



GREENBELT AMERICAN LEGION POST 136

CONTACT



6900 Greenbelt Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770

(301) 345-0136

<http://www.greenbeltmdpost136.org>

VOLUME LXXXII

September/October 2025

ISSUE V

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

July was a very active month at the Post. We began the month with a bang with our July 4th picnic and patrons who stayed were able to watch the Greenbelt Fireworks from the back of our parking lot. On July 12th the Post participated in the 100th year anniversary of the dedication of the Bladensburg Peace Cross and we sponsored a reception for 130 attendees at the Cheverly American Legion. On July 21st we hosted our 35th annual Boys Nation dinner with 100 Boys Nation Senators, dignitaries from the Department of Maryland and an inspirational speech by National Commander James LaCoursiere. We captured the excitement of the event with pictures and an article (pages 9 - 14) in the Contact.

A major priority of your Executive Committee is the upgrading of our aging equipment and facilities. We hope you like our new parking lot. We have added a layer of asphalt, and newly painted white parking lot spaces. We have several handicap designated spaces, ten new general spaces and three new **RESERVED** spaces, which are for the convenience of our hardworking Legion Family Leadership - the Post Commander, the Sons of American Legion Commander, and the President of the Auxiliary. With great appreciation I would like to thank the volunteer members of the Greenbelt American Legion Family who helped on the parking lot project that was headed up by Kenny Hall. Without Kenny Hall's perseverance, experience and professional relationships, the parking lot wouldn't have turned out as nice as it did. It adds to the overall appearance of our beautiful Post grounds (See *photos pages 16.*)

Hopefully the heat wave is over as September and October roll in. In the upcoming months, the Greenbelt American Legion will be celebrating Labor Day on Monday, September 1st with the annual cookout and picnic. We will be offering our traditional fare of hotdogs, hamburgers, Italian sausages, and sides. The annual Raider Roast (the Eleanor Roosevelt HS Scholarship Fundraiser) will take place at the Post on Saturday and Sunday of Labor Day Weekend. The S.A.L. will be hosting their first of the season Crab Feast, which will be held on the 13th of September (see the ad on page 5). We'll need volunteer support in September to pull off the two events that we will be hosting, the Labor Day Family Picnic and the S.A.L.'s Crab feast.

Make sure you come by and help us celebrate the U.S. Air Force 78th Birthday, September 18th. We will also be honoring the U.S. Navy 250th Birthday October 13th. Let's not forget the annual Law Enforcement/Fire Fighters Recognition Dinner which the Legion family will host on the 18th of October.

Restaurant business: the Post management team continue to work hard to satisfy our customers' menu requests. The Greenbelt American Legion restaurant has created tasty meals at a reasonable price. Please join us, the specials will be great! For more information on the Friday and Saturday night specials please refer to the Contact and Greenbelt American Legion Facebook page at <https://facebook.com/GreenbeltLegion> or visit the restaurant in person to enjoy the food. We're open for lunch at 12 noon on Fridays and Saturdays and Sundays for breakfast from 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

(Commander's message continued on page 2)

2025/2026
Commander: Greg Gigliotti
1 st Vice Commander: James Hawkins
2 nd Vice Commander: Timothy E. Meade
Judge Advocate: Tom Davis
Sgt. at Arms: Bill Muffley
Chaplain: Shawn Fenstermacher
Historian: Bernie Zempolich
Finance Officer: Harold Schlemmer
Members at Large: Richard Brown Larry Williams John Hardwick Kenneth Voigt
Adjutant: Mike Moore



There are many special people who make our Legion such a pleasant place. Recently, the Post lost two of them. On May 23rd, Sister Mary Angela Smith, OP, went to God. Her smile lit up the dining room. On August 22nd Legionnaire Ray (Shy Ray) Griffin passed away. Ray was a kind gentleman who delighted the "pretty ladies" in the back bar with flowers and cards. Both will be missed.

