

Putnam Veterans SITREP



pray thank remember

PLEASE ATTEND A MEMORIAL DAY EVENT!!!!

AN E-MAIL SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) OF THE PUTNAM COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY

MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS & FESTIVITIES

**Friday , Saturday , Sunday,
May 22,23,24**

Putnam County Joint Veterans Council-

John Morris Memorial Watchfire Vigil, At Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park
Each day 6 PM-6AM Opening Ceremony Friday the 22th at 7:00 PM Flag Retirement through out the Vigil.



Sunday May 24

VFW Post 1374 & Auxiliary & American Legion Post 270-

9:30 AM Ceremony at monument on Terryhill Road, Kent 11:00 AM Ceremony at Post Home 32 Gleneida Ave, Carmel
Refreshments to follow 11:00 Ceremony

MONDAY MAY 25:

VFW Post 391, Putnam Valley-

The will be three short parades with ceremonies. Town Hall 11 AM, Lake Peekskill 12:00 PM. Post Home 1:00 PM (154 Oscawana Lake Road, Put Valley. Open House at Post following last ceremony.

VFW Post 672, Brewster

Parade forms at 930 AM Brewster Fire Department, steps off 10 AM, Ceremony at Southeast Veterans Park (Electrazone Field). Following the parade and ceremony refreshments at VFW Post 672.

VFW Post 2362 and American Legion Post 275 Cold Spring-

Parade starts at 9 AM at Cold Spring Village Hall at 85 Main St. to Cold Spring Cemetery for a ceremony.

VFW Post & Auxiliary 5491 Mahopac & American Legion Post 1080-

The parade will step off at 10:30 from Clark Place, followed by a ceremony at the monument near CVS. Afterwards, Mahopac VFW will have their ceremony at the Poat Home at 154 East Lake Blvd., then the American Legion will have a ceremony at 12:30 at the post on Buckshollow Road. Refreshments both Posts.

VFW Post 9257 & Auxiliary & AMVET Post 1111 Putnam Lake-

11 AM Ceremony at the Monument (Intersection Fairfield Dr. and Haviland Dr.



PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE
KEVIN M. BYRNE

Dear Friends,

Each year, Memorial Day gives us a moment to come together and remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation. It is a solemn reminder that the freedoms we enjoy today were secured by the bravery and selflessness of men and women who never came home.

While remembrance should never be confined to a single day, this time of year calls on all of us to pause, reflect, and ensure that the legacy of our fallen heroes is carried forward. Whether by attending a local ceremony, visiting a gravesite, or simply taking time to speak with loved ones about the meaning of Memorial Day, these acts help keep their memory alive.

Here in Putnam County, we are proud to continue one of our most meaningful traditions; the Row of Honor on Lake Gleneida. This year, 400 American flags will stand in tribute to those who gave their lives in defense of our country. We will begin placing the flags on Saturday, May 16 at 9:00 a.m., and I encourage residents to take part - whether by sponsoring a flag or lending a hand during setup or takedown.

We are also once again organizing volunteer watchfires at Veterans Memorial Park. Following an act of vandalism in 2005, members of our community have stood watch over the park during Memorial Day Weekend to protect this sacred space. That tradition continues today, and we welcome additional volunteers to join in this important effort.

To learn more about how you can participate in these efforts, please contact our Veterans Service Agency.

As we observe Memorial Day, let us stand united in gratitude and remembrance. We owe an enduring debt to those who gave everything for our country, and we will never forget their sacrifice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Byrne".

Kevin M. Byrne
Putnam County Executive



CARMEL, NY - The Putnam County Veterans Service Agency is seeking sponsors for Putnam County's beloved Row of Honor, the patriotic display of approximately 400 American flags that lines the shores of Lake Gleneida in tribute to veterans and military heroes.

The Row of Honor has become one of Putnam County's most recognizable and meaningful traditions, drawing residents and visitors alike to the lakefront during Memorial Day and Veterans Day observances. The display honors veterans, active-duty service members, and loved ones through individually sponsored American flags installed along the shoreline.

