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# SEPT/OCT 2011 NEWSLETTER

## MESSAGE FROM POST COMMANDER:

Greetings Comrades,

I hope we all enjoyed a wonderful summer this year. It has been a busy one around the Post. Soon we will see the changes of the season and that crops around here will be harvested.

Some of us from the Post and Ladies Auxiliary recently enjoyed a new experience. We had been contacted by the Culver Academy that there would be some Wounded Warriors and their families at the Summer School's Family Camp. Some generous Alumni of the Academy donated to the Wounded Warrior Project the funds to send these great men and their families for a vacation here in Culver. They requested we come and honor them at a ceremony. Not sure of the number of people or exactly what we should do, we did what we could muster up in a short time, and I have to say it came off very well. The opportunity to speak words of THANKS to those men, to meet their families and to truly show our admiration and gratitude. It was as meaningful to us as it was to them. We shared some gifts to them from our Post and they were proud to receive them. Then the Ladies Auxiliary provided everyone with a wonderfully decorated and delicious cake. We all look forward to another occasion like this. The four men we honored had a combined total of 55 years of serving in our military. I was very proud to be a part of our fine group from the Post and Auxiliaries to be there and share in that evening of tribute to them.

Hope to see more of you around the Post from time to time - maybe at meetings.

In Comradeship,

Bryce Lindvall

## MENS AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Our hog roast went very well and thanks to all who helped and all who joined us for the delicious food. We will be giving out "glow sticks" to all children at Halloween. Details will be in Culver Citizen. Fall is here - enjoy the few days of summer we have left.

Terry Wakefield, President

## VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT

Pam Hyndman, Chairman

This program is designed to help our veterans and/or their families when they are in need. Sometimes just a note of 'Thinking of You' does a lot, especially when those veterans or families are homebound or in a nursing home. We are intent upon helping our military members of the VFW and some who are sons of Ladies Auxiliary members. For any Auxiliary member who may be in a financial situation where she cannot pay her dues, we are able to help that member from our Relief Fund. We are not able to help our members unless we are notified of the necessity of our services. Be sure to let us know when someone is in need of any kind or nature of help. We will be there to help.

## MESSAGE FROM LADIES PRESIDENT

Dear Sisters: It is hard to believe summer is nearly over and the kids are back to school already! I hope your summer was a good one.

We were very honored to be asked to participate in the Wounded Warriors program at Culver Academy's Summer Family Camp. There were four wounded warriors and their families at the camp for a week to enjoy all the activities. How blessed we felt standing with these four warriors and talking with their families. Mementos were given to each one for the Ladies Auxiliary - a "Welcome" card, a small poppy boutonniere and a Blue Star Flag to be posted in a window of their homes to note that a member of the military resides there. We served cake and punch to all of the families and our "crew"!

With Labor Day on September 5th, we will NOT have a meeting. Our next meeting will be Monday, September 19th, and the District President will be present for our annual Inspection. We will have snacks and finger foods at 6:30, prior to the meeting which will convene at 7:30 P.M. I would hope to see many of our members present for this meeting to greet our District President Judy Jones.

Indiana Day at the VFW National Home in Eaton Rapids, Michigan will be September 25th. Anyone wanting to attend this event please call me - 574-842-2085. Our National Home Chairman, Patty Tolliver, has placed a box in the Canteen for donations of various mixes - cakes, cookies, brownies, etc. These will be taken to the National Home for Indiana.

Stay safe and keep well, until next time.

Loyally - Margaret Dehne

## CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

**Ladies Auxiliary President Margaret Dehne has been appointed as a member of the City Planning Commission. Way to go, Margaret!!!!**

## LADIES AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP!!!!

Mary Lou and Chuckie - Co-chairmen

We are having a little bit different Membership Program this year. The Poster is up in the Post Canteen and the theme is "Step Up To The Challenge". There are steps to be accomplished as our members pay their 2012 dues - \$15.00. The "Challenge" will be for us to attain our 100% of quota to again make our pledge to our parent organization - to support our veterans AND our military.

"Step # 1" has already been achieved and we are well on the way to "Step # 2", but we need the help of EVERY member to achieve our goal.

We will have a drawing of cash prizes at the October 17th meeting. Chances to be drawn from are: Life Members 3 chances each; Continuous, New or Reinstated, paid by Aug 1 - 3 chances each; members paying from August 15 to September 15 - 2 chances each; and, members paying from September 15 to October 15 - 1 chance each. The following prizes will be awarded: First name drawn - \$25.00; Second - \$20.00; Third and Fourth - \$10.00 each; Fifth and Sixth - \$5.00 each. REMEMBER: the earlier you pay your dues, the better chance you will of winning one of the prizes!! You don't have to be in attendance at the October meeting, but it would be nice to see lots of you at that meeting and others, also.

Send your \$15.00 dues to Treasurer Chuckie Strang, 215 Winfield St., Culver IN 46511. If you want info about a Life Membership, call Chuckie at 574-842-2986 (let the phone ring several times).

## AMERICANISM

Mary Lou Wise, Chairman

We gave out a total of ELEVEN Blue Star Flags this month. Four went to the Wounded Warriors we were pleased to meet with; three went to a grandfather, a father, and the active duty son who resides at Ft Hood TX. Three went to mothers - one whose son is now in Afghanistan, one whose son just came home from Afghanistan and took discharge, and is a member of the Post; and the last one went to a mother of three U S Navy veterans - triplet sons!!

I remind you to fly your U S Flag on ALL National Holidays. Coming up we have Labor Day on September 5th; POW / MIA Remembrance Day September 16th; and in October on the 10th - observance of Columbus Day.

If you do not have a Flag, contact Chuckie Strang - 574-842-2986 - and she can order whatever size, etc., flag you need.

## BUDDY POPPY

Patty Tolliver, Chairman

I have created the Poster for those who donate to the Buddy Poppy Program for the new year. I have green leaves with lady bugs made from poppies and each "bug" is on a leaf and the name of the member making the donation is written on the leaf. These Buddy Poppy 'Bugs' are growing with over twenty, so far, on the Poster.

When sending in your Auxiliary dues, add one dollar - \$1.00 - to join the Poppy Program.

## CANCER AID & RESEARCH

The ongoing word about cancer is EARLY DETECTION !!! So many people do nothing about lumps or changes in any part of your body - SEE YOUR DOCTOR right away. So many people do not take care of themselves and think they could never have cancer. Well, that is about the dumbest (pardon me) think they could think!!

Over 200 million people developed lung cancer last year alone - just think if that was 200 million every year, and none of them noted a change in breathing, or any other change, they could all die. That is something that is very unnecessary. Early detection and see your doctor!!!

Our obligation to the National Cancer Aid and Research Fund is \$2.00 per membership quota - and we sent our \$328.00 to the Department Treasurer and that will go on to National. We also purchased 40 tickets in the Department Raffle at \$1.00 = \$40.00.

All of the Cancer Aid and Research monies raised by each Auxiliary, District and Department, then sent to National to the Cancer Aid & Research Fund is then used to send Cancer Grants to members across the nation and around the world who are suffering from the dreaded - cancer - and the National President also makes grants to Cancer Research Centers to aid in studies for a possible cure.

## JUNIOR GIRLS UNITS

The Junior Girl Units were begun a number of years ago. Those girls - ages 6 to 16 - form units on the same eligibility as the Ladies Auxiliary members.

Indiana has had several Units in the past, but we have been informed that only one unit exists. Each year the units have had a statewide conference and the Auxiliaries have made donations so that they could have that Conference, and we made a donation for their upcoming one. Details later.

## VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN

Patty Tolliver, Chairman

At our recent meeting, we donated \$10 per member - \$16.40 - to the National Health and Happiness Fund to be used for the health and happiness for the children at the Home. Part of this fund gives the children Christmas gifts and gives them money for them to purchase gifts for their family or their house parent(s).

