

SEP 12 1978

# Lundine Backs Aid For Veterans

MAYVILLE — Meeting Sunday with members of the Chautauqua County Veterans Council, Rep. Stanley N. Lundine expressed his support for programs and legislation which will benefit America's veterans.

Lundine said, "This nation must meet its obligation to former servicemen and women who have served in this country's time of need." He noted his own support of program improvements in the areas of health, housing, education and pensions during his two-year term.

He said the most important area, however, is income maintenance.

"I have supported efforts to increase veterans' pensions by a cost-of-living adjustment, and to change the laws so that

the full increase would be passed through to pensioners without detracting from other income sources," he said.

Congress has increased veterans' hospital and nursing facilities budgets, boosted education and vocational training allowances, and strengthened home-buying programs and opportunities, he said.

"I am especially pleased by the decision to invest an additional \$9.4 million in the Bath Veterans Administration Center for construction of a 100-bed domiciliary unit," he said. The Bath center is a primary regional provider of comprehensive health services for veterans in the Southern Tier.

During the meeting at the Mayville American Legion Post, Lundine asked

participants for their opinions on proposed reform of the civil service system, which would modify veteran advantages in hiring and promotions.

Lundine participated in the dedication of a new National Soaring Museum near Elmira on Saturday, then took part in ceremonies dedicating a new runway at Chemung County Airport.

He also held town meetings in Freemont and Franklinville over the weekend.