



MISSOURI VETERANS HOME - WARRENSBURG

1300 Veterans Road
Warrensburg, MO 64093
(660) 543-5064

VAL
Veterans Assistance League
SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS
MISSOURI VETERANS HOME - WARRENSBURG, MISSOURI
www.valwb.org
2016 Vol. 1

Roberson receives French Legion of Honor

King Henry Roberson Sr. received the French Legion of Honor medal at a ceremony held on Jan. 29 at the Missouri Veterans Home in Warrensburg. This order of distinction is the highest decoration bestowed in France. United States Veterans who risked their lives during World War II to fight on French territory may be awarded this distinction. Those selected are appointed to the rank of Knight.

Vincent Floreani, Consul General of France for the Midwest Region, presented Roberson with this award among a crowd of 200 family members, friends, Veterans and distinguished guests.

"It means a lot. I've never had a day like this before," Roberson said. "This is a great honor for me."

State Rep. Denny Hoskins and State Rep. Dean Dohrman presented Roberson with courtesy resolutions from the Missouri House of Representatives and the Missouri Senate.

Roberson was drafted into the Army on Jan. 23, 1943, at the age of 19. He was born and raised in Grenada County, Mississippi. He was

originally trained to go to North Africa, but the Army changed their plans and sent him to Europe instead.

He traveled overseas on the British ocean liner, the Stirling Castle. His company was selected to help with the invasion at Normandy Beach in France. One of the hardest parts for Roberson was coming up through the English Channel and seeing all of the helmets of deceased soldiers floating in the water. He landed on the beach on Day 2, the day after the initial invasion. His work included delivering food, clothes and gasoline to American troops on the front lines and serving guard duty.

He was honorably discharged on Dec. 20, 1945, with the rank of private first class. He returned to Mississippi and married the love of his life, Lyree Fleming. They were married for 65 years before she passed away. They had five sons and four daughters.

Roberson and his wife moved to Kansas City in 1951. He worked the assembly division at General Motors for 30 years before he retired.



Pictured top, from left, Consul General Vincent Floreani pins the French Legion of Honor on World War II Veteran King Roberson. He is joined by his daughter, Lisa Roberson-Jamerson; and Eric Endsley, Administrator at the Missouri Veterans Home.

Pictured below, from left, grandson King Henry Roberson III, of Kansas City, and great-grandson, Shaquille Ray, of Kansas City, congratulate their grandfather.



Veteran Herb Grasher received the honor of helping with the coin toss at the University of Central Missouri game against Pittsburgh State. Brig. Gen. Paul Tibbetts IV assisted.



Delilah Nichols and Jeffrey Huffman from the University of Central Missouri surprise Veteran John Mitchel with his own copy of the photo taken of him for the Veteran Vision Project. Mitchel was the first World War II Veteran photographer Devin Mitchell, of Los Angeles, had the privilege of photographing for this special exhibit.



On the left, Veteran Mary Brabant decides to dress up as Minnie Mouse for the Halloween parade.



On the right, members of the Tuesday Night Bridge Club in Springfield bring a little of Hawaii to Veteran Will Theilmann and his wife Lois. The club loves spicing up a bridge game by coming up with different themes.



www.valwbg.org
(660) 429-4661

Thank you to our Veterans Assistance League board members:

- Marvin Neal, **President**
- Nancy Anderson, **Treasurer**
- Gene Reed, **American Legion**
- Ross Chambers, **Veterans of Foreign Wars**
- Dr. Julie Clawson, **UCM Nursing**
- Robin Allen, **Mayor of Warrensburg**
- Bill Gabel, **County Commissioner**

From the Office of the Administrator, Eric Endsley

What is the Senior Care Experience?

