

# AMERICAN LEGION

## AUGUST 2024

**McMinnville Post 21**

126 NE Atlantic Street

McMinnville, Oregon 97128

503-435-2218

[www.vetsclub.org](http://www.vetsclub.org)

[vetsclub21@gmail.com](mailto:vetsclub21@gmail.com)

[post21newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:post21newsletter@gmail.com)

### Commander:

Greetings to one and all. It's nice to see that the Lord has brought us through another month.

I hope you all had a great 4th of July. The Post celebrated with lots of food and fun. It was nice to see so many families and guests enjoying themselves. Our BBQ was a great success because of the renowned chefs who were all volunteers from the Post. One of our events was a contest for the best dessert and side dish. The prize was \$50 for each category. I can tell you for myself that ALL of the food was exceptional and proof of it is in the weight I gained.

Our funniest event was the dunk tank. Everyone had a good time no matter if they were being dunked or doing the dunking of someone else. Even I was "forced" to be on the receiving end of being dunked. I'm still trying to recover from the experience and may need to get therapy. Other events included games of horseshoes and corn hole. There were lots of festivities that produced endless fun and laughter. Thank you to all who made it possible. We once again placed flags on the new bridge and received many compliments for it. Thank you to all the volunteers who participated in this.

Another thing we did was help in the Lafayette kid's parade. It was quite a joy to watch them decorate their bikes for this. They got a big thrill being asked to raise the flag while the National Anthem was being sung. You could see the pride in their eyes and the parents as well. The parade began at the Grade School and ended at the City Park a few blocks away. Everyone enjoyed free hot dogs, chips, water and popsicles. There was a contest for the best decorated bikes, which added to the spirit of a good old-fashioned 4th of July celebration.

The Post continues to help our Veterans in need and our community. The Auxiliary has many programs. One is Cancer Bingo. It is held once a month and all proceeds go to the Willamette Valley Cancer Foundation. At our last Members meeting we voted to give the Foundation an additional \$2,000.00 since they help Veterans in so many ways.

I want to say Thank You to all our members and Post families for continuing to make Post 21 a big success.

**Juan Palacios**  
**Your Commander**

### Adjutant Memo:

We have all served but a few have gone up and beyond. I'd like to introduce a former member of Post 21 Gary Heaton of Lafayette who entered the US Army in September of 1965. After training he was assigned to Company C, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry in Vietnam. On the 26th of April 1966 First Class Grenadier Heaton and his platoon were on a search and destroy mission against the Viet Cong. His platoon made contact with an estimated Viet Cong platoon in a base camp area and came under immediate small arms and automatic weapons fire. When the platoon was engaged, private Heaton was not in a position to fire his grenade launcher. With complete disregard for his own safety he moved to an open area to fire at the insurgents more effectively. Many times the Viet Cong bullets tore up the ground around him, but he continued to place devastating volumes of fire to the hostile positions. He expended his M79 ammunition, defied the intense Viet Cong fire and called back to his comrades to throw him more had grenades so he could continue to fight. The aggressiveness and bravery of Private Heaton spread to other members of his platoon and soon the insurgents were forced to withdraw from there intrenched positions. Private Heaton's outstanding display of aggressiveness, devotion to duty and personal bravery is in keeping with finest traditions of the military service. For his actions he was awarded the Bronze Star with 'V' device in June of 1966. I only wish that Gary was still a member of Post 21 so that one day I could shake his hand.

**Lenny Pardue**  
**Adjutant**



## 1st Vice's Desk:

Post 21 received a recognition award from the state for exceeding our goal for 2024 membership. We finished the year with 430 members for 103.12% of our goal.

The Post also received a second award as all of our families (Auxiliary, Riders, Sons of the American Legion), also reached 100%.

The dues drive for 2025 has now begun so it is time to renew your membership. Legion membership dues for 2025 are \$50. Beat the rush and pay today.

We have now donated \$2500 to Tunnels 2 Towers charity.

Thanks to all who have donated. It is amazing how quickly those \$1 donations add up. Special thanks to DPR (AKA Bar Bunnies) as they have been responsible for the bulk of those donations.

T2T is one of the highest rated charities with over 95% of all funds collected going toward helping injured veterans and 1st responders or their survivors. Tunnels 2 Towers provides mortgage free homes that have been modified to make the lives of our wounded heroes more livable.

Let's continue to support this good cause.

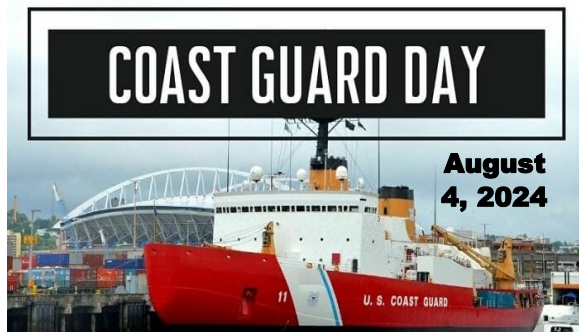
**Paul Krutsch**

**1st Vice-commander**

## A Brief History Of The Coast Guard

The United States Coast Guard is much older than many Americans realize. It was founded on Aug. 4, 1790, by Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton and was known back then as the Revenue Marine.

Hamilton authorized the construction of ten vessels known as Revenue Service cutters, which were intended to enforce the earliest United States tariff laws.



## Chaplain's Corner:

As I come today I hope all is going great for you. It is so good to bring you the news for this past month. It seems that we all growing in the many members that have been coming to the meetings and that is a great time for all of us. Keep it up and ask anyone that is not coming to come with you. We need you to be a big part of this post.

If you didn't know already I would like to let you know about the members that we lost since the last newsletter.

Bob Wittrock - SAL member.

Tommy Butler - USMC Vietnam vet.

Jim Baker - Army Vet.

As I write this newsletter I have to said that it was my order to help bring Jim Baker home to the Legion Post. I want to thank all the post families that gave money to help bring Jim home. Today I found out that Jim was a member of the Legion Riders and yes he had a motorcycle. As we picked him up today his stepson came to "Macy & Son" and Jim was able to have the best ride on the last ride on a motorcycle by a Legion Rider as he came home.

I know that he was looking down and having a great time coming home to the post on the motorcycle that used to be his motorcycle. I'm so happy when I see all the work that our Legion Riders do for our post and for all vets. Take the time to thank them when you see them the next time. They do so much for our Vets and Post 21. Legion Riders let me be the first one to say thank-you and may God keep you safe as you are on your ride each day.

