who selflessly served our country."

## Virginia VFW Honors USS COLE Sailors

by Ken Wiseman  
Past State Commander

On October 12, 2000, the USS COLE (DDG-67) was pier side in the harbor of Aden, Yemen for what seemed like a routine evolution: refueling. Sailors on the ship that day recall lunch being served with the normal delay to refill trays in the mess line. There were routine security watches in place consistent with guidance for the time. However, this was not to last.

A small boat packed with explosives and driven by terrorists aligned with Al-Qaeda was driven towards the port side of the ship and the explosives were detonated. 17 sailors were killed and another 37 injured in the deadliest attack against a U.S. Navy ship since 1987. The attack on the USS COLE, which came 11 months before the attacks on September 11, 2001 is historically seen as yet another action by a terrorist group the U.S. continues to fight today. However, those sailors killed are not forgotten; the VFW ensures their legacy of service and sacrifice is kept alive.

Across Virginia, a number of the sailors killed are buried. In keeping with the wishes of their families, the VFW honors many with wreaths placed on their graves and by their spot in a columbarium. Each wreath contains 17 white roses for the 17 sailors killed. Four are buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Another, who had only been on the ship for 60 days and had a pregnant fiancé, is buried in Newport News, just a few miles from where he grew up and near where his mother and the son he never met live today. These sailors were junior and senior in rank, new and not-so-new by years of service, but all were far from home ensuring the principles of democracy and freedom were well represented.

Leading the VFW's delegation at Arlington National Cemetery was State Senior Vice Commander Geoff Lyster, who was joined



From left, District 10 Commander Robert Adamczyk, Commander Kirk Lippold, USN (ret.), Past State Commander Ken Wiseman, and State Senior Vice Commander Geoff Lyster gather by the graves of three sailors killed in the terrorist attack on the USS COLE.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

by District 10 Commander Robert Adamczyk and Past State Commander Ken Wiseman. Meeting them in Section 60 of the cemetery, where three of the sailors rest beside each other, was Commander Kirk Lippold, U.S. Navy (ret.) who served as the Commanding Officer of the ship that fateful day.

“We are the VFW, and the VFW never forgets those who served and sacrificed” said State Senior Vice Commander Lyster. “The VFW continues the tradition of placing wreaths and remembering those lost even though it has been 21 years

because the service of these sailors is still just as honorable, and their loss is still just as painful”.

Commander Lippold said he was touched by the continued commitment of the VFW. “It means so much to me personally that you continue to send the wreaths and attend the ceremonies”.

The ship, which was later adopted by the VFW's National HQs through its “Adopt-a-Unit” program, was repaired and returned to sea, where she still serves. The ship commemorates the memory of those lost in several ways and holds their own ceremonies annually. Additional wreaths are placed by VFW Posts 4809 and 5500 from Norfolk and Hampton, respectively.

Regardless of the time that may go by, the VFW continues to fulfill its commitment to remember those who serve and sacrifice while in the military as well as their families. The attack on the USS COLE is an event many of us remember well and those sailors will continue to live on in the minds and hearts of both their families and all of us.



## Amazon impersonators: what you need to know

October 20, 2021 by

Maria Mayo

Acting Associate Director, Division of Consumer Response and Operations

Has Amazon contacted you to confirm a recent purchase you didn't make or to tell you that your account has been hacked? According to the FTC's new Data Spotlight, since July 2020, about one in three people who have reported a business impersonator scam say the scammer pretended to be Amazon.

These scams can look a few different ways. In one version, scammers offer to "refund" you for an unauthorized purchase but "accidentally transfer" more than promised. They then ask you to send back the difference. What really happens? The scammer moves your own money from one of your bank accounts to the other (like your Savings to Checking, or vice versa) to make it look like you were refunded. Any money you send back to "Amazon" is your money (not an overpayment) — and as soon as you send it out of your account, it becomes theirs. In another version of the scam, you're told that hackers have gotten access to your account — and the only way to supposedly protect it is to buy gift cards and share the gift card number and PIN on the back. Once that information is theirs, the money is, too.