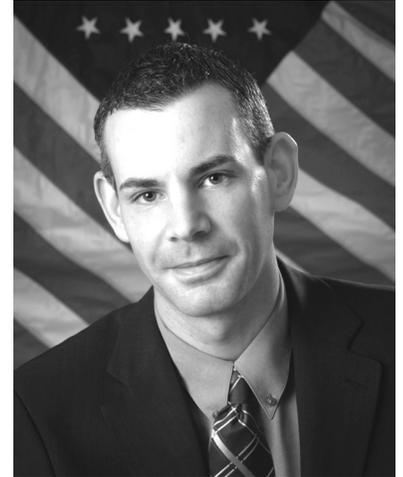
Recently I suffered the passing of my last living grandparent, Grandpa Endsley. On my drive back to Indiana where his funeral was held I had time to reflect on what my grandparents' lives were like. Where I had missing details, I hypothesized what their life together must have been like. I couldn't help but to keep coming back to the last five years of Grandpa's life, those years that are sometimes referred to as the years that add quantity to one's life, but not always very much quality. Of course, as it was for my grandfather—which is often the case, the most difficult time for an individual and his/her family, occurs within the last six months to five years of one's life. Anyone who has witnessed or experienced the ravages of time and or disease on the human body and mind generally knows what this looks like and feels like.

Each day since this trip to Indiana, I have reflected on what experiences Grandpa had in his senior years. Experiences that reminded him his strong farmer's body and mind could no longer perform the grueling physical work or mental feats of his younger, stronger, mentally agile self; experiences that required him to trust people he didn't know to take care of my ailing grandmother; the experience of losing the love of his life and adjusting to living alone; the experience of transitioning from care-giver to care-recipient while still living on the family farm, and then giving up his independence and familiar surroundings to live in assisted living; after which, ultimately transitioning into skilled nursing. A transition that even into the best Home, such as the Missouri Veterans Home—Warrensburg, is life altering, as I can imagine after living just over one day of my own life as a resident of the Missouri Veter-

ans Home—Warrensburg.

As a leader in long-term care, I am a student of aging, especially those fragile years at the end of our chronometers that so many of us dread experiencing but know we will probably be dealt. Those fragile and final years are the ones that should be filled with professional compassionate caregivers; love, support, mending fences, enjoying rich multi-generational family experiences, and capturing any missing pieces of family history. So often, and among factors such as: work and family demands, geographic distance, family dynamics, and sometimes the cognitive or mental health of the senior are obstacles preventing important and positive senior care experiences from occurring. It is only now with the Graying of America, that our society is beginning to place a concerted emphasis on creating healthy, positive, supportive, and dignified senior care and living experiences not only in healthcare, but also in other facets of life including retail and urban planning.

As a culture, we have a lot of ground to cover in terms of creating the platform for the senior care experiences today's future seniors will wish to have. My goal as a leader in senior care, is to facilitate change that will support the daily achievement of creating healthy, positive, supportive, and dignified senior living and care experiences that reflect what my Grandpa would have preferred, what my parents would want for themselves, what I want for my spouse and myself, and what I hope for, for our son. My intention is that as long as I lead Missouri Veterans Home - Warrensburg, we continue



to collaborate internally and externally to move the needle of the senior care experience and set the standard by which exceptional senior living and care is measured. As always, I welcome your suggestions for how we can accomplish this goal and intent and your feedback regarding how we are meeting your expectations today.

***Proud to care
for America's
Heroes!***

**Missouri Veterans
Home-Warrensburg
660-543-5064**

Department Heads

Eric Endsley, **Administrator**

Jamie McCannon, **Assistant
Administrator**

Carla Burlingame, **Accounting**

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Final Salute

Remembering Our Fallen Heroes



Charles Dilthey
Oct. 14, 1925, to July 5, 2015



Lester Parker
Feb. 12, 1926, to Aug. 9, 2015



Frank Lyon
Feb. 11, 1946, to July 8, 2015



Howard Norwat
Oct. 6, 1914, to Aug. 12, 2015



Calvin Brown
Aug. 27, 1929, to July 18, 2015



Ernest Young
June 17, 1927, to Aug. 23, 2015



Edwin "Dick" Crawford
Nov. 27, 1925, to July 20, 1915



Leland Mueller
May 17, 1921, to Aug. 25, 2015



Donald Tilman
May 20, 1920, to July 27, 2015



William Kluska
Oct. 5, 1928, to Aug. 25, 2015



Okal Embry
Jan. 3, 1923, to July 29, 2015



Donald Kiefer
Sept. 20, 1932, to Aug. 29, 2015



Memorial and Honor Gifts



Please complete this form to make Memorial and Honor Gifts for the benefit of Veterans at Missouri Veterans Home-Warrensburg. You may designate a specific fund for your contribution below. Your donation helps ensure that our nation's heroes continue to benefit from popular quality of life programs and services.

