

### The Groves-Walker Bulletin

American Legion Post 346 Farmington Hills, Michigan November/December 2024 - Vol. XV Issue 2



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Post 346 Chartered July 10, 1923 - For God and Country



#### **Meeting Nights**

1st Tue of the month 6:30pm: SAL
1st Thu of the month 6:30pm: Legion & Auxiliary
2nd Thu of the month 6:30pm: Legion Riders
3rd Thu of the month 6:30pm: Executive Committee
And at 7:30pm: Home Board

#### **Post Hours**

Monday - Friday: 4pm - 9pm Weekends: 1pm - ?

#### **Contact Info**

248-285-9813 Recorded info line: 248-939-4910
GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com
www.AmericanLegionPost346.org
LIKE us on Facebook!

Groves-Walker American Legion Post 346 21023 Farmington Rd Farmington Hills, MI 48336-5016 Or PO Box 633 Farmington, MI 48332-0633

#### **Upcoming 18th District (LGN & AUX) meetings**

All District Meetings convene at 2:00 pm. 01/26/2025: Hill-Gazette Post 143 95 Church St. Auburn Hills. MI

#### **Bricks from the Post's Memorial Brick Wall**

are still available to be returned to our members and their families. Please email or text to let us know your brick(s) will be claimed, or for more information.

Email to: <a href="mailto:gerrygalinet@gmail.com">gerrygalinet@gmail.com</a> or text to: 248-756-0161. Thank you

Do you know any Post members who do not have their email addresses on file with the post and/or the state HQ? Postage costs have necessitated that almost all communications from the Legion go out via email and social media alone. If you know of anyone who has email and would like to receive the Bulletin and the Michigan Legionnaire Magazine, please contact the Post.

**Order free, at-home COVID tests** from the government once again. Click here: <u>covidtests.gov</u>. NO Insurance information required, only name and address. Free tests, free shipping with USPS.

Our Legion Riders are really getting back to the core mission of the Legion and donating to many worthy causes. \$500 was donated to a VA retirement home, \$1000 to North Carolina hurricane relief fund, \$200 Donation to the Deb Huet Pancreatic Cancer Research golf outing, \$250 memorial donation to help the family of an accident victim, \$1300 for TVs for the new Post.

### Tickets available NOW for round <u>4C</u> of the Queen of Hearts Progressive Raffle!

\$1 each

Need not be present to win.

Drawings on Tuesdays at 7:15 pm

More info and E-tickets

(via PayPal or Venmo) at:

346Queen@gmail.com



#### **Current Jackpot - \$467**

We have already given away 4 consolation prizes of \$50 each in Round 4C!

DATE-ENVELOPE-CARD		DATE-ENVELOPE-CARD			
12/11	22	4 hearts	03/11	28	6 clubs
12/18	20	7 spades	03/18	05	2 hearts
01/08	23	A hearts	03/25	23	A hearts
01/22	34	A spades	04/01	20	A spades
01/29	50	JOKER	04/08	16	8 hearts
02/05	45	Q diamonds	04/15	21	Q spades
02/12	13	8 clubs	04/22	39	3 hearts
02/26	22	7 spades	Game	re-sta	rts on
03/04	31	10 hearts	Noven	nber 2	6!

Here is a basic break-down of **Poppy Fund donations** received this year. If you know of a veteran or a veteran's family that needs help from the Poppy fund, please contact our new Poppy Fund Chairperson Jan Yount or contact the Post. From donation letters: \$2504, Summer Ploski: \$434, Jim Koponen: \$369, Myrtle Granger: \$603, Total (so far) for 2024: \$3910

Instead of Post 346 acting as a drop off point, (we simply no longer have the space) please refer to the list below for worthy organizations who will gladly accept your charitable donations. Thank You!

<u>CARES</u> (27835 Shiawassee St, Farmington Hills 248-882-7800): In season clothing, food, sheets, blankets.

<u>Michigan Veterans Foundation</u> (4626 Grand River Ave Detroit, 313-831-5500): Clothing, towels, sheets, blankets, pillows, personal care items.

Your local library: Books, magazines, videos, CDs, DVDs

World Medical Relief Inc: (21725 Melrose Southfield, 313-866-5333): Medical equipment, dressings, medications and fluids.



