



SOUNDOFF

May—June 2020

*George P. Vanderveer
Post 129 American Legion
(Established 1919)
2025 Church Road
Toms River, NJ 08753*

George P. Vanderveer Post 129 American Legion

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

After writing the Commander's Message for the past 2 years, I never thought I would be writing an article about a killer virus called Corvid-19.

The Commander-in-Chief and the Governor rightfully declared war on this foe that has taken the lives of so many. Unlike the many civilians that make up our surrounding communities, the Members of Post 129 understand what war means, both in its triumphs and horrific losses.

We know what it means to follow all orders. Even the ones we may not like. That is why we must follow the guidelines for six feet social distancing, avoiding large crowds, washing your hands for 20 seconds, cleaning surfaces, handles, and packages, and using hand sanitizers when possible. If you have PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), use it when you go out. I know, you wish that we could issue you weapons to kill and silence this new enemy. Unfortunately, we cannot. That does not mean that we surrender and do nothing. Far from it.

After the Executive Board Meeting held on Monday, March 16th, I shut the Canteen to our Members at 8 PM, as per the orders of the Governor. All Bar activities came to a halt. That also meant no Canteen or Gaming Revenue, which pays our bills.

After voting to pay our shift bartenders until the war is over, the Trustees, Budget Committee, Finance Officer and I estimated

that the cost to pay the monthly bills of the Post would be between \$22,000 and \$25,000 per month. Please read Finance Officer Ralph Wolff's report on our finances.

The Post has partnered with the organization called "A Need To Feed." Using emails and phone calls the Executive Board and I authorized to send \$1,000 to A Need To Feed. The average cost of the meals is \$10 each.

As you know, we stand together as a family. So, without hesitation the Auxiliary donate \$250, the SAL (Sons of the American Legion) donated \$500 and the Riders also gave \$500. This is what families do during times of crisis. Currently, 50 meals are given out every Tuesday and Thursday, between 4 and 5PM. Just drive up to the front of the Post, at 2025 Church Road, and we will hand you your meals. You never have to leave your vehicle.

The Post is working on a "Calling a Buddy" program. So, you may have gotten a call or

may be receiving a call from one of our volunteers just checking up on you and seeing how you are doing.

The General Meeting which was to be held in May has been canceled. Our Election of Officers has also been moved to our next General Meeting. You can check our website at:

alpost129.org or our Facebook Page for the new date. The election is for Trustees, since all other positions are running unopposed.

The Memorial Day picnic and ceremonies have been canceled until further notice. We had planned to hold our July 4th Independence Day picnic on Sunday, July 5th. The Mangos were scheduled as the entertainment. I will keep you posted.

This goes without saying, but "hang tough" during this time. I know you will. Never "take a knee".

Ed Rutzler Commander



LEGION MEMBERSHIP

Dear American Legion Members,

This year flew by so far until March where life as we knew it stopped and the world basically stood still due to the Pandemic (Corona Virus).

I hope and pray that our Legion Family has fared well during these trying times. Hopefully the Corona Virus is behind us and we can get back to a somewhat normal life. I know that we will get through this together. We are Legion Strong.

I am asking all of our Legion Family members to reach out to their fellow legionnaires and legion family members to see if they are okay and if they need any help or just give them words of encouragement to help them get through these trying times. It's called the Buddy Check, it's what we do, Veterans taking care of Veterans. in checking our roster.

I noticed that there are still many members (250) that haven't paid their dues for 2020. I did want to let you know that we are counting very much on your continuing as a member of our Post. You are very important to us and if we are to accomplish the many tasks facing The American Legion, both at home and in Washington, to help our Veterans and their Families as well as the Community we live in, we need your help.

Our Post has been shut down for two months now. No activities, no Canteen, no source of income to help us to continue all the good things that we do for our Veterans and Their Families. I am asking all Members who haven't paid their Dues for 2020 to please send us what ever you can so that we can continue to help our Veterans, their Families and the Community where we live.

I truly believe we are Legion Family and together we will accomplish great things. Stay Safe

and please don't forget BUDDY CHECK.

Please let me know if there is some service that our Post or at the Department level can provide for you or if there is any reason that has kept you from renewing your Membership Please contact me at rjg548@comcast.net or 732-604-8326. The American Legion needs your support, Remember, Membership is the life blood of The American Legion.

For God and Country
Rich Godfrey
Department of New Jersey
Vice Commander
Membership Chairman

SAL MESSAGE

Greetings all!

First I would like to hope and pray that everyone is staying safe and healthy during these unprecedented, difficult times. It's very difficult to see our Post closed and not be able to see everyone out and around. By this time the Bunker Bar would be open and everyone would be out having a good time. Well, this is all out of our control but let's hope that we will get cleared to open sooner rather than later.

I regret to inform you that I had to cancel our annual Memorial Day Pig Roast and BBQ. This was always a strong event for us, but we will not be able to pull it off and postponing it isn't an option right now due to scheduling conflicts. If anything changes, I will let you know but until then, we will have to wait until next year and make it bigger and better than ever!

We have also been working with A Need We Feed to hand out free meals, paper products and pantry items to those in need. Keep an eye on your SAL email for further information.

We will be making phone calls to as many members as we can to do "buddy checks" to see how you are doing and if we can help in

any way.

