



The American Legion
Third District
Nathan Olson
District Adjutant

Helping Veterans Connect

We Are on the web!
www.mnthunderingthird.org

June 2026

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 Commander's Dinner – Joint Testimonial New Prague MN
28 American Legion Family Picnic	29	30				

Volume 11 Issue 10

The Commander's Corner

Fellow Commanders, Adjutants and Membership Directors,
The MN 3rd District Membership packet pickup is scheduled for June 27 this year. To make it easier, the packets for your post can be picked up at two locations this year.

In the morning, from 9 am to 11:30 am, your post membership packets can be picked up in Eagan at the Cedarvale Bowl located at:

3883 Cedar Lane
Eagan, MN 55122

(The packets pickup will be in the basement Banquet Room.)

In the afternoon of June 27, from 1:00 pm to 4 pm, your post membership packets can be picked up at the Silver Lake American Legion Post 141

241 Main Street West
Silver Lake, MN 55381

Looking forward to seeing you there to meet you and answer your questions you may have.

All the best,

Jim Entinger

The Chaplains Corner

June 2026 Chaplain's Newsletter Article

Writing this article is bittersweet. I am grateful to have served as your chaplain under two Third District Commanders. Thank you Joe Tappainer for inviting me and to Amy Larson for allowing me to continue in this role. I had never served as a district officer before and had no idea what the expectations were. Thankfully they fit right into the way I've always served as a spiritual leader. The opportunity to lift up each post by name, to pray for the leadership and the communities you serve brought a new depth to my personal prayer life, so thank you!

The month of June brings Flag Day, a day we celebrate on June 14th in the United States. It commemorates the adoption of the [flag of the United States](#) on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the [Second Continental Congress](#). The Flag Resolution stated "That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

Flag Day was first proposed in 1861 to rally support for the Union, but it wasn't until 1916 that President [Woodrow Wilson](#) issued a [presidential proclamation](#) that designated June 14 as Flag Day and then on August 3, 1949, National Flag Day was officially established by an act of Congress.

This long road to official recognition reminds us that change happens slowly and over time. As I read the stories behind the creation of this day, I was blown away by the variety of people and places that worked to bring it to bear.

As we stand to honor, as we salute to honor, as we fold it to honor the fallen, may we remember to recount what it symbolizes – a more perfect union, a republic within a democracy. May this flag stand as an enduring symbol of freedom.

Holy One, ground us in your love, lift us in your grace, hold us in your mercy. May we always be a people who stand for freedom, justice and liberty for all. Amen

In gratitude,

Cindy Yanchury
Third District Chaplain

Membership Update

Five Things Minnesota American Legion Members Can Do for America's 250th Anniversary
As our nation celebrates 250 years of independence in 2026, American Legion members have a unique opportunity to honor our nation's history, educate future generations, and strengthen our communities. Here are five meaningful ways Minnesota Legionnaires can participate:

1. Conduct a Community Flag Education Program

Partner with local schools, Scout troops, and community organizations to teach proper flag etiquette, the history of the American flag, and the meaning of our nation's symbols. This supports the Americanism Pillar while promoting patriotism throughout the community.

2. Honor Local Veterans and Their Stories

Collect and preserve the stories of local veterans from all eras of service. Consider recording interviews, creating displays at local libraries or museums, or publishing articles in community newspapers. This helps preserve the legacy of those who served and connects younger generations with our nation's history.

3. Organize a Community Service Project

Celebrate 250 years of America by giving back. Posts can sponsor park cleanups, food drives, veteran home improvement projects, or other community service activities that demonstrate continued commitment to serving others.

4. Promote Youth Leadership and Citizenship

Increase participation in programs such as Boys State, Oratorical Contest, American Legion Baseball, and scholarship programs. Encouraging civic engagement among young people helps prepare the next generation of leaders and strengthens our democracy.

5. Host a 250th Anniversary Patriotic Celebration

Work with local governments, schools, churches, and veterans' organizations to organize a community celebration. Activities could include historical presentations, patriotic ceremonies, veterans' recognition events, essay contests, parades, or educational exhibits highlighting America's journey over the past 250 years.

America's 250th Anniversary is more than a celebration of our past—it is an opportunity to inspire future generations and reaffirm our commitment to the principles of freedom, citizenship, and service that have guided our nation since 1776.