Its time to renew your membership for 2026 and join us for the "Early Bird" Spaghetti Dinner, which will be held in November. Sixty-one percent of our members have already renewed. The dues are still only \$50.00 and can be paid on-line or at the back bar. Let's get 100% renewals for 2026. Finally, thanks for your participation in our programs and events. I am honored to serve as your Commander for administrative year 2025 -2026.

God Bless America,
Commander,
Greg Gigliotti

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Dear Legionnaires,

As summer fades into autumn, we reflect on the changing seasons and remember significant moments in our nation's history. The months of September and October remind us of the deep connection between God and Country, where courage, sacrifice, and faith have intersected in times of both trial and triumph.

October 23, 1983 – Beirut Barracks Bombing: On this solemn day, 241 American servicemen lost their lives in a terrorist attack in Lebanon. The tragedy shook our nation, yet chaplains and comrades stood side by side in grief and prayer. It is a reminder that our service often comes with a heavy price, but that God remains our refuge and strength.

September 11, 2001 – Terrorist Attacks on America: This generation's "day of infamy" reminded us of the fragility of life and the resilience of faith. In the face of devastation, church doors opened across the nation. Men and women gathered to pray, to weep, and to seek strength from God. Out of tragedy came unity, resolve, and a renewed call to serve and protect our country.

October 22, 2021 – Strike Against al-Qaeda in Syria: On October 22, 2021, a U.S. airstrike in northwestern Syria eliminated a senior al-Qaeda leader, as part of the long-running effort to combat global terrorism. This action underscores the nation's resolve to defend the innocent and pursue justice in the face of evil.

As we look back on these events, may we be stirred to gratitude. For the freedoms we enjoy, for those who have defended them, and for the God who sustains us through trials and victories.

This season also brings with it the return of our children and grandchildren to school. Parents and grandparents, I encourage you to check in on them often. Not just in their academics, but in their hearts and spirits as well. Our younger generations are navigating challenges we may not have faced, and they need the steady presence of family support.

For those with college students, this is a wonderful opportunity to send a note, a phone call, or even a "care package." Many of us remember the joy of receiving packages while serving in the military, small tokens of love that reminded us we were not forgotten. The same blessing can be passed on to the next generation, reminding them that faith, family, and country still stand with them.

Let us continue to honor our calling as Legionnaires: faithful to God, faithful to Country, and faithful to one another.

For God and Country,
Chaplain,
Shawn Fenstermacher





SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON 136



S.A.L. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

As I shared in our last issue, our Detachment of Maryland S.A.L. Commander's theme is **"Sons Honoring Veterans Everyday."** I'd like to challenge our Squadron members to find ways to Honor the Veterans you have your membership through. The Legion Family has many meaningful ways you can do that are aligned within a couple of programs also known as the **Pillars of the Legion**. The pillars are Americanism; Children & Youth; National Security; and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation. Among these pillars are many different programs with opportunities for advocacy, compacity building and stewardship. The Post is always looking for assistance or expertise on operational and facility related needs. If you recall from the last issue, your Squadron was recognized for some of our work this past year, most notably with The Robert Trueblood Community Affairs Award for Outstanding Achievements and participation in the Community Affairs Program. The award will be on display at the Post.

Your Squadron is looking for a couple of additional people to help continue and expand on our efforts as well as with our Queen of Hearts nights on Wednesdays and help with advocacy on legislative issues; Buddy Checks and outreach to name a few.

The first and quickest way to **"Honor a Veteran"** everyday is through membership. Please renew for 2026 during the early bird period. The Son's are in a little bit of a contest to reach 40% of our yearly goal by Nov. 5th. Please renew online or pay at the Post. Dues are \$25, \$15 for junior and dual memberships, so please don't hesitate to renew. You can renew online at www.mylegion.org you will need your membership number from your 2025 membership card if you have not already set up an account. Dues will be also accepted on Wednesday nights during the Queen of Hearts. Remember that paying early also entitles you to the Post's Family "Early Bird" Dinner in November. Membership cards will be mailed or left at the back bar within a couple weeks of receiving payment details. The 2026 membership cards are printed by the National organization in Indianapolis; we finally received 2026 cards on August 20th, However they aren't correct. We are awaiting word from National on a timeline for corrections. In Maryland we were 1 of 9 other squadrons that had their membership cards "misplaced" and now "misprinted". We will send as soon as we can, you could even get 2 cards for 2026 if you pay your dues early enough at the rate National is moving on this.

