



The Deltona Legionnaire

Sgt David G Ledgerwood American Legion Post 255

Deltona, Florida

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 12

PAGE 1

December 2025

OFFICERS

Commander:

Pedro Rosario

1st Vice:

Dave Parry

2nd Vice:

Andrea Turner

Adjutant:

Joel Recu

Finance:

Joel Recu

Chaplain:

Loren King

Sergeant-at-Arms:

Tom Snyder

Service Officer:

Phil Loranger

Aux President:

Jamie Brady

ALR Director:

Vacant

Sons Commander:

Fred Lowry

Webmaster/Editor:

Vacant

From The Commander:

An article was not received prior to publication



ALR Ride Report:

Our Riders Chapter is in need of members. If you ride and are a member of the Post, Sons or Auxiliary you are eligible to be a member of the riders.

IMPORTANT VA UPDATE

For those using the VA for their health care and/or are receiving VA compensation, you **MUST** login to My Healthy Vet regularly in order to maintain an active account. VA is planning an update to the system and if you have not logged in you may be removed from the system. If you are removed your VA health care and/or your VA compensation may be affected.

It is recommended that you login in monthly in order to maintain an active account and avoid any unnecessary disruptions of your health care and/or compensation. If you have never logged in this web address will provide you with a means to register.

www.va.gov/health-care/manage-health/

From the Sons:

If you know of a Son of a Legionnaire or a Son of a veteran that would like to be affiliated with a veterans organization, please have them contact us. We are always looking to bring new members into our Sons Squadron. They can contact our Commander or any member of the Squadron for more information, Directing them toward our website is a great way to start or have them attend either the officers meeting or the general meeting to get a better feel for what we do.

Sons members are highly encouraged to complete the 5 Stars of service. For more info take a look at our info page on the website.

From the Webmaster:

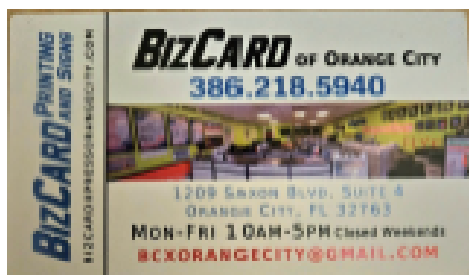
Be sure to check the website for upcoming events

al255deltona.org/events/

This Weekend now on the website.

<https://al255deltona.org/this-weekend/>

The post maintains a website to keep its members, veterans and prospective members up to date on what the post is doing and will be doing. The website is full of good information from community events to veteran services. If you forgot when and where, check the website there's a very good chance the information is just a click away. Additionally, Sue sends a weekly email on Thursday to keep our members informed of what is happening over the weekend. That email also provides information on future events the post is either sponsoring or involved in. Please take a minute to review it before you discard it, thanks.



Gary Sturgeon
Agency Owner

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Personal & Commercial
Insurance Agency

Cross Words, from the Chaplain:

Greetings to all our Legionnaires, Auxiliary, SAL, ALR members and guests. I hope this newsletter finds you and your family healthy, well and moving forward into the special month of December. While November is now behind us, I trust your Thanksgiving was joyous, and filled with the love of family and friends, remembering God's blessings, and abundant bounty with great thanksgiving to the One who gives us the abundance of life. December and the holiday season is upon us. The anticipation of cooler temperatures, gift giving, sharing in the joys of God's perfect gift to mankind and family caroling are in the air!

My wife, Sue, is already questioning how fast we have arrived at December. Dr. Seuss also questioned the quick arrival of December when he asked, "How did it get so late so soon"? I'm already seeing that cloud over our pool when I step out into the cool night air. "December's wintry breath is already clouding the pond, frosting the pane, and obscuring summer's memory..." "Gratitude turns what we have into enough", said Aesop. Thankfulness is December's most beautiful tradition. Gratitude makes even the coldest days feel warm. The best way to end the year is with a grateful heart. Count memories, not mistakes. Each challenge faced this year was a lesson in disguise. In the season of giving, give thanks most of all. Let gratitude be the light that guides you through December". In the stillness of December, we find clarity. This month let go of what weighs you down. Each day of December is a chance to reflect, reset, and renew. The year ends not with a bang, but with gentle gratitude. Every ending deserves reflection and peace. Don't rush the ending; savor the lesson. In quiet moments, the soul finds understanding. December is a mirror, showing us who we've become. Look back with love, not longing. The reflection of December prepares the heart for what's next.

