

American Legion Post 372 1532 Martin Ave. Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

October 1, 2024 Newsletter





Includes 3rd Quarter Recap

### World War II Veteran Receives Medals

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A local hero from South Jersey was given a well-deserved, overdue recognition on Tuesday night. Surrounded by his family, 97-yearold William Gerald Schumacher, who served in World War II, was honored in Cherry Hill.



Born and raised in Delair, New Jersey, Schumacher enlisted in the Navy at 17 years old. He served in World War II from August 1944 to June 1946.

"He served throughout the Pacific. He also served with the Marines after the war, and was a member of the occupation forces on Okinawa in Japan immediately following the war until 1947 when he was discharged," said Dan O'Pella, the senior vice commander with American Legion Post 372.

In the 77 years that have passed, Schumacher never received his medals or commendations. So on Tuesday night, at the American Legion Post 372 General Meeting, in a complete surprise for him and his family, the American Legion Post 372 presented him with those medals.

> Schumacher was also given a membership to the American Legion, in addition to being honored by Cherry Hill & Camden County officials.

#### **INSIDE THIS EDITION:**

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# www.alch372.com

## World War II Mural Completed!

On Saturday, August 24th, 2024, we held the Unveiling of the World War II mural at the Legion.

For the second consecutive year, Cherry Hill West High School student Emily Davidson's mural submission won first place in ourAmerican Legion 372's art contest and scholarship award. Last year's mural was of WWI This year's mural depicts World War II - three scenes. ships attacking in the blue sea, airplanes flying in the sky, and tanks on the ground in red, overlayed with an image of the famous image of the flag raising on Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima.

She is a brilliant young artist, and it's great to see her using her talents to honor our veterans.



#### Camden County Veterans Affairs

The Office of Veterans Affairs serves all veterans and their family members within Camden County.

From help with Military Records to Disability Claims and Home Loans, they are there to assist you every step of the way.

This office is available Monday through Friday to give assistance to all our veterans and dependents. If you have any questions regarding their services, please call

(856) 374-5801



While the Cherry Hill Post 372 Youth Baseball journey came to an end on July 24, 2024 - we were in the final 4 of the NJ American Legion State Tournament and we battled till the end! Our young men are a great bunch of baseball players and hold the title of the 2024 Camden County League Champs! Job well done young men!!!

# The SAL's Picture Perfect Family Day Festivities

The SAL's infamous Annual Family Day, held on September 21, 2024, was a picture-perfect day for our Annual Family Day! The weather was pure perfection, serving as the ideal backdrop for our wonderful gathering filled with laughter, great music, delicious food, 50/50's and heartwarming company. Our members captured the highlights of the day through photos. It's safe to say that our Family Day was a hit, leaving us all with memories we'll cherish for years to come. This annual event has been held since the early 1990's and has always been a member favorite! Until next year.....



# American Legion Post 22 or Cocoa, Florida In the House!

Our friends from the American Legion Post 22 in Cocoa, Florida were greeted with open arms and warm smiles when they came to visit us recently.

Pictured here are some of their members holding the American Legion Post 372 license plate we gave them when they were here. We hope to see you them again and our members should certainly stop by their place if you visit their area!

American Legions throughout the country swap license plates while visiting each other.



American Legion Post 372, 1532 Martin Ave, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002 --- Published by Sue Quinn-Morris

## Anniversary of September 11th

On the anniversary of 9/11, the American Legion Post 372 paid tribute in a touching way by placing flags in the field, spelling out 9 1 1. This symbolic gesture served as a

poignant reminder of the lives lost on that fateful day, honoring the memory of those who perished in

the tragic events. The sight of the flags waving in the breeze, forming the numbers 9 1 1, evoked a sense of unity and remembrance.



# Passing of Long Time SAL Member, Greg Discher



regret we report that long time friend and Post 372 Greg Discher, passed away in August 2024.

Greg had been a member of Deer Park Fire Co. in Cherry Hill, NJ since 1986. He was a volunteer firefighter with Deer Park until 1994. Greg's ideas were the catalyst for the current Rehab 13 operations after he proposed

It is with deep the idea in 2003 - Deer Park then became known as Rehab 13 in 2004, providing rehab services to firefighters, police, EMTs, and other emergency personnel in five SAL member, South Jersey counties, "Serving Those Who Serve." Greg is currently a contributing member, life member, former active member, and former trustee of Deer Park. No one loves Christmas as much as Greg! He loved to play Santa Claus and could be seen waving from the fire truck at Christmastime years. for many years! Greg has also served with the

Cherry Hill Fire Police for over 10

years. He has been a member of the American Legion - Sons of the Legionnaires for over 30 years; Greg's father served in the military. Greg has proudly served in the Legion's honor guard. For 20 years Greg worked at the Little Servant Sisters of the Immaculate Conception's annual Polish festival in Cherry Hill.

