

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



FOR: JULY 2020 – JUNE 2021
BY: DOUGLAS W. MILLISON

PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

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 GOODWILL ON EARTH;

TO SAFEGUARD AND TRANSMIT TO POSTERITY THE PRINCIPLES OF
JUSTICE, FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY;

TO CONSECRATE AND SANCTIFY OUR COMRADESHIP BY OUR₂
DEVOTION TO MUTUAL HELPFULNESS.

COMMANDERS BIOGRAPHY

Commander, 2017 – 2021

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. When he joined the Post in 2014 he immediately set out to expand the Post's "footprint" by establishing a PR Committee and starting a Facebook page and web site. He also wrote numerous press releases which have been published in the local paper. He has served as the Internet Administrator, Honor Guard member, Volunteer Team coordinator, Historian, and SR Vice Commander as well as Chairing the VA&R, Fundraising, Public Relations, and Membership Committee's. He completed the American Legion Extension Institute in 2014 and Graduated the National American Legion College in 2017. Millison served as the 3rd District Commander from July 2019 to June of 2021.

On the Department level Millison served 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.

He 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 2020 - 2021

COMMANDER



Douglas Millison

ADJUTANT



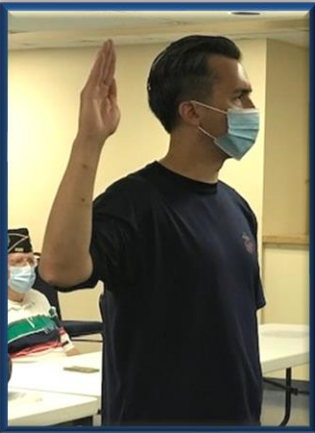
Phyllis Rosales

VICE COMMANDER



David Bowman

JUDGE ADVOCATE



Ken Jamison

FINANCE OFFICER



Douglas Robker

CHAPLAIN



Craig Lantz

HISTORIAN



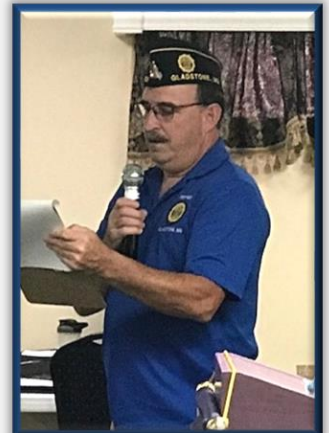
Jane Janssen

SERVICE OFFICER

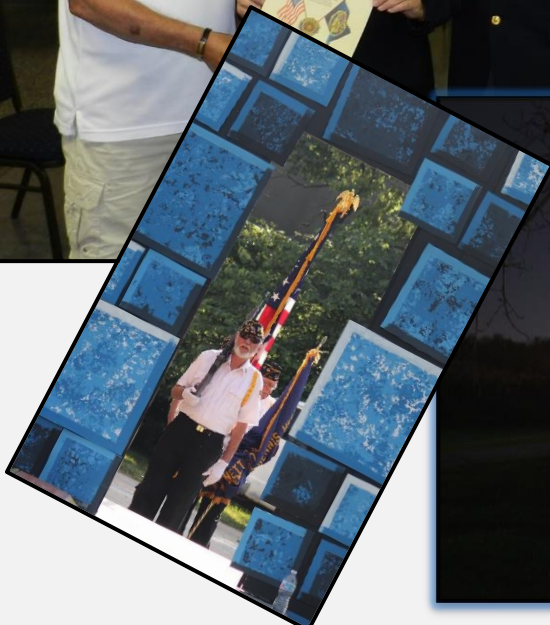


Billy Thompson

SERGEANT AT ARMS



Steve Walker



The Year in Pictures 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

JULY

Summer is in full swing as kids learn to golf, swim, play | **B SECTION**



\$50 in coupon savings inside



D GLADSTONE DISPATCH

Thursday, **JULY 16, 2020** ♦ Volume 10, No. 33 ♦ www.gladstonedispatch.com ♦ **\$1.00**

A4 Gladstone Dispatch

Thursday, July 16, 2020

American Legion awards top students

The American Legion's School Award Medal Program became a national program in 1926. The program is designed to reinforce the concepts of honor, leadership, scholarship, service, courage and patriotism in order to promote a civic-minded student body.

While many students embody several of these qualities at different times, Gladstone's American Legion Post No. 626 and Antioch Middle School chose two students to receive this award, according to a press release from the Gladstone post.

One recipient, eighth-grader Rachele Perez, according to the release, is well-respected by students, staff and administration at Antioch Middle School as she continuously demonstrates strong leadership in the classroom and is a part of school activities. Others follow her because she leads by demonstration and integrity, states the release. According to the release, Perez devotes herself regularly to lifting others and finds success as much in service as in her own scholarship.

The other recipient, Kai Jones, is a quiet leader who demonstrates responsibility on a regular basis, states the



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Rachele Perez receives her American Legion recognition.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Kai Jones receives his recognition from Antioch Middle School teacher Jeff Benes, who is also a member of the Gladstone American Legion Post 626.

release. As a Boy Scout, he stays active in his community through volunteerism and service. He is also active in the classroom and is a trusted voice of reason for students and teachers alike, according to the release. He

can be trusted to act with honor and integrity, even when it is not the path of the majority.