This year's Row of Honor will once again return in time for Memorial Day, with sponsors helping ensure the continued success and long-term sustainability of the program. As always, volunteers will be needed to help install flags beginning at 9am on Saturday, May 16.

"The Row of Honor is a visible reminder of the gratitude our community has for those who served our country," said Karl Rohde, Director of the Veterans Service Agency. "Each flag tells a personal story and represents a life of service, sacrifice, and patriotism. Community sponsorships are what make this display possible, and we encourage residents to take part in preserving this important tradition."

Originally developed through a partnership between the Veterans Service Agency and the Putnam County Joint Veterans Council, the display has grown significantly over the years. As interest has expanded, the County has implemented a more structured sponsorship process to ensure the Row of Honor remains sustainable and well maintained for years to come.

County Executive Kevin Byrne recently signed local legislation officially codifying the Row of Honor into County law, ensuring its permanence as a fixture of Putnam County's patriotic identity.

"The Row of Honor has become one of the most powerful symbols of remembrance and patriotism in Putnam County," Byrne said. "By making it permanent through local law, we have guaranteed that future generations will continue to honor those who served. Sponsoring a flag is a meaningful way for families, organizations, and residents to participate in that mission."

Sponsors may dedicate a flag in honor or memory of a veteran or service member. Each flag can be purchased for 2 years for \$200, after which, the flag will be retired, sealed, and given to the sponsor as a gift. More sponsorship details, forms, and additional information are available through the County's Row of Honor webpage at PutnamCountyNY.gov/ROH

Please come help place the Row of Honor on May 16th at 9AM

Lest we forget



DAVE GRANLUND ©

Sponsorship applications may also be requested through the Veterans Memorial Park Office at 845 808 1994 or visit the office at 201 Gipsy Trail Road, Carmel NY

**DONALD B. SMITH GOVERNMENT CAMPUS
110 OLD ROUTE 6, BLDG. #3
CARMEL, NY 10512
MONDAY-FRIDAY 9-4
CALL FOR APPOINTMENT
845-808-1620**

**KARL ROHDE, DIRECTOR
TANYA PINNIEJA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR**



MEMORIAL DAY



Memorial Day is more than just a great excuse for a cookout and a day off from work. The holiday was created to honor the many American men and women who died in military service. This focus on those who made the ultimate sacrifice sets it apart from Veterans' Day, which honors all military veterans, living and dead.

Here are some facts and history on the holiday:

The day was originally set aside to remember Union soldiers who died during the Civil War, but following World War I, its scope expanded to include those who died in any war or military action. At the end of the Civil War, many US cities held their own memorial observations for their hometown heroes.

The idea for a specific holiday came in 1868 from Illinois Senator John Alexander Logan, a former Union general and keynote speaker at one early observation. Logan used his position as commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, a fraternal organization of Union soldiers, to issue a proclamation for a national "Decoration Day" to be observed on May 30 of that year by decorating the tombs of Union soldiers.

The name "Memorial Day," started cropping up from time to time. The new name became more common after World War II, and in 1967 was declared the official name by Federal law.

Memorial Day was celebrated on May 30 until 1968, when Congress passed the Uniform Holidays Bill, moving 4 holidays — Columbus Day, Presidents' Day, Veterans Day and Memorial Day—to designated Mondays in order to create the ever-popular three-day weekends. (Veterans Day eventually reverted to its traditional November 11 date, which mirrors Armistice Day and Remembrance Day celebrations in the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth nations).

Poppies are associated with those who died during wartime since World War I. In the US people wear the red poppy on Memorial Day to honor those who died trying to protect the country, according to The Department of Veterans Affairs. In Canada, poppies are worn on Remembrance Day, November 11th.

The red color is not a symbol of blood, death, or support for war. Instead, poppies were the only flowers that grew in war-torn battlefields. When the countrysides were nothing but mud and devastation, poppy flowers sprouted up and flourished. The sight of the red poppies inspired one Canadian soldier, Colonel John McCrae, to pen a poem in May 1915:

In Flanders Fields

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly.
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

Colonel John McCrae

Farmers Almanac Story

HONOR THE DEAD BY HELPING THE LIVING

Volume 16 Issue 3

Page 5

Wear a BUDDY POPPY



DAV



VFW



AMVETS



American Legion



Military Order of the Purple Heart



Marine Corps League



Korean War Veterans Association



Not all Veterans Organizations use the

Poppy as a Memorial Flower, but they all mean the same.



