



Presented by



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dennis Buden, Founder & Tournament Director
(860) 558-0514
dennis@goldenkielbasa.org

Golden Kielbasa Veterans Open Tops \$100,000 Mark in Support of Connecticut Veterans

Farmington Bank-Sponsored Event Raises Record \$27,500 this Year

New Britain, Conn., December 7, 2017 – The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Hardware City Chapter 8's Golden Kielbasa Veterans Open, the state's largest veterans charity golf event, has officially topped the \$100,000 mark in monies raised for Connecticut veterans.

Tournament officials, beneficiaries and representatives of Presenting Sponsor Farmington Bank recently gathered at the National Iwo Jima Memorial in New Britain/Newington for a check presentation and to celebrate the event's enormous success and impact.

"This is a landmark year in our short history. Little did we know when we started this event in 2009 that it would grow so much and so quickly," said Tournament Director and Founder Dennis Buden. "This event proves that the respect Americans have for those who served is boundless."

The 2017 event, which took place at Tunxis Plantation Country Club in Farmington on September 28, attracted a record 206 golfers and raised \$27,500, the single-largest, one-year total in the event's history. The total dollars raised by the "GK" since 2009 stands at \$114,500, with more than \$110,000 of that total raised in the last six years alone.

"DAV Chapter 8 is proud to be the host of this event, and to be able to aid so many Connecticut veterans through the causes we support," said DAV Hardware City Chapter 8 Commander Dennis Taricani.

"Farmington Bank is proud to continue its support of Connecticut veterans through this very special event," said John Patrick, chairman, president and CEO of Farmington Bank. "We respect and appreciate the service and sacrifice of our veterans and are honored to support this wonderful cause."

Major beneficiaries of the Golden Kielbasa Veterans Open are House of Heroes Connecticut, Friends of Fisher House Connecticut and DAV Chapter 8. Additional beneficiaries this year include Mo's Closet at the VA Medical Center in Newington, a DAV Chapter 12-operated veterans assistance program that provides veterans in need with clothing (new and used) and various personal supplies and sundries; and the DAV Department of Connecticut transportation and gift card programs for veterans.

The 2017 event was highlighted by post-golf ceremonies honoring two esteemed Connecticut veterans, the late Bill May, co-founder of House of Heroes Connecticut who passed way in December 2016, and 95-year-old Stanley "Sticker" Plocharczyk of New Britain, a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II who served in the South Pacific.

Platinum sponsors of the 2017 Golden Kielbasa Veterans Open were Stanley Black & Decker, the Tomasso Group, the Creed Law Firm and Atlantic Restoration and Remodeling. Gold sponsors were Bourdon Forge, Frontier Communications, HB Communications, the New Britain Bees and Whitson's School Nutrition. Silver sponsors include Boston Granite Exchange, Connecticut Solid Surface, Eversource, Gaffney Bennett & Associates, Okay Industries, Joseph M. Roman and Family, William & Donna Rutola and Sir Speedy Printing and Marketing Services/New Britain. The New Britain Herald/Bristol Press was the event's media sponsor while Martin Rosol's of New Britain was the event's barbeque sponsor, providing golfers with grilled kielbasa sandwiches on the course.

Next year's 10th Annual Golden Kielbasa Veterans Open will take place on Thursday, September 27, 2018, again at Tunxis Plantation Country Club.

For more information on the Golden Kielbasa Veterans Open and to become part of next year's special 10th anniversary event, please contact Tournament Founder and Director Dennis Buden at dennis@goldenkielbasa.org or 860-558-0514, or visit www.goldenkielbasa.org.

##