

COMMANDERS SCRAPBOOK OF
BENNETT & DENNIS HERRICK MEMORIAL POST 626
THE AMERICAN LEGION
GLADSTONE MISSOURI



FOR: JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020
BY: DOUGLAS W. MILLISON

BOOK 1, JULY – DECEMBER 2019
(For website upload size purposes)



Preamble to the Constitution

For
God and Country
we associate ourselves together for the
following purposes



To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.



COMMANDERS BIOGRAPHY

Commander, 2017 – 2019

Douglas W. Millison

Commander Millison joined the Army in Seattle WA and began his career as an Armored Reconnaissance Specialist in 1979, attending OSUT and Anti-Tank Missile training in FT. Knox KY. His first assignment was with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in the Fulda Gap on the then E/W German border.

He served on active duty for just over 20 years as a Scout, Scout Section Leader, Company and Squadron Training NCO, G3 Range Scheduling NCO, Scout Platoon Sergeant, and Squadron S3 Operations NCO. He graduated in the top of his class at the Basic NCO Course and the Advanced NCO Course as well as the Scout Platoon Leaders Course.

His tours of duty included FT Knox KY, Bad Hersfeld Germany (11th ACR), FT. Lewis WA (9th ID), Mannheim Germany (8th ID), FT. Riley KS (1st ID), Hohenfels Germany (7th ATC), FT. Ord CA (7th ID), FT. Lewis WA (G3 DPTM), and FT. Riley KS (1st AD). His last overseas tour before returning to FT. Knox and retiring in 2000 was to another border, Camp Gary Owen (2nd ID) on the N/S Korean border.



After retiring from the military in 2000 he returned to the Seattle area and worked in the marine industry for 6 years manufacturing doors, hatches, and windows for watercraft of all types and sizes. Commander Millison then went to Skagit Valley Community College and acquired an Associate's Degree in electronics technologies which gave him the skills to work for the Navy at Naval Radio Station Jim Creek (T) in Arlington WA as an Electronics Mechanic Helper, ensuring that ULF communications were maintained with our Boomers around the world.

Now fully retired he spends his time volunteering at the National WWI Museum and Memorial and the KC VA Medical Center as well as assisting Post 626 and the 3rd District serve the veteran, community and youth of Missouri.

Commander Millison has been a member of the American Legion for 24 years. Since joining the Post in 2014 he has served the Post on the Public Relations, VA&R, Membership and Fundraising Committee's, and served on the Honor Guard and Volunteer Team. He also assumed several officer roles as the Historian, Internet Administrator and Vice Commander before becoming the Commander in 2017.

He completed the American Legion Extension Institute in 2014 and Graduated the National American Legion College in 2017. Millison has just completed his 4th year as the 3rd Districts Vice Commander. On the Department level Millison serves on the add-hoc Centennial Committee, the Leadership Training Committee and the DEC Sub-Committee. He was also appointed by the National VA&R Commission as a Certified VAVS Representative at the KC VA Medical Center for the Department of Missouri.

Doug is married to Michelle, and has two children from a previous marriage, James and Sierra, who live out of state. Michelle's son Jesse is married with two children and is in the KC area.

Post 626 Officers for 2018 - 2019

COMMANDER



Douglas Millison

ADJUTANT



Phyllis Rosales

SR VICE COMMANDER



Larry Ragan

JR VICE COMMANDER



David Bowman

FINANCE OFFICER



Douglas Robker

CHAPLAIN



Craig Lantz

HISTORIAN



Jane Janssen

SERVICE OFFICER



Billy Thompson

SERGEANT AT ARMS



Andrew Lester

The Year in Pictures
1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020





JULY

Jim Thomsen's 95th Birthday



Theodore Roosevelt III at Dept's 100th Convention



Gladstone's Cpt. McGee receiving FF/EMT of the year award.



Incoming Commander Williams



Commander Millison sworn in
As District Commander



D ♦ GLADSTONE DISPATCH

Thursday, JULY 25, 2019 ♦ Volume 9, No. 37 ♦ www.gladstonedispatch.com ♦ \$1.00

American Legion honors Gladstone firefighter

Capt. David McGee of the Gladstone Public Safety Department received the American Legion EMT/Firefighter Award for 2019 from The American Legion's Department of Missouri on July 13, at the state organization's 101st annual convention.

McGee has been a member of the Gladstone Fire/EMS since 2002. He was recommended for the award by his chain of command at the Bennett & Dennis Herrick Memorial American Legion Post No. 626.

He was cited for his desire to continue suppression efforts with his crew in a house fire in April of 2018 after suffering an injury from a fall. After he was forced to go to the hospital, he learned he broke his back.

In his acceptance speech, McGee recognized and thanked his wife, Joi McGee, who he called his "rock," and his two daughters for supporting him on the job and at home when recovering from his back injury.

"I was home a lot more than they were used to and they all handled it well," he said.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Capt. David McGee of the Gladstone Public Safety Department receives the American Legion EMT/Firefighter Award for 2019 from The American Legion's Department of Missouri.

Initiation & Induction Ceremony, Mayor Suiter Guest speaker.



