

November 2024

Edition 77005-2

American Legion

Post 77

Hubert M. Smith

November Issue:

Thanksgiving Edition



American Legion Disaster Relief Locations

Recovery and clean up continues throughout WNC. Disaster Relief locations continue to support local efforts. Please contact local government for current locations in your area

Veteran's Day

November 11th



11th Day 11th month 11th Hour

Date: 11 November 2024

Time: 11am

Location: Forest Lawn

538 Tracy Grove Rd Hendersonville NC 28732



November Events

*All events subject to change prior to notification

Local Legion Family Events

American Legion Auxiliary-
07Nov

American Legion Post 77-
14Nov

SAL-
16Nov

Riders-
21Nov

Special Event:

It is with great honor to
welcome VFW National
Commander and local VFW
members, on behalf of
American Legion Post 77!

*VFW National Commander
WNC visitation 14Nov2024

-American Legion Hall

We are also honored to have
the American Legion
National Commander visit
Post 77 November 23rd
from 11AM-1:30PM!



CANTEEN



Follow us for live
entertainment events and
menu specials

Veterans Day USA

-ChatGPT

The History of Veterans Day and How It's Celebrated in the U.S.

Veterans Day, observed annually on November 11, is a day of remembrance and gratitude for the men and women who have served in the U.S. military. While the day's origins trace back to the end of World War I, it has evolved into a solemn occasion for honoring the bravery, sacrifice, and dedication of all U.S. veterans. But how did Veterans Day come to be, and how do Americans celebrate it today?

The Origins of Veterans Day

Veterans Day traces its roots to **Armistice Day**, which marked the end of World War I.

On **November 11, 1918**, at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, the armistice was signed between the Allies and Germany, ceasing the hostilities on the Western Front. The first Armistice Day was observed in 1919, and it became a federal holiday in the United States in 1954, after World War II and the Korean War had added to the number of veterans who deserved recognition.

The shift from Armistice Day to Veterans Day was largely the result of a concerted effort by veterans' groups, who felt that the holiday should honor all veterans, not just those who served in World War I. In 1954, President **Dwight D. Eisenhower** signed legislation officially changing the name of the holiday to **Veterans Day**, making it a day to honor all U.S. military veterans, past and present.

The Significance of November 11

The date of November 11 is significant not just as a commemoration of the armistice, but as a day for reflecting on the sacrifices made by those who have served in the armed forces. The specific timing of the observance—at the 11th hour—is a powerful symbol of the final cessation of hostilities during World War I, and it continues to serve as a reminder of the human cost of war.



How Veterans Day Is Celebrated

Veterans Day is a federal holiday, but the way it is observed varies across the country. Here are some common ways Americans honor veterans:

- **Ceremonies and Parades:** Across the U.S., cities and towns hold parades and ceremonies to honor veterans. The largest of these is in **New York City**, where veterans march down Fifth Avenue, and in **Washington, D.C.**, where a ceremony is held at the **Tomb of the Unknown Soldier** in Arlington National Cemetery. The ceremony at Arlington, which includes the laying of a wreath and a moment of silence, is broadcast to millions.
- **Schools and Community Events:** Many schools hold assemblies or invite veterans to speak to students about their experiences. Local communities may host luncheons or special programs to bring veterans and civilians together in a spirit of appreciation.
- **Moment of Silence:** At 11:00 AM on November 11th, a moment of silence is observed nationwide to honor those who gave their lives in service to the country. This pause is often marked by official observances, as well as personal reflections.



- **The National Veterans Day Ceremony:** Held at the **Arlington National Cemetery**, the National Veterans Day Ceremony is a highlight of the observance. The ceremony includes the laying of wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, an important tradition that acknowledges the sacrifices made by those who are missing in action or whose remains were never identified.
- **Businesses and Special Deals:** Many businesses show their appreciation for veterans by offering special discounts or free meals on Veterans Day. Retailers, restaurants, and entertainment venues often run promotions to say "thank you" to those who served in the military.