Several years ago, the National Auxiliary spent several million dollars to "update" the athletic center into a beautiful and sourceful center on a much larger scale than the "old" building. However, the original front entrance was incorporated into the new building. There is a very large room where we meet on Indiana Day, also a game room and social area for the children, then upstairs is the chapel where Sunday services are held. It is certainly a center for the 'health and happiness' of the residents. INDIANA DAY will be held on September 25 and our Auxiliary continues in our annual tradition of donating mixes of all sorts - cake, cookie, brownie, etc. There is a box in the Post Canteen for donations.

**FINAL DATE to have all donations at the Post is MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 - meeting night.**

## HOSPITAL - VA & GENERAL

Wanda VonEhr, Chairman

To continue our support of the VA hospitals in Indiana - Fort Wayne, Marion, and Roudebush VA in Indianapolis - and the Indiana State Veterans Home (which is now under the Veterans Administration) we sent our annual donation to the Department General Hospital Fund of \$24.00, and to the individual hospitals and ISVH we sent \$25.00 each = \$100.00.

We have a Post member that resides at the State Veterans Home - Stanley Kuzydym. Stan moved to the Home several years ago and lives on 'campus'.

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Barb Linhart, Chairman

We have made our annual donation to the Backpacks program - Jim Harper is Chairman for the Lions Club - to purchase backpacks and fill them with needed items - pencils, pens, paper materials, etc., and to be given to children who are in need of a backpack and the family cannot afford one. This is a very special program and again one who helps the needy children of our community.

## VOICE OF DEMOCRACY & PATRIOTS PEN ESSAY

Barb Linhart, Chairman

Our annual participation in these programs will continue this year. The theme title for the Voice of Democracy program is: "Is There Pride in Serving in our Military?" The Voice of Democracy competition is open to students in the 9th through 12th grades. The entrants will write an essay to coincide with the theme noted, then record the essay onto a cassette tape (be sure the tape is clean!). There will be a local contest of entries here, then our winner will go on to the District competition. The deadline for the entries on the local level is November 1, 2011.

The Patriots Pen Essay contest is for students in the 6th through 8th grades and their theme is: "Are You Proud of Your Country?" and that deadline for the local competition is also November 1st. There will be a local judging and winners will then be forwarded to the District competition.

It should be noted that home schooled students are also eligible for these competition and they should call the VFW Post 6919 at 574-842-3886 and leave a message for Barb Linhart.

# LEGISLATIVE ALERT - NATIONAL COALITION for HOMELESS VETERANS. Homeless veterans facts sheet:

“As long as there are veterans or veteran family members searching for shelter on the streets .. we have failed in our duty to honor the commitment of the brave men and women who chose to serve.” . . . . .  
. . . United States Senator Barack Obama, 2007.

**Definition of Homeless:** Public Law 100-77 signed into law on July 22, 1987, known as the “McKinney Act,” identifies a homeless person as one who lacks a fixed regular and adequate nighttime residence; and who has a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter, a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or a public or private place not ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. (Editorial Note: So that’s what homeless is!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!)

**Why Are Veterans Homeless?** In addition to the complex set of factors affecting all homeless individuals - extreme shortage of affordable housing, livable income, and limited access to health care -

**a large number of displaced and at-risk veterans live with lingering effects of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and substance abuse, compounded by a lack of family and social support networks.** Recent VA data indicates that veterans are twice as likely as other Americans to be chronically homeless. Program evaluations indicate male veterans are 1.3 times more likely to become homeless than non-veteran males; and female veterans are 3.6 more likely to become homeless than non-veteran females. **+26%** of homeless population are veterans; **+33%** of male homeless population are veterans; **+15%** served before the Vietnam era; **+47%** served during the Vietnam era; **+17%** served after the vietnam era; **+67%** served three or more years; **+33%** were stationed in a war zone.

A few homeless veterans have used VA homeless services, but not enough. Several of the Posts and Ladies Auxiliaries are participating in ‘stand-downs’ across the State. Nearly 90% received an honorab discharge, and that many completed high school / GED, compared to only 56% of non veterans. Nearly 80% reside in central cities, and man of them suffer from substance abuse problems or mental illnesses. Nearly 50% are age 45 or older compared to only 20% of non-veteran homeless citizens.

**Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)** estimates nearly 196,000 veterans are homeless on any given night, and approximately 400,000 veterans experience homelessness during any given year! According to the Coalitions report, homeless veterans need a coordinated effort that provides secure housing and nutritional meals, physical health care, substance abuse aftercare, mental health counseling, and personal development and empowerment. Homeless veterans also need job assessment, training and placement assistance. **The Coalition believes all programs to assist homeless veterans must focus on helping veterans reach their highest level of independence.**

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**HELP !!! The Power IS OUT . . . . .**

Sudden power outages can ge **frustrating** and **troublesome**, especially when they are prolonged. Perishable foods should not be held above 40 degrees for more than 2 hours.

**If a power outage is 2 hours or less, you need not be concerned**, but how do you save your food when the refrigerator is out for longer times? Being prepared can help and by planning ahead, you can save your perishables.

**What do I need ? + One or more coolers.** - Inexpensive styrofoam coolers can do an excellent job as well. **+ Ice** - Surrounding your food with ice in a cooler will ensure that it will stay cold. **+ - Shelf-stable foods**, such as canned goods and powdered or boxed milk. These can be eaten cold or heated on a grill. **+ - Digital quick-response Thermometer.** A digital thermometer should be a necessity in your kitchen anyway. With these thermometers you can quickly check the internal temperatures of food for doneness and safety.

**What to do ? . . . . . do not open the refrigerator or freezer.** Tell your little ones not to open the door of either one. An unopened refrigerator will keep foods cold enough for a couple of hours at least. A freezer that is half full will hold for up to 24 hours and a full freezer for 48 hours. If it looks like the power outage will be for more than 2-4 hours, pack refrigerated milk, dairy products, meats, fish, poultry, eggs, gravy, stuffing and leftovers into your cooler surrounded by ice. If it looks like the power outage will be **prolonged**, prepare a cooler with ice for your freezer items.

**Q’s and A’s - What if I go to bed and the power is still not on?** Before you go to bed, pack your perishables into your coolers if you have not already done so. Also, when you go to bed, leave a bedroom light switched on. When the power comes back on, it will wake you, so you can check the condition of your foods in the freezer. If freezer foods still have ice crystals they can be refrozen.

**What if the power goes out while I am at work or out of the house and it has been more than a few hours before I get home?** Try to determine how long the power has been out. Check the internal temperature of the food in your refrigerator with your quick-response thermometer. A liquid such as milk or juice is easy to check. Spot check other items like steaks or leftovers, also. If the internal temperature is above 40 degrees, it is best to throw it out. If the food in the freezer is not above 40 degrees and there are still ice crystals, you can refreeze. **What if the power goes out and comes back on while am out?** If your freezer is fairly full and you know it was not longer than 24 hours, the food should be okay. There will be loss of quality with refreezing, but the food should be safe. If the refrigerator was out for more than 2-4 hours, you are best to discard the perishables.

.....prepared by Giant Foods, Inc. and original content adapted from Food News for Consumers Summer 1989, U S Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service. Reprint: American Red Cross

## BREAKING NEWS - VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

“Generations of patriotic Americans have fought, bled and died to help defend the U S Constitution that great document provides and guarantees fundamental rights of religious expression and freedom of speech. Those basic tenets are clearly being violated at the cemetery and that simply cannot be tolerated.” - Richard L Eubank, VFW Natl Commander.



### **HOUSTON VA FORBIDS PRAYER AT VETERANS' FUNERALS!**

Dear VFW Friend: Can you believe it? “They’ve told the VFW and American Legion that they cannot have prayer during the burial services of our veterans, unless the family requests it in writing and submits the prayer for pre-approval.” - Liberty Institute General Counsel, Jeff Mateer

This will not be tolerated! The VFW has joined with other patriotic veterans’ groups and the Liberty Institute to file suit against the VA and the Director of Houston National Cemetery for religious hostility and unlawful censorship.



