

February 15, 2026

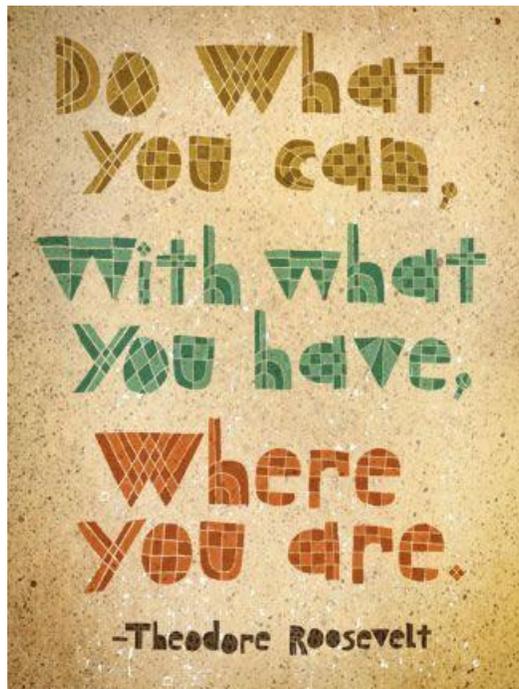
UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

## Arizona VFW Auxiliary Newsletter

Visit our Website



Some of you have asked to be able to read all the articles in their entirety in one place. On our webpage - [www.vfwauxaz.org](http://www.vfwauxaz.org) under the Arizona VFW Auxiliary Newsletter you can now find each month's articles all together. Click [here](#) to go directly there.



### Americanism Heather Lyn

Hello Arizona,

As this year continues to fly by us, we must keep in mind the deadline for the Auxiliary submissions for a National Citation for the

Americanism Program. Auxiliaries have until March 31,2026 to have the required entry form for me as the Department Americanism Chairman.

The award will be given to the “Auxiliary with the most outstanding activity or event displaying or educating others about proper ways to display and respect the American Flag”.

Looking forward to some holidays and days of recognition to come, which will give opportunities to show patriotism:

2/16 Presidents Day  
3/3 Star-Spangled Banner Day  
3/13 K-9 Veterans Day  
3/21 Rosie the Riveter Day  
3/29 Vietnam Veterans Day

To read the rest of this article click [here](#).

---

## Auxiliary Outreach Amy Bennett

February is full of heart and giving!

The Arizona Cardinals Foundation Launches [Cardinals Climb](#) will be held on **February 21st**. Click on the link to see how you can participate in this fundraising effort for families and adults with special needs.



The day that I think would be a wonderful day to give back to your community would be on [NATIONAL GOOD SAMARITAN DAY - March 13, 2026 - National Today](#) which is a reminder to offer a helping hand to others as often as we can. Another great day to help out a neighborhood organization would be on **March 17<sup>th</sup>, St Patrick's Day** where you can provide a bit of “luck” to others lending a helping hand.

Reminder: (1) Plan your activity after confirming with the organization that needs help, (2) Vote on it at your next meeting, (3) encourage others in your Auxiliary to participate as a group, (4) Wear your VFW Auxiliary attire (pin, hat, shirt), (5) Be a positive person and exude a good nature, (5) take photos and post on social media with the #AuxiliaryOutreach for National recognition.

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)

---

## Buddy Poppy/National Home Peggy Welch

What a beautiful beginning of the year for Buddy Poppy/National Home. Thank you, everyone, for doing your PARs. Department Arizona is at 100% for the Program! Way to go!



I know we are still busy with our Buddy Poppy Promotions. I want to share two recent activities that were heartfelt. First, as many of you know, our dear Sister, District 4 President, Angela Cummins Hubbard, passed away. Auxiliary 3632 hosted a wonderful Celebration of Life for her, complete with Buddy Poppy decorations everywhere. Buddy Poppy was near and dear to her heart, and she participated in the Buddy

Poppy/National Home Jeopardy game in August at the MIT. We will miss you, Angela! Second, Auxiliary 6306, Topock, AZ, engaged local elementary school students to draw what patriotism means to them. The winning artwork will be incorporated into the Auxiliary's Buddy Poppy Project. What a great way to get our youth and educators involved in what we represent.

Do not forget to send your entry for the Buddy Poppy Program National Citation Award to me no later than March 31, 2026. Describe the activity/event with your Post to educate the community about the VFW Buddy Poppy. Include materials used: flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, videos, and pictures, pictures, pictures. The form is available on MALTA under Member Resources, Buddy Poppy/National Home Program, Award No. 1. You can send the form and materials to me by email, [sunlover1102@gmail.com](mailto:sunlover1102@gmail.com), or by "snail" mail to Peggy Welch, 8989 South Desert Well Rd., Tucson, AZ, 85736.

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)

---

## **Historian/Media Paulette Marshall**

How do we reach out to others to let them know about what it is the VFW Auxiliary does for our Veterans, their Families and our Community?



