

Hello Auxiliary Members,

I am Madonna Azure, a Lifetime Member of the Joseph Young Hawk/Elmer Bear Post 253 American Legion Auxiliary. We are in White Shield, ND., a small community on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. My membership eligibility is under my father, Joseph White Bear, Jr., a Korean War Veteran. However, many family members from my son to great-grandfathers have served in all branches of the service and served in WW II, Vietnam and during the Gulf War. I am proud to be a member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

I am honored to serve as the 2026-2027 ND Department Auxiliary Americanism Chair. I look forward to working with you in promoting patriotism and responsible citizenship throughout North Dakota. We can do this by being knowledgeable of flag history, flag etiquette, proper disposal of flags and promoting patriotic holidays. We want our communities to reach out to us for information. Also, we can engage them in participating in other components of Americanism: The American Essay Contest, Star-Spangled Kids Kits, the American Legion's Action Programs of Americanism, and Wreaths Across America.

I have included the 2026-2027 Americanism Program Engagement Plan for you to become familiar with and How to Promote Star-Spangled Kits for Kids. A major component of the Americanism Program is the American Essay Contest. The theme for this year's Americanism Essay Contest is: ***"How can you be a beacon of light for our veterans?"***

More information can be found at: www.alaforveterans.org or www.ndala.org/americanism/

I look forward to seeing you at the Winter Conference and District 6 Members at the Fall District Meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at americanism@ndala.org.

Enjoy the fall weather!

Thank you,

Madonna Azure