SPC Daniel N. Denisoff – ARMY

SPC Daniel Denisoff was born in Schenectady, NY, on April 24, 1935. He was the last of six children of a very close Russian/Polish family. His two older brothers served in World War II – one in Europe the other in the Pacific. Dan served in the Army after he graduated from high school. Daniel was a NYS Capitol Policeman for 25 years. As a policeman, Dan was compassionate and loved by all that crossed his path. He was a wonderful friend and they called him a “gentle giant.” He was a wonderful husband, a dedicated father to Daniel Jr. and Michael, and a loving grandfather to granddaughter Haley. His children were the light of his life and he participated in all their activities throughout their lives. He would be very proud and happy to know of his new grandson Nicodemus (Nico) Daniel who was born 11 months ago. After his retirement, he moved to Wilmington, NC, where he enjoyed a happy and fun life for 13 years.

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU

CPL William F. Shaw – ARMY

CPL William Shaw was born December 2, 1929, in Schenectady, NY to Leroy and Pauline Shaw. Leroy was a Schenectady Police Officer. William attended Schenectady schools and graduated in the Class of 1948 from Mont Pleasant High School. While in high school he was a high jumper and hurdler on the championship track team from Mont Pleasant. He enlisted in the Army and was inducted on January 17, 1951. He attended engineering school in Virginia and served in Korea with the Army Engineers assigned to the Air Force. He was honorably discharged on February 26, 1953 and returned to Schenectady, where he resided until moving to Malta, NY in 1954. During his time in the service, he married Marjorie Johnson of Schenectady and they raised six children in Malta. He passed away in 2015. He is buried in the Saratoga National Cemetery.

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU
TM Fred S. Borogen – NAVY

TM Fred S. Borogen was born July 19, 1921, spending his younger years on River St., Schenectady, then moving with his family to Scotia where he graduated from high school. Fred enlisted in the Navy on August 11, 1942 and became an Advanced Torpedoman's Mate. He served on a destroyer in the American Theatre, Asiatic Pacific Theatre, and Philippine Liberation. Fred was honorably discharged on December 19, 1945, coming home to marry Jane F. Walker of Lansingburgh, NY. They met on a blind date (at the carnival!) prior to the war, arranged by Jane’s friend so she could go out with Fred's friend. Not only did their friends fall in love, but Fred and Jane did as well, waiting for one another throughout the war years. Upon his return, Fred worked a brief time at his prior employer, General Electric, but quickly realized he wanted to run his own business. He owned and operated Fred’s Esso (Fred’s Exxon) at the corner of Union & Jay Streets, Schenectady, until his untimely death in December of 1974 due to service-related leukemia. Fred and Jane raised a family of two girls, first while living in Schenectady, then in Scotia. Fred always made time for those in need and treated everyone with the greatest of respect. He was a person who led by example throughout his life. Although Fred never had the chance to know his grandchildren and great grandchildren, he continues to influence his family members to this day, and he will always be our “rock.”

Banner Sponsored by: Kathryn S. Corneau & Margaret B. Russell

PFC Peter F. Shish – MARINE CORPS

PFC Peter Shish moved to Schenectady in 1939 at age 11 from Windsor Locks, Connecticut, when his parents found employment opportunities at General Electric. The family settled in on Pennsylvania Ave. in the Mont Pleasant neighborhood. He attended Mont Pleasant High School and was enrolled in the College Preparatory Program. Immediately after graduating from high school, Pete entered the Marines on July 6, 1945. Pete served as a Private First Class (TAL) and had a weapons qualification as a Rifle Sharpshooter. Pete was Honorably Discharged from the Casual Company in Quantico, Virginia, FBI Classified Assignment. After Pete's military career was complete, he graduated from the University of Miami, Florida, the first in our family to attend college. After working in Philadelphia and Montreal, he then relocated to Los Angeles, California, and established Controlled Interval Scheduling (CIS) with two other gentlemen. Shortly after launching the consulting firm, the business grew to 300 employees and expanded worldwide. Pete believed his military service and the valuable work ethic he obtained in the Marines was the driving force of his success. Although Pete was an incredible businessman that traveled the world to many exotic locations, he never forgot his roots: Family, Marines and Schenectady. Thank you for your service to all and God Bless.

