

A young boy with dark hair is wearing a camouflage military uniform and a matching cap. He is saluting with his right hand. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

# The Insider

American Legion Department of Illinois News

APRIL 2024



# **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

APR 1: **95% CUTOFF**

APR 13: **SPRING D.E.C. (NORMAL, IL)**

MAY 6-9: **SPRING MEETINGS (INDY)**

MAY 14-18: **ARMED FORCES WEEK**

MAY 18: **ARMED FORCES DAY DINNER  
(1ST DIVISION)**

MAY 27: **MEMORIAL DAY  
(OFFICE CLOSED)**

JUNE 8-14: **PREMIER BOYS STATE  
(EIU—CHARLESTON, IL)**

JUNE 12-22: **ILLINI GIRLS STATE**

JUNE 23-28: **YOUTH POLICE SCHOOL  
(SPRINGFIELD, IL)**

JULY 4: **HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!  
(OFFICE CLOSED)**

JULY 10-14: **THE AMERICAN LEGION &  
AMERICAN LEGION  
AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT CONVENTION**

JULY 12-14: **SONS OF THE AMERICAN  
LEGION DETACHMENT OF  
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT  
CONVENTION**

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## **April is Military Children Month.**

We are capable of doing great things for them, so let's do what we can. Purple Up is April 15th! Please take the Purple Up Proclamation (last page of this newsletter) to your Mayor, Village President, or Town Counsel. We would love if each community showed their support to our mini-military heroes on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

# 2024 DIVISION & DISTRICT MEETING DATES

DATE	DIST. / DIV.	TIME	POST	CITY
04/03/2024	1ST DIVISION	TBD	MCKINLEY POST 231	MCKINLEY
04/03/2024	17TH DISTRICT	TBD	CULLOM	CULLOM
04/07/2024	5TH DIVISION	1:00 PM	O'FALLON POST 137	O'FALLON
04/10/2024	2ND DISTRICT	7:00 PM	TATTLER POST 973	CHICAGO
04/14/2024	22ND DISTRICT	1:00 PM	DUPO POST 485	DUPO
04/17/2024	7TH DISTRICT	7:30 PM	EVANSTON POST 42	EVANSTON
04/24/2024	9TH DISTRICT	7:00 PM	SCHILLER PARK POST 104	SCHILLER PARK
04/25/2024	8TH DISTRICT	8:00 PM	EDWARD SCHULTZ POST 697	LANSING
05/05/2024	17TH DISTRICT	TBD	GIBSON CITY	GIBSON CITY
05/08/2024	2ND DISTRICT	7:00 PM	TATTLER POST 973	CHICAGO
05/15/2024	7TH DISTRICT	7:30 PM	MORTON GROVE POST 134	MORTON GROVE
05/17/2024	10TH DISTRICT	7:00 PM	CONVENTION & POST EVERLASTING —FOX LAKE 703	FOX LAKE
05/17/2024	24TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	24TH DISTRICT CAUCUS - CARRIER MILLS POST 364	CARRIER MILLS
05/18/2024	19TH DISTRICT	TBD	CONVENTION —POST 559	CHAMPAIGN
05/19/2024	11TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	CONVENTION MEETING—MCHENRY POST 491	MCHENRY
05/19/2024	15TH DISTRICT	10:00 AM	15TH DISTRICT CONVENTION—LEWISTOWN POST 1	LEWISTOWN

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send Dist/Div meeting dates, happenings at your post/community, announcements, etc!

**Email [sgreen@illegion.org](mailto:sgreen@illegion.org) OR send by mail to:**

**American Legion, Dept. of IL**

**P.O. Box 2910 Bloomington, IL 61702**

**ATTN: SHANDI GREEN**

**Please submit any changes or updates to previous submissions to Shandi Green as soon as possible.**

**NOTE: WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO INCLUDE YOUR SUBMISSIONS BUT CANNOT GUARANTEE THAT THEY WILL BE. IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE, PLEASE SUBMIT BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH PRIOR**





Department  
Commander,

**DELMAR**  
**BUSKE**

Good day to our  
American Legion  
Family members!

