



THE AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

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Department Commander Frank Kostka Veterans Day Message **“LEGION PROUD”**

Portage, WI – The American Legion is the largest wartime veterans service organization with nearly 2 million members in 12,875 posts across the nation. As the nation’s largest wartime veterans service organization, Legionnaires and local posts can be found in nearly every community in America. The American Legion was founded on four pillars: **Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth**. Each of these pillars encompasses a variety of programs that benefit our nation's veterans, its service members, their families, the youth of America and ordinary citizen. For 100 years, veterans have been impacting our nation through The American Legion and we believe it makes a difference.

As an American Legion Family, we believe our veterans earned their benefits through their service to our nation. Our Veteran Service Office secured over \$302, 895,329.85 worth of benefits over this past year that might have otherwise gone uncollected.

As an American Legion Family we believe in the impact of hundreds of American Legion programs and activities that strengthen the nation. Our Camp American Legion served over 1200 veterans, their families, caregivers and providers this past season, as we help to heal those who served, continue to serve, and their families, through Wisconsin’s Northwood’s experience...giving Wisconsin veterans the pathway to quality of life.

“I am Legion Proud of the impact the American Legion Family, the Four Pillars and Programs have on the lives of Veterans, their Families and their Communities! I am proud of the rich heritage that has blossomed over the past one hundred years. As The American Legion Family, we show our pride in all that we do. We believe in patriotism, our nation’s youth, a strong national security and we believe in taking care of Veterans and their families from the time of enlistment to burial. The pride of membership is the heartbeat of The American Legion and it begins at the post level where actions of patriotism take root and continue to grow as we work the Four Pillars.” Department Commander, Frank Kostka.

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The American Legion celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2019 as the largest and most influential veterans service organization in the U.S. The Wisconsin American Legion is the state’s largest veterans’ service organization with over 53,000 members and 504 posts in communities across Wisconsin serving troops, veterans and youth since 1919. For more information on the Legion’s programs and membership, please visit www.wilegion.org.

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The mission of The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin is to provide service to veterans, their families and their communities.