



Greeting from the President

I'd like to share an excerpt from the Fall Issue of the PA VFW Magazine, for those who may not receive the publication:

“As I complete my first Quarter as your Department President, I want to take a moment to express my sincere appreciation for all that you have done over the past months. Your dedication and hard work have been vital to our mission of supporting Veterans and their families. I see the impact you're making in our communities as well as the commitment and passion of our members. As we look ahead, it's time to focus on retention and recruitment: One of our key goals moving forward is to concentrate on retaining our current members, while also recruiting new ones. We've built a strong foundation, but to ensure our continued success, we must all work TOGETHER to grow our membership. The more of us there are, the more we can do!”

Don't forget to make consistent efforts to reengage current members—let them know about the exciting events and initiatives we have planned and how they can get involved. A simple phone call or email could make all the difference in reminding them of the value of staying active in our organization. If you haven't already, now is the time to send out your second and third dues notices. These reminders are essential for ensuring we retain as many members as possible. Clear communication with members who may have missed their dues payment is a crucial part of keeping our organization strong.

Congratulations to those Auxiliaries and Districts that have already reached 100% in membership!

Thank You to everyone who has donated to the VFW National Home Outdoor Sports Complex joint special project. We are on our way to beating the VFW, please keep the donations coming!

Things to Remember

Auxiliary Presidents: Make sure that the Program News Promotions are being read by your Program Chairmen at each meeting and recorded in your minutes.

Auxiliary Secretaries: Read the Approved Resolution (changes to the bylaws) located on MALTA→Member Resources→National Convention→2024 Adopted or Defeated Resolutions (particularly, #2 Treasurer's Ledger; #4 District Dues; #10 Credit/Debit Cards; #11 Trustee Conducting Audits; #13 Auxiliary Property Ownership; and #15 National Delegates).

Auxiliary Treasurers: File the Auxiliary's E-990 Postcard before the November 15, 2024, deadline: <https://sa.www4.irs.gov/postcard/>

Auxiliary Members: Visit the Department Website www.pavfwaux.org and the Department Facebook Page www.facebook.org/pavfw.org/ to see what's going on and to find out important announcements.

Upcoming Events:

100th Birthday of the Department of PA, VFW Auxiliary – November 15-16, 2024, Harrisburg Friday,
November 15 – “Night at the Races” Fundraiser for President’ Special Project Saturday,
November 16 – 100th Birthday Celebration

Important Dates:

- *October 6 - District 1 Meeting @ Parkway Memorial #7650 – 1:30 P.M.
- *October 7 - President’ official visit to Philadelphia VA Medical Center
- October 7 - District 7 Meeting @ Essington #4845 – 7:00 P.M.
- October 14 - District 26 Meeting @ Vintondale #5211 – 2:30 P.M.
- *October 15 - President’s official visit to Coaldale Auxiliary
- October 20 - District 14 Meeting @ Bloomsburg #804 – 2:00 P.M.
- *October 21 - President’s official visit to Milton Auxiliary
- *October 24 - President’s official visit to Sunbury Auxiliary
- November 1-3 - Eastern Conference, Burlington, Vermont

***Department President’s Official Visit**

Stay Connected:

- Visit our website: www.vfwauxpa.org
- Follow us on Facebook: VFW Auxiliary – Department of Pennsylvania
- Follow us on Instagram: pa_vfw_auxiliary



Loyally,

Andrea

Andrea Meintel
Department President

Jodie

Jodie Hollinger
Department Secretary/Treasurer

100th Birthday Celebration

PA VFW Auxiliary

Room Reservation

November 15-17, 2024

DEADLINE FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS – October 31, 2024

Red Lion Hotel
4751 Lindle Road
Harrisburg, PA 17111

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE DIRECTLY WITH THE HOTEL
BY USING THE LINK BELOW OR BY PHONE.

