

Putnam County Composite Squadron Public Affairs Office 112 Old Rte 6 Carmel, NY 10512

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# **Civil Air Patrol Announces Retirement of Aerospace Education Officer**

CARMEL, New York – April 30, 2022 – The Putnam County Composite Squadron of Civil Air Patrol (CAP) acknowledged the retirement of New Fairfield resident Ralph C. Langham during an awards ceremony held at the Daniel J. O'Brien VFW Post in Carmel, NY on April 22.

During the ceremony Langham, who holds the grade of major, was recognized for his work as a master rated Aerospace Education Officer, where he instructed cadets in topics such as rocketry, robotics, small unmanned aerial systems and remote-controlled airplanes.

Putnam County Squadron Commander, Major Elena MacDermant, noted the squadron attained the 2021 Aerospace Education Award due in large part to Langham's interesting aerospace projects which included participation in the Inaugural CAP Aerospace High Altitude Balloon Cadet Challenge. The New York Wing Vice Commander South, Lt. Col. Patrick Magee, awarded Langham with an achievement award for outstanding duty performance in Aerospace Education.

Langham joined CAP in 2009 as an Aerospace Education Officer and transferred to the Putnam County Squadron in 2016. Reflecting on his career Langham said, "I believe the most important thing that a senior member in CAP can do is motivate the cadets they are responsible for and to achieve those goals that the cadets may not even be aware of when they first join."

For more information about Civil Air Patrol visit www.GoCivilAirPatrol.com.

Established in 1941, Civil Air Patrol is the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force and as such is a member of its Total Force. In its auxiliary role, CAP operates a fleet of 560 single-engine Cessna aircraft and more than 2,100 small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) and performs about 90% of all search and rescue operations within the contiguous United States as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. Often using innovative cellphone forensics and radar analysis software, CAP was credited by the AFRCC with saving 107 lives in fiscal 2020. CAP's 56,000 members also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. As a nonprofit organization, CAP plays a leading role in aerospace education using national academic standards-based STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education. Members also serve as mentors to over 23,000 young people participating in CAP's Cadet Programs. Visit www.CAP.News or www.GoCivilAirPatrol.com for more information.



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