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU
SGT Harold T. Brown – ARMY

SGT Harold T. Brown, a U.S. Army Korean War Combat Veteran and Former POW, was born on May 16, 1930, in Manhattan, New York. He resided in Rotterdam. Harry enlisted in the U.S. Army on July 16, 1948, to the 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Division, Baker Company. Courageous in duty, he was captured and imprisoned by enemy forces from 1950 - 1953 at North Korean Prison Camp #5. Harry survived numerous escape attempts and the Manchurian Death March. Following his emancipation, Harry was honored with several medals and awards, receiving two bronze stars, one for valor. After the war, Harry and his wife, Josephine, raised four daughters: Lorraine Brown, Kathleen Curtis, Vanessa Noxon, and Patricia Wilson. He purchased lakefront at Crow Point. On this Lake George property, he made a seasonal retreat for family and friends. He spent much time fishing and boating with his friend, Dick, and was always witnessed taking in the view with Josephine. Harry was an empathetic and humble soul, always ready to drop what he was doing to help others. He was a man of infectious humor and skillful storytelling. Unlike many, he talked about his experience in war, knowing that it would guide his fellow man for generations to come. Having passed away January 20, 2022, Harry now rests in Gerald B.H. Soloman Saratoga National Cemetery. His book, Korea: Camp 5, is to be released soon and will offer the reader a detailed account of military imprisonment from the perspective of a former Prisoner of War.

Banner Sponsored by: Harry’s Loving Family “We Will Never Forget”

CPL Leon A. Martell – ARMY

CPL Leon “Frenchie” Martell was born in Rouses Point, NY. At the age of 18 he enlisted in the U.S. Army and completed a tour in Germany during the Korean War as a Tank Operator and Tank Commander for the 109 Infantry 28th Division Company M and was honorably discharged in 1953 at his ETS. Following his discharge, he moved to Schenectady with his wife of more than 60 years, Betty, and started a family. He worked as a salesman until he opened his own contracting company, which he operated until his passing in the summer of 2019. Leon enjoyed woodworking and worked hard his entire life. He is survived by his three children and two grandchildren.

Banner Sponsored by: The Martell Family
CPL Daniel Davis – MARINE CORPS

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU

SGT Bryan N. Davis – MARINE CORPS

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU

SSGT Joseph A. Gentiluomo – ARMY

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU
CPT Patrick Kelly – ARMY

CPT Patrick Kelly was commissioned into the active Army from the ROTC program at Siena College in 2008. After completing his training at various bases throughout the country, he was stationed at Fort Bliss, TX, where he was a Platoon Leader for C Company, 1-37 Armor Battalion, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division. He was then deployed to support Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2009-2010. Upon his return, he was transitioned to the 3-41 Infantry Division, where he was Company XO, until 2012. After completing his active-duty commitment, he transferred to the New York State National Guard in 2012, where he worked at the Joint Force Headquarters as Battle Captain in Latham, NY. He was Commander of the 1156th Engineer Company through January 2016. After deciding to start a family, he took a backseat and stayed in the Individual Readiness Reserve, until recently in 2021 where he joined the United States Army Reserves. He is currently the Battalion Logistics Officer for the 3rd Battalion, 3-304th Infantry Regiment. CPT Kelly was awarded the Bronze Star Medial and two Army Commendation Medals, among various other awards for his stellar service. He currently resides in Glenville, NY with his wife, Jackie, and his two daughters Ava (5) and Mia (2).
CPL John J. Ettore – ARMY AIR FORCE

CPL John J. Ettore was born on March 23, 1923. He was one of eight children. John attended Draper High School where he excelled in basketball and baseball. He later graduated in 1941. John was a proud American who loved his country. His story of WWII was featured on the front page of the Daily Gazette of Schenectady on Veterans Day, November 11, 2014. He was one of five brothers – others Frank, Albert, Stephen, and Harold – who were called to duty after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Remarkably, they all returned home after the war ended. John married the love of his life, Loretta, in 1952, and they later adopted their daughter Lori in 1966. He loved baseball and was a loyal Yankees fan who hardly ever missed a game. John died on April 14, 2015; he was 92. His wonderful sense of humor will be forever remembered. John is survived by his daughter Lori Lapi, her husband Joseph, and his grandson Joseph.