## **VFW POST 6919 AND THEIR AUXILIARIES WELCOME “WOUNDED WARRIORS” TO CULVER ACADEMY’S ALUMNI CAMP ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2011**

### **VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 6919 AND AUXILIARIES**

Mary Lou Wise, Newsletter Editor  
1016 Elm St  
Plymouth, IN 46563-3011

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### **FORWARDING & ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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### **JACKPOT BINGO EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT \$500.00 JACKPOT**

#### **ATTENTION - LADIES AUX MEMBERS**

(1) We will have a Bake Sale and Flea Market Sept 23 & 24 - 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, as part of Culver’s town-wide yard sale, upstairs at the Post. **DONATIONS NEEDED FOR BOTH DAYS !!!**

(2) FOR INDIANA DAY AT THE VFW NATIONAL HOME: Need mixes - cookie, cake, brownie, jello, puddings, and non-perishable dessert items. **Bring these to VFW by Sept 19th.**

# VFW POST 6919 & AUXILIARIES

September 2011

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday | Wednesday                            | Thursday                              | Friday   | Saturday  |
|---|--|---------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| Free Meals - September<br>2 - Bob Ross<br>9 - Terry Wakefield<br>16 - Shelby Dragon<br>23 - Robert Olinger<br>30 - Deanna Allen |  |         |                                      | 1<br>MEN'S AUX<br>MEETING<br>7:00 PM  | 2<br>POST STEAK<br>FRY<br>5:30 PM<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME | 3<br>JACKPOT<br>BINGO<br>\$500<br>JACKPOT<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME  |
| 4<br>OPEN<br>SUNDAY   | 5<br>LABOR DAY<br><br>No Ladies<br>Aux Meeting                   | 6       | 7                                    | 8                                     | 9<br>LADIES AUX<br>KITCHEN<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME        | 10<br>JACKPOT<br>BINGO<br>\$500<br>JACKPOT<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME |
| 11<br>OPEN<br>SUNDAY  | 12   | 13      | 14<br>VFW POST<br>MEETING<br>7:30 PM | 15<br>MEN'S AUX<br>MEETING<br>7:00 PM | 16<br>MEN'S AUX<br>KITCHEN<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME        | 17<br>JACKPOT<br>BINGO<br>\$500<br>JACKPOT<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME |
| 18<br>OPEN<br>SUNDAY  | 19<br>Ladies Aux<br>Meeting<br>(Inspection)<br>Snacks<br>6:30 PM | 20      | 21                                   | 22                                    | 23<br>LADIES AUX<br>KITCHEN<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME       | 24<br>JACKPOT<br>BINGO<br>\$500<br>JACKPOT<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME |
| 25<br>INDIANA DAY<br>VFW<br>NATIONAL<br>HOME FOR<br>CHILDREN  | 26   | 27      | 28<br>VFW POST<br>MEETING<br>7:30 PM | 29                                    | 30<br>POST<br>KITCHEN<br>REGULAR<br>MENU<br>5:30 PM    |   |

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY - September

|                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 - Kieran O'Dowd       | 20 - Traci McIntire    |
| 8 - Mary Ann Rowe       | 20 - Sandy Wakefield   |
| 11 - Thelma McDaniel    | 25 - Brenda Lee Hudson |
| 11 - Esther McKinnis    | 26 - Jean Strang       |
| 13 - Anna Neher         | 27 - Joanne McQueen    |
| 19 - Deanna Hinsey      | 28 - Doreen Albert     |
| 20 - Gladys Christopher | 28 - Jessica Measles   |

