



Backchannels

Army Spouses' Club of the Greater Washington Area

October 2018

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LUNCHEON DATES

2018
 October 18
 November 15
 December 20

2019
 January 17
 February 21
 March 21
 April 11*
 *Date changed to second Thursday
 May 16



PRESIDENT'S PEN

What an amazing kick off to our year! Over 200 people enjoyed the festive atmosphere, yummy food, and sweet treats courtesy of USAA. Our Membership Chair, Barb Patterson, did a fabulous job organizing the event. Grace Phelps, our Second Vice President, outdid herself with the decorations; she is so talented and creative! Big thanks to Holly Dailey for the use of her bee costume! The event would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our board. We are blessed with a great team this year!

October is here! Not only do we have a great Fall Floral Design luncheon planned, we also have the opportunity to showcase our club during this year's AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition. We will set up our Ways & Means table on Tuesday, October 9, in the Family Forums room. AUSA planned a wonderful lunchtime program called "Munch & Mingle." If you haven't been to the annual AUSA event at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, this is the perfect year to go. I love going; walking around the exhibition floors is like a reunion. With the edition of "Munch & Mingle" and our Ways & Means table, it's sure to be spectacular!

Don't forget to adopt a wreath or tree this month for the Festival of the Firs during our November Luncheon. All funds generated go to our scholarship program. We even have a Pinterest page for inspiration, which can be found at www.pinterest.com/firstvp5726/.

Our second annual Sip & Shop Bazaar is the day after our November luncheon. Join us at the Fort Myer Community Center on November 16 for holiday shopping made easy. The bazaar will be open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. We will have a baked goods table, Ways & Means, and amazing door prizes! You don't want to miss this event!

I'm looking forward to some cool, but dry, fall weather and seeing all of you on October 18, at our luncheon with Susan Dippre from Susan Dippre Designs. She is also the design consultant for Colonial Williamsburg! She will show us how to make wreaths, and help us get into the fall spirit. The wreaths she creates will be up for grabs in our opportunity drawing, and if you aren't the lucky winner, she will have some of her designs available for purchase.

Fondly,
 Kelly



Fall Kickoff



ASCGWA 2018-2019

Honorary Presidents

Honorary Vice President
Advisor

Hollyanne Milley
Holly Dailey
Maria McConville
Esther Howard

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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First Vice President
Second Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Parliamentarian

Kelly Kreis
Michelle Funkhouser
Grace Phelps
LaDonna Cavanaugh
Deborah Kalisz Wehr
Amy Sutton

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Backchannels Editor
Charitable Causes
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Historian
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International Liaison
JAFOWL Representative
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Military Support Organizations Outreach
New Member Table
Public Relations
Publicity
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Special Activities
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Web Administrator
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Paula Ann Mancini
Kerri Eldridge
Maggie Hollinger
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Connie Semonite
Barb Patterson
Patty Barron
Jill Vaniman
Jackie McKenna
Jackie Habel

Desiree Moore
Pam Parker
Yvonne Coombes
Mandy Downey
Michelle Zuniga
Dawn Zagame
Kim Nykanen
Christie Kehoe
Diane Martinez
Jennifer Stepetic



If you are interested in volunteering for a position on the ASCGWA Board please contact our president, Kelly Kreis, or a board member. We will be happy to speak with you! Contact Kelly at president@armypousesclub.org

BACKCHANNELS SUBMISSIONS

If you would like to submit an article, information about an upcoming club activity, movie or book review, restaurant recommendation, recipe, local event, or a must-see travel destination please let us know! We would love your input!

All Backchannels submissions are due no later than the second Friday of each month.

Pictures from the monthly luncheon are due the following day on the third Friday of each month.

We can be reached at:
newsletter@armypousesclub.org

Fondly,

Jackie Habel & Paula Ann Mancini
Co-editors



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Join Us For
our
October Luncheon



Featuring

Fall Floral Design by Susan Dippre

Owner of Susan Dippre Design and Consultant to Colonial Williamsburg

October 18, 2018
10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Patton Hall
\$25*

Registration at: armypousesclub.org
RSVP NLT October 12, 2018

Susan's beautiful, handcrafted floral designs will be available for purchase at the luncheon.