"We are honored to be able to work with the school to recognize these outstanding students in this way," said Douglas Millison, commander of Post No. 626 in Gladstone. "The qualities demonstrated by these students should

always be highlighted as standards for the rest of us to match, demonstrate and maintain."

The award certificate both students received along with their medal states, in part: "In further recognition of the possession of those high qualities of courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship and service, which are

necessary to the preservation and protection of the fundamental institutions of our government and the advancement of society, we congratulate both students for their achievements."

Post member and Antioch Middle School teacher Jeff Benes delivered the medal, certificates and a congratulatory letter from Millison to the students at home.

An abbreviated I&I Ceremony (Induction & Initiation)



Induction of:
Ken Jamison, Judge Advocate
Steve Walker, Sgt at Arms

Initiation of:
Yolanda Luster



Legionnaire of the Year
Jeff Benes, Oratorical Chair



Membership Team,
Duncan, Millison, Ragan



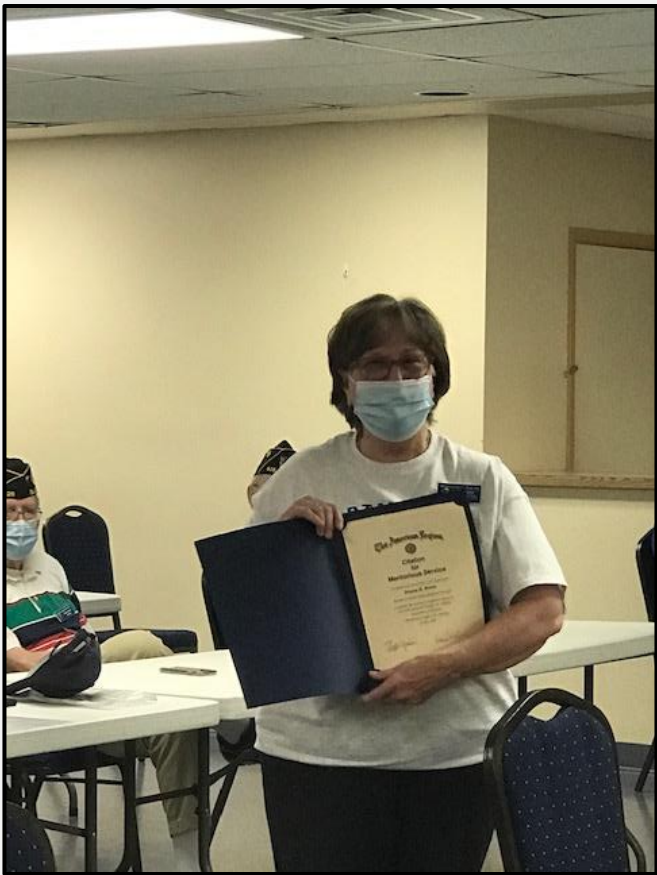
Continuous Membership Awards,
Lester, Benes, Thompson, Marquis



McDonald, Duncan, Millison
Langley, Ragan



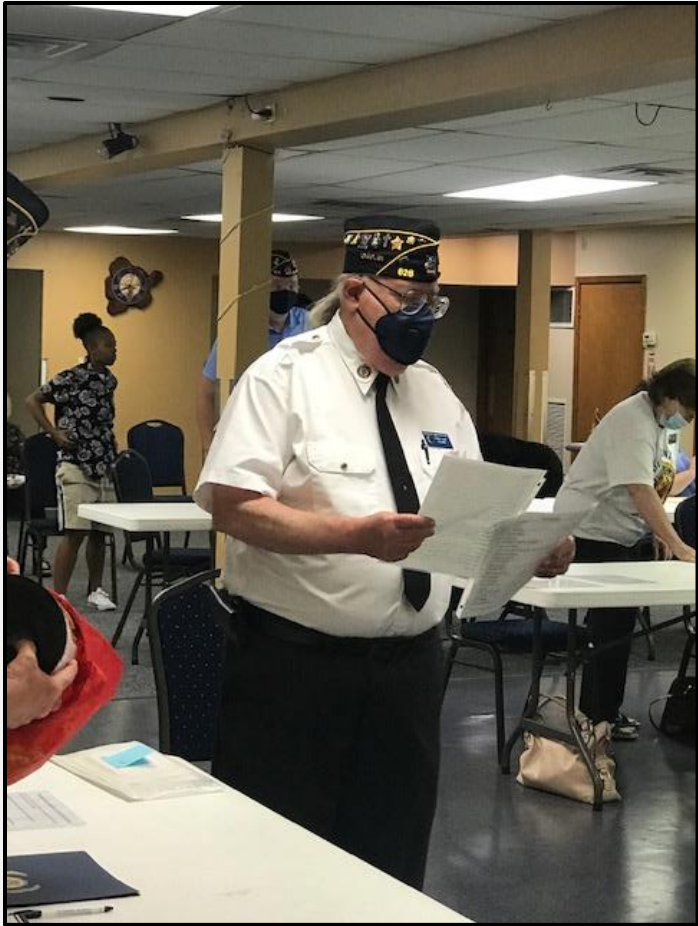
Past Officer Awards,
Lester, Sgt at Arms
Ragan, Vice Commander