Room Rate: \$99.00 plus 11% tax per night = \$109.89

In order to receive this group rate, all reservations **must** be received
no later than October 31, 2024

Booking Link:

<https://be.synxis.com/?Hotel=37110&Chain=13325&group=VFWA1114>

When calling for reservations 717-939-7841 and use the code
VFWA1114

100th Birthday Celebration
PA VFW Auxiliary
Red Lion Hotel
4751 Lindle Road
Harrisburg, PA 17111

Friday Night, November 15 – Night at the Races (Derby Attire)

Potato Bar Taco Bar Hot Dogs Bar Dessert

_____ Friday Buffet tickets @ \$35.00 per person

Saturday Night, November 16 – Formal Banquet (Formal/Black Tie)

Choices of: _____ Sliced London Broil

_____ Broil Haddock

Both choices include: Salad, Oven Roasted Potatoes, Chefs choice of Vegetable, Rolls, Butter, Coffee, Tea, Iced tea and Dessert.

_____ Saturday Banquet tickets @ \$45.00 per person

Price for purchase of Friday & Saturday - \$75.00 per person

Amount Enclosed _____ Check # _____

Name _____ Post/Auxiliary # _____

Phone # _____

Names of those attending: _____

Deadline for Friday & Saturday Night Reservations:
November 1, 2024

Make checks payable to: **Dept of PA VFW Auxiliary**

Please mail reservations to: Marsha Fuhrman
5059 Rislyn Court
Spring Grove, PA 17362
717-578-2953

100th Birthday Celebration

Friday, November 15 will be a fun night to raise funds
for the **Joint Special Project of Commander Loncar and President Meintel**
(Major Fundraiser for the President – maybe a little for the Commander) 😊

Outside Sports Complex for the VFW National Home

In addition to the Horse Races we ask that you dress for the occasion in your best “Derby Day” outfit. There will be recognition and prizes.

What **hat** will you be wearing for the races? Be creative and come prepared to enter the competition for the favorite Derby Day Hat.

Place your Reservations for both Friday & Saturday Night before you forget



100th Birthday Weekend
CHINESE AUCTION
PA VFW Auxiliary

A Chinese Auction will be part of our

Night at the Races

Friday, November 15, 2024

**Baskets, Special Items and Gift Cards
Are requested to make this a huge success**

Items needed no later than Friday Morning,
November 15 at the Red Lion Hotel

For more information call or text

Carol Schrum – 717-873-2174

historian21@yahoo.com

All proceeds going toward Madam President Meintel's

Special Project

DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA
VFW Auxiliary
100th Birthday Weekend
COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM BOOK
November 15 & 16, 2024

NAME OF ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

AD BOOK SIZE: 8.5" x 11"

COST OF ADS:

_____ \$ 80.00 FULL PAGE

_____ \$35.00 QUARTER PAGE

_____ \$ 50.00 HALF PAGE

_____ \$25.00 EIGHTH PAGE

Please type or print all advertisements or attach camera ready ads. Ads can be sent electronically to: miteymou@aol.com. If e-mailed, please send in Microsoft Word and a copy of the ad with payment. Ads will be black and white. If a photo is submitted, it must be camera ready. If no ad information is submitted with your check, an ad will be designed for you.

DEADLINE FOR ALL ADS is: October 21, 2024

All ads must be accompanied by a check or money order.

PAYABLE TO: Dept of PA VFW Aux. earmark: Aux 100th Birthday

MAIL TO: Sandy Brenner
 P O Box 525
 Mount Wolf, PA 17347

E-mail: miteymou@aol.com

PAYMENT ENCLOSED \$ _____ CHECK# _____

Notice: This order is a contract. No verbal agreements have been made other than those incorporated in this agreement. This order is legal and binding. I have read, understand and agree to the terms set forth in this contract (this form must accompany ad order).

Signature

Print Name

PHONE _____

DATE _____

MEMBERSHIP 2024-2025, Chairman Amy Peterson

*"TOGETHER HELPING VETERANS" "TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE"
"FROM OUR ROOTS TO OUR BRANCHES EXTENDING SERVICE TO OUR VETERANS"
"STRIKE UP THE BAND!"*

*#PAproud #VFWAuxiliary #vfwauxmembership
#TogetherHelpingVeterans #vfwauxmembershipPA
#StrikeUpTheBand*



Pennsylvania's
TOP 100
'ASK'-KICKERS!

AUXILIARY 8755, DISTRICT 19
AUXILIARY 4843, DISTRICT 26
AS OF SEPT 15, 2024



Congratulations!

*Attendance Sheets, Welcome Packets and more are coming at me BIG TIME!!!
I ABSOLUTELY LOVE IT!! WHY???*

BECAUSE I KNOW, YOU are working your "ASK" off for MEMBERSHIP!!!

Remind your community OFTEN that we ARE here for our Veterans and families by attending luncheons, ceremonies, events, festivals, fundraisers, youth activities and more!

Recruit ONE NEW LIFE member using the QR Code, I want to KNOW.....EMAIL ME!!!!

Send me your name, the NEW member's name, Dist # and Aux #

YOU WILL BE ENTERED INTO A DRAWING FOR \$ 50!!

thepetersons@breezeline.net

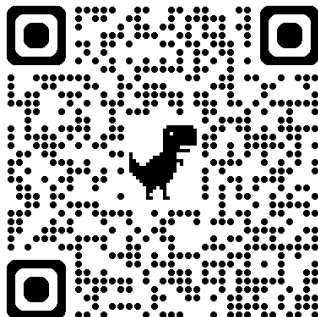


QUICK REMINDERS

Christmas Canteen Donations

Mail no later than Oct 15th to BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 31st by Dept of PA VFWA!

**Be sure to SHARE!
The Handy-Dandy
Mighty-Mini Tool !**



Just returning from VFW National Home, I saw first-hand what our organization has done for these Veterans & Families
Believe me, when I say *"It's a Wonderful World"*
If you haven't already, **send your Health & Happiness**, completing another ✓ off All-State requirement.

"ALL-STATE" HOT-TOPICS!

Auxiliaries and Members In-Action



The Myerstown Memorial VFW Auxiliary 6076 participated in the 5th Annual Myerstown Block Party, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania. At our booth we had applications for the VFW and the Auxiliary, Children's Flag Etiquette, a patriotic coloring page of the Statue of Liberty and the Poppy Story pamphlets. We also had the American Flag with a poppy wrapped around the flag holder, POW flags, pens, pencils, a paper with our National Anthem and information for Veterans and their families.



VFW and Auxiliary members of Waynesburg Post 4793 give a donation to help hospitalized Veterans.



Post and Auxiliary 5956 in Pennsylvania were aided in their Adopt a Highway cleanup efforts by the Manheim girls' varsity soccer team, who showed up even though it was raining.



Auxiliary members to Post 1463 Lititz, Kathy Wiker (3rd from l) and Rebecca Preis (r) volunteered at St. Paul's Food Pantry and presented a check from the Post's most recent breakfast fundraiser.



Post and Auxiliary members from Media VFW Post 3460 manned a joint membership table, sharing program information and giving out Buddy Poppies at their Community Day at Rose Tree Park.



PA VFW and Auxiliary marchers for the C.A.F.E. parade at the VFW National Home in Eaton Rapids, Michigan.



Auxiliary members from Oil City Post 464 hosted a Buddy Poppy Drive in their community.

AUXILIARY PROGRAM NEWS

OCTOBER 2024

“Together Helping Veterans”

“From Our Roots to our Branches”

2024-2025

VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT

Stacey Miller

In October, there are two ways to support our Veterans and their Families. October is **Agent Orange Awareness Month**; a time in which communities around the world can learn about the dangerous chemical Agent Orange, and how it affected American Veterans and Vietnamese civilians.

Take action to remember those that have been impacted by Agent Orange, educate veterans and family members on the signs of Agent Orange, and provide VA resources.

October 26th we recognize the **Day of the Deployed**. Use this as an opportunity to support those who are deployed and away from their loved ones. Reach out through the [Military Assistance Program \(MAP\)](#) to adopt a unit and send them love through snacks, cards, toiletries, and more.

Each of your Auxiliaries can make an impact, let's come Together Helping Veterans. Share your activities [#VFWAuxiliaryVetFamSupportPA](#). **“TOGETHER HELPING VETERANS.” “FROM OUR ROOTS TO OUR BRANCHES, EXTENDING SERVICE TO OUR VETERANS.”**

AMERICANISM & PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

Tim Altman

Hello Auxiliary members! October is here, and there are only a couple of patriotic days to recognize. October 13th is the U.S. Navy birthday. The U.S. Navy was established in 1775. The second day is October 26th which is the Day of The Deployed. This day annually honors United States Military personnel deployed around the globe. You can promote patriotism by recognizing and promoting these days, celebrate with your Navy Veterans, and recognize those Veterans that are deployed. As always let's band **“Together Helping Veterans.”**

“BUDDY” POPPY & NATIONAL HOME

Cindy Utter Peters

I need to share an important piece of information with everyone - in the Dept. of PA Leadership Directory, my email is incorrect. The correct email address is-

imuttercin1@hotmail.com

I wish everyone could have been at the VFW National home with us! This is such a pretty, necessary, and important place. It was nice to meet our National VFW Auxiliary President Brenda Bryant! Her speech told me more about the history of the VFW National Home than I had learned so far. We met with some people who went through the program. Their speeches were interesting and amazing! (Next Bus Trip to the National Home is June 27, 2025).

I would like to remind you all that it's Halloween season and as such, one of my predecessors produced a novel idea for a poppy distribution. To make poppy distribution displays, her thoughts were to take plastic or Styrofoam pumpkins. Drill small holes for lollipops (with poppies wrapped around them) in the plastic pumpkins (you can just push the lollipops into the Styrofoam). If your Auxiliary tries this, please let me know!

AUXILIARY PROGRAM NEWS
OCTOBER 2024, PAGE 2

AUXILIARY OUTREACH

Jency Mercado

Please remember the PAPERS!

P- Partner – work with non veteran organizations in your community.

A - Approve – make sure that your organizations are noted in your meetings notes. (Best if added to your general orders).

P- Participate – help out with the organizations to meet their needs!

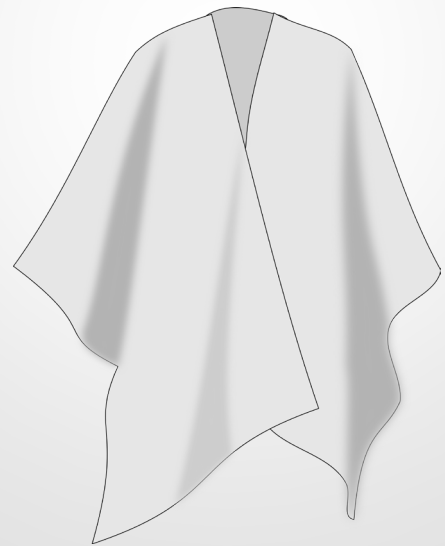
E- Emblem – Wear your VFW pins, hat, shirts! Show your VFW pride! (Talk about your Auxiliary if your able too).

R- Report- Report your activities to Jency at jencyvfw@gmail.com or mail it to PO Box 624, Hyde. PA 16843. Send me your pictures so I show off your work!!

S- Support- Show your support to one another!

HOSPITAL
Linda Dilling

Check out the attached Directions on how to make this year's special Hospital Project called "HUGS." When a veteran puts the poncho around them, they feel like they are getting a big, warm hug from you.



EXTENTION, REVITALIZATION & MENTORING

Kathy Altoff

Hi everyone! I hope you are gearing up for Fall, and planning your next event. Remember to reach out to your members that may not be able to attend a meeting but would *love* to help with an event. Remember **CARE** from the **Mentoring at VFW Auxiliary: Relationship Building for the Future**, available on MALTA -

C - CATCH the member when they join.

A - ASK them to participate.

R - REMEMBER what how it felt to be new.

E - ENGAGE them in a program that fits them.

Everyone benefits, from the Veterans, to their families, to the community.

