VFW POST 3904 NEWS YOU CAN USE

STEWART-WENDELL DISPATCH

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1 OCTOBER 2022

NEW POST HOME — FINALLY

Four years, 11 months and 17 days after Hurricane Harvey devastated Rockport, Texas, Stewart-Wendell VFW Post 3904 has finally acquired a new Post Home.

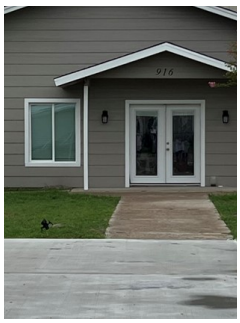
When Post members went to the Post Home at 411 East Market Street, they found the building ruined. While many historical artifacts and important paperwork were saved, the building could not be.

The Post was not able to carry windstorm or flood insurance. To qualify for these, a retrofit of the building at an estimated cost of $400,000 would have needed to be completed.

Donations and pro bono assistance were instrumental in the demolition and removal of our Post Home at 411 East Market Street.

Over the next four years, the Post received donations, held fundraisers and applied for grants. The Post even was able to apply for an SBA Disaster Loan but were denied because we could not prove we could pay the loan back.

Many have provided pro bono support while trying to rebuild on Market Street. Big Bear, Dane Designs and Windshore Engineering were paramount in determining design, building structure, basic needs and, most importantly, qualification for windstorm and flood insurances.



New Post Home of Stewart Wendell VFW Post 3904

In early 2019, we were able to purchase a metal building to meet our needs. In early 2022, someone decided they needed the side panels for the building more than we did.

(continued on page 3)

WELCOME TO OUR INAUGURAL EDITION!

A long time coming, Stewart-Wendell VFW Post 3904 is excited to present the inaugural edition of our monthly newsletter. As the Post Commander, I have the honor of being the Editor/Publisher.
To be released early each month in print and electronically (www.vfwpost3904.com/blog), we plan to provide information for Veterans and the community, what's happening at the Post, how close we are to getting Bingo going and many other topics of interest.
We are located at 916 South Bronte Street. We do not yet have a phone number, but you can email us at vfw.post.3904@gmail.com or send us a message on our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/VFW.Post.3904

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Youth Competitions*
- *PACT Act*
- *Election Day*

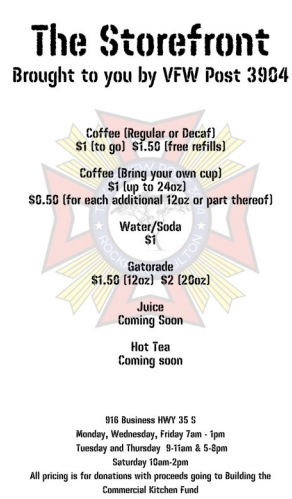
INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

STOREFRONT	2
VETERANS DAY	2
UPCOMING POST ACTIVITIES	3
ASK THE COMMANDER	4
ADVERTISE IN THE DISPATCH	5

VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRAY & PATRIOT'S PEN COMPETITIONS

The Voice of Democracy audio-essay program has been providing scholarship and other monetary awards to deserving students in grades 9–12 since 1947. This year's top national scholarship is $35,000 and the Department of Texas top scholarship will be $10,000. This year's theme is "Why is the Veteran Important?". Rules and eligibility requirements and entry forms are available at https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships in the Voice of Democracy section. Rules and eligibility requirements along with entry forms are also available at Post 3904 or email vfw.post.3904@gmail.com for more information. Entries due to your local VFW Post by October 31, 2022.

The Patriot's Pen essay competition has been providing monetary awards for patriotic themed essays from students in grades 6-8 since 2001. This year's them is "My Pledge to Our Veterans". The top national award is $5,000 while the Department of Texas top award is also $5,000. Rules and eligibility requirements and entry forms are available at the above link in the Patriot's Pen section. Contact vfw.post.3904@gmail.com for more information. Entries due to your local VFW Post by October 31, 2022.



THE STOREFRONT

Would you like to grab a cup of coffee with friends and pay $1.50 a person? When driving in town doing errands, would you like to grab a bottle of water for only a dollar or an iced tea for $2 for 44oz? Your VFW has you covered.

The Storefront is where you go! Open 7AM to 1PM Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 9AM to 11AM and 5PM to 8PM Tuesday and Thursday and 10AM to 2PM on Saturday to fulfill your drink needs. We also have Coke, Pepsi and other sodas for $1. Ask about what size and price for Gatorade.

The beginning of our business plan, the Storefront will provide an air conditioned place for people to gather, hang out and chew the fat, read a paper, watch the news or maybe even play a game.

Soon, we will also have juice drinks and hot teas available with hot chocolate once we, eventually, get to much lower temperatures.

The objectives of The Storefront is a place for veterans to ask and a place for veterans and the community to hang out and enjoy time together.

VETERANS DAY

Stewart-Wendell VFW Post 3904, Carl Morrison American Legion Post 363 and American GI Forum Chapter 324F will hold a Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11, 2022 at 11AM at the Veterans Memorial Park on Austin Street.

