



# **Marine Corps League Westfield River Valley Detachment 141 Westfield, Massachusetts 01069**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Marines To Ride For Toys For Tots And Wounded Warriors**

Westfield, Mass.—A pig roast at the finish will await the more than 200 Marine Corps League (MCL) members and motorcycle riders expected from all over New England, at the fourth annual ride to collect donations for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program and to benefit the Marines Helping Marines project on Sunday, September 18.

The ride will kickoff from the parking lots at American Legion Post 185 at 478 Springfield St. and Headquarters Lounge, 485 Springfield St., Agawam, at 10 a.m. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. A donation of a new unwrapped toy and \$15 qualifies participants for the ride. Coffee and doughnuts will be served.

Ride chairman Aldo Mancini of Westfield River Valley, Detachment 141, MCL, said the motorcycle parade will wind its way from Agawam, through Southwick Westfield and several towns on back roads and into the Leeds section of Northampton to visit with patients at the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Western Medical Facility.

“We expect to arrive at Leeds between 11:30 and noon. After visiting with the veterans there for about a half-hour, we will head for the Holyoke Soldiers Home and expected to arrive there around 1:30 pm,” Mancini said.

He said that riders and other members of the contingent will accept toys and cash donations from the public at any of there rest stops.

“Last year we collected more than 200 toys and sent \$1,500 to the Marines Helping Marines project,” Mancini said. “We expect to send more this year as all the food is being donated.”

After greeting veterans at the Soldiers Home, the motorcycle riders will head to the American Post 338 in Southwick for the pig roast and refreshments.



## **Santa Rides For Marine Toys for Tots**

**Santa, aka Steven Philips of Westfield, is set to lead the fourth annual Marine Corps League (MCL) motorcycle ride to collect toys for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program and funds for the Wounded Warrior Project Sunday, September 18. The riders will visit the Western Mass veterans' hospitals in Northampton and Holyoke. A pig roast will follow at American Legion Post 338, Southwick. (MCL photo by Frank Real)**