Highest Community Service Hours
Donna Bierle, 418 Hours



Buddy Check Callers,
Ragan, Bierle, Stratton



Roll Call for Post Everlasting
Walker, Sgt. At Arms
Lantz, Chaplain

Helping a Veteran mark his 100th Birthday



Millison, McDonald,
Birthday Boy Jim
Dallas

Center 3, members
Dallas, Pickard, Rocha



D GLADSTONE DISPATCH

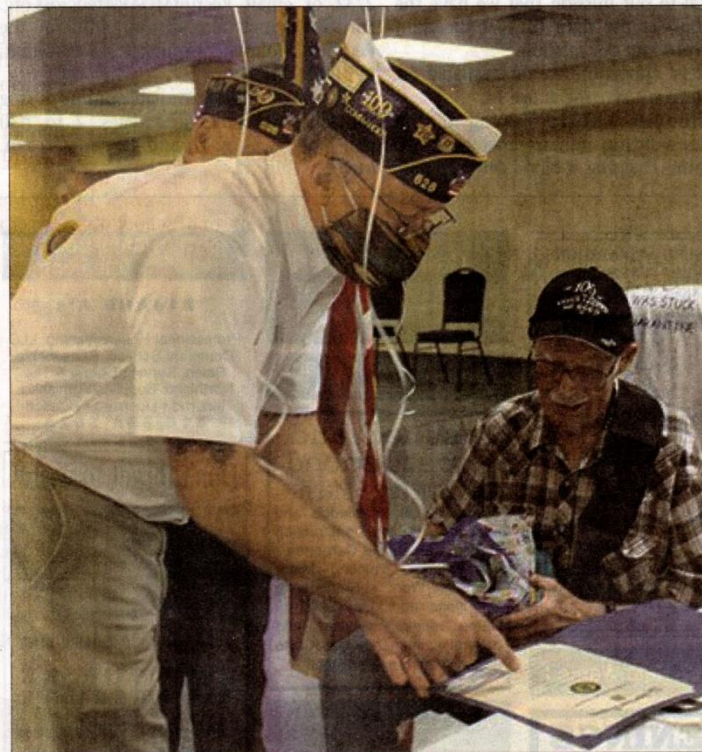
Thursday, **AUGUST 6, 2020** ♦ Volume 10, No. 36 ♦ www.gladstonedispatch.com ♦ **\$1.00**

A8 Gladstone Dispatch



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jim Dallas's 100th Birthday party, sponsored by Northland Elks Lodge 2376 in Gladstone, brought out friends and family on July 27. From left is Jim Dallas, Jr., Elks member Larry King, birthday honoree Dallas, Wick Pickard, Elks member Santo Rocha, American Legion Post No. 626 Commander Douglas Millison and Legionnaire Michael McDonald.



Honoring a centenarian and World War II vet

Bennett and Dennis Herrick American Legion Post No. 626 Commander Doug Millison present Jim Dallas with a certificate of honor for his service in World War II and a one-year membership to the American Legion. Dallas enlisted in the US Army Air Corps in September 1942 at the height of World War II. He served as a radio operator aboard C46 Transport Aircraft flying more than 75 missions over the Himalayan Mountains in the China-India-Burma theater. He received the Air Corps Flying Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters and the Distinguished Flying Cross with two Oak Leaf Clusters. He completed his military service September 1945 with the rank of corporal.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

AUGUST



Cdr. Millison gives "State of the Post" address to City Council



Membership Meeting awardees Quackenbush Lint, (Millison) Morrow Terry





Millison participating in #100MilesForHope Challenge.



Murch presenting certificates of appreciation to Regal Plastic and Elks Lodge 2376 for their sponsorship of students to Boys and Girls States