Legionnaire of the Year, David Bowman. 9



Membership Team, Robker, Thompson, Dunnam, Rosales, Millison, Ragan

Initiation of new members, Dunnam, Ward, Edwards, Marinaro



Continuous Membership Awards,
Farris – 30
Pelzman – 10
Hagan – 5



Induction of new officer,
Robker – Finance Officer



Special Award to Joe Farris
for his work getting the
Honor Guard operational

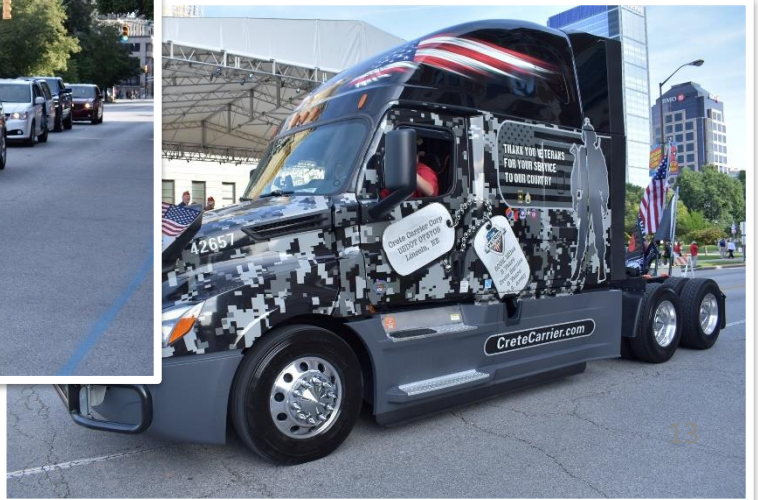


Posts' first "Legion Act" applicant, Gary Lint

Convention Parade



Cdr. Millison & Post Colors



Centennial
Memorial Brick
Dedication

SEPTEMBER

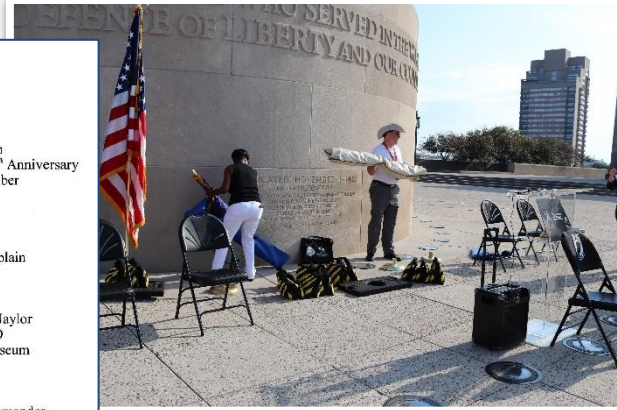
*The American Legion
Department of Missouri, Inc.
Memorial Brick Dedication at the
National WWI Museum and Memorial
Kansas City, Missouri*



- Hallie Williams
Department Commander
- Gary Grigsby
Department Sr. Vice Commander
- Lowry A. Finley-Jackson
Department Adjutant
- Kenneth J. Goth
National Executive Committeeman
- Thomas K. Goodin
Alt. National Executive Committeeman
- Marsha Mooney
Department Auxiliary President
- Justin Marsden
SAI Detachment Commander

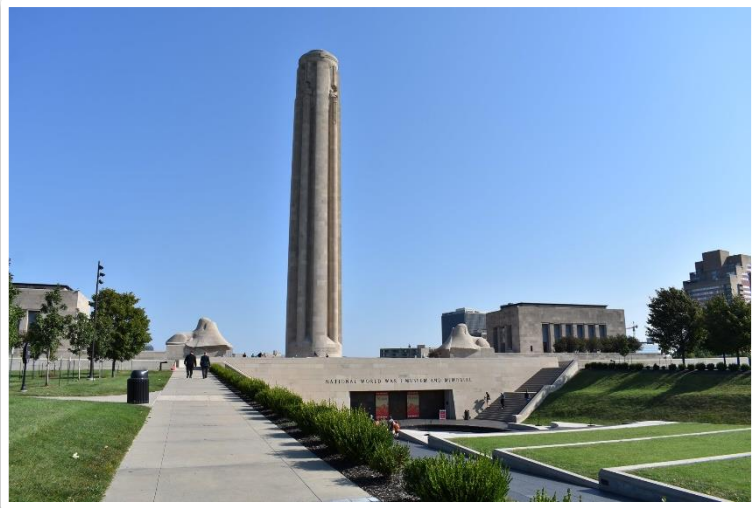
~Program~

11:00 a.m.	Call to Order	Douglas Millison Department 100 th Anniversary Committee Member
	Salute Colors	
	Invocation	Marvin Harper Department Chaplain
	Pledge of Allegiance	
	Welcome & Remarks	Dr. Mathew C. Naylor President & CEO World War I Museum and Memorial
	Introductions and Remarks	Hallie Williams Department Commander
	Introduction of Guest Speaker	Kenneth Goth National Executive Committee Member
	Remarks	Guest Speaker James W. "Bill" Oxford National Commander The American Legion
	Closing Remarks	Douglas Millison
	Benediction	Marvin Harper Department Chaplain
	Tour of Museum	