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU

SPC Nelson E. Fournier – ARMY

SP4 Nelson E. Fournier was born in Schenectady on June 14, 1948. He entered the Army in August 1967 and was sent to Viet Nam. On May 2, 1968, he was killed in action. He was trained in light weapons and was part of the Army Infantry Group 1st Aviation Brigade, 240th Aviation. He was awarded the Purple Heart.

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU
CPT William S. Gridley – ARMY

CPT William Seward Gridley was born on July 23, 1838, in Schenectady, NY, to Reuben and Mary DeMille Gridley. After his parents and infant sister died in 1843, William and his twin brother, Henry, were sent by their older sister to live in a Shaker community in Watervliet. Ten years later, the boys ran away and returned to Schenectady. They lived and worked with their sister and brother-in-law, Sarah and Thomas Cleary, who owned a tavern on Liberty Street. William was responsible for organizing the first company in Schenectady, the 18th Infantry Regiment, New York State Volunteers, Company A (first known as the Seward Volunteer Zouaves) during the Civil War. The company of 47 men and three officers, most from Schenectady, reported for duty on April 22, 1861, with William Gridley commissioned as Captain. On May 17th of that year, the company was mustered into service. The regiment fought in Virginia at Braddock Road, Fairfax Station, Blackburn's Ford, the first battle of Bull Run, Munson's Hill, and Fredericksburg, among others, and in Maryland at Crampton's Pass and Antietam. Gridley was promoted to major on October 14, 1862. He mustered out with the regiment on May 28, 1863. At the close of the war, he received the honorary title of Brevet Colonel, New York Volunteers.

Returning to Schenectady, Gridley studied law and opened a practice on Union Street. In 1867, he married Caroline Eleanor Gridley and moved to her home in Jackson, Michigan, where he continued to practice law until moving to Chicago in 1885. The couple had three children. William S. Gridley died of a stroke on June 17, 1889 and is buried at Rosehill Cemetery in Chicago.

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU

LTJG Sandra Huening – NAVY

LTJG Sandra Huening was born in Dover, OH in 1945 to Mary & Andy Oravec. Her long nursing career started in the U.S. Navy at Portsmouth, NH Naval Hospital. She met and married her first husband (George Betor) while there. Upon honorable discharge from the Navy she took her Registered Nurse accomplishment to Gloversville and worked at Nathan Littauer Hospital, where she went on to become Head Nurse of Maternity. She had her only child there and brought NYSNA to the hospital, as they were without a nurse’s union. After many years there she relocated to Schenectady County in the 1980s. She spent the next 20 years at St. Clare’s Hospital on the medical-surgical unit and married her second husband (Peter Huening). Her final nursing post was at Northwoods in Niskayuna as a night nursing supervisor. She retired to become a loving Grandma. While in the Navy, she received the National Defense Service Medal and made lifelong friends. Her rank was Lieutenant Junior Grade. Sandra adored, and was adored by, her daughter Amy, son-in-law David Versocki and granddaughter Samantha. She passed away March 21, 2022.

Banner Sponsored by: Your Loving Family
PFC Armin E. Nickel – ARMY

PFC Armin E. Nickel was born in Schenectady on March 14, 1947. He graduated from Niskayuna High School in 1965. He was drafted into the Army in September 1966 and did his basic training in Ft. Dix, New Jersey. He spent 15 months in Viet Nam in Supply Office Management. After his discharge from the service, he worked for Sears as a salesman for 40 years and part time at Freihofer’s for 15 years. He was an avid bowler, has traveled extensively, and was a coach for Pop Warner, NHS Little League, and Babe Ruth. Armin has been married for 50 years and has two children and four grandchildren.

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU

SP4 Stanley Pawlak – ARMY

SP4 Stanley Pawlak was born in Poland and raised and educated in Germany due to its occupation of Poland. In 1951, his family immigrated to the United States. In 1953, Stanley was drafted into the United States Army, serving during the Korean War with the Company C 148th Engineer Combat Battalion. During his service, Stanley was decorated with the National Defense Service Medal and Good Conduct Medal. He was Honorably Discharged in 1955. Stanley took great pride in his service to this country, never missing an opportunity to show his patriotism and willingness to share stories of his experience. He never forgot where he came from and his time in his homeland of Poland as a young man. It brought him endless joy to share stories of growing up there with family, friends and even strangers. Stanley was a man of strong beliefs, character, and interest in history. He was well read and believed in hard work, education, and doing the right thing. He understood the value of life – not only human, but for all living creatures. He enjoyed gardening, sharing what he grew with others, traveling back to his homeland of Poland, the Northeast United States, and spending time with family and friends.