Nov/Dec 2024 vol. XV issue 2. The Groves-Walker Bulletin is published 6 times per year. Post 346 membership as of 07/01/24: Legion 142, Auxiliary 100, SAL 86, Total 328

The opinions expressed herein are those of the editor and/or contributors and are not necessarily those of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion. Publication of advertisements does not imply endorsement by the American Legion, Auxiliary, SAL or Post 346 of the products and/or services featured.

Groves-Walker Bulletin Editor - Carol Hopson

Anyone can submit an article for the next Bulletin, including photos (articles may be edited for length and/or content). Articles may be submitted at any time, please don't wait for the deadline of Friday Dec 20 for the Jan/Feb 2025 issue of the Bulletin.

Please report your changes of name, address, phone or email; also member deaths, to your LGN, AUX, or SAL membership chairperson, **Commander or President.** 

Request a copy of your DD-214 (DD-217, DD-256, or DD-257) discharge paperwork by clicking here

### Options for seniors and veterans who need a ride.

#### **Oakland County Transit:**

https://www.oakgov.com/government/veterans Read about the program here.

Myride2: myride2.com for anyone that may be a Medicaid recipient and lives in Oakland, Macomb, Wayne or Washtenaw counties.

AAA1B: (Oakland County Area Agency on Aging 1B, now AgeWays) ageways.org/services-andseniors/transportation.

**SMART:** (Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation) <u>smartbus.org/Services/Connector</u>.

### Please join us for our annual **Holiday Wreath Laying Ceremony** Saturday December 7th. at 11am

Post 346 will be placing a memorial holiday wreath at the Farmington War Memorial Monument (next door to the Masonic Lodge downtown). This annual ceremony is to honor those in the military who never made it home for the holidays and remember those who are currently serving and cannot be with loved ones this holiday season.

Auxiliary and Sons, please remember... It's not the price you pay for membership, it's the price your forefathers paid to make you eligible for membership!

I wish to thank all those who supported and participated in this year's DEB HUET MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING supporting pancreatic cancer research. We raised \$14,455 with the help of many hole sponsors from the Legion including three great ladies who golfed, Gerry Galinet, Sue Duquette, and Chris Topper. Hole sponsors included the Legion Riders 346, SAL 346, Legion 346 Poker Club, Jan Yount, Rob Holton, and Jan Klamik. Ten years ago the survival rate for pancreatic cancer was only 3%, today that figure has risen to 12%, that small success is due in part because of the generosity of those who donate to this worthy cause.

Thank you, Alan Huet



## Commander's Corner... Post 346 Commander Marya Davis

Fall is my favorite time of year in Michigan. And this year, we have so much to be excited for. Not only did we have a fabulous

SAL Trunk R Treat event, but we are all anxiously awaiting the opening of our new Legion building. Still no date for a hard opening but we will resume selling Queen of Hearts tickets soon because our first drawing will be on November 26th with a jackpot expected to be over \$500. Let's kick this off right! Can you sell any tickets for us? Contact me so I can make you an authorized seller.

I do expect our marketing team to be hitting our new neighborhood hard. Again, we need to establish income now that we do not have rentals. If anyone has any ideas for fundraisers in our new space, please contact me as soon as possible. Even if you are willing to cold call three businesses in the area, that would help tremendously! We can offer advertising, their ads on drink coasters, and maybe even beer tumblers showing how that business supports veterans. It is a win-win for everyone.

There are so many people not aware that any veteran in good standing and their family or active duty military is now eligible to join the Legion. We need to increase our membership to survive. Not just for more members, but for more volunteers and our business networking. We can spiral this synergy for our future strength and standing in the community.

So much to do this Fall - Have Fun, Stay in Touch, and Stay Safe.

In Service,

Marya Davis, Commander

Remember: The membership year is from Jan. 1st to Dec. 31st. Even though you may have already paid your 2025 dues and have your new card, continue to carry your 2024 card as well. Some Posts may insist that you prove your membership with the current year's card. Please carry both in your wallet until Dec 31st if you travel and visit other Legion Posts.



Carol, Eric and Marya having a great time at the SAL Trunk R Treat event! Thank you again to Kings Garage!!

### My 2 Cents... Unit 346 President Carol Hopson

We have all waited so long and been so very patient (most of us) but the time will soon arrive to open the doors of our new home!!

This date, of course, depends on completing all the necessary construction inspections and receiving all pertinent licenses. I would like to sincerely thank each and every volunteer and worker who is making our new home a reality.

