

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



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**For Immediate Release**  
**Photo included**  
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## **The VFW Auxiliary to Avon VFW Post 3272 hosts “Gallery of Wreaths” for the Holidays, including a special event on December 5th**

The VFW Auxiliary to Avon VFW Post 3272 is hosting a “Gallery of Wreaths” in the Avon Free Public Library from December 1 -13, 2015. The wreaths, designed and decorated by volunteers, will be for sale during the 14 days as well as at a special event on Saturday, December 5 from 12 noon – 5pm. The wreaths will be on display in the Art Gallery hallway in the Avon Free Public Library, 281 Country Club Road, open to the public during regular business hours.

Thanks to donations of over 50 wreaths from a private donor, as well as wreaths & decorations from local businesses and other individuals, Avon VFW Auxiliary members & supporters have created a variety of themed wreaths perfect for Fall, Christmas, Hanukkah and year-round. Proceeds from the sale of the wreaths will benefit the Avon VFW Auxiliary to help fund support of Veterans and their families at the local, state and national levels. The wreaths will be available for sale in the price range of \$10.00 to \$75.00, depending upon size. Anyone interested in buying a wreath can do so through the Library’s circulation desk.

The Avon VFW Auxiliary invites the public to a special event to view and purchase the wreaths on Saturday, December 5 from 12:00pm – 5:00pm. Visitors can meet some of the wreath’s designers, enjoy holiday refreshments and purchase wreaths for the holidays. Auxiliary members will be present with information on how to join their organization as well. In a very recent change in their national charter, membership in the VFW Auxiliary now includes male U.S. citizens or U.S. Nationals over the age of 16. Eligible individuals include husbands, wives, widowers, widows, fathers, mothers, grandfathers, grandmothers, sons, daughters, grandsons, granddaughters, and brothers and sisters of veterans eligible for membership in the VFW. The Avon VFW Auxiliary extends an invitation to join for anyone who qualifies.

In addition, for the second year in a row, the Avon VFW Auxiliary is donating a fully decorated tree to the Wadsworth Atheneum's "42<sup>nd</sup> Festival of Trees and Traditions" that will run from December 4 – 13 during regular business hours. Their tree, entitled "Dreaming of a White Christmas," is nature-themed and decorated with handmade and repurposed materials. The tree and all the decorating materials were donated to the Auxiliary for this purpose. In support of the Avon VFW Auxiliary and the efforts of its members who've been hard at work creating a beautiful tree, visitors to the Atheneum's event are encouraged to vote for the Avon VFW Auxiliary tree. Winners are highlighted on the museum's website.

The Avon VFW Auxiliary is looking forward to continuing its participation in the Wadsworth's annual Festival of Trees and is hoping the Gallery of Wreaths becomes an annual tradition as well. Therefore the Avon VFW Auxiliary is asking residents interested in donating new or gently used trees, wreaths and holiday decorating materials for them to use for future events, to contact Cathy Walton, Avon VFW Auxiliary President at 860-335-4221 or [cwalton.vfw@gmail.com](mailto:cwalton.vfw@gmail.com)

The Avon VFW Auxiliary is an active group of over 50 members whose activities benefit not only military veterans and their families, but anyone who interacts with them. According to their president Cathy Walton, "The VFW members are an amazing group of veterans, both men & women. All our activities are designed to benefit veterans in our town, our state and nation. As we grow, so will our activities and service in the community. We are pleased to present a holiday-themed event in order to raise money that will benefit our mission." In particular the Avon VFW Auxiliary provides handmade fresh wreaths for the Avon Memorial Day Services at local cemeteries and the Avon Town Green. They also donate handmade wreaths for the "Final Salute Ceremony" at funerals of VFW Post members. They volunteer with members of the Avon Congregational Church Quilts of Valor which makes quilts for returning or ailing veterans to provide comfort and support. The members also purchase and prepare food for the dinners served before each month's VFW and Auxiliary meetings. For more information, visit the Avon VFW Auxiliary website, [www.avonvfwaux.com](http://www.avonvfwaux.com)

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The Auxiliary is a fraternal, patriotic, historical and educational affiliate of Posts of the VFW. Its objectives are: Provide assistance to the VFW Post and its members whenever possible; Provide assistance to the Auxiliary members whenever possible; Maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America; Maintain fidelity to the Constitution and Laws of the United States of America; Foster true Patriotism; Maintain and extend the Institutions of American Freedom, Equal Rights and Justice to all men and women; and Preserve and Defend the United States of America from all her enemies whomsoever.