Banner Sponsored by: Never Forgotten Your Loving Family
TEC5 James “Bud” Reilly was born in Schenectady, NY in 1922. He attended Schenectady schools and graduated from Mont Pleasant High School. He was drafted into the Army shortly after he began a 42-year career at the General Electric Company. He served in the Pacific Theater from 1942-1945, attaining the rank of TEC5. He served combat tours in China, Burma and India and was Honorably Discharged in 1945. Upon returning from service, he resumed his career at the General Electric Company in Schenectady, where he met his bride to be, the former Mafalda Mastroianni. They were married in 1951 and settled in Rotterdam. James died in 1992 and his wife Mafalda died in 2020. He is currently survived by one son, two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. His grandson, Shaun Reilly, is a 2021-22 Schenectady County Hometown Hero who is a decorated Navy Purple Heart Veteran.

Fred is responsible for re-uniting his helicopter squadron every other year. He has researched and found everyone, and they all meet up at a different destination each time they get together.

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU

TSGT Corey Shields, a resident of Duanesburg, NY, joined the Schenectady Police Department in July 2011 and won numerous awards during his time, including one instance where he ran into a burning building and saved a man with a heart condition. Corey was a 2001 graduate of Guilderland High School and he later attended Hudson Valley Community College, SUNY Empire State College, and the State University of New York at Brockport. He then served with the New York State National Guard with the 139th Airlift Squadron as a loadmaster aboard a C-130 aircraft. He flew more than 200 operational missions around the world, including in support of Arctic and Antarctic scientific research programs. He also flew 75 combat hours in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom. He earned numerous medals and commendations. Corey was a proud veteran of the U.S. Air Force and equally proud of his service. As the old loadmaster saying goes, “I'm not a magician, but I'll see what I can do and why you're confused.” SMYFD.

Banner Sponsored by: WARRIORS
SSGT Adolph “Otto” Ziolkowski – ARMY

SSGT Adolph J. Ziolkowski, known as “Otto” to his family and friends, was born in Schenectady, NY on November 22, 1918. By the age of five, and because of misfortune, he had become an orphan. He was taken in by his mother’s sister Katherine and her husband, Joseph Poteralski. He grew up with his cousin, Raymond, and Walter Locwin, another unfortunate boy the Poteralskis took in. He graduated from Draper High school in 1937. In 1939, he joined the U.S. Army. He served with the 249th BN and was stationed in Panama, Africa, and Italy. He achieved the rank of staff sergeant. He was honorably discharged in 1945, receiving several medals and awards.

He graduated from college in Indiana at Valparaiso University. He had met his wife, Gloria, and married her in October 1950. They had two daughters, Judith and Carol. He had several jobs early on, including owning “Otto's TV” service located at Five Corners in Rotterdam. He worked for many years at Mobile Phone on Union Street in Schenectady, from which he retired due to heart health issues. He passed away on April 8, 1982.

Otto loved boating, fishing, fly tying, bowling, and cooking Polish food and many other dishes. He was a phenomenal gardener. He also loved playing pinochle with his cousin Ray and adopted brother Walt. He was an ace vehicle mechanic and an excellent carpenter.

He was a generous and kind man with a fantastic sense of humor. He was hard working and reliable, honest, and intelligent.

**Banner Sponsored by:** Kocham Cię, Niech cię Bóg błogosławi.
Twoja Córka, Judi

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SGT Michael D. Pommer – MARINE CORPS

Sgt. Michael Pommer served in the United States Marine Corps from January 2004 - January 2010. As a Rifleman in the Infantry, he was deployed to Fallujah, Iraq in 2006 and in the Al Anbar Province in Iraq in 2008. In 2008 Michael joined the Schenectady Police Department where he is currently a Detective. He is married to his wife Kimberly and they have three children, Madisson, Michael and Matthew. In his spare time Michael enjoys spending time with his family, hunting and fishing.