Millison, Robertson





National Commander Oxford's arrival



Bowman, Dept. Adj. Finley-Jackson, Millison, Sullivan



Millison, Dubuc



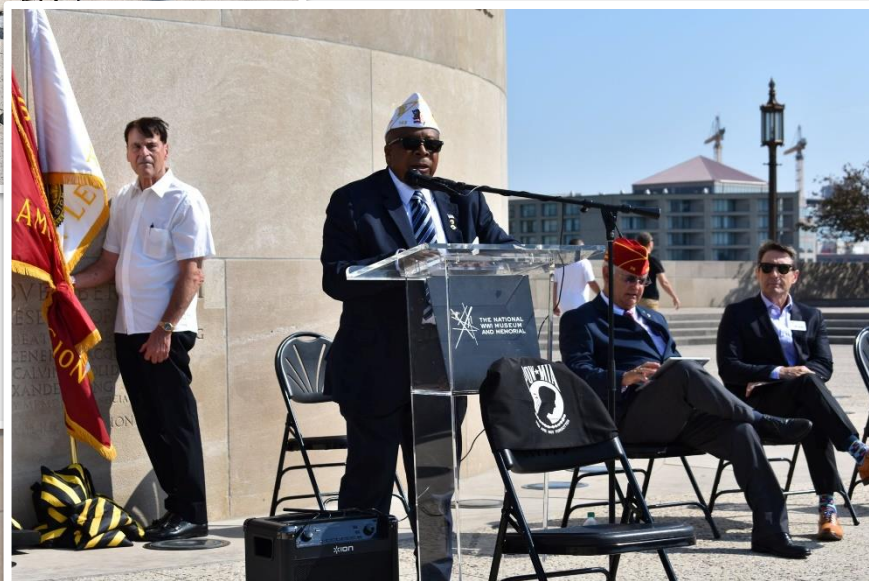
Dept. Chaplin Harper





Dept. Commander Williams

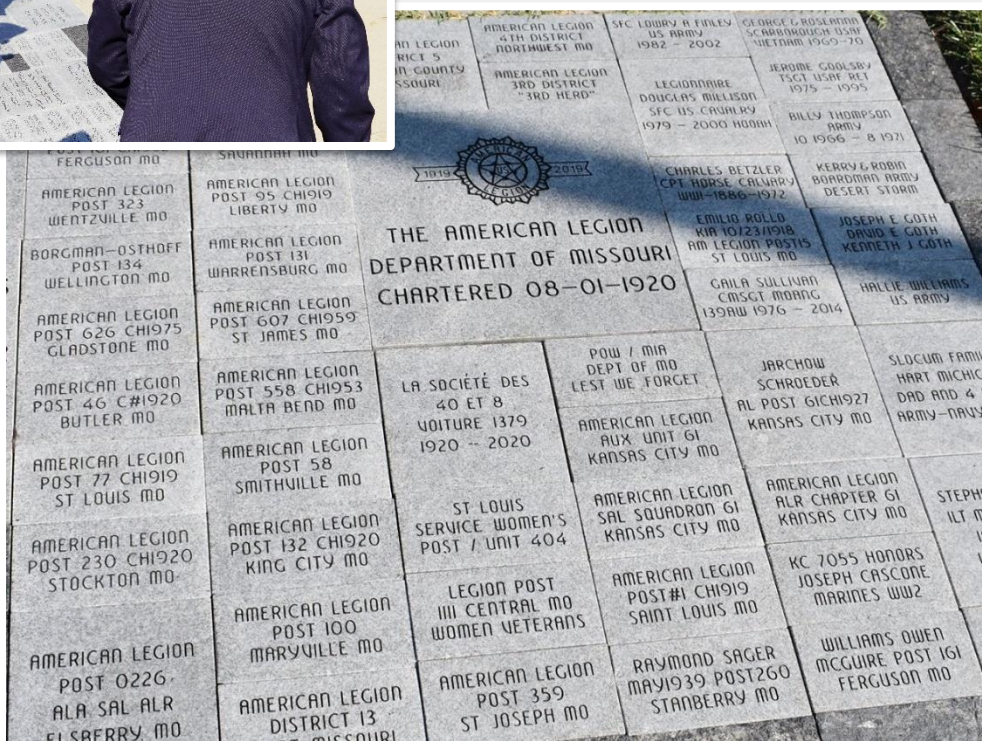
Museum CEO Matt Naylor





National Cdr. Oxford





Commander's tour guided by Member Jerry Schmidt



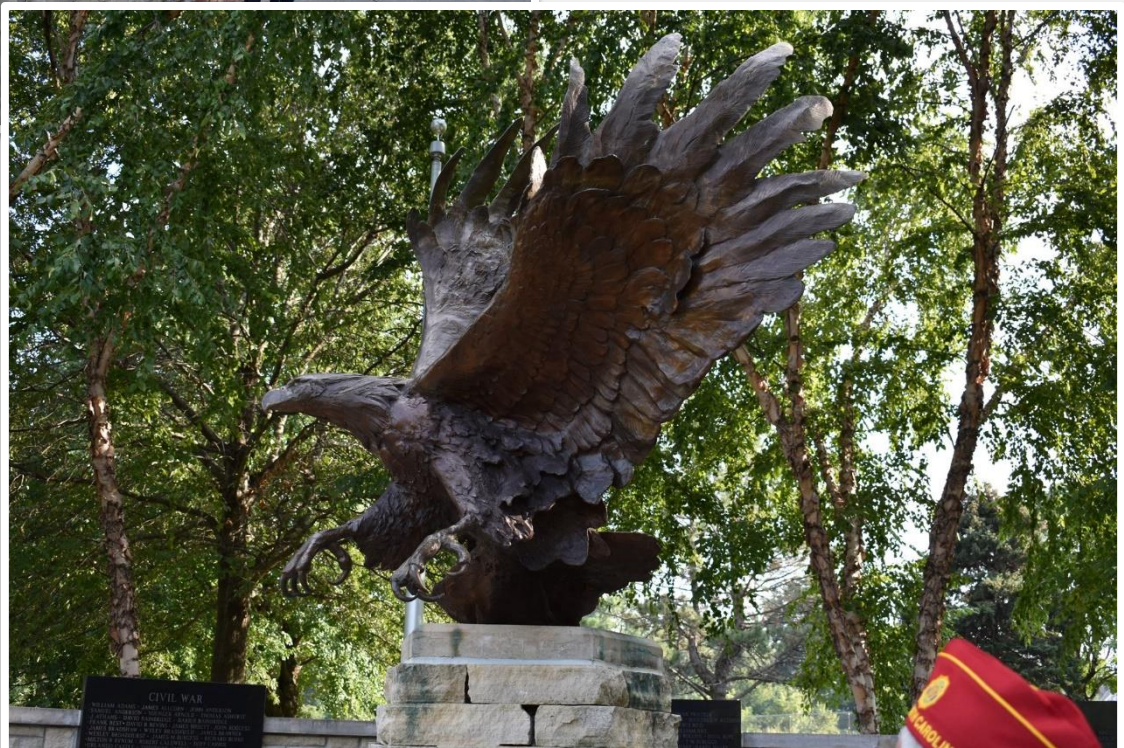
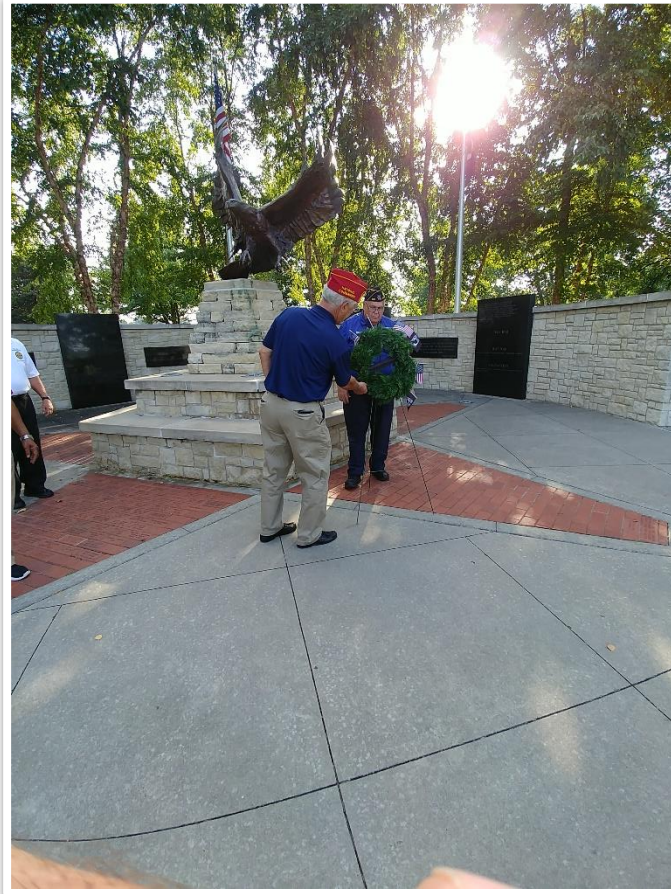


Let's hear it for Russ Dubuc, the most indispensable member on such a windy day!

