



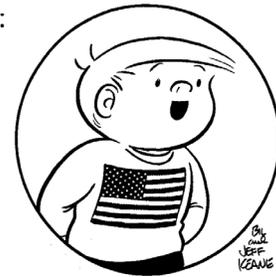
Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of Wisconsin
YOUTH ACTIVITIES
August 2021
www.wivfwaux.org



Welcome to our new VFW Auxiliary year! My name is Patty Jansky, and I am honored to serve again as your Youth Activities Chairman for the 2021-2022 Program Year. Thank you, President Inez, for this exciting appointment. Our youth are our country's future! As Sheila Spaulding, our National Youth Activities Ambassador says, "It's up to us to foster in youth the values and traditions of patriotism. Through the Youth Activities Program, we have many ways to invite and encourage them to get involved, including Illustrating America and Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans citations."

Our Youth Activities Program is focusing on six different areas this year:

- **Creating, Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups**
- **Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans National Citations**
- **Patriotic Youth Awards**
- **Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue!**
- **Patriotism through Literacy**
- **Illustrating America**



"This is my favorite shirt 'cause it has our country's logo on it."

Our two terrific contests, **Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue!** and **Illustrating America**, will be addressed in my next bulletin. If you would like to get a jump start on them, as well as **Patriotism through Literacy**, you can check them out at vfwauxiliary.org/resources under Youth Activities. You can also see much of this information on our very own WI VFW Auxiliary website under the Youth Activities Program. This month I would like to concentrate on our opportunities to encourage and acknowledge the outstanding youth who support our veterans and display their patriotism.

As part of the Youth Activities Program, an Auxiliary can sponsor a youth group and engage the youth in any one of our programs, including activities to honor our veterans or assist our service members and their families. Where can you find these groups? Youth sports teams, church youth groups, after-school programs and clubs, homeschool associations, Scouts and 4H groups are just a few – the list goes on and on! Encourage these boys and girls to make cards for veterans, put together care packages for deployed military, organize a food drive, participate in a flag retirement ceremony, march in a parade, help an elderly neighbor, teach veterans more about technology, go caroling at a Veterans Home or Hospital, etc. Throughout the year, our Auxiliaries can recognize these youth who give back to veterans and their communities. The Youth Activities Program has ways to motivate and award youth for their service. Your Auxiliary could nominate a youth group for a **YOUTH GROUPS SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS NATIONAL CITATION**. Individual youth can be recognized for their service with one of three different **PATRIOTIC YOUTH AWARDS** or a **RAP Card or coin**. All of these awards are easy to do and can be found on our National Resource page or on our Department website. Youth who know that their service is being appreciated will want to step up and do more. Whatever their age, they can make a difference both now and in the future.

"Don't FUDGE on Care for Veterans" while "Soaring Above & Beyond".

Patty Jansky
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