



American Legion Devils Lake Tim Running Post 24 Scholarship

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization. Focusing on service to veterans, servicemembers, and communities, the Legion evolved from a group of war-weary veterans of World War I into one of the most influential nonprofit groups in the United States. Membership swiftly grew to over 1 million, and local posts sprang up across the country. Today, membership stands at nearly 2 million in more than 13,000 posts worldwide. The posts are organized into 55 departments: one each for the 50 states, along with the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico, and the Philippines.

Over the years, the Legion has influenced considerable social change in America, won hundreds of benefits for veterans, and produced many important programs for children and youth.

Tim Running Post 24 in Devils Lake has been able to give more back to the community upon earning funds through its charitable gaming. The post focuses on giving back to veterans, children and youth, and the community. They give funds to homeless veterans programs in the region, veterans transportation, community events, have additional scholarships at Devils Lake High School, and sponsors Scouts BSA Troop 31 and Cub Scout Pack 3028. In addition to monetary contributions the Post is involved in veterans activities in the region such as Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Independence Day, and has its members on the Honor Guard for funerals and parades. The Post also has a bicycle rebuild and donation program.

The Post is thrilled that they can give this scholarship to Lake Region State College. They recognize the benefits of having the college in Devils Lake for our community and our youth.

The American Legion has a proud tradition of supporting our nation's youth. The

organization was founded on the principle in 1919, when Children & Youth was declared one of the Legion's four pillars. In the years since, several youth-oriented programs have been developed including Temporary Financial Assistance, Family Support Network, and child safety and wellbeing programs.

Although the American Legion has an international presence, it is more than simply a veterans organization—it is very much a community-based service organization. Among the programs conducted regularly are community Veterans Day and Memorial Day observations, Blue Star Salutes honoring local military families and supportive businesses, American Legion Baseball, Junior Shooting Sports, a High School Oratorical Contest, and American Legion Boys State and Nation. The American Legion is one of the nation's largest supporters of Scouting and the largest single donor organization of blood to the American Red Cross. Members of local American Legion posts provide volunteer funeral details to render military honors for fallen comrades. The American Legion's Child Welfare Foundation donates over a quarter of a million dollars each year to worthy children and youth programs. The American Legion's National Emergency Fund provides immediate financial assistance to fellow Legionnaires and their families displaced by natural disasters. Legionnaires record over a million volunteer hours annual in VA medical facilities throughout the nation, and they reinvest millions of dollars back into local communities through cash donations.

The American Legion truly is a large organization of men and women who have stood to defend our nation in times of war and who continue to stand for a strong national defense in a changing world. These members steadfastly work to preserve the fabric of the United States of America.