Let's **Strike Up The Band**, and march on to achieve our goals, **"TOGETHER HELPING VETERANS."**

YOUTH ACTIVITIES—Jeanna Leydic

Here we are in October already! Can you believe it? What better way than to get involved in fall youth sports programs!! My two girlies are in full swing with cheerleading, what fun to stand on the side lines and cheer on the football team! I just so happen to be a cheer coach for our 3-4 grade squad, The Honeybee's. This is something I never thought I would see myself doing, but I do love working with our youth. This October I would like to run a little contest for your Auxiliaries, let's try something new!! I would like to see you reach out to your local cheerleaders and help them to create a patriotic cheer for Veterans Day. You can send me a copy of the written cheer BUT I would much rather get a video of the cheerleaders AND YOU doing the cheer. The cheerleaders can then do the cheer in honor of Veterans at the closed sports event to Veterans Day. I seriously cannot wait to see what everyone comes up with! Keep handing out those R.A.P. cards and Patriotic Youth Awards!! Keep up the great work everyone! I am so proud of all the great things you are doing for our youth!! I will be giving away two prizes: *One prize to the winning auxiliary *One prize to the winning cheer squad – you are allowed to have more than one squad enter! (Most schools have different squads for elementary/high school).



HAPPY CHEERING!!

HISTORIAN/MEDIA RELATIONS

KRISTIN DIGIACOMO

Have you or another member of your Auxiliary signed up for one of the Online Trainings that I'm offering this program year? No? Well, don't worry friends, there's still time to do so! There are still two dates remaining: Nov 23, from 10am-12pm; and Jan 18, from 3-5pm.

REMEMBER You **must** register in advance to receive the link to the training. Scan the correct QR code below to register today and be sure to include your Auxiliary number and your District!

November:



January:



"From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans" is why we are part of this amazing organization because we are all *"Together Helping Veterans."*

SCHOLARSHIPS

It is so very hard to believe that we are heading into October! Where has the time gone? Hopefully, you've gotten the Scholarship information to our schools, and wherever you need to be sharing this amazing opportunity. If not, you still have time, but the deadline for "VOICE OF DEMOCRACY" and "PATRIOTS PEN" Competitions, are both Midnight of October 31, 2024. Post judging must be completed by November 18, District judging by December 3, 2024.

District winner must be sent to State Chairman by December 9, 2024. (Mr. Vince Gavin, State of Pennsylvania VFW Voice of Democracy Chairman, 658 Miller St., Eynon, PA. 18403. His email address is vincentdangavin@gmail.com, and Patriots Pen Chairman is Mr. Bill Lamond, 3360 Nashotks Rd., Madison Township, PA. 18444, email address ta30chev@gmail.com.)

Team up with your Post and select your judges prior to the deadline date. Try to involve other organizations such as teachers, community leaders, police officers or your local government officials. If we can get others to be judges, we are able to promote our programs, and get our information out to the public. This will help them to be aware of what we do.

Remember to recognize each participant, with their parents, for the work they have done to enter these contests. If your Post has extra essays, please share them with other Post's that may not have an entry. This enables more students to have a chance to enter.

Knowledge is Power, Power is the Key.

Don't forget our Continuing Education Scholarship. Available for any Auxiliary member in good standing, who have been a member for at least one year, to get a \$1000 scholarship for themselves, a spouse, or a child. All applications must be submitted to National Headquarters by February 15, 2025.

Make sure you are getting the information out for our Young American Creative Art Contest. The deadline for entry is March 31, 2025. All this information is listed in your Program books, the Department webpage www.vfwauxpa.org, MALTA, as well Facebook and other social media websites. Use the QR Code, pass it around, and share it. I would love for you to email me with any thoughts, ideas, or how it is working for you, the ease of it. Remember, Department President Meintel is offering a star award citation for the use of it.

Please, always thank a Veteran for their service, the smile on their face will warm your heart.