Let me say that we have a great post with the Club Manager. Some may not know it but "Debra Godwin" has done so much in bring the post up to a higher point for all the people that come into the post. It's great to see families coming to the post because we have great food and cooks and all the help that is given each day. Take the time to thank them when you see them. Know that we can't do it all by ourself. Looking by to my time in Vietnam it took all of us working together to get the job done. Stop and see if there is anything you can do to help out. I know that they enjoy your help as need. Let Debra Godwin know if you have anything to say.

Moving on to more things for our post in what we have coming up. There are a lot of things coming as the Air Show and more. There are many people that I'm praying for that are having a hard time of it each day. If you know of a vet or family member that is in need of prayer please let me know. God called me for a reason. Well I guess I best get down off my stump and stop talking. As my wife tells me I'm long winded. Be safe out there and may God keep his hand on you.

**Chaplain Thomas Clayton**  
**armynavy6782@gmail.com**  
**Psalms 117**



Who gets excited about finance? Well, this finance officer (in case you don't know me, Cheryl Saville-Miller) and our two officer managers, Debbie Misner and Stacey Johnson get very excited about numbers. We like numbers, but we especially like them when they balance. For the first time that anyone around here can remember, we are actually reconciling our checkbook. That was a project. Thanks Debbie!

What's coming? Well, in talking with members who have been around for years, they can't ever remember the post having a budget. I, personally, have never worked for an organization that didn't have an operating budget. So, we are 7 months into the year, but we are working with our finance committee on creating a Post budget for calendar year 2024. We hope to have a draft ready for preview and presentation to the Executive Committee on August 19, then to the general membership on August 21 st . Our goal is to begin the 2025 budget in October and have it approved by December 31, 2024 or at the very latest, January 20, 2025.

I am around the post quite often, mostly during the day. If you see me or have questions please grab me if you see me (okay, not literally) or send me an email through [vetsclub21@gmail.com](mailto:vetsclub21@gmail.com).

**Cheryl Mill**  
**Legion Finance Officer**

<b><u>PRIOR APPROVAL FOR REIMBURSEMENT FORM</u></b>				
<b>TODAY'S DATE:</b>				
<b>NAME:</b>				
<b>ITEM/S:</b>				
<b>AMOUNT:</b>				
<b>REASON FOR PURCHASE:</b>				
<b>APPROVAL SIGNATURE:</b>				
	<b>FINANCE OFFICER</b>			
	<b>E-BOARD MEMBER</b>			





## Legion Riders:



Through the efforts of Post 21 Rider and Chaplain Jerry George and Laura Bailey and the leadership of the

ORALR and a number of Oregon ALR Chapters; hundreds of stuffed toys were collected for distribution in what is known as the Jack Bailey Annual Toy Run. During the July Lapine ROMP over 45 American Legion riders throughout the state with

their families and friends showed up in magnificent fashion toting Rabbits, Teddy Bears, Dolls and Dinosaurs for local distribution through the Deschutes Children's Foundation. As you were aware, La Pine has had several wild-fires causing families to be evacuated. The Deschutes Children's Foundation were able to provide donations to kids that had lost everything. Stating every single time that the stuffies were donated by the Oregon American Legion Riders. As stated via the Deschutes Children's Foundation; "The American Legion Riders truly define giving and providing their all in support of our youth and the Deschutes Children's Foundation. Who will remain eternally grateful".

As the Director of the Post Riders and a long-standing Legion Rider, I cannot be prouder of the individuals involved, our organization, and the participating Oregon Legion Rider Chapters.

Events and future ALR Activities:

**13 July 2024: Confederated Tribes Veterans Pow Wow** 7 Post Veterans Riders lead the grand entrance at the event and were very well received.

**Newberg Old Fashion Festival and parade July 27th** KSU here 0800

**28 Aug – 2 Sept. 8-10 Air Show**-volunteers needed for set-up and security fencing beginning the 28th thru the 30th 8 am at the airport access. Take down Sunday the 2nd. It has been agreed that the Riders will open the Airshow each day honoring veterans and families attending. Wrist bands will be provided for volunteers during the day's activities for free access.

**September 7th annual Riders Scholarship and Community Support Poker run.**

All Legion members and family, please support and volunteer your help during this event.

**Gale Sears**

**Director, Legion Riders**



## New Member Spotlight:

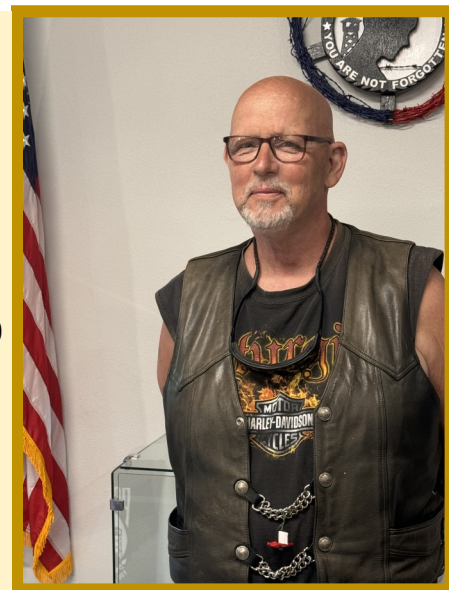
Please help us in welcoming Randy David to Post 21.

Randy served in the Navy for 4 years Post Vietnam as an OS in CIC.

During his time he served on the USS Coral Sea (CV-43), the USS Francis Hammond (FF-1067) and the USS Haleakala (AE-25). He was stationed 2 years in Japan and 6 months Iran and Indian Ocean.

After the Navy, Randy settled here in McMinnville with his wife where they raised two daughters. Randy has been a long haul truck driver for 40 years. He loves to garden and ride his motorcycle. Randy owns a motorcycle shop - that still needs to be named.

Randy spends his free time volunteering for Veteran's groups which led him to the Legion. He is currently a Patriot Guard Rider but says he looks forward to possibly joining the Legion Riders.





## High School Liaison

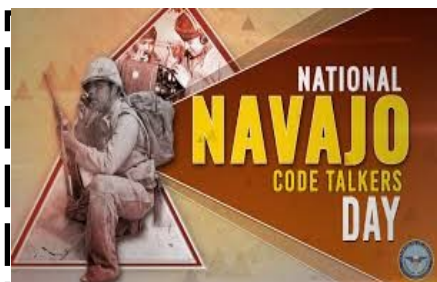
The Jim Willis Law Enforcement Career Camp for 2024 is complete. The camp had 18 students from around the state this year. Ideally they can host 35-40 kids and still allow each kid to get one on one experience in each activity. Kids attending camp get to take part in:

Arson Investigations, Crime Lab, K-9 Demo, Criminal Investigation, Defensive Tactics, SWAT Demo, DUI and Traffic Stop Demo and tours of Clatsop County Courthouse. As well as free time activities like Ice cream Socials and Bonfires.