*buffet included



Army Spouses' Club of the Greater Washington Area

Susan Dippre specializes in iconic floral and garden design installation, renovation oversight, workshops, and programs. Susan was previously the supervisor for the historical areas of Colonial Williamsburg. She currently serves as a consultant for Colonial Williamsburg and is the owner of Susan Dippre Designs.

Susan will demonstrate how to make a fall-themed wreath and swag. She will graciously donate the items she makes during the luncheon to our opportunity drawing. Susan's beautiful, handcrafted floral designs will also be available for purchase.

Army Spouses' Club Charitable Cause

Our October cause is the Holiday Food Voucher Program.

Please join us as we care for our soldiers and their families. With each purchased and donated \$25 or \$50 gift card from our local commissary you will help make the Thanksgiving holiday a festive occasion for deserving families.

This worthwhile program, run by Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall chaplains' office, has served over 300 families annually.

Please bring your commissary gift card donation to our October 18 luncheon at Patton Hall.

For further information, please contact Paula Ann Mancini, ASCGWA Charitable Causes Chair, at charitablecauses@armyspousesclub.org



WHEN WE GIVE,
WE CONTRIBUTE TO THE
KIND OF WORLD WE WANT TO LIVE IN.



LOOK BETTER.
FEEL BETTER.
LIVE BETTER.
NERIUM

<https://sarablaschke.nerium.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/NeriumwithSaraBlaschke>



Nancy Jackson & Paige Kellogg, Realtors®
Century 21 New Millennium
5990 Kingstowne Towne Center
Alexandria, Virginia 22315

Nancy - 571-213-3284 (C)
Paige - 703.598.2785 (C)
703.922.4010 (W)

*Would love to assist you in your
home buying or selling!*



Festival of the Firs

Patton Hall
November 15 • 10:30 AM

The Festival of the Firs will be held at the November luncheon. Tabletop size trees and wreaths will be displayed and available for sale at the luncheon. All funds raised will be designated for scholarships and outreach.

Please contact Michelle Funkhouser, firstvp@armypousesclub.org, for further details or questions.



The Festival of the Firs is coming to the November luncheon. Trees and wreaths are available to be adopted and made fabulous by you, our wonderful club members. You can participate as an individual or as a group. This is a fun activity for our special activities groups, our international members, or a group of friends.

ASCGWA will provide 18 inch and 24 inch evergreen trees and 24 inch evergreen wreaths, but other styles/types of trees or wreaths may be decorated (grapevine, mesh, etc.). The wreaths and trees do not necessarily need to be decorated in a fall or winter holiday theme. Ideas and inspiration can be found on our club Pinterest account at www.pinterest.com/firstvp5726/.

Thank you to everyone who "adopted" a tree or wreath at the Fall Kickoff. Trees and wreaths may also be picked up at our October luncheon. If you are not able to join us at the October luncheon but would like to get a wreath or tree, please contact Michelle Funkhouser, First Vice President, at firstvp@armypousesclub.org.



colorSTREET

FALL/WINTER 2018

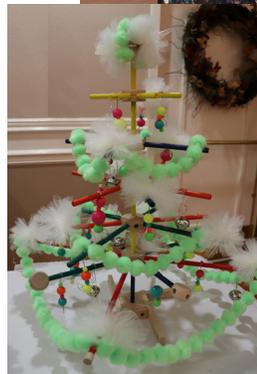
Elevate your style with classic colors and runway ready nail art.

