

**ROGER SHIELDS CELEBRATES HIS 99TH BIRTHDAY &
RECEIVES A TOWN OF NEWBURGH TOWN BOARD PROCLAMATION**



Shown from L-R: Town Councilman James Politi, Town Councilman Paul Ruggiero, Town of Newburgh Supervisor Gil Piaquadio, and Veteran Roger Shields at the American Legion Post 1420.

On Thursday, May 15th, the American Legion Post 1420 held a Birthday Party to celebrate Roger Shields' 99th birthday at 1171 Union Avenue in the Town of Newburgh. Friends and family were present to celebrate this momentous occasion with him.

During the celebration, the Town of Newburgh Supervisor Gil Piaquadio, Town Councilman Paul Ruggiero, and Town Councilman James Politi awarded Roger Shields a Town of Newburgh Town Board Proclamation for his dedication and service to our nation and community.

His military career began when he enlisted in the U.S. Navy at age of 17 years old in 1943 and was assigned to the Naval Destroyer Escort Ship that supplied resources to U.S. Allies in England, Tunisia, and Morocco.

In addition, Roger Shields served as the ship's Baker on the USS O'Neill Ship and survived a kamikaze attack which killed two and wounded twenty of his shipmates. He received an Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy in May 1946 and enlisted in the Naval Reserves in June 1947 where he served until 1955.

Roger Shields purchased a bakery in Lake Carmel, New York with his brother who was also a veteran. In 1949, they opened Shield's Bakery in Beacon, New York and remained there for 34 years.

He also volunteered his time to drive disabled veterans to their doctor's appointments. Roger Shields was married to his wife Kathleen for 53 years and shared four sons. He remains an active member of VFW Post 1163 and American Legion Post 1420.

On behalf of a grateful public, the Town of Newburgh Town Board acknowledges May 15, 2025 as Roger Shields' Day in the Town of Newburgh.

Thank you, Roger Shields, for your dedication and service.

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