N.C. visits Clay County Veterans Memorial



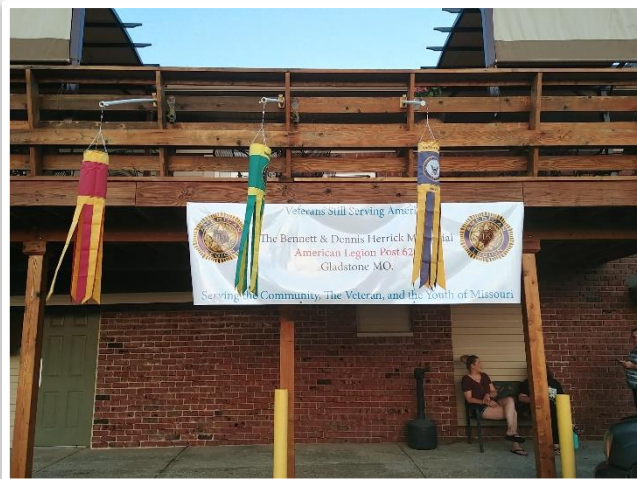
Thompson, Braton, Rosales, Millison
POW/MIA Wreath

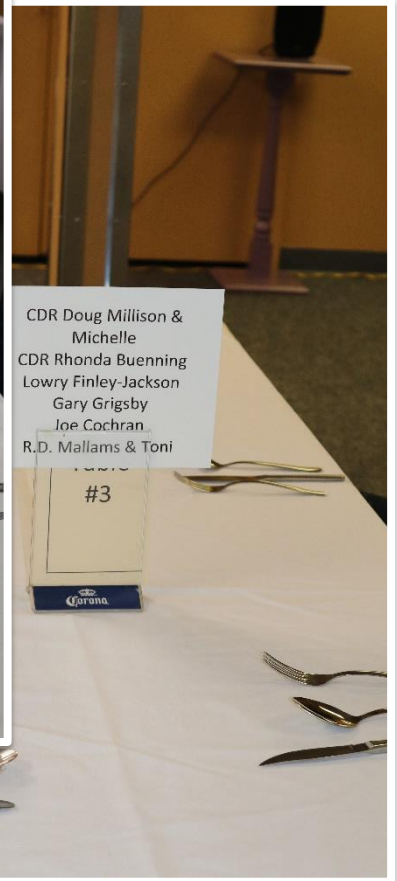
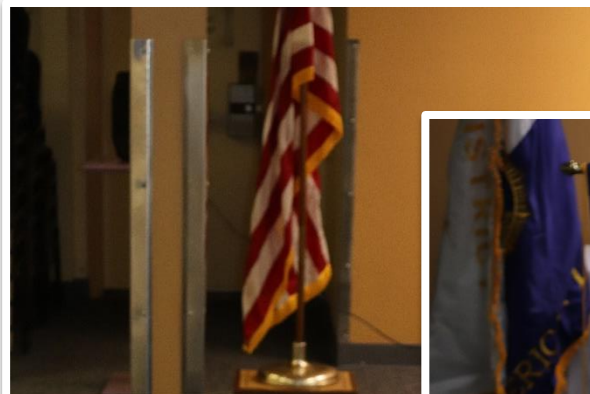




Dept. Cdr. Williams
 Dept. Sgt@Arms Coats

National Commanders Dinner at the Elks Lodge







Cdr.'s Motorcade



Greeted by Leading Elks
Moore & Mallams, also
Legionnaires





Stratton, Robertson, Lester, Ragan



Rosales, Ragan, Robker



Thompson, Robker, Rocha

Millison
VFW Post Cdr. Buenning
Mayor Suter
NC Oxford



Duncan

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL COMMANDER'S DINNER

17 SEPTEMBER 2019

Sponsored by:
**The Bennett & Dennis Herrick Memorial
American Legion Post 626
&
Northland Elks Lodge 2376**

PROGRAM

Call to Order	Douglas Millison, Post/Dist. Cdr.
Salute the colors	
POW/MIA Table	
Pledge of Allegiance	
Grace	Post Chaplain Craig Lantz
Dinner	Lasagna & Chicken Parmesan
Welcome & Introductions	Cdr. Millison
City	Mayor Carol Suter
Elks	Metro West District V.P. Bill Moore
Department of Missouri	Cdr. Halley Williams
	NEC Kenneth Goth
National Commander	James W. "Bill" Oxford
Closing Remarks	Cdr. Douglas Millison
Benediction	Chaplain Craig Lantz



Chaplain Lantz



MO. NEC Goth



Duncan, Dept. Historian Goulsby,
40/8 Cdr Bumgarner, Lantz



Walker, Bowman, Rosales



Lester, Robertson, Stratton, Robker



Braton, Murch



Millison



Murch, VFW CDR. Buenning,
Millison, Dept. Adj. Finley-Jackson,
Zone Cdr. Cochran



Chef Mirabile JR & JC Gregg



Millison



Mayor Suter



Jamison





Elks District Leader, Moore



DC Williams



NC Oxford



NEC Goth



Cdr.'s Travelling Party
from 3rd District tour



"And we're done..."

Special Thanks

To the volunteers from Post 626 and Elks Lodge 2376 who organized everything for us tonight.

Also Volunteering their time and talents were:

Chef Jasper Mirabile Jr. of Jaspers Italian Restaurant, Kansas City's most award -winning restaurant. Mirabile is an acclaimed chef who has made guest chef appearances at The James Beard House in New York. He has been featured in several major newspapers and magazines across the USA. Over the years Jasper's has made a name for itself as one of Kansas City's most popular dining attractions. Recently, Zagat named Jasper's one of America's Top 25 Italian Restaurants and Travel & Leisure named Jasper's one of USA's Top Italian Restaurants.