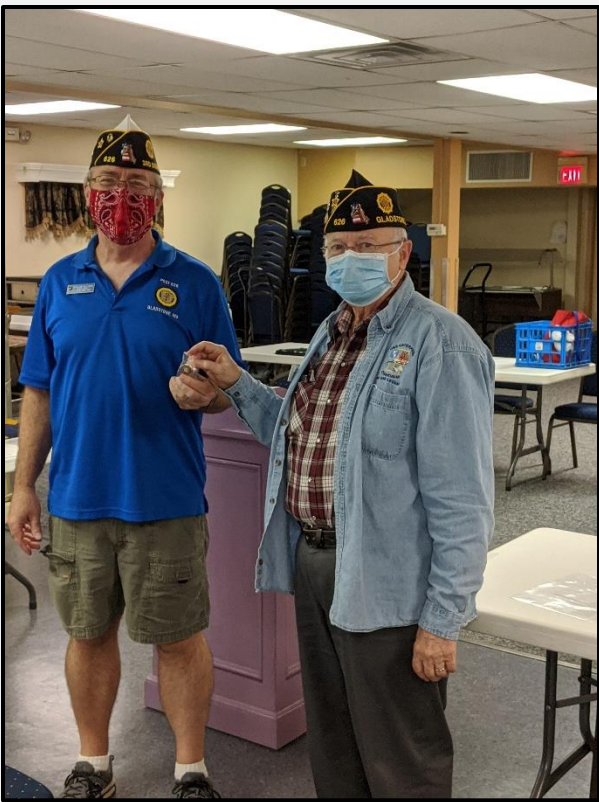
SEPTEMBER



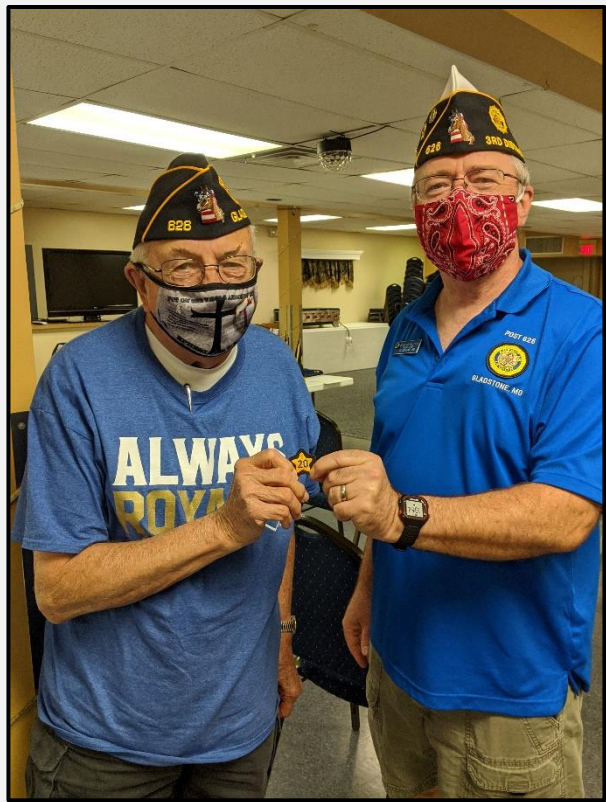
Membership Meeting



Quackenbush initiation



Ragan, Dept. membership pin



Liles, Continuous membership star

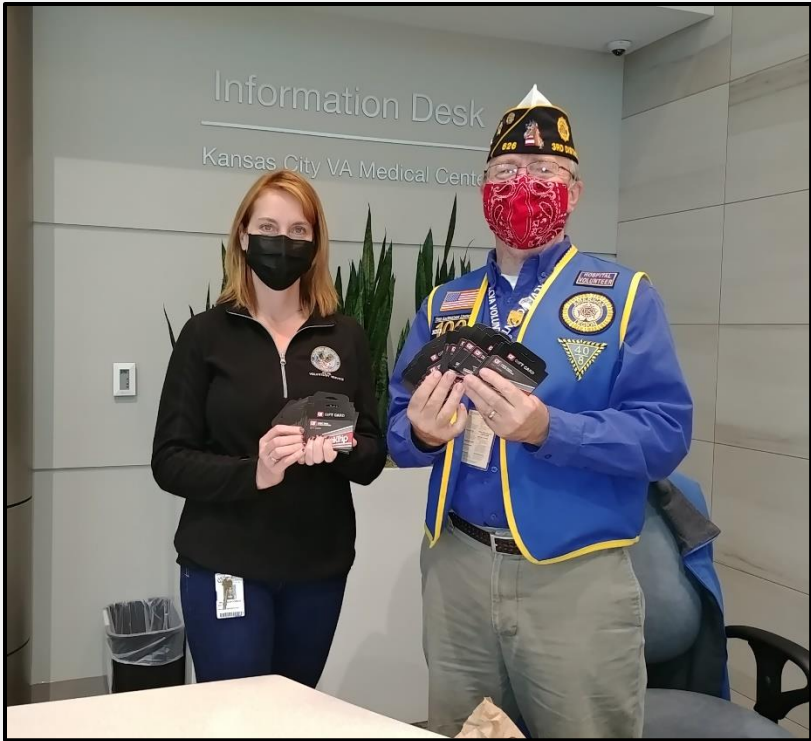
OCTOBER



Membership meeting



Dubuc, Buddy Check
Recognition Coin



Millison, making VA&R
Committee donation of
\$300 in gift cards to KC VAWS

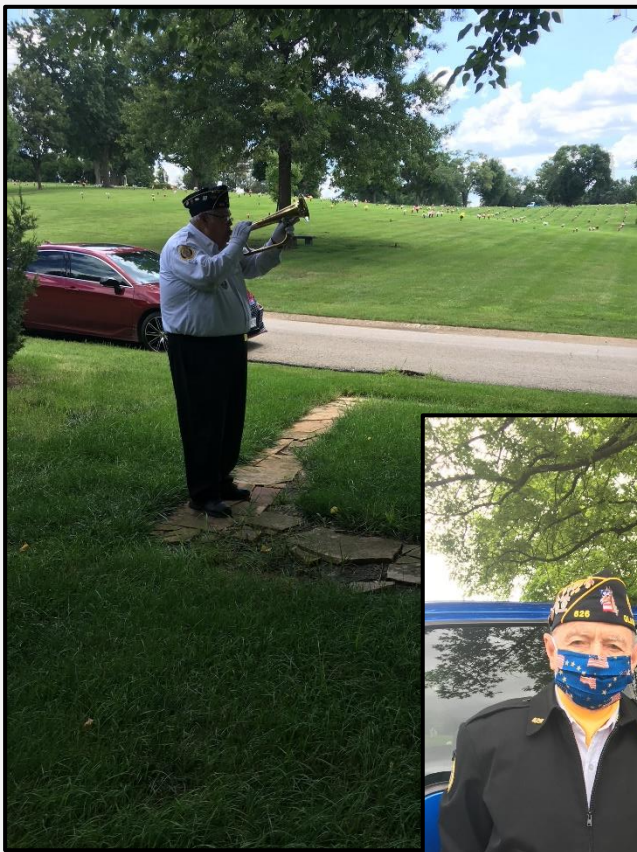
Vice Cdr.'s Flag Retirement Ceremony



Rocha, Bowman, Millison

Post Honor Guard at work





McDonald W.