Let me just add, what's next is indeed, pretty exciting! We are still in negotiations with the City of Deltona on the land lease agreement and the master development plan for the property next to the Deltona Veterans Memorial Park and Museum. Hopefully, in the coming week we will have a list of suggested changes to these documents and an agreement to sign. In addition the post has contracted with Architecture 101 to do the floor plan drawings, 3 D renditions of the property, building, and additional future amenities on the property.

Remember, the Post Family Christmas Party will be held on Dec 9th, 5-10 PM, at Perkins Restaurant, Saxon Blvd, Orange City. I hope you will all make plans to be there for the celebration and fun. You will find a flier (invitation) for the event in the newsletter and attached to the weekly email.

As we move into and through the holidays, let's not be led astray by the festivities and glitter of the holiday season so that we lose focus of the real meaning for the celebration at this time of year. All of history was changed when some two thousand years ago God came to earth in the form of a human baby, delivered by a virgin mother in a manger, in the Jewish town of Bethlehem. From that day forward, for the next thirty-three years, Jesus taught us the character, principles, and values of God, His laws, ordinances, and commands. He showed us how we can be holy and righteous in the sight of God through a personal relationship, belief and trust in Him alone. Jesus lived by example, teaching us how to love, worship, pray, be a friend and brother, disciple believers, love our enemies, and live an abundant life, putting God first, others second, and ourselves last. After all that, He gave Himself, as the ultimate and perfect sacrifice on the cross at Calvary. By His voluntary act of love, Jesus paid the debt that you and I will never be able to pay for the forgiveness of mankind's sin, both individually and collectively. Give all glory and honor to our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ! He is why we celebrate Christmas!

Just something to think about.

Thoughts and prayers continue for:

Andrea Turner

Bud Faint

Loren King recovering shoulder surgery

Michael Phelps

Janice Rosario recovering back surgery

Angie Recu

American Legion Family Center

For God and Country

Loren King

Chaplain Post 255

A new clinic dedicated to treating post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) has opened in Central Florida, offering Electroencephalogram Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (eTMS) therapy.

This non-invasive treatment helps those with PTSD, traumatic brain injuries, and sleep disorders at no cost, thanks to state funding

Each session lasts about 15 minutes, and while some may need up to 20 sessions for full benefits, the hope it brings is significant. If you or someone you know is interested, please bring valid ID and proof of service.

For more information or inspiring stories about how this service is helping lives, feel free to reach out to me.

With gratitude for our heroes,

The new Central Florida facility is located at 555 Winderley Place, Suite 300, just outside of Orlando.

Attn Disabled Vets...if you have mobility problems, (cant get out of tub or you may slip and fall while using the shower), the VA will pay for grab bars to be installed in both of your bathrooms. FREE! Very good quality, local plumber comes to your home-fast and easy! If you worry about falling, please talk to your VA primary care doctor and ask for this service.

Remember to save your pop tops as our Auxiliary continues to collect them for the Ronald McDonald House program



CHARLES RUTENBERG
The Standard of Excellence

LINDA HANNON
Broker Associate, GRI, ABR

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ABR NMLS

“DUES NOTICE”

National raised the dues by \$5 last year. This forced the Post to raise its dues from \$45 to \$50 per year (this increase does not affect PUFL). Post dues is now \$50 per year. Please make a note of it when paying your dues.