I hope everyone had a happy and blessed Easter. It seems like forever since we held the Department Oratorical Contest, but it has only been a month. This is a great program and we need to make sure we keep it going. It is not too early to start planning and recruiting for next year's program.

I have been attending some Post meetings and have some more lined up. If you would like me to visit your Post for a meeting or function, please call Cheryl at Department HQ. If I am available, I will be there!

Patriotic Conference was just a couple of weekends ago and was very well attended by the whole Legion Family. What a great Auxiliary Program! I saw more Legionnaires there this year than I have ever seen before—and I've been going for as long as I can remember.

It won't be long now before we head to Indianapolis for the Spring Meetings. This year will be especially exciting for me because I will be accepting the "Mark's Madness" trophy on behalf of the Department of Illinois. National Vice Commander Mark Shreve will be presenting it to use for having the largest percentage increase from January 1st to March 1st. I would like to thank all of our Legion members for helping us achieve this great honor.

On May 11, the 5th Division is hosting a "Be the One" walk from Flora to Louisville, IL. Our National Commander, Daniel Seehafer, will be joining us for this special event. It would be nice to see every District represented there—try to get at least 3 people from each District (could be Legion, Auxiliary or SAL members). You will find the registration form and liability waiver in this issue. What an exciting way to show our National Commander our support for his "Be the One" campaign and what the Department of Illinois can do when our Legion Family comes together.

The following week is Armed Forces Week and Commander Seehafer will be joining us the entire week. Please try to make it to your Division's event and show him our support.

Convention will be here before we know it! The housing form is available on our website and is included in this newsletter as well. We'd like every Post to be represented there—please try to send someone from your Post to see what it is all about. You can do that in just two days! Let's see how many people can be there!



Department Sr. Vice  
Commander,

**JOSEPH**  
**LAMPERT**

To Our American  
Legion Family,

I can't believe how quickly this year is flying by. And it's not going to slow down any time soon. Close of Books and Department Convention will be here before you know it. We have some membership information and incentives on page 7 of this newsletter, so make sure to check that out!

As you all know, we hosted The American Legion Department of Illinois Oratorical Finals Contest in Springfield last month. As Commander stated, it is never too early to start thinking about next year's program, so please make sure you are getting the word out at the Post, District and Division levels! I'd love to see our state program built back up to where it used to be. But we need your help to do that.

Friendly reminder: dues will increase by \$5.00 for the 2025 membership year. This means the per capita will increase from \$35.00 to \$40.00. This is a perfect time to get a 5 year membership. With a 5 year membership, the per capita is locked at the current amount. Take advantage of this! Our membership continues to improve (because of the hard work of our Legionnaires). Please keep up the efforts so we can continue to be successful.

We have the honor of having our National Commander with us for the "Be the One" Walk to raise Veteran suicide awareness. This event is being put on by the 5th Division and we're hoping for a great turnout! Commander Seehafer will remain in Illinois with us after that to celebrate Armed Forces Week. Please make time to attend your Division's event and hear what he has to say. I hope to see many of you!



Department  
President,

**ANGIE  
GOLIGHTLY**

Hello American  
Legion!

Hope your birthday was great. I celebrated your day at an Auxiliary meeting for the 19<sup>th</sup> District in Rantoul. I then went to my Post home for corned beef and cabbage. We are always blessed by your service to our country.

I attended my first Oratorical Contest in Springfield. I'd heard before that it was an amazing program and that is true. I'd ask that if you go to your local schools for any reason, be prepared with a card to give to any teacher or administrator with your contact information. On the back say "please add the American Legion Family to your curriculum and contact me for contests: posters, essays speeches, scholarships or camps". Then when you are contacted you can give them the names of the programs and send them the details. If we contact them before they plan their next year we may get more participation.

Our ALA Patriotic Conference was amazing. If you couldn't attend, you may want to add this to your calendar next year. We never know who the speakers will be, but we always come away from this wiser than when we arrived. Our next conference is for ALA Juniors and Young Sons, April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in Monticello. See our 'new' website for more details. Check out the calendar in the events tab. It's very helpful!