EQUINE EXPERIENCES

DISCOVER THE POWER OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING WITH HORSES

In partnership with The Equus Effect (TEE), we invite veterans to join our upcoming equine experience cohorts, designed to help participants build self awareness, manage emotions, and develop healthier relationships.

Horses are naturally sensitive to human emotions and intentions, making them incredible partners. We use ground-based horsemanship skills to guide you through a hands-on experiences that help you build self awareness and understand how you come across to others – and then recalibrate to rebuild healthy, authentic relationships.

The Equus Effect is perfect for veterans who struggle to stay grounded and present as they face challenges in life at home and work.

We help folks recognize and process emotions so participants can respond rather than react to people and situations that trigger them.

This program uses experiential learning, honest discussions and practical tools for an increased sense of well-being. Horses get us there faster – as they have always done!

SPRING 2026 DATES:	LOCATION:
Friday, May 15	37 Drum Rd,
Friday, May 29	Sharon, CT 06069
Friday, June 12	TIME:
Friday, June 26	Each session is 10 am - 2 pm

Space is limited and pre-registration is required.
Lunch will be provided!

We ask registrants to attend all four sessions. If needed, you may miss one session, but all are required to attend the final session.

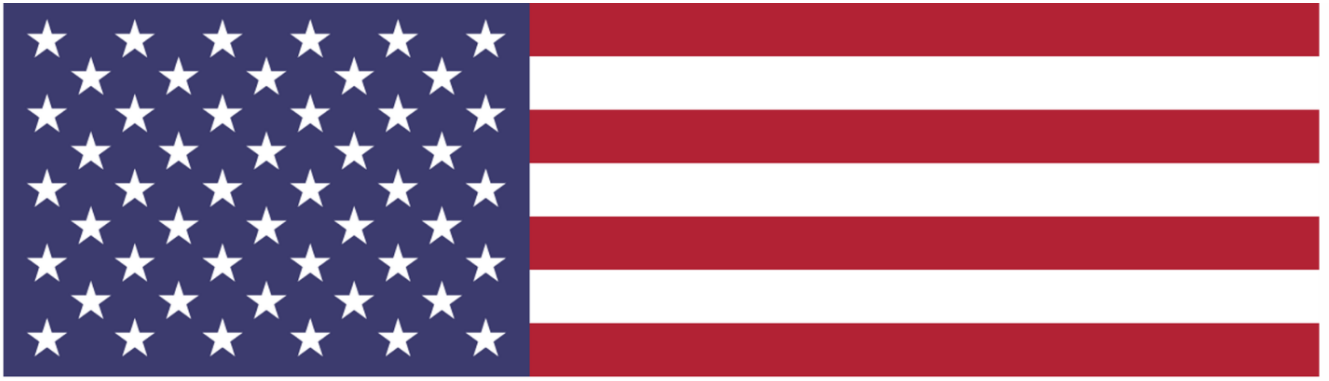
QUESTIONS? Please feel free to reach out:
Steve Seid
steveseid@guardianrevival.org
914.907.9952



JOSEPH P. DWYER VETERANS
PEER SUPPORT PROJECT
OF PUTNAM COUNTY

RSVP TODAY:
qrco.de/dwyer-equine





PUTNAM COUNTY JOINT VETERANS COUNCIL

MEMORIAL DAY WATCHFIRES

PUTNAM COUNTY
VETERANS
MEMORIAL
PARK

7 PM-7AM
MAY 22ND, 23RD &
24TH.

OPENING CEREMONY
7:00PM ON FRIDAY

TO HAVE YOUR ORGANIZATION SIGN UP FOR A 6-12 HOUR SHIFT
CONTACT RYAN LEPORE (914) 552-5023 (TEXT PREFERRED) OR EMAIL
VFW391PVNY@GMAIL.COM