**Banner Sponsored by:** THE DAILY GAZETTE
**SPC Lisa Young-Houghton – ARMY**

SPC Lisa Houghton-Young (served as Lisa Houghton) was born on March 31, 1964. She went to Mont Pleasant High School. Lisa served in the Army Reserves in the late '80s/early '90s, separating as a Specialist E-4. Lisa and her husband Jeff live in North Carolina, where they have a small horse farm and own a commercial cleaning business. Jeff is a combat veteran who saw service in the Gulf War. As retired military, Lisa and Jeff operate a veteran-owned business in their town right outside one of the largest military bases in the U.S.

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**SPC Richard Young – ARMY**

SPC Richard Young was born on April 26, 1968. Growing up in Schenectady, he went to Mont Pleasant High School. Rich has been active in local motorcycle clubs since his service in the U.S. Army. He served in the late '80s/early '90s as a Specialist E-4, in Germany and Colorado. Rich and his wife Sage own a home in Schenectady on Steers Ave. Rich is a licensed union plumber working for Local 7 on various job sites throughout New York State.

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**CPL George R. Caplinger – ARMY**

Banner Sponsored by: **Your Loving Neighbors**
SPC Janis Young-Jastrebski – ARMY

SPC Janis Jastrebski, née Young, was born in Schenectady, NY on March 28, 1945, and raised there through her high school graduation. She went to Mont Pleasant High School, class of 1962. Janis enlisted in the Army and served in the early ‘80s while already a mother of grown children. She got her nursing degree while in the Army as a Specialist E-4. She went on to have a career in nursing and human services. Janis owns a house on Clarendon St. in Schenectady where she lived with her husband (Joseph Jastrebski, now deceased). Joseph was a Schenectady firefighter for many years.

MSG Johnnie J. McIntosh – ARMY

MSG John McIntosh is more known locally for his musical career, which began in his hometown of Buffalo, playing gospel music in church. During his early years, he played solely by ear and played behind numerous gospel singers and groups. His most memorable event was playing with James Cleveland. His musical interest expanded during his college years. He began playing soul music, blues, and jazz. After completing his degree at then-named Buffalo State College, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. Johnnie has several vivid memories of his service abroad, especially dealing with racism both within the ranks and with German citizens.

During his tour in Germany, he joined a male gospel group with which he played some very “funky” gospel music. They also performed weekly on the American Force Network Radio. Once back in the states, John took formal music lessons and expanded his musical talents because of his excellent ear for music. He worked with various local groups and performed a solo act at hotel lounges, weddings, private parties, and numerous political and social events. He has also played at Jazz on Jay, Hats Off at Saratoga, The Hudson Black Arts Festival, The Girlfriend’s holiday event, Albany Country Club, Proctors, Music Haven in Schenectady’s Central Park, Hamilton Hill Culture Festival, Ramada Inn of Schenectady (’70s soul night) and the Vale Park Music Festival of Schenectady. In 2010, John signed with Myoho Jazz, an independent label committed to supporting artist visions and making them a reality.
Unified Military Affairs Council

UMAC’s mission is to highlight the importance of the military presence in the Capital Region and Tech Valley. Its number one goal is to ensure the long term viability and success of Stratton Air National Guard Base and the Navy Operation Support Center in Glenville, N.Y., as well as other military units in the Capital Region which have a profound effect on our local economy.

UMAC strives to facilitate a symbiotic partnership between the community and military by increasing public knowledge of the contributions made by local military units in the Capital Region, all of which impact our global, national, state, and regional economy. UMAC highlights positive partnerships that the military has already formed with State and Federal agencies so all parties understand the vital role our Capital Region military units play in securing our nation.