Finally, we are still responsible to get our membership submitted to state. We're getting close to hitting our number from last year, but still need your help. If you haven't renewed your dues yet for 2020, you still can and that would help us out greatly. At this time, since the Post is not open, you cannot pay your dues there but you can still mail them in or pay online at www.salpost129.com and we will get your card out to you right away. Also, if you know anyone eligible to join, please let me know so we can get them signed up.

In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy and obey the mandated social distancing rules. We are hear to help, so if you need anything please reach out and we will do the best we can to assist.

For God & Country,
Rocky Lucia

**Ocean County Memorial
Chapter of the DAV meet
at Post 129 the 2nd
Wednesday of the month
at 7 PM**



**Tin Can Sailors meet at
Post 129 on the 3RD
Wednesday at 12 noon.**





AMERICANISM eBulletin

An electronic update of the Americanism Commission

americanism@legion.org

February 2020



Maintaining American Legion Nonpartisanship



Chairman Richard Anderson (CT)
Americanism Commission

This year ushers in a presidential election. And while American Legion posts are encouraged to promote “Get Out the Vote” (GOTV) efforts, it is important to remember to remain nonpartisan in the process.

The American Legion is a nonpolitical, nonpartisan organization but advocates for all U.S. citizens to register and vote in all elections. The American Legion does not show preference for or against any particular candidate or political party.

Since its inception in 1920, The American Legion’s Get Out The Vote program has encouraged Americans to exercise their right to vote and help others understand the importance of the electoral process. The program suggests activities on how American Legion posts can increase voter turnout such as calling potential voters to get to the polls, volunteer in their communities by providing rides to and from the polls if necessary, use social media to share information about poll locations and times, and place newspaper ads or public service announcements in local media that promote registration and voting.

To help with GOTV efforts, American Legion Family members can download The American Legion’s “Get Out the Vote” and “Vote, America” brochures at www.legion.org/vote/publications. GOTV public service announcements and news releases are also available.

You can still encourage voting registration and participation while remaining nonpartisan, and here's how and why.

Q: How can an American Legion post avoid the appearance of partisanship when conducting GOTV activities?

A: Volunteers working on an American Legion-sponsored registration and voting drive should not wear campaign buttons or make their personal views about candidates, parties and issues known in any way while they are engaged in nonpartisan activities for their post. Campaign materials or literature should be removed from an area where nonpartisan activities are taking place.

Q: Can a member be active in a campaign when the Legion has to remain nonpartisan?

A: As individuals, Legionnaires can be as partisan as they like. Legionnaires engaged in partisan activities – such as attending a candidate’s rally – should do so without wearing the American Legion cap or other Legion attire. When working for the Legion post, a member must treat all candidates equally without making candidate endorsements. To do otherwise will endanger the post’s nonprofit status with the IRS.

Q: Why can’t The American Legion endorse a candidate?

A: Federal election laws require that any registration drive conducted or sponsored by groups like The American Legion be nonpartisan. In other words, the IRS mandates the strict nonpartisanship of all such activities by organizations eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions under Section 501(c)(19) of the Code. Failure to do so could endanger an American Legion post’s nonprofit status. A nonpartisan organization does not support, oppose or provide aid to any candidate for public office or to any political party. In a nonpartisan drive, registration and voting assistance, and information and materials must be offered and made available to all, regardless of which candidate or party they support.

(Reprint of American Legion digital article “American Legion reminds you to vote in 2020”, February 03, 2020)

WHAT'S NEXT?



Ralph E. Wolff
Finance Officer
Post 129

Pretty soon, as our country begins to figure out how we open back up and move forward there will be a powerful need within us all to get back to what was our normal. I don't believe that old normal will ever be seen again. What we do now and in the future will be our new normal. What we are all looking for is not what used to be the normal but the feeling of normalcy. In truth, we want desperately to feel good again, to get back to the routines of our lives, to not lie in bed at night wondering how we're going to afford our rent, pay our bills or feed our family. We want not to wake up to an endless scroll of human tragedy on our phones and TV's. We want not to worry about our loved ones catching the virus. We want to have a cup of perfectly brewed coffee and simply leave the house for work or come to our Legion and have a cold beer with our comrades. Our need for comfort and normalcy will be real, and it will be strong. I urge you to be well aware of what is coming and think about how you will handle these powerful emotions.

What this trauma has shown us, though, cannot be unseen. A carless Los Angeles has clear blue skies as pollution has simply stopped. You can hear the birds chirp on Broadway. You see families walking and talking together. We, as a nation, have deeply disturbing problems. These are problems we ignore every day, not because we're terrible people or because we don't care about fixing them, but because we don't have the time. One of the greatest misconceptions among us, which causes deep and painful social tensions every day is that we somehow don't care about each other. Legionnaires don't care about Auxiliary, the Son's

don't care about Legionnaires, the Riders don't care about anyone. These misconceptions could not be further from the truth. We all do care about each other. Sometimes we simply just don't have the time.

I feel that the treadmill we have been on for decades just stopped. Bam! And that feeling you have right now is the same as if you'd been thrown off your Peloton bike and onto the ground. Holy Mary, what just happened? I hope you might consider this: What just happened is incredible. It's the greatest gift ever unwrapped. Not the deaths, not the virus, but the Great Pause. What this crises have given us is a once in a lifetime chance to see ourselves and our country through the clearest of lenses. At no other time in our lives have we gotten the opportunity to see what would happen if the world simply stopped.