Enclosed is a gift of \$ _____ to the General Fund.

Enclosed is a gift of \$ _____ to the Employee Appreciation Fund.

Make checks payable to and mail to: Veterans Assistance League, 1300 Veterans Road, Warrensburg, MO 64093
Or donate online at www.valwbg.org

In Memory of: _____ In Honor of: _____

Occasion for Honor Gift (optional): _____

* Occasion will be noted in recipient's acknowledgement card

Please let us know who we can inform of your generous gift:

Please provide your information below so we can send you a record of your gift.

Name: _____

Donor's Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Final Salute

Remembering Our Fallen Heroes



Leroy "Pud" Smethers
May 14, 1918, to Sept. 5, 2015



Ed Gauntt
Sept. 28, 1923, to Oct. 18, 2015



Ed Wagner
Nov. 8, 1925, to Sept. 5, 2015



Ernest May
Aug. 24, 1919, to Oct. 25, 2015



Frank Greco
Oct. 29, 1932, to Sept. 9, 2015



Clinton Hodges
July 3, 1923, to Nov. 5, 2015



B.B. Henley
April 12, 1931, to Sept. 13, 2015



Jennie Doran
Dec. 8, 1920, to Nov. 11, 2015



Robert Johnson
Oct. 15, 1927, to Sept. 16, 2015



Lloyd Brecht
Aug. 1, 1926, to Nov. 12, 2015



Alvin Fisher
Oct. 3, 1920, to Sept. 21, 2015



Roy Talbott
May 28, 1923, to Nov. 16, 2015



James Hutson
Nov. 5, 1929, to Sept. 23, 2015



Richard Crews
June 2, 1925, to Nov. 30, 2015



Ralph Deke
Feb. 21, 1919, to Sept. 24, 2015



Hubert Wilkens
Jan. 7, 1927, to Dec. 2, 2015



Robert Morehead
June 15, 1927, to Sept. 28, 2015



Clyde McCubbin
Sept. 28, 1928, to Dec. 4, 2015



Lorin Davis
May 14, 1929, to Oct. 2, 2015



Charlie McGaugh
Nov. 8, 1937, to Dec. 6, 2015



Robert Penfield
Sept. 21, 1929, to Oct. 5, 2015



Kenneth Cunningham
April 4, 1920, to Dec. 6, 2015



Charles Setzer
May 5, 1933, to Oct. 9, 2015



Lilburn Snow
April 5, 1922, to Dec. 13, 2015



Thomas Button
Oct. 5, 1921, to Oct. 9, 2015



Morris Simpson
Dec. 20, 1947, to Dec. 14, 2015



Harold Mills
June 16, 1920, to Oct. 15, 2015



Alvie Wombles
Aug. 15, 1921, to Dec. 19, 2015



Kenneth Wilfong
Oct. 22, 1928, to Oct. 16, 2015



Freddie Epperson
Jan. 21, 1933, to Dec. 20, 2015



Robert English
Dec. 6, 1919, to Dec. 22, 2015



Honor Roll of Donors: Monetary Donations

On behalf of the West Central Veterans Assistance League and the Heroes we serve, we would like to express our heartfelt appreciation for all of the donations we receive. The following list (alphabetic) includes donations received **July through December 2015**. **All donations go directly to Veteran programs.**

Please accept our apology if you and/or your organization have unintentionally been left off this list.