I want to encourage all our Legion Family members to continue to support our restaurant, and other operations and events. If each of our local members visited once or twice a month, our Post will continue the growth and offerings to grow our community here at Post 136. I continue to be thankful and amazed by the S.A.L. members of our Squadron that continue to jump in to support the Post Family here and regionally in many ways. A theory exists that in any organization 10% of the members carry the work load of the group. Our squadron is still looking to reach that 10% level and then surpass it. The Post would have more to offer the community with your help, presence, service, participation and ideas. We would be able to honor more of our veterans and their families too. The S.A.L. would like to continue to expand our supported programs, missions and still have a need for a few more volunteers to assist once or twice a month on Wednesday nights.

(S.A.L. Commander's Message continued on page four)

2025/2026

Commander: Lenny Wertz
1 st Vice Commander: Vacant
2 nd Vice Commander: Kenny Hall
Chaplain: Kenny Hall
Finance Officer: Kevin Foster
Historian: Ray (Cory) Micallef
Sgt-At-Arms: Marty Rousseau
Adjutant: Ray (Cory) Micallef
Advisor: Richard Dutton

S.A.L.
MEETINGS
Every 3rd Tuesday
7:00 PM

DON'T FORGET TO
JOIN OR RENEW
YOUR MEMBERSHIP
FOR 2025
Dues: \$25
\$15 Junior & Dual



Your presence and effort can help us to expand other Legion Family activities and outreach in more meaningful ways to our members and community. The Legion Family is actively supporting active-duty service members in two direct ways. This fall we plan to join again by providing Thanksgiving meals to local active-duty service members and their families. The other way is that we are working to send care packages to units that are deployed, with many members not receiving anything from home. We hope to have more information about both events in a later issue of the Contact.

Just about the time this article comes out will be about the time of the Crab Feast. We could have a few tickets still available, \$60 per person on Sept. 13, 2025 1:30 PM – 6:00 PM. Please check at the back bar or give us a call. We want to thank everyone who supported this year's feast and helped by volunteering to set up/serve/clean up. The first Sunday in November is our Post "Early Bird" dinner. Come fellowship with your Legion Post Family. Please watch for information on a very special event at the Post on October 17th.

This fall will be a busy time for many reasons and I encourage you, our members, to follow and check up on The American Legion Legislative Agenda, which is found at <https://www.legion.org/legislative/agenda>. These priorities are selected for you to help encourage our Congress to pass key legislation supporting our Veterans and their families. These can be found at <https://www.votervoicenet.com/AmericanLegion/Bills> and offer detailed descriptions of each bill. These bills cover a range of support from benefits and employment opportunities for veterans to issues on national security. Please sign-up for alerts at Voter Voice, www.votervoicenet.com/americanlegion/home. Voter Voice allows you to not only review bills, but also receive alerts on issues and find your local officials. We encourage everyone to contact their Representatives and Senators to let them know you support these bills and they must make good on taking care of our Veterans and their families who give and in some cases, **gave all**, to our country.

We have a couple items available for sale; for \$25, a Green S.A.L. Polo in limited sizes. If interest increases we will reorder additional sizes. as part of the Gifts of Gratitude program with the Auxiliary. We are selling a drawstring backpack for \$5 to help support this cool project that provides a little token of appreciation to our active-duty service members.

Our Monthly meetings are held every 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 PM. It's also a great time to join our committees like the S.A.L. cook crew, membership, service and fundraising committees, to name a few. Our meetings or Queen of Hearts nights are a great time to bring up new ideas and proposals. We are looking for new ideas on growing our S.A.L. program and creating and holding activities for the Children & Youth of our community. The need is here for your service, participation and ideas.

Sons Honoring Veterans Everyday,

Lenny Wertz
S.A.L. Commander

THE CONTACT

The Contact is a bi-monthly newsletter published by the American Legion, Greenbelt Post 136.