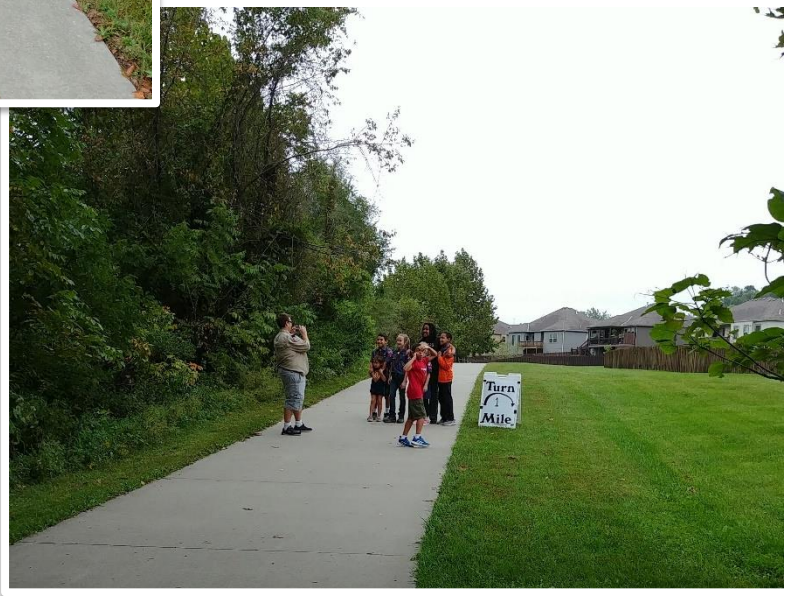
And

JC Gregg, Local celebrity baker. Competitor on The Great American Baking Show Season 3 And soon to be seen in November on another major network show (cannot disclose just yet). Featured in Northland Lifestyles Magazine, KC Star, Simply KC Magazine. 435 Magazine. On the board of Directors for Slow Food KC promoting local farmers and food producers.

Bridging the Generation Gap Walk



Bierle, Stratton, Thompson

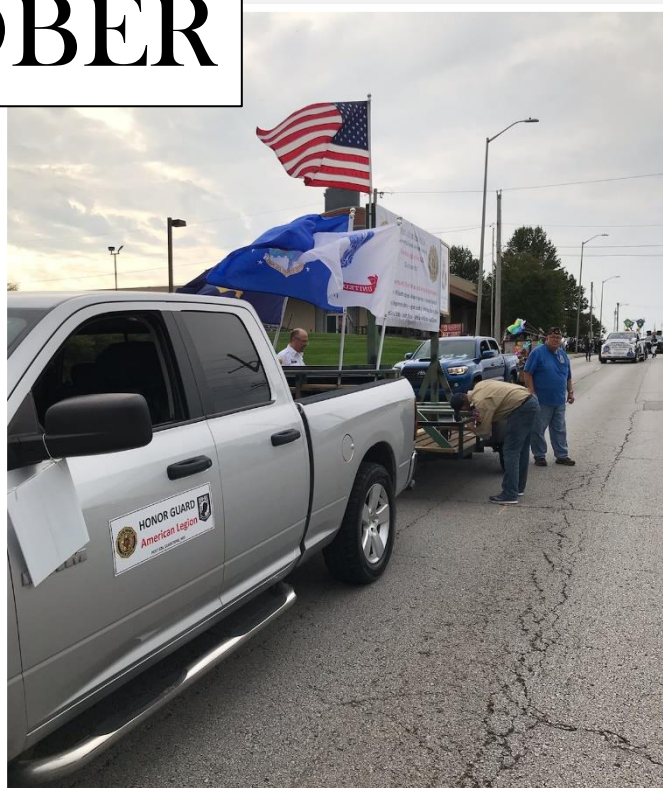




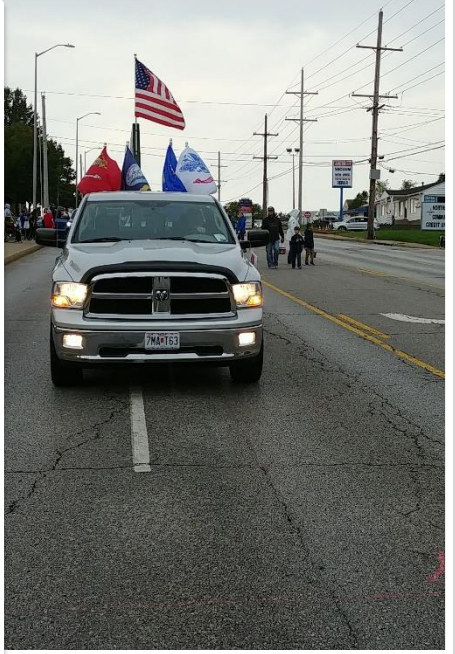
OCTOBER



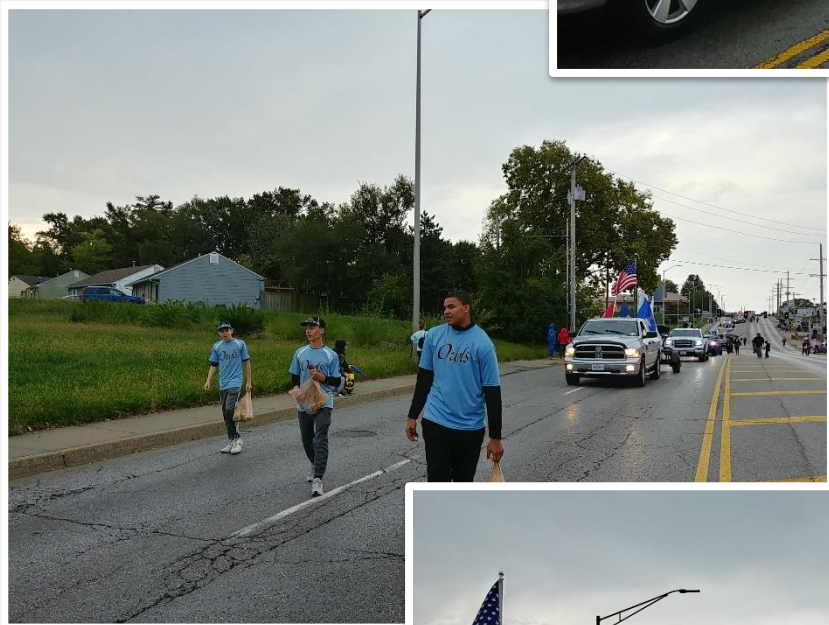
Gladfest parade, Bowman, Millison



Duncan, Rosales, Thompson, Quin, Millison

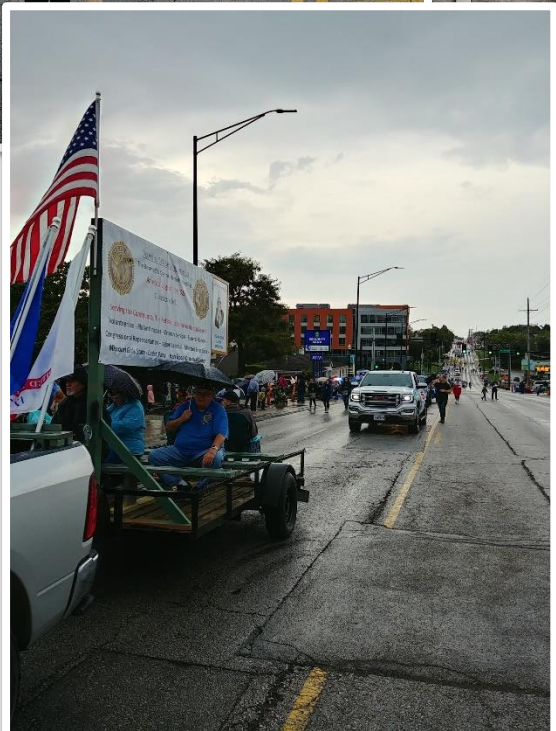


Farris



Owls on candy

Quakenbush, Rosales



Veterans Day Poppy Fluffing



Robker



Thompson, Sullivan, Thomsen



HG Cpt. Farris receiving Certificate of Merit. Dubuc, Sullivan, Bierle, Mallams, Duncan, McDonald, Farris, Millison

