

spent by The American Legion and its affiliated organizations for the benefit of children and youth.

3. Community and youth-oriented programs of The American Legion further a strong sense of patriotism and loyalty helping us to promote a 100% Americanism. American Legion Baseball, High School Oratorical Competitions, supporting the Boys Scouts of America, Flag education, College Scholarships, Junior Shooting Sports, Patriotic Holiday Observances, as well as, American Legion Boys State and Boys Nation are programs supported by the veteran volunteers of our organization.
4. The American Legion has National Security policies in the areas of Aerospace, Energy, Merchant Marine, Homeland Security, Law and Order and Military and Naval Affairs. Implementation of these policies is accomplished through legislative action and coordination with the Department of Defense, Military Services and other agencies. The Junior Law Cadet, ROTC Recognition, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award, Blood Donor Awards and programs supporting our Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve Military Personnel and their families are all directly related to National Security programs of The American Legion.

It is well to note that a program with the likes of American Legion Colorado Boys State does not just happen. We began in 1949 hosting high school juniors and helping them to learn principles of our form of government. Every year our staff of volunteers dedicates thousands of hours to this worthwhile program. No one is paid for his or her time and service. They commit a full week of their lives to the betterment of these young men, and, I might add, they do it because they believe they can help make a difference.

So, when you arrive in Pueblo to participate in American Legion Colorado Boys State, please be aware you are not only meeting your peers from high schools across our great state to experience all our program has to offer, you will also have the opportunity to interface with some true American Heroes. These men and women have not only served their country during wartime, but they continue to Serve America.