

## **Greetings & Salutations;**

The American Legion Post 179 meetings & activities for the month of January are as follows;

Executive Board:	January 5 2017	6:30 pm
General Membership:	January 12 2017	7:00 pm
Auxiliary Membership:	January 12 2017	7:00 pm
House Committee:	January 21 2017	10:30 am
S. A. L.:	January 15 2017	1:00 pm

**Post Breakfast January 15 2017**

**9:00 am – 12:00 pm**

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Eric Chappell is still needing members to Supervise community service workers on the weekends. Please contact him at either 830-625-0179 or 254-432-1144 for further details.**

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**Chili & Barbecue cook off Meetings on  
January 3<sup>rd</sup> & the 17th starts at 6:30 pm.**

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**Mid Winter Conference held at OMNI Hotel in Austin TX.  
01.26.2017 - 01.29.2017.**

**Contact Post Adjutant @ 830-625-0179**

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**American Legion Post 179 Chaplain James Hollon can be reached at  
[sfchollon@yahoo.com](mailto:sfchollon@yahoo.com).**

**There is also help at**

**If you, or someone you know is having trouble and may be thinking that suicide is an option, please call the VA's 24/7 suicide prevention hotline at 1-800-273-8255 and press 1. You may also chat online at [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net), or send a text message to 838255.**

**Veterans Benefits** - <http://www.legion.org/benefitscalculator/>

### **Military Times: VA now taking health benefits applications by phone**

By: [Patricia Kime](#), September 12, 2016

Veterans can now apply for Veterans Affairs health benefits over the phone. The VA published a final regulation on Monday that allows former service members to complete VA health care applications by calling 877-222-8387. The line is manned by VA employees who walk the veterans through the process, including providing them information on copayment requirements and third party insurance.

Previously, VA required veterans to apply in person at a VA medical center or submitting a paper application to the department. But the system was beset with problems, creating a backlog of 847,882 applications that stretched back nearly 15 years and included submissions from more than 300,000 deceased veterans. After the VA inspector general released a report on the backlog a year ago, VA took steps to change the application process, to include removing a requirement that veterans physically sign the necessary paperwork. It also embarked on an effort to clear the backlog, starting with 30,000 combat veterans who should have automatically qualified for the benefit but were placed in the system by mistake. Veterans can continue to apply for benefits in person as well, according to the department.

All meetings are held at Post 179 located at 410 W. Coll Street New Braunfels TX. Phone: 830-625-0179. **We look forward to seeing you at the meetings.**

For further monthly scheduled events visit our web site @ [www.alpost179tx.org](http://www.alpost179tx.org).