

DANIEL SIMPSON POST 630

112 N. Main St, Elburn, IL 60119

Office Phone – 630-365-6530

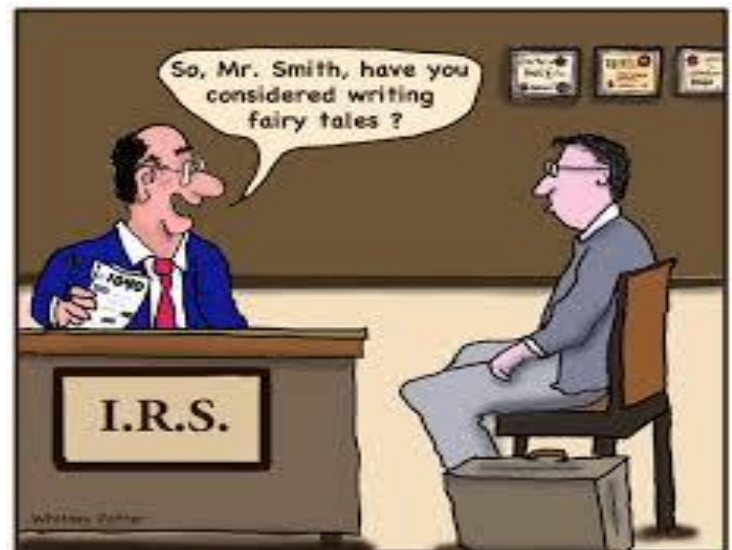
Post email – elburnpost630@gmail.com

Website – www.elburnpost630.org

April 2025 Newsletter

Post Officers:

Commander: Norm Welker
 Sr. Vice Commander: John Nevenhoven
 Jr. Vice Commander : Joanne “Jo” Gabl
 Adjutant: John Waynick
 Sergeant at Arms: Lloyd Da Mask
 Judge Advocate/
 Parliamentarian: Paul Gardner
 Chaplain: Tim Kolzow
 Interim Finance: Tim Kolzow
 Post Service Officer: Norm Welker
 Historian: Mark Krebs



Post Meetings:

The Post meets are on the second Monday of each month. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and comradery. The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. All members and prospective members are welcome to attend.



DISABLED PARKING IS IN THE REAR LOT; HOWEVER, LIFTS ARE AT BOTH ENTRANCES: WHEELCHAIR LIFT IN THE FRONT, CHAIR LIFT IN THE REAR. CALL AHEAD AND UPON ARRIVAL SOMEONE IS AT EITHER LIFT TO ASSIST.

Post Calendar

April 2025

(Holiday/Notable/Post Event)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Important Dates

- 1st – April Fools Day
- 5th – Gold Star Spouse Day
- 9th – National Former POW Recognition Day
- 8th - Queen of Hearts
- 12th – 20th Passover
- 14th – Post Meeting and Air Force Reserve Birthday
- 15th – Tax Day (Boo!) and Queen of Hearts
- 18th – Good Friday
- 19th - Husband Appreciation Day
- 20th – Easter
- 22nd – Earth Day and Queen of Hearts
- 23rd – Army Reserve Birthday
- 29th - Queen of Hearts
- 30th – National Military Brats Day



THE ORIGINS OF EARTH DAY

In the decades leading up to the first, Americans were consuming vast amounts of leaded gas through massive and inefficient automobiles. Industry belched out smoke and sludge with little fear of the consequences from either the law or bad press. Air pollution was commonly accepted as the smell of prosperity. Until this point, mainstream America remained largely oblivious to environmental concerns and how a polluted environment threatens human health.

However, the stage was set for change with the publication of Rachel Carson's New York Times bestseller *Silent Spring* in 1962. The book represented a watershed moment, selling more than 500,000 copies in 24 countries as it raised public awareness and concern for living organisms, the environment and the inextricable links between pollution and public health.

THE IDEA FOR THE FIRST EARTH DAY

Senator Gaylord Nelson, the junior senator from Wisconsin, had long been concerned about the deteriorating environment in the United States. Then in January 1969, he and many others witnessed the ravages of a massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. Inspired by the student anti-war movement, Senator Nelson wanted to infuse the energy of student anti-war protests with an emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution. Senator Nelson announced the idea for a teach-in on college campuses to the national media, and persuaded Pete McCloskey, a conservation-minded Republican Congressman, to serve as his co-chair.

Senator Gaylord Nelson recruited Denis Hayes, a young activist, to organize the campus teach-ins and to scale the idea to a broader public, and they chose April 22nd, a weekday falling between Spring Break and Final Exams, to maximize the greatest student participation.

