



THE AMERICAN LEGION

UTICA POST 229

# FIRST CALL!

LARRY WEIBEL, COMMANDER

MAY 2024

JACK LAPAGLIA, MEMBERSHIP

## POST DONATES TO SITRIN REHAB PROGRAM



Utica Post 229 made a donation of \$1,100 to the Sitrin Military Rehab Program, which provides free services to affected veterans and wounded warriors. Post Commander Larry Weibel and Post Chaplain Paul Wojcik presented the check to Jackie Warmuth, director of the Sitrin Military Program, and Marc DePerno, vice president of Sitrin's Foundation and Communications. The donation was made possible by funds raised through the Queen of Hearts game, Weibel noted.

## MEMBERS CAN SUPPORT THE POPPY PROGRAM

by Ginger Pieloch

Poppy Committee Chairperson

The image of the poppy is connected with the sacrifice of service made by our veterans.

Auxiliary Utica Unit 229 is mailing poppies, handmade by handicapped

veterans, to all members of the Post and Auxiliary. Members are asked to wear the poppy on Memorial Day to show support for all veterans, those who are now serving and those who have given their "all" to protect the liberties we enjoy every day.

All proceeds from the Poppy Program will benefit the many Auxiliary projects that support the Post, veterans and service men and women and their families.

Thank you for supporting the Poppy Program!

### LEGION & AUXILIARY MEETINGS

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday  
(May 2 & June 6)  
Dinner, 6:30; meetings, 7.

### TUESDAY BINGO STARTS AT 6:15

Volunteers are needed.  
Please consider helping out once or twice a month.

### FRIDAY FISH FRY

The Post offers fish fries and other specials every Friday evening.  
See weekly menu at [facebook.com/UticaPost229](https://facebook.com/UticaPost229)



## COMMANDER'S CALL

LARRY WEIBEL

### Officers to be installed at the May meeting

Come join us at the May membership meeting for dinner and the installation of officers for the 2024-2025 year (which begins July 1).

The slate of officers, as presented in last month's newsletter for both the Legion Post and the Sons of the American Legion Squadron, were elected at the April meeting.

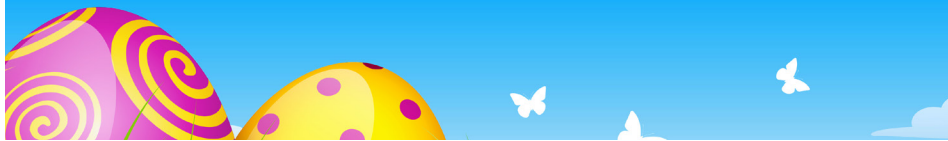
Congratulations and thank-you to all who were willing to step up and serve.

## SPRING FLING BRUNCH ON MAY 4

Utica Post is holding a Family Spring Fling Brunch on May 4, 10 a.m. to noon. Food, games for the kids, face painting and a special guest...the Easter Bunny! (To make up for the snowstormed Easter breakfast.)

Cost is \$12.00 for age 11 and over, 0-10 free.

Come join us for a fun family event.



## SCOTT RAYMOND PERFORMS MAY 11

Musician Scott Raymond will be playing in the lounge on May 11 from 6 to 10 p.m. Come enjoy an evening of entertainment and refreshments.

## PURSE BINGO IS COMING IN JUNE

On June 1, the Post is hosting a Purse Bingo. Doors open 3 p.m. and bingo starts at 5. Tickets are \$25.00 per person with assigned seating. Tickets can be purchased in advance.

Kitchen will be open and bar will be available.

“We will have a 50/50 raffle to benefit our veterans,” noted Post Manager Joan Hand. “Also, we will have a basket raffle. If anyone is interested in donating a basket, we would appreciate it. Please come out and support our Post 229.”

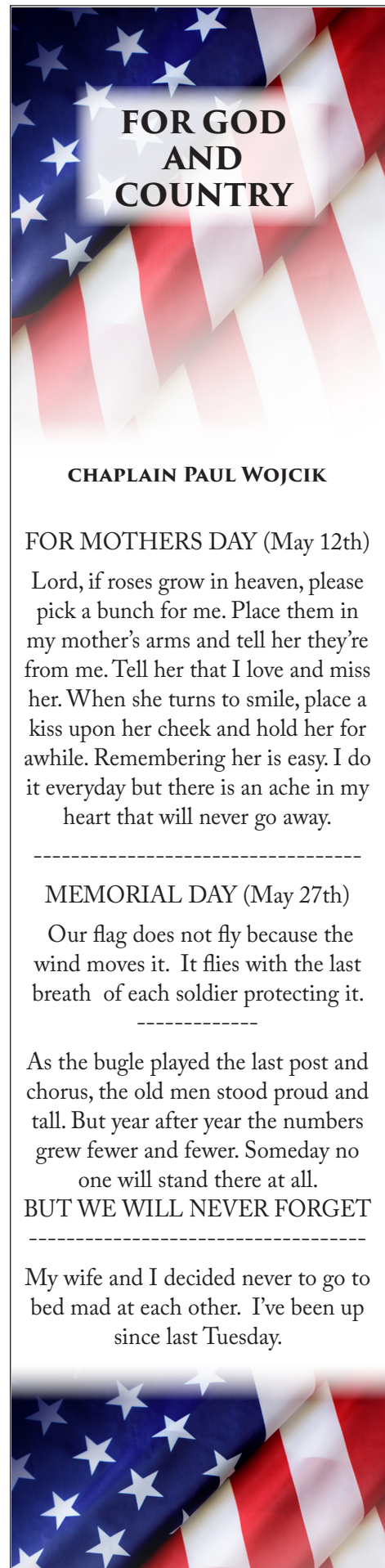


**Oare' Beyah (center left) with Assemblywoman Marianne Buttenschon (center), along with family, friends and two of the other honorees, Hilda Jordan and Hawa Peters.**