Department of Minnesota Joint Testimonial Dinner

American Legion Commander Linda Dvorak

American Legion Auxiliary President Robin Dorf

Sons of the American Legion Commander Jeremy Copher



Saturday, June 27, 2026

New Prague American Legion Post

5pm Social ~ 6pm Dinner ~ 7pm Program ~ Band until 10pm

Menu will be turkey and brisket, sides, and dessert

\$25.00 per person

Purchase your tickets on the Department American Legion website OR send check to New Prague American Legion, PO Box 113, New Prague MN 56071

Reservations due by June 19, 2026

Block of rooms available at Quality Inn & Suites in New Prague.

(952)758-7300 - ask for the American Legion Block

Name _____ # of Guests _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

SAL | RIDERS

PICNIC

JUNE 28

BRING A
DISH TO
PASS

SOCIAL IS AT 11AM

HOT DOGS
HAMBURGERS

POP AND WATER
PROVIDED

WEAR
RED
WHITE
BLUE
CLOTHING



OSCAR OLSON PARK
1400 Union Ave N, Glencoe, MN 55336

Let's celebrate together!
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

National Convention Delegates

1. Amy Larsen
2. Jim Entinger
3. Nathan Olson
4. Don Pankake
5. Mark Dvorak
6. Wayne Beierman
7. Cindy Yanchury
8. Don Skow
9. Pat Logan

National Convention Alternante

1. Terry Larsen
2. Rod Reifsteck
3. Carla Tappainer
4. Joe Tappainer

Position Endorsements

Post 594 endorses Cindy Yanchury for the position of Department of Minnesota Chaplain for 2026-2027.

Post 1776 endorses Carla Tappainer for the position of Department Vice Commander for 2026-2027.

Post 3 endorses Joe Bares for the position of Department Sargeant of Arms for 2026-2027.

District and/or Department Positions

Have you ever thought about getting more involved at the District or even the Department Level of the American Legion? If so, please talk to Mark Dvorak, Pat Logan, Don Skow, Duane Anderson or Don Pankake.

Dear American Legion Family Members,

I want to sincerely apologize for missing the District Convention meeting due to an unexpected family emergency. I was truly disappointed that I could not attend, as I would have loved the opportunity to meet all of you in person and share some of the exciting things happening within our Auxiliary.

Our Auxiliary has been incredibly busy this year, and I'm proud to share that we have grown by 17 new members! We are grateful for the support and enthusiasm that continues to strengthen our mission of serving veterans, their families, and our community.

One of our biggest upcoming projects is Hero's Hub, our brand-new store opening in early September. Hero's Hub will be 100% free to our veterans, providing much-needed items at no cost to those who have served our country. We are currently seeking donations of cash or gift cards so we can purchase brand-new items for the store and make this project a success.

We are very excited about Hero's Hub and the positive impact it will have on our veterans. I only wish I could have been there to personally show you what we've been working toward.

Thank you all for your understanding, support, and dedication to our veterans and Auxiliary programs. I hope to meet each of you at a future event.

With Appreciation,

Joni Tikalsky,

New Prague, Mn
Unit 45 President

jttechniques1@yahoo.com

Our Unit has been so busy and needless to say excited about our project! HERO'S HUB is a 100% free "Store" that any Veteran is welcomed to come and "Shop" With their DD214 or Veterans ID they will be able to come and get basic essential needs and clothing.

We are aiming to be open September 1st , 2026 with our Open House scheduled for Sep27. We hope to see you there! If you are not able to make it and would like to help support our mission with a cash donation, we would be very grateful.

NEW PRAGUE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

HERO'S HUB

FREE EVERYDAY NECESSITIES
FOR LOCAL VETERANS

OPEN HOUSE ON SEPTEMBER 27

NEW PRAGUE AMERICAN LEGION
PARK BALLROOM FROM 1-4:00 PM



RESPECT



SUPPORT



GRATITUDE

300 LEXINGTON AVE S
NEW PRAGUE MN

What is happening in the District:

Post 501 Commander Bob Dolan and Vice Commander JoAnne Kramer were invited to speak with the 5th-grade students at Woodbury's Middleton Elementary School, offering an overview of Memorial Day and the traditions of our military services.

The students were attentive, engaged, and asked thoughtful questions throughout the presentation.

The program concluded today with a field trip to the Veterans Memorial, where students had the opportunity to tour the site and speak directly with several of our Woodbury American Legion veterans. It was a meaningful experience for the students and a valuable opportunity to connect them with the legacy of service honored in our community.





Here are some of the photos from our Memorial Day event in Woodbury.