Looking forward to seeing many of you during Armed Forces Week. Remember to wear purple on Purple Up Day for Military Kids on April 15<sup>th</sup>. As always, thank you for your service and we will continue to "Serve Veterans, the Real Superheroes"

Angie Golightly Department President  
American Legion Auxiliary 2023-2024



Detachment  
Commander,

**MICHAEL  
VOZAR**

Greetings from the  
Detachment of  
Illinois!

Rolling into Spring the Detachment continues our work to strengthen membership. I am pleased to report thru March we are at 94.57%! Kudos to Senior Vice Rick Allen and our leadership team for their hard efforts so far with promoting retention and recruitment.

Thanks to the Auxiliary for hosting a great Patriotic Conference! Speakers were riveting and informative as they shared their insights on important subjects including veteran and youth suicide prevention and national security.

Our Spring Detachment Executive Committee meeting was on March 20<sup>th</sup> in Effingham. We were honored to have National Commander Donald "JR" Hall in attendance to update us about the National Organization and share his insights. Marshall Squadron 90 was recognized as the first Illinois Squadron to earn Commander Hall's National Four Pillars Squadron Award.

April will be a busy month. Several of us will be attending the SAL Central Region Extravaganza in Columbus, Ohio for a weekend of learning and networking with others in the Region. Next is National Commander Hall's Homecoming in Baltimore followed with American Legion Family Day on April 27<sup>th</sup> to close out the month. May brings National Executive Committee meetings, Armed Forces Week, and Memorial Day

We continue working hard to honor and serve our veterans. Thank you for your service!

Proud Possessor of A Priceless Heritage,

Michael Vozar, Commander, Detachment of Illinois



**Monday, May 13—Fifth Division**

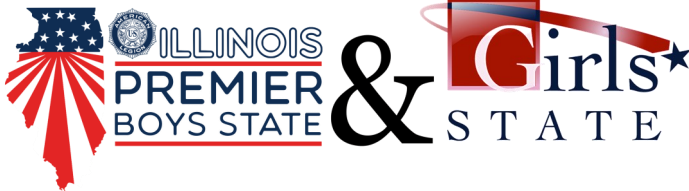
**Tuesday, May 14—Third Division**

**Wednesday, May 15—Fourth Division**

**Friday, May 17—Second Division**

Each Division will host an event in celebration of Armed Forces Day, hosting National Commander Daniel Seehafer as the guest of honor. Please try to attend the one in your Division! All stops are listed above and information for the 1st Division Armed Forces Day Dinner is on the following page.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN**

**Reminder to AL Post, SAL Squadrons,  
AL Riders, & ALA Units**

**You can sponsor delegates to the AL  
Premier Boys State & ALA Illini Girls  
State**

Both sessions will be held at Eastern Illinois University. Delegates are to have completed their Junior year in high school.

**AL Premier Boys State June 8th-June 14th**

**ALA Illini Girls State June 16-June 22nd**

Don't miss out on a chance to inspire our future generations! Recruit delegates to the 87th Session of AL Illinois Premier Boys State & 83rd Session of ALA Illini Girls State

For further information or questions, contact:

Christopher Benigno @ [benignoc@illinoisboysstate.org](mailto:benignoc@illinoisboysstate.org) or Sarah Wyckoff @ [sarahrichardshotmail.com](mailto:sarahrichardshotmail.com)



**10TH ANNUAL  
AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY  
HAVEN RUN  
APRIL 27, 2024**



START AT COLLINSVILLE POST #365—REGISTRATION @ 8:30 AM / LEAVE @ 9:00 AM

Stops Include: New Baden American Legion Post 321, Sparta American Legion Post 396, Sesser American Legion Post 560 (Lunch Stop), McLeansboro American Legion Post 106, Carrier Mills American Legion Post 364, The Haven (BBQ & End of Run)

Cost to Participate: \$25/person (to be paid the morning of the run or when you join the run at any stop)

**YOU CAN JOIN THE RUN AT ANY STOP! IF YOU WISH TO DONATE TOWARDS THE HAVEN, MEET US AT ANY STOP**

**CONTACT WAYNE MADSON WITH ANY QUESTIONS: (618)806-1408 OR [madsonwsr@gmail.com](mailto:madsonwsr@gmail.com)**

**ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE HAVEN**





# *The Illinois American Legion 1st Division is Proud to Host Armed Forces Day Dinner*

Saturday, May 18, 2024

Keynote Speaker

*National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer*

TO BE HELD AT THE ELKS LODGE 1526

495 Lee St. Des Plaines, IL 60016

Social Hour 5:00 PM | Program 6:00 PM | Dinner to follow

Dinner Menu: Baked chicken, London Broil, mostaccioli, mashed potatoes, soup, salad  
and dessert. \$40.00 per person