Publisher: Mike Moore - Editor: Bernie Zempolich - Composing: East-West Web Solutions



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION CRAB FEAST

Saturday, September 13, 2025

Doors Open: 1:30 PM

Buffet Opens: 2:00 PM

Crabs Served:

2:30 PM - 5:30 PM



Greenbelt American Legion Post 136
6900 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770

TICKETS:

\$60.00 per Ticket

Only 150 Tickets Will Be Sold

*Get your tickets before they sell out at the
Post Back Bar on Wednesday nights from
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM or from an S.A.L. officer!*



- . **CRABS**
- . **SIDES**
- . **DRAFT BEER/SODA**



Queen of Hearts Wednesday Evenings



A New Drawing Will Be Held Every Wednesday Until the
Queen of Hearts is Drawn

All Tickets Must Be Purchased by 7:45 PM
the Night of the Drawing

Drawing Held: 8:00 PM - Tickets: \$5.00 each/3 for \$10.00 - Pot Starts at: \$1000.00

This is a progressive raffle open to the public.

One (1) ticket drawn every Wednesday.

Your full name must be on your ticket(s) to be valid.

If your ticket is drawn, you may pick a card from the Queen of Hearts Board.
The amount of money won depends on the card drawn.

ATTENTION ALL QUEEN OF HEARTS PLAYERS

Hold 'em cards are available for additional prizes.

****This offer good until further notice****

Sponsored by The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 136





AUXILIARY UNIT 136



2025/2026

Unit Officers

President:
Elizabeth Darnell

1st Vice President:
Dana Coleman

2nd Vice President:
Patty Rousseau

Secretary:
Mary Fava

Treasurer:
Sandi Dutton

Chaplain:
Susan Wiener

Historian:
Rusty Beeg

Sgt.at Arms:
Kathy Fomin Aya

Executive
Committee:
Laura Fendlay
Dora Hamm
Elizabeth Rice

AUXILIARY 1ST VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone had a wonderful and restful summer and I look forward to Autumn and working on our programs. The Department of Maryland Convention was attended by several members of the Unit. We are very proud of all the awards we received.

We will be supporting the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival with a monetary contribution.

We are running a School Supplies Drive. The supplies collected are for our area schools to ensure the students start the year off with everything they need to be successful. Please feel free to drop off supplies in our baskets in the lobby of the Post or at Shot Gun Bingo on Tuesday evenings. Speaking of Bingo, come join us on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM for food, fun and the chance to win cash prizes.

There are many exciting events coming. I look forward to seeing more members getting involved by attending or volunteering at the events. If you can spare some time to help, it is always appreciated. One event is our Annual Craft Fair held in November, the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Consider buying a table to sell your homemade wares. Come find out about our other events and what we do by attending our meetings.

Some upcoming events to put on your calendar are:

- Friday-Sunday, October 31-November 1-2, 2025 - Auxiliary Dept. of MD Fall Conference at the Grand Hotel in Ocean City
- Sunday, November 2 - Early Bird Dinner (free to members who have paid their 2026 dues)
- Friday, November 7 - Super Shotgun Bingo (Auxiliary in conjunction with S.A.L.)
- Tuesday, Nov 11 Veterans Day - Money Bunny Drawing (\$300 to the winner; get your chance today!)
- Saturday, November 29 - Annual Craft Fair
- Sunday, December 7 - Breakfast with Santa (in conjunction with Firehouse Auxiliary)

God Bless America,
Elizabeth Darnell,
Auxiliary President

AUXILIARY MEETINGS

1st & 3rd Thursdays
7:00 PM

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Your auxiliary unit would like to welcome our newest members: Theresa Wynkoop, Denise Williams, Kathleen Falter, and Tiffany Smith as a rejoin. Thank you for joining us which makes us stronger. Our paid membership goal numbers are 361 for 2025 of which 352 are paid. We have 32 members paid for 2026. If you pay your 2026 dues now you are automatically invited to the free "Early Bird" dinner given by the Legion as a thank you. We do love the spaghetti they serve. The Auxiliary is now sponsoring their annual Medical scholarship. We call it Money Bunny. For a \$1.00 ticket you have a chance to win \$300.00. Then the balance of the money collected goes to the scholarship fund. This is a long time tradition (since Sandi's Mom started it). The raffle drawing is on Veterans Day, November 11, 2025 in the hall. Every dollar counts for our scholarship students. Please help.