The Importance of Veterans Day Today

While Veterans Day began as a remembrance of World War I, it is now an inclusive holiday that recognizes all U.S. military veterans. The holiday offers a moment to reflect on the sacrifices that veterans have made in defending the freedoms enjoyed by citizens. It also provides an opportunity to advocate for the well-being of veterans, raising awareness about the challenges they face, including physical and mental health issues, and access to education and employment.

Veterans Day is more than just a holiday; it's a chance to pause, remember, and honor the sacrifices of the brave men and women who have served in the military.

Whether through parades, ceremonies, or simple acts of kindness, it's a day to say "thank you" to those who have given so much in service to our country. As we reflect on the history of this important day, let us not forget that the true meaning of Veterans Day lies in our collective gratitude and support for all those who have worn the uniform of the United States Armed Forces.

Happy Veteran's Day

From: American Legion Post 77

AMERICAN LEGION PROGRAMS:

- Youth Programs
- ✱ Community Programs
- Meetings
- Scholarships

- ✱ American Legion Riders
- ✱ Homeless Veterans
- ✱ National Emergency Fund
- ✱ Operation Comfort Warriors
- ✱ Temporary Financial Assistance

Operation Comfort Warriors

The American Legion delivers comfort items to military hospitals, warrior transition units, and other facilities worldwide, bringing hope and support to our service members during their recovery.

While the care at many military hospitals and warrior transition units is extraordinary, The American Legion's Operation Comfort Warriors program was created to provide nonessential items that help wounded warriors recover but don't usually show up as a budget line on government spreadsheets.

How Operation Comfort Warriors Works:

The Legion contacts officials at military hospitals, warrior transition units and surrounding communities, and obtains lists to determine which items are needed by wounded, injured or ill service-members. Once a need is identified, the items are ordered by the Legion and delivered in an expeditious manner. It's as simple as that. No red tape.

Most military medical centers are not equipped to store large quantities of care packages. The Legion strongly prefers monetary donations so that it can expedite the purchase and delivery of items to troops.

How to support National American Legion Operation Comfort Warriors:

Operation Comfort Warriors

The American Legion

5745 Lee Road

Indianapolis, IN 47216

Supporting Local: **Operation Comfort Warriors WNC+:**

- Supports Charles George VAMC+
- Supports Local VRQ
- Supports Bastion Community
- Supports National Operation Comfort Warriors

Checks Payable:

American Legion Post 77

Memo:

Operation Comfort Warriors WNC+

Send to:

American Legion Post 77
216 4th Ave W
Hendersonville, NC 28739



Thank you for
supporting Local!

Canteen Open Daily!

Full Menu: Monday-Saturday

Limited Snacks: Sunday

- Full-service Bar Daily!
- NC Lottery!
- Pool Tables
- Legion Family Fellowship



LEGISLATION: Advocating for
Veterans and Their Families

- VA Healthcare Modernization
- PACT Act Implementation & Oversight
- Alternative Treatments
- Pay The Coast Guard
- Protect the American Flag

ABOUT AMERICAN LEGION LEGISLATIVE DIVISION:

“Our Mission: To provide staff support to the Legislative Commission and its Convention Committee; serve as the principal advocate of servicemembers, Veterans, and their families on Capitol Hill; provide Members of Congress and their professional staff valuable information that furthers their and our goals along with our standing as an institutional authority in the Veteran community; to facilitate the completion of goals set by our members through Resolution; to enhance strategic collaboration and partnerships ensuring benefits and services are available to servicemembers and Veterans for generations to come.”

<https://www.legion.org/advocacy/legislative/about-the-national-legislative-division>

Pay The Coast Guard

“Coast Guard personnel are vital to national security, but they serve in the only military branch working without pay during government shutdowns. The Department of Homeland Security, not the Department of Defense, oversees the Coast Guard. That means that during shutdowns Homeland Security employees — Coasties and others — are not paid.

While the Coast Guard is not a part of DoD, its role involving national security on our nation's borders and around the world is equally vital to the work our military performs. The Coast Guard provides law enforcement, port security, and maritime and coastal safety, while too often operating outdated equipment and vessels.

