



# NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
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## Nebraska American Legion Names Their 2021 Teachers-of-the-Year

(Lincoln) July 1, 2021 – Each year the Nebraska American Legion selects outstanding teachers who promote Americanism, patriotism, and support the veterans and active-duty military in their communities.

### **Elementary School Teacher-of-the-Year – Kathy Hansen**

Kathy Hansen is an elementary teacher at Winside Public Schools, with over 20 years of experience. Hansen has emerged her students into civic duty at a young age. She has a multitude of activities for students of all ages to help the Legion, school, and community. She uses her knowledge of instrumental arts for sports games, holidays, and other events. The Legion, Squadron and community enjoy having a teacher willing to help and work with the Winside Legion.

### **Middle School Teacher-of-the-Year – Susan Eigsti**

Susan Eigsti is a middle school teacher at Friend Public Schools, with over 25 years of experience. Eigsti promotes being well rounded in education and being involved in the community. Not only is she a cherished employee of the school, but she is also known to be the same with her church, community, and the Legion. Whenever a helpful hand is needed, you will find Eigsti ready to lend a hand. She and her husband are the first people through the door when the Legion is hosting an event. Being the kind and humble teacher she is, many people of the community enjoy working with her.

### **High School Teacher-of-the-Year – Mardi Milton**

Mardi Milton is a high school teacher at Cody–Kilgore Unified Schools, with over 30 years of experience. Milton has always been active with The American Legion and has found ways to involve the youth, such as making ditty bags for veterans in the Hot Springs VA Care Center. Her students help with the preparation for Veterans Day and her class raises and lowers the flag every day at the school. Whether she is in the classroom, the Auxiliary, or the community, she can always be found helping a student learn something new.

Past 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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