(Auxiliary Chair's message continued on page 7)



Like our Juniors
on Facebook @
136juniorsala

On the saddest of notes, our sympathies go out to the family and friends of our dear Mary Hooper. Mary was a few weeks shy of her 99th birthday. She will be missed.

Susan Wiener,
Membership Chairman
(301) 474-0849

2025 Dues For Auxiliary Members

\$30.00 Regular (Sr. with 50 years or more \$26.00) Dual Members \$26.00, Juniors (under 18) \$6.00

PLEASE MAIL YOUR DUES TO:

ALA 136
PO Box 1063
Greenbelt, MD 20768

Please make checks payable to ALA 136 and include your phone number on your payment.

MONEY BUNNY!!

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN \$300.00

Please support our Merit
Scholarship Program

TICKETS ARE \$1.00 EACH

Drawing Date:

November 11th, 2025 - Veterans Day

Please send your address labels and checks
made payable to Greenbelt Unit

#136 to:

Greenbelt Unit #136
ATTN: Sandi Dutton
P.O. Box 1063
Greenbelt, MD 20768



SHOTGUN BINGO

**Tuesday
Evenings**

7:00 PM

*Bring a friend,
enjoy some food,
friends and, maybe
even be a **BIG** winner.*

Sponsored by the Auxiliary Unit #136

(NO SHOTGUN BINGO IN JULY OR DECEMBER)



LABOR DAY FESTIVITIES

September 1, 2025

Family Picnic

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM



- Fried Chicken
- Hot Dogs
- Corn
- Coleslaw

- Potato Salad
- Italian Sausages
- Hamburgers
- Watermelon



GREENBELT AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY SPONSORS FOUR CITIZENS TO BOYS STATE AND TEN CITIZENS TO GIRLS STATE THIS YEAR

The Greenbelt American Legion Family was very proud to sponsor 4 Citizens to Boys State and 10 Citizens to Girls State this year. The Greenbelt Legion, Sons and Unit each sponsored 2 of the Boys State Citizens, and the Unit sponsored 10 Girls State Citizens!!!

The American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State are leadership and citizenship programs for high school juniors, which focus on exploring the mechanics of American government and politics. Participants are exposed to the rights and privileges, the duties and the responsibilities of a citizen. The training is objective and practical with city and state governments operated by the students elected to various offices.

Maryland Boys State is held in June at McDaniel College in Westminster, MD and Maryland Girls State is held in June at Salisbury University in Salisbury, MD.

We are very proud of Rusty Beeg who was a Counselor at Girls State for numerous years and still serves on the Department Committee – she has truly made a difference in the program and will continue to do so!

Sandi Dutton attended Maryland Girls State and also served as the National Girls State Chairman who chairs Girls Nation. It was a proud moment to bring the Citizens to the White House to meet President Bill Clinton, a former Boys State Alumni.

Two Citizens from each State (except Hawaii) and the District of Columbia attend Boys Nation in July. We are very proud to have Boys Nation visit our Post every year, where they learn about the American Legion Family. This is quite an honor for our Post!

Girls Nation has 2 girls from each state attend but not the District of Columbia.

For the past 78 years, Boys State affected the lives of more than a million high school boys, including famous alumni Tom Brokaw, Bill Clinton, Neil Armstrong, Michael Jordan and many more.

Famous alumni of the American Legion Auxiliary's Girls State program include Jane Pauley (journalist), Ann Richards (former Texas Governor), Kate Shindle (Miss America 1998 and actress), and Nancy Redd (author and Miss Virginia 2003).

As you can see, these two programs are awesome and mean a lot to the youth of this Nation!