UMAC also brings attention to the wide community support and pride for our local military units, as well as their significant local volunteer contributions, such as:

- Mentorship Program at Yates Elementary School
- Educational Partnership with Proctors
- Schenectady Holiday Parade Marshals
- Schenectady Inner City Ministries Summer Lunch Program
- Salvation Army Holiday Food Basket Delivery
- Naval Sea Cadet Corps
- Capital District Construction Career Days
- American Red Cross Blood Drives
- Greater Capital Region Science and Engineering Fair
- Caps for Kids Program

Banner Sponsored by:
S1 Gabriel B. DiCerbo – NAVY

S1 Gabriel DiCerbo was born on May 12, 1927, in Schenectady, NY, where he resided his entire life. Gabriel graduated from Nott Terrace High School in 1945. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy towards the end of World War II and was stationed aboard the U.S.S. Juneau. After the war, Gabriel attended Union College. He graduated in 1950 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics. Upon graduation, he began working for the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance. He worked there 40 years, retiring in 1991 as Director of Taxpayer Services. Gabriel had a passion for the NY Yankees and Big Band Music. He played tenor sax for the Armand Riccio Moonlight Serenaders, was in the ship's band aboard the U.S.S. Juneau, and was a member of the Union College Big Band.

In 1953, Gabriel married Turina Timpano. They were married for 35 years until her death. They had two daughters. In 1995, he married Evelyn Gejay. They were married for 25 years until his death. Evelyn had a son and daughter. They blended their families together perfectly. Gabriel loved life and lived his to the fullest. He was a member of the Elks, Sons of Italy, and the American Legion. He had a great sense of humor and was always quick with a joke. He enjoyed traveling, playing golf, and a good Italian meal, but most of all spending time with his family. Family was the most important thing to him. Gabriel DiCerbo died January 19, 2021.

Banner Sponsored by: Your Loving Family

TSGT Vincent J. Rinella, Sr. – ARMY

TSGT Vincent John Rinella (VJ) was born to Italian immigrants on April 17, 1917 and lived most of his life in Schenectady County. He was drafted into the U.S. Army on March 4, 1941, in H Company. He was on his bunk in Camp Edwards, Cape Cod, waiting to go on leave on the morning of December 7, 1941, when word arrived that Pearl Harbor had been attacked. Our father was a member of the 182nd Infantry Regiment of the American Division, the oldest infantry regiment in the U.S. Army, which was organized in 1636. The 182nd fought in the Battle of Lexington in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, Bull Run in the Civil War, Meuse-Argonne in WW I, Guadalcanal, the Northern Solomon’s, Leyte, and the Southern Philippines in WW II and Viet Nam. On December 17, 1942, our Dad’s Company and other units of the Americal Division began their assault up Mount Austen, the enemy stronghold on Guadalcanal. Our Dad was a Tech Sergeant with sixty men under his command. Other battles in which he was engaged included Bougainville and Leyte. When he rotated out, his R&R was at Lake Placid in the Adirondack Mountains. For his heroic and meritorious achievements, he was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. Upon returning home after WWII, our dad met, fell in love with, and married Anna Mae Smith. Together they raised six children (Mike, Vinnie, Susie, Jimmy, Judy, and Toni) at their home in Niskayuna. Their descendants now include seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Banner Sponsored by: Your Loving Family
PO1 David C. Milliman Jr. – NAVY

PO1 David Milliman, a lifelong New Yorker, grew up in Schenectady County and graduated from Mohonasen High School. He was lucky enough to follow his first dream of attending art school (Pratt Institute) in NYC and had a rewarding career in Graphic Design. He spent 18 years in the Big Apple and was ready to chase down another dream, this time of serving his Country. Being 38 at the time, it was the last year he could enlist, so he took the dive and attended Navy Boot Camp in Great Lakes, IL, in 2016. Directly following, he attended A and C school in Virginia and reported to his first in-duty Station in Rome, NY. David’s work in the military continues to bring the highest honors to his Country, community, and self. Petty Officer Milliman was presented the Joint Service Commendation Medal (JCOM) for his work that reached the highest levels of the National Security communities. His specialized skills have garnered him multiple honors and awards for his contributions to Special Operations activities and National Level Crisis groups. David is also a proud member of the NY Naval Militia’s Military Emergency Boat Service (MEBS). He was privileged to assist in missions on Lake Ontario damaged by hurricane flooding. David continues dedicating his life to service and country as a Petty Officer First Class in the U.S. Navy Reserve assigned to Navy Expeditionary Combat Command, and as a Federal civilian employee working as a State Security Manager for the NY Army National Guard, JFHQ.

