

# AMERICAN LEGION

**Post 574**  
**72 Pearl Street**  
**Hudson Falls, NY 12839**  
**518-747-9891**  
Lounge Hours: Mon-Thu 1-10p  
Fri 11a-11p, Sat 1-11p, Sun 1-8p

May 2026 Newsletter

## May-king Hay

May Day, once a pastoral celebration of summer, became a pivotal date in American labor history following an 1884 proclamation by the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions. Their May Basket gift to industry was a May 1, 1886 deadline for the eight-hour workday and threatening a national strike.

Moderate Progressive efforts secured concessions for roughly 50,000 workers by April 1886 but the movement was complicated when anarchists adopted the cause. Their calls for violent revolution tainted public and industrial perception. When the deadline passed, 400,000 workers struck nationwide. In Chicago, tensions peaked on May 3 during a confrontation at the McCormick Reaper plant, where police killed several workers.

In response, anarchists organized a protest at Haymarket Square on May 4. As police dispersed the crowd, a bomb was thrown, killing several officers and protesters. Despite a lack of direct evidence, eight anarchists were convicted of conspiracy based on their radical rhetoric. Under 19th-century legal standards, their speech was ruled as the inspiration for the bombing. The subsequent executions drew international attention and left indelible marks on the path of global labor reform and First Amendment protections in the US.

Organized labor efforts were initially set back but the seeds for lasting reform were planted. Anarchists were rightly vilified and employers revoked many previous concessions on working hours. New unions like the American Federation of Labor tried to shift the focus to legislation rather than rhetoric. Socialists resisted moderation and declared May 1st as International Workers' Day specifically to commemorate the Haymarket "martyrs".

Government, labor and business in the US took an unsurprisingly pragmatic approach. President Grover Cleveland had sent in federal troops to firmly suppress the Pullman Strike of 1894. At the same time, he rushed legislation through Congress that established the 1st Monday of September as Labor Day in the US. This served as a peace offering to labor while avoiding association with the more radical elements and the memory of Haymarket.

Most importantly, the Haymarket trial was a clarifying moment on the First Amendment. The executions of the Chicago Eight were "correct" according to the law of the time. On the other hand, our country's Founders viewed even speech calling for revolution as an inalienable human right. After the trial, judges began to work toward criminalizing only egregious offenses like direct, immediate incitement to violence. The antidote to bad speech, they contended, is more speech. This is a social problem not a legal one. Today's calls to police what the other team says show this tension is far from resolved and that the American project is more than capable of handling it.



## Auxiliary Corner



Dear Members,

What a truly incredible month it has been for our Auxiliary! My heart is so full as I look back on everything we've accomplished together. It is through your hands and your hearts that we are making a real difference in the lives of those who served.

The launch of Operation Full Plate (OFP) has been a massive success. We began our first round with 24 recipients, and in just two short weeks, that number grew to 31. We served 26 veterans and 78 meals and will continue toward the goal of twice a month for 50 participants. A giant shout-out to our Legion Family donating, cooking, preparing, packaging meals and ensuring every meal reached our recipients with a smile.

But OFP is about so much more than just nourishment; it's about connection. Each participant receives a dedicated phone line and a refrigerator magnet so they always have a way to reach out for support or just a friendly conversation. We are already seeing the impact in the relationships being built. One veteran was so touched that he shared his meals with fellow veterans, encouraging them to join the program too.

The compassion of our family was especially evident during a recent delivery to a female veteran. She had recently lost her partner and was also celebrating her birthday. In a beautiful collaboration with our Her in Hero initiative—a program dedicated to the unique needs of our women veterans—Sharon Rathbun delivered a personalized birthday basket along with her meals. That simple act of kindness turned a routine delivery into a moment of deep emotional support and human connection.

Our community and our Legion Family members have truly stepped up to help us sustain this mission. From local food drives to partnerships with area grocery stores, your involvement is what allows us to expand. Speaking of generosity, I want to say a huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our Peanut Butter and Jelly drive! Thanks to you, we collected over 60 jars in just a couple of days.

I am also so proud to share that we reached 100% membership as of April! Our Auxiliary continues to grow, and our recent Birthday Dinner was the perfect way to celebrate. It was an honor to recognize Past 4th District President Sheila Holman, our Betty Fowler Memorial Poppy award winner Joanna Fowler, our Unit Member of the Year June Gaulin, and our Honorary Lifetime member Colleen Rich.

During the dinner, we were also privileged to announce the implementation of the Kathy Hayward Memorial Scholarship. This \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a female high school senior entering the military, ensuring Kathy's spirit of service lives on in the next generation.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to everyone who volunteers in the bingo kitchen. It is because of your tireless work there that we have the resources to successfully run projects like Operation Full Plate and Her in Hero.

If you know of anyone who could benefit from our meal program, please reach out to us. Thank you all for everything you do. You are the heartbeat of this Unit.

With warmth and gratitude,

Julie Montello, President

## Sons Corner



Greeting Squadron and Legion Post 574 Family!

May is here and so is the warmer weather! We will be resuming the pavilion renovations soon. So stay tuned for when we post dates and times that we need volunteers to help get more stuff done in the pavilion. We do appreciate any help.