If we want to create a better country and a better world for our kids, if we want to make sure we are sustainable as a nation and as a democracy, we have to pay attention to how we feel right now and start to plan for your new normal.

Finances

Our Post is encountering the perfect storm, financially and socially. Since we are closed there is no revenue. None, zip, nada. However, we are still responsible for the bills we encounter in better times. The mortgage, the utilities, the maintenance and doing what we are in existence for which is taking care of our veterans and the Legion Family. So here is what we were able to accomplish to protect the Post from default.

1. Our mortgage has been differed for three months. Pushing the missed payment to the end of the mortgage without affecting our credit rating. This action will save the Post \$8,000/month which will enable us to stay solvent for a

longer period of time should we be forced to.

2. We have applied for and been approved for the PPPL grant. This will allow us to pay our bartenders for the next 8 weeks without having to pay it back.

3. We have partnered with A Need We Feed and Fulfill to feed our families who are facing a high level of food insecurity. This action benefits our veterans and our Post as they are fed hot meals, given non-perishables for home and essential paper products and receiving fresh produce to help their immune system fight off the virus and reduces the number of food gift cards we need to buy and distribute.

So at this writing we are financially secure but with the need to re-work the budget as it will take us some time to recover once we open.

Finally, I want to say how proud I am to belong to Post 129. During this crises I have witnessed the coming together of all of the Legion Family to serve one cause, ensuring that **NO ONE GETS LEFT BEHIND.**

AUXILIARY MESSAGE

While 2020 had started off on a positive note for us, the Covid-19 Virus has put the world into a surreal Holding Pattern. In our lifetime, there is nothing to compare to the paralyzing effect that this Virus has had on our lives, our Country and the World. New York and New Jersey have been seriously affected by this deadly virus during the months of March and April. In turn, our Post Life has been put On Hold. Our Ocean County Meeting in March was canceled. Our monthly Unit and County meetings for April were

canceled. The Installation Ceremonies set for April were canceled. It remains to be seen if our May Unit Meeting, various Installations and our Spring Flea Market occurs. But I hope that by time this publication gets mailed, May and June will hold more promise and encouragement for us.

Obviously, our Annual Auxiliary Gift Auction, originally set for 4/19/20, has been postponed. We had to postpone our Annual May Poppy Drive too. Our plans to celebrate our 100 years have also been postponed. But postponed means there is a "Belief"; a "Hope" that we will be able to reschedule these Events.

In the meantime, I am so proud of our Unit 129 during this Covid-19 Virus Pandemic. Our Auxiliary Gals have once again stepped up to the plate. Our Auxiliary has done what it does throughout the year – make donations! Part of our Legacy will be that we are never Single-Minded. Our donations come in various forms. Our Unit has been busy donating our time, our talents, our ideas, our Unit contributions and our personal contributions. A number of our Members have made a point of calling a few Members each day, just to check in to see how they are doing. Some of us have reached out to others, in our various Communities, to assist in the food shopping and delivery of groceries. Our Unit has some Members, who have sewn numerous masks for the Aides at some local nursing homes. We have purchased Gift Cards for some of our homeless Veterans. We have purchased and donated various items for the Command Center at Community Medical Center (the local hospital front line of Healthcare Personnel during this Pandemic). We have ordered food from some local businesses to be given to the Command Center at CMC (thereby supporting our local businesses and our Healthcare Professionals). Of course, our Unit

has also made a monetary donation to a local Organization.

Through all that our Auxiliary has done and continues to do during this Pandemic, a few lines from a song popped into my head. For those of you who know me well, you know that song lyrics are always in my head. So I leave you with these Moody Blues lyrics: *"Love of love, love of life and giving without measure gives in return a wondrous year for promise almost seen. Live hand in hand and together we'll stand on the threshold of a dream."*

Unit 129, we rock! Until we meet

again, I pray that all of us at Post 129, along with our families and friends, remain healthy and safe. May God bless all of us.

For God and Country,
Lisa A. Mayer
President Unit 129



Spring Flea

May 16th

Market

9am-2pm



2025 Church Road,
Toms River, NJ

**American Legion
Post 129**

**Vendors, we still have spaces
available, call to reserve yours
today!!!!**

*Indoor and outdoor spaces available

*Food available for purchase

*Payment in advance is required to hold your space

Contact Jacqueline at 732-330-8748 to reserve your spot or more information!!!

SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT

Good afternoon Brothers and sisters,

We are now in a situation where reaching out to lend a hand up sometimes gets a little difficult from 6 feet away. Going anywhere and maintaining the "Social Distancing" sometimes finding us apologizing for getting too close, or you get that feeling of loneliness, or helplessness, but you need to understand, and family and friends need to understand by staying away, staying home, maintaining your distance, you are showing people that you love them and you do not want to make them sick.

We will get through this and maybe by the time you get this, my hope, we may have already passed the milestone of concern and be on our way to do a restart of our lives and how we live. We have to understand that nothing will ever be the same again, we are not going to go back to things the "way they were". This will forever be a new dynamic, we must change how we think about each other and the world in general.