Thank you to all those who voted for Post Member of the Year. The Exec. Committee has tallied the nominations and the results will be revealed soon. Check your email for more upcoming details.

The Queen of Hearts Progressive Raffle will be resuming weekly drawings on November 26<sup>th</sup>. Our new drawing day will be every Tuesday instead of Monday (except federal holidays). All other house rules remain in effect. We also have a brand new Pull Tab machine, purchased with proceeds from Pull tab sales.

Thank you all so much for renewing your membership for 2025 and moving into this new era in a new home and with a renewed sense purpose to aid our veterans, active duty military personnel and their families. Hope to see you at our next (hopefully in person) meeting. Keep an eye on your email for details on all upcoming Post events.

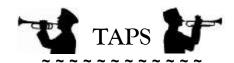
That's my 2 cents worth, I'm always willing to hear yours, Carol Hopson, President

It sure looks like our old friend Chaplain Andy is having great time at his new home in Florida! He is resuming his Chaplain duties at his new Post 168 in Key West.









Harold "Hal" Henderlong June 6, 1934 - September 17, 2024

Age 90 of Northville. Born in Detroit to Raymond and Garnet Henderlong to a family of nine children. He was predeceased by his brothers Calvin, Raymond, Don, Manuel and

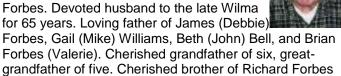


Vernon, and two of his sisters Norma and Betty, His sister Shirley (Mike) continues to proudly represent the family. He married Rose Marie in 1984 and they had 27 great years together before she died. He is father of John (Lori) Henderlong and Karen Henderlong. Step-father of David (Laura) Dubiel, Mary Lynn (Robert) Goryca, Joel (Judy) Dubiel, and the late Allan (Elaine also deceased) Dubiel. He is survived by his good friend Marilyn. Hal loved being a Grandpa to ten and a Great-grandfather to fifteen.

As a youth Hal worked preparing hams for cooking, at a sod farm, and after graduation apprenticed in and worked for decades in the Detroit printing industry. He proudly served as a Corporal in the US Army overseas during the Korean War. Hal has been a member of American Legion Post 346 in Farmington since 1986. He obtained his real estate license and took pride in selling homes to people who became his friends. He and Rose Marie became Master Gardeners, and deeply enjoyed volunteering at Tollgate, Belle Isle, and in Florida. Memorial contributions may be directed to MSU Extension Tollgate Farm & Education Center. Arrangements: Thayer-Rock Funeral Home. Read his obituary here.

James "Jim" Traver Forbes April 18, 1927 - September 18, 2024

Age 97 of Farmington Hills. He was born in Detroit to Russell Clifton and Wava Marie Forbes. Devoted husband to the late Wilma for 65 years. Loving father of James (Debbie)



Jim was a dedicated mechanic in the automotive industry and a proud Army veteran who served his country in WWII. Jim's unwavering commitment extended to his community, where he served as Sgt-at-Arms at Groves-Walker American Legion Post 346. Jim was a beloved Life Member of Post 346 having joined in 1997. He took pride in his role on the Post Honor Guard, ensuring that flags no longer fit for service were respectfully retired.

Arrangements: Thayer-Rock Funeral Home. Interment will be at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly.

Read his obituary here.

and Marylou Yates.

You're always one decision away from a totally different life.



John Joseph Mirling June 16, 1944 - September 21, 2024.

Age 80 of Farmington Hills. John was married to Cheryl Ann Mirling and had a daughter, Christine Lee and a son, David John. Following Cheryl's passing in 1968, John joined the Jokers Motorcycle Club to



have the needed support after being a widower with 2 young kids. During this time, John's mother and father helped in caring for the kids. In 1975, he met the love of his life hair stylist Filomena (Phyllis), remarrying in 1977. John built a Colonial Homestead on 4 acres with a pond in Hartland. John was a long time Sons of the American Legion member of Post 346 in Farmington. John's career focused in Metro Detroit and Farmington Hills was his home for the past 40 years. John had a great life until his lungs became too weak to work and hospital care was needed for the remaining 9 months of his life. He is survived by his wife Filomena; sister, Carolyn; daughter, Christine (Chris) Malone; sons, David and Joseph; 3 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. Arrangements: Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home. A burial is planned for a future date. Read his obituary here.

