



**The Richard H. Stewart, Jr.  
American Legion Post # 543  
St. James, NC 28461**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Jan. 25, 2017**

**John Muuss  
Historian/Public Relations  
910/253-3243**

**PLEASE GIVE PHOTO CREDIT TO...  
John Muuss Photographic Artist  
Inc.**

### **American Legion Post 543 Donates to Brunswick Community College Foundation Partnership for American Veteran Employment (P.A.V.E.)**

**Eina DiCostanzo, Director of Resource Development at Brunswick Community College, accepted a \$6,600 check for the P.A.V.E Program from American Legion Post 543 Commander Gary Crowden. The money received came from a coalition of contributors to this very worthwhile work/study program for veterans. Sons of American Legion Squadron 503, Winding River Veterans Association, Committee to Honor American's Veterans, Southport/Oak Island Kiwanis Club, Solstice Builders, VFW Post 8866 Men's Auxiliary, and Peggy and Bob Leblanc of St. James have all made significant contributions to and believe in the value of the P.A.V.E. Program.**

**P.A.V.E. supports an institutional work/study program to help veterans. Many veterans are able to attend Brunswick Community College under the G.I. Bill. However, they may need additional resources to supplement their living expenses, requiring them to seek employment. The donors to the P.A.V.E. Program hope to minimize stress for these veterans by their funding.**

**PHOTO... First Row from Left to Right: Rick Sessa (Past Commander Post American Legion Post 543), Peggy LeBlanc, Peg McDonald (Southport/Oak Island Kiwanis , LTC (Ret) Gordon Coulson (Committee to Honor America's Veterans), Elina DiCostanzo (Brunswick Community College Foundation), Gary Crowden (Commander American Legion Post 543). Second Row: Bob LeBlanc, Bob Molloy (Sons of American Legion) and Joe Koletar (Winding River Veterans Organization).**

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