Please bring a chair as this is a widely attended event.

There will be a reception after. More information to follow.

Please come and join us for celebration for those who have served to keep America free.

PACT ACT BIG WIN FOR VETERANS

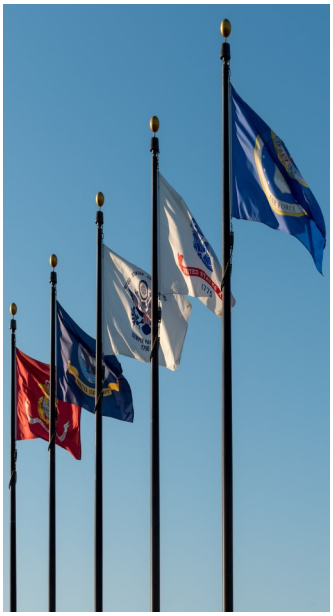
The VFW is 1.6 million members strong and is influential as a voting bloc. The VFW leverages this to ensure the United States and Veterans Affairs Administration keeps their promises to give Veterans the benefits and care promised.

This past year, VFW Commander-in-Chief Fritz Mihelcic campaigned hard to get the veterans of Vietnam, Gulf War and Global War on Terrorism Veterans the medical assistance needed for burn pit exposure and other toxic substances to which veterans may have been exposed. Current Command-in-Chief Tim Borland brought the Act through the finish line

The successful passage into law of the SFC Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxic Act on August 10, 2022, now ensures 23 presumptive conditions are recognized for burn pit exposure.

Two additions for Vietnam Veterans and other Veterans exposed to tactical herbicides including Agent Orange - Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) and high blood pressure (hypertension).

For more information, please visit https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/



UPCOMING POST ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER 29

Stop by our booth at the Fulton Fall Festival October 29, 2022, 10AM to 2 PM. We will have candy, poppies and information for anyone who asks.

Event will be at Fulton Festival Grounds in Fulton, TX.

More information here.

NOVEMBER 12

Join us at Winery by the Bay for our famous Burger Burn! This will be in conjunction with Another Chance Rescue. Check out the dogs available for adoption, grab a burger and maybe even have Beer with a Vet.

Burgers and hotdogs will be available 11AM to 2PM.

DECEMBER 3

Please visit our Booth at Tropical Christmas. Stand by for more information.

DECEMBER 10

We will be doing a Burger Burn and other things at Christmas in the District. More information to follow

NEW POST HOME—FINALLY

(continued from page 1)

End of the May, 2022, we found the perfect building. After two months of working with our lender, we were able to purchase the property at 916 South Bronte (also known as 916 Bus HWY 35 S) with a 1,200 ft^2 store front with a 5,000 ft^2 two story warehouse.

The Members of Post 3904 are excited to finally have a Post Home which will support our needs now and in the future. We are looking forward to starting Charitable Bingo, Dinners, Breakfasts and many other activities to support Veterans and the community.

Members of Stewart-Wendell VFW Post 3904 and local officials raise the colors at the new Post 3904 Home. Left to right – Rockport Mayor Pro-Tem Andrea Hattman, Post Adjutant Quartermaster Stacey Andrew, Aransas County Surveyor Jerry Brundrett, Rockport Ward 3 Councilperson Brad Brundrett. Post Commander Katy Jackson, Post Trustee Monty Browning, Post Chaplain Helene Harris, Post members Billy Harris and Tony Dagado. (Photo courtesy of Steven Smith)

VFW Post 3904

October 2022

September '22						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

November '22						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December '22						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5 Yom Kippur	6	7 VPR - Start of OEF	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Post meeting 1900	18 VPR - Women in Military	19	20	21	22 District Meeting 9:30am - Ingleside
23 VPR - Beirut Bombing	24	25	26	27	28 VET CENTER at the Post	29 Fulton Fall Fest 10am-2pm
30	31 Halloween	Notes				

Ask the Commander

Every month, I will answer questions about topics relevant to the VFW, the Post, Post happenings and veteran related topics. If you would like to ask a question and have it answered here, please me your question to 3904Commander@gmail.com.

Q: Will you have a bar/canteen at your new Post Home?

A: The short answer is not at this time.

As most people know, the gentlemen's agreement to obtain the property on Market Street was contingent on the Post not serving alcohol. So, no canteen there.

When the Post members decided to rebuild the Post Home, the membership also decided we would not make the main reason for the new Post Home based on a bar/canteen.

We also discussed the costs for a license, insurance, administrative and accounting requirements, payroll and its associated costs among other topics. With these costs in mind, the current membership wants to get the Post Home up, running and financially stable then we would re-evaluate having a canteen.

Q: Is there going to be Bingo at the new Post home?

A: Of course!

Depending on renovation progress, we expect to open Bingo mid-December 2022. We intend to have Bingo on Tuesdays and Thursdays to start.

We will keep everyone update!

I am looking forward to answering your questions!