Camp operators stated that next years camp will be closer to August, this should help if getting more students to camp. Post 21 families sponsored 2 students (Sons of American Legion and Post 21 Honor Guard) from McMinnville High School. The students will attend the sponsor groups meeting to talk about how the camp was beneficial to their education and future career goals. Hopefully next year we can send more students to camp and can also begin to get students to participate in Boys State and Girls State. Thank you to the sponsors. The picture below is a final group hug between campers that was taken at pickup.



**Russ Ludwig**  
**Member At Large**  
**McMinnville High**  
**School Criminal**  
**Justice Teacher**



## **Navajo Code Talkers Day - August 14**

President Ronald  
Reagan **established**

National Navajo Code Talkers Day in 1982 to recognize the contributions of Native Americans who used their unique abilities to help during World War II. The day is dedicated to all members of the Navajo Nation and to all Native Americans who gave their lives and talents so that others might live.

## At-Large

The PGA of America is one of golf's largest organizations and works daily to build interest and increase participation in the game. Honoring Military and Veterans, PGA Helping Our Patriots Everywhere (HOPE) introduces the game of golf through a developmental 6-8 week curriculum. Veterans are trained by PGA Professionals with expertise in adaptive golf and military cultural competency. In the Pacific Northwest, programs are funded and supported by PGA REACH. The PGA of America REACH Foundation is the 501(c)(3) charitable foundation of the PGA of America. Golfers of the PGA HOPE programs include military Veterans living with physical and cognitive challenges such as Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and amputees, among other challenges. The program is offered at no cost to Military Veterans and is fully funded by PGA REACH. PGA HOPE has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Veterans Affairs, which enables Recreational Therapists to refer Veterans to the PGA HOPE program as a form of therapy.

Resources:

PGA REACH <https://www.pgareach.org/services/military>.

PGA HOPE Northwest Schedule <https://www.pga.com/pga-hope/pacific-northwest>

PGA Pacific Northwest Military and Veterans <https://pnwpga.com/military-veterans/>

Patriot Golf Days <https://foldsofhonor.org/golf/patriot-golf-days/>

Toll Free: 800-688-4653

Phone: 360-456-6496

**Christopher Dauterman**  
**Post 21 At-Large Officer**



## Club Manager's Desk:

Hello everyone,  
I hope this note finds you all in good health!

The 4th of July BBQ was a success. Lots of fun, family and good food. I want to personally thank all those that helped. Paul, Dewey, Cheryl, Terry and Dan who helped me cook, the Auxiliary ladies, and to all those who brought side dishes and desserts, and Felicia. Without all of you I couldn't have done it.

As you all know our post is getting busier all the time. There are a few of you that will get up and help our servers when needed without being asked, once again I need to personally thank you all, Robert A, Teresa A, Paul K, Terry W, and the amazing group from TJ Guns. I appreciate you all so much.

The next event for our post will be the crawfish boil by Bert's BBQ. I am currently working on a Labor Day BBQ, more information will come out as it gets closer. Let our servers and cooks know you appreciate them. They all work hard at making our post the best in Oregon and a success. Thank you all for your continued support.

**Debra Godwin**  
**Club Manger**  
**Unit 21 President**



Thank you for joining us at  
July's Veteran's Lunch. We  
are honored to serve you.



## Auxiliary Updates:

During the months of June and July the Auxiliary has started hosting a Veteran's Lunch. This is a free lunch for all Veteran's in our area. We will continue to host these the 2nd Thursday of each month. During July's lunch we were proud to serve a lasagna lunch to 10 veterans. We look forward to this number growing. Our next lunch will be on August 8th from 11:00am - 1:00pm and we will be serving meatloaf and mashed potatoes.

The Auxiliary is proud to buy the breakfast for the fathers in our Post on Father's Day. Even with the chaos of the power going out we were able to buy breakfast for about 35 fathers. We hope that you all had a wonderful day and we are looking forward to seeing you for breakfast again next year.

We have been blessed with a generous community member who is sewing beautiful quilts to be donated to veterans at Portland VA. So far she has made and donated about 38 quilts with plans to do more. We are so thankful for the generosity of this community member and her son.

During the 4th of July BBQ the Auxiliary hosted a contest for the best side and best dessert. This was the first time we've held this contest and have notes to make it better next year. This year a pasta salad brought by Theresa Andrade and an Oreo lasagna brought by Jennie Ludwig were the winners. Congratulations ladies.



Pictured are the judges tasting the delicious sides and desserts brought for the contest—they did not have an easy job.

The Auxiliary is holding a raffle for a Crab Fishing Trip that has been generously donated by Captain Crustacean. The drawing will be on September 7th at the Rider's Scholarship Poker Run. Raffle tickets are \$20 each with a maximum of 200 tickets to be sold—those are pretty good odds. Be sure to get your tickets before it's too late! Tickets on sale at Post 21 restaurant or by contacting Becky Berweiger at 503-434- 1834 or Sim Sears at 503-435-8544. Thank you ladies for taking charge of this great fundraiser.

**Jennie Ludwig**  
**Auxiliary Member**



# Crawfish Boil

At the McMinnville American Legion  
126 NE Atlantic St



**Saturday**  
**August 10th**  
**5pm-10pm**

*Seafood,  
Drinks, &  
Live Music!*

Get a plate piled high with crawfish, shrimp, andouille sausage, potatoes, corn on the cob, a side of bread, and garlic butter

Please call (503)435-2218 if you have any questions!

**AMERICAN  
LEGION**

**UNIT 21  
AUXILIARY**



## Is Hosting:

**What:** Free Veteran's Lunch

**When:** 2nd Thursday of each Month

**Time:** 11:00am - 1:00pm

**Where:** American Legion Post 21  
126 NE Atlantic St,  
McMinnville, OR 97128

**Contact for Info:** Deb Godwin  
503-435-2218



## LEGION AFTER DARK

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** 21 AND OVER

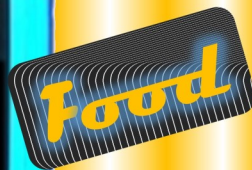
126 NE ATLANTIC ST, MCMINNVILLE, OR 97128



Legion member  
drinks discounts  
will be honored



**TOUCH  
TUNES  
FREE PLAY**



**August 24th**  
**8:00p**  
**to**  
**1:00a**

**DANCE  
FLOOR**

## JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FUN

Sponsored Designated Driver will be available - Tips Appreciated

Hosted by : McMinnville's Best Kept Secret.... **Post 21** **AMERICAN  
LEGION**

After Dark is an opportunity for the post to gain new membership, and let the community know that we are open to the public. We strive to provide a night of fun for those who like to dance, socialize, enjoy outdoor games, video lottery and maybe get a little loud.

Our goal is to do After Dark once a month and provide different activities such as karaoke, live bands, etc. Hope to see you there!

We'd appreciate help in spreading the word of this new event here at Post 21.

**Theresa Andrade,**  
**Activities Committee**





# Memorial Day BBQ





# 4<sup>th</sup> of July At Post 21

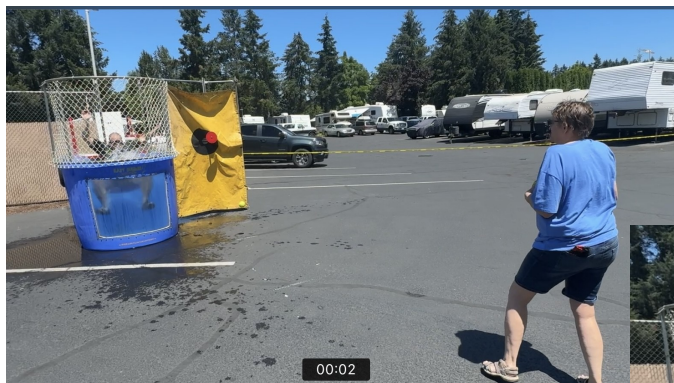






# FUN

## At Post 21



All 4th of July photos  
submitted by: Jennie  
Ludwig





# U.S. Army Soldiers Set to Shine at the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris

In a remarkable display of talent and dedication, ten service members from the U.S. Army have earned their places to represent the United States at the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris. These soldiers not only excel in their military duties but also showcase their exceptional skills across a diverse range of Olympic and Paralympic sports, embodying the spirit of excellence and determination. The trials to join Team USA concluded on June 30, with the Army dominating the roster for U.S. service members. The soldiers will compete in shooting, rugby, track and field, wrestling, and swimming. Two additional soldiers will serve as coaches for Team USA in the pentathlon and wrestling events.

## The following U.S. Army athletes will compete in this year's Olympic Games:

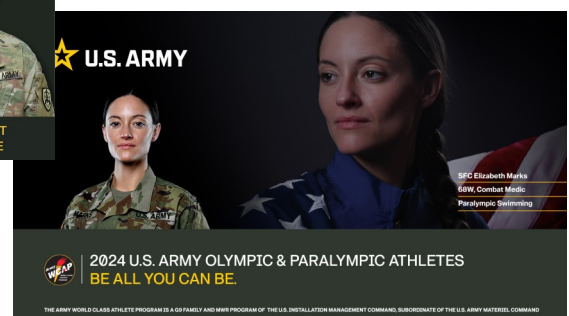
*Staff.Sgtj.Rachel.Tozier.(Army.Marksmanship.Unit).--Shooting;Olympic.Trap*  
*Staff.Sgtj.Will.Hinton.(Army.Marksmanship.Unit).--Shooting;Olympic.Trap*  
*Sgtj.Sagen.Maddalena.(Army.Marksmanship.Unit).--Shooting;10m.Smallbore.event.and.76m.Air.Rifle.event*  
*Sgtj.Ivan.Roe.(Army.Marksmanship.Unit).--Shooting;10m.Smallbore.event.and.76m.Air.Rifle.event*  
*Captj.Samantha.Kj.Sullivan.(UjSj.Army.World.Class.Athlete.Program).--Women's.Rugby.Team*  
*Staff.Sgtj.Leonard.Ej.Korir.(UjSj.Army.World.Class.Athlete.Program).--Track.and.Field;Marathon*  
*Spcj.Kamal.Bey.(UjSj.Army.World.Class.Athlete.Program).--Greco-Roman.Wrestling.(69kg)*  
*Master.Sgtj.Dennis.Bowsher.(UjSj.Army.World.Class.Athlete.Program).--Modern.Pentathlon.Coach*  
*Sgtj.7st.class.Spenser.Mango.(UjSj.Army.World.Class.Athlete.Program).--Wrestling.Coach*

## The following U.S. Army athletes will compete in the Paralympic Games:

*Sgtj.7st.class.John.Wayne.Joss.III.(UjSj.Army.World.Class.Athlete.Program).--Shooting;R200m.Rifle.Prone.SH7*  
*Staff.Sgtj.Kevin.Nguyen.(UjSj.Army.World.Class.Athlete.Program).--Shooting;R200m.Rifle.Prone.SH7*  
*Sgtj.7st.class.Elizabeth.Marks.(UjSj.Army.World.Class.Athlete.Program).--Paralympic.Swimming*

These soldiers-turned-athletes not only represent the United States with pride but also inspire with their dedication to both military service and athletic achievement. Their journey to Paris epitomizes the Army's commitment to excellence and highlights the intersection of discipline, skill, and perseverance. As they prepare to compete among the world's best, let us cheer for their success and celebrate the global stage. The 2024 Paris with more than 500 athletes

their remarkable accomplishments on Summer Olympics kick off on July 26, competing for Team USA.



# The Purple Heart: Symbol of Valor and Sacrifice

The Purple Heart is a prestigious military decoration awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or killed in combat. Established by General George Washington in 1782, it is one of the oldest military awards still in use today and holds deep significance for those who have served their country in times of war.

## History and Origins

The origins of the Purple Heart can be traced back to the Revolutionary War. General George Washington, then the commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, established the Badge of Military Merit on August 7, 1782. This badge was intended to recognize acts of valor and merit in combat, and it was awarded to only three soldiers during the Revolutionary War.

The Badge of Military Merit fell into disuse after the Revolutionary War, but its legacy was revived on February 22, 1932, on the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth. At that time, General Douglas MacArthur, then the Army Chief of Staff, pushed for its revival as a way to honor soldiers wounded in action during World War I.

## Criteria and Recognition

The modern Purple Heart is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who have been wounded or killed in combat with a declared enemy of the United States. It is also awarded posthumously to the next of kin of service members who are killed in action or die of wounds received in action.

The criteria for receiving a Purple Heart have evolved over time, but generally, it is awarded to those who have sustained wounds that require treatment by a medical officer and that result from enemy action. It can also be awarded for injuries that are the result of friendly fire in the heat of battle.

## Symbolism and Honor

The Purple Heart is a symbol of courage, sacrifice, and patriotism. It is a tangible recognition of the personal risks and hardships endured by those who have served their country in combat. Recipients of the Purple Heart join a distinguished fraternity of individuals who have made significant sacrifices in defense of their nation's ideals and freedoms.

