



VOICES

"I struggle to think of a single person that I deployed with who may not have been exposed, at some point, to toxins ... While it was our decision to raise our hands and fight our nation's wars for those who cannot or will not, what we didn't know was that our long-lasting health issues might not even begin to show during our time in service."

-American Legion Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Division Director Katie Purswell in a March 2 press conference at the U.S. Capitol urging Congress to advance the Honoring Our PACT Act that would streamline access to health care and increase government accountability to veterans exposed to toxins caused by burn pits and other airborne exposures.



42

Number of veterans service organizations that joined with The American Legion in a letter to House leadership urging passage of the PACT Act, support that was applauded by House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Chairman Mark Takano, D-Calif., during American Legion National Commander Paul E. Dillard's March 8 testimony before a joint session of House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs.



1,050

Approximate number of participants in Cary, N.C., Post 67's Veterans Benefits Live event March 17-19, which provided critical VA benefits assistance and help with the application process. American Legion service officers from across the state and nearly 30 VA employees participated.



1,843

VA Informal Hearing Presentations prepared for veterans by American Legion national claims specialists working in Washington, D.C., and Indianapolis in March.



77.9%

VA appeals cases either approved in favor of the veteran or remanded for further documentation in March, due to national American Legion representation.



\$106,025

Amount raised for Operation Comfort Warriors in a March 27 benefit at Kenny N. Dowden Wayne American Legion Post 64. The American Legion Family event, with Beech Grove, Ind., Post 267, included food, music, drinks, games and merchandise sales, drawing more than 350 people of all ages.



40

Approximate percentage of U.S. Border Patrol officers who are military veterans, according to a report to the American Legion National Security Commission March 5.



101

Service officers whose accreditation was certified by The American Legion in March.



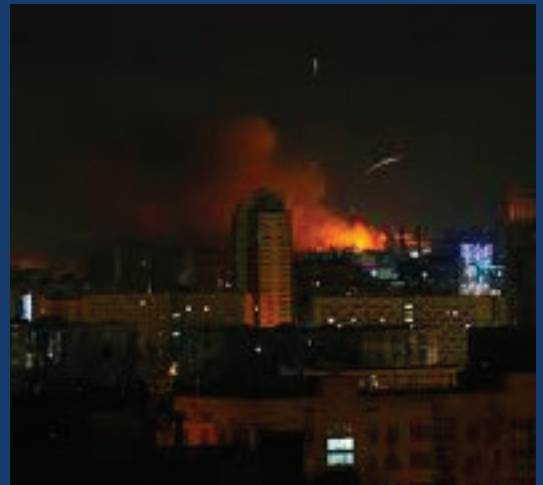
40

Approximate percentage of immigrants who arrived in the United States legally and then illegally overstayed their visas, according to Jessica Vaughn of the Center for Immigration Studies, who addressed the American Legion National Security Commission March 5.

VOICES

"My brother owns and operates a business in Kiev. While he is an American citizen and had his permanent home here in the United States, he has a second home in Kiev, as well as having a number of friends and two Godchildren in Kiev. He talks with them daily and has mentioned terrible things which are NOT being reported anywhere in the news, to include what some Russian soldiers are actually doing to civilians and civilian businesses. He has never been in the military and, as I am a retired Navy chief, I try to ease his mind knowing the government and military are doing a lot behind the scenes. Please keep my brother and his friends in your thoughts."

-Dale Brownie, member of American Legion Post 73, Corinna, Maine



315

Registered attendees of a March 9 American Legion/Texas Workforce Commission/Texas Operation Welcome Home/Texas Veterans Leadership Program virtual career fair where more than 400 veteran resumes were submitted to employers.



117

Individuals who were issued American Legion national-level certificates recognizing their achievements in Scouting in March.



60,000+

High school students who took The American Legion Department of Ohio Americanism & Government Test this academic year, administered through local posts. Top performers in the 10th, 11th and 12th grades qualified for a trip to Washington, D.C., in early March to see military memorials, museums, the White House, the State Department and the Kennedy Center.



\$246,184

Mission Blue Post Assistance Program grants distributed to 165 American Legion posts and 32 departments in 2022, through March, to provide economic relief from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.



446

Posts that had earned merchandise credit through March 2022 in The American Legion Emblem Flag Rewards program, which offers incentives to purchase U.S.-made flags from the organization's merchandise division.



9

New Sons of The American Legion squadrons chartered in March in the United States and Puerto Rico.



\$17,540

Amount in American Legion national youth scholarships disbursed in March.



1,000

Number of U.S. flags District 18 Sons of The American Legion members have placed, free of charge, in Oakland County, Mich., classrooms since 2004.



97

U.S. Flag Code inquiries fielded in March by the American Legion Americanism Division at National Headquarters.



\$19,079

Amount in American Legion Child Welfare Foundation grants disbursed in March to non-profit organizations that serve young people in need.



\$2.2 million

North Carolina Department of Commerce grant funding used to make multiple improvements to Keeter Stadium in Shelby, N.C., this spring to improve the fan experience for the American Legion Baseball World Series played there each year. The tournament's economic impact is calculated at over \$8.5 million locally and \$16 million regionally.



50

Departments that by the end of March had certified their winners to compete in the 2022 American Legion National Oratorical Contest in Indianapolis April 23-24.



42

Number of scholastic (22) and military awards (20) presented to Junior ROTC and ROTC cadets from The American Legion, through its National Security Commission.



\$17,540

Amount in American Legion national youth scholarships disbursed in March.



86,592

Number of audio downloads for the Tango Alpha Lima podcast through March. The national podcast celebrated its two-year anniversary on April 1.



\$6,000

Funds donated in March from Howard A. Van Wagner American Legion Post 962 in Locust Valley, N.Y., and Auxiliary Unit 962, to the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America to provide military protective gear and field-grade dressings to support front-line fighters in the war against Russia.



47,120

Rounds of ammunition distributed to American Legion posts and departments in March for ceremonial purposes through the Military Surplus Program.