#### Have you ever been in a cemetery and saw coins left on a veteran's headstone?

A coin left on a headstone lets the family know that someone stopped by to pay their respect. A penny



means you visited. A nickel means you and the deceased trained at boot camp together. A dime means you and the deceased served together in some capacity. A quarter is very significant because it means that you were there when that veteran died.

The tradition of leaving coins on the headstones of military men and women can be traced as far back as the Roman Empire. Soldiers would insert a coin into the mouth of a fallen soldier to ensure they could cross the "River Styx" into the afterlife. In the US, this practice became common during the Vietnam war, due to the political divide over the war, leaving a coin was seen as a more practical way to communicate that you had visited the grave than contacting the soldier's family, which could devolve into an uncomfortable argument over politics relating to the war. What happens to the coins? They are typically collected from gravesites monthly and the money is used for cemetery maintenance, the cost of burial for soldiers, or the care for indigent soldiers.

### Happy Thanksgiving



### Chatter with the Chaplain AUX Unit 346 Chaplain Summer Ploski



Good afternoon friends,

We look forward with gratitude in our hearts for the new 346 Post opening this fall. Thank you to all who have contributed to the inside of the building making it suitable to meet the needs of the Post's goals for our veterans. I met up with an AUX member who resides in Saline. She walked over to me and introduced herself after I had presided over a Celebration Of Life service for a man she knew at a local club. She had a smile which brightened her face and kind words thanking me for Chatter with the Chaplain corner in this newsletter! Thank you friend, you made my day!

As promised we will continue reading Psalm 139. This time I sit inside of my house on the loveseat in front of our woodstove. Simply a small fire, almost going out at times. We have not needed much heat during these Michigan days with the highs fluctuating between 50-70 degrees. Psalm 139:4-6 (Yes, written by King David, a shepherd boy who killed the giant Goliath with one stone to his forehead)

"LORD, even before I say a word you already know what I am going to say. You are all around me, in front and in back. You have put your hand on me. Your knowledge is amazing to me! It is more than I can understand." The word of the Lord.

Charles H. Spurgeon comments, "I cannot grasp it. I can hardly endure to think of it. The theme overwhelms me. I am amazed and astounded at it. Such knowledge not only surpasses my comprehension but even my imagination!"

Looking ahead...Happy Thanksgiving to all and warm wishes for the Merriest Christmas ever! Until next time, thank you for reading this article!

Love always, Your chaplain and friend, Summer Ploski

Mustache Mike hit the streets once again representing Post 346 at the Detroit Free Press International 1/2 Marathon on Oct. 20th. Mike had a finishing time of 2:49:53. Maybe we should change his nickname to Marathon Mike!

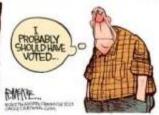




# The American Legion encourages all American citizens to exercise their right to VOTE on November 5th. Your vote is your voice!





















Scammers use manipulation to steal money and information. From fear and anxiety to the desire for security or connection, exploiting strong feelings is step one in the scammer playbook. Strong emotions shift your decision making away from the "central processing" part of your brain that carefully weighs pros and cons to "peripheral processing", where you react on feelings and impressions. If you notice you're feeling a strong emotion during an interaction with a stranger (whether in person, through text, email, or social media), recognize the danger, stop and step away. When you are in a high emotional state you will make bad decisions. People who shared what was happening with a friend or family member were typically told it's a scam... listen to them!

- Don't click on links or use phone numbers, email addresses, or account numbers provided by possible scammers.
- Set up a crisis code word with family members and friends. Agree on a word to use in an emergency that everyone can remember. Then scammers can't impersonate family members.
- Another trick is for the scammer to slowly build trust with you. If a deal seems to be too good, a stranger seems to be too friendly, be wary.
- If someone tries to rush you, "YOU MUST ACT NOW!" don't!
- Most scammers disguise themselves as trusted sources, large corporations, government agencies, banks, etc. Remember most reputable businesses and agencies will never contact you via email, text or social media, they send letters through the mail and typically give you ample time to reply.

Patriot Day 9/11 Ceremony







To our volunteers...

May you be proud of the work

you do, the person you are,

and the difference you make.