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU

SC3 Anthony E. Zemeck – NAVY

SC3 Anthony Edward Zemeck was born in Schenectady on May 3, 1926, to Anna and Anthony Zemeck, Lithuanian immigrants. He grew up in the Goose Hill neighborhood of Schenectady on Avenue A and Randolph Road. Ed had one sister, Shirley. He was known to his family and friends as Ed – to distinguish him from his father, Tony. Ed went to Nott Terrace High School and entered active duty with the Navy during WWII on May 8, 1944. He was Honorably Discharged on June 9, 1946. He was proud to have served as Ship’s Cook Third Class on several different ships. He was awarded the American Theatre Medal, European Medal, and the WW II Victory Medal. During his Navy career he also served on the U.S. Frigate Constitution in the Boston Navy Yard, which allowed him to be closer to home while his sister was ill. After he was discharged, he returned to Schenectady.

He was a skilled butcher. He worked at and eventually owned and operated the Avenue A Market. He married another Goose Hill Avenue A native, Mary Murphy, and they raised three children on Avenue A. He lived the remainder of his life in Schenectady until his death on July 25, 1995.

Banner Sponsored by: His Children, Edward, Patricia, and Eileen
SGT Ned B. Martin Sr. – AIR FORCE

SGT Ned Martin was born in Troy, he was a Volunteer fire fighter, a Medic in Vietnam with the Air Force, and retired from the USPS. Ned has resided in Schenectady since the early 80’s raising his 5 children, being actively involved in the little league, softball, youth basketball and numerous activities with his kids. Ned is an active volunteer within his community, an Elks member, Hibernian, and an overall friend to all.

Banner Sponsored by:

TEC5 Bernard L. Socha – ARMY

TEC5 Bernard L Socha Sr. – our father, my mother’s husband – served his country during WWII. Like many soldiers, he did not speak much about his service experience. He did however fill two albums with black and white photographs from the different places he traveled during his tour of duty. He meticulously wrote down fellow soldiers’ names, places, events, and historic sites he witnessed, as the war came to an end. We often joked that when the enemy saw our dad come to fight and protect us and our country, they surrendered. That is the hero we remember. He passed away on April 30, 2015, at the age of 88. We salute him and all those who served in his generation. We miss you and love you always, from Mary, Bernard Jr., Bernadette, and Anna.

Banner Sponsored by: Wife Mary, and Children Bernard, Bernadette & Anna
PFC Frank E. Legere – ARMY

PFC Frank E. Legere was born May 17, 1928, in Schenectady. Frank was one of 13 children of Margaret and Charles LeGere growing up on Barton Ave. It was in this same home that he went on to live in with his wife “Mickey” and raise eight children of their own. A 1945 graduate of Draper High School in Rotterdam, Frank served his country as an Army paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division, then received his teaching degree in 1952 from Manhattan College. Frank’s degree led to a position as an elementary physical education teacher; he retired in 1983 from the Niskayuna School District. He was a proud member of the Schenectady Ole Timers Baseball Club. Frank was also a key reason why the historic Proctors Theatre is still a Schenectady icon today. In 1977, he was a part of a group of citizens who came together to form the Arts Center and Theatre of Schenectady, Inc. for the purpose of saving Proctors from the wrecking ball. He passed in June 2011 at the age of 83.

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU

CPL George Legorius – MARINE CORPS

CPL George Legorius, the eldest son of Greek immigrants, was born in Schenectady in 1926 and was raised in Niskayuna with his parents and six siblings. Before graduating from high school, George enthusiastically enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and served in Panama guarding the Canal Zone during World War II. Upon his return home, he held various jobs but eventually retired as a bus driver for Greyhound Lines after over 35 years of safe driving. George was proud of his service in the Marines and never regretted having sacrificed his education by serving his country. He was a member of the American Legion and was a strong supporter of fellow veterans throughout his caring life well-lived. Eventually he was awarded his elusive high school diploma through New York State’s Operation Recognition. It was another proud moment in his life. He lived in Colonie with his cherished wife Rosemary and daughter Christine. George passed away in 2014 and was laid to rest in Park View Cemetery with military honors. His passion for his family and others, and for his beloved country, lives on in spirit.

Banner Sponsored by: SEFCU