## Legacy and Impact

Since its reintroduction in 1932, hundreds of thousands of Purple Hearts have been awarded to deserving service members across all branches of the U.S. military. Each Purple Heart tells a story of bravery and resilience in the face of adversity, reminding us of the human cost of war and the valor displayed by those who answer the call to serve.

The Purple Heart continues to be a revered and respected symbol both within the military community and throughout the nation. It serves as a powerful reminder of the debt of gratitude owed to those who have borne the wounds of battle in defense of their country and its principles.

The Purple Heart stands as a testament to the courage, sacrifice, and valor of America's military personnel. From its humble origins in the Revolutionary War to its modern-day significance, the Purple Heart remains a powerful symbol of honor and recognition for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice or suffered wounds in defense of freedom and justice. As long as there are men and women willing to risk their lives for their country, the Purple Heart will continue to serve as a solemn reminder of their bravery and devotion.





# Famous Purple Heart Recipients

## Actors, Athletes, Writers and Artists

- ◆ **James Arness**—Best-known for portraying Matt Dillon



in Gunsmoke, actor James Arness (1923-2011) earned a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart following time served in World War II. He was severely injured in his right leg during the Battle of Anzio.

- ◆ **Robert “Rocky” Bleier**—During his rookie season as a halfback with the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1968, NFL great Rocky Bleier was drafted into the U.S. Army to serve in the Vietnam War. While on patrol with the 196th Infantry Brigade, his platoon was ambushed, and he suffered an injury in his left thigh and lost a portion of his right foot.

- ◆ **Charles Bronson**—American actor Charles Bronson (1921-2003) was known for being a hero and a vigilante on screen and in real life. In 1943, he enlisted in the Air Force and, with the 39th Bombardment Group, flew 25 missions and sustained multiple wounds that were later recognized with a Purple Heart.

- ◆ **James Garner**—Actor, producer and voice artist was best-known for playing Bret Maverick in *Maverick* and Jim Rockford in *The Rockford Files*. But before he was a Hollywood star, he served in the Army National Guard during the Korean War. He was awarded a Purple Heart and several other military decorations after sustaining injuries from a mortar round and friendly fire.



- ◆ **Bill Graham**—Famed German-American rock concert promoter Bill Graham (1931-1991) was famous for launching the careers of many 1960s rock stars, including the Grateful Dead and Janis Joplin. After escaping the Nazis in Germany at the age of 10, Graham went on to serve in the Army during the Korean War, where he earned both a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart.

- ◆ **Ron Kovic**—Marine Corps Sergeant Ron Kovic was wounded, and subsequently paralyzed, after coming in contact with North Vietnamese soldiers in the Vietnam War. Kovic went on to become one of the most outspoken anti-war activists of the conflict, penning the memoir *Born on the Fourth of July* in 1976. The book was made into a film of the same name, made by fellow Purple Heart recipient Oliver Stone.

- ◆ **Ernest “Ernie” Pyle**—The famous war correspondent Ernie Pyle (1900-1945) was killed in April of 1945 by Japanese fire while accompanying the Army’s 77th Infantry. Pyle earned acclaim, and a Pulitzer Prize, for his works accounting the lives of rural Americans and soldiers during World War II before he was shot and killed near Okinawa.

- ◆ **Rod Serling**—Screenwriter and playwright Rod Serling (1924-1975) left a lasting impression on the legacy of television with his science-fiction smash hit *The Twilight Zone*. He is one of the most decorated Hollywood figures, having received a Purple Heart, a Bronze Star and the Philippine Liberation Medal, among other military decorations. Serling was awarded the decoration after he was wounded in combat in the Philippines.

- ◆ **Warren Spahn**—Major League Baseball All-Star and Cy Young Award winner Warren Spahn (1921-2003) created a lasting legacy after a nearly 20-year career with the then Milwaukee Braves. After finishing the 1942 season in the minor leagues, Spahn enlisted in the Army. He was wounded by a piece of bridge shrapnel in 1945 while helping to repair the collapsing Ludendorff Bridge in Germany.

- ◆ **Oliver Stone**—Prominent writer and filmmaker Oliver Stone, writer of *Scarface*, used his military career to inspire his professional work. Stone rose to prominence after writing and directing a trilogy of films based on the Vietnam War, beginning with the revered anti-war film *Platoon*. In 1967, Stone enlisted in the Army and requested combat duty in Vietnam. He was awarded a Purple Heart with Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, the National Defense Service Medal and others.

- ◆ **Kurt Vonnegut**—Novelist and playwright Kurt Vonnegut (1922-2007) served in the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps during World War II, where he was captured by the Germans and subsequently taken as a Prisoner of War and held in a slaughterhouse in Dresden. The experience earned him a Purple Heart and inspired his best-selling novel *Slaughterhouse-Five*.



- ◆ **Pat Tillman**—NFL footballer Pat Tillman (1976-2004) played with the Arizona Cardinals from 1998 until May 2002 when he quit the league to join the U.S. Army. He was a member of the 75th Ranger Regiment, nine months after September 11, 2001. After turning down a \$3.6 million contract, Tillman was deployed to Afghanistan, where he was killed in a friendly-fire inci-

# Famous Purple Heart Recipients

## Military Heroes and Change-makers

- ◆ **Charles Denver Barger**—Charles Barger (1892-1936) and Vietnam veteran Curry T. Haynes have been awarded the most Purple Heart medals in U.S. military history. With 10 Purple Hearts to his name—one silver and four Bronze Leaf Oak Clusters—Barger is one of the most decorated war heroes from World War I.



- ◆ **John F. Kennedy**—President John F. Kennedy (1917-1963) is the only president to have received a Purple Heart. He received the Navy's highest honors after bravely contributing as a gunboat pilot during World War II. While volunteering for motorized torpedo boat duty, the Japanese attacked Kennedy's boat, plunging many of his shipmates overboard into a sea of burning oil. Kennedy dove into the waters to rescue three of his fellow shipmates and swallowed some of the water.



- ◆ **John Kerry**—Former Secretary of State John Kerry served a four-month tour of duty as an officer-in-charge of a swift boat during the Vietnam War. For his service, he was awarded three Purple Heart medals in addition to the Silver Star Medal and the Bronze Star Medal. His war injuries include a shrapnel wound in the left arm, a shrapnel wound in the left leg and an impact wound to his arm after he was thrown against a bulkhead during an explosion.



- ◆ **George S. Patton**—Unsurprisingly, "Old Blood and Guts" General George S. Patton (1885-1945) earned a Purple Heart after the establishment of the medal for sustaining combat wounds during World War I. The highly decorated soldier went on to command the U.S. Seventh Army and the U.S. Third Army in World War II, earning recognition and fame for his critical leadership style and colorful personality.