## DUAL HONORS FOR AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN

Auxiliary Chaplain Oare' Beyah was one of the women honored by Assemblywoman Marianne Buttenschon at the 6th Annual Women of Distinction event, held March 8 at Hart's Hill Inn. This event, aligned with Women's History Month, is a testament to the exceptional endeavors of women in the Mohawk Valley.

She is also being honored with a Woman of Worship Award. The 2024 Women of Worship Awards are being presented on May 4 during a luncheon at Hart's Hill Inn. “Founded in 2007, the WOW Awards are a way of highlighting the many selfless acts of love and kindness” completed by women in their place of worship, according to the announcement. “The awards are based on the attributes of biblical and modern-day women.”



**FOR GOD  
AND  
COUNTRY**

**CHAPLAIN PAUL WOJCIK**

### FOR MOTHERS DAY (May 12th)

Lord, if roses grow in heaven, please pick a bunch for me. Place them in my mother's arms and tell her they're from me. Tell her that I love and miss her. When she turns to smile, place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for awhile. Remembering her is easy. I do it everyday but there is an ache in my heart that will never go away.

### MEMORIAL DAY (May 27th)

Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it. It flies with the last breath of each soldier protecting it.

As the bugle played the last post and chorus, the old men stood proud and tall. But year after year the numbers grew fewer and fewer. Someday no one will stand there at all.

**BUT WE WILL NEVER FORGET**

My wife and I decided never to go to bed mad at each other. I've been up since last Tuesday.



DOROTHY BAILEY, PRESIDENT

# AUXILIARY



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DOROTHY BAILEY

As we look to the month of May, let us remember and honor those who fought for our country. May their bravery and dedication never be forgotten.

A BABY SHOWER to benefit Lucy's House, a shelter that provides emergency service to women experiencing domestic violence, will be held on May 11. Anyone that would like to donate new clothing, diapers

or training pants, sizes infant to 2T, can drop off at the Post by May 10. Should you have any questions, please call me at 315-724-4691. Thank you.

TO ALL THE mothers, grandmothers, aunts, sisters, and other women in our lives that care for us unconditionally, Happy Mother's Day!

*Yours in service.*

## CHAPLAIN'S SPRING PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

As the earth renews itself with the signs of spring, we gather in reflection and gratitude for the new beginnings You gift us. We witness Your creation in bloom, and we're reminded of Your constant presence and the renewal of life that surrounds us.

We ask for Your wisdom to guide us, Your grace to sustain us, and Your peace to calm our hearts in times of uncertainty. May we embody compassion and kindness, reaching

out to those in need and offering support to our brothers and sisters.

Bless our community, Lord, as we navigate the challenges and joys of daily life. Help us to cherish and nurture the relationships that sustain us and to foster new connections that inspire growth and understanding.

As we move forward in this month, instill in us the courage to face each day with hope and the strength to make choices that reflect Your love and mercy. May our actions be a testament to the lessons

of forgiveness and redemption we learn from Your holy word.

We give thanks for the beauty of this season and for the continual renewal of life. We pray for those who suffer, that they may feel Your comforting presence, and for ourselves, that we may be vessels of Your light in the world.

In Your holy name, we pray,  
Blessings,  
Amen!

*-- Chaplain Oare' Beyah*

## MEMBERSHIP STATUS FOR POST & AUXILIARY

Post membership is at 87% of goal, with 277 paid to date.

To renew or join, go to [legion.org/renew](http://legion.org/renew) or [legion.org/join](http://legion.org/join).

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The Unit membership is 88.5% of its goal of 184, with 163 paid to date.

To renew or join, go to: [legion-aux.org/renew](http://legion-aux.org/renew) or [legion-aux.org/joining](http://legion-aux.org/joining).



**Utica Post #229  
The American Legion  
409 Herkimer Rd.  
Utica, NY 13502**

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*Since its founding in Paris in 1919, The American Legion has been an advocate for America's veterans, a friend of the U.S. military, a sponsor of community-based programs for young people and a spokesman for patriotic values.*

## UTICA POST HOSTS 5TH DISTRICT ALA CONFERENCE

It was a full house at Utica Post 229 on April 6 as the Post hosted the 5th District American Legion Auxiliary Spring Conference.

The 5th District ALA Facebook page noted that a total of 115 people attended and that "Utica Post #229 did an awesome job!"

The Fifth District encompasses Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, Onondaga and Oswego Counties.



*Photos provided by Jack and Rosetta LaPaglia*



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