Recognizing its potential to inspire all Americans, Hayes built a national staff of 85 to promote events across the land and the effort soon broadened to include a wide range of organizations, faith groups and others. They changed the name to Earth Day, which immediately sparked national media attention, and caught on across the country. Earth Day inspired 20 million Americans — at the time, 10% of the total population of the United States — to take to the streets, parks and auditoriums to demonstrate against the impacts of 150 years of industrial development which had left a growing legacy of serious human health impacts.

TIME LINE

1970 - The dawn of the modern environmental movement. Earth Day 1970 became, and continues to be to this day, the largest secular day of protest in the world.



1980 - The principal Earth Day event in 1980, held in Washington, D.C. across from the White House, capped a decade of substantial US environmental legislation, including the Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Superfund, Toxics Substances Control Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and of course the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act. It had seen the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency and the banning of DDT and of lead in gasoline. Earth Day continued to expand internationally during the 80's, as did international policy initiatives.



1990 - As 1990 approached, a group of environmental leaders approached Denis Hayes to once again organize another major campaign for the planet. This time, Earth Day went truly global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting environmental issues onto the world stage. Earth Day 1990 gave a huge boost to recycling efforts worldwide and helped pave the way for the 1992 United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. It also prompted President Bill Clinton to award Senator Nelson the Presidential Medal of Freedom — the highest honor given to civilians in the United States — for his role as Earth Day founder.



2000 - As the millennium approached, Hayes agreed to spearhead another campaign, this time focusing on global warming and pushing for clean energy. Earth Day 2000 combined the big-picture feistiness of the first Earth Day with the international grassroots activism of Earth Day 1990. Earth Day had the internet to help link activists around the world. By the time April 22 came around, 5,000 environmental groups worldwide were on board, reaching out to hundreds of millions of people in a record 184 countries. Events varied: A talking drum chain traveled from village to village in Gabon, Africa, for example, while groups of thousands and more gathered worldwide for various events, rallies, and marches.



2010 - Nearly one billion people around the world took action for the 40th anniversary of Earth Day. An estimated 20,000 partners took action on climate change and other environmental issues through climate rallies, Billion Acts of Green™, and by engaging civil leaders in plans to build a green economy, connected through the online action center at EARTHDAY.ORG. Through the Global Day of Conversation, more than 200 elected officials in more than 39 countries took part in active dialogues with their constituents about their efforts to create sustainable green economies and reduce their carbon footprints.



2016 - Signing of the Paris Agreement. It was no accident that the United Nations selected Earth Day to sign the most significant climate accord in the history of the climate and environmental movement. On Earth Day 2016, world leaders from 175 nations broke a record by doing exactly that.

2020 - Earth Day 2020 was the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day. Activations included activities such as the Great Global Cleanup, Citizen Science, Advocacy, Education, and Street Art. The year's theme for Earth Day 2020 was "Climate Action." Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many of the planned activities were moved online. Notably, EARTHDAY.ORG and a coalition of youth activists co-hosted Earth Day Live, a three-day livestream commemorating the 50th anniversary of Earth Day in the United States. In total, over 1 billion people worldwide participated in Earth Day actions, and 100 million observed the 50th anniversary in what is being referred to as the largest online mass mobilization in history.



Earth Day Today - EARTHDAY.ORG continues to build upon the work and legacy of its founders. Joining with thousands of partners around the world, the organization continues to build a historic movement as citizens of the world rise up in a united call for the creativity, innovation, ambition, and bravery that we need to meet our climate crisis and seize the enormous opportunities of a zero-carbon future.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth_Day

No matter whatever political or religious affiliation one may embrace, we all have just one Earth. We are only here for a little while and then wither away like grass. We ought to be good stewards and prevent further destruction for the future generations. It starts with no littering, teaching our children to recycle, purchase intentionally (not accessibly), rejecting fast fashion, furnishings, and home goods, and purchasing second hand. For more ideas, check out the linked resource. Consider Slow Living and Homesteading.

Post 630 March Monthly Meeting

The monthly meeting of Elburn Post 630 will be held on **April 14th, 2025**. On the menu is; BBQ Pork sandwiches, Baked Beans, Cole slaw, and potatoes salad . Please bring desserts and or sweets. Got any meal suggestions? Talk to Tim; chaplain630@gmail.com or call the office at 630-365-6530.

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A Reminder from the Commander's Office

The Drawdown is fast approaching, and we still have **140** tickets that have not been purchased and turned into the office. We need these tickets ASAP Please bring them to the office Tuesday through Thursday between 10 and 1PM. If no one is in the office, slide the envelope under the office door.

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FROM THE SAL SQUADRON 630

Members of the SAL (Sons of the American Legion) has taken on a service project involving a platoon of MP's currently stationed in Iraq. Commander Dan has arranged with his son-in-law, who is a member of the 617th MP Company, to send a series of "care" packages over the next year to give these soldiers a little comfort from home. The first package was already been sent in February.