Braton



Rosales

NOVEMBER

**TAKE THE CHALLENGE
MAKE A DIFFERENCE**



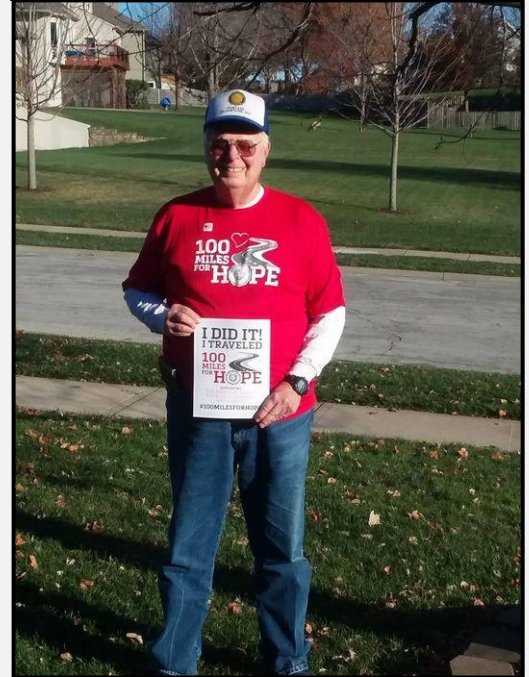
Join The American Legion Family in
American Legion National Commander Bill Oxford's
100 Miles for Hope challenge to benefit veterans and children.

Walk, ride, swim, hike, run or cover 100 miles
any way you choose between now and Veterans Day.

**SUPPORTING
THE AMERICAN LEGION
VETERANS & CHILDREN FOUNDATION**

**LEARN MORE
LEGION.ORG/100MILES**

**REGISTER NOW
EMBLEM.LEGION.ORG**

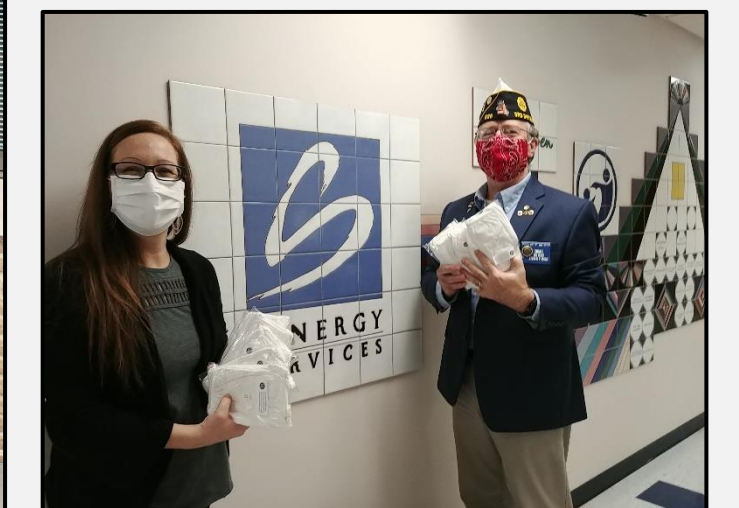
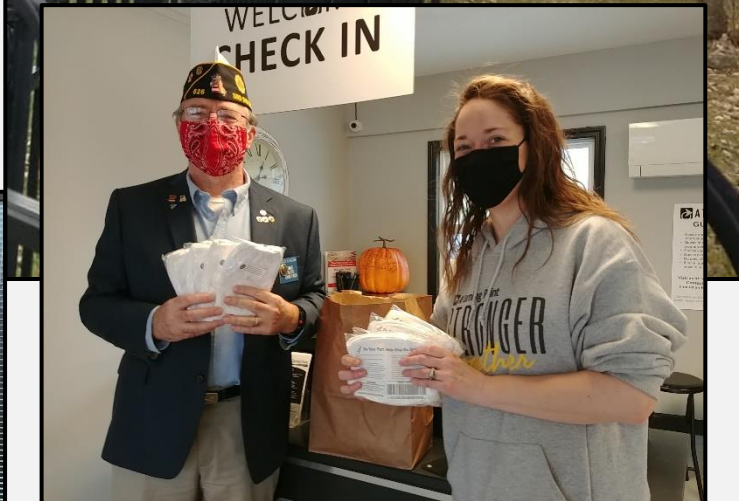




Bowman decorating Big Shoal Cemetery for Veterans Day



Thompson making donation to Cameron Veterans Home.