A 35 YEAR TRADITION

For 49 years, Past Post Commander Mike Moore has been a member of Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 in Greenbelt, Md. And for 35 years of that membership, Boys Nation has made a dinner visit to the Post for “Legion Night.”

Moore calls that visit a gift. “We’re in Prince George’s County. In 1790, Prince George’s County gave the land for what is now Washington, D.C.,” he said. “That was our gift to the nation. The nation’s gift to us are these Boys Nation boys.”

Moore said the evening “really changes your perspective about today’s youth.” You see all these crazy stories, and then the boys come in here and they just refresh you. They care about the country. It’s such a wonderful experience.”

The Post’s Legion Family was in the kitchen and outside on the grill early Sunday morning to provide food that included Baltimore staple pit beef. Multiple department and National American Legion Family leaders attended the event, including National Commander James LaCoursiere Jr., National Adjutant Rodney Rolland, National Chaplain Daniel DePozo, Sons of The American Legion National Commander Joseph Navarrette, Past American Legion Auxiliary National Presidents Linda Newsome and Sandi Dutton, and both Department of Maryland Commander Nikki Randolph and immediate Past Department Commander David Heredia.

LaCoursiere congratulated the senators for what he said was “no small feat. You were chosen because people back home saw something in you: leadership, character and potential. And I have to say, standing here looking at all of you, I see it, too.”

LaCoursiere noted that 250 years ago a group of citizens decided they wanted a better life based on freedom and equality. “Now, here we are 250 years later,” he said. “The country they built is still standing, still strong, but it’s still a work in progress. And now, it’s your turn to carry the torch.

“Boys Nation isn’t about memorizing how government works. It’s about doing it. It’s about understanding that democracy is a team sport. And every one of you, whether you run for office someday, serve in the uniform, teach, build or just vote in every election, you have an important role to play.”

Randolph urged the senators to share their experiences with others once their class heads back home. “When you return back to your home states and your school next year, that you will be ambassadors for Boys State,” she said. “You talk to every student that you come by that is eligible to join Boys State next year. I encourage you and I challenge you to recruit three people to come to Boys State: one to replace you and two buddies to go with him.”



Leadership from American Legion National, State and Post 136 greeted Boys Nation senators as they arrived for the 2025 Legion Day dinner at Post 136.

Photo by Butch Hicks

MORE BOYS NATION PHOTOS



Laurel Post 60 Legionnaire Joseph Pruden welcoming Boys Nation Senators.



Past Post Commander Mike Moore with S.A.L. National Commander Joseph Navarette and Boys Nation Deputy Director Corey Brooks.



Department Commander Nikki Randolph and Post 136 Commander Greg Gigliotti greet a guest from Boys Nation.



The meal is now complete - (from left) Rosalie Mayock, Sylvia Hill, Maggie Hofberg, Audrey Moore, Judy Hughes prepare deserts to complement the 2025 Boys Nation dinner. Their appetizing displays of cookies, cakes and pies drew compliments from the young senators and American Legion National Commander, James A. LaCoursiere, Jr.
 Photo by Butch Hicks



With a welcoming smile, Audrey Moore joined Corey MiCallef greeting and providing the pit cooked beef, corn on the cob, potatoes, salads and pointing them to tasty deserts during the 2025 Boys Nation visit to Post 136.



During dinner for the 2025 Boys Nation members, the buffet line was resupplied numerous times as the hundreds of diners rarely passed up getting corn on the cob. Keith Starkey and Jeff Embry continued carrying deep pan loads of corn to the food serving line. It was estimated approximately 200 - 300 ears of corn were served.
 Photo by Butch Hicks





American Legion Boys Nation senators, during the 2025 Boys Nation Dinner at American Legion Post 136, showed patriotic spirit singing national themed songs such as America the Beautiful, You're a Grand Old Flag.

Photo by Butch Hicks



More than 100 Boys Nation senators and their American Legion officer trip coordinators were joined at dinner by American Legion Post 136 officers for discussions about how Post 136 supports American Legion programs such as Boys and Girls Nation, veterans' programs and local community activities. In foreground table, Jerry Darnell, Southern Maryland Region SAL Commander, shared information about Sons of the American Legion and what particular veterans and community programs Squadron 136 supported.