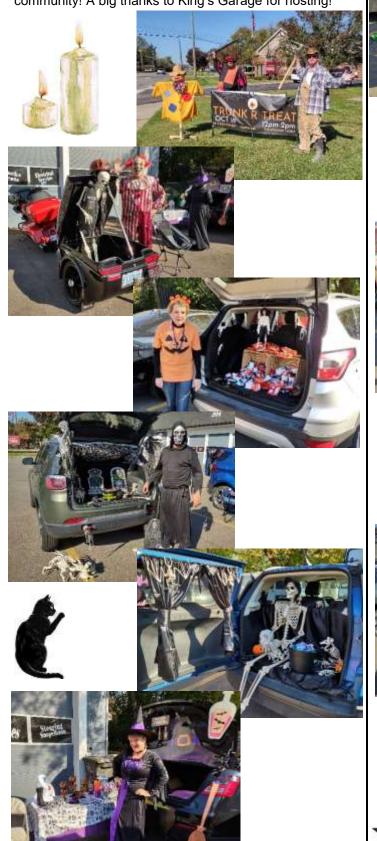






### SAL Trunk R Treat

We had a great time at our 5th Annual SAL Trunk R Treat event! We had our largest turn-out ever with 17 vehicles handing out treats to approx. 250 kids from our community! A big thanks to King's Garage for hosting!





Our buyer began demolition of the old Post building on Oct. 21. Rest in peace faithful old friend. You have steadfastly served the members of Groves-Walker Post 346 since 1948. We will miss you.







The difference between stumbling blocks and stepping stones is in the way you use them.









### What is R.E.D. Friday?

R.E.D. stands for Remember Everyone
Deployed. Americans across the country
wear red every Friday to serve as a reminder
and spread the message of how important it
is that we keep our troops in our thoughts.



### Post 346 Membership Eligibility





Legion membership eligibility. Veterans or active duty military who have served at least one day of active duty in the US Armed Forces any time after Dec. 7, 1941 AND have been honorably discharged or are still serving. Potential member must present a valid DD-214 (DD-217, DD-256, or DD-257) with membership application.

Auxiliary membership eligibility. 1) Relationship to veteran: Grandmother, mother, sister, daughter, grand-daughter, male or female spouse, or self (for female veterans). Per IRS regulations, step-relatives are not eligible. The IRS only allows two degrees of a blood line, so great granddaughters and beyond are not eligible. Potential member must present a valid DD-214 (DD-217, DD-256, or DD-257) of the related veteran with membership application.

- 2) a) Potential member must be related to a **LIVING** veteran by one of the relationships stated **AND** veteran is a current member of the American Legion.
- b) **OR**, potential member is related to a **DECEASED** veteran who served at least one day of active service during eligible time periods (Apr. 6, 1917 to Nov. 11, 1918 and any time after Dec. 7, 1941) **AND** was honorably discharged. Deceased veteran does not have to have been a member of the American Legion.

#### Sons of the American Legion membership eligibility.

- 1) Relationship to veteran: All male descendants adopted sons, and stepsons. Potential member must present a valid DD-214 (DD-217, DD-256, or DD-257) of the related veteran with membership application.
- 2) a) Potential member must be related to a **LIVING** veteran by one of the relationships stated **AND** veteran is a current member of the American Legion.
- b) **OR**, potential member is related to a **DECEASED** veteran who served at least one day of active service during eligible time periods (Apr. 6, 1917 to Nov.11, 1918 and any time after Dec. 7, 1941) **AND** was honorably discharged. Deceased veteran does not have to have been a member of the American Legion.

We know how hard it is to know everything you need to take care of when a loved one passes away. Legion Service Officers can help a deceased veteran's family receive all the benefits they may be entitled to. Remember, and tell your loved ones:

- 1) Know where your DD-214 is, show your family.
- 2) Tell your funeral director the deceased was a veteran.
- 3) Contact your Post, and not only can you receive the help of a Service Officer but, the Post's Honor Guard can help with a military funeral service. Other benefits might include a free burial plot, headstone, survivor benefits, burial expenses, and an American flag to drape the deceased's casket.

### Post 346 merchandise makes great gifts! Show your support of our military & veterans

Bracelets are \$5 each. Stylish for men and women!



Official Post 346 Bottle Koozie \$5 each, asst. colors, zippered.



Post 346 Ball caps \$25 each, one color, adjustable size.



Blue Star & Gold Star Banners \$5 each.

Show pride in your family members who are serving now or were KIA. Banners are available with 1 to 5 Blue Stars (one per service member) or 1 Gold Star (for deceased). Banners measure 14" x 8". Also available from Carol Hopson.



Past Commander and Past President photos are now on display and available for download on our website. http://www.americanlegionpost346.org



Post 346 T-shirts

See samples, long & short sleeves, asst. colors, asst. sizes, \$25 each.