*Please remit the RSVP section below with your payment to:*

*1st Division Junior Vice Commander, William McNellis*

*14045 S. Oak Ridge Drive, Homer Glen, IL 60491-9672*

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**Reservations:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Has reserved** \_\_\_\_\_ **seat(s). Cost of dinner (PP) is \$40.00. Amount enclosed:\$** \_\_\_\_\_

*Checks are to be made payable to: American Legion: 1st Division Council*

**Indicate on response — Post/Unit/** \_\_\_\_\_ **Squadron:** \_\_\_\_\_ **District:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Division:** \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Contact William McNellis @ 708/997-4045 or bill@wfmnt.com

# THE AMERICAN LEGION CONSOLIDATED POST REPORT **CHALLENGE**

## **I am giving each District the opportunity to win (5) five free membership vouchers!**

Every District that sends in 100% of their Consolidated Post Reports by May 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 will receive (5) five free membership vouchers to be used in the 2024 card year. These are to be used by the winning District or can be gifted to another District.

The Consolidated Post reports (CPR's) must be filled out as completely as possible. Leadership will not accept a CPR that only has the Post's information ie: Post name, address etc. and signed with no other information on the form. Forms are available online and are being mailed along with the Certification of Officers form to the Adjutants of each post in the state. This is an easy way to gain membership vouchers. Please reach out to your District and Division leaders for details and **Turn those forms in!**

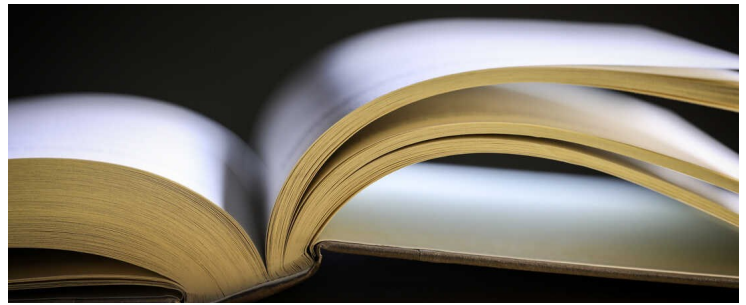
Joe Lampert,

TAL Dept. of IL Senior Vice Commander

## **Upcoming Veteran's Outreach Dates**

**All Outreaches start at 09:00 and go until dark. Members of their respective Divisions are encouraged to attend and to go door knocking to get a in person experience with our Veterans. Personal contact will help bridge the gap between the Post and the member, showing them we value their membership.**

## **CLOSE OF BOOKS IS JUNE 14**



Greetings All,

As I write this, we have just over 55,000 renewed members for the 2024 card year. The card year is quickly coming to an end and we still have a lot of work to do if we want to get to 100% membership. *We are currently ranking **49<sup>th</sup> Nationwide** for membership.* I know we are better than that.

We have another round of Veteran Outreaches coming up with the dates and locations listed on the previous page. I would like to encourage everyone to come on out and assist with this effort. If you cannot attend, please help work membership at your post. **Every card counts.** Every MEMBER counts.

It's time to get back to door knocking. We need to visit with our members face to face and let them know that they are more to us than just membership fees. Everyone is important and needed.

Let's close out the year with a bang and let's strive to reach our goal of 100%. If you need any assistance with lists or paperwork, we are here to help. Reach out and we will be happy to assist you in any way we can.