Here are some ways to avoid an Amazon impersonator scam:

- **Never call back an unknown number.** Use the information on Amazon's website and not a number listed in an unexpected email or text.
- **Don't pay for anything with a gift card.** Gift cards are for gifts. If anyone asks you to pay with a gift card – or buy gift cards for anything other than a gift, it's a scam.
- **Don't give remote access to someone who contacts you unexpectedly.** This gives scammers easy access to your personal and financial information—like access to your bank accounts.

Have you spotted this scam? Report it at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/identitytheft).

If you think someone has gotten access to your accounts or personal information, visit [IdentityTheft.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/identitytheft). There, you'll find steps to take to see if your identity has been misused, and how to report and recover from identity theft.

Submitted by Gunny Lewis

## Social Security Announces 5.9 Percent Benefit Increase for 2022

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits



for approximately 70 million Americans will increase 5.9 percent in 2022, the Social Security Administration announced today. The 5.9 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin with benefits payable to more than 64 million Social Security beneficiaries in January 2022. Increased payments to approximately 8 million SSI beneficiaries will begin on December 30, 2021. (Note: some people receive both Social Security and SSI benefits). The Social Security Act ties the annual COLA to the increase in the Consumer Price Index as determined by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Some other adjustments that take effect in January of each year are based on the increase in average wages. Based on that increase, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax (taxable maximum) will increase to \$147,000 from \$142,800.

Social Security and SSI beneficiaries are normally notified by mail starting in early December about their new benefit amount. Most people who receive Social Security payments will be able to view their COLA notice online through their personal **my Social Security** account. People may create or access their **my Social Security** account online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](https://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).

Information about Medicare changes for 2022, when announced, will be available at [www.medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov). For Social Security beneficiaries receiving Medicare, Social Security will not be able to compute their new benefit amount until after the Medicare premium amounts for 2022 are announced. Final 2022 benefit amounts will be communicated to beneficiaries in December through the mailed COLA notice and **my Social Security's** Message Center.

The Social Security Act provides for how the COLA is calculated. To read more, please visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/cola](https://www.socialsecurity.gov/cola).

**2020-21 Post Officers**

Commander	Wayne Moore
Senior Vice Commander	Lou Filippone
Junior Vice Commander	Bobby Knight
Quartermaster	Rick Raskin
Chaplain	Ron Knowles
1 Year Trustee	Tina Bliem
2 Year Trustee	Dave Mattingly
3 Year Trustee	Heidi BruMar
Adjutant	Ron Link
Service Officer	Ron Link
Judge Advocate	Bobby Knight
Surgeon	Alex Bliem

**2020-21 Auxiliary 7589 Officers**

President	Mary Corkhill
Senior Vice President	Ellie Smith
Junior Vice President	Cindy McIntyre
Secretary	Ann Mitchell
Treasurer	Elanor Doczi
Chaplain	Cookie Cullen
Conductress	Debbie Baxter
Guard	Patsy Gough
Trustee 1	Yvonne Sullivan
Trustee 2	Jan Germain
Trustee 3	Janet Raskin
Historians	Patsy Gough Yvonne Sullivan
Patriotic Instructor	Bettye Montgomery



## A Haircut at Sport Clips or a Text Before November 13 Can Help A Hero Go Back to School

### *Fundraiser kicks off ... for largest veteran scholarship program of its kind*

**GEORGETOWN, Texas (October 11, 2021)** – Sport Clips Haircuts kicks off its Help A Hero veteran scholarship campaign ... to benefit scholarships for U.S. service members and veterans – the largest scholarship program of its kind. Donations can be made ... through November 13 at any Sport Clips location or by texting “HERO” to 71777. On Veterans Day, November 11, participating stores will offer free haircuts for veterans and service members with a military I.D., and Sport Clips will donate \$2 per haircare service toward this year's fundraising goal of \$1.5 million.

"With the support of our generous clients and product partners, we're helping thousands of veterans get the additional education they need to pursue a wide range of civilian careers," says Edward Logan, CEO and president of Sport Clips Haircuts. "As a veteran-founded company, we intend to keep and honor our commitment to thank those who serve. This year, we've increased our pledge to the program by doubling our donation to \$2 for every

haircare service provided in our stores nationwide on Veterans Day."

