



VOICES

"Now, I'll have reliable transportation back and forth to college ... Without organizations like The American Legion, most veterans' stories would end with 'the end' instead of 'to be continued.' For me, it means everything because I have another shot at life."

- Army National Guard veteran Patrick Huber, a Hagerstown, Md., Community College student, who received a 2025 Chevy Trax from USAA after he was nominated for the prize by The American Legion and received it Dec. 10 during festivities leading up to the Army-Navy Game

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71,000

Fans in attendance at M&T Stadium in Baltimore for the Dec. 13 Army-Navy Game sponsored by USAA, with The American Legion as associate sponsor for the second straight year; millions more viewed the game around the world on CBS.

17

Army-Navy Game Media Row interviews by Austin von Letkemann and Johnny Vargas, which put The American Legion in front of millions of listeners on SiriusXM, College Sports Nation, We Are The Mighty and other networks.

6,300

Registered veterans and spouses for the Dec. 18 Military Hire/American Legion virtual job fair.

549

VA Informal Hearing Presentations prepared in December free of charge by American Legion national staff appeals representatives.

300

Appeals of VA decisions granted in favor of the veteran in December after free assistance from trained American Legion representatives.

\$5,174,929

Retroactive VA benefits awarded to veterans who appealed their rulings and were helped by free assistance from American Legion representatives in December.

50

National Guard families who received \$100 gift cards Dec. 15 as part of a Washington D.C. National Guard Armory/American Legion National Headquarters /American Legion Post 1 (District of Columbia) Toys for Tots drive.

\$17,998

Amount in American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grants disbursed in December, stabilizing homes for 16 minor children of military/veteran parents facing unexpected financial hardship.

42

American Legion service officers who received VA accreditation in December to handle veterans' disability claims.

\$2,224,933

Amount in VA debt waivers obtained in December for families of veterans who were represented, free of charge, by The American Legion.

133

Number of American Legion Junior Shooting Sports teams registered through December, an increase of 21 teams over the same time last year, representing 178 additional competitors.

\$41,336

Amount in American Legion Operation Comfort Warriors grants (Range Fore Hope Foundation and Warrior BBQ, Illinois Post 150) approved in December to provide relief for military personnel and veterans recovering from illnesses or wounds.

3

Statements for the Record submitted from The American Legion to Congress in the first week of December, on issues related to employment and education, veterans benefits and care and "Medication Management in VA Health Care."

STATEMENT



"Reclassification is not legalization and does not mandate use. It simply removes federal barriers to research and informed decision-making. It promotes transparency, clinician oversight, informed consent, and honest patient-provider discussions – reducing unsafe self-medication. Supporting reclassification demonstrates the Legion's commitment to science, oversight, and saving lives through evidence-based public health policy."

- American Legion National Commander Dan K. Wiley after joining President Donald J. Trump at The White House Dec. 18 for the signing of an executive order reclassifying marijuana to legally permit federal research into its medical efficacy

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\$37,400

Amount in American Legion national youth scholarships disbursed to 15 students in December.

\$2,051,005,903

Amount in VA veterans benefits secured in November through free American Legion service officer assistance.

3,200

Number of children at five different Hannibal, Mo., school districts who received hats, mittens and gloves this year thanks to fundraising and collection efforts by Emmette J. Shields American Legion Riders Chapter 55 through its "Hats and Gloves with Love" program. The program has doubled the number of children served since 2023.



VOICES

"The people we're honoring have lost loved ones in combat. That's why we should continue to be a big supporter of Wreaths Across America. They're all veterans; they're all heroes."

- American Legion National Vice Commander Ron LaRose, who participated in the Escort to Arlington convoy and placed holiday wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery Dec. 13 on the 33rd Annual Wreaths Across America Day

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1,100

Approximate number of wreaths placed at Gate of Heaven Catholic Cemetery in Los Altos, Calif., Dec. 13 in a Wreaths Across America event coordinated by American Legion Post 642 in Cupertino, Calif., that brought together Legionnaires, Scouting units and city officials to honor fallen veterans for the 10th straight year.

1

New American Legion post chartered in December, Milton James Raschen Post 150 in Kingman, Ariz.

4

New Sons of The American Legion squadrons chartered in December: 203 in Pueblo, Colo.; 937 in Smithton, Ill.; V102 in Kingshill, St. Croix, the U.S. Virgin Islands; and Smith-Bryant 572 in San Angelo, Texas.

139%

Increase in audience in 2025 for The American Legion's Tango Alpha Lima podcast, according to a December Spotify report.

999%

Percentage increase of new Tango Alpha Lima listeners this year, according to Spotify.