Greg was also a member of the South Philly Vikings Mummers Club - Fancy Brigade for over 30

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Diane, and all of his family. He will be sorely missed.

## Passing of Long Time Veteran Fred Walker



It is with deep sadness we report the passing of long time Legionnaire, Fred Walker. He was a member of American Le-

gion Post 372 for over 30 years. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends, including his son Billy who is SAL member at Post 372. . Frederick Martin Walker, of Cherry

Hill, passed away peacefully on August 10, 2024, at the age of 92. Born on February 5, 1932, in South Philadelphia, Fred's life was a tes-

tament to the values of hard work, dedication, and the importance of family.

He was an Army Sergeant and Medic in a MASH unit during the Korean War, a role that showcased his bravery and compassion . His services were held Saturday, August 17th, 2024 at Christ the Light Church in Cherry Hill.

## Support for Homeless Veterans The American Legion provides free guidance for veterans in need

# **LEGION**

The American Legion places spe-

cial priority on the issue of veteran

homelessness. With veterans mak-

ing up approximately 11 percent of

population, there's plenty of reason

to give the cause special concern.

To help our struggling brothers-in-

arms, the Legion works on a global

level, lobbying for legislation affect-

ing veteran homelessness, and

our nation's total adult homeless

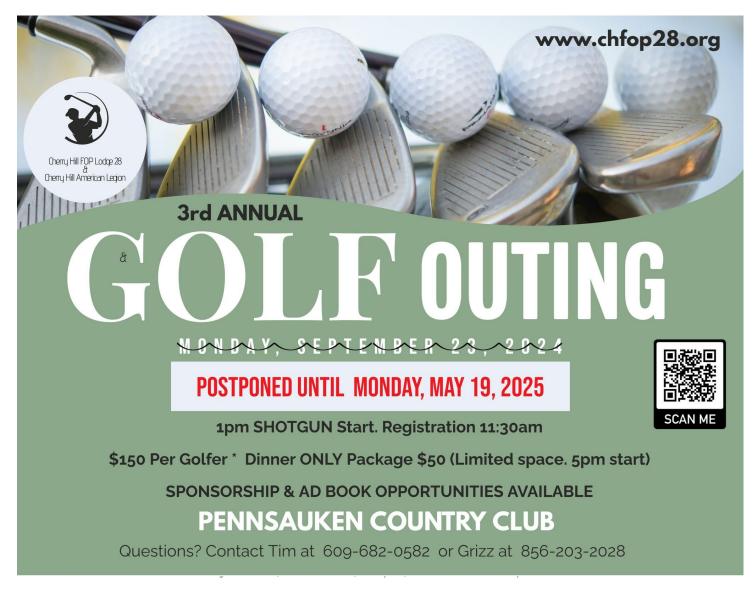
# Department of New Jersey

acts on a local level, directly assisting veterans who have fallen on tough times and are without a

place to live or facing the prospect of it.

This direct assistance is coordinated by the Legion's Homeless Veterans Task Force, which works to ensure local services and resources are available to homeless veterans and their families. The Task Force, which has chairpersons in each department, collaborates with government agencies,

homeless service providers and veterans service organizations to develop and implement initiatives that will help homeless veterans. Additionally, Homeless Veterans Task Force chairpersons can provide direct aid to veterans and their families who reach out to them. A veteran who is homeless or facing possible homelessness can contact a chairperson, who will provide guidance and assistance to the veteran and his or her family. Contact Chairman Dennis Duddie d.duddie@njamericanlegion.org for more information



#### Meetings

General Member Meetings - 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. (grizz52@gmail.com) Auxiliary Meetings - 1st Monday of the month at 7pm (pathawk55@gmail.com) SAL Meetings - 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7pm (seib.ja@gmail.com) Riders Meetings - 2nd Monday of the month at 7pm. (slina74@verizon.net)

Be sure to check with an Officer prior to scheduled meeting to make sure there has been no change. Sometimes meetings are cancelled/postponed due to holidays and such.

#### **Membership**

In addition to active military and veteran memberships, we have memberships available for relatives of veterans. For more information and applications, contact the Membership Chairperson of the unit you wish to join.