There are about 45 soldiers in this unit with 6 of them being female. The SAL is looking for assistance from the American Legion Post 630 family to help send out 3 more packages in May, July and September of this year. Tide Pods, Dryer sheets, Sunscreen, Lysol wipes (any cleaning supplies), and snacks (like beef jerky). I have been told not to send chocolate, because it will melt if left outside too long in the heat.

I am contacting my grandson's 4th grade class to see if they would like to send letters or pictures to the troops. Your children and grandchildren are also invited to write and send pictures if they wish.

If you wish to donate, please bring the items to the Post so we can get it packed up. Letters will be packed up with the supplies and sent at the same time.

APRIL PUZZLE

ACROSS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) "___ la vista, baby" | 37) Prefix with "solve" or "respect" |
| 6) Burst into flower | 38) Somersaulting drinking vessel? |
| 11) Impressive degree | 39) Couple thousand pounds |
| 14) Up and moving about | 40) The Almighty |
| 15) Book, in France | 41) "Over my dead body!" |
| 16) Height for Heidi | 45) Make lovable |
| 17) Thingamajig | 47) "It's OK after all" in editing |
| 20) Unaccompanied | 50) Eggs, to Nero |
| 21) Golden calf, infamously | 51) Parts of necks |
| 22) Catcher in the Rhine? | 52) "Boy, am I tired!" |
| 23) Chapter of history | 53) Deep drink |
| 24) Football props | 54) Definitely old enough to know better |
| 25) Fair-haired chaps | 57) Driller's syllable |
| 26) Continue without interruption | 58) Man of fables |
| 28) ___ Jewelers | 59) "It follows that ..." |
| 29) Acquire | 60) Take in, as sights |
| 30) Annoying | 61) Singer LaBelle |
| 34) Pre ___ (major for future doctors) | 62) Barely defeated |
| 35) Any one | |

DOWN

- 1) Parts of ship bows
- 2) Not on board
- 3) German prison camp
- 4) Jazz great Puente
- 5) Rainbow shape
- 6) Fan part
- 7) Long vehicles, for short
- 8) Charlotte Motor Speedway, e.g.
- 9) "The Two Towers" monster
- 10) Contemptibly small, as a tip
- 11) Fake an illness to avoid work, e.g.
- 12) Affected by glare
- 13) Most suitable
- 18) Flee quickly
- 19) DiCaprio of films
- 24) "Desperate Housewives" star Hatcher
- 25) Brunch selection
- 27) Sounds of the disgruntled
- 28) Door feature, often
- 31) 19-down, for one
- 32) Sound of a bad joke?
- 33) Suffix with "skeptic"
- 34) "A ___ formality"
- 35) Throat
- 36) Come up for air, as a whale
- 37) Former Winfrey rival
- 39) Agents' cuts, often
- 40) Valve in some fireplaces
- 42) Making promises
- 43) Show proof of
- 44) Frayed and worn
- 46) Always, poetically
- 47) Fire a weapon
- 48) Speeds, to a conductor
- 49) Certain mama on a farm
- 52) Sound uttered by the secretive
- 53) Place for a shovel
- 55) "Nay" opposite
- 56) Common title starter

NOT EXACTLY

By Theodore Lansing

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American Legion Post 630

Annual Drawdown and Raffle Event

Friday, April 25th 2025 Doors Open @ 5:00pm

Must be 21 to attend

\$20 per ticket (includes free dinner) Limited to 425 tickets
Cash Bar, Additional Meat and 50/50 raffles throughout the night

Prizes:



(winners need not be present to win)



1st ticket drawn- \$100

Every 10th ticket drawn -\$25 (except 100th, 200th, 300th & 400th)

100th, 200th, 300th, & 400th tickets drawn win \$100 each



Last ticket drawn wins \$2000

(winner must complete W9 and W2G)



TICKET REQUEST FORM

AMERICAN LEGION RAFFLE - TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025

At the Elburn Legion Building, Post 630 - Drawing begins at 6:00 p.m.

PAYOUTS

1st Ticket - \$100
100th Ticket - \$200
200th Ticket - \$100
300th Ticket - \$100
400th Ticket - 100
425th Ticket - \$2000
Every 10th ticket drawn will receive \$20

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____

NUMBER OF TICKETS _____

Free Food

PAYMENT FOR TICKETS:

\$20.00 x _____ = \$ _____

ONLY TICKET HOLDERS 21 & OVER ADMITTED ENTER AT REAR OF BUILDING

Return form to Post 630, 112 N. Main St., Elburn, IL 60119
Disabled parking and access in both front and rear of the building

!!!!!!LAST CHANCE FOR TICKETS!!!!!!

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As of Maech 27th, the Queen of Hearts is still out there hiding in an unopened envelope somewhere on our Board. Who will find the Queen of Hearts??

