

# Salute to SERVICE



## Orange County Veterans Memorial Cemetery will host Wreaths Across America ceremony on December 18

Orange County's Veterans Memorial Cemetery will host a Wreaths Across America (WAA) ceremony at noon on December 18. The event will be held rain or shine.

"The feedback we have received from hosting Wreaths Across America ceremonies in the past has been tremendous and we look forward to this year's in-person event," Orange County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus said. "It is a truly wonderful way to bring our community together during the holiday season and pay tribute to those who served our country. It also highlights our County's beautifully maintained Veterans Cemetery."

During the WAA ceremony, the County will also display its "Tree of Heroes" which will be adorned with pictures of veterans and their loved ones, along with notes written to them from children throughout the County. The 19-acre Veterans Memorial Cemetery has 13,400 plots and has 3,600 veterans and their spouses currently interred there.

Wreaths, which are \$15 each or three for \$30, can be purchased at the Veterans Service Agency (VSA), located at 111 Craigville Road in Goshen or online through the WAA website ([wreathscrossamerica.org](http://wreathscrossamerica.org)) using search code NYOCVM. Sponsor donations in any amount are also welcome. Checks can be made out to



Wreaths Across America ceremony at Orange County's Veterans Memorial Cemetery in 2018.

Nam Knights M/C with WAA 2021 on the memo line and can be mailed to the VSA's Goshen address.

The tradition of laying wreaths to honor veterans began in 1992, when Morrill Worcester, the owner of Worcester Wreath Company in Harrington, Maine, had extra wreaths at the end of the holiday season. Worcester remembered a boyhood trip to Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. and decided to donate 5,000 wreaths to be placed on the headstones of an older section of

the cemetery. By 2014, Wreaths Across America and its national network of volunteers laid over 700,000 memorial wreaths at 1,000 locations in the United States and beyond, including ceremonies at the Pearl Harbor Memorial, Bunker Hill, Valley Forge, and the sites of the September 11 tragedies.

WAA ceremonies are celebrated at the same exact time at more than 2,500 cemeteries in the U.S. and abroad, with nearly two million wreaths placed to honor our veterans.

"The Wreaths Across America ceremony allows us to honor those

who have sacrificed their lives for this great country in a special way," said Christian Farrell, the County's Veterans Service Agency Director. "We are proud to once again take part in this meaningful event with our partners in the veteran community. The County's goal is to put a wreath on every grave in the cemetery and, with the support and volunteerism of the community, that goal is well within reach."

For more information about the County's Wreaths Across America ceremony, contact Dave Andryshak at 845-494-3768.

### Pine Bush American Legion seeks your support

American Legion Post 1308 of Pine Bush sent out a mailer to 4,650 area residents over the summer seeking the community's support. If you've misplaced your, there's still time to help.

"The last year has presented a challenge for our country, as well as our community with the Covid-19 pandemic. Although the American Legion has scaled back its meetings, in consideration of safety and social distancing, Post 1308 has stayed

involved in the local community," said Vice Commander Donald C. Bruyn who added that the Legion hosts eight events annually. "We are asking for a donation to help support our many community projects. We are grateful for your generosity. If you are a veteran, who served honorably, man or woman, we invite you to consider becoming a member of our Post. If interested, please contact Conrad "Connie" Flickenschild at 845-234-8013."



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# New York Army National Guard Promotions

Major General Ray Shields, the Adjutant General for the State of New York, announces the promotion of members of the New York Army National Guard in recognition of their capability for additional responsibility and leadership.

**Bruce Barclay** from Middletown, and assigned to the Battery A, 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery received a promotion to the rank of sergeant 1st class on August 31, 2021.

**Shemar Dunstan** from Circleville, and assigned to the Headquarters and Support Company, 642nd Aviation Support Battalion received a promotion to the rank of specialist on September 12, 2021.

**Marian Felix** from Middletown, and assigned to the 1569th Transportation Company received a promotion to the rank of private on September 18, 2021.

**Chad Fernandez** from Middletown, and assigned to the Division Signal Company, 42nd Infantry Division Headquarters received a promotion to the rank of private 1st class on September 8, 2021.

**Brandyn Marquez** from Middletown, and assigned to the

Company A, 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion received a promotion to the rank of sergeant on August 23, 2021.

**Brandon Nugent** from Middletown, and assigned to the Battery A, 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery received a promotion to the rank of specialist on August 28, 2021.

**Isaih Roman** from Maybrook, and assigned to the Battery A, 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery received a promotion to the rank of specialist on September 12, 2021.

**Christine Iraci** from New Windsor, and assigned to the Medical Command received a promotion to the rank of staff sergeant on August 30, 2021.

**Brian Leahy** from New Windsor, and assigned to the Headquarters and Special Troops Battalion, 369th Sustainment Brigade received a promotion to the rank of captain on July 21, 2021.

**Wirley Pierre** from New Windsor, and assigned to the Company B, 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry received a promotion to the rank of private on September 29, 2021.

**Alecia Watsoncoghiel** from New

Windsor, and assigned to the 719th Transportation Company received a promotion to the rank of sergeant on August 27, 2021.

**Emmanuel Zabala** from Newburgh, and assigned to the Company A, 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion received a promotion to the rank of private 1st class on August 30, 2021.

**Giana Ford** from Wallkill, and assigned to the 1156th Engineer Company received a promotion to the rank of specialist on April 15, 2021.

**William Ghee** from New Paltz, and assigned to the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 501st Ordnance Battalion (EOD) received a promotion to the rank of staff sergeant on April 23, 2021.

**Jayden Ludlow** from New Windsor, and assigned to the 1569th Transportation Company received a promotion to the rank of private 1st class on April 8, 2021.