Up to \$50

| | | | |
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| Breshears | Sue Cottrill | Association, Chapter 881 | Curtis and Grace |
| Robert and Karen | Susan and Tom Brabant | Albert Arnold | Niemeier |
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| Robert and Margaret Neal | Suzanne Taylor | American Legion Sixth | Dean and Mary Orr |
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| Kellstrom | Terry Chronister | American Legion | Don's Truck Towing and |
| Robert and Pat White | Terry and Traci Butler | Auxiliary 258 – | Truck Wash Inc. |
| Robert and Rose Ann | Thomas Drysdale | Concordia | Eileen Casper |
| Solomon | Thomas Hawkins | American Legion | Garrett Crouch II |
| Robin Bunting | Thomas Smith | Ladies Auxiliary 478 – | Harrisonville Honor |
| Robin Wade | Thomas and Darles White | Blackburn | Guard |
| Rodney and Mona | Thomas and Elaine King | American Legion | Hubert and Eunice |
| Williams | Tillie and Ed Holmberg | Ladies Auxiliary 520 – | Wilkins |
| Roger and Linda Shipley | Tim Harber | La Monte | Independence Pioneers |
| Ron Hartley | Timothy Hite | American Legion Post 60 | Chapter of DAR |
| Ron and Michelle | Tipton Country Club | – Lexington | James and Bonnie |
| Wasmer | Development Co. | American Legion Post | Gregory |
| Ronald and Carol Scott | V.J. Hoffman | 286 – Odessa | Jason and Elizabeth Koch |
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| Johnson | Vera Miller | 487 – Hardin | John and Jan Angel |
| Rosalee Northway | VFW Ladies Auxiliary | American Legion Post 42 | Kansas City Chapter, |
| Rose and Clarence | 4288 – Corder | – Pleasant Hill | National Society of |
| McKay Jr. | VFW Ladies Auxiliary | American Legion Riders | Colonial Dames |
| Ross and Brenda | 6603 – Blue Springs | Post 42 – Pleasant Hill | Kenneth and Carol |
| Chambers | VFW Post 3118 – | Ben and Nancy Galloway | Rohrbach |
| Sammy and Robin Wade | Pleasant Hill | Benjamin Proctor | Kevin Wulff |
| Sandra and Albert Colster | VFW Post 4398 – | Beta Sigma Phi, Chapter | Linda and David Fraser |
| Sargento Foods | Richmond | Xi Lambda Sigma | Live Wires Square Dance |
| Sean Gallaher | Vicki LaScala | Bobby and Kathleen | Club |
| Sharon and Dean Vannoy | Vicki and Gregory | Sailors | Lois Elbel |
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| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
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| Sedalia Elks Lodge 125 | Willie Miller | Gary and Debra Scherer | VFW Post 2513 – Warrensburg |
| Sherry Allain | <i>\$200 to \$499</i> | George York | VFW Post 2591 – Sedalia |
| Shirley Kiefer | 40 & 8, Voiture 333 | Heckart Family Foundation | VFW Post 5789 – Lee's Summit |
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Warrensburg Middle
School Social Studies
Department
Whiteman Officers'
Spouses Club

\$500 to \$999

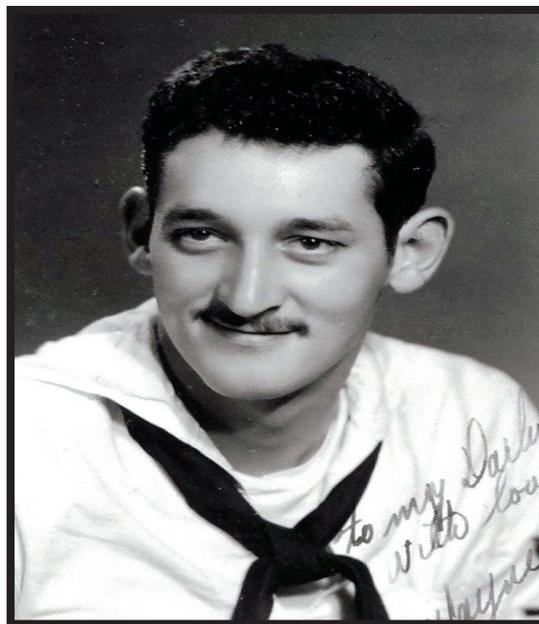
131st Chiefs Council
American Legion Ladies
Auxiliary 189 –
Lee's Summit
American Legion Post
208 – Manchester
American Legion Post
604 – Lowry City
Central Missouri, Sedalia
Harley Owners Group
Disabled American
Veterans, Chapter 10
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McKesson
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Dance Club
Schreiber Foods
Square 'n Round
Dance Club, West
Central Missouri District
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St. Paul's WELCA – Cole
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VFW Ladies Auxiliary