The Post and I hope you have enjoyed this edition of the Dispatch

Advertising in the Stewart-Wendell Dispatch

As an integral part of the operations of Stewart-Wendell VFW Post 3904 (The Post), providing space for advertising serves two purposes. First is providing an avenue for local businesses and persons to advertise their products and services. Second is a way to generate income for the Post to be used to serve veterans and the community.

General Policy

Advertising via any means with the Post does not constitute an endorsement from the Post, District 6 VFW Department of Texas, VFW Department of Texas and/or the VFW.

No advertising will be accepted for publication/display which violates the purposes of the VFW. See Appendix I for these purposes.

Advertising must comply with local, state and federal law.

Final approval of all advertising is with the Post Commander and his/her successors.

Advertising Policies

The below is not an exhaustive list.

Prohibited/Inappropriate Content

Counterfeit Goods, recreational drugs (chemical or herbal), psychoactive substances, drug paraphernalia, explosive materials, anything of a sexual nature, anything which infringes upon copyrights or trademarks, hacking software or instructions, fake documents, academic cheating services, bullying, intimidation, discrimination in any form, hate group paraphernalia, cruelty to animals, sale or trade of endangered species, profanity, etc.

Deceptive Advertising

Omitting or obscuring charges, fees, interest rates, penalties, contact information. Offering products or services which are not available. Misleading or unrealistic claims.

Politics

No political advertising will be allowed in any advertising format at the Post or its publications. The exception to this prohibition is advertising to vote generically (no party or candidate affiliations), local polling place information including dates, times and locations and information for mail-in voting.

Newsletter Advertising Policy

The Stewart Wendell Dispatch is a monthly publication generated by members of the Post. Along with the Advertising Policies stated above, there will be no advertising in the Dispatch for individuals buying or selling products or services (garage/estate sales, modes of transportation, cleaning services, lawn care services, animals, etc.). This policy does not apply to a single person doing business as a company (except animals). Pricing and sizes are stated below. Advertisements must be received 5 days prior to the first of the month.

Interior Bulletin Board

The Bulletin Board located in the Post is available for posting of individuals selling or buying products or services and advertising as stated in the Newsletter Policy. Advertisements can be no larger than 5"x7" and are free. The advertisement can be posted for up to four weeks. The Post Commander and his/her successors can remove any item on the Bulletin Board at any time.

Interior Electronic Advertising

There will be internal Electronic Advertising in the future. This policy will be updated when the service is available.

External Electronic Sign Advertising

There will be external Electronic Sign Advertising in the future. This policy will be updated when the service is available.

Other Advertising Opportunities

If an advertiser has an advertising idea not covered above, contact the Post Commander at 3904Commander@gmail.com.

Advertising Fees

Advertising in the Stewart Wendell Dispatch:

Business Card sized (black & white/color)

One month $5/$6, six months $25/$30, one year $50/$60.

Two Business Cards (one on top the other) sized (black & white/color)

1 month $10/$11, six months $50/$55, one year $100/$110

Other advertising pricing will be made available when the means are available.

STEWART WENDELL POST 3904
VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES

PO Box 184
Rockport, TX 78381

Email: vfw.post.3904@gmail.com

WE ARE ON THE WEB!

WWW.VFWPOST3904.COM

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

The purposes of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States are patriotic, historical, charitable and educational, and are:

1. To preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members;
2. To assist worthy comrades;
3. To perpetuate the memory and history of our dead and to assist their surviving spouses and orphans;
4. To maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States and fidelity to its Constitution and laws.
5. To foster true patriotism;
6. To maintain and extend the instructions of American freedom; and
7. To preserve and defend the United States from all enemies.

ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 8, 2022

One of Americans most important civic duties in to vote in elections.

Ballot by Mail applications must be RECEIVED (not postmarked) by the Election Administration Office at 602 East Concho Street Rockport, TX 78382. Application are available here.

Early voting will be at the Election Administration Office at 602 East Concho Street (enter through side) at the dates and times as listed below

October 24-29, 8AM to 5PM

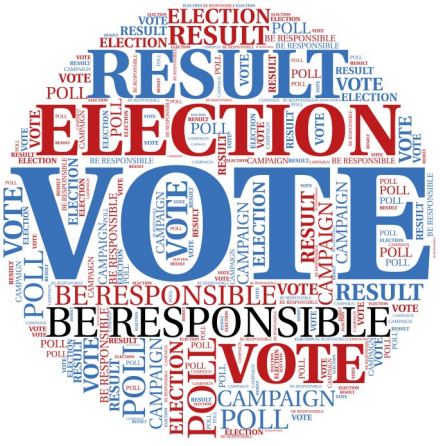
October 31 to November 2, 8AM to 5PM

November 3 & 4, 7AM to 7PM

On Election Day, November 8, the polling places will be open 7AM to 7PM at the following locations:

Fulton FD - 401 Googles Cole BLVD Fulton, TX

Rockport GI Forum - 1911 Hardee Street Rockport, TX

Rockport FD - 212 Gagon Street Rockport, TX (use back entrance)

Rockport Service Center - 2751 HWY 35 Bypass Rockport, TX (in the lobby)