Millison donating masks to A Turning Point & Synergy Services

DECEMBER



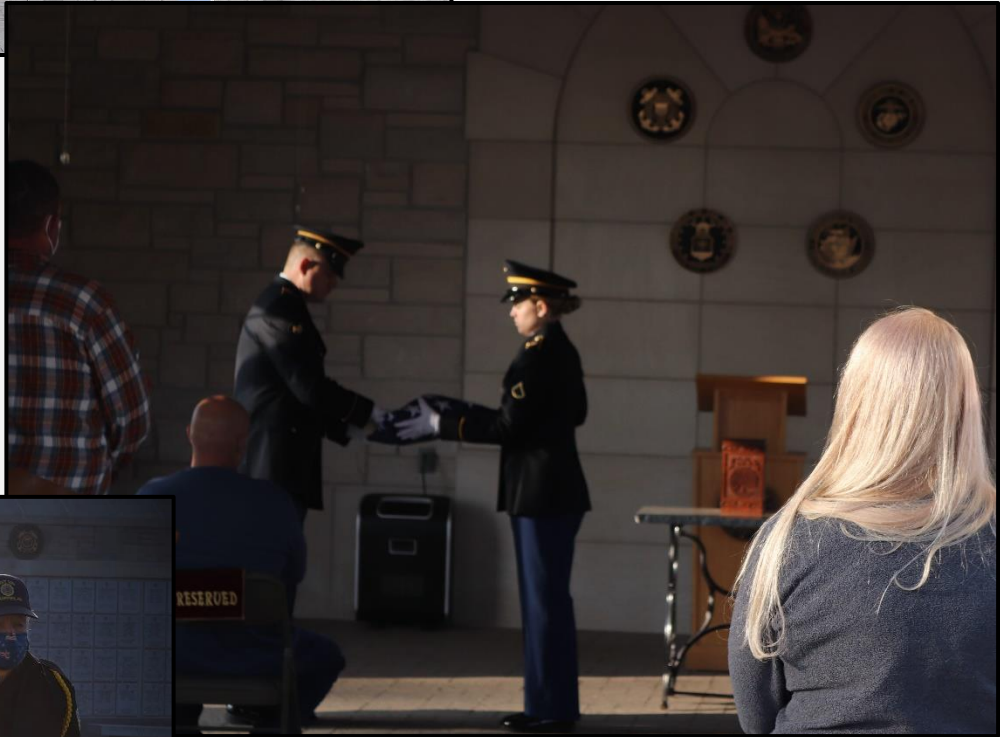
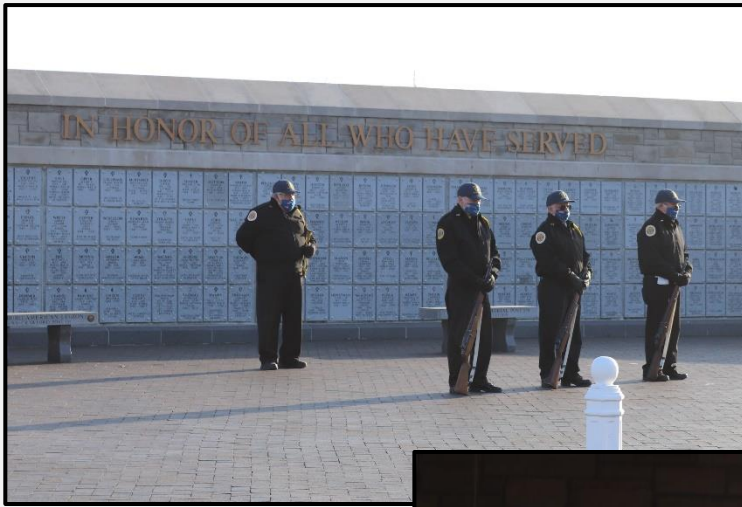
Flag lowered to half staff at Big Shoal Cemetery, 7 Dec 2020



Missouri Veterans Cemetery Higginsville MO., 7 Dec 2020



Post 626 called on to conduct four back to back Military Funeral Honors ceremonies at Higginsville, 7 Dec



At the end of the day,
626 leaves the field...

Front to back, McDonald,
Rocha, Braton, Thompson

Oak Park and Staley Students compete in Clay County Oratorical Contest



Noah Copple, Oak Park



Mamus Ogolor, Staley



1st Place, Mr. Ogolor,
District Chairperson
And Post member Benes



District Cdr. Millison & Benes

Wreaths Across America 19 Dec 2020, White Chapel Cemetery



Adj. Rosales, Cdr. Millison,
Vice Cdr. Bowman (L to R)



Charter Members
Loren & Marjorie
Herrick



Namesakes
Bennett & Dennis
Herrick



Clay County
Veterans
Memorial



PLEASE JOIN US
AS WE CELEBRATE
THE INAUGURATION
OF THE

NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS OF CLAY COUNTY, MISSOURI

Wednesday, December 30, 2020
James S. Rooney Justice Center (2nd Floor)
11 South Water Street
Liberty, Missouri

INDIVIDUAL SWEARING-IN TIMES:

9:00AM
Public Administrator.....Sarah Mills Rottgers

9:30AM
County Treasurer.....Bob Nance

10:00AM
Assessor.....Tracy Baldwin

10:30AM
County Sheriff.....Will Akin

11:00AM
Western Commissioner.....Jon Carpenter

11:30AM
Eastern Commissioner.....Megan Thompson



Hosted by the
Clay County Democratic and Republican Central Committees

Attendance is limited based on COVID-19 guidelines. Please wear masks
and practice physical distancing.