We cannot be isolationists, we must work with the entire world; we must listen to each other; we must trust each other, we cannot have our heads in the sand and hope bad stuff does not happen to us just because someone else has a problem. This pandemic has shown that no trust in information from others, personal disbelief that it is not going to happen here, just is not realistic anymore, and should have never been our standard of trust, we are finding out that we cannot stand alone.

The world is a small place and around the world anyone, anything, whether it is global warming, or the covid19 pandemic, just shows that whether it will take 50 years or 15 days, it will impact us and we need to work on long term

solutions to the world's problems, not just ours. Someone needs to take the lead; this country has done it in the past and now is the time for us to stand up again, not just for the United States of America, but for the entire world. We are the ones that can make that happen. If we don't this will be a lesson lost and the lives lost will have been in vain, shame on us.

Reporting from a bunker, in an undisclosed location, under a volcano, just letting you know we are still doing good work. Our organization is based on "service to veterans" not for one's self or for recognition, but because it is the right thing to do. The Post 129 Legion Riders have a moto "BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT WE DO".

Thanks to Ralph Wolf and his many connections we have been doing some amazing stuff, we are feeding people at the post "Drive Through" 2 times a week, working with the organization "A Need We Feed" we have supplied, by the time you get this, probably over 500 meals to our members, to members of other fraternal organizations and to the Silverton fire department. We also supplied paper towels and toilet paper at the "Drive Through".

In order to support this cause the Legion, the Sons and the Riders have donated as a group \$2,000 to fund the feeding of our members and other organizations such as Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

Ryan's catering is also supplying meals to a Need We Feed, Jim Smith and Mike Speary, "Chef Mike" are participating in the county wide program to feed those in need. Nice job guys!

Because of our "Buddy Check Program" we have delivered water, food, and a wheel chair to members in need, thank you to the trustees and the e-board for making the calls.

The victory garden has been planted and we are hoping for a great harvest, we have a great

garden team, they are working in shifts to maintain social distancing.

Hope to see you soon
Yours in the Lord,

Michael Schaffer PPC,
Department Chaplain
Post 129 Service Officer



RIDERS MESSAGE

Brothers and Sisters we are living in very difficult times right now and it doesn't look like it will end any time soon. Our April Blessing of the Bikes has been cancelled and we will try to re-schedule for a later date. At this time it looks like our May Bike night will also be cancelled. I will keep everyone updated as this lockdown continues. I would like everyone to know that Post 129 is ready and willing to help anyone in our family who is in distress. Our Post has been giving away free hot meals, paper products and canned food every Tuesday and Thursday from 4:00 to 5:00. If you are in need please come and let us help you.

I would also like to extend my hand to anyone who needs any help, just give me a call and I will find a way to help. Now is a perfect time to take care of the maintenance on our motorcycles. Check your tire pressure, oil levels, brake fluid etc. Let's all be ready when this lockdown is lifted. Now is also a perfect time to check up on our Brothers and Sisters, give someone you know a call, check on your neighbors we are all in this together. On a closing note I would like to say you are all in my prayers, be safe, be strong and Stay Home. God Bless You.

For God and Country

Pete Chafatelli
President

CANTEEN NEWS

Eric Enauen

Normally, I would be writing about the changing of the weather, Canteen events, entertainment, Post Improvements, Bike Nights, the Memorial Day Picnic and our Independence Day Celebration and Picnic. However, instead, we will be talking about the tactics and strategies we will be using in the war with our new and deadly enemy, Corvid-19.

What has been done? All bar operations have been shut down until further notice. This was by order of the Governor and has been strictly adhered to. The last thing Post 129 wants is for someone to get sick by us serving beer and liquor at the wrong time. The Canteen and Bunker Bar will remain closed, until we get the "all clear" sign from the Governor, the ABC and approval of the Executive Board.

Protecting our Bartenders: We give thanks to God that none of our dedicated Bartenders have contracted the virus at this time. The Bar Committee stays in contact with them to make sure they are OK. At our last Executive Board Meeting, held on Monday, March 16th, the Bar Committee and the Trustees recommended to the Executive Board to pay our regular shift Bartenders minimum wage (\$11 per hour) through these trying times.

The Executive Board unanimously approved the recommendation, since it was the moral and right thing to do. We also gave our bartenders the option of applying for unemployment since they might make more money that way. The decision was left entirely up to them.

Our Finance Officer, Ralph Wolff, has applied for grants and SBL (Small Business Loan) to offset the Post's payroll costs. I recommend you read Ralph's finance Article for more information.

We may need your help when the time comes to open the Bunker. For example, all the Bar Stools are stored in the basement of the Post. We will need to get them up the stairs and down to the Bunker. Usually, County Correction people, who are supervised by County Sheriffs provide this service, along with blowing leaves, spreading mulch, setting up the picnic tables and cleaning the Bunker and the picnic grove. Governor Murphy released non-violent offenders from prison, who normally perform these tasks for us. We only hope that they can help us out in the future.

Bunker News: Because of the war between the humans and

the virus, the squirrels signed a peace treaty to end all hostilities. Unlike the signing on the Battleship Missouri, ending World War II, the treaty was signed on neutral ground, which was under a picnic table near the Bunker.

I was amazed that Commander Ed Rutzler could get under table. I did not think Navy Men could low crawl. Sorry, no photos. Our Nat Geo Wild Photographer, Al Harbord, is on assignment.