"Despite the education benefits veterans earn from serving our country, they often don't cover the increasing costs of attaining higher education," said Fritz Mihelcic, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) national commander. "Together with Sport Clips, the VFW is dedicated to easing the financial burden for those who deserve it most."

Help A Hero scholarships range up to \$5,000 per semester and help cover the cost of tuition and fees for military with the rank of E-5 and below. More than 2,000 military and student veterans have received Help A Hero scholarships through the \$9.2 million donated to date by Sport Clips' fundraising efforts.

In support of this year's campaign, the VFW and Sport Clips are hosting the second annual VFW Sport Clips Help A Hero Walk. The event offers supporters a virtual and healthy way to engage in the campaign. Participants in the virtual walk may register and fundraise individually or as a team, and the walk offers the flexibility to partake in the event where and when it is convenient. All participants are invited to join the VFW and Sport Clips for the Celebration Finale on the VFW's Facebook page on Nov. 6, 2021, at noon EST. Complete details on the virtual Help A Hero Walk can be found at [vfw.org/2021VirtualWalk](https://vfw.org/2021VirtualWalk).

To check for Sport Clips stores offering free haircuts visit <https://sportclips.com/promotions-partnerships/help-a-hero/help-a-hero-2021>

To learn more about the Help A Hero scholarship program, visit [SportClips.com/hero](https://SportClips.com/hero).

 **Dominion Energy** presents **Salute to the Military**

Opening Night of Manassas Ballet Theatre's *Nutcracker*  
 Thursday, December 16th, 7:30 p.m.

at the  **HYLTON PERFORMING ARTSCENTER**

Salute to the Military celebrates and thanks all military members and branches for their service. The moving entre into the program features the Manassas Ballet Theatre Orchestra playing the National Anthem and a medley of all the service anthems, bagpipes playing "Amazing Grace" from the second balcony, a color guard, and the introduction of our honoree of the year.



This year's honoree is Mark Stein. Mr. Stein served in the Air Force for 20 years and also served as a Police Officer and CSI for the Washington Metro Transit Police department. Mark is active in our community, mentoring youth and serving in leadership positions with the American Legion.

All active-duty military, veterans and first responders are invited to attend at no charge, with accompanying tickets at 20% off. If you are unable to attend our Salute performance, you are invited to attend the other *Nutcracker* performances (Dec. 17-23) and receive a 20% discount. Use code **SERVICE** at <https://bit.ly/3DliBb0> or call (703) 993-7759 to access these special offers.

For more information: [manassasballet.org](http://manassasballet.org)  
[info@manassasballet.org](mailto:info@manassasballet.org) • (703) 257-1811



## Upcoming Events

November 1	Post Meeting — 7:30 PM
November 6	Veterans Parade — Manassas (Breakfast available at the Post) Recruiting — Haymarket Walmart — 9:00 AM— 1:00 PM
November 8	Auxiliary meeting at 2:00 PM (in person and teleconferencing)
November 11	November 11: Manassas Veteran Memorial 8:30 AM & replace flags at Manassas Cemetery 9:00 AM Veterans Luncheon — American Legion Post 10 — 12:30 PM — 4:00 PM
November 13	District 8 meeting — 10 AM — Post 7589, Manassas Auxiliary meets via ZOOM
November 18-21	Southern Conference — Hilton Head, SC
<b>2022</b>	
December 5	Post/Auxiliary VOD/Patriots Pen/Teacher Award at 4:00 PM
December 6	Post meeting 7:30 PM
December 13	Auxiliary meeting and Christmas party at 5:30 PM Yorkshire Restaurant
December 18	Wreaths Across America (WAA) at Quantico National Cemetery – 12 Noon Post Christmas party at Post (Pot Luck) 5:30 PM
January 3	Post meeting — 7:30 PM
January 7—9	Winter Council, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA
January 10	Auxiliary meeting at 2:00 PM (in person and teleconferencing)