1894 – Clinton
VFW Ladies Auxiliary
3118 – Pleasant Hill
VFW Post 6649 – Oak
Grove
Warrensburg Elks Lodge
673

\$1,000 and more

American Legion Post 82
– Windsor
American Legion Post
131- Warrensburg
Bubba Green
Central Missouri
Veterans Association
Combat Veterans
Motorcycle Association,
Chapter 4-6
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Ostrolencki
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Publishing Co.
Mark Pearson
Samuel and Ruth Russell
Veterans United
Foundation
VFW Missouri Riders
VFW Post 4195 –
Knob Noster
VFW Post 4242 –
Raytown

MILITARY SNAPSHOTS



Navy Veteran Wayne Sallee was a Korean War Veteran who served from 1949 to 1964. He sports something you rarely see in service photos - a moustache.



Army Veteran Raymond Manking served from 1948 to 1951. He is pictured with his wife, Dorothy.

Birthdays



Welcome our new Neighbors
(July to December)

JANUARY

Leslie Daugherty
Eugene Lang
Billy Harris
Verndean Eckhoff
Kenneth Crabtree
Howard Heiserman
James Miller
Wallace Johnson
Allan Thompson
Gerry Stone
Jasper Fristoe
James Wallace
Herbert Grasher
Eddie Kleiman
Marion Landgrebe

Van White
Gordon Yonce
Dean Peters
Odis Duncan
Clinton Brown

MARCH

Tom Smith
Richard Jung
Henry Stanley
Virgil Todd
Robert Brockman
Mary Brabant
Wilton Williams
Michael Boan
Norman Ring
Samuel Russell
Dennis Garber
Carl Stumpff
Raymond Manking
Charles Burton
William Sexson
Robert Van Erp
Leroy Henry
Michael Foster

FEBRUARY

Robert Daugherty
George Goldsmith
Arthur Barnett
James Carroll
Thomas Allen
John Pirotte
Byron Birge

Whispering Hills

Clinton Brown
Carl Stumpff
Leroy Henry
Loyal George
Clarence Hager
Terry Weller
George Miller
Grover Mullins
Louis Pollman
Thomas Smith

Jasper Varns
Charles Hipkins

Pleasant Valley

Robert Yochem
Richard Goss
John Phillips
Jimmie Wright
James Frazier
Oda Meredith
Elmer Tate
Jerry Rodgers
Billy Zumalt

Sleepy Hollow

Billy Harris
Gordon Yonce
Edward Rymer
Ola Warren
Norman Maynard
Gary Park
Edward Parker
Noel Green
Karl Edmundson

Highland Park

Gerry Stone
Salvatore Realmuto
Lewis Snow
John Woolery
Donald Harding
Donald Smarr
Virgil Kempf

Holiday cookbooks available for purchase

The new holiday cookbook is available for purchase at the Missouri Veterans Home. This is the second cookbook published by the Veterans Assistance League.

It contains recipes

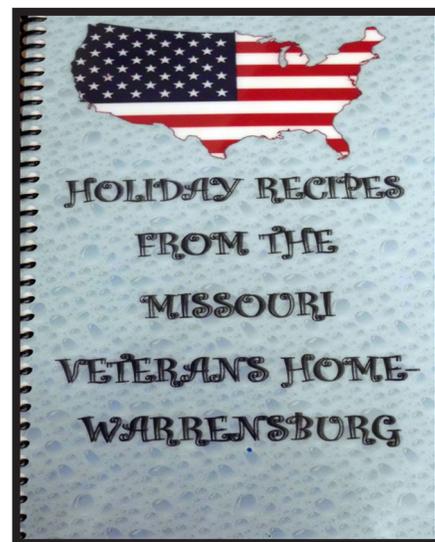
that focus around a variety of holidays and events that occur throughout the year.

This project was started by Veteran Dr. Allen Sapp, who passed away May 14, 2015. It was completed in his honor by

staff and family.

The book cost \$10 and is available at the front desk. The proceeds will go to recreational activities for our Veterans.