~ MAGS ~

Maggie Hollinger ~ Independent Stylist

ColorSTREET.com/MAGS ~ hollinger.maggie@yahoo.com

910-824-6520



THANKS FOR BEING AWESOME



A special **thank you** to the vendor and organization attendees that contributed to the guest swag bags and for being a part of our Kickoff event:

ACS Volunteer Association
 American Armed Forces Mutual Aid Association (AAFMAA)
 Arlington National Cemetery
 Army Engineer Spouses' Club (AESC)
 Association of the United States Army (AUSA)*
 Belvoir Officers' Spouses' Club (BOSC)
 Cabi*
 CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield
 Center for American Military Music Opportunities (CAMMO)
 Century 21*
 Comfort for America's Uniformed Services (CAUSE)
 Fort Myer Thrift Shop
 Initials, Inc.*
 Johns Hopkins US Family Health Plan
 Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)
 MWR Library
 National Museum of the U.S. Army
 Nerium*
 National Military Family Association (NMFA)*
 The Fairfax Retirement Community
 Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS)
 Twins Polish Pottery*
 United Services Automobile Association (USAA)*
 USO Metro - JBMHH
 Virginia Department of Veteran Services

*Guest swag bag contributor

Time to Travel

UPCOMING TOUR SCHEDULE

October 30 | 10:50 a.m.
US Capital Hill Tour

November 2 | 9 p.m.
Capital Hill Haunts Ghost Tour
\$16.55 per person
Guests are invited too!

December 5
New York City
Tickets become available the
first week of October

Stay connected to our website for registration and dates to sign up. Questions should be sent to Michelle at tours@armyspousesclub.org.

Interested in starting a new Special Activity group? For questions about the individual groups or how to start a new group, please contact Mandy Downey, Special Activities Chair, at specialactivities@armyspousesclub.org



Out and About

One of the many benefits of living in this area is the plethora of activities the VA, MD, and DC area has to offer. Each month we will spotlight one event that catches our eye! Get out and enjoy the day!

GRAVES MOUNTAIN APPLE HARVEST FESTIVAL

October weekends

Free admission/parking
Rain or shine

3626 Old Blue Ridge Turnpike,
Syria, VA 22743

Come and see nature's way of blanketing the mountains with stunning color during the month of October. Enjoy fun filled days complete with good food and entertainment including bluegrass music, cloggers, over 70 arts and crafts vendors, hayrides, hay mountain, hay maze, moon bounces, and horseback and pony rides. Experience the days of yesteryear watching apple butter being cooked in kettles over an open fire. A variety of apples are available at the packing shed and at the festival area along with pumpkins, gourds, apple butter and much more!

For additional event information, and schedule visit:
[www.gravesmountain.com/
events-calendar/apple-harvest](http://www.gravesmountain.com/events-calendar/apple-harvest)



Army Spouses' Club

of the Greater Washington Area

Please print legibly. This is how you are listed in the ASCGWA Directory.

Member's Name:

Last (Surname) First (Given Name) Military Rank/Civilian Grade, if applicable

Spouse's Name:

Last (Surname) First (Given Name) Military Rank/Civilian Grade, if applicable

Address:

Number/Street/Unit

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone:

Check Preference

Home #

Cell #

Email Address:

Member's Birthday:

Month/Day

Status:

(Check all that apply)

Army

Reserve Component

National Guard

Branch: _____

Branch (Army or Air Force): _____

Marines

Air Force

Coast Guard

Navy

DA Civilian (or spouse of)

GS Employee (or spouse of)

Active Duty

Retired

Widow/Widower

International Member

(Country: _____)

Spouse's Title: _____)

Returning Member

New Member

Honorary Membership

Regular Membership

Spouses, widows/widowers, and adult dependent ID card-holding family members of those serving in or retired from active duty *in the US Army*, the reserve component, or the National Guard.

Department of the Army (DA) civilian employees or spouses of the same, currently serving or retired.

Individuals who maintain eligibility for rights and privileges that accompany DD-1173.

Associate Membership

Spouses, widows/widowers, and adult dependent ID card-holding family members of those serving in or retired from *services other than the US Army* on active duty, in the reserve component, or in the National Guard.

Government Service employees (*other than DA*) or spouses of the same, currently serving or retired.

Spouse of foreign military officer or civilian employee (sponsored by their respective embassy) assigned to duties in the National Capital Region.