Jackpot is over \$12,000.00

Get your tickets fast! Come on down to the Bunker Bar on Thursday nights or stop by the office and pick some up. You can also call Norm at the office **(630-365-6530)** and start a subscription so you never miss a chance.

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.



American Legion is committed to reducing the number of veterans lost to suicide. The American Legion is leading a nationwide effort — **Be the One** — to eliminate the stigma related to mental health treatment, and in turn, lower the number of veterans who die by suicide every day.

The number of veterans who die by suicide every day is estimated at between 17 and 22. The American Legion has elevated **Be the One** to be its primary mission, empowering veterans, servicemembers, their family members and civilians to act appropriately when a veteran may be at risk. This program intends to bring more awareness to the problem while providing resources to those who may be able to help save the life of a veteran.

For more than a century, The American Legion has advocated for the well-being of America's veterans and their families. Yet there is no single deed or accomplishment that is more important to our organization than the prevention of veteran suicide. Since the 9/11 attacks, the number of veterans who have taken their own lives far surpasses the number of American deaths incurred during the entire Korean War, Vietnam War, Gulf War and the Global War on Terrorism combined. A veteran is 50 percent more likely to take his or her life than a person who has never served in the military. This must stop.

Statistics fluctuate but the most important number to The American Legion is ONE, as in **Be the One** to stop a veteran from taking his or her own life. If we all save one, collectively we will save thousands. It has been called a campaign, a slogan, a phrase and an initiative. None of these words appropriately reflect what Be the One is to The American Legion. IT IS A MISSION. We can accomplish this mission by destigmatizing the issue of mental health.

Veterans value courage and it takes courage to ask for help. But through our **Buddy Check outreach programs**, The American Legion does not sit back and wait to be asked. We take a pro-active approach and ask veterans if they are okay. Equally important is listening. The goal is to affirmatively and compassionately engage with the veteran. Pay attention to the responses, body language and other signs. If the veteran is struggling or in crisis, encourage the veteran to **call or even text the 988-crisis line**. For better outcomes, watch the veteran make the call rather than trusting that he or she will do it at a later time.

Follow up with the veteran and ensure that he or she connects with the needed resources. Communicate with family members and friends of the veteran, so they can be vigilant and supportive. Everyone can **Be the One** and help reduce the number of veterans lost to suicide.

Here's some background on the Dole Act;

On November 18, 2024, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act (Dole Act), an important step forward for legislation aimed at improving the Department of Veterans Affairs and optimizing veterans' benefits, particularly in the areas of home caregiving and homelessness.

Many of the proposed changes revive or build on pandemic-era initiatives that lapsed with the end of the emergency declaration. The bill also consolidated a number of other pieces of legislation. But there are a number of new initiatives, as well.

Key Provisions of the Dole Act

Support for Home Care and Caregivers

The Dole Act includes measures to provide greater access to resources and determine which services provide optimal support for the caregiver and their family. Notably:

- **Additional Home Nursing Care Coverage:** The bill would increase VA's share of home nursing care from 65 percent to 100 percent and take several steps to increase the accessibility of home nursing care for veterans.
- **Broader Eligibility:** The legislation expands caregiver benefits to more veterans, including those with service-connected conditions predating 1975.
- **Grants for Mental Health Care:** VA could award contracts or grants to providers of mental health support to family caregivers of veterans.
- **Streamlined Applications:** New guidelines aim to simplify the application process for caregiver benefits, reducing bureaucratic barriers that have long been criticized.
- **More Support Programs:** VA would provide alternatives for caregiver's ineligible for the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers. Caregivers would have access to more robust training, financial assistance, and mental health resources.
- **More Home Health Aide Access:** VA would establish a pilot program to hire nursing assistants to provide in-home care services in locations with shortages.

Improved Access to VA Healthcare

The Dole Act aims to enhance access to VA healthcare by addressing systemic inefficiencies, reimbursing for unique costs, and improving communication between VA facilities and veterans. Specific measures include:

- **More Home- and Community-Based Care:** VA would provide eligible veterans with funds to obtain in-home care services, aides, and related items.
- **Deference to veteran's physician:** VA would be prevented from overriding a referral by a veteran's doctor for their patient to get outside care.
- **Same-Day Scheduling:** The Act requires VA to develop a plan to improve same-day scheduling for appointments.
- **Dental Benefits:** The Dole Act contains several proposals related to researching a potential expansion of dental care, especially in rural and other underserved areas.
- **Telehealth Expansion:** Greater emphasis on telehealth services to reach veterans in rural or underserved areas.
- **Ambulances in Rural Areas:** VA would reimburse the cost of ambulance transportation for covered veterans in certain rural areas.
- **Mobile Mammography Services:** The Act appropriates funds to expand access of women veterans to mobile mammography initiatives.
- **Outreach to Veterans:** VA would need to inform veterans of how to request community care and appeal denial of requests.

