



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Nebraska American Legion Names Their 2020 Teachers-of-the-Year

(Lincoln) July 1, 2020 – Each year the Nebraska American Legion selects outstanding teachers who promote americanism, patriotism, and support the veterans and active duty military in their communities as Teacher-of-the-Year.

Elementary School Teacher-of-the-Year – LaRaesha Kugel

LaResha Kugel is a 3rd grade teacher at Filmore Central Public Schools. Kugel has her students recite the Pledge of Allegiance each morning to show respect for the flag. She invites students to join in a “Breakfast Book Club” that she started at the school. Kugel started the program to be sure the students had a nutritious breakfast and were practicing their reading. She is also a leader in implementing a school-wide Positive Behavior Intervention & Support System for her students.

Middle School Teacher-of-the-Year – Andrea Le Hinrichs

Andera Lee Hinrichs is the Pk-12 School Counselor at Winside Public Schools. Hinrichs promotes The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary programs and scholarships to all students. She invites local veterans to come share their stories with the students at the school. Hinrichs encourages the students to participate in the Veterans and Memorial Day events held in the community and to honor the service of all veterans. She encourages strong citizenship and patriotism to all of her students and stresses the importance of civic duty. Hinrichs attributes her efforts in the classroom to the World War II service of her grandfather and wanting all generations to appreciate and respect service men and women.

High School Teacher-of-the-Year – David Rey Uldrich

David Rey Uldrich is the 7th through 12th grade History teacher at Allen Consolidated Schools. Uldrich organizes the Veterans Day program at the school and helps serve breakfast to the veterans in attendance. He is instrumental in recruiting candidates for The American Legion Boys’ and Girls’ State and Junior Law Cadet Programs. Uldrich is a member of Sons of The American Legion Squadron 240 in Milligan. His daughter is a soldier in the Nebraska Army National Guard and has been deployed to the Middle East twice.

Department Commander Gary Wooten thanks them and all teachers for their dedication to our country’s youth and to our veterans.

Since its inception in 1919, The American Legion has been a key advocate for veterans’ benefits, patriotic American values, instilling values in young people through numerous programs, and a strong nation defense with focus on quality-of-life issues for those serving in today’s armed forces.

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