Membership

Another year of membership drive is coming. Please remit your dues as soon as possible so that the Post can reach its goals quickly. Dues collection starts after the Convention so please plan to get your dues in. Cmdr Pedro will be doing his Buddy Check's again this year. Last year our Post attained 100% membership most of which was accomplished with the Buddy Checks. If you have the time he would appreciate the assistance.

Park Cleanup

On the 3rd Fri of each month members are asked to find a few minutes and come to DVMP to walk the grounds and pick up trash and move debris that may have fallen on our displays. We start at 10a and it doesn't take more than 20 minutes to accomplish this. Please find some time to come out once a month and help. The more folks that come out the less time it takes to accomplish this; many hands make light work.

Post Home

We have positive movement where it concerns property for our Post Home. The City Commission voted unanimously to lease the 2.5 acres adjacent to the Veterans Park to the Post for 100 years; amount is still to be determined but the Mayor is requesting for \$1 per year. This is a huge step toward having a Post Home. Once the lease is signed we can actively solicit for grants to help us build our Post Home.

A huge thank you to Loren, Pedro and a number of other members who tirelessly petitioned the city for an agreement; your efforts have not gone unnoti

Email questions, comments, pictures or info to:

al255delton@al255deltona.org.

AL255DELTONA.ORG

Post Service Officer

An American Legion Post Service Officer (PSO) cannot file a claim, fill out a claim, review a current claim or represent a veteran with the VA unless they are accredited by the VA. Attending the American Legion PSO course does not certify or accredit a PSO to represent a veteran.

An American Legion PSO has a wealth of information. They can help a veteran find resources to assist them in whatever endeavor they are trying to accomplish. They can provide information concerning benefits, programs, and resources that may assist our veterans to survive a crisis, get VA assistance, and/or provide options for the veteran to consider. Once the veteran has spoken with the PSO and the veteran determines that they would like to proceed, the PSO can and will provide the points of contact for the program, person, or organization that can help the veteran. A PSO's greatest weapon is information and they have a ton of it!

The main office for the Volusia County Service Officer was moved to 211 Rich Ave in DeLand and the Deltona office is located at the Deltona Regional Library at 2150 Eustace Ave. The hours are Mon—Fri 8am to 5pm. 386-775-5205.

Veteran suicides are at epidemic proportions. Below is a suicide prevention number available if a veteran is struggling and finds themselves in that dark place. We cannot afford to allow a veteran in crisis to go by the wayside. Never leave a man or woman behind!

988 option 1 or 1-800-273-8255

When speaking to a veteran in need of reviewing their claim, paperwork or filing a claim refer them directly to the County Service Officer; this is what the PSO will do. If the veteran is looking for general information, benefits, resources or anything of that nature please have them contact the PSO.

The bottom line is; the American Legion provides veterans with PSOs so that the information concerning benefits, programs, and discounts can be widely disseminated. Please utilize this resource.

Editor

If you have information for the newsletter please get that to the editor before the 20th of the month. This gives the editor time to edit/adjust the newsletter. Pictures are always welcome. If you have them forward them to the editor and/or the Historian for inclusion in the newsletter and our yearbook.

Any items that require correction need to be brought to the editors attention so that a correction can be posted in the following months newsletter.

Here's a link to the Department of Florida newsletter: floridalegion.org/newsletter

Veterans Museum:

Deltona Veteran's Museum is open on Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Our 1st Vice Dave is the Museum Director. We need **HELP!**. Members of the Post Family are asked to find the time to volunteer at the museum and lend a hand. This is a great way to meet the public, provide information and even promote the American Legion Family. A lot of our fellow Veterans visit the museum and it is a great way to reflect on their time in the military. Whether you served or were a dependent, your time will not be wasted. Please find time to come out and help keep the museum open and running

Dates to Remember:

**Dec - Observances: Pearl Harbor Day.
Celebrations: US Space Force Birthday,
Christmas and New Years Eve.**

2nd ALR/Sons meeting 7p at Cross Walk Church
6th Post & Aux general meeting 10am at Cross Walk Church.
6th District 17 Christmas Party
7th Pearl Harbor Day
9th 255 Family Christmas Party
11th VCEP meeting 6pm DVMP
13th Wreaths Across America
13th City of Deltona Christmas Parade
15th Hanukkah
19th Park cleanup 10am at DVMP
20th US Space Force Birthday
25th Christmas
28th Post Officers Meeting
30th ALR/SAL Officers Meeting
31st New Years Eve.