**Missouri Military Funeral Honors Program
Certificate of Merit**

is awarded to

American Legion Post 626

This certificate is presented "On Behalf of a Grateful Nation" as a token of our appreciation, for the honorable and faithful service rendered by your members. Your post provided military funeral honors for Sixty deceased American veterans during the twelve-month period ending June 30, 2019. Your efforts are commendable and you have ensured veterans were laid to rest with the dignity and honor they deserve.



*William B. Smith
Lieutenant Colonel, (MO), (USA Retired)
Director, Military Funeral Honors*



*B. Scott Miller
Colonel, (MO), (USA Retired)
Military Executive*

HONORING ALL

VETERANS DAY

FEATURING



Colonel Don
"Doc" Ballard,

U.S. Army (Ret.), Medical Service Corps.

MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT

sat
oct 19

from **10a-12p**

WHO SERVED

Join us at the Library for a **Celebration of Veterans** geared toward the whole family! Join us for a brief ceremony at 10 am featuring **Colonel Don "Doc" Ballard, U.S. Army (Ret.), Medical Service Corps.** Ballard is Missouri's only living Medal of Honor recipient and one of only 71 living MOH recipients nationwide! Afterward, stay for some family-friendly activities: a **balloon artist**, a themed **book walk**, and an up-close look at a military truck and **canon** — plus the chance to meet some working **therapy dogs** and eat some yummy **fall treats**. Celebrate with us!



Pelzman, Thompson, Bierle, Braton, Sullivan

Lantz



Ballard

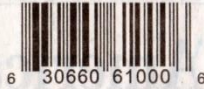


McDonald, Duncan, Dubuc





\$66 in coupon savings inside



D GLADSTONE DISPATCH

Thursday, **OCTOBER 31, 2019** ♦ Volume 9, No. 51 ♦ www.gladstonedispatch.com ♦ \$1.00

A2 Gladstone Dispatch

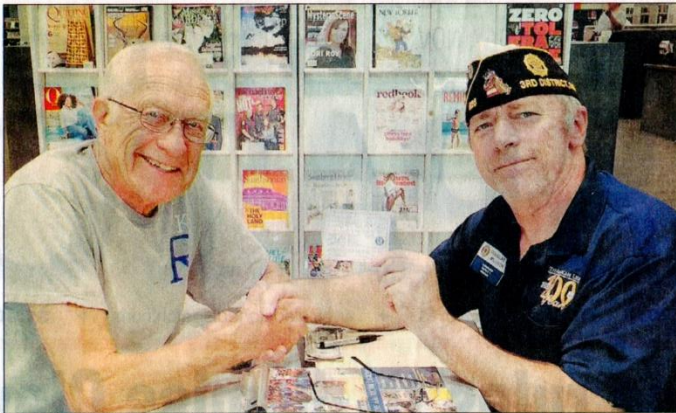
Thursday, October 31, 2019

American Legion receives victory with LEGION Act

In a legislative victory for The American Legion, President Donald Trump signed the Let Everyone Get Involved In Opportunities for National Service Act on July 30 that declares the United States has been in a state of war since Dec. 7, 1941. The American Legion sought the declaration as a way to honor approximately 1,600 U.S. service members who were killed or wounded during previously undeclared periods of war.

The LEGION Act also opens the door for approximately 6 million veterans to access American Legion programs and benefits for which they previously had not been eligible, according to a press release.

"Recognizing the service of these wartime veterans is the right thing to do and it is long overdue," the former National Commander Brett Reistad said. "The families of those who were killed or wounded during these wartime acts should take pride in knowing that we recognize



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Gary Lint turns his membership application over to Commander Douglas Millison of the Bennett & Dennis Herrick Memorial American Legion Post 626 in Gladstone. Lint benefits from the LEGION Act, which opened the door for approximately 6 million veterans to access American Legion programs and benefits for which they previously had not been eligible.

their sacrifice and service. Moreover, we are proud to welcome any of the 6 million living veterans from the previously unrecognized periods into our organization and call them Legionnaires."

Now that the legislation

has been signed, The American Legion's eligibility criteria immediately changes from seven war eras to two: April 6, 1917, to Nov. 11, 1918, and Dec. 7, 1941 to a time later determined by the federal government.

No other restrictions to American Legion membership are changed.

"We certainly can benefit from this legislation from a boost in member eligibility standpoint," said 3rd District Commander Douglas

Millison. "... I feel we do offer benefits to our members, but we also fight legislatively for every veteran regardless of membership status to protect their earned benefits whether they are a member or not."

Millison is part of the Bennett & Dennis Herrick Memorial American Legion Post No. 626 in Gladstone.

During the recent American Legion National Convention in Indianapolis Indiana, Admiral Charles Ray, vice commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, thanked the Legion for their donation of \$1 million, which temporarily supported 3,100 USCG families during the government shutdown. The American Legion is currently lobbying to change the mechanism for paying the Coast Guard to ensure another shutdown will not do the same damage again.

"That's what we do and that's why veterans who fell out of our previous date ranges were so disappointed in not being able to be part of our organization," said Millison.

"Since then, veterans who had previously been denied membership have come back to their local posts asking for an application. Our first Legion Act applicant in Post 626 was Gary Lint, an Air Force veteran whose service fell squarely between the Korean and Vietnam wars."

During that time, 1955 to 1960, naval units evacuated Tachen Island; Marines evacuated Alexandria, Egypt; Marines landed in Lebanon; advisers were arriving in Vietnam; and more Marines arrived in the Caribbean after the Cuban revolution.