Remember, when you support Post 129, you support the greatest in the USA.

AMERICAN LEGION - POST 129 PRESENTS

Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, & New Brunswick

****You Must Bring a Valid U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card for this Tour****

INCREDIBLE PRICE INCLUDES:

- ◆ Motorcoach transportation
- ◆ 8 nights lodging including 5 nights in Canada
- ◆ 14 meals: 8 breakfasts and 6 dinners
- ◆ Guided Tour of ACADIA NATIONAL PARK
- ◆ Guided Tour of HALIFAX, PEGGY'S COVE, & LUNenburg
- ◆ Admission to KING'S LANDING HISTORICAL SETTLEMENT
- ◆ Guided Tour of PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
- ◆ Admission to the Natural Wonder: "HOPEWELL ROCKS"
- ◆ Visit to the Waterside Town of SAINT JOHN

For more pictures, video and information visit:
www.GroupTrips.com/AmericanLegionPost129

\$1250 *

9 DAYS 8 NIGHTS

PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
(Wed - Thu)

July 29 - August 6
2020

Departure: Ocean County College, 1 College Dr, Toms River, NJ @ 8 am

Day 1: Depart your group's location in a spacious, video and restroom equipped motorcoach as you head for your destination: Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, & New Brunswick, Canada! This evening, you will check into your hotel in Maine for a two night stay.

Day 2: Start the day with a Continental Breakfast before you depart for Bar Harbor, Maine. Enjoy this beautiful downtown waterside district for free time and shopping. Afterwards, you'll head to the famous, impressive ACADIA NATIONAL PARK for a Guided Tour. This 47,000-acre Atlantic coast recreation area is primarily on Maine's Mount Desert Island. This evening, you will have Dinner before returning to your hotel.

Day 3: After enjoying Continental Breakfast, you will head for NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA. You will have Dinner and later check into your HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA area hotel for a two night stay.

Day 4: Start the day with a Continental Breakfast before enjoying a full day GUIDED TOUR. This fabulous tour includes Nova Scotia's Capital City of HALIFAX, PEGGY'S COVE, and LUNenburg. Peggy's Cove, home to the most famous lighthouse in all of Canada, is a highlight of the tour. Old Town Lunenburg is designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Seventy percent of the original colonial buildings from the 18th and 19th centuries continue to greet visitors with their colorful façades. Today's visit also includes a stop at the beautiful HALIFAX WATERFRONT. This evening, enjoy Dinner before heading back to your hotel.

Day 5: Enjoy Continental Breakfast, then head towards PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. Upon arrival, you will have free time in CHARLOTTETOWN, the Capital of Prince Edward Island. This evening you'll have Dinner, and check into your hotel in preparation for a great day on Prince Edward Island.

Day 6: Start the day with a Continental Breakfast before your GUIDED TOUR OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. Your tour includes picturesque rural villages, gently rolling pastures, and the beautiful contrast of colors provided by deep red soil and the whitecaps on the waves. Then you will have Dinner and head back towards New Brunswick, Canada to check into your hotel.

Day 7: Today, after enjoying Continental Breakfast, you'll depart for the famous HOPEWELL ROCKS. These huge rock formations stand 40-70 feet tall, and are caused by tidal erosion. This stunning attraction welcomes more than 180,000 visitors each year. Next, you will depart for the waterside town of SAINT JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK. Later enjoy Dinner and check into your hotel.

Day 8: Start the day with a Continental Breakfast before heading to KING'S LANDING HISTORICAL SETTLEMENT. One of Canada's premier tourist attractions, King's Landing is a living history museum with original buildings from the period of 1820 - 1920. Then, you will head to your hotel in Maine for the evening.

Day 9: Enjoy a Continental Breakfast before departing for home... a perfect time to chat with your friends about all the fun things you've done, the great sights you've seen and where your next group trip will take you!



Enjoy a visit to historic
Halifax



Visit to picturesque
Prince Edward Island



Explore Acadia National
Park



Visit Saint John - located
on the shore of the Bay
of Fundy

ADD PEACE OF MIND TO YOUR TRIP...
 With the Travel Confident® Protection Plan if you have to unexpectedly cancel or cut your plans short. See back for details...

\$75 Due Upon Signing. *Price per person, based on double occupancy. Add \$545 for single occupancy.
 Final Payment Due: 5/22/2020

FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS CONTACT:


Darlene Scheiderman @ (732) 341-7462

May: From the Roman goddess of growth, Maia

Birthstone

May 2020

Emerald

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Legion Auxiliary Spring Flea Mkt. Saturday 16 May 9AM - 3PM	Check the Post 129 Facebook Page or the Post website (under the CALENDAR tab) for updates on when the Post will reopen!				1 May Day	2
3 John McCrea wrote: 'In Flanders Field' 1915	4 General Mtg. 7:00PM	5 	6	7 BINGO CANCELED O Full Flower Moon	8 V-E Day 1945 Military Spouse Appreciation Day	9
10 HAPPY MOTHERS DAY	11 Legion Aux. Mtg. 7:00PM	12 	13 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	14 WATCH OUR	15 Peace Officers Memorial Day	
17	18 Board/Trustee Mtg. 7:00PM	19	20 	21 WEBSITE	22 Maritime Day ● New Moon	23
24 ***** 31	25 Memorial Day 	26	27	28 FOR INFORMATION	29	30 1st National Memorial Day 1868

**Please take note, all these dates are subject to cancelation due to the Corona Virus Situation!!!
 Watch our web-site for up to date information**

Although the calendar is still filled with dates these are what would have been.