KNOW YOUR VIRGINIA REPRESENTATIVE

Rob Wittman	1st District	202-225-4261
Elaine Luria	2nd District	202-225-4215
Bobby Scott	3rd District	202-225-8351
Donald McEachin	4th District	202-225-6365
Denver Riggleman	5th District	202-225-4711
Ben Cline	6th District	202-225-9681
Abigail Spanberger	7th District	202-225-2815
Don Beyer	8th District	202-225-4376
Morgan Griffith	9th District	202-225-3861
Jennifer Wexton	10th District	202-225-5136
Gerry Connolly	11th District	202-225-1492



# CANNON NEWS

The official publication of Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.  
 Francis Cannon Post No. 7589  
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Cannon News is emailed to Post and Auxiliary members with email addresses on file.  
 Cannon News is also available on our website [www.vfw7589.org](http://www.vfw7589.org)



Editor: Rick Raskin  
 Copy Editor: Janet Raskin

Please email articles to [quartermaster@vfw7589.org](mailto:quartermaster@vfw7589.org) no later than the 28th of the month.  
 We reserve the right to edit submitted articles for timeliness, clarity and syntax.

## WreathsAcrossAmerica.org



### **SPONSOR A WREATH FOR A VETERAN'S GRAVE**

Since 2007, Wreaths Across America carries out its mission **REMEMBER** the fallen, **HONOR** those that serve and **TEACH** our children the value of **FREEDOM** in part by placing wreaths on veterans' graves during the holiday season.

The **Francis Cannon Auxiliary to VFW Post 7589** is working with Wreaths Across America to help place more wreaths than ever before on veterans' graves at **Quantico National Cemetery**. **Deadline date is November 30, 2021.**

Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, the mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery as well as at more than 1,600 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad.

**Sponsorships are \$15 each.** We are participating because we think it is a great program and \$5 of every sponsorship will support the Francis Cannon Auxiliary to VFW Post 7589 directly so we may continue to assist veterans and families as well as our community.

**PLEASE JOIN US** -- All wreaths will be placed by volunteers on **Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 12 Noon at Quantico National Cemetery**. (Advance notice: the time is subject to change.) This is a moving experience that you should make part of your holiday tradition. With your help our local heroes will be remembered this Holiday Season. **How many sponsorships can we count on you for?**

**For more information visit [www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org), or call 877-385-9504.  
You can also email [infor@wreathsacrossamerica.org](mailto:infor@wreathsacrossamerica.org)**



WREATHS *across* AMERICA

Tax ID: 20-8362270

**Wreath Sponsorship Form**

Sponsored wreaths are placed on the grave markers at state, and national cemeteries as well as local cemeteries each December. Wreaths may be purchased online at [www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org)

If you wish to make your sponsorship with a credit card please visit our website for a secure online transaction.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:  
**Wreaths Across America TM**  
 PO Box 249  
 Columbia Falls, ME 04623  
 Question? Please Call 877-385-9504  
 Thank you for your sponsorship and joining us in our mission to **Remember, Honor** and **Teach**

**\*GRAVE SPECIFIC REQUESTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED ON THIS FORM\***

Sponsorship	Price	Quantity	Total
Individual = 1 Wreath	\$15.00		
Mailed "In Honor Card" = If you wish to send a mailed honor card telling someone of your sponsorship, see "In Honor" section below. Card will not be mailed if the \$2 fee is not included.	\$2.00		
Family = 4 Wreaths	\$60.00		
Small Business = 10 Wreaths	\$150.00		
Corporate = 100 Wreaths	\$1500.00		
		<b>Grand Total</b>	

Please note that all sponsorships are sent directly to the location and **NO** wreaths are sent to the individuals purchasing sponsorships.

In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please provide email or "in Honor of" recipient mailing address so a card can be sent notifying them of your sponsorship in their honor. If you have a specific message, please write it on the back of this sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_

Email or Mailing address

In Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

This name will be listed on our online memory wall. Please provide name, rank, branch of service and state resided.

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Location ID: **VAQNCT** Fundraising Group ID: **VA0040P**

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**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Cash: \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Total # Checks: \_\_\_\_\_ Reconciled: \_\_\_\_\_

MO \$: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered: \_\_\_\_\_

GEN: \_\_\_\_\_