



*"The state of this nation is good.  
The heart of this nation is sound.  
The spirit of this nation is strong.  
The faith of this nation is eternal."*

*Franklin Delano Roosevelt  
Message to Congress, January 1943*



## Unifying for the Common Good



We are facing a unique time in this country, and in the whole world, with regards to the actions taking place to limit the spread of COVID-19. We also know that the United States is at its best when we come together to fight a battle such as this. While the actions taking place today across the country are severe and impact the lives of everyone, think back to the time of 1941-1945 when the country came together during WWII.

There were sacrifices that took place on a daily basis during the war, both on the war front and on the home front. Industry was focused on the production of goods to support the war effort. Goods were rationed to provide enough materials for wartime production as well as use at home. Everyone was called to sacrifice.

When the end of the war was announced in 1945, celebrations took place across the country. The Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial had hoped to have several celebrations of our own this year to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of the war, but will have to adjust those plans based on current events.

I am sure everyone will be in a celebratory mood once we can get life back to normal. We can celebrate victory over the pandemic as well as the 75th anniversaries of VE and VJ Days. We may be limited on what we can do for VE Day on May 8th, but we will commemorate the day the best we can.

We look forward to getting through today's crisis and moving forward with the programs and fundraising for The Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial.

We're all in this together.

John Maten, President

# "Joe" is Prepared for Casting

In Jewish folklore, a *golem* is an animated, human-like figure made from clay. One myth has it that the Golem of Prague defended the Jewish community from anti-Semitic attacks. The Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial won't have golems, but we do have a clay figure coming to life, one that helped defend freedom overseas.

Attendees at our events may recall the one-third scale models of the statue scenes that will be part of the memorial. We are now in the process of bringing one of the statues to life in the form of a life-size bronze casting: "Joe," the soldier from the war front portion of the "Mail Call" scene depicting forces on land. He is sitting, reading a letter from home.

Oleg Kedria of the Fine Arts Sculpture Centre in Clarkston, Michigan, has just completed a full scale, detailed clay version of Joe based on the maquette created by Project Sculptor Larry Halbert. As described in our August 2019 newsletter, this clay model will be used to make the final bronze casting. This is a major milestone. It is stunning and it's not even the finished product.

Stay tuned for more updates as we complete this work.

*Russell Levine*



[Click here for more information on the design of The Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial](#)



## Haven't Submitted Your Taxes Yet? There's still time to donate! Even \$5 Helps



The Michigan Voluntary Contribution Schedule, form 4642, allows tax payers to contribute to a select group of non-profit organizations when submitting your state income tax forms. The Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial is on the list. This is an incredible opportunity for us to engage donors from across the state.

This schedule is an additional form and not part of the

standard MI 1040 form. To download the form or for more information, please click on the links below.

As supporters, we encourage you to share this information with friends and family as an easy way to support the memorial project. We thank you in advance for your donation!

[Download Form 4642](#)

[For More Information](#)

## We Need Your Help for The Victory Gala!

**Mark Your Calendar!**  
**Saturday, November 21, 2020**  
Detroit Marriott Troy  
200 W. Big Beaver, Troy

Besides being a lot of fun and a chance to honor Michigan's Greatest Generation, The Victory Gala provides much needed funds for our organization. To make the event a success, we need your assistance. First, mark you calendars and plan on attending. In addition, here are more ways you can help:

- Be a sponsor
- Donate items for our auctions
- Put an ad in our program book

Every donation helps to off-set costs, making the event a success. If you would like to find out more, click on the appropriate link. We thank you for your donation!



[Be a Sponsor](#)

[Donate an Auction Item](#)

[Place a Program Ad](#)

## Help a Small Business During this Time and Help the Gala too



We can all do our part to help our community. Here's a win-win for our local restaurants and The Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial. We are being encouraged to order carry out or buy gift certificates as a way of helping our local establishments. Why not pick one of your favorite independent businesses, buy a gift card and then donate it to us for our Victory Gala? This will provide much needed support to our community partners and will give our Gala guests a great selection of silent auction items this fall.

We all have to get creative on how to support our community. We have the power to keep these folks in business. As Rosie the Riveter said, "We can do it!"

Gift cards can be mailed to:

The Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial  
P.O. Box 237  
Royal Oak, MI 48068

Stay safe and healthy and thank you for helping The Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial!