

Grandview WA, 01/29/21) The annual Penny-a-Day Campaign conducted by Grandview's American Legion Post will be conducted in a modified manner this year.

The annual campaign, done during the month of February, raises money for the Post's Children and Veteran activities, both in the local communities as well as nationally. Various school-related awards, including The American Legion School Award given to graduating students, are included in this effort. The Post is expanding their School Award program to Prosser since they are now the home Post for Prosser Legionnaires.

"We have been doing this since 2013 and local support has been very good," said Commander Robert Gates of Grandview's Fred E. Hayes Post 57 of The American Legion. "However, continuing COVID restrictions have placed significant stumbling blocks in our way and we are forced to try another way to raise these funds," he added.

Normally, the Post has set out collection cans in restaurants and other businesses and worked with Grandview schools in a competitive effort to raise the funds. With the lack of in-person dining and schools being in a continuing state of hybrid or remote learning, the Post is unable to use the usual avenues to collect spare change.

The Post has asked the communities to donate a penny each day during the month of February, or 28 cents. "We know people think this is a silly way to raise funds, but people are very generous and give us much more than a penny each day," Gates noted. "The first year we did this to raise money to assist wounded troops, we collected over \$4,000.00." All but a thousand dollars of that effort was in coin.

Another COVID-related stumbling block for the program is that most people are not carrying change since it has been in short supply at businesses.

"To overcome these obstacles, we are simply asking people to mail a donation to us," Gates said. "We can accept credit cards too, though we do not have the ability to do that online."

Donors are asked to send their donations to The American Legion, PO Box 56, Grandview WA 98930. Secure credit card donations may be made by calling the Post Adjutant at 509-882-1984.

"We hope the Prosser community will assist in this effort," said Post Executive Committeeman Warren Barmore of Prosser. "The Prosser Post turned in their charter in 2019 and the members joined the Grandview Post. Grandview is making a strong effort to expand their programs to the Prosser schools and community."