Until the Covid-19 Pandemic is over many of course will be cancelled.

Check the Post Facebook page or the website:

<https://alpost129.org/>

for updates once we are up and running again.

BE SURE TO CHECK FOR LAST MINUTE CHANGES AND/OR CANCELLATIONS.
 UPDATED LISTS ARE POSTED ON THE BULLEEN BOARD IN THE CANTEEN

June: From Juno, the goddess of women, marriages and childbirth, and the wife of Jupiter.

Birthstone

June 2020

Alexandrite

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JUNE 14TH 245TH FLAG DAY	1 General Mtg. 7:00PM	2 	3	4 BINGO CHECK	5 O Full Strawberry & Eclipse	6 D-DAY 1944
7	8 Legion Aux. Mtg. 7:00PM 1935 Elvis Presley	9 	10 SAL Mtg. 7:00PM	11 OUR	12	13
14 	15 Board/Trustee Mtg. 7:00PM	16	17 	18 WEBSITE FOR	19	20 First Day Of Summer
21 Father's Day 1st Fathers Day, 1910 ● New Moon	22 Riders Mtg. 7:00PM	23 	24	25 INFO !	26	27
28	29	30				If your dog tired at night it may be because you growled all day!

No Entertainment has been scheduled due to the Covid-19 lockdown. Entertainment will once again be scheduled when a known date of the lockdown is ended and announcement will be on Facebook or the Post website.

Stay Safe

BE SURE TO CHECK FOR LAST MINUTE CHANGES AND/OR CANCELLATIONS.
UPDATED LISTS ARE POSTED ON THE BULLEEN BOARD IN THE CANTEEN

LETTER TO THE EDITOR...

Appreciation of what we do.

I would like to put this message out to as many people that I know having ties to Post 129. Today I drove up to the Post and observed Commander Ed, Ralph Wolff, Bob Joerg, Ray Miller, our Rider President, Pete Chafatelli, SAL Commander Rocky Lucia and others putting out dinners and paper products.

Past Commander and Chaplin Mike Schaffer has been kind enough to put out periodic prayers for our reading. These times are tough for many and our Post being closed is part of these tough times, yet these men and I'm sure women have thought of the membership and other Veterans that have fallen on hard times.

I am proud to be a member of this organization and friends with persons that make it what it is. We end our letters to the membership with the phrase "For God and Country". It truly is what we are about. Again, thank you all that have been there for others.

If I am needed to assist, please feel free to contact me. God Bless you all and stay safe.

For God and Country
Art Brown



American Legion launches COVID-19 impact survey

The American Legion
APR 16, 2020

American Legion has launched a COVID-19 impact survey to track trends in response to the pandemic. The survey will track the impact on veterans and their families throughout the pandemic's duration. Participants can elect to be connected with a representative from The American Legion for assistance with VA benefits, employment, emotional wellness and personal contact for support. As this is an evolving situation, this survey will be conducted bi-weekly for updated responses. The first survey will be available until April 29.

To take the COVID-19 impact survey, visit:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BJ5283R>.

For the latest VA updates on coronavirus and common-sense tips on preventing the spread of disease, visit :


www.publichealth.va.gov/n-coronavirus/.

Stay informed from The American Legion with updates from National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford at:


www.legion.org/coronavirus



L-R Department of New Jersey Commander Robert B. Newell, National Commander Bill Oxford, Post129 Commander Ed Rutzler on March 14 at The American Legion Family Luncheon held at Post 129.


SHARE YOUR HEALTH


As coronavirus concerns intensify, we need healthy blood donors more than ever.


 **Is it safe to give right now?**


Donating is a safe process and healthy individuals should schedule a blood or platelet donation to help maintain the nation's blood supply.


Safety at Blood Drives


Red Cross employees implemented added precautions to ensure blood drives and donation centers are safe for donors and staff.



Using Sterile Collection Sets



Spacing Beds 6 Feet Apart Where Possible


Having Hand Sanitizer Available


Using Aseptic Scrubs on Arms


Donor and Staff Temperature Checks Before Entering Drives



Wiping Down Donor-Touched Areas

 **What if a donor becomes sick after donating?**

We provide a call back number donors should call if they become sick with any illnesses days after their donation.


If you're healthy and well, we're urging you to make a blood appointment.

Visit www.RedCrossBlood.org



B I N G O				
7	25	44	57	62
15	22	40	50	70
11	30	FREE SPACE	46	74
2	28	37	55	68
10	27	39	59	75

There are so many ways that you can help your Post. Once we reopen volunteers are always welcome to help on the BINGO committee.



**GEORGE P VANDERVEER POST 129
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
"SERVICE NOT SELF"**

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR
VETERANS, MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES.

THE AMERICAN LEGION FOUNDATION IS SEEKING,
'MONETARY DONATIONS'.

THESE FUNDS PROVIDE JOB TRAINING, SHELTER, GRANTS
FOR EDUCATION, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
AND SO MUCH MORE.