> General Members - Dan Serabo at <u>danielserabo@yahoo.com</u> Auxiliary Membership - Cindy Nims at <u>cjnims316@gmail.com</u> SAL Membership - Sean Conway at <u>seanwconway@yahoo.com</u> Riders Membership - Steve Lina at <u>slina75@verizon.net</u>



**VENUE for YOU** at the American Legion in Cherry Hill, NJ

Baby / Bridal Showers \* Celebrations \* Receptions Meetings \* Seminars \* Fairs \* and more!



Did you know that members of the American Legion Post 372 who have belonged to our Post for 1+ years, get a discount on renting our Hall?

Check out all the details about our Hall at <u>www.alch372.com/hall-rental/</u>, call Sue Quinn-Morris at 856-495-7270 or grab a Hall Packet in the canteen!

# SUPPORT Local Veterans & PBA

**Clothing & Shoe Donation Bin** 

PBA #176.



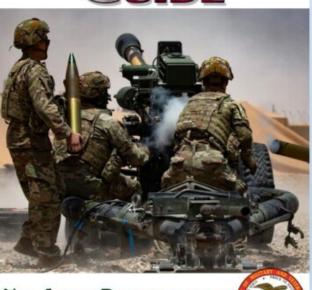
# Location: American Legion, 1532 Martin Ave., Cherry Hill, NJ (Behind Cherry Hill West High School)



# **Comprehensive Guide**

# to Benefits available to

# Veterans in NJ



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS



### SCAN the QR CODE to View and/or Print the NJ Veterans Benefit Guide

https://www.nj.gov/military/assets/documents/NJ% 20Veterans%20Benefits%20Guide.pdf





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# BREAKFAST, CRAFTS & SANTA VISIT

Join us for breakfast, crafts, and a visit with Santa. There is no cost for this affair. Please sign up by 11/27/24 The list will be closed at this time so that we can prepare enough food and surprises for those who attend. Sign up can be done at the Legion or by emailing Pat at pathawk55@gmail.com) —Include name, sex and age of child(ren).

RSVP no later then November 27th American Legion, 1532 Martin Ave, Cherry Hill, NJ

#### Join the SAL's for their 1st Log Splitting Day of the Season



# SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024

Meet at the Legion at 9am



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#### **CANTEEN SCENE**

The 3rd quarter of 2024 was filled with summer fun with a touch of fall festivities. Events included the following;

**Frozen Fridays** —Every Friday during the Summer, Bartender Robin held her "Frozen Fridays" from 12pm-6pm. Pina Coloda's, Flavored Margaritas, Strawberry Daiquiris and more !

**Siesta Fiesta**—July 20th—A fun summer evening of latin inspried food, beverages, music and dance in the Legion Canteen with bartender Josh.

**4th of July Fireworks & Picnic**—Cherry Hill Township brought back the annual Fireworks which is put on in the Football Stadium—across the street from the Legion. Members came out for burgers & dogs provided by the Legion and then watched the fireworks.







### LEGION KITCHEN

Be sure to stop in Tuesday through Friday (12-6) for lunch by Chef Patti! Delicious food at great prices. Check out her facebook page at <u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> <u>kitchenpost372/</u>

### Upcoming Canteen Events

**October 26, 2024—Halloween Bash**—Get ready for a spooktacular night filled with enchanting festivities at the Halloween Bash happening at the Legion on Saturday, October 26th, starting at 7pm and going until the Ghosts and Goblins send us home! With a Costume Contest to show off your most creative getup, Live Music by the amazing Decon Zeke to keep you grooving, and Specialty Drinks expertly crafted by Bartender Josh to savor the flavors of fall, this event promises to be a thrill for all

**December 21, 2024—Adult Christmas Party in the Canteen**— Get ready to jingle and mingle at the American Legion Post 372's Christmas Party on December 21st from 1pm to 5pm in the Legion canteen! Members and their



guests are all welcome to join the holly jolly gathering. Expect the canteen to be filled with the joyful sounds of holiday music, plates stacked with delicious treats to tantalize your taste buds, and a cheerful atmosphere sure to warm the cockles of your heart. Don't forget to bring your favourite dish to share and spread some culinary Christmas cheer. It's a party you won't want to miss, so mark your calendars and come spread the holiday spirit with us!

**January 1, 2025—New Years Day Pajama Party**—Just roll out of bed, rock those cozy pajamas, and shuffle on over for great deals on some much-needed hangover drinks and a deals on a scrumptious breakfast to start the year off right. It's time to bid farewell to 2024 with a side of sass and a sprinkle of comfort!



Effective January 1st - All Members Will Need to Show their 2025 Membership Card in Canteen