

Auxiliary Members,

We are experiencing an unusual year with the COVID-19 pandemic affecting so many. Therefore, we must do all we can to assist our veterans, active military members, and their families. I believe it is especially important to safely keep the military family grounded in these hard times. While families are quarantined it is important to keep them engaged in any way possible. It is a strain on families who have a parent deployed and must juggle home schooling, work, and being a single parent. As most military families live away from extended family, the children miss out on interacting with grandparents and other family members. I am sure we all know grandparents who are missing their own grandchildren but would love to help home school a child or do grocery shopping and help catch up on laundry. There are always chores to be done.

Continue to make a difference in a veteran's or a military family's life by decorating greetings cards for VA Medical Center patients, making homemade masks, making blankets, and collecting personal hygiene products for donation to VA and homeless shelters. If you have junior members in your unit, enlist their ideas and assistance with those projects.

We can extend the gratitude of our Nation by providing Gold Star Banners to Gold Star Mothers with honor and reverence as their children have made the ultimate sacrifice for this great Nation.

I would like to encourage our Auxiliary units to partner with other organizations that serve military families. Working with others who have the same passion as the American Legion family will help our family grow stronger so we can serve even more. Please remember to wear and protect our Brand when working with others.

For God and Country,

Jeannie Román, Department National Security Chairman