"OUR VETERANS, OUR FAMILIES OUR SERVICEMEN AND
WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES...IT'S FOR THEM"

**THEY GAVE!
THEY GIVE!
WILL YOU?**

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO
ALA UNIT 129
IN THE MEMO: 'ALA FOUNDATION'

"THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT"
THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 129
PATRICIA CORBIN
UNIT 129 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Laurinda Miller, First Vice President, Auxiliary Unit 129, presents a check to Commander Ed Rutzler in support of the Post at the General Membership meeting March 2, 2020.





Post 129 is here to help. If you are a member of the American Legion Family and have a need for help please call. There are many volunteers here and ready to assist



SOUNDOFF

May—June 2020

George P. Vanderveer Post 129 American Legion

George P. Vanderveer
Post 129 American Legion
(Established 1919)
2025 Church Road
Toms River, NJ 08753

PUBLISHED DEADLINE SUBMISSIONS

6 times per year
for the next issue (July-August 2020) is June 15.
can be e-mailed to:

soundoff.al.post129@outlook.com

or via U.S. mail to:

Al Harbord, 1038 Audubon Drive,
Toms River, NJ 08753.

EVENTS

send your events for the calendar to
Bob Scheiderman at: **knottoday@verizon.net**

ADVERTISING

business card advertising accepted for 6 issue
(1year). Single card \$75.00

Double card \$140.00.

ON LINE AT

<http://soundoffalpost129.wix.com/soundoff>

Important Notice

Food Distribution and Food Pantry Items

Distribution Time 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week Post 129, your
Post, will be giving out, **FREE OF CHARGE:**

- Nutritious Hot Meals
- Essential Paper Products
- Boxes of non-perishable food items

Just drive up and show us your card. We will bring the food to
your car.

As Always there is:

- **NO NEED TO LEAVE YOUR CAR**
- **NO COST TO YOU.**

Donations are accepted.

Buddy Check

Looking
out for
each
other



Veterans of New Jersey





**Thursday Doors
Open 5 p.m.**

Play starts 7 p.m.

SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US!

Accepting Contingency Resumes and Job Descriptions
Engineers - IT - Computers - Networks - Sales/Marketing
- Legal - General Management - Financial - Health Care

Express Contract & 20% Contingency Search

GARY R. ALEXANDER

Senior Consultant / Shiha

Recruitment, Staffing and Placement

Telephone: 732-887-2516

E-Mail: garyalexander383@gmail.com

New Jersey-New York-Metro, area

LE-ED CONCRETE & SUPPLY CO.

Serving Ocean County for 50 Years

1609 LAKEWOOD ROAD
TOMS RIVER, NJ
732.341.4546

294 SOUTH MAIN STREET
BARNEGAT, NJ
609.607.9300

575 CORPORATE CIRCLE
TOMS RIVER, NJ
732.240.5588

DECORATIVE STONE

LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES

MASONRY MATERIALS

SAME DAY DELIVERY AVAILABLE

EXCEPTIONAL CUSTOMER SERVICE

**OPEN YEAR
ROUND**

OCEAN COUNTIES LARGEST PAVER DISTRIBUTOR

NEW JERSEY'S LARGEST INVENTORY OF EP HENRY, TECO-BLOC & UNILOCK

EP HENRY
EXCELLENCE SINCE 1903

Teco-Bloc
Precious Stones

UNILOCK



Priority Vet

AFTER-HOURS URGENT PET CARE

OPEN NIGHTLY 6PM to MIDNIGHT

• No Appointment Necessary

• State-of-the-Art Hospital For Dogs And Cats

732-733-2911

**CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN
TOMS RIVER!**

226 RTE 37 WEST • TOMS RIVER
Minutes from Garden State Pkwy - Exit 82A

TOMMY DE'S HANDYMAN SERVICE

TOM DELORENZO

NO JOB TO SMALL

201 446-0038



WEEDING, MULCHING, PAINTING & MORE

ASSEMBLING:

TOYS, BIKES, GRILLS

& FURNITURE

SMALL ELECTRICAL:

INSTALLED & REPAIRED

LAMPS, FANS

& MORE

POWER WASHING & SNOW REMOVAL

WE APPRECIATE REFERRALS

ORIGINAL RECIPE MADE FRESH DAILY

OB-CO'S

DONUTS

547 Fischer Boulevard, Toms River, NJ

732-270-3882

R.W. Browner, Jr.
President

BBQ Items

Kitchen Gadgets

i **pampered chef**

Pantry

c

h

e

Pots & Pans

ONLINE SHOPPING

Renee Berube
Independent Consultant
Consultant ID #161946

325 Madison Court
Brick, NJ 08724
Phone 732-785-0449
renberube@yahoo.com
pamperedchef.biz/reneeberube



502 Baking Company
Baking Your Day Sweeter!


502 Brick Boulevard
Brick, NJ 08723
Phone: (732) 477-4502

Toni Marie and Judy Celeste, Co-Owners

Email: 502bakingcompany@gmail.com
Website: 502bakingcompany.com

Navy Veteran

NJ License # 10361



STEVE SCILLIERI
PLUMBING & HEATING

76 15th Street, Toms River, New Jersey 08753
(732) 255-4669

M.A.F.