For more information, call Melissa Wilson at 660-543-5064.



| | |
|------------|----|
| Army | 87 |
| Army Women | 1 |
| Navy | 47 |
| Navy Women | 3 |

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Air Force | 40 |
| Air Force Women | 1 |
| Marines | 14 |
| Coast Guard | 2 |



Veteran's Spotlight

After World War II broke out, Mary Brabant felt compelled to lend a hand. Her brother had been drafted into the service and she had finished her nurse's training at St. Mary's Hospital in Kansas City. She knew there was a recruitment station near Union Station.

"One afternoon, I walked down and found it and said 'I want to sign up,'" she said. "So, I signed up for the Army and I came back and told the nuns at St. Mary's that I was going into the service. They were not real happy because they were about as short of nurses as the military was."

Mary was 19 at the time and her brother wasn't happy about it. He didn't feel that was the proper place for her to be. However, her parents didn't object.

"I felt like I should be taking care of the soldiers coming back," she said.

She was sent to Fort Collins, Colo., for basic training. The first thing the women were asked to do was to clean their barracks. Everyone picked up a broom and got to work. Mary noted basic training was a little bit like the men's but it wasn't the same.

After basic, she was sent to O'Reilly General Hospital in Springfield. It was a temporary 4,000 bed facility that was located where Evangel University is today. They assigned the nurses to a ward and Mary was on F ward and worked with the ninth row of beds.

She generally worked with soldiers who were recovering from post-operational surgeries. Most of these men had damaged arms or legs and were in need of plastic surgery.

"A lot of it was experimental because they didn't know how to handle that many big injuries. Where do you get flesh and blood to repair something that is a pretty good-sized hole in somebody's body?" Mary said.

The staff spent a lot of time helping veterans grow new skin through their version of skin grafting.

"There were guys who had things attached to their face, their arms and their legs. We had all kinds of gadgets growing on the guys," she said.

One of those guys later turned out to be her husband. The first time she recalls meeting Irvin Bra-



Mary Brabant

bant, he was lying on his stomach in the middle of the barracks by the door. Irv was wounded in the Battle of the Bulge. He was hit by a tree burst and his sciatic nerve was cut and had two holes in his bladder. He was in a foxhole for 24 hours before he was rescued.

He had a wound on his leg, so they put one of the transplants on it. They would have to stick his foot up in the air for about a half hour so the skin would continue to grow. Then they'd roll him over and have his foot hang off of the bed on a chair.

Mary noted, "He was the quietest little patient you ever saw in your life. He was real timid."

Their friendship blossomed and sometimes she would take Irv and their friends Candy and Rev to her parent's farm south of Lee's Summit on a pass. They looked forward to her mother's home-cooked meals.

"We weren't supposed to go together because she would be fined \$75 if we got caught – a corporal and a lieutenant," Irv said. "Mary found a little niche in the thing where she was able to wear sporting outfits outside the barracks and that's how we got out."

"You didn't have to be in uniform, if you were involved in some sort of sport. So I bought a tennis outfit and have never played a game of tennis in my life," Mary added.

They got married in the Base Chapel on Feb. 18, 1946. She didn't meet his mother until after they got married and visited her in Wisconsin.

While in Milwaukee, she got pregnant and insisted she was going to have her first baby where her mother was nearby. Irv and Mary returned to Missouri and over time had four children. They raised their family in Raytown.

In February, they celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary with their children, grandchildren and great-grandchild. Now they live together as a couple at the Missouri Veterans Home in Warrensburg.

Crowder receives honor from Missouri Veterans Commission

Jason Crowder, Maintenance Worker I at the Missouri Veterans Home - Warrensburg, was selected as the December 2015 Missouri Veterans Commission Employee of the Month. He was honored at a ceremony on Dec. 10 at the home with family, staff and Veterans.

He was nominated by his peers and selected because of his dedication. He took time out of his busy schedule to respond to a request made by a Veteran's family member on a Sunday. They had purchased a dry-erase board for this Veteran's room, but hadn't had a chance to make a request to have maintenance hang it up.

