

Greetings Everyone!

For our season kick-off we'll be starting at Aqua Vino Restaurant on Genesee St, Utica on Wednesday April 5th. We'll have the entire street level of the restaurant which includes the bar and a private room for dinner. In order to expedite the ordering process, management has asked us to limit the menu. The selections for dinner are as follows:

Filet Mignon: Char Broiled 8 oz Tenderloin, Garnished with French Onions and a Red Wine Demi Glaze: \$32.00 Add Gorgonzola Cheese: \$3.00

Haddock Oreganato: Baked Fresh Haddock Fillet, Oregano, Parsley, Bread Crumbs, with Lemon Butter Sauce Served with a Side of Pasta: \$17.00

Shrimp Scampi Over Linguini: Succulent Shrimp Sauteed in Butter, Garlic and Sun dried Tomatoes in a White Wine Sauce Served Over Semolina Italian Linguini: \$22.00

Chicken Saltimbocca: Sauteed Chicken Medallions, Greens Coverd with Mushrooms, Prosciutto and Mozzarella in a Light Sherry Marinara Sauce. Served with a side of pasta: \$21.00

Chicken Piedmontese: Sauteed Chicken Medallions, Butter, Garlic and Prosciutto in a Creamy Chicken Broth. Served with a side of pasta: \$21.00

Members and Guests are asked to RSVP no later than Sunday April 2nd.

NCIS featuring a story including the Honor Flight on Tuesday, March 28

Are you a fan of *NCIS*? On Tuesday, March 28, at 8 p.m. ET, viewers of CBS-TV's top-rated primetime drama, *NCIS*, will get a glimpse into the world of Honor Flight.

NCIS writer Gina Lucita Monreal found her inspiration for the episode in her grandfather-in-law's Honor Flight experience, and the renewed sense of pride and purpose with which he returned home after his day of honor in Washington, D.C. While the episode's storyline is fictional, the deep and meaningful connections established among travelling veterans, and the passion of Honor Flight's volunteers, shine through true and clear.

TAPS

Ben Margolis, President NY Council of Chapters reports the passing of Pat Cunningham, a soldier, a brother-in-arms, a patriot, a terrific leader, an innovator, and a longstanding MOAA member, member of the Western New York Chapter, former New York Council President, and Chairman of the council's Advisory Committee. [COL Patrick Cunningham obituary](#)

Report from CDR David Buchholz on the TR Proctor NJROTC Program

1. Preparations for the NJROTC National Drill competition are going well. Thirty-eight cadets will depart from Proctor by coach bus on April 4th and arrive in Pensacola on April 5th. The competition is scheduled for April 7-8.

Community support for the cadets has been incredible and we are close to meeting our fundraising goal. Contributions can still be mailed directly to Proctor NJROTC at 1203 Hilton Ave, Utica, NY 13501.

2. The Proctor NJROTC Academic Team qualified for the NJROTC Academic Bowl Championship to be held in Washington D.C. in June. Proctor finished in the top eight programs nationwide to qualify for Nationals. Our four cadets will compete against seven other NJROTC teams from across the country for the opportunity to compete in the inter-service Championship.
3. NJROTC has exceeded 5000 hours of community service this year.
4. The annual Awards ceremony is scheduled for May 11, 2017.
5. Thank you for your support to the cadets and Proctor NJROTC.

NEWS FROM THE 22nd DISTRICT

Defense Appropriations Subcommittee Testimony

It was a distinct honor to stand before the Defense Subcommittee on Appropriations on Thursday to testify on behalf of Rome Lab, an integral installation in the 22nd District. For decades, Rome Lab has stood at the forefront of advanced cyber research and development projects within the Airforce.

Rome Lab continues to lead in the development of sophisticated technologies vitally important to our military intelligence and defense operations. In keeping with this mission, Rome Lab is dedicated to providing our military with the tools and resources needed to dominate in today's high-tech battlefields. As the mother of an active duty Marine and a Member of Congress, it is among my top priorities to provide our military with the tools and resources necessary for a strong national defense. Adequately funding Rome Lab will help to ensure that this is the case.

Watch my testimony here: <https://youtu.be/1V1eRDJvkEo>.

Congress Supports Robust Defense Budget

National Security is a primary role of the Federal Government, as such it is the responsibility of Congress to provide adequate funding for all defense related operations. Our vote today confirms our commitment to providing a strong national defense, while properly funding our servicemen and women who make the selfless sacrifice to bravely serve our nation.

The defense bill would also provide a total of \$225 million in funding to Rome Lab, \$5 million more than was required by the President this year. With the additional funding, Rome Lab will have the resources needed to continue to innovate and lead.

Additionally, the bill provides \$11.1 billion in funding for the procurement of 74 new F-35 Joint Strike Fighters, as well as funding for further research and development. This will provide jobs for the 22nd district as nearly 100 employees at the Lockheed Martin plant in Owego County are expected to work on the project.

As the mother of a U.S. Marine, I understand the vital importance of ensuring that our military has the resources necessary to deter and preempt any threats to our nation and I look forward to continuing to advocate for a strong national defense and the needs of our military.

Protecting Jobs at DFAS-ROME

On Tuesday, I joined U.S. Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer in writing a letter to the Department of Defense (DoD) to exempt the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) and its Rome facility from any government-wide hiring freeze. We requested that the DoD work closely with DFAS leadership to ensure that the agency's workforce is maintained and that positions lost due to attrition are not impacted by the freeze.

DFAS is critical in supporting the readiness of our military. In the 22nd District, DFAS Rome is not only a vital employer in our community, but it also plays an important role in executing financial functions that support the day-to-day operations of the U.S. Army. Therefore, ensuring that DFAS is permitted to maintain their workforce will allow the facility to continue to provide the highest level of service to our Armed Forces. We ask that Secretary Mattis and the DoD consider our request to exempt DFAS from the hiring freeze.

Read our letter [here](#).

Tenney's Amendment Passes House with Bipartisan Support

On Thursday, I introduced an amendment to H.R. 1259, the VA Accountability First Act of 2017, which would provide the VA Secretary with the increased ability to hold employees accountable for their actions. My amendment would require that the VA submit a report to Congress at the end of each fiscal year, listing bonuses awarded to senior level staff. Considering recent mismanagement at the VA, it's important that our veterans, and the American people, know how bonuses are being awarded. It was adopted by the House with bipartisan support.

As the parent of a U.S. Marine and representative of a district with a large veteran's population, I am honored that my amendment will play a role in providing the highest level of care for our veterans. Additionally, it is vital that we implement policies that allow the VA to hold those who engage in unethical behavior accountable. Although a majority of the employees at the VA are hardworking, dedicated, and honest individuals, there are those who forget that their mission is to serve our veterans. In providing increased accountability and transparency by passing the VA Accountability First Act of 2017, we can ensure our veterans, who have made the selfless sacrifice to bravely serve our great nation, receive the highest level of care in a timely manner.