- ◆ **Calvin Pearl Titus**—Medal of Honor Recipient is somewhat of a military legend. While serving in China with the Army's 14th Infantry Regiment in 1900, Titus famously scaled a 30-foot tall brick wall in order to help his company gain control of the wall and weaken the enemy stronghold. Titus earned a Purple Heart for injuries sustained the following day. He was 76 years old by the time he was officially honored with the medal.



- ◆ **John McCain**—The military record of Arizona Senator John McCain (1936-2018) has been widely revered. While serving in the Vietnam War with the Navy, the former presidential hopeful received the Silver Star, two Legion of Merits, the Distinguished Flying Cross, three Bronze Star Medals, two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, the Prisoner of War Medal and two Purple Hearts. In October of 1967, McCain was captured by the North Vietnamese and held as a Prisoner of War until 1973.



- ◆ **Lewis Lee "Red" Millett**—Military iconoclast Red Millett (1920-2009) earned the Medal of Honor for his valor leading the final American bayonet charge in the Korean War. In addition to the most prestigious military honor, Millett received a Distinguished Service Cross, a Silver Star, two Legions of Merit, three Bronze Star Medals, three Air Medals and four Purple Hearts.



- ◆ **Audie L. Murphy**—As one of the most decorated soldiers of World War II, Audie Murphy (1925-1971) received every one of the Army's combat awards for valor, including the Medal of Honor for single-handedly holding off an entire company of German soldiers in France and then spearheading a successful counterattack. He received three Purple Hearts during his time of service. After the war, Murphy went on to become a successful actor, starring in more than 40 feature films, until he died in a plane crash in 1971.



- ◆ **Lewis "Chesty" Puller**—Chesty Puller (1898-1971) was a Marine Corps Lieutenant General who earned hero status after fighting off guerillas in Haiti and Nicaragua. For his service in World War II and the Korean War, Puller became the most decorated Marine in U.S. military history. He received five Navy Crosses and one Army Distinguished Service Cross, in addition to one Purple Heart. Some believe that Puller should be awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously.



- ◆ **Colin Powell**—Former Secretary of State and Army Four-Star General Colin Powell earned many medals, ribbons and foreign decorations during his lengthy military career. Powell served in Vietnam, where he was awarded a Purple Heart following his first combat tour. When his command helicopter crashed, Powell rescued several of his comrades from the flames, including World War II Medal of Honor Recipient Jack Treadwell. The rescue earned Powell the Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy.





# Other Notable Purple Heart Recipients

**Cordelia “Betty” Cook** is best known for her service in the U.S. Army: She was the first American woman to be awarded both the Bronze Star Medal and the Purple Heart.

The Kentucky native had served in World War II as a combat nurse, leaving behind her new husband to do it. She’d married Army officer Capt. Harold E. Fillmore just one short month before being deployed.

The two would not see each other for 21 months! They were finally reunited in December 1944. By then, Betty was a heroine. Harold was recuperating from an injury at an Army hospital in France.

Her Bronze Star Medal was awarded for her service between November 1943 and

January 1944. According to newspaper reports, Betty took charge of 340 cases during that time. She saved nearly 250 men.

Betty’s service earned her both the Bronze Star Medal and the Purple Heart, making her the first American woman to get two awards for her service in World War II.



**Sergeant Reckless** was a small Mongolian mare who held official rank in the United States military. She was estimated to be three or four years old when purchased by the United States Marine Corps for \$250 in October 1952. She was trained to be a pack horse and used to carry ammunition and supplies for the Recoilless Rifle Platoon of the 5th Marine Regiment.

But it wasn’t long before Sergeant Reckless proved herself to be much more than just a pack animal. She quickly learned to navigate the treacherous terrain of the Korean War, carrying supplies and evacuating

wounded soldiers to safety without hesitation. She often travelled to deliver supplies on her own, without a handler. In fact, she became so vital to the unit that they renamed themselves the “Reckless Rifle Platoon.”

On one particularly harrowing day, Sergeant Reckless made 51 trips to the front lines, carrying over 9,000 pounds of supplies and ammunition. She was hit by shrapnel twice, but she refused to stop working. She even made the trip up and down the steep and rocky hills with a wounded soldier on her back.

After the Korean War, Sergeant Reckless retired to Camp Pendleton, California, where she lived out the rest of her days. She passed away in 1968, but her legacy lived on. She was the first animal to be officially promoted to the rank of Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps, and she received many awards including two Purple Hearts.

**Sergeant Stubby** In 1917, as the 102nd Infantry, 26th Yankee Division of the US Army trained and camped around the Yale Bowl in New Haven, a stray dog wandered into camp. Private J. Robert Conroy found the short-tailed puppy and named him “Stubby.” The dog quickly became the mascot of the 102nd Infantry, despite an official ban on pets in the camp. When the division shipped out for Europe to fight in the First World War, Private Conroy managed to smuggle Stubby aboard the SS Minnesota the transport that brought the Connecticut troops to France. Stubby received special orders (as the division’s mascot) that allowed him to travel to the front lines with the rest of the troops when it came time for battle.

In April 1918, as the 102nd Infantry joined an attack on the German-held town of Seicheprey, France, they fell under a hail of grenade fire. Stubby, who took part in the attack, received shrapnel wounds to his leg and chest. After he had his wounds treated, he was transported to a Red Cross Recovery Hospital, where he proceeded to walk around the hospital visiting wounded soldiers and boosting morale wherever he went. By the end of World War I, Stubby was a veteran of 17 battles. During this time Sgt Stubby earned two Purple Hearts.

Today, Stubby’s taxidermied remains reside at the Smithsonian Institute National Museum of American History, Armed Forces Collections, in Washington, DC. He has been honored numerous times over the years. Stubby has a brick in the Walk of Honor World War I monument in Kansas City, was featured in a children’s book, and was part of a traveling tour to Connecticut. He remains the “grandfather of war dogs” and a part of our bond between humans and animals.





# Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency— July Announcements

## World War II

### **U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Stanley J. Samoski, 22**

Announced on July 2, 2024: Accounted for on February 20, 2024

### **U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Arthur B. Ervin, 22**

Announced on July 3, 2024: Accounted for on June 21, 2022.

### **U.S. Army Pvt. William A. Smith, 21**

Announced on July 9, 2024: Accounted for on August 21, Pvt. Smith will be buried November 11, 2024, in St. Louis, Missouri.

### **U.S. Army Pvt. 1st Class Alcario V. Flores, 37**

Announced on July 9, 2024: Accounted for on March 1, 2024. Pfc. Flores will be buried in Tempe, Arizona, on August 3, 2024.