Crowder took note of where the Veteran's room was and where the family wanted the board placed. By the time they returned from church, the dry-erase board was hanging on the wall. The extra time and consideration that Crowder took to tend to the family's request was outstanding since the maintenance department weekend staff is comprised of only one worker, as opposed to the normal staffing of seven during the week. While employed with the Missouri Veterans Commission, Crowder exemplifies true dedication to the Commission's mission statement of honoring and serving our Veterans.

Crowder, who lives in Leeton, is a member of Victory Christian Center in Clinton and the Leeton Lions Club. He is a softball coach for his daughter's, Kayla Crowder, team and helps Boy Scout Troop 1632 in Windsor for his son, Byron Crowder. He is married to Jessica Crowder.



Missouri Veterans Commission Executive Director Larry Kay presented a plaque to Jason Crowder, Maintenance Worker I, at the Missouri Veterans Home-Warrensburg, for being the Missouri Veterans Commission Employee of the Month for December.

The Missouri Veterans Commission established the Employee of the Month Program to recognize employees within the Missouri Veterans Commission for outstanding service. Executive Director Kay presented him with a plaque. State Rep. Dean Dohrman presented him with a proclamation from the Missouri House of Representatives and State Sen. David Pearce presented him with a proclamation from the Missouri Senate.

Runway Show 2016 set for April 29

Due to winter illness, the second annual Runway Show has been rescheduled for 2 p.m. April 29 in the dining room of the Missouri Veterans Home. We invite wives, daughters, sons, siblings and grandchildren to pull out your favorite outfits and wear them in our show.

Stroll down the runway with your Veteran or be escorted by a member of the Air Force Sergeants Association. The women of Delta

Zeta and Mary Kay Cosmetics will assist with hair and make-up from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. This is a free service. Photos of all families will be taken and printed for free.

Afterwards, enjoy happy hour at 3 p.m. with members from the Warrensburg Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call Latisha Koetting, Supervisor of Volunteer Services, at 660-429-4661.



Owen and Elaine Russell

SCRAMBLE FOR FREEDOM

GOLF TOURNAMENT, JUNE 5, 2016

The 14th annual Scramble for Freedom Golf Tournament will be June 5 at Royal Oaks Golf Course at Whiteman Air Force Base.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a shot-gun start at 10 a.m. This four-man scramble is limited to 36 teams. The cost is \$240 per team or \$60 per person and includes lunch, cart and green fees. The prize for the winner of each flight (up to three) is \$400.

Sponsorship opportunities include corporate sponsor, \$500; team sponsor, \$240; hole sponsor, \$200; and golf cart sponsor, \$50.

All proceeds will go to programs that will enhance the lives of the 200 Veterans who live at the Missouri Veterans Home in Warrensburg.

For more information or to get involved, call Latisha Koetting, Director of Volunteer Services, at 660-429-4661.

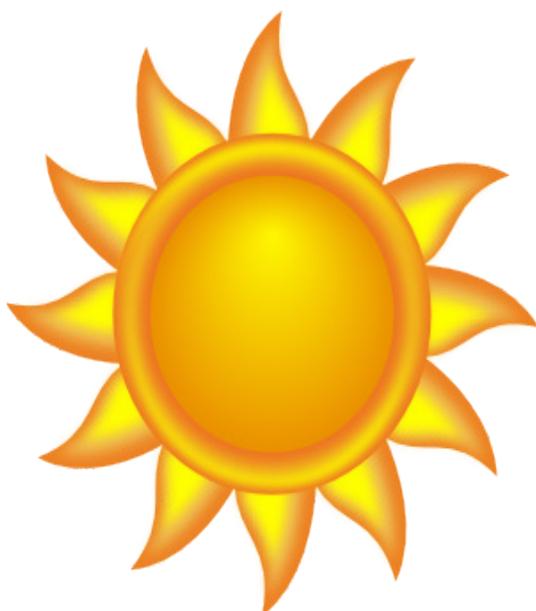
**In memory of:
Air Force Staff
Sgt. Joseph
Schonberner, who
served in the
Korean War.**

Thank you Violet Schonberner for supporting the Veterans at Missouri Veterans Home-Warrensburg.