My photo may appear in *Backchannels*, on the Army Spouses' Club social media sites, and, if I attend, on the JAFOWL publicity and photo sharing site.

Membership Directory

Electronic copy (email/accessible on club website in members' only content)

Printed copy (pick up at luncheon)

Printed copy (mailed/\$3.00)

Dues:

\$35.00 Full Year (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019)

\$16.00 (New PCS arrivals after January 2019)

Payment Method: Cash PayPal Check (Check #: _____)

Payment Date: _____

Army Spouses' Club Policies

As a member of the Army Spouses' Club, I agree to the following policies:

Luncheon Policy

100% of your fee is refundable if you cancel prior to or on the RSVP date posted for each luncheon. After the RSVP date has passed, you are still responsible for the cost of your meal, and no refunds will be granted. Please email the Army Spouses' Club Reservations Chair, reservations@armyspousesclub.org, if you need to cancel your reservations.

Permanent Reservations

Permanent reservations may be made for \$200; includes Fall Kickoff Event and ASCGWA luncheons (October - May). Permanent reservations receive a discount on luncheon fees and therefore are not eligible for refunds. If you have a permanent reservation and cannot attend, please let us know so we may cancel your meal.

Tours and Special Activities Policy

Reservations are not guaranteed until payment is received. We will not offer refunds if you cancel the reservation after the RSVP date for any tour. If you are unable to attend, in most cases, you may transfer your ticket to another Army Spouses' Club member. You will be responsible for handling the transaction with the other member. If you are registered for tours with a waitlist and fail to attend, this may result in your inability to register for future tours.

Use of Directory Information Policy

Information contained in the directory is for club use only and shall not be shared with non-club members or used for any purpose other than club business.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail to:

ASCGWA Membership
PO Box 1124
Fort Myer, VA 22211

Or join on line:

www.armyspousesclub.org

For membership questions, please contact: membership@armyspousesclub.org



A Friendly Reminder

Please note that Patton Hall has the following dress code:

Appropriate, neat casual attire or authorized uniforms may be worn in the Club during the day.

Jeans, tank tops, t-shirts, halter tops, cut off shorts, swim wear, athletic wear, and rubber pool shoes are not permitted at any time.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration.

Patton Hall
214 Jackson Ave
Fort Myer, VA 22111

703-524-0200

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Bridge Groups

The Bridge Group meets the third Tuesday of every month at the Army Navy Country Club of Arlington. You must have knowledge of how to play.

Please contact Henriette Gordon at hmg1776@sbcglobal.net

Tours

Throughout the year, various group tours are scheduled. One of the most popular is the yearly New York City bus ride with tickets to the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes show.

Please contact Michelle Zuniga at tours@armypousesclub.org

Flick Chicks Movie Group

Once a month, this group meets up to enjoy a movie together. POC needed!

Please contact specialactivities@armypousesclub.org

Walk Around Washington Group

Each month a walk is organized in and around the Washington, DC area.

Please contact Nina O'Shaughnessy at ninaspangos@gmail.com

or Mary Pawlow at mlspawlow@aol.com

Bible Study

The Living Word Bible Study meets every Monday at 10 am at the Memorial Post Chapel on Fort Myer, across from the PX.

Please contact Nancy Jackson at jacksonjn@verizon.net

Happy Hour Group

Meet new friends and catch up with other members at Happy Hour gatherings throughout the year in the DC/Northern Virginia area.

Please contact Kim Farnsworth at jkfarns@comcast.net

Great Decisions

Do you enjoy talking about current events and exploring the rationale of our foreign policy decisions? Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching a DVD, and meeting in a discussion group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. A National Opinion Ballot is compiled and presented to the Department of State, Congress, and the White House at the end of the year.

Please contact Lori O'Neill at meoneill@aol.com

Zip Code Groups

Zip Code Groups meet in one another's homes, at local restaurants, or visit places of interest and are a perfect opportunity to meet your ASCGWA neighbors in a smaller setting.