**Jaime Burgos** from New Windsor, and assigned to the Camp Smith Training Center received a promotion to the rank of sergeant first class on March 1, 2021.

**Eduardo Camacho** from Newburgh,

and assigned to the Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery received a promotion to the rank of private 1st class on February 12, 2021.

**Robert McNair** from Newburgh, and assigned to the Battery A, 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery received a promotion to the rank of staff sergeant on March 3, 2021.

**Kimberly Neiss** from Newburgh, and assigned to the Company B, 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion received a promotion to the rank of private on February 26, 2021.

**Rudy Varela** from Newburgh, and assigned to the Company B, 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion received a promotion to the rank of sergeant first class on March 8, 2021.

Army National Guard promotions are based on overall performance, attitude, leadership ability, and development potential.

These promotions additionally recognize the best qualified Soldiers and attract and retain the highest caliber Citizen Soldiers for a career in the New York Army National Guard.

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# Stewart Marine Corps reserve unit gets new commander

Marine Corps Reserve Lt. Col. Timothy K. Gallagher has taken command of Marine Aircraft Group 49, Detachment B, at Stewart Air National Guard Base. He replaces Lt. Col. Jared K. Stone.

Marine Aircraft Group 49, Detachment B-better known as MAG-49 Det. B-is a Site Support unit responsible for Marine Aircraft Group-49. The Site Command provides installation, administrative, logistical, medical, and family support for Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 49 and Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 452, while also supporting normal independent duty functions to include management of military funeral honors and color guard details, Toys 4 Tots, and other community relations activities.

Gallagher graduated from the Naval Academy in 2003 with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science.

After completing the Basic School, he underwent flight training before being designated a Naval Aviator in August 2005 and reporting to VMGR-253 at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point for training as a KC-130 pilot.



Marine Corps Reserve Lt. Col. Timothy K. Gallagher.

In October of 2006, Gallagher Reported to VMGR-352 "The Raiders" aboard Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, where he served as the S-2, Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection Officer, Flight Duty Officer, and Quality Assurance Officer. He deployed to Al

Asad, Iraq from July 2007 to February 2008 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom while assigned to VMGR-352.

In March of 2009, Gallagher was selected to be an Olmsted Scholar and assigned to Paris, France. He completed the French Basic Course with honors at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey in February 2010 before proceeding to France. He completed his Master's degree in International Security at the Paris Institute of Political Science (Sciences Po) between 2010 and 2012. During his time at Sciences Po, Gallagher also completed an internship at the French Army's Center for Doctrine and Military Studies

Gallagher was Director of Safety and Standardization (DSS), and Assistant Operations Officer from August 2012 to November 2015 and completed the Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course in the spring of 2013 before deploying with Marine Air Group-Afghanistan from January to July 2014 where he served as the MAG's Future Operations Officer.

He also deployed with Special Purpose Marine Air and Ground

Task Force Crisis Response Central Command as the VMGR Executive Officer and Operations Officer from April 2015 to August 2015 in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

In 2015, Gallagher was ordered to attend the French Military School where he completed the French Army's Combined Arms Course and the French Command and Staff Course. Following his graduation, Gallagher again reported to VMGR-352, where he served as the squadron's Operations Officer from 2018 to 2019.

Ordered to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations) staff in July of 2019, Gallagher served as the KC-130 Requirements Officer until his selection and assignment to command of Marine Aircraft Group 49 Det. B in 2021.

Gallagher is married to the former Meaghan Szermer Harris with whom he has three children, Timothy, Samuel, and Maggie.

His personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (2nd award), Air Medal with bronze numeral 4, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2nd award), and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Honoring all who served

## Veterans Day

11 November

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# 3 unique ways to give back

There are many ways for ordinary citizens to show their support for the brave men and women who selflessly serve in the military. Here are just 3.

their recoveries. By donating airline miles to military families, ordinary adults can ensure injured servicemen and -women can still see their families during difficult times in their lives. Access to such support systems can be a big help as veterans work to recover from their injuries.

## Serve as a driver for veterans

Unfortunately, many service members return from overseas missions with disabilities, some of which prevent them from driving. Adults who want to help service members can serve as drivers for veterans who can't drive themselves. Such a gesture ensures they won't miss any appointments with doctors or physical therapists, helping them get on the road to recovery that much quicker.

## Sponsor a service dog

A significant percentage of veterans return home with post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD. PTSD has been linked to a host of conditions, including depression and anxiety. However, programs such as Companions for Heroes, an organization that places service dogs with veterans, has helped many veterans successfully cope with PTSD. By sponsoring a service dog through an organization such as Companions for Heroes, adults who want to help service members can provide an invaluable service to men and women fighting to regain their quality of life.

## Donate your airline miles

Some disabled veterans receive medical treatments far away from home at facilities that specialize in treating certain types of injuries, which can make it difficult for their families to be there for them during



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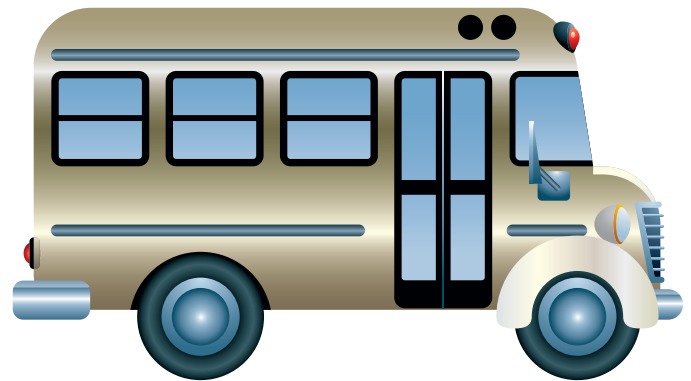
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