

Buddy Poppy/National Home

August 2023

This month I'm going to introduce our 2023-2024 Buddy Poppy/National Home Ambassador Lisa Jackson and let her explain the changes in our programs.

Hello, my name is Lisa Jackson, I was eligible to join the VFW Auxiliary under my husband, Keith Jackson, who served in Korea, Kosovo, Bosnia and Iraq while in the Army. My father was also a WWII Navy veteran. I am a Life Member of the VFW Auxiliary 6538. I am a Junior Past Department President for the Department of Massachusetts. I am currently District 15 Trustee number #2 and Auxiliary Treasurer. I work full time as a supervisor for a behavioral health clinic. I have 3 grown children, 4 grandchildren and 2 dogs. I enjoy volunteering my time to our veterans and their family.

I am excited to share this year my experiences and knowledge about the Buddy Poppy and the VFW National Home. Each Program has gone through changes over the past year. I hope that you can appreciate the work that the VFW and National Home have done to bring these programs to the fore front.

This year the Buddy Poppy Program has evolved due to the high cost of supplies and the pandemic. Our poppies are now being made in Kansas City by a group of disabled individuals that work for Cottonwood Inc. These individuals can make an authentic poppy. With the help of Cottonwood Inc, VFW can ship poppies out within three days. Unfortunately, the cost of our poppy's has doubled in price. With the cost increase, VFW has investigated finding new forms of poppies at a lower price. They have found a metal poppy that will be able to be purchased from the VFW store. The price is still being determined and more information will be available in September.

The VFW National Home has also gone through some changes. Did you notice I did not say the "VFW National Home for Children?" They have dropped the "for Children" and will now be known as the VFW National Home. This was the original name when the National Home was first started. They are centering on

the needs of the military, veterans and their families. They have also changed their logo. They kept the “three hearts tree” and removed the box that was around it.

This year more than ever the VFW National Home needs your help in fund raising. Please consider becoming a Hometown Hero. This can be a small donation of as little as \$5.00 each month. This is guaranteed money for the National Home to help them plan their budgets. The more members that join this fundraiser, the more we can help the National Home plan its budget.

We are coming upon our 100th year celebration at the National Home in 2025. Please take some time to contact your District Trustee to see what you can do to make the 100th year a huge success.

Remembrance Day Word Scramble

Unscramble the jumbled words below, all of which are used in Dr John McCrae's poem from 1915, "In Flanders Fields".

1. leesp _ _ _ _ _
2. oef _ _ _
3. utesns _ _ _ _ _
4. sppipoe _ _ _ _ _
5. srcsoes _ _ _ _ _
6. atifh _ _ _ _ _
7. vleod _ _ _ _ _
8. nwad _ _ _ _
9. ighh _ _ _ _
10. lkars _ _ _ _ _
11. relaybv _ _ _ _ _
12. ilsefd _ _ _ _ _
13. rnefalds _ _ _ _ _



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