Jim Talaska,

TAL Dept. of IL Membership Director

**April 19-20-21—3<sup>rd</sup> Division**

**Washington Post #100**

**April 26-27-28—4<sup>th</sup> Division**

**Bradley Post #766**

**May 3-4-5—2<sup>nd</sup> Division**

**Naperville Post #43**

**May 10-11-12—1<sup>st</sup> Division**

**Franklin Park Post #974**

**May 24-25-26—5<sup>th</sup> Division (TBA)**



# **AMERICAN** **LEGION**

## **Department of** **ILLINOIS**

### **CONVENTION** **HOUSING FORM**

## 105<sup>th</sup> Annual Department Convention July 9 –14, 2024

All reservations MUST be made directly with the hotel housing your Division/S.A.L. on or before June 18, 2024. You may make your reservation by mailing in this form with your credit card information or first night's deposit including tax. ALL cancellations must be made 48 hours prior to arrival date.  
Failure to cancel by that date will result in billing of one night's room rate. **PARKING IS INCLUDED IN THE RATE AT BOTH HOTELS**

	DIVISION/S.A.L.	RATE
<b>WYNDHAM SPRINGFIELD</b> <b>CITY CENTRE</b> 700 E. Adams Springfield, IL 62701 217/789-1530	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Divisions and Sons of The American Legion	\$117.00 plus tax (\$133.38 total)

Reservation- Mail this form to the Wyndham Springfield ATTN: Grace Giacometti or phone 217/789-1530, ext 0. Visit <https://bit.ly/42e9rRd> to make your reservation online. For online/phone reservations, provide **group code:**  
**07097027AML**

<b>PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN</b> <b>HOTEL SPRINGFIELD</b> (Doubletree by Hilton) 701 E. Adams Springfield, IL 62701 217/544-8800	1 <sup>st</sup> Division & Auxiliary	\$119.00 plus tax (\$135.66 total)
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Reservation- Mail this form to the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield OR make your reservation online.  
**For LEGION Reservations:** [www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/americanlegionconvention/](http://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/americanlegionconvention/)  
**For AUXILIARY Reservations:** [www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/americanlegionauxiliary/](http://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/americanlegionauxiliary/)

You may also call at 1/866-788-1860 or 217/544-8800. *Please use the Group Code of "ALM" for the Legion and "ALX" for the Auxiliary.*

Special Notes: All rooms are subject to the applicable sales tax. All reservations must be made with credit card or advanced deposit. If reserving the room with a personal check, include the rate including tax as listed above. Cut-off date for ALL RESERVATIONS is June 18, 2024.

**If you select a hotel that your Division is not housed in, you may be moved to your Division assigned hotel.**

### PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION

Division \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ Legion/SAL Title \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel \_\_\_\_\_ Type of room (circle) 1 Bed 2 Beds Disabled Access \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Room type requests not guaranteed; hotels will do their best to accommodate. *All hotel rooms are non-smoking.*)

Other Special Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of additional people in room: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_



**Special Olympics**  
Illinois

## Summer Game Toy handouts for the Legion Riders

Every year the Auxiliary President has a special theme. This year's theme is "Serving our Veterans, the Real Superheroes." To tie in with this theme, we are handing out action hero figures this year at the Special Olympics Summer Games. They can be traditional action figures, stuffed animal versions, or wearing a special cape. The athletes look forward to receiving these tokens from our Riders. If you can contribute any hero figure, let us know and we will find the closest Children and Youth representative from your Division to drop off to. We still need your help at the games on June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>! Any time you can spare will be greatly appreciated. We also need product for the new food guidelines or monetary donations to the American Legion Dept. of Ill. earmarked Special Olympic Summer Games (more information provided on page 13 of this newsletter). Please call Dave Johnson at 815-520-4643 with any questions. Thank you for your continued support!

## Join us to walk on May 11, 2024.

### 17 to 22 Veterans or Service Members take their Lives Each Day

**That's more than 6000 annually.** Louisville American Legion is Sponsoring a Walk to raise awareness to Veterans Suicide. The walk will start at 8AM on May 11, 2024 and will span approximately 8 miles.

Route: starting from the Clay County WWII Veterans Memorial Directly across road from the Flora VFW at 128 E 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Flora IL 62839, proceeding to route 45 north and concluding at the Clay County Veterans Monument on the Clay County Court House Square at the Clay County Veterans Monument.