### **U.S. Army Sgt. Sam A. Prince, 28**

Announced on July 10, 2024: Accounted for on April 25, 2024. Sgt. Prince will be buried in Clovis, New Mexico, on August 8, 2024.

### **Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Frank J. Tedone, 23**

Announced on July 10, 2024: Accounted for on February 20, 2024.

### **U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Allan W. Knepper, 27**

Announced on July 11, 2024: Accounted for on August 10, 2023. 2nd Lt. Knepper will be buried in Lewiston, Idaho, on Aug. 2, 2024.

### **Army Pvt. 1st Class Luther E. Bagley, 22**

Announced on July 12, 2024: Accounted for on May 7, 2024. Bagley will be buried in Fitzgerald, Georgia, on August 10, 2024.

### **U.S. Army Private Rodger D. Andrews**

Announced on July 15, 2024: Accounted for on June 5, 2024

### **U.S. Army Pvt. Robert L. Skaar**

Announced on July 15, 2024: Accounted for on June 7, 2024

### **U.S. Army Corporal Robert A. Bartlett, 22**

Announced on July 18, 2024: Accounted for on May 20, 2024. Bartlett will be buried in Blount, South Dakota, on August 10, 2024.

### **Navy Fireman 1st Class (F1c) Fred H. Boyer**

Announced on July 18, 2024: Accounted for on June 11, 2024

## World War II

### **Navy Fireman 3rd Class (F3c) Royle B. Luker**

Announced on July 18, 2024: Accounted for on May 29, 2024

### **U.S. Navy Reserve Lieutenant Jay R. Manown**

Announced on July 19, 2024: Accounted for on May 23, 2024

### **Army First Lieutenant Herman J. Sundstad**

Announced on July 19, 2024: Accounted for on June 24, 2024

### **U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Alfred J. Hamwey, 24**

Announced on July 25, 2024: Accounted for on May 20, 2024. Hamwey will be buried on September 12, 2024, in Jacksonville, Florida.

### **U.S. Army Air Force Staff Sgt. Ralph H. Bode, 20**

Announced on July 25, 2024: Accounted for on December 26, 2023. Bode will be buried on September 27, 2024, in Racine, Wisconsin.

### **U.S. Army Air Forces Sgt. Jack H. Hohlfeld, 29**

Announced on July 25, 2024: Accounted for on May 29, 2024

### **U.S. Army Technician Fifth Grade (Tech5) Harold D. Pittis**

Announced on July 25, 2024: Accounted for on March 20, 2024

## Korean

### **Army Master Sgt. Wallace Simmons Jr**

Announced July 2, 2024: Accounted for on June 20, 2024.

### **U.S. Army Pvt. 1st Class Joseph R. Travers**

Announced July 2, 2024: Accounted for on June 20, 2024.

### **U.S. Army Corporal Jesse L. Mitchell, 22**

Announced on July 9, 2024: Accounted for on April 8, 2024. Cpl. Mitchell will be buried in Shawnee, Oklahoma, on October 12, 2024.

### **Army Corporal Edward J. Smith, 18**

Announced on July 11, 2024: Accounted for on May 15, 2024. Smith will be buried in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, on August 23, 2024.

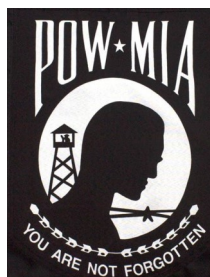
### **U.S. Army Cpl. Robert P. Raess**

Announced on July 12, 2024: Accounted for on March 26, 2024.

## Vietnam

### **U.S. Air Force Sgt. David S. Price, 26**

Announced on July 22, 2024: Accounted for on June 21, 2024. Price will be buried in Centralia, Washington, on August 30, 2024.





## **OFFICERS:**

### **The American Legion:**

Commander - Juan Palacios  
1st Vice - Paul Krutsch  
2nd Vice - Terry Ward  
JAG - Steve Sagmiller  
Finance Officer - Cheryl Saviller-Miller  
Adjutant - Leonard Pardue  
Sgt-At-Arms - Robert Andrade  
Historian - Leroy Brown  
Chaplain - Thomas Clayton  
Service Officer - Mike Billings  
At Large - Chris Dauterman  
At Large - Russ Ludwig  
At Large - Rebecca Hardin

### **Auxiliary:**

President - Debra Godwin  
Vice President - Gregoria Hernandez  
Treasurer - Becky Berweger  
Secretary - Tracy Wittrock  
Membership - Jeannie Clayton  
Historian - Glena Smith  
Service Officer - Carol Doege  
Chaplain - Shirley Burkett  
Sgt at Arms - Susan Hailey

### **Sons of the American Legion:**

Commander - Del White  
1st Vice - Bill Lindemann  
2nd Vice - Steve Kindel  
Finance - Terry Naig  
Adjutant - Terry Naig  
Chaplain - Pete Jensen  
Sgt at Arms - Brandon Lepkowski

### **The American Legion Riders:**

Director - Gale Sears  
Asst. Director - Steve Sagmiller  
Secretary - Bob Wilson  
Treasurer - Sim Sears  
Sgt at Arms - Wayne Jarshaw  
Road Captain - Tony Amodeo  
Historian - Jim Connelly

### **McMinnville Post 21**

**126 NE Atlantic Street**

**McMinnville, Oregon 97128**

**503-435-2218**

**[www.vetsclub.org](http://www.vetsclub.org)**

**[vetsclub21@gmail.com](mailto:vetsclub21@gmail.com)**

**[post21newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:post21newsletter@gmail.com)**



**To submit an article or flyer for the newsletter, please include author of submission by the 21st of each month.**

**If you would like a digital copy of the monthly newsletter please send an email to:**

**[post21newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:post21newsletter@gmail.com)**

Volunteering is the cornerstone to our great organization as stated in the preamble to the American Legion Constitution...."to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual Helpfulness."

We encourage everyone to reach out and volunteer what ever small amount of time you have, it makes a big difference.



# Legion Volunteers Needed and Classifieds



Legion will be splitting a booth at the fair with the VFW. The Commander will be manning the booth. If you would like to volunteer in the booth with him please contact Commander Palacios for more information and to schedule a time.

Legion Riders need your help!

## Annual Riders Scholarship and Community Support Poker Run

September 7th—Looking for volunteers. Please contact the Riders for more information on what you can do to help!