"And our man Gary Lint was in Strategic Air Command, flying ready reaction cover flights from Mountain Home, Idaho, never knowing when their flight would be called to go over. American military personnel were putting their safety, even their lives, at risk constantly, not just during periods of declared war. We welcome Gary and any other eligible veteran or service member," Millison said.

NOVEMBER

Veterans Day
Assembly at
Antioch Middle School



Millison, Thompson



Jamison



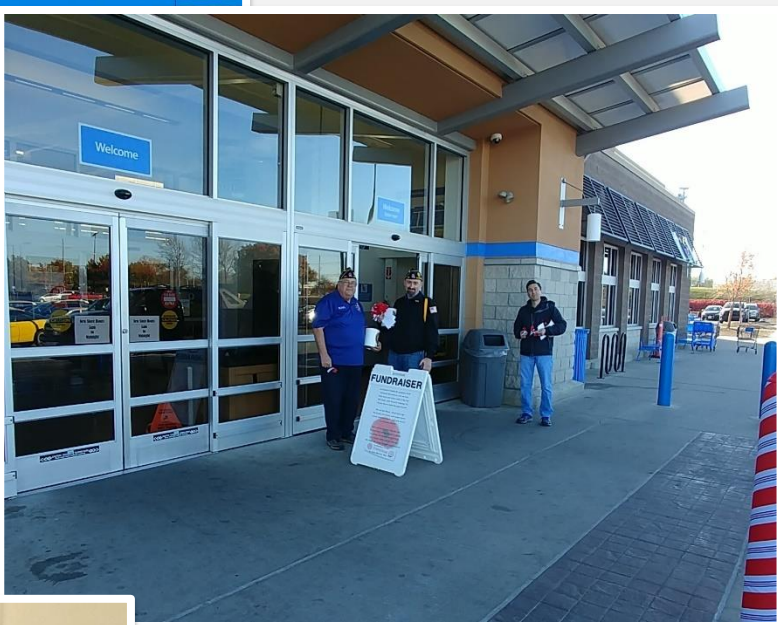
Lantz, Sullivan



Benes



Poppy Day, Robker, Sullivan, Bierle, Robertson



Thompson, Bowman, Jamison



Picking up donated care items for Veterans, Millison, Thompson, Murch, Tucker, Bowman, McDonald



Showing up in support of Elks Veterans Day Dinner, Stratton, Thomsen, Braton, Dubuc, Murch, Duncan, Thompson and spouses

Staley Highschool Oratorical Contest





Cdr. Millison, Mamus Ogolor, Tyrell Childress, Aaliyah Aramjoo, 1-2-3 L to R. Mr. Childress is also a Boys State Graduate



Lantz, Sullivan, Thompson, Robker, Millison, Ogolor, Childress, Aramjoo



Membership Meeting,
Bowman, Robker, Millison

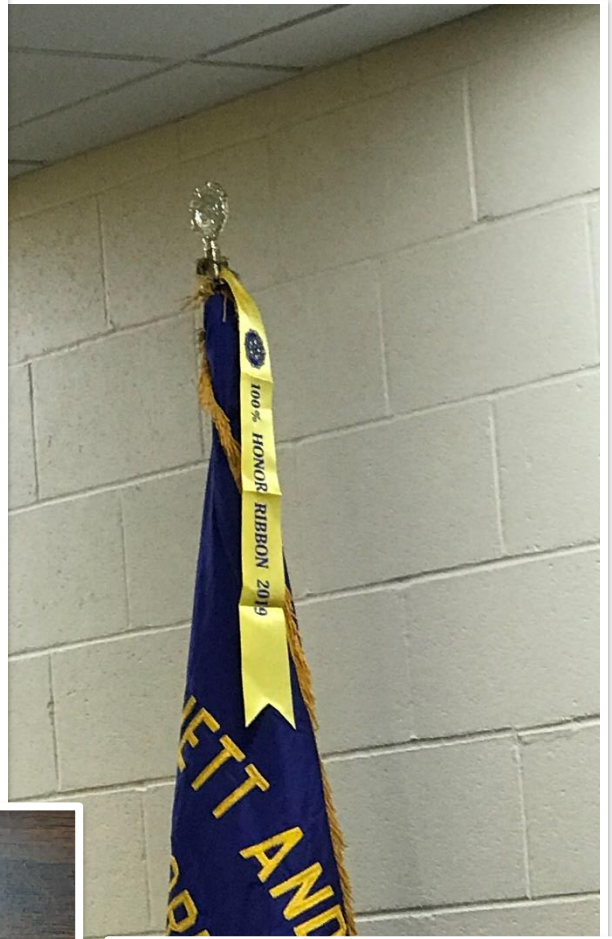


Full House

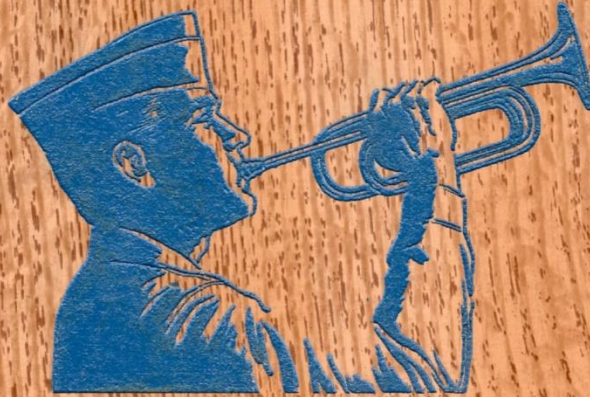


District Commander
Millison presents "Toot
Our Horn" Award to acting
Commander Ragan, as
well as...

...the 100% Membership Honor Ribbon



Membership Chair Ragan presents Cdr. Millison with National Cdr.'s Membership Excellence and Dept. membership recognition pins



Toot Our Horn Award

Bennett & Dennis Herrick Memorial Post 626

Has met the requirements to promote the
American Legion locally and state wide.