From "**OUR ROOTS TO OUR BRANCHES, EXTENDING SERVICE TO OUR VETERANS**" we will always be "**TOGETHER HELPING VETERANS.**"

Pam

Pam Sopher
Department Scholarships Chairman

OCTOBER LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM - Karen Mooney



The countdown to November 5, 2024, is quickly winding down. Have you done your research? Have you determined who you believe will do the best for our Veteran's? The clock is ticking. Be prepared and know what choices you plan to make. VOTE 2024!!!!!!!!!!!!

Have you thought of different ways you can be a part of this election process? Consider volunteering at your local polling location. Arrange rides for those neighbors and friends that may not drive or have no other way to get to a polling location. These are ways that all of us can participate in the event, not just by voting. Assist your fellow neighbors and veterans.

Remember that for our Comrades, Auxiliary and our Post members, print out these awesome "I Voted" stickers for everyone to wear proudly on Election Day!

These label/stickers can be found on Malta on the Legislative Resource page. It is a great way to celebrate those individuals that allow us to be VFW Auxiliary Members.



Want to keep yourself in the "know" with what is going on in Washington DC? Consider registering for the Action Corps newsletter. This is a free service and allows all of us to know what is going on that affects Veterans and their families. Look into the Veterans Benefits Continuity and Accountability Supplemental Appropriations Act. This can assist veterans, survivors, and caregivers. This is just one of many topics you could find in the Action Corps newsletter that you can receive in your email on a weekly basis if you just signed up.

Remember that **"Together Helping Veterans"** and **"From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans,"** No one does more for Veterans than the VFW Auxiliary!!!!!!!!!!!! Let's be sure we are heard.





Bring a little Ray of Sunshine to our Hospitalized VETERANS



A smile is simply sunshine that you just cannot keep to yourself!

This is a perfect opportunity to showcase your creative juices. Did you know there is an award for just that! Under the Hospital Program you will find the award – check it out!

An award for the most creative ways to interact and to provide happiness to veteran patients.

There is so much we can do with Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas not to mention the many non-traditional holidays to spread a little sunshine.

- ☀️ Halloween – dress up in your best costume and play bingo or just visit and/or hand out treats. I am sure you will get a few good laughs too!
- ☀️ Veterans Day – support your veterans and let them know how much you appreciate their service to our country.
- ☀️ Thanksgiving – donate items for a craft, better yet take in the craft and do it with our veterans.
- ☀️ Christmas – Not all our veterans have family close by, depression can hit hard, we need to keep this in mind. It is very important this time of year to visit and maybe bring a gift. By giving of yourselves, you will truly feel the spirit of the holiday season.



Let's all be a little Ray of Sunshine



“Together Helping Veterans”



“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans”

HOSPITAL – General Orders – October

Linda Dilling

Give our Veterans a "HUG"



Hi, if you were unable to attend our Program Training this year you might have missed my announcement that our project for the year will be our poncho's – named "HUGS" because of the feelings of being wrapped in a warm hug! I can't wait for our reports at year end to find out just how many "HUGS" we were able to give our Veterans!

Our "HUG" is a fleece poncho appropriate for both male and female Veterans. Our goal is 3000!

When your "HUG" is ready – take it to your local VA or non-VA Hospital or nursing home. Or give to a veteran of your choice. Don't forget to record the number of "HUGS" you give. Year-end report question # 7. Don't forget to add the cost of fabric to question # 5.

This is a no-sew project, ANTI-PILL Fleece only!
One size fits all. Fabric design — anything goes!
(But remember they are adults.)



Size of finished HUG:

42" wide across shoulder 56" to 58" Length (after selvage edge is removed)

Step #1

48" by 60" Anti-Pill fleece fabric. You can trim any side selvage at this point.

step #2

Fold fleece in half length-wise to find the middle. Mark your neck/front in center of fleece with chalk; use a 4" diameter cup or saucer to measure neck/front opening.

