

## Department of Washington, Education

I hope every school in Washington State knows where an American Legion Auxiliary Unit is and how to contact the unit. If you're unsure of this, check things out and make sure there is good communication between schools and the unit. Remember, March 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for scholarship applications to be in the hands of the Units. You're ensuring the schools, counselors, students know where your unit is and how to reach either President, Secretary, or Education Chairman is important to enable every student in your area the opportunity to apply for one of the Department and/or National Scholarships. I look forward to announcing winners in the next edition of Evergreen News.

Please encourage everyone, wherever you are, to wear purple on April 15<sup>th</sup>! Why purple? Purple is the color that symbolizes all branches of the military: a combination of Navy blue, Marine red, Coast Guard blue, Army green, and Air Force blue.\* "Purple Up for Military Kids" is a way of giving a visible sign of support and to thank military children for their strength and sacrifices. It's also a sign of gratitude to their parents for serving our nation. Here's a little something I found.

Military Child Bill of Rights

I will grow strong, serving alongside my family as long as I have:

A clean and safe place to live.

Great schools that welcome me.

A safe and fun place to stay when my parents are away.

Good doctors I can easily visit when I don't feel well.

A community that supports me and lets me know I am valued.

Courage and support to keep my family strong while we are at war.

Leaders who remember my family will still have needs when the war is over.

Adults who remind me I'm still a kid.

Time with my mom or dad so it doesn't feel like they are still away even when they are home.

Someone to talk with who understands me.

REMEMBER: "Kids Serve, Too!"

Teacher Appreciation Week is 6-10 May 2024. Plan now to show your appreciation to the teachers in your area; don't forget homeschoolers, coaches, and youth organization leaders like Boy & Girl Scouts, 4-H, etc. (they teach too). Putting out letters to the editor in town newspaper is one sure way to show your appreciation and encourage others to join in. A more personal way to show appreciation is a note/card. Sure you could send an email but I believe a handwritten note/card is more personal and shows you think enough of the teacher to put forth a little effort. How bout enclosing a certificate for the local coffee shop or making a thank you sign to put up in the teacher's yard. Small treasures for teachers are the handmade little items from students but you could make something too. How about filling a mason jar with brownie ingredients, colorful gumballs, or other sweet treats. Some teachers would be thrilled to get things like Monthly Planners, Desk Caddies, Kleenex, Disinfectant Wipes, and/or other Teacher Supplies.