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

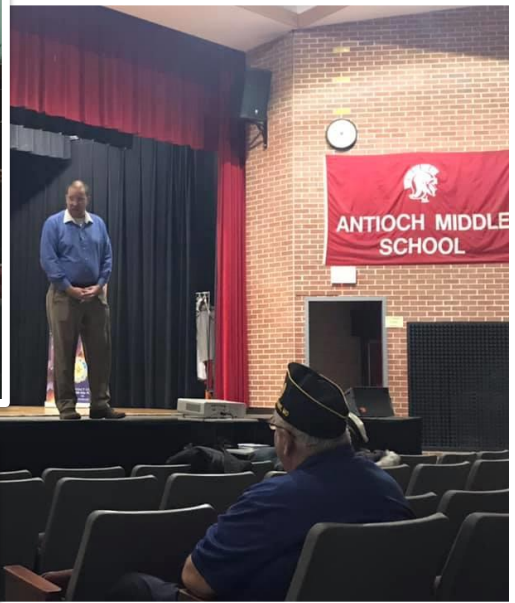
Honor Guard at Leavenworth National Cemetery, Duncan, Bowman, Murch, Braton, Farris



VA&R Chair Sullivan with Murch and Thompson present Veterans Day donation to Cameron Veterans Home

DECEMBER

County Oratorical Contest, Oak Park and Staley High Schools





Eli Bartz – Oak Park
Mamus Ogolor –
Staley
2 – 1 L to R



D GLADSTONE DISPATCH

Thursday, **JANUARY 2, 2020** ♦ Volume 10, No. 08 ♦ www.gladstonedispatch.com ♦ **\$1.00**

A8 Gladstone Dispatch

Thursday, January 2, 2020

Area students compete in American Legion High School Oratorical Competition



Mamus Ogolor from Staley High School and Eli Bartz from Oak Park competed in the American Legion's County Level High School Oratorical Contest on Dec. 14. Clay County high schools were invited to compete.

The American Legion Oratorical Contest exists to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. Since 1938, the program has presented participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership

qualities, the history of the nation's laws, the ability to think and speak clearly and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights, and privileges of American citizenship.

Ogolor placed first in the county level competition, receiving the Silver Oratorical Award Program Medal. Because Clay County is the only participant out of eight counties in the Third District of the American Legion's Department of Missouri this year, Ogolor automatically advances to

the Zone Contest, which will have four competitors from the northwest region of Missouri.

"The Bennett and Dennis Herrick Memorial American Legion Post 626 of Gladstone congratulates Mr. Ogolor on his accomplishments," said Douglas Millison, commander of Post 626.

Post 626 sponsored both students who come from area schools.

"What these students do is quite remarkable, and earns our deepest respect. They prepare an oratory

that must be not less than 5 minutes long and not more than 6, speaking on their viewpoint of Articles of the Constitution. All the while, they are being judged on everything from originality and comprehensiveness to voice and style. And when you hear the students speak with such knowledge of, and appreciation for the topic, it's something else," he said.

Members of Post 95 in Liberty as well as Post 626 members assisted the District Oratorical Chair in conducting the contest. To

ensure fairness, judges were recruited from the community including Kellie Houx from the Gladstone Dispatch and Jennifer Spiegel and Lori House from Antioch Middle School, where the competition was held.

The next contest will be for Zone II, consisting of four American Legion districts in the northwest corner of Missouri. It will be held at 1:30 p.m., Jan. 26, at Antioch Bible Baptist Church in Gladstone.

Contestants are competing for scholarships up to \$2,000

at the state level, and up to \$18,000 at the national level.

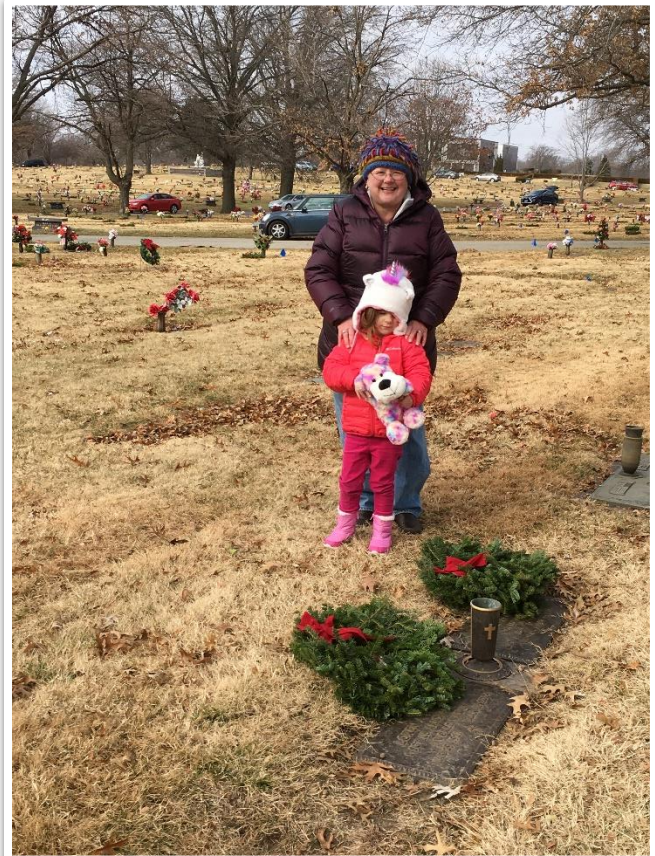
"We are looking forward to seeing Mr. Ogolor and Mr. Bartz again," said Millison. "Both being juniors in their school, they will still be eligible to compete again next year if their schools advance them again. But hopefully, Mr. Ogolor will win this year and not need to return. We wish him the best going forward."



Wreaths Across America, Bowman & Rosales



Herrick Family



\$90.25 in coupon savings inside

6 30660 61000

D ♦ GLADSTONE DISPATCH

Thursday, **DECEMBER 19, 2019** ♦ Volume 10, No. 06 ♦ www.gladstonedispatch.com ♦ **\$1.00**

Remembering those who served



KELLIE HOUX/STAFF PHOTO

David Bowman, American Legion Post 626 second vice commander, places wreaths on servicemen and women's graves at White Chapel Cemetery in Gladstone on Saturday, Dec. 14 as part of Wreaths Across America.



End of Year Party







D GLADSTONE DISPATCH

Thursday, **DECEMBER 26, 2019** ♦ Volume 10, No. 07 ♦ www.gladstonedispatch.com ♦ **\$1.00**

Christmas donation



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Kansas City Northland Elks Lodge and American Legion Post No. 626, both organizations in Gladstone, combined resources to be able to donate \$2,200 to the Northland Christmas Store, an organization that provides food, hygiene and cleaning items and age appropriate gifts for children to income eligible parents. Elks and Legionnaires Care and Share to help the Northland families during the holiday season. From left is Lisa Brotherton, Loyal Knight; JC Gregg, Loyal Knight; Doug Millison, Commander Post 626; Helen Murch and Torance Fisher, members of the Board of Directors for the Christmas Store.

PLEASE SEE 2019-20 COMMANDERS
SCRAPBOOK, BOOK 2, FOR JAN-JUN 2020