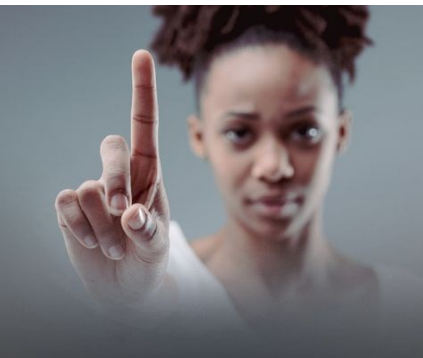
Lunch will be provided by the Louisville American Legion and transportation will be provided back to Flora to pick up vehicles. Everyone is invited to attend!

Donations will be accepted to the **Be The One** to prevent Suicide Raise Awareness suicide Hotline 988 press 1

Ask a Local Business, family or friends to sponsor you. Or if you can't participate, sponsor someone to walk for you. All donations will go to Support the American Legion **Be The One** Program.

On the following page, you will find our registration form with safety / liability waiver on the back.

## **Don't let another Mother celebrate Mothers Day without their Veteran.**





## WALKER REGISTRATION

# BE THE ONE

## WALK TO RAISE VETERAN SUICIDE AWARENESS

Over 6000 Veterans and Active Duty Members commit suicide annually. Join American Legion National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer and American Legion Family Members on May 11 2024 to participate in an awareness walk from Flora, Illinois to Louisville, Illinois.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

### EMERGENCY CONTACT:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### SPONSOR INFORMATION:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \_\_\_\_\_ Additional sponsors may be attached on a separate page

### MEDICAL INFORMATION:

Allergies? Y/N (if yes, please list) \_\_\_\_\_

Medications (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian's Signature (if participant is under the age of 18) \_\_\_\_\_





**Saturday  
May 11  
2024**

## REGISTRATION AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY FORM:

I know that I am participating in this walk for the Be the One Walk to Raise Suicide Awareness, which is a potentially hazardous activity, that could cause injury or death. I will not enter and/or participate unless I am medically able and properly trained.

By registering, I certify that I am medically able to perform this event, am in good health, and am properly trained.

I assume all risks associated with participating in this event, including but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather, including high heat and/or humidity, traffic, and the conditions of the road, all such risks being known and appreciated by me.

Having read this waiver and knowing these facts and in consideration of your accepting my entry, I, for myself and anyone entitled to act on my behalf, waive and release the American Legion Department of Illinois, and all Be the One Walk to Raise Suicide Awareness event sponsors, their representatives and successors from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event, even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons named in this waiver.

I grant permission to all the foregoing to use my photographs, motion pictures, recordings, or any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose.

---

Printed Name of Emergency Contact

---

Phone number of Contact

---

Printed Name Of Participant

---

Signature & Date

# 2024 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION AWARD PROGRAM DEADLINES

All forms are available online at [www.illegion.org/awards](http://www.illegion.org/awards)

The American Legion has many awards available to posts and individuals. Each year, less and less submissions are sent in. There are nearly 800 posts. Each program has an outline and criteria to meet for each award. Details and submission instructions are available online [www.illegion.org](http://www.illegion.org). Be sure to check the deadline for all award submissions some are approaching fast. **Don't miss the opportunity for your post to be recognized.** All winning Posts will be notified and receive recognition at the Department Convention this July in Springfield.

- **Legionnaire of the Year Award—June 15**
- **Firefighter of the Year - May 31**
- **Law Officer of the Year - May 31**
- **TLW Legion Rider of the Year Award - March 31**
- **Chaplains Cross/Star of David Award - June 6**
- **Community Service Award - April 30**
- **Hall of Fame Award - April 30**
- **Public Relations Award - June 1**
- **Photo Contest & Calendar Contest - Friday prior to state convention**

**For hard copies:** Contact the Department Print Shop at 309-663-0361 or email: [printshop@illegion.org](mailto:printshop@illegion.org)

## 2024 State Convention Book Application for Ad placement

BUSINESS / ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

[Post use only] American Legion Post name: \_\_\_\_\_ Post No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Slogan Choices: (three choices—choose one)**

- \_\_\_\_ 1. **We Are Proud To Be Part of  
The American Legion Family**
- \_\_\_\_ 2. **Helping The American Legion  
Help American's Veteran's**
- \_\_\_\_ 3. **We Proudly Stand Behind  
The American Legion**

**Ad Choice: (please choose black & white or color)**

- Medal of Honor (full page--7-1/2 x 10 in.)
- Silver Star (half page--7-1/2 x 5 in.)
- Bronze Star (quarter page--3-3/4 x 5 in.)
- Purple Heart (3-3/4 x 3-3/8 in. "Business card")
- Commander Salute (3-3/4 - 1-11/16 in.)
- Flag Page (1-3/4 - 1 in.)

