

Dwyer Newsletter February 2026

Iwo Jima, which means "Sulfur Island," was not a large island, only about eight square miles in all. Although the Japanese had constructed three airfields there, the aircraft based at Iwo did little more than harass the American bombers that flew nearby on their way to Japan. Yet this island had been in Japanese possession for centuries and was just 700 miles from the Japanese home islands. To the Americans, this would be a valuable target as a potential fighter escort base for the Marianas-based bombers and would penetrate Japan's inner defense zone, striking a blow to Japanese morale. The proposal for the invasion of Iwo Jima was the first step in a plan that was to involve taking Okinawa a week later, and soon afterwards, an attack on the Home Islands themselves. Iwo Jima would protect the American flank during the Okinawa seizure, which would then be used to stage the invasion of Japan. The Allies realized that it would take a significant blow to the Japanese spirit to cause them to surrender. The American forces landed at almost exactly the appointed hour, 0900 on 19 February 1945. Their very first obstacle was the island itself. The volcanic ash covering the island was soft and loose, and men who set foot on the beaches sank up to their ankles in the sand. Vehicles floundered, unable to gain traction. The beaches were steeper than initially expected, and this caused violent surf that battered the landing craft. The Japanese had taken shelter in the underground tunnels throughout the preinvasion bombardment and made their way topside once the shelling subsided. They assumed their positions in the sniper nests, pillboxes, and artillery positions and waited until waves of Marines had amassed on the beaches, then opened fire. Fighting across the island was ferocious. American casualties on D-Day alone were over 2,400 men. But for all this, both sides knew it was only a matter of time before the defense gave way and the island would fall to the Americans.

The first sign of this came just five days into the battle, on 23 February, in a scene that was destined to become the most iconic image of the Pacific War, and even of World War II. On 23 February, Lt. Harold G. Schrier led a patrol up the side of Mt. Suribachi. His orders were to take the mountain and plant a U.S. flag at the summit. The small flag was attached to a length of pipe and raised around 1020 that day.





Upcoming Events



Nutrition Class

Given by Sue Schell from Office of the Aging

What's my Numbers.. and what do they mean?

Friday February 13th 10:30 am

36 Center St Warsaw, NY Downstairs -Room LC1

RSVP by calling 786-8860

Check us out ONLINE at : <https://wycojvc.wixsite.com/wycovets>

Join us for our Coffee Hours

Feb 2 - 10 AM

The Prospector in Attica

Feb. 10 -10 AM

Wyoming Hook and Ladder

Feb 20 - 9AM

Heavy Eavys- in Castile

Feb 17- 10 AM

Perry VFW

Feb. 23 - 10 AM

Wyoming County Vet's Club
Warsaw

RSVP by calling 786-8860

Check us out ONLINE at : <https://wycojvc.wixsite.com/wycoverts>



Come and join us for
BINGO

February 26
11:00am

36 Center St. Warsaw
Downstairs Room
LC1

Snacks, Prizes

Please bring a prize for the
winners table if you are
able

RSVP by Friday 2/20

Low Vision Support Group

February 6 11AM—12:30
36 Center St LC5 Downstairs

Have you thought about
coming to this group?

ANY Low vision veterans are welcome.
Learn great tips and tricks to deal with
everyday living from needing devices to
learning skills to help with everyday
tasks. NO VA rating needed!

The Office will be Closed

February 16th
for Presidents Day

Arcade Office Hours: February 19 2PM-4PM

Arcade VFW—Main St Arcade

D&D Friday Game Nights

6PM

36 Center St—Basement



Feb. 13

Feb. 27

Please Bring A Dish to Share



Free Veteran and Family Haircuts

Feb 4th 10-11AM
36 Center St



Basement LC1

Sewing Class

Feb. 19th
2PM-4PM
101 Miner St.
Warsaw, NY



Veterans Community Happenings

February 1st 8AM Breakfast at Perry VFW—Full Breakfast options—eggs, Meat, omelets, Sausage Gravy, Etc.... Donations

February 8th—8AM—11 Wyoming Fire Dept Breakfast
Full breakfast options—Veterans Discount

The Month Of Henry—March 2026

Each Saturday in the Month of March a Henry Rifle will be drawn Winner need not be present. Winners must be 18+, and be able to a NICS check
\$20.00 Donation ONLY 500 Tickets Sold. Dave Kellner : 716-353-2031

1st Wednesday of Every Month—Veterans Healing in Color
Drop in Sessions 10 AM or 5PM Arts Council Wyoming County
Main St Perry, NY

If you would like to include your organizations function please call the office at 786-8860

Healing Haven for Military Spouses and Caregivers

1st Monday of Every Month—Stress Relief

3rd Monday of Every Month—Self Care Tools

Each online class is 60 minutes

If you are interested in participating in these online classes please call the office and we can send you the registration link

786-8860



Online Mental Health Resources for Military Service Members, Veterans and Their Families

Veterans and their loved ones have unique lives full of experiences that may be difficult to navigate. NAMI has created a free online suite of mental health resources for caregivers, family members, military service members and veterans. These resources are meant to educate and empower the military community in their journey towards mental health recovery and overall well-being. NAMI Homefront Mental Health Resources are accessible through computers or mobile devices, and they're available 24/7. After signing up, you'll find

information about:

- Navigating and understanding mental health conditions
- Current, evidence-based treatments and therapies
- Ways you can increase your overall well-being
- Tips for self-care
- Advice about managing stress
- Communication strategies
- Transitioning from military to civilian life
- Links to helpful organizations and crisis services

And more! <https://www.nami.org/programs/namihomefront>