



Hello my name is Cassandra Cole I'm the youth chairperson for 2024-2025. It is such a pleasure to be here. I'm so excited to see what accomplishments we can make happen with our youth this year.

The youth program was the very first program I have worked on post level. The youth programs I find is perfect for me at this time. Having five children still at home ranging from the ages of 16 to 12 gives me an opportunity to teach and educate young peers surrounded around my children as well As the Community youth, patriotism and service to our veterans.

There are so many options for youth to learn about service members and veterans, including digital formats and apps. It's an open door for us. Posting to social media may help Auxiliaries inform youth about contests, patriotic programs and holidays, and become informed about veterans' issues.

Possible sites on which to post include:

- *Instagram

- *TikTok

- *Pinterest

- *Facebook

And don't forget the tried-and-true methods:

*Local Newspapers

*Radio

*TV-News

*Schools

*Churches

Local scouting groups, ROTC and other youth organizations are often willing to donate their time to the VFW Post. From posting colors to helping with work around the Post to serving our veterans in many ways.

Don't forget to include youth in your plans for the upcoming patriotic holidays:

Feb. 3 – Four Chaplains Day – A Day to remember the four U.S. Army chaplains who made the ultimate sacrifice when the USAT Dorchester sank during World War II.

Feb. 19 – Coast Guard Reserve Birthday

March 3 – Navy Reserve Birthday

March 13 - K-9 Veterans Day – The date is the official birthday of the United States K9 Corps and a day to honor their service.

March 25 - Medal of Honor Day – A holiday to honor the heroism and sacrifice of Medal of Honor recipients for the United States.

March 29 – Vietnam Veterans Day – A national holiday to recognize and honor Veterans who served in the military during the Vietnam War. Learn more about Vietnam Veterans Day here.

April 5 – Gold Star Spouses Day – A Day dedicated to those whose spouses gave their lives while serving in the U.S. military or as a result of service-connected injuries or illness.

April 14 – Air Force Reserve Birthday

April 23– Army Reserve Birthday

May 1 – Silver Star Banner Day – Per Congressional resolution, it is an “Official Day to honor wounded, ill, and injured Veterans”.

May 10 – Military Spouse Appreciation Day – This date recognizes the service and sacrifices of military spouses.

May 13 – Children of Fallen Patriots Day – A Day to honor the children left behind by the brave men and women who gave their lives while defending our freedom.

May 18 – Armed Forces Day Observed on the third Saturday every May, this is a day dedicated to paying tribute to men and women currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

May 27 – Memorial Day A solemn occasion to honor the men and women who died while serving in the military. [Learn more about Memorial Day here.](#)

June 6 – Anniversary of the World War II Allied invasion in Normandy, France, now known as D-Day.

June 14– Flag Day – A Day to celebrate the adoption of the U.S. flag.

June 14– Army Birthday

June 23 – Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday

June 27– National PTSD Awareness Day – A Day to bring awareness about issues related to PTSD. [Find resources for PTSD here.](#)

July 4 – Independence Day

July 27 – Korean War Veterans Armistice Day

Aug. 4 – Coast Guard Birthday

Aug. 7 – Purple Heart Day – A time for Americans to pause to remember and honor the brave men and women who were either wounded on the battlefield or paid the ultimate sacrifice. [Learn more about the Purple Heart.](#)

Aug. 29 – Marine Forces Reserve Birthday

Sept. 11 – Patriot Day – An annual observance to remember and honor those who were injured or killed during the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Sept. 18 – Air Force Birthday

Sept. 20 – POW/MIA Recognition Day

Sept. 29 – Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day – A Day to honor the families of fallen Servicemembers.

Oct. 13 – Navy Birthday

Oct. 26 – National Day of the Deployed

Nov. 10 – Marine Corps Birthday

Nov. 11 – Veterans Day – This is the anniversary of the signing of the armistice treaty, which ended World War I and is also a day to thank military Veterans for their service.

Dec. 7 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day – The anniversary of the day Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, signaling the United States' entrance into World War II. [Learn more about Pearl Harbor Day.](#)

Dec. 13 – National Guard Birthday

Dec. 20 - Space Force birthday

Dec. 21 – National Wreaths Across America Day

Military Branch Birthdays

Army

June 14, 1775

The U.S. Army was founded on June 14, 1775, when the Continental Congress authorized enlistment of riflemen to serve the United Colonies for one year.

Marine Corps

November 10, 1775

The Marine Corps was founded to serve as an infantry unit aboard naval vessels and was responsible for the security of the ship and its crew by conducting offensive and defensive combat during boarding actions and defending the ship's officers from mutiny.

Air Force

September 18, 1947

Known as the most recent branch of the U.S. military to be formed, the Air Force is also the largest and most technologically advanced air force in the world. Initially part of the United States Army, the USAF was formed as a separate branch of the military on September 18, 1947 under the National Security Act of 1947.

National Guard

Navy

October 13, 1775

The United States Navy traces its origins to the Continental Navy, which the Continental Congress established on October 13, 1775. Since 1972, each CNO has encouraged a Navy-

wide celebration of this occasion to encourage appreciation of our Navy and to provide a positive influence toward pride and professionalism in the naval service.

National Guard

December 13, 1636

The National Guard of the United States is a joint activity of the United States Department of Defense comprising reserve components of the United States Army and the United States Air Force: The Army National Guard of the United States for the Army and the Air National Guard of the United States for the Air Force. It is the oldest component of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Coast Guard

August 4, 1790

The Coast Guard's official history began on August 4, 1790, when President George Washington signed the Tariff Act authorizing the construction of ten vessels to enforce federal tariff and trade laws and to prevent smuggling.

Space Force

December 20th, 2019

The Space Force is the newest component of the United States Armed Forces.

It is headquartered at the Pentagon. Its role includes space security, space combat, space mobility and logistics and space domain

Significant Military Months

April – Month of the Military Child

May – National Military Appreciation Month

May – Month of the Military Caregiver

November – Military Family Month, Warrior Care Month

With so many upcoming patriotic dates and holidays consider how to share them with your youth. Get your post to celebrate military and patriotic holidays. Invite your youth to attend. Our youth can learn so much from veteran's first hand.

Ask your local school if you can talk to the youth and educate them on the day that are special to service members and veterans. Ask fellow comrades to accompany you. Kids love to see veterans and service members in uniform.

“The best way to predict your future is to create it.” —Abraham Lincoln.