



Media Contact:

Brooke Pominville
Communications
brooke@relentlessaware.com
518.813.4905

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CITY OF RENSSELAER HONORING THE GERALD O'NEIL AND FORT CRAILO AMERICAN LEGION POSTS

City commemorates the posts on their anniversaries

RENSSELAER, N.Y. (May 9, 2019) – The City of Rensselaer has passed two resolutions paying tribute to the officers and members of the Gerald O'Neil and Fort Crailo American Legion posts on their seventy-second and one hundredth anniversaries, respectively.

On Aug. 20, 1947 a group of young servicemen in the City of Rensselaer submitted the application for the new Gerald O'Neil American Legion Post #1638 with 123 members signatures attached. For the following 72 years, the Post has served its community while preserving and protecting the integrity of the American Legion and it's veterans. On Sept. 20, 1919, Fort Crailo Post #471 American Legion Department of New York State was officially chartered. The Fort Crailo Post was named after the famous Dutch fort where the famous revolutionary tune "Yankee Doodle" was written.

"The purpose of the American Legion is to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States and preserve their efforts in the Great War, as such, the American Legion Posts are named after those within their community who made that greatest sacrifice," said Richard J. Mooney, mayor, City of Rensselaer. "That is why it is our duty as a city to commemorate the rich history and sacrifices made by members of these Posts."

"It is with great pleasure that the City of Rensselaer honors these outstanding establishments on their 100th Anniversary," said John DeFrancesco, president of the Common Council of the City of Rensselaer. "For decades these posts have given back to our city in various ways, and their commitment to Rensselaer has shown us what it means to be a leader in the community."

The American Legion was first formed after the American Expeditionary Forces returned home to their communities after WWI. They formed an organization in order to secure Veterans benefits, and at the Paris Caucus of 1919 the American Legion was adopted and approved by U.S Congress.

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About the City of Rensselaer. *Situated on the Banks of the Hudson, the City of Rensselaer is a small city with a rich history and a wide potential for future growth. With direct access to locations like New York City, Boston, and Montreal, the city is at a crossroads of industry and innovation. Its proximity to the Hudson River Waterfront and breathtaking views of Albany lends itself to an experience that combines metropolitan living with a close-knit sense*



of community. Rensselaer has cemented its historical legacy as one of the Capital Region's most important centers of trade and commerce for over 375 years, beginning as a railroad town and transitioning into a modern, professional, and accessible Transit Village. RensselaerNY.gov.

