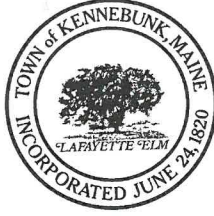


Town of Kennebunk, Maine



PROCLAMATION

Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Founding of the American Legion and Kennebunk's Webber-Lefebvre Post 74

WHEREAS, in March, 1919, at the call of General Pershing, volunteer and career officers met in Paris, France, to initiate a veteran's group called the American Legion. The Congress of the United States granted a charter to the organization in September, 1919, and, in November, 1919, the American Legion held its first National Convention.

WHEREAS, on December 19, 1919, Webber Post 74 of the American Legion held its first meeting in the Kennebunk Opera House. The naming of the Post was in honor of Harold Webber, the first Kennebunk citizen to lose his life in World War I.

WHEREAS, on October 29, 1942, the Congress of the United States incorporated the American Legion and formalized its commitment to the following values: Upholding and defending the Constitution of the United States; Promoting peace and goodwill in the country and the world; Preserving memories and incidents of the two World Wars; Cementing the comradeship born of joint service; and Consecrating efforts of the members to promote helpfulness and service to the country.

WHEREAS, in 1946, Post 74 updated its name to include the name of the first Kennebunk resident to lose his life in WWII, Edward Lefebvre.

WHEREAS, as in many other communities in America, the American Legion Post in Kennebunk first mirrored the post-civil war veterans organization called The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) by providing education, patriotic celebrations, charitable work, services to disabled veterans and maintenance of cemeteries that were the final resting place for their comrades-in-arms. As time saw the passing of the GAR veterans, these community support activities have been continued as part of the mission of the American Legion, and, in Kennebunk, they continue unabated to the date of this celebratory proclamation.

NOW, THEREFORE, we the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Kennebunk, Maine, do hereby proclaim 2019 as the Year of Centennial Celebration for both the American Legion and, especially, for its Webber-Lefebvre Post 74.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael W. Pardue", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael W. Pardue, Town Manager
on behalf of the Board of Selectmen

A handwritten date "January 8, 2019" in blue ink is written over a horizontal line.

Date