**Black & White  
Ad**

- \$230.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$120.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$90.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$75.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$60.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Color Ad**

- \$250.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$125.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$95.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$80.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$65.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of Payment (please check one)** *All credit information will be kept confidential*

\_\_\_\_ Check (Make Check payable to: AMERICAN LEGION DEPT. OF IL)

Send Check to: American Legion, Dept. of IL 2720 E. Lincoln St. Bloomington, IL 61704

\_\_\_\_ Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

EXP Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Security Code #: \_\_\_\_

Card type: / MC / Visa / AmEx / Disc



# ***Special Olympics Illinois***

## **Summer Games June 7-9, 2024**

Each year Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games are held at ISU in Normal, IL. For those of you who can't attend, there is still a lot of preparation for the American Legion and Auxiliary Hospitality Tent. We feed over 4,000 athletes and their families each year. Posts donate lots of items to help out each year. See how you can help!

- Veggie straws variety (individual packs)
- Popchips variety (individual packs)
- Raisins (individual packs)
- Bare Baked Crunchy Fruit Chips (variety packs)
- Sun Chips variety (individual packs)
- Olives (green/black)
- Dry roasted peanuts w/sea salt
- Fruit (strawberries, blueberries, pineapple, grapes)
- Veggie chips variety (individual packs)
- Quaker rice crisps multipack
- Hummus singles (16 packs)
- Pirates Booty white cheddar puffs (individual packs)
- Baked lays—regular & BBQ (individual packs)
- Archer mini turkey/beef sticks
- GFS individual peanut butter packs
- Trail mix (240 cal or less)
- Veggie puffs variety (individual packs)
- Nature Valley crunchy granola snack mix (individual packs)
- Kind mini bars variety
- Snyder pretzels (individual packs—100 calories)
- Terra Veggie Chips (we will bag them)
- Beef/turkey jerky (please watch calories)
- Mount Olive sliced pickles
- Veggies (broccoli, cauliflower, bell peppers (variety), cherry tomatoes, radishes, baby carrots, celery)

**For monetary donations:** *Money donations are used for renting the tent (\$900 alone),*

*Make checks payable to American Legion Dept. of IL so Department can cash it, then earmark in the memo section "Special Olympics" so C&Y gets the donation.*

*Notify your C&Y Division Chairmen of donations, so we will have an idea of supplies and money.*  
*Send or take donations to Department HQ by the first week in June.*

***In addition, helpers are needed to set-up and take down additional tents used, as well as load and unload supplies from the trailer and trucks. With the entire Legion family involved (Legion, Auxiliary, SAL & Riders) we can make it a true Legion Family Hospitality Tent!***





 **AMERICAN  
LEGION**  
FAMILY

**Department of  
ILLINOIS**



*American Legion #*

## **“PURPLE UP DAY” FOR MILITARY CHILDREN PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, The American Legion, since its founding in 1919, has devoted much of its talent, effort and resources to improving conditions for our nation’s youth; and

**WHEREAS**, The Americanism, Children & Youth programs of the American Legion Family provide settings that permit children to realize and to achieve their full potential; and

**WHEREAS**, The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary have labored unselfishly to achieve this goal through their untiring effort, dedicated leadership and devotion to overriding principles of these benevolent programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Purple indicates the color of all military branches combined: ARMY (green), MARINES (red), NAVY, AIR FORCE, COAST GUARD and SPACE FORCE (blue). Therefore, we are asking all communities to honor military children on this day and wear purple to support military children.

**THEREFORE**, I, \_\_\_\_\_, Mayor of \_\_\_\_\_, Illinois do hereby proclaim the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024, as “PURPLE UP DAY”. The American Legion family recognizes military children under the Children & Youth Program for the entire month of April.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of \_\_\_\_\_, Illinois this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

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**Department Editor**  
**SHANDI GREEN**

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