Bob Dolan

Commander





Always Remember to check out additional events and happenings on our website:

[Home | American Legion MN Thundering Third District](#)

Also Included is a link to the American Legion Department website:

[The American Legion Department of Minnesota – Veterans strengthening America](#)

Membership Reports

Department of Minnesota 2026 Membership as of 6/3/26

District Summary Including all HQ Transfers

	District	New	Pufl	Renewals	Hq Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
6	MN Dist 0006 LGN	221	1012	7317	110	8660	9043	95.76468
3	MN Dist 0003 LGN	239	1488	6929	129	8785	9251	94.962707
10	MN Dist 0010 LGN	212	877	5311	94	6494	6846	94.858311
1	MN Dist 0001 LGN	140	740	5090	56	6026	6396	94.215134
9	MN Dist 0009 LGN	92	489	3910	48	4539	4829	93.994616
7	MN Dist 0007 LGN	81	573	3689	10	4353	4645	93.713671
8	MN Dist 0008 LGN	93	285	2272	26	2676	2857	93.664683
2	MN Dist 0002 LGN	103	517	4143	15	4778	5104	93.612853
4	MN Dist 0004 LGN	39	246	1134	8	1427	1568	91.007653
5	MN Dist 0005 LGN	32	229	904	11	1176	1305	90.114943
11	MN Dist 0099 LGN	12	195	1344	0	1551	1751	88.577955
	Sum:	1264	6651	42043	507	50465	53595	94.151119

Area 1 Mark Doble

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
37	ST. PETER	229	210	91.70%
55	LE SUEUR	46	38	82.61%
74	HENDERSON	32	34	106.25%
79	MONTGOMERY	119	101	84.87%
108	LE CENTER	244	233	95.49%
144	BELLE PLAINE	74	69	93.24%
149	MORRISTOWN	109	100	91.74%
207	CLEVELAND	66	58	87.88%
311	ELYSIAN	178	136	76.40%
380	KILKENNY	12	12	100.00%
433	GAYLORD	74	67	90.54%
510	NICOLLET	104	100	96.15%
518	NORTH MANKATO	219	217	99.09%
Total		1506	1375	91.30%

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Area 3 Kelley Ackerman

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
48	STILLWATER	147	130	88.44%
65	ROSEMOUNT	196	199	101.53%
98	ST. PAUL PARK	382	375	98.17%
225	FOREST LAKE	675	657	97.33%
424	INVER GROVE HTS.	60	55	91.67%
447	PRIOR LAKE	72	67	93.06%
491	BAYPORT	257	233	90.66%
501	WOODBURY	126	120	95.24%
507	MAHTOMEDI	44	35	79.55%
521	MENDOTA HEIGHTS	48	44	91.67%
620	HUGO	159	159	100.00%
643	SAVAGE	252	225	89.29%
Total		2418	2299	95.08%

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Area 2 Jim Entinger

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
95	GLENCOE	74	73	98.65%
96	HUTCHINSON	418	389	93.06%
125	STEWART	38	35	92.11%
141	SILVER LAKE	158	156	98.73%
143	BROWNTON	56	53	94.64%
226	GIBBON	16	15	93.75%
250	ARLINGTON	33	30	90.91%
300	LAFAYETTE	45	43	95.56%
314	WINTHROP	50	49	98.00%
407	WINSTED	79	81	102.53%
408	GREEN ISLE	32	29	90.63%
463	LESTER PRAIRIE	37	31	83.78%
641	PLATO	19	17	89.47%
Total		1055	1001	94.88%

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Area 5 Marissa Lacourt

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
43	FARIBAULT	324	306	94.44%
44	LAKEVILLE	94	91	96.81%
47	HASTINGS	286	259	90.56%
54	RED WING	377	368	97.61%
78	KENYON	53	45	84.91%
142	CANNON FALLS	119	117	98.32%
183	ZUMBROTA	41	38	92.68%
184	PINE ISLAND	92	92	100.00%
189	FARMINGTON	115	83	90.22%
586	LONSDALE	123	128	104.07%
594	EAGAN	213	201	94.37%
598	BELLECHESTER	60	60	100.00%
Total		1897	1788	94.25%

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Area 3 Wayne Beierman

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
2	SHAKOPEE	143	140	97.90%
3	JORDAN	57	64	112.28%
45	NEW PRAGUE	195	186	95.38%
57	CHASKA	240	220	91.67%
84	NORTHFIELD	161	156	96.89%
121	WATERTOWN	47	44	93.62%
150	WACONIA	222	217	97.75%
343	NORWOOD	41	38	92.68%
580	CHANHASSEN	364	360	98.90%
601	NEW GERMANY	36	35	97.22%
1700	BURNSVILLE	58	46	79.31%
1776	APPLE VALLEY	786	757	96.31%
1995	VICTORIA	11	11	100.00%
Total		2361	2274	96.32%

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Grand Total	9251	8784	94.95%
COATES (Post at Large)	37	47	127.03%