## HISTORICAL-PATRIOTIC CALENDAR

Sept 2 - 1945 - V-J Day. Japan formally surrendered, ending World War II.  
 5 - 2011 - LABOR DAY. National Holiday. FLY YOUR FLAG !!!  
 5 - 1995 - Cal Ripken broke the consecutive baseball game streak playing in 2,130 games.  
 8 - 1892 - Pledge of Allegiance adopted.  
 11 - 2001 - Congress declared this as PATRIOT DAY honoring victims of terrorist act.  
 14 - 1814 - Francis Scott Key wrote the "Star Spangled Banner."  
 17 - 1914 - LADIES AUXILIARY TO THE VFW organized !!  
 18 - 2011 - National POW / MIA Recognition Day.  
 24 - 1789 - U S Supreme Court established.  
 27 - 2011 - Gold Star Mothers Day - honor Mothers who lost sons in America's military.  
 28 - 1919 - Eight Chgo White Sox players were indicted for throwing the 1919 World Series  
 29 - 1899 - First VFW units launched - formed by Spanish American War Veterans.

# VFW POST 6919 & AUXILIARIES

October 2011

| Sunday  | Monday                                 | Tuesday   | Wednesday                            | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday  |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| <b>Free Meals - October</b><br>7 - Jud Rouch<br>13 - Nicole Dilts<br>21 - Linda O'Neal<br>28 - Terry Listenberger |  |   |                                      |   |  | 1<br>JACKPOT<br>BINGO<br>\$500<br>JACKPOT<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME  |
| 2<br>2:30 PM<br>3rd District<br>Meeting<br>Post 1130<br>LaPorte   | 3<br>LADIES AUX<br>MEETING<br>7:30 PM  | 4   | 5                                    | 6<br>MEN'S AUX<br>MEETING<br>7:00 PM                                | 7<br>POST STEAK<br>FRY<br>5:30 PM<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME | 8<br>JACKPOT<br>BINGO<br>\$500<br>JACKPOT<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME  |
| 9<br>OPEN<br>SUNDAY   | 10<br>COLUMBUS<br>DAY                  | 11  | 12<br>VFW POST<br>MEETING<br>7:30 PM | 13  | 14<br>LADIES AUX<br>KITCHEN<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME       | 15<br>JACKPOT<br>BINGO<br>\$500<br>JACKPOT<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME |
| 16<br>OPEN<br>SUNDAY  | 17<br>LADIES AUX<br>MEETING<br>7:30 PM | 18  | 19                                   | 20<br>MEN'S AUX<br>MEETING<br>7:00 PM<br><br>Newsletter<br>Deadline | 21<br>MEN'S AUX<br>KITCHEN<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME        | 22<br>JACKPOT<br>BINGO<br>\$500<br>JACKPOT<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME |
| 23<br>OPEN<br>SUNDAY  | 24                                     | 25  | 26<br>VFW POST<br>MEETING<br>7:30 PM | 27  | 28<br>LADIES AUX<br>KITCHEN<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME       | 29<br>JACKPOT<br>BINGO<br>\$500<br>JACKPOT<br>PUBLIC<br>WELCOME |
| 30<br>OPEN<br>SUNDAY  | 31<br>Assemble<br>Newsletter           | <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY - October</b><br>5 - Helen Hickman<br>6 - Kathy Hart<br>6 - Debra Noel<br>6 - Barbara Strus-Gertzen<br>12 - Candace Dilts<br>15 - Marjorie Carter<br>17 - Angela Loehmer<br>20 - Mary Baker<br>23 - Pam Hyndman<br>23 - Sylvia Schibley<br>29 - Karen Adler |                                      |   |  |   |

## HISTORICAL-PATRIOTIC CALENDAR

- Oct 2 - 1970 - U S upheld 18-year old voting rights.  
 2 - 1908 - Henry Ford introduced the Model T automobile.  
 5 - 1921 - The first radio broadcast of a World Series occurred.  
 15 - 1951 - "I Love Lucy" premiered on CBS-TV.  
 10 - 1845 - Annapolis Naval Academy was founded.  
 10 - 2011 - Columbus Day - remembering Columbus discovered America in 1492.  
 19 - 1951 - World War II ended formally between U S and Germany - V-E Day.  
 28 - 1886 - Statue of Liberty, gift from French Republic, was unveiled on Bedlow Island.  
 31 - 2011 - Ghosts and goblins appear - WHY? - Cause it is HALLOWEEN ! ! ! !