



VOICES

"Millions of veterans and their families can take comfort in knowing that their government truly appreciates their service and sacrifice. This comprehensive health-care law is the result of hard work and bipartisanship by patriotic advocates, members of Congress and American Legion Family members worldwide."

- American Legion National Commander Paul E. Dillard, following the Aug. 10 signing into law of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act that will provide health care and benefits for millions of veterans exposed to toxic contamination in military service, including some 3.5 million post-9/11 veterans who were exposed to burn pits in Iraq and Afghanistan

 **34,000+**

Number of emails sent to U.S. senators in the days after the Senate delayed passage of the PACT Act on a technicality at the end of July; the grassroots outreach effort led to Senate passage of the bill, by an 86-11 tally, on Aug. 2 that will help millions of veterans exposed to toxic contaminants in the service.

 **20+**

Health-care conditions, including a dozen cancers, that are now presumed to have been service-connected for veterans of the Gulf War and the Global War on Terrorism, under the PACT Act.

 **\$1,324,548.36**

Record amount for the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund delivered Aug. 30 onstage at the American Legion's 103rd National Convention, generated from the 2022 Legacy Run, state Legacy Rides, American Legion posts, Sons of The American Legion squadrons and American Legion Riders chapters worldwide.

 **7**

Children of three different veteran families who benefited in August from \$3,874 in American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grants.

 **100**

Approximate number of jobseekers who met with employers Aug. 25 at an American Legion/U.S. Chamber of Commerce Hiring Our Heroes fair at the beginning of the 103rd American Legion National Convention, in Milwaukee.

 **\$1.5 million**

Amount INDYCAR driver Jimmie Johnson and his wife Chandra pledged to donate to The American Legion onstage at the 103rd National Convention in Milwaukee; the legendary driver has been behind the wheel of the Carvana/American Legion No. 48 car all season, promoting the Be the One campaign to prevent veteran suicide.

 **100**

Miles per month Tim and Kim Gardner of Hope Mills, N.C., committed to log in the American Legion's 100 Miles for Hope challenge in June, July and August; they far exceeded that goal, in support of the Legion's Veterans & Children Foundation and their own health, hitting more than 400 miles in June and July and on their way to reaching that number for August, as well.

 **50**

Youth scholarships distributed by The American Legion in August, totaling \$231,286 in college assistance.



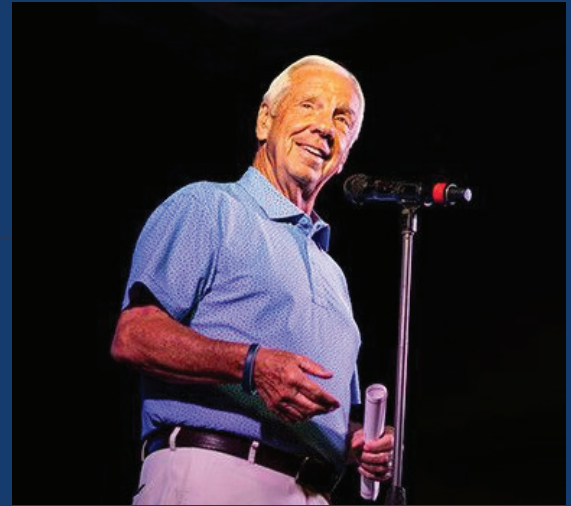
\$2.5 million

Amount in support provided by the New Jersey American Legion Family's "Housing Our Heroes" program over the last decade, with funds going to purchase shelter and furnishings for homeless veterans in the state; the program received its fifth recognition award in the last seven years Aug. 27 from The American Legion Employment & Education Commission.

VOICES

"If you want to be great, you have to work harder than anybody else. Be all in. Be all in. Give it every single thing you possibly have. Don't sell yourself short. Don't cheat yourself. Don't come back and say, 'Gosh, when I was 18 in Shelby, if I'd just done a little bit more.' Don't use that."

- Former University of North Carolina Tar Heels men's basketball coach, Hall of Famer Roy Williams, in a talk to the teams and coaches Aug. 10 prior to the beginning of The American Legion Baseball World Series



.500

Tournament batting average of Brooks Bryan of Troy, Ala., Post 70, which won The American Legion Baseball World Series Aug. 16 in Shelby, N.C., defeating two-time champion Idaho Falls 6-5. Bryan, who collected 11 RBIs and had one home run in the series, was named the 2022 George W. Rulon American Legion Player of the Year and was selected as a member of the all-tournament team as a designated hitter.



5,396

Number of downloads for The American Legion's Tango Alpha Lima podcast during August.



\$39,850

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation grant funds disbursed in August to three non-profit organizations that assist young people facing challenges beyond their control.



103

Eagle Scout certificates issued from The American Legion National Headquarters in August.



333

Number of VA disability claim appeals granted in favor of the veteran in August, with free assistance from American Legion national appeals specialists.



37,500

Number of U.S. military personnel listed as Missing in Action whose remains are believed to be recoverable, according to Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency Deputy Director Johnnie Webb, who reported to the American Legion National Security Commission Aug. 27 in Milwaukee during the 103rd American Legion National Convention.



1,546

VA Informal Hearing Presentations prepared by American Legion claims specialists free of charge for veterans in August.



44

American Legion service officers who in August received certified accreditation to assist veterans, free of charge, with their VA claims and other needs.



7,235

Number of free treatment trips provided for patients in need thanks to a \$25,000 American Legion Child Welfare Foundation grant last year to Mercy Medical Airlift. Of those, 5,154 trips were for cancer treatment, and 494 were for the children of veterans.



1 million

Membership goal for the Sons of The American Legion by 2032, put forth as a 100th anniversary challenge from Joseph Paviglianti, the SAL Century Committee chairman.



76,000

Approximate number of Afghan refugees who supported U.S. and allied forces in the Global War on Terrorism who would have a clear path to permanent American residency through The American Legion-supported Afghan Readjustment Act of 2022, which was introduced in both chambers of Congress in August.



90

U.S. Flag Code inquiries fielded by the national American Legion Americanism Division in August.