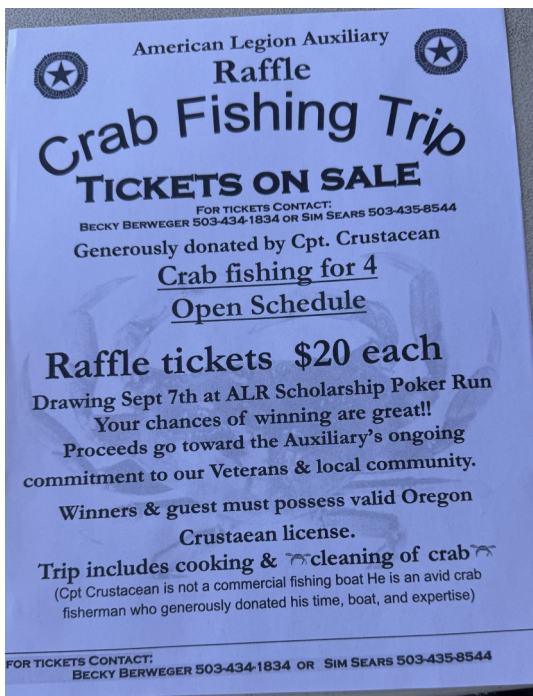
McMinnville Air Show

Volunteers needed: Please contact PIC—Mr. Mohammed

Setup: August 28th—30th

Tear Down: September 2nd

Reach out for more information or if you can donate some time.



Commander is looking for someone who would like to be the PIC (Person-in-Charge) for the Veteran's Day Parade. If this is something you'd be interested in please contact Commander Palacios.

## How to place a classified:

Does your event need volunteers? Just send an email to the newsletter at:

[Post21newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:Post21newsletter@gmail.com)

Please include: Event, date, time, and PIC and we will post it in the next months newsletter.





# UPCOMING Community EVENTS

August 24, 2024  
12p-9p



## SUMMER CONCERTS

TUESDAYS: June 27: Big Bad Beat - July 11: Glass of Hearts - July 18: Sobroso  
July 25: Jennifer Batten & the Steam

6:30 PM AT CITY PARK 180 NW PARK DR, MC MINNVILLE  
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: YAMHILLCOUNTY.ORG

**Friday Nights** KICKOFF JUNE 28TH  
DOWNTOWN DAYTON EVERY FRIDAY JULY & AUGUST  
WWW.DAYTONOREGON.ORG 5:30-8:30

**CELEBRATING OUR 10TH YEAR!**

## ENTERTAINMENT

JUNE 28	Skylyar Pelous (solo) Southern Rock, Country, and all Genres
JULY 5	Second Winds Community Band Big Band
JULY 12	The Bartolotti Brothers Blues/Rock
JULY 19	Mark Seymour & Friends Folk Rock, Country & Blues
JULY 26	TBD - Old Timers Weekend
AUG 2	Wild Ride Country Rock
AUG 9	Robert Meade Music Folk Rock
AUG 16	Roundhouse Band Southern Rock, Folk, Blues, Bluegrass
AUG 23	Austin Sweeney (Dayton's own!) Americana
AUG 30	Crooked Corner Band Acoustic Light Rock

**DOWNTOWN DAYTON**

Oregon's Oldest Fair Since 1854

# YAMHILL COUNTY FAIR AND RODEO

Bounty of the County!

## JULY 31ST - AUGUST 3RD 2024

Yamhill County Historical Society presents

## Harvest Fest

August 17, 2024 10am-4pm  
August 18, 2024 12pm-4pm

Harvest Crops using antique farm equipment, horses & mules.  
Pioneer Kids' Activities, Petting Animals, Stagecoach Rides, Demos, Music, Food, Vendors & More!

\$8 General Admission Kids under 12 FREE!

No pets. Service animals welcome.

[www.YamhillCountyHistory.org](http://www.YamhillCountyHistory.org)  
Yamhill Valley Heritage Center  
11275 SW Durham Ln.  
McMinville, OR 97128



Thank you to our sponsors!

NORTHWEST LOGGING SUPPLY CALPORTLAND EQUIPMENT RENTAL Wilco Oregon Statewide

YAMHILL COUNTY Historical Society & Museums



2024 Grand Ronde  
Contest Pow Wow  
August 16 - August 18  
Grand Ronde, Oregon

## MONSTER TRUCK NITRO TOUR

# YAMHILL COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

MC MINNVILLE, OR

**AUGUST 17TH**  
TWO BIG SHOWS!!!

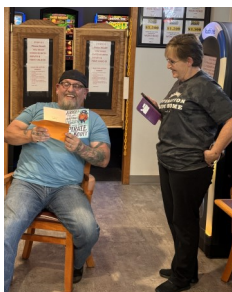
**GET YOUR TICKETS @ MONSTERTRUCKTOUR.COM**



# August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Legion KP 5:00pm	3 Cancer Bingo 1:00pm
4 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	5	6	7 YCAP Food Truck 2:00pm-3:00pm  Son's Mtg 6:30pm	8 Veteran's Lunch 11:00am - 1:00pm	9 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Auxiliary KP 5:00pm	10 Crawfish Boil 5:00pm-10:00pm
11 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	12 Activity Committee Mtg 5:00pm	13	14 YCAP Food Truck 2:00pm-3:00pm	15	16 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Sons KP 5:00pm	17
18 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	19 Activity Committee Mtg 5:00pm  Executive Mtg 6:00pm	20  Auxiliary Mtg 6:00pm	21 YCAP Food Truck 2:00pm-3:00pm  General Member- ship Mtg 6:00pm	22	23 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Riders KP 5:00pm	24 Legion After Dark 8:00pm - 1:00am
25 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	26	27	28 YCAP Food Truck 2:00pm-3:00pm  Legion Riders Mtg 7:00pm	29	30 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Legion KP 5:00pm	31

Tim Anderson, Nancy Amodeo, Eric Andres, Al Arguedas, Gary Bert, Bob Berweger, Thomas Campos, Steve Carey, Cheryl Saville-Miller, Alex Clemens, Larry Cutter, James Densmore, Darrel Dierck, Willard Dodds, Jerry Druery, Acie Dunlap, Robert Elder, Bill Ellington, Patrick Fuchs, Daniel Gomes, Cheryl Groves, Thomas Hamilton, Kathryn Hunter, Ralph Juda, Earl Ladassor, Bill Lindermann, Edward McCallen, Richard Noe, Gary Perkins, Gordon Pratt, Richard Randles, Glen Rice, Lori Ridgeway, G.M. Sarge Riha, Don Rufner, Brian Russell, Gale Sears, David Schroetke, Chris Sieber, Glenna Smith, Kenneth Speer, Cade Stahl, Jerry Trimble Doug Trunde, Seth Urban, James Vannice, Leon Weatherman, Emily Yoder, Russell Young



Thank you for  
sharing your  
birthday with us  
Robert Andrade

