

The "Wreaths Across America" ceremony this year will be conducted on Saturday December 10, 2011 starting at noon in East Hampton, 1:30PM in Marlborough and at 3:00 PM in East Haddam. Seven ceremonial wreaths will be placed to remember those who served, honor their sacrifices, and teach our younger generations about the high price of our freedoms. An additional wreath will be placed in honor of Gov. William A. O'Neill, a local resident, and a Korean Air Force veteran who passed away several years ago. Specially made wreaths for Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines and POW/MIA will be placed on memorials during a unique ceremony that will be coordinated simultaneously at over 400 participating locations all across the Country and around the World.

December 10 will mark the 20th anniversary of Maine wreaths being donated to decorate the graves at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, VA, and the sixth year of a national campaign under the guidance of the not-for-profit WreathsAcrossAmerica.org that will bring the same remembrance wreaths to National and State Veterans cemeteries, monuments, and community centers all across the Nation.

All of these specially made wreaths are donated by Worcester Wreath Company in Harrington, Maine. The full story can be seen and heard online by visiting the website www.wreathscrossamerica.org.

In addition to these ceremonial wreaths, a number of civic, service, and veteran groups around the Country have joined with "Wreaths Across America" to promote sponsored wreaths that also will be placed on veterans' graves in designated sections of participating cemeteries. Each year the sections are rotated to include all veterans. In 2011 it is projected that over 350,000 wreaths will be placed in the "Wreaths Across America" mission to Remember; Honor; and Teach.

A tri-town campaign began this week with donation forms being mailed to businesses and organizations. If you would like to sponsor a wreath, or would like more information about the event planned for your community, please call Linda Wallace at 860-267-9952 or e-mail lindawallace37@aol.com for more information.

Sponsorships of \$15 per wreath (checks made out to "Wreaths Across America") and donations (checks made out to EH Ladies Aux 5095 with "Wreaths Across America" on the memo line) to help support the project and veterans' activities and needs will be accepted until the November 20 deadline. All monies received after that date will be held for the 2012 campaign. Sponsorships and donations can be mailed to Linda Wallace, WAA Town Leader, PO Box 124, Cobalt, CT 06424.

This year's WAA project is being sponsored by the Nathan Hale Memorial Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (East Haddam), the East Hampton Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW Post 5095 and the Post 5095, and the Marlborough Ladies Auxiliary and Post 197. Donation and sponsorship forms can be picked up at both Posts.