Burke zip code group enjoy a September lunch at Giardino in Kings Park Shopping Center

ZIP CODE GROUPS

Alexandria

LaDonna Cavanaugh
678-464-7470
cavanaugh@comcast.net

Annandale, Fairfax, & Fairfax Station

Mary Pawlow
703-764-9656
mlspawlow@aol.com

Arlington

Paige Kellogg
703-248-8313
Paigekell@aol.com

Burke

Jeanne Sander
703-426-2880
ebs17@verizon.net

Falls Church/Fort Myer/McLean

Lori Borgna-Strong
706-799-9308
borgnalori@gmail.com

Chantilly, Clifton, Centerville, Herndon and Beyond

Pat O'Neill
703-378-3624
pponeill6@aol.com

Prince William County and Beyond

Paula Ann Mancini
703-346-4468
pa.mancini@comcast.net

Springfield

Jennifer Stepetic
910-263-2063
stepetic@yahoo.com

Maryland-Howard County and Beyond

Marie T. Corbett
410-418-4934
mtcre@aol.com

Maryland-Montgomery and Beyond

Deidra Stubbs
803-447-8700
dleestubbs@aol.com

Washington D.C.

Mary Dulany
240-644-2467
medulany@msn.com

Corner

Welcome to the Volunteer Corner, fellow ASCGWA members! My name is Kim Nykanen and I am the volunteer coordinator. We have so many great events and activities coming up this year and can always use an extra hand. Volunteering is a great way to get involved, meet new people, and have fun!

Thank you to everyone who signed up at the Fall Kickoff to help out in the future! For those who couldn't make it and think you might have a few hours to spare every now and then, please email me at volunteer@armyspousesclub.org. Also, look for sign up sheets at the monthly luncheons for specific events we have coming up.

Save the date, November 16, for the annual Sip & Shop Bazaar. Details to follow but we will need volunteers on that day and the day before to help set up.

For those who are not sure about your time commitment, we can always use help setting up for our monthly luncheons. If you think you may be able to come a little early (45 minutes or so) on those days, please email me.

Be sure to check the ASCGWA website and the Volunteer Corner in Backchannels for updates on future events. For those signed up to volunteer, I will email specific information and our needs for each event so be on the look out! The more people who get involved, the more fun we will have and the more ASCGWA can accomplish as an organization!

Thank you all in advance! I'm looking forward to a great year!!



TO VOLUNTEER



Have you heard that ASCGWA is now on Pinterest? Pinterest has been referred to as an online bulletin board where you can make boards according to your interests and save ideas or "pins" to your boards. Our page can be found by searching "people" on the Pinterest site for the Army Spouses' Club of the Greater Washington Area or at www.pinterest.com/firstvp5726/. We currently have boards for fall decorating, foods, Happy Hour (drinks), and inspiration for the Festival of the Firs. We will be adding boards throughout the year. Please follow and share with us what types of boards you would like us to add to our page. Happy pinning!



Is there someone that needs a little cheer, a get well wish, a condolence, or a congratulations? If you know of a member in need, please let our secretary know.

Email the member's name, address, and the type of card that should be sent to LaDonna Cavanaugh at secretary@armyspousesclub.org.



The Army Spouses' Club of the Greater Washington Area (ASCGWA) is a non-profit organization seeking to enhance the quality of life of its members and the Military District of Washington community at large.

We offer friendship, monthly luncheons, special activities and many volunteer opportunities. Additionally, there are zip code groups to make it easier to connect to the military spouses who live near you. Our volunteers organize fun activities and share information about unique opportunities available in the Washington, D.C. area.



Printed for the Army Spouses Club of the Greater Washington Area at no cost to the U.S. Government. Materials contained herein are not to be considered any expression of the Department of the Army. Advertisements in this publication do not constitute an endorsement by the Department of the Army.

Community News



2018 AUSA ANNUAL MEETING

MILITARY FAMILY FORUMS

October 8-9, 2018
Washington, D.C.