Organized under the Department of Homeland Security since 2003, more than 50,000 members of the U.S. Coast Guard operate a multi-mission, interoperable fleet of 259 cutters, 200 fixed and rotary-wing aircraft, and more than 1,600 boats and vessels. Previous government shutdowns caused members of the Coast Guard to temporarily lose pay and benefits, resulting in unnecessary financial burdens, and significant degradation in readiness. During the 2019 government shutdown, The American Legion stepped up and issued more than \$1 million in expedited Temporary Financial Assistance grants to Coast Guard personnel and their families.

The American Legion believes that the Coast Guard's mission is essential to national security, and its personnel should never go without pay. H.R.2693 - *the Pay Our Coast Guard Parity Act of 2023* would make appropriations for Coast Guard pay in the event an appropriations Act expires, providing the same protection for personnel that the other U.S. Armed Forces branches have.

Contact your members of Congress to call on them to **pass the Pay Our Coast Guard Parity Act!**

<https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/Campaigns/105330/Respond>

Letter to your Representatives

Subject: Ensure the Coast Guard is paid

Message:

As your constituent and a supporter of our great military, I urge you to support H.R.2693, the Pay Our Coast Guard Parity Act of 2023. The U.S. Coast Guard is the only branch of our military that does not fall under DOD, and during federal government shutdowns, Coast Guard personnel are at risk of being forced to work without pay, often far away from their families.

With the risk of potential government shutdowns still in play, I urge you to support the men and women in the Coast Guard by ensuring that their pay and allowances are protected just as they are for other branches of our military. The Pay Our Coast Guard Parity Act would accomplish this by making appropriations for Coast Guard pay in the event an appropriations Act expires before a new one is passed. I urge you to be a part of the effort to protect these brave young men and women, and co-sponsor H.R. 2693 before another government shutdown is upon us.



-Print

-Sign with voting
address

- Mail to your representatives

Thanksgiving 2024 - *Tradition after the storm*

Celebrating Thanksgiving in the Face of Adversity -Gemini

Thanksgiving is a time for gratitude, family, and delicious food. But what if a natural disaster disrupts your plans? While it might seem impossible to celebrate amidst the chaos, resilience and creativity can turn even the most challenging circumstances into a meaningful Thanksgiving.

Classic Thanksgiving Traditions to Adapt

1. **A Heartfelt Feast:** Even a simple meal can bring comfort and joy. Focus on the essentials: roasted turkey or a vegetarian alternative, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie. If cooking isn't feasible, consider ordering takeout or visiting a local restaurant.
2. **Sharing Gratitude:** Gather your loved ones, whether in person or virtually, to share what you're thankful for. This simple act can uplift spirits and foster connection.
3. **Family Games and Activities:** Board games, puzzles, or card games can provide entertainment and laughter. If you're outdoors, try a nature scavenger hunt or a game of football.



Thanksgiving Magic



Monthly Legion Shoutout to SAL77

SAL Squadron 77 Community Service

Thanks to generous donations from the local Community and Legion Family members this month. SAL77 was able to provide a new Kitchen Stove to a SAL member in need!

Canteen & Post Events

Tuesday November 12- Executive Board Meeting & Taco Night

Wednesday November 13- Bingo 5PM

Thursday November 14- VFW National Commander Visit

4:30-6:30 PM

General Membership Meeting 7PM

Friday November 15- Karaoke

Saturday November 16- SAL Meeting, House Fund &

Local Gossip Live Band

Wednesday November 20- Bingo

Thursday November 21- Free Veteran's Buffet

American Legion Riders Meeting 7PM

Friday November 22- Karaoke

Saturday November 23- American Legion National Commander

Visit 11AM-1:30PM

Kristen Toole 8PM-11PM Upstairs Hall

Wednesday November 27- **NO BINGO**

Thursday November 28- Thanksgiving Pot Luck

Friday November 29- Karaoke

Henderson County Honor Guard



The Henderson County Honor Guard performed a presentation of colors at Forest Lawn on Veteran's Day.



Bennie Daves of the Honor Guard received a Quilt of Valor Saturday, November 9th.

Are you interested in joining the Henderson County Honor Guard?