Auxiliary Outreach has us partnering, as an organization, with other organizations in our community, solely as a volunteer corps. Why can't we ask the other organization for the opportunity to visit their meeting with their membership and speak about the VFW Auxiliary?

Part of this year's Media resources lists information about "Speakers Bureau" which is a program to bolster Auxiliary members to do just that. Open the conversation about who we are, what we do, and our Why.

To read the rest of the article click [here](#)

---

## **Hospital Amy Timbes**



Here we are mid-February and Entry Forms for awards must be in by March 31, 2026.

Please share with me the creative ways you are providing happiness for our fellow veterans. I know you are doing the work, tell me about it. Also read carefully the Hospital Volunteer Recruiter award

information. It's never too late to find a volunteer and we never have enough volunteers.

I can't believe I have received less than 10 hospital grant applications. I am positive you can find some veterans somewhere in Assisted living, skilled nursing facilities, rest homes that have needs not provided by the facility. In fact, I challenge you to find one such place with at least one veteran. Send me the address and number of veterans and I will prepare and send out cards for those facilities.

To read the rest of the article click [here](#)

---

## Legislative Becky Baldwin

February ❤️ has been a strong month for advocacy, and our legislative efforts continue to build momentum. Like the ocean, legislative change doesn't happen in a single splash 🌊—it's the result of steady waves of action, timing, and persistence.



### VFW Legislative Conference – Washington, D.C.

At the end of this month, we will be riding the wave 🌊 to Washington, D.C. for the VFW Legislative Conference, joining VFW and Auxiliary members from across the country to advocate directly for veterans, service members, and their families. Face-to-face meetings with lawmakers reinforced an important truth: veterans' issues rise when we show up together. 🙌 Each conversation added energy to the wave we're building toward meaningful legislative change.

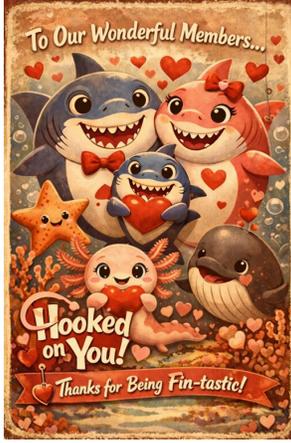
To read the rest of this article click [here](#)

---

## Membership Crystal McCarthy

❤️ *February: Love in Action* ❤️

February reminds us that love is more than words—it's what we do. As members of the **VFW Auxiliary**, our love shows up every time we serve our veterans, support their families, and stand beside one another.



When we grow our membership, we grow our impact. An ever-increasing membership gives us a stronger, louder voice with our government leaders—and that matters when we’re advocating for our nation’s heroes. Just as important, growth starts at home.

Continue working with your current members. To grow, we must show the love: check in, invite them to participate, and remind them why they belong. This month, we’d love to see love in action. Please email photos of your Valentine projects—whether they’re at VA facilities, nursing homes, or within your local communities. Don’t forget to carry our message of

care and gratitude everywhere you go.

We’d also love to hear about any sweetheart dances, dinners, socials, or fun activities your Auxiliary is hosting. These moments build connection—and connection builds strength.

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)

---

## Scholarship Irene Nowacki



Hey Department of Arizona!

National President Lois Callahan’s special project **Continuing Education Scholarship** is now closed for applications but still very open for donations. If your Auxiliary has not yet donated, please make sure to get those submitted through MALTA under the Make a Gift tab, and then National Presidents Special Project. Or mail a check to National Headquarters earmarked National President’s Special Project. Let’s see just how close we can get to the \$10,000.00 goal.

**It is time to really push our other contests.**

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)



## Veterans and Family Support Ray Williams

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

An old man was walking on the beach one morning, after a storm. In the distance, he could see someone moving like a dancer; as he came closer, he saw that it was a young woman picking up starfish and gently throwing them into the ocean. “Young lady, why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?”

She said, “The sun is up, and the tide is going out, and if I do not throw them in, they will die.” “But young lady, do you not realize that there are many miles of beach and thousands of starfish? You cannot possibly make a difference.”

The young woman listened politely, then bent down, picked up another starfish, and threw it into the sea.

“It made a difference for that one,” she smiled.

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)

---

## Youth JaNice Robertson

Time is getting away! It is already February and deadlines for Illustrating America, the Youth Patriotic Art contest, to be submitted to the local Auxiliary is March 31, 2026. Please get out to your schools, scout groups, homeschool groups with the criteria and applications ASAP! There are three grade divisions: K-2, 3-5 and 6-8.



### Tips:

- \*Two-dimensional art on canvas (stretcher frame or canvas board), paper with heavy paper.
- \*Do not frame original art with wood, metal, plastic or glass.
- \*Mats may be included.
- \*NO smaller than 8x10 - NO Larger than 18x24 including mat.
  - \* There are three grade divisions: K-2, 3-5 and 6-8. Each entry must include the completed contest entry form.

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)

---