Association of the United States Army (AUSA) cordially invites you to our:

Military Family Forum I

The Sixteen Indicators of Family Readiness
Monday, 8 October 2018
2pm – 4:30pm
Room 207 AB

This forum will provide an overview of research from the past ten years on military family readiness. Army programs seeking to enhance family readiness including the Chaplaincy, Family/MWR, Office of the Surgeon General, Military OneSource, and TRICARE will present and answer your questions.

Military Family Forum II

An Update on Military Spouse Employment Initiatives and Financial Readiness Programs
Tuesday, 9 October 2018
9am – 11:30am
Room 207 AB

Join us for a frank discussion on what the Department of Defense, the Federal Government, and private organizations are doing to support military spouses in their career aspirations. The federal hiring process, spouse preference, home-based business policy, and childcare challenges and changes will all be discussed.

Military Family Forum III

A Town Hall with Army Senior Leaders
Tuesday, 9 October 2018
3pm – 4:30pm
Room 207 AB

Here is your chance to engage in a dialogue with our Army senior leaders; the Dr. Mark Esper, General Mark Milley, and SMA Daniel Dailey. Both open mic and written questions will be accepted.

Networking Events

Family Readiness Networking Breakfast
Monday, 8 October 2018
7:30am – 9am

Join us for a buffet-style networking breakfast before the Annual Meeting opening ceremony. Military family members and supporters of military families are welcome. Seating is limited so [purchase your tickets](#) early!

Family Readiness "Munch and Mingle"
Tuesday, 9 October 2018
12pm – 1pm

Join us for a "Munch and Mingle" with colleagues and old friends. Box lunch [available for purchase](#) prior to event but not necessary for entrance.



REGISTER AT AUSAMEETINGS.ORG

To purchase tickets for Networking Events go to: www.ausa.org/tickets

Can't attend in person? Go to [f @AUSAFamily](https://www.facebook.com/AUSAFamily) to view us online!

The AUSA Family Readiness Directorate is proud to collaborate with the Army Spouses' Club of the Greater Washington Area on our first ever "Munch and Mingle" at AUSA's Annual Meeting. Join us on October 9 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. This is a one-of-a-kind event where you will mingle with colleagues, old friends, and representatives from various military family-friendly organizations! Come shop at the ASCGWA Ways and Means table and play Jeopardy Bingo with Ginger Perkins! This is going to be a fun event!



Your Voice Matters!

Please join us for lunch and conversation at our

Military Spouse Focus Group

Thursday, October 25, 2018

11am-1:30pm

at the AAFMAA Manor House

[1850 Old Reston Ave, Reston, VA 20190](#)

Dress is casual and we welcome your opinions on how we can best serve the military community!

AAFMAA is the premier provider of financial solutions to the American Armed Forces community. Your insights will help us tremendously as we move forward in developing better products and services for people like you and families like yours.

**Please join us Thursday, October 25, 2018,
from 11:00 AM- 1:30 PM at The AAFMAA Manor House**

[1850 Old Reston Ave, Reston, VA 20190](#)

**Please RSVP to Charlene at cwilde@aafmaa.com
or 703-707-4509**

ADVERTISING

Are you looking for an opportunity to advertise your business? Showcase your company with an advertisement in the ASCGWA monthly newsletter and on our web page. We have four options to suit your advertising needs.

For more information, please contact newsletter@armypousesclub.org

\$40 package: 2" x 3.5" ad in the newsletter and on the web page with customer-provided graphics (October - May & a summer issue).

\$25 package: 2" x 3.5" ad in the newsletter and on the web page with customer-provided graphics (October - January or February - May).

\$60 package: 2" x 3.5" ad in the newsletter and on the web page includes design and graphics provided by ASCGWA (October - May & a summer issue).

\$35 package: 2" x 3.5" ad in the newsletter and on the web page includes design and graphics provided by ASCGWA (October - January or February - May).



calling all
Vendors
Sign up. Show up. Sell.

Want to sell your creative work? Know a great vendor you'd like to see at a luncheon? Please contact Dawn Zagame, Vendor Chair, at vendors@armypousesclub.org.



Together
we make a
Family