Home Improvements, LLC



RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
Licensed & Insured

Mike Feimer, Owner &  SAL Member Post 129

732.684.9790

mafhomeimprovements@hotmail.com / Lic#13VH05783700

TERRANCE L. TURNBACH

STARKEY, KELLY, KENNEALLY, CUNNINGHAM & TURNBACH
COUNSELLORS AT LAW

2 HOOPER AVENUE
TOMS RIVER, NJ 08753

(732) 701-3500
(908) 433-9151 CELL
(732) 240-5637 FAX

EMAIL TTURNBACH@STARKEYKELLY.COM
WWW.STARKEYKELLY.COM

Urner Barry

DESIGN.PRINT.MAIL

JAY BAILEY
ACCOUNT MANAGER

PHONE 732-575-1980 x257
FAX 732-240-6332
jbailey@urnerbarry.com
www.ubprint.com

1001 Corporate Circle, Toms River, NJ 08755

Armstrong Electric
No Job Too Small
N.J. Lic. #16732

Chris Armstrong
Owner
Over 20 years of experience

Toms River, N.J.

732-255-7763

Buying or Selling... I'm Your Girl!
Free no-obligation consultation.

Crossroads Realtor of the Year
Tina Orth has participated in over 1,000 transactions

 **U.S. MILITARY** Veterans... ask about a 20% rebate when you buy or sell a home with us.
ON THE MOVE

 **Crossroads Realty**



Tina Orth
REALTOR® Associate
732-674-7913
tinaorth@crnj.com

Toms River Office
25 Route 37 East
Toms River, NJ 08753
732-244-4900

702 Elizabeth Avenue
Toms River, New Jersey



BEST PAVING INC.
Over 40 Years Experience

Ernest Chapman
Ernest Chapman, III
BestPaving1@yahoo.com

732-270-5249
732-657-7266
Fax: 732-657-3050

★ Veteran US Navy
Michael Dolan—Owner



908-902-4117

Pioneer Painting & Decorating LLC

Residential - Commercial - Churches
 908-902-4117

- ★ Kitchen Cabinet Refurbishing
Stain or Paint
- ★ Featured In Home And Garden Magazine
- ★ 30 Years In Business
- ★ Honest-Professional-Reasonable
- ★ "It's A Matter Of Trust"
- ★ Active Member and Supporter
American Legion Post 129
- ★ I Hire And Refer Veteran Small
Business Trades and Professionals
- ★ Support Your Veterans - Hire And
Buy American And We All Work

JERSEY COAST APPLIANCE VETERAN OWNED



"The Working Man's Store"

Blue Collar Pricing!

ALL MAJOR APPLIANCES
 CENTRAL HEATING & COOLING
 SALES·INSTALLATION·SERVICE

Ralph E. Wolff

800-559-0122

www.jerseycoastappliance.com

18 Route 37 E · Toms River · 732-240-2262

Whiting Shopping Center · Rt. 530 · Whiting, NJ · 732-350-4425

EST. 1972

D. MALONY

DRIVEWAY SEALING

***Hand applied by brush & roller**

***100% guaranteed – fully insured**

***Largest hand sealer of Monmouth/**

Ocean County since 1972

Please call for an estimate

Toms River, NJ

(732) 244-0510

OZANE PEST SERVICES



OCEAN (732) 349-0559 MONMOUTH (732) 780-6464

*"Protecting the health and
 property of our customers
 for over 90 years"*

www.ozane.com

1761 Lakewood Road • Toms River



1761 Route 9
 Toms River, NJ 08755
 Phone (732) 349-7090

Hours of Operation:
 Tues. - Sat. 10:00am - 3:00pm
www.insectropolis.com



Carmona ~ Bolen
 Home for Funerals, LLC



FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED Since 1980

Competitively Priced to Meet All Your Funeral & Cremation Needs

Traditional Funerals
 Cremations • Memorials

Complimentary Memorial Package

With mention of ad for at-need
 and pre-need arrangements.

**VETERAN &
 FIRST RESPONDER
 DISCOUNTS
 OFFERED**

Toms River - 732.349.1922 | Whiting - 732.350.0003

Serving All Faiths

Lawrence G. Bolen, Founder

Michael J. Defonzo Jr., Manager • NJ Lic #4075


www.carmonabolenfh.com




SOUNDOFF

GEORGE P. VANDERVEER
AMERICAN LEGION POST 129
(Established 1919)
2025 CHURCH ROAD
TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08753
732-255-9250

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TOMS RIVER, NJ
08754
PERMIT NO. 71





Kevin Simpson
Staff Sergeant
United States Army

Kevin.p.simpson2.mil@mail.mil
Office: (732)270-1482
Cell: (732)267-7719
@goarmytomsriver

U.S. Army Recruiter
U.S. Army Recruiting Station
542 Fischer BLVD
Toms River, NJ 08753

Contact me for additional information on any of the listed benefits or for any questions you may have.

- Service to country and advance your goals
- Over 150 career choices
- You pick your job
- Vacation with pay
- College loan repayment
- Financial aid for school

Appointment Date & Time: _____

www.goarmy.com 1-800-USA-ARMY

NJ Army Guard Lead Team

SSG Brian Darling, NCOIC

tel. (732) 513-4176
brian.c.darling.mil@mail.mil
35 Camp Drive
Sea Girt, NJ 08750
www.njarmyguard.com

100% Free Tuition at any State or County College