



Remember and Honor

# MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 25, 2026

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# ★ Velva *area* Voice

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Velva, North Dakota 58790

\$1.50

## Word on the Street

### MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY:

Velva American Legion will have a Memorial Day Ceremony at 10am, May 25, with military honor guard at local cemeteries starting at 11am.

### FOOD PANTRY:

June 16, July 21, August 18, September 15, October 20, November 17, December 15  
The food pantry is open from 5:45-7:15pm in the Fellowship Hall of OVLC, Main Street. The pantry is short of these items: canned meats, canned fruit, personal hygiene products and laundry pods and can be dropped off at OVLC Mon.- Fri. 9am-3pm.

### PURDY GOOD OL BAND:

If you're interested in joining the Purdy Good Ol Band for the Velva 4th of July, please call Carmen at 340-9513 or Marlowe at 626-1724.

## Senior Quilt Night

Submitted by Libby Darnell



Keeping a favorite tradition going for Velva senior graduates, Quilt Night was hosted at St Cecilia Catholic Church on Wednesday, May 13. The combination service was led by the three local leaders, Father Jered Grossman, Pastor Lisa Luft and Pastor Emmy Swedlund.

During the service, the message was based on always finding the Lord to guide you on your path. Later, seniors names were drawn at random to select a handmade quilt provided by the dedicated team in Community Churches.

This year marked 39 years that Velva seniors have been gifted quilts from local churches. Many of the quilters were present during the event. More than 80 quilts were on display for the graduates to pick from. After all quilts were chosen, refreshments were served to attendees.

Following a tradition that began 39 years ago, seniors pose wrapped in their quilts.



## Honoring Service: The Meaning Behind the Legionnaire of the Year Award

Reporter Heather Tudor



Jamie Frankl

Across North Dakota communities, local American Legion posts continue to serve as important centers of patriotism, veteran support, and community leadership. One of the highest honors a Legion member can receive is being named "Legionnaire of the Year."

One such community member did just that, meet Jamie Frankl.

Jamie is a family man who is married to wife Jodie, who is also a fellow veteran with nine years of service. Jamie has served as Sunday School teacher and board of Directors member for Our Redeemers Church. Jamie and Jodi live in Velva where they are raising their three children – Colton, Kinley and Emrie while instilling values of faith, service, and civic responsibility through firsthand volunteerism.

Mr. Frankl enlisted in the North Dakota Air National Guard in 2003 and currently serves as the Senior Enlisted Leader of the 219th Security Forces Squadron at Minot Air Force Base, where he leads, mentors and develops Airmen responsible for installation security and mission readiness. Over his career, he has held multiple leadership

and instructor positions within the Security Forces career field and has deployed in support of Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom, directly contributing to national defense both domestically and overseas.

The honor, presented through local posts and state departments of The American Legion, recognizes members who demonstrate exceptional leadership, volunteerism, and commitment to both the Legion and their communities.

At the Velva American Legion Post 39, Jamie has been instrumental in transforming a struggling post into a financially stable and revitalized veterans' organization. Through direct leadership, operational restructuring, and direct labor, his efforts directly prevented the closure of Post 39 and ensured its long-term sustainability.

Recipients are often chosen for

years of service that extend far beyond regular meetings or ceremonial duties. Many honorees are active in organizing memorial events, assisting veterans and military families, supporting youth activities, and helping maintain community traditions in small towns across North Dakota. According to the North Dakota American Legion, award consideration is based primarily on service to the Legion itself, while also recognizing contributions to the community, state, and nation. Local Legion posts typically nominate members who exemplify the organization's core values of service, patriotism, and dedication. Nominees are then considered at the department level for statewide recognition.

The Legionnaire of the Year Award helps shine a light on those

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