Contact Carlos Terc:
carlos.terc30@gmail.com

Or Joe Stancar:
car7ncpnw@gmail.com





Come see Local Gossip
Party Band at Post 77
Saturday, November
16th from 8PM-11PM!

The American Legion Post 77's annual Commander's Christmas Party will be held December 14th from 5PM-Midnight. Tickets are \$35 per person or \$50 per couple. Each member may bring three guests. Make your reservation by December 1st! Membership must be current to attend. Mail or pay at Canteen. Make checks payable to American Legion Post 77. Join us for an elegant night of fun, fellowship, and celebration for another great year!



Coloring Activity



Coloring Activity



Local 102-year-old WWII veteran celebrated at Veterans Day event

by Ed DiOrio | Mon, November 11th 2024 at 7:13 PM



NOV. 11, 2024 - World War II veteran Ed Cottrell, 102, served as a pilot for the United States Army Air Corps. He spoke at Forest Lawn Memorial Park for a Veterans Day ceremony, offering his remembrance and optimism. (Photo credit: WLOS Staff)



Legion Family: Veteran's Day 2024

- Forest Lawn Hendersonville
- Charles George VAMC

Celebrating After a Natural Disaster

If you're recovering from a natural disaster, here are some tips to make Thanksgiving special:

Meal Idea:

- Precooked Smoked Turkey
- Mac & Cheese
- Green Beans
- Pumkin Pie

1. **Prioritize Safety:** Ensure everyone's safety and well-being before planning any festivities. Follow local guidelines and warnings.
2. **Simplify the Menu:** Focus on easy-to-prepare dishes that require minimal ingredients. Consider using canned or pre-packaged foods if fresh produce is scarce.
3. **Embrace Community:** Connect with neighbors and community organizations to share resources and support. Volunteering or helping others can be a rewarding way to give back.
4. **Create a Sense of Normalcy:** Decorate your home with festive elements, even if it's just a simple centerpiece or a few candles. These small touches can create a warm and inviting atmosphere.
5. **Practice Self-Care:** Take time to rest, relax, and recharge. Prioritize your mental health by engaging in activities you enjoy.



Remember, the most important aspect of Thanksgiving is spending time with loved ones and expressing gratitude. By adapting traditions and fostering a sense of community, you can create a memorable Thanksgiving, even in the face of adversity.

Here's a list of contacts for emergency relief:

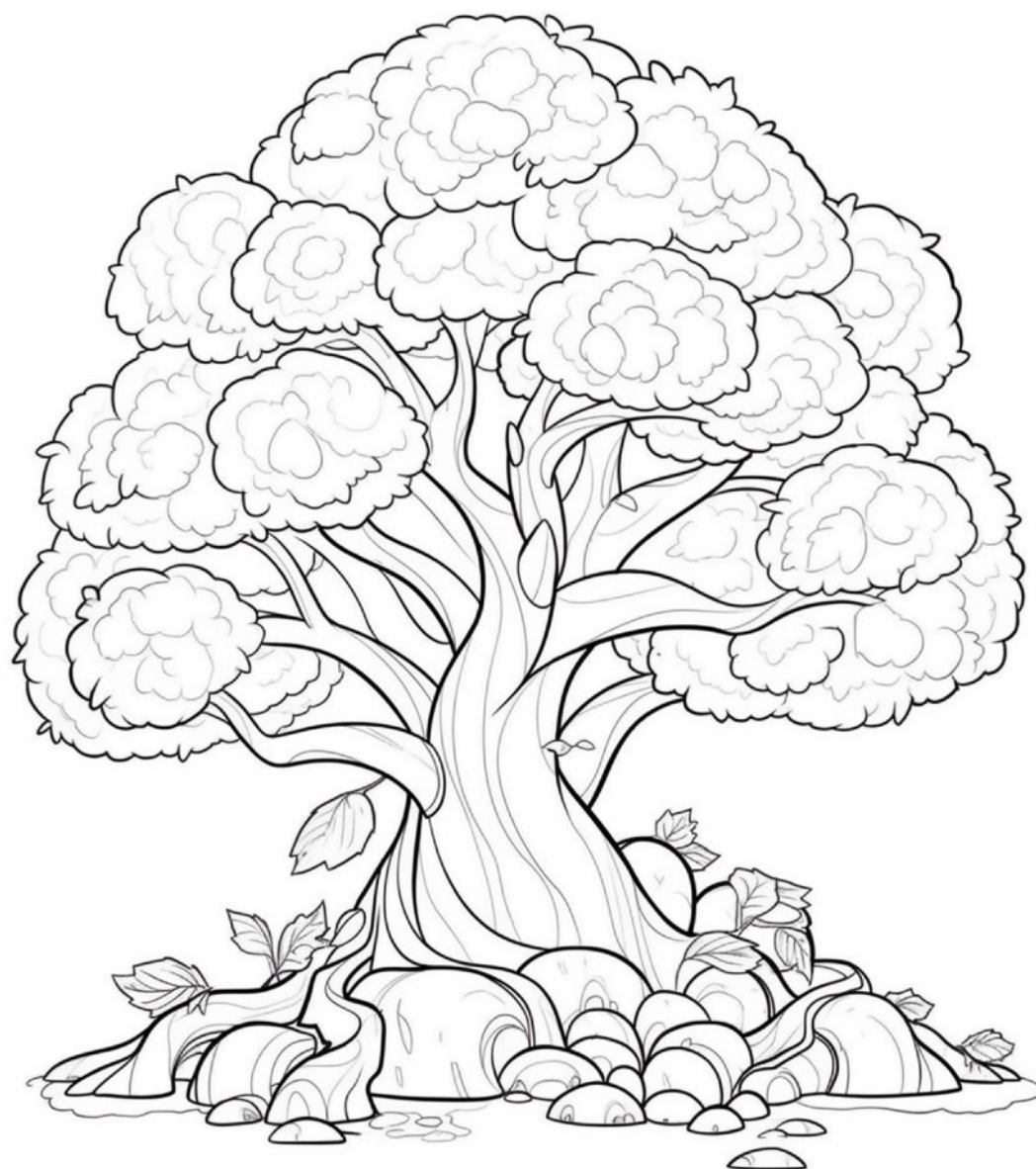
National Emergency Relief Organizations

1. **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**
 - **Phone:** 1-800-621-3362 (FEMA)
 - **Website:** www.fema.gov
 - Provides disaster assistance and recovery support for individuals and communities affected by major emergencies.
2. **American Red Cross**
 - **Phone:** 1-800-733-2767
 - **Website:** www.redcross.org
 - Offers shelter, food, and recovery assistance in disaster-stricken areas.
3. **National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD)**
 - **Phone:** 703-778-5088
 - **Website:** www.nvoad.org
 - Coordinates relief efforts among non-profit organizations, churches, and community groups in disaster areas.
4. **Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services**
 - **Phone:** 1-800-SAL-ARMY (1-800-725-2769)
 - **Website:** www.salvationarmyusa.org
 - Provides food, shelter, and long-term recovery assistance to those affected by disasters.
5. **United Way Worldwide**
 - **Phone:** 1-800-892-2757
 - **Website:** www.unitedway.org
 - Supports disaster relief and recovery efforts by mobilizing volunteers and resources through local United Way offices.