Post 346
Wishes You
A Very Happy
Holiday Season!



#### November Birthdays

- 03 Dale Mauck
- 05 Ann Mellert
- 13 Dan McGrath
- 14 Mike LaFave
- 16 Dale Farrell
- 16 Bridget Lynch
- 21 Dawn Dupon
- 22 Gary Fierk
- 23 Michelle Pitt
- 24 Claudette Calka
- 25 Philip Carlisle
- 25 Stephanie Kettwig
- 28 Dave Harmon
- 28 Harvey Lenz

### November is National Veteran and Military families Month









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### ADVERTISE IN THE BULLETIN!

For more info contact Carol at: GrovesWalkerPost346 @gmail.com

Until our new Post building opens, all events listed here are "TBD" To Be Determined

We believe membership applications are something that every Post member should carry with him or her at all times. See membership eligibility requirements on page 9. Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of the Legion applications are ALWAYS available at the Post.

### Want to see your name above? Please contact Carol H at:

GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

### November 2024

Keep an eye on your email for all Post updates

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
See your weekly email updates for events at the Farmington Elks.	28	29	30	Halloween	1	2
Daylight Saving Time Ends	4	SAL meeting 6:30pm	6	7 Legion & Auxiliary meetings 6:30pm	8	9
Auxiliary Birthday Marine Corps Birthday	11  Veterans Day	12	13	14 Riders meeting 6:30pm	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Executive Committee & Home Board meetings 6:30pm	22	23
24	25	26 Queen of Hearts Drawing 7:15pm	27	28 Thanksgiving	29 Black Friday	30



### December Birthdays

- 01 Jimmy Brancheau
- 02 Diana Sweeten
- 03 Dale Baxter
- 06 Anthony (Bill) Horton
- 18 Deb Qualls
- 20 Marya Davis
- 23 Robert Chambers
- 24 Mike Hughes
- 31 Wendy May



### **December Anniversaries**

26 Dave & Cathy Franzen

# Coming up in January 01 New Year's Day 02 NO LGN or AUX meetings

- 04 AUX Unit 346 Birthday 20 Inauguration Day
- Martin Luther King Day
  28 Coast Guard Birthday
- 28 US Vietnam Ceasefire 1973



### Dinner at the Post-FUNDRAISER!

Monday evenings Serving 5:30 - 7:00 pm-GOOD FOOD, GREAT-PRICES!

#### **TABS FOR TOTS**

Please save the aluminum (non-magnetic!) tabs from all your beverage and pulltab containers. Tabs may be dropped off at the Elks. Funds benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities

Remember, birthdays and anniversaries will only be listed here upon request

### December 2024

### Keep an eye on your email for all Post updates

Sunday	upon request Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Queen of Hearts <u>Drawing 7:15pm</u> SAL meeting 6:30pm	4	5 Legion & Auxiliary meetings 6:30pm	6	7 Wreath Laying Ceremony Downtown 11am Pearl Harbor Day
8	9	Queen of Hearts Drawing 7:15pm	11	Riders meeting 6:30pm	National Guard Birthday	14
<b>15</b> Bill of Rights Day	National Ugly Xmas Sweater Day	17 Queen of Hearts Drawing 7:15pm  Wright Brothers Day	18	19 Executive Committee & Home Board meetings 6:30pm	Submission Deadline for Jan/Feb Bulletin	First day of winter
22	23	24 Queen of Hearts Drawing 7:15pm	Christmas Hanukkah	<b>26</b> Kwanzaa	27	28
29	30	New Years Eve	New Years Day January	2	3	4



### YOU HONORED US WITH YOUR SERVICE. Now let us honor you.



Join us for a complimentary meal and pre-planning briefing to learn about VA burial benefits available. For more information, contact Anthony, Lauri@DignityMemorial.com or 248-804-8493.

We're proud to partner with the Department of Michigan American Legion

### Dignity.

DignityMichigan.com

Our sincere thanks to the Xemplar Club for their generous donations to the American Legion Boys State & Girls State programs of Michigan!



www.xemplarclub.org



# Heeney Sundquist

FUNERAL HOME established 1850



Proudly supporting the Veterans of Groves - Walker Post 346

In Honor of American Legion Life Member Walter Sundquist 1926 - 2013

> Mark Ziegler President

248-474-5200

Farmington Road, Just N of Grand River Downtown Farmington