Jan - Observances:

Celebrations: New Years Day

1st New Years Day
3rd Post & Aux general meeting 10am at Cross Walk Church.
6th ALR/Sons meeting 7p at Cross Walk Church
19th Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Free Daytona Clinic For Low-Income, No-Health-Insurance Patients Has Moved

The Volusia Free Clinic, a volunteer-based community health center, has moved to a new location and is seeing low-income Volusia County patients who have no health insurance. The new location is 1901 Mason Ave, in Daytona Beach, Suite 110.

The new office is in Daytona Beach, and will give the clinic an opportunity to serve more patients, said Dr. Sam Cay, vice president of the Volusia Volunteers in Medicine, Inc., board.

Cay said the move was made possible in part by donations of money, medical equipment and office furnishings.

Volusia Free Clinic operates with volunteers and is looking for more help from medical providers, he said.

Typically, the clinic sees patients with arthritis, breathing problems, diabetes, heart disease and elevated cholesterol. Appointments must be made in advance. In addition to the website, people can call 386-316-2771.

its website includes contact information and guidelines for who may be eligible – including individuals making less than \$45,000 annually and couples living on less than \$61,000 annually.

Note: This article was printed in the Daytona News Journal and written by Mark Harper



**POST 255 FAMILY
CHRISTMAS PARTY**



**All Post, Auxiliary, SAL, and Riders are invited
Bring your Family and Friends**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

PERKINS RESTAURANT, 1286 SAXON BLVD.



**WE WILL PURCHASE OUR OWN MEALS
AND CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS TOGETHER
WITH OUR OWN CRAZY GIFT EXCHANGE**

BRING A WRAPPED

FOR OUR GIFT



UNMARKED GIFT

EXCHANGE

\$15.00 Limit

(IF YOU BRING A CHILD BRING A GIFT FOR THEM)

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU FOR
FOOD, FELLOWSHIP & FUN
WITH OUR LEGION FAMILY**





★ **December 13, 2025** ★

National Wreaths Across America Day

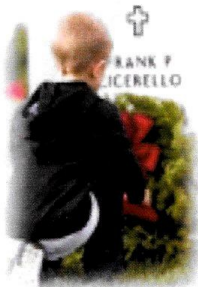
Help American Legion Post 255 Family
place a wreath on ALL Veterans gravesites at
DELTONA MEMORIAL GARDENS

\$17.00/wreath To sponsor wreaths:

Visit wreathscrossamerica.org/FL0523

Or: Scan QR code below

Or: Mail check payable to: Wreaths Across America
to: Sue King, 2770 Sadler Lane, Deltona, FL 32738
for more info call Sue 386-532-7915



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE WREATH LAYING
AT 12:00 NOON**



Christmas Parade

2025

Home Sweet Deltona

Our annual Christmas Parade is back- gingerbread style! This year features a new parade route along Providence Boulevard, celebrating the heart of our city - our families, neighbors, and businesses that make Deltona Home. Show off your holiday spirit with gingerbread-themed floats and join the fun!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

NEW PARADE ROUTE
ALONG
PROVIDENCE BLVD.

Parade Start :
Providence Blvd & Ft. Smith Blvd
6:00 p.m.



deltonachristmasparade.com

**COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS
GOOD FOR BUSINESS
AND
GOOD FOR POST 255**

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

We are working to establish more community partnerships with local restaurants, dry cleaners, oil change facilities and the like. As the list grows we will be sure to inform everyone. Also remember the businesses in The Deltona Legionnaire are strong supporters of Post 255. Thank you for doing business with those who support the American Legion and our Post.



**FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
AND OUR POST FAMILY**