Health & Medical Emergency Services

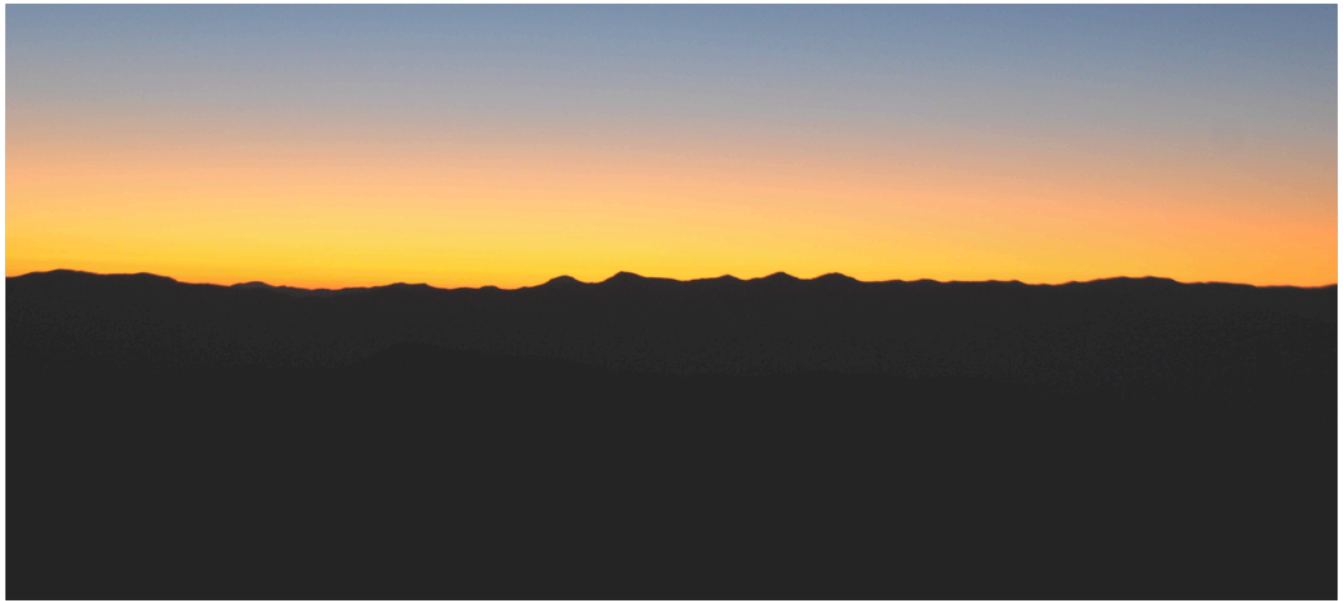
1. **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**
 - **Phone:** 1-800-232-4636 (TTY: 1-888-232-6348)
 - **Website:** www.cdc.gov
 - Provides public health information and guidance during emergencies such as pandemics or hazardous spills.
2. **National Poison Control Center**
 - **Phone:** 1-800-222-1222
 - **Website:** www.poison.org
 - Available for emergency advice on poison exposure and hazardous substances.

Coloring Activity



Photos by Greg Bias -
Post77 Photojournalist

Hiking Photography





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- 3. **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Disaster Distress Helpline**
 - **Phone:** 1-800-985-5990 (Text: "TalkWithUs" to 66746)
 - **Website:** www.samhsa.gov
 - Provides crisis counseling for people affected by disasters and emotional trauma.

Local Utility and Safety Services

1. **National Gas Emergency Contact (by provider)**
 - **Phone:** Varies by provider. Most major gas companies have 24/7 emergency lines to report leaks. Contact your local provider or call **911** for immediate threats.
2. **Power Outage Reporting (by provider)**
 - **Phone:** Varies by provider. Check your local electricity provider's website for outage reporting and assistance.

General Emergency Contacts

1. **911 - Immediate Emergency Services**
 - For fire, medical emergencies, and crime-related emergencies, call **911**.
2. **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**
 - **Phone:** 988 (Call or Text)
 - **Website:** www.988lifeline.org
 - Provides confidential support for individuals in suicidal crisis or emotional distress.
3. **National Domestic Violence Hotline**
 - **Phone:** 1-800-799-7233 (TTY: 1-800-787-3224)
 - **Website:** www.thehotline.org
 - Offers support and resources for individuals facing domestic violence.

State and Local Emergency Management Agencies

For localized emergency relief, each state and region has its own emergency management office that coordinates local disaster response. You can find your state or county emergency management contact information via:

- **National Association of State Emergency Management Agencies (NEMA):** <https://www.nemaweb.org>

These resources provide a comprehensive network of support in the event of any disaster or emergency across the U.S.

SUPPORT LOCAL

HENDERSONVILLE, NC

AMERICAN LEGION POST 77

Mail Checks to:

216 4th Ave W

Hendersonville, NC 28739

Coloring Activity