Post 626 is asked to assist other County Posts in reciting Pledge of Allegiance for 6 ceremonies



Top Left, Cdr. Millison & Presiding County Commissioner Nolte

Top Right, Post Chaplain Lantz leads pledge for one ceremony

Bottom Left, Incoming Sherriff (& Post 95 Member) Akin gets his collar insignia from outgoing Sherriff

Bottom Right, Cdr. Millison & Sherriff Akin

JANUARY

Members Jeff Benes, Dist. Oratorical Chair, and Douglas Millison, District Commander, assist with Zone II Oratorical Contest in Maryville, 31 Jan 2021



L-R, Mamus Ogolor, Staley HS
Grace McKim, Maryville HS



L-R, Jeff Benes, Dist. Sgt at Arms
Edward Weaverling, the winner
Mamus Ogolor, Cdr. Millison



February



Slow month!

Cdr. Millison delivering 225 masks to
Veteran Community Project.



Staley HS Student
Mamus Ogolor
placing 2nd in
Department level
competition and
receiving a \$2,500
scholarship.

MARCH

Robertson & Robker receiving Volunteer Team shirts (Long overdue) at regular meeting



Robertson receiving 5 year continuous service star.



Honor Guard at work.

Commander Millison travelled to Omaha to watch a pre-season ad-hoc Legion team shaking off the cobwebs.

APRIL



VA&R Chair Thompson making our Memorial Day donation of \$300 in gift cards to the KC VA.

May



Out of uniform Legionnaires presenting school awards to 2 deserving students at Antioch Middle School.

Sullivan, Lint, Mallams (L-R)





Bowman,
Rosales and
Robker (L-R)

Memorial Day Poppy Donations, receiving over \$3,000, a new single day record.



Braton, Thompson



Braton, Duncan, Dingman

Honor Guard
conducting Rifles
& Taps for
Memorial Day at
the Clay County
Veterans Memorial.



JUNE



Members Driver and Rosales attending Women's Veterans Celebration drive through.



HG conducting honors for member Dallas, 100 years old

Post conducts public Flag Retirement Ceremony on Flag Day under Vice Commander Bowman's Leadership.