Air Force Staff Sgt.
Joseph Schonberner

In 2015, golfers enjoyed looking at service photos of nearly 80 Veterans from all over Missouri who were part of the Field of Service Golf Cart Sponsorship. The Veterans Assistance League invites individuals, businesses and organizations to sponsor a golf cart in honor or in memory of their favorite Veteran AND include their service photo. The cost is \$50 and the deadline is June 1. For more information, call Latisha Koetting at 660-429-4661.



Our Volunteers are Our Sunshine

The Veterans Assistance League will host its annual appreciation banquet on April 16 at American Legion Post 131, 733 E. Young St. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m. and lunch is served at noon.

Please RSVP by Friday, March 25, by calling Latisha Koetting at 660-429-4661 or Dana Williams at 660-429-4604. You may also email Latisha.Koetting@mvc.dps.mo.gov.



The Air Force Sergeants Association brought service photo ornaments to our Veterans. Andrew Readore shows his appreciation.



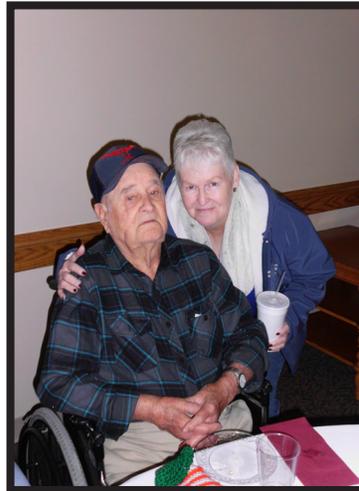
Veteran David Childs and Director of Nursing Debbie Woirhaye show their holiday spirit.



Veteran Retta Sandgren enjoys cookies and hot chocolate with staff members Deb Brumble, Stephanie Harris and Pam Naumann.



Veteran Don Harding tells Santa what he never gave him for Christmas.



Veteran Fay Farnsworth is greeted by his niece, Belva.



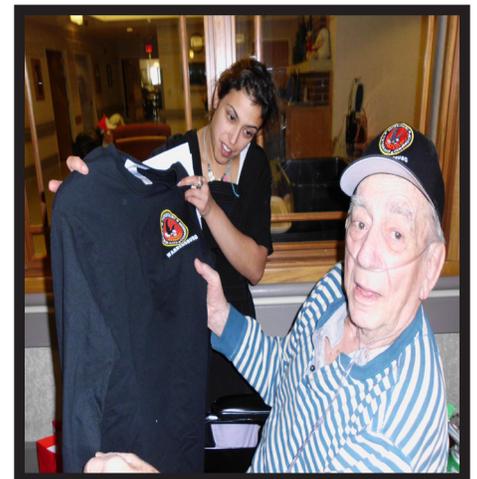
Veteran Frank Kandlbinder lights up when he sees Santa.



Volunteer Derald Albertson hangs out with his buddy Veteran Russell Westerhold.



Santa visits with Veteran Raymond Bass and his wife, Dell.



Veteran Nolan Barb shows off his new shirt and hat he received from VAL for Christmas.



Veteran Sal Realmuto, center, visited with members of the Beyond the Circle Dancers out of Springfield. The group performed a special show for our Veterans in November. They also performed at the Trading Moon Pow Wow at the University of Central Missouri.

How can I make a difference? Send a donation for one of these programs. Make checks payable to Veterans Assistance League, 1300 Veterans Road, Warrensburg, MO 64093.

Your support is appreciated!

Bingo: \$25 worth of prizes is awarded at every bingo game played. This is something our veterans love to do.

Bus Fund: The Veterans Assistance League is raising money to purchase a new handicapped-accessible bus to take our veterans on outings. It will be custom made to fit the needs of our veterans. It will cost more than \$115,000.

Canteen: Money donated here is used to provide free soft-serve ice cream to our Veterans daily and free stamps so Veterans can mail letters to loved ones.

Restorative Therapy: Money donated to this department is used to purchase Broda chairs, motorized wheelchairs, cushions and other equipment to keep our veterans moving and comfortable.



Return Service Requested

West Central Missouri Veterans
Home Assistance League
Missouri Veterans Home
1300 Veterans Road
Warrensburg, MO 64093



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