Photo by Butch Hicks



Mike Moore briefing National Commander James LaCoursiere and his Aide-de-Camp.



Post Commander Greg Gigliotti and Department Commander Nikki Randolph presenting challenge coins to Maryland Senators Will Fermaglich and Erin Alistar.



NEW PARKING AREA COMPLETED FOR POST 136

By Butch Hicks

Rarely upon entering a parking lot do we consider its appearance unless for us it is becoming unusable. Even then we may think something needs to be done but just move on.

Ken Hall, Sons of the American Legion Squadron 136 member and former Director of Greenbelt's Department of Public Works, evaluated the Post's parking lot condition and determined repair was urgently needed. Hall's opinion about the parking lot evolved from his years with the Department of Public Works managing work on, among other tasks, street maintenance, traffic lanes markings and servicing associated parking areas.

During his Post parking lot evaluation, Hall measured cracks, some he found were four inches wide, throughout the approximately 5500 square foot lot. He determined surface damage was unfillable. With the lot condition assessment, Hall began seeking contractors' lot repair bids. About five years before the Post had received a repair bid such that it was decided to make do until a better repair bid was available. Hall received an acceptable bid that would accomplish resurfacing the lot using quality material and finishing the work in a reasonable time.

Hall was complimentary about the entire parking lot contractor effort. He said, "With the contractor's work repairing and coordinating painting stripes, and using material such as super pave mix, the parking lot should last about 25 years. Post 136 received a high-quality, reasonably priced product."

Post 136 Commander, Greg Gigliotti, said, "Post 136's Family of the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 136, Auxiliary Unit 136 and Legionnaires made repairs possible through their organizations' cost contributions. I'm very happy with the parking lot. This post has been around since the 1930's. The parking lot is a part of the post that gets a lot of wear and tear. With recent repair completion, the parking lot now has about twenty more spaces. We acknowledged Post organizational leaders' support by adding reserved spaces for them.

"Repairing the parking lot makes people realize we take care of this place. We do it for the Legionnaires, SAL and Auxiliary family. We also are proud members of the Greenbelt community. Repairing and refinishing this parking lot adds to the Post's quality appearance in keeping with the city of Greenbelt's continuous good job taking care of the city.

"Kenny did a great job organizing the entire lot repair effort. He was the Forman of the whole thing. He got the contractors; he coordinated help to add new stripes that alone took three days to complete in the sweltering heat. It turned out well. Everybody is pleased with it. If it wasn't for the camaraderie among Post members, projects like this just wouldn't happen. "

(See photos on the following page)



Ken Hall, Post 136 parking lot resurfacing project coordinator, said the project ensured that handicapped parking spaces received highly visible graphic signage and space markers. (Photos by Butch Hicks)

**US ARMY
BLUES BAND**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER
13TH AT 4PM**

**OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC**

40'S - 80'S
& JAZZ

**FOOD AND CASH
BAR AVAILABLE!**

**PHILLIPS-KLEINER POST 5627
5051 BRANCHVILLE RD,
COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740
(301) 474-3512
~INSIDE THE HALL~**

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
AIR FORCE**

"AIM HIGH ... FLY-FIGHT-WIN"

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
U.S. NAVY**

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, September 1st

Labor Day Picnic 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (See ad on page 7)

Tuesday, September 2nd

Post 136 Executive Committee Meeting: 6:30 PM

(In lieu of date)

Saturday, September 13th

S.A.L. Crab Feast (See ad on page 5)

Thursday, September 18th

U.S. Air Force 78th Birthday

Thursday, September 18th

Post 136 General Meeting 7:00 PM

Monday, October 6th

Post 136 Executive Committee Meeting: 6:30 PM

Monday, October 13th

U.S. Navy 250th Birthday

Thursday, October 16th

Post 136 General Meeting 7:00 PM

Saturday, October 18th

Law Enforcement/Firefighters Recognition Dinner