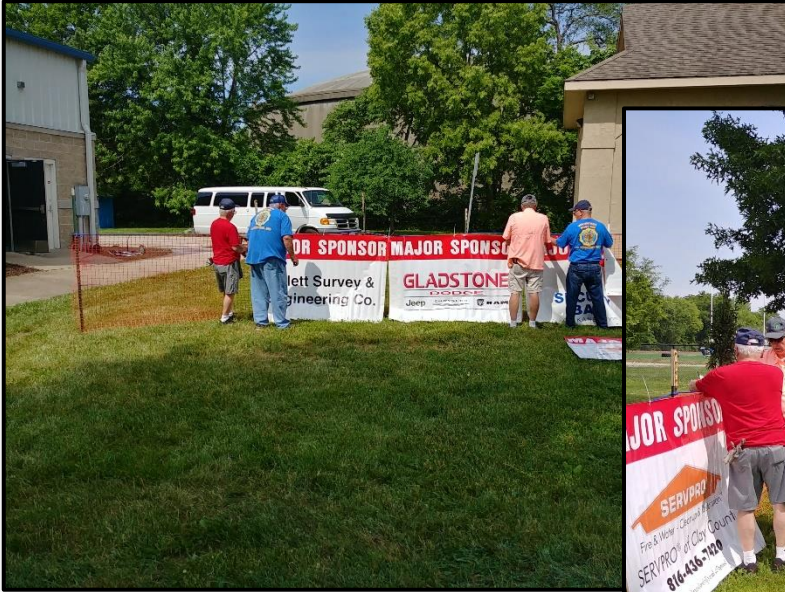


Murch, Rocha, Rosales, Lantz, Bowman, Walker, Millison, Thompson, Robker, Braton

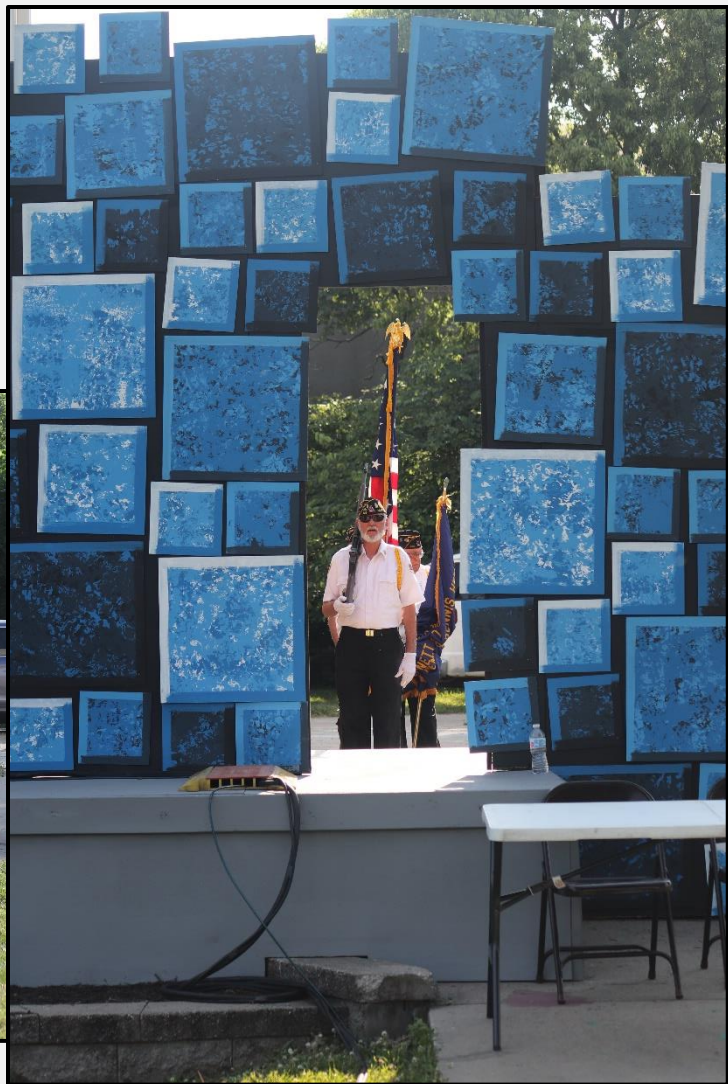








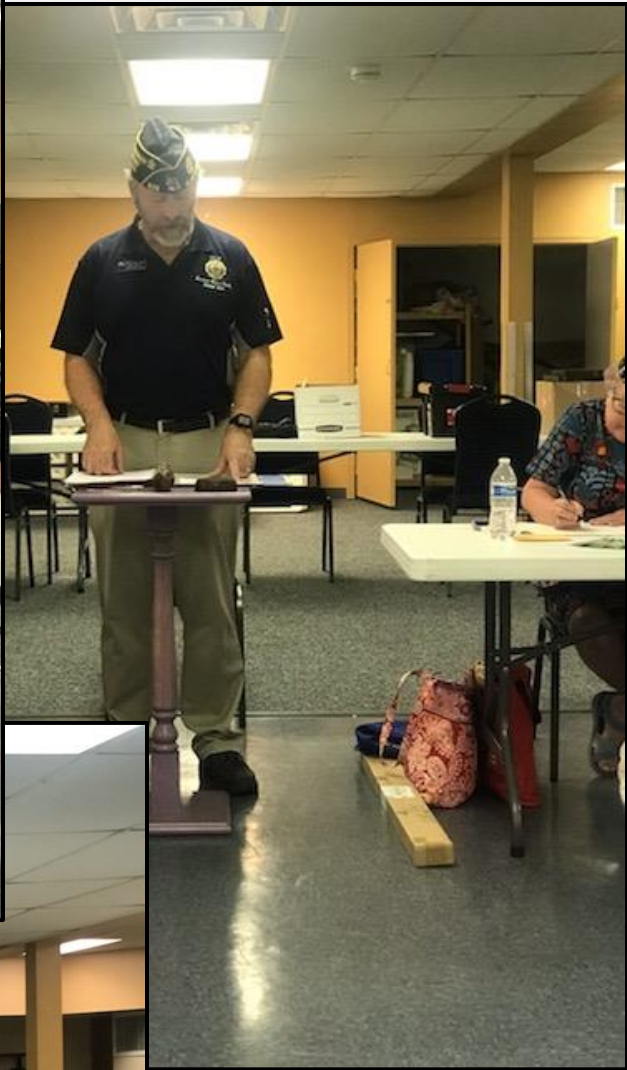
HG Members volunteering with the Chamber to set up Bluesfest. Rocha, Murch, Braton, Duncan, Thompson and Helen Murch.



And then coming back to place the Colors for the opening. Duncan, Murch, Thompson, McDonald



June Membership Meeting



Cdr. Millison's
farewell dinner.



Over just this past messed up year we have:

- Volunteered over 109 Hours and donated \$600 to the KC VA Voluntary Services
- Made a \$400 donation to the Veterans Homes in Cameron as well as a stand up walker valued at \$500
- Conducted Military Funeral Honors for over 100 Veterans families, donating over 1639 hours to the cause
- Sponsored high school students for the American Legion Oratorical Contest (placing 2nd in the Department), American Legion Baseball, and Boys State and Girls State
- Recommended 2 of Gladstone's First Responders to be recognized nationally by the American Legion with Chief Tracey Cheney receiving the Department of Missouri's EMT/Firefighter of the Year Award, the 3rd such award in the city's Public Safety Department in the last 7 years.
- Conducted a Flag Day activity and an abbreviated Memorial Day Ceremony
- Participated in 100 Miles for Hope raising money for children's charity and service officer training to assist veterans, and Wreaths Across America with our brothers Bennett and Dennis.
- Distributed 2,500 masks to the KC VA, Cameron Veterans Home, Veterans Community Project and local facilities Synergy Services and A Turning Point
- Donated over \$2,425 locally and \$450 Nationally and donated over 2,350 Hours in Community Service
- Resolved to commit money for an annual scholarship for "First Responder" fields, a Post Home, member activities, membership growth, and representation at Department Conventions.

I want to thank each and every person who contributed to the effort with their time, effort and support. From the actual doers down to the regular member paying their dues. Our achievements reflect great credit upon the American Legion, Post 626, and our entire membership.

Thank you for your support, it has been my honor to serve and I appreciate the opportunity to be useful. Cdr. Doug