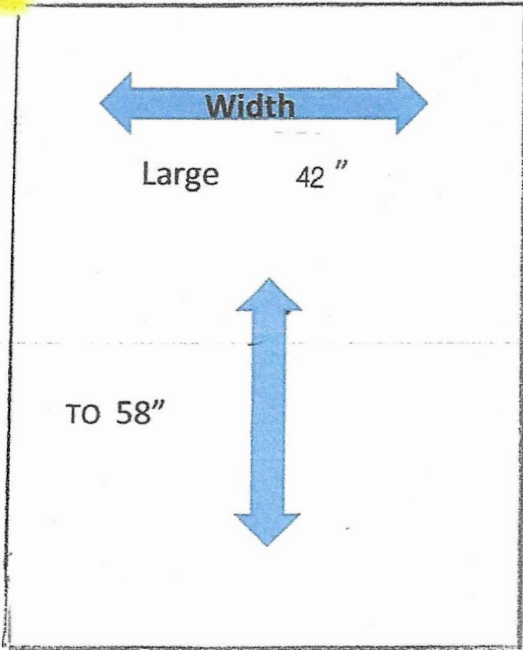
Step #3

Cut out neck/front opening along chalk line.

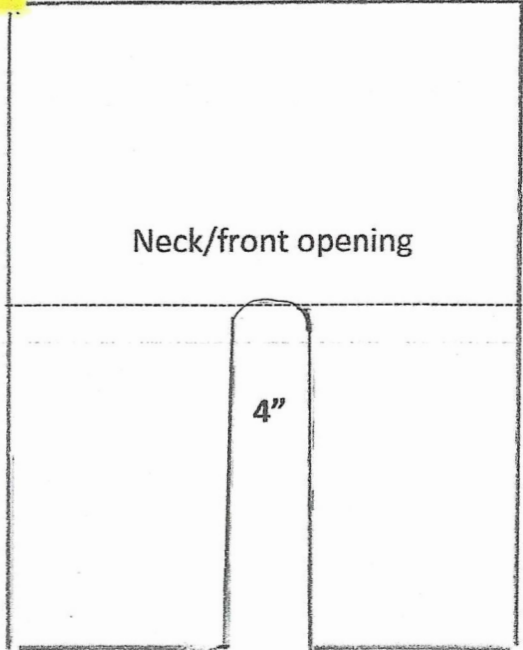
Step #4

Your HUG is ready — no stitching necessary.

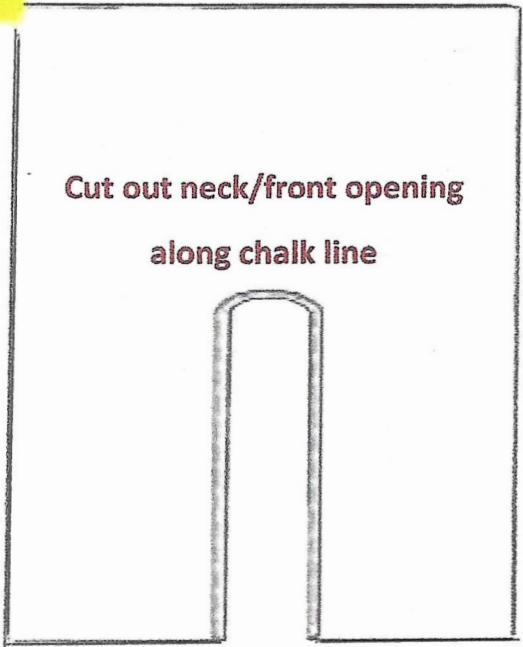
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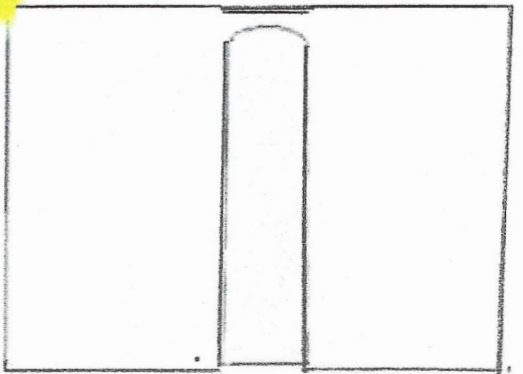
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3



4



YOUR HUG IS READY!!