Membership update – As of April 21<sup>st</sup>, we re at 115.67% paid for 2026! We are just down to three members left that have not paid for 2026.

Let's talk Walk-a-Thon! We still have packets for anyone that wants to gather donation for the Walk-a-Thon. The Walk-a-Thon will be on Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>, at 10am, then followed by the Pig Roast at the Post.

With May here it is Memorial Day Parade time. The Sons will be doing a float this year as it the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration. We will be decorating the float Sunday May 24<sup>th</sup>. Time to be announced. Sons that want to help decorate and be on the float please come May 24<sup>th</sup> for decorating and 25<sup>th</sup> for the parade.

Announcements:

- May Breakfast (Last one till fall) - May 10<sup>th</sup> (Mother's day) 8-11am
- Walk-a-Thon – May 16<sup>th</sup> 10am
- May Meeting – May 19<sup>th</sup> 7pm

Please continue checking our Facebook Page "Sons of American Legion #574" for more information on events and information about our squadron!

As always, thank you for your continued support of Post 574 and our veterans, their families, and friends and our community. God Bless you all!

I like to end with a quote:

*May we think of freedom, not as the right to do as we please but as the opportunity to do what is right*

- Peter Marshall

Austin Montello

SAL Post 574 Squadron Commander

# Spring RAFFLE

Hudson Falls  
American Legion  
Auxiliary Unit 574

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SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

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# THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



## MOTHERS' DAY BREAKFAST

Place: American Legion Post 574

72 Pearl St., Hudson Falls, NY

**DATE: SUN., MAY 10, 2026**

**TIME: 8:00 AM TO 11:00 AM**

**PRICE = \$11.00 per person**

**ALL VETERANS = \$8.00**

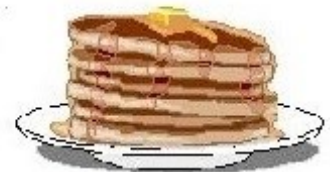
**Children under 10 = \$6.00**

**PAY AT THE DOOR**

**PUBLIC WELCOME!**

**MENU INCLUDES:**

**SAUSAGE GRAVY with BISCUITS,  
SCRAMBLED EGGS, HOME FRIES,  
PANCAKES, BACON, SAUSAGE, FRENCH  
TOAST, HOT BEVERAGES & JUICE**



# MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Bingo 	2
3	4	5 ALA Mtg 	6 	7 	8 Bingo 	9
10 Breakfast 	11	12	13 Color GD E-Board	14 ALR Mtg 	15 Bingo	16 Walk-A-Thon 
17	18	19 SAL Mtg 	20 Legion Mtg	21 	22 Bingo	23
24 Decorate Float	25 Parade 	26	27	28 	29 Bingo	30
31						

# FIFTH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday June 20

10am Shotgun Start

4-person Scramble \$400/Team

Golf, Cart, Lunch, Steak Dinner

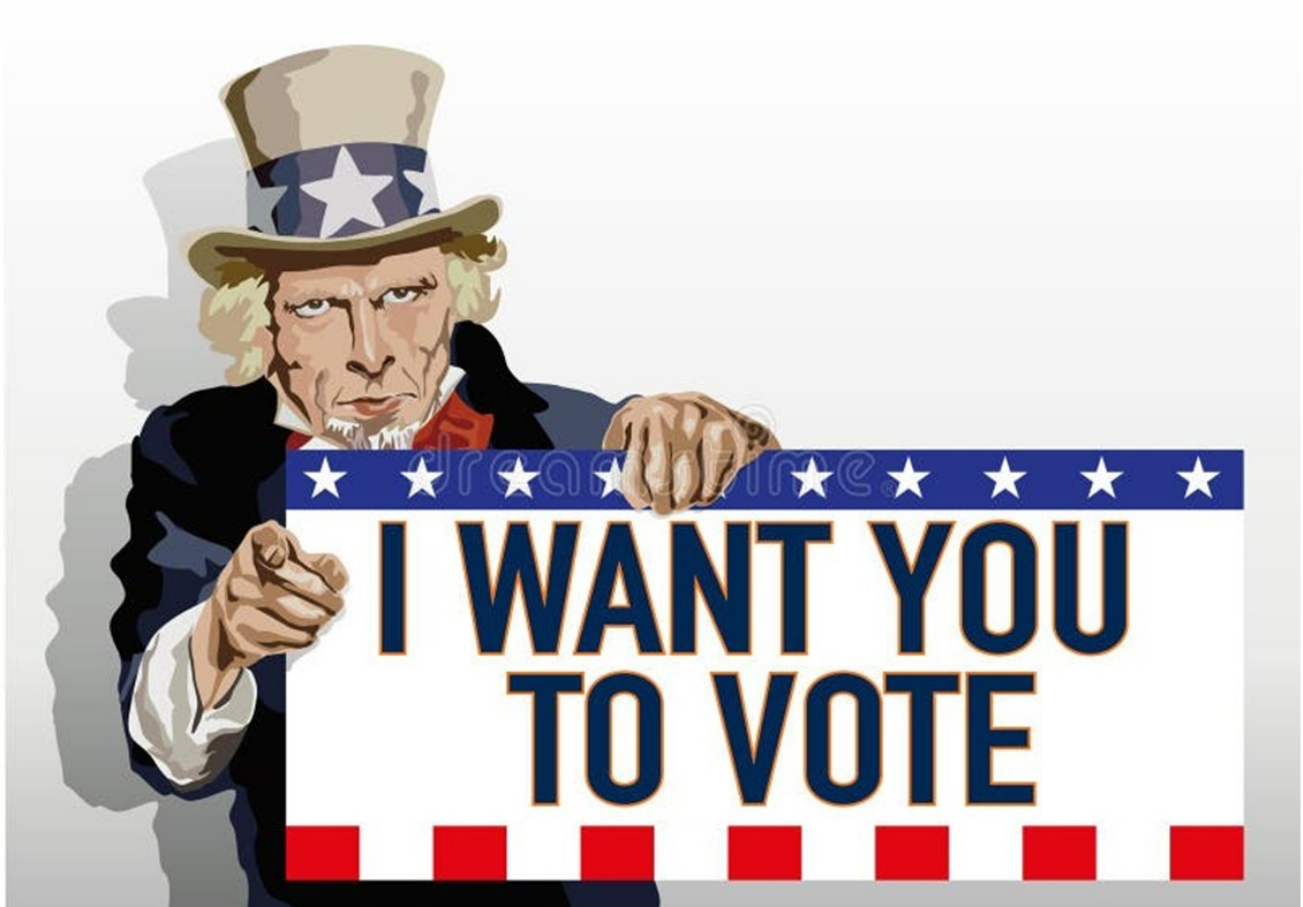
Team and Sponsor Forms

Available in the Lounge

 AMERICAN  
**LEGION**

FAMILY

  
HARTFORD GREENS  
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**Vote for your Post Leaders**

**Auxiliary - May 5th**

**Sons - May 19th**

**Legion - May 20th**

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FAMILY

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# BOOSTERS

If you would like to become a booster or renew, the cost is \$3.00 a year. This is to help pay for printing. Please place request in the NEWSLETTER mail box in the Lounge or send it to the Post, attention Booster. Thank You for your continued Support.

## THRU 2025

From Post 574 Color Guard  
In Memory Of  
**Our Commander and Chaplin William Fish**

Dawn Palmer  
In Loving Memory Of  
**My Dad Daniel B. Hayes US Army (Silver Star)**

Reggie Prouty  
In Memory Of  
**Loved ones Reginald Smith, US Army and Ed Barry, US Navy**

## THRU 2027

Jay & Sue Marchese  
In Memory Of  
**Tim Pratt**

ADRK Art Jr.  
ALWAYS  
**Art Gibbs Sr. WWII (Silver Star) and Steve Gibbs, Korea**

## THRU 2028

From Rachel Quackenbush  
In Memory Of  
**Jim Quackenbush 1st Director of 574 Riders**

## THRU 2028 (cont'd)

Gail & Ron Pliscofsky  
In Memory Of  
**Tony Pliscofsky**

## THRU 2029

Anonymous Donor  
In Memory Of  
**Joel Barber**

Ronnie Graham  
In Memory Of  
**Foster Graham Frank Keys & Margaret Keys Raymond (MUD) Graham Donna (Dolly) Graham**

## THRU 2030

From Don Amorosi  
In Honor Of  
**Thomas Eastwood**

Margaret Folk  
In Memory Of  
**John P. Folk Past Department Vice Commander**

From Post 574 Color Guard  
In Memory Of Our Dedicated Departed Brothers  
**Bob Cheeney, US Marines (Vietnam) and US Army Bob Beverage, US Navy**

## THRU 2032

From Catherine Eastwood  
In Memory Of  
**Charles Hicks, 82nd Abn and Viet Vets in the Tank**

## THRU 2035

Duane & Barb Vaughn  
In Memory Of  
**Our Brother John J Stewart USAF**

## THRU 2040

From Donald Amorosi  
In Memory Of  
**Catherine Eastwood**

From Donald Amorosi  
In Memory Of  
**Dick Bacon**

From Jay Marchese  
In Memory Of  
**Frank Marchese U.S.N.- UDT 1958—1962**

From Shirley Kelly  
In Memory Of  
**Tom Kelly**


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# PIG ROAST



May 16th Noon

Donations will  
be accepted  
for the  
Walk-a-Thon

Bring a dish to  
share

Sign up in the  
Lounge

If you or someone you know is injured or ill, please call Post Chaplain: Sally Barker 518-798-0752



Keep up-to-date with the latest Post news at:

<https://americanlegionpost574.org>

Big thanks to this issue's contributions from and Bill Fish and Sharon Underwood

## NEWSLETTER

The Post 574 Family Newsletter is published monthly. Articles are due to the Editor **before** the 25th of the month prior to publication. Membership submissions are encouraged. E-mail articles and photographs to: [newsletter@americanlegionpost547.org](mailto:newsletter@americanlegionpost547.org)

Scan the QR code at the right with your smartphone to subscribe by email.

