

Finding and marking the graves of soldiers, sailors, and airmen

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Hansen said. Of that call possibly meaning death Hansen volunteered, “We’re OK with that.” As a father he knows he would be upset, but he said, “There is no greater honor than to sacrifice yourself for your country.” Hansen thought this better than to senselessly die in a car crash.

Decorating soldiers’ graves with flowers began at least as early as the Civil War, in both the North and the South. In 1868, the leader of the Grand Army of the Republic, a fraternal organization for veterans, proclaimed Decoration Day. There was a Confederate Memorial Day by 1874. The description Memorial Day gradually became more common than Decoration Day nationally but was not declared an official name until 1967.

Great Britain and other Commonwealth countries observe Remembrance Day for members of the armed services who died in the line of duty. This is on Nov. 11, when the first world war ended in 1918. On that



John Lindahl went down with his fighter jet after it crashed taking off from the USS Midway in the Gulf of Tonkin.

date the United States now has Veterans Day, for all who have served in the military.

Multiple current sources – Wikipedia, the Associated Press, history.com, military.com, Britannica, and the VA – say that Memorial

Day is to honor those who died while in the armed forces. But 96 percent of former U.S. veterans died after leaving the service, and the Lindsborg American Legion post wants to place flags at the graves of all. “We honor

everybody,” Hansen said. Service is service, whether on the battlefield or feeding the homeless, he said, and, citing a Marine Corps commandant, he added for example, “A Marine is always a Marine.”

A VA graphic says that

656,000 Americans have died in battle and 552,000 died during wartime but not in battle. The largest losses by far were in the Civil War and World War 2. The war between the states saw more than 500,000 deaths. World War 2 had

the most battle deaths, 291,557, with a total mortality of more than 405,000. Hansen goes to the VA hospital in Wichita, and he said that when a World War 2 veteran has appeared there, “The seas part. That’s the generation that saved it for all of us.” There are very few left.

In high school, Patterson took a class about the Vietnam War. She talked with Fay Lindholm, mother of Dan Lindholm, an Army specialist killed by small-arms fire in Vietnam in 1968. Lindholm let her read his letters to home. “She was so excited about it, because someone was remembering her son,” Patterson said.

Patterson still seeks information about Dan Lindholm, and about other veterans who might be in local cemeteries. “I’m not convinced I have everybody,” she said. “Just a nagging pit in my stomach. I’ve done my best. I want to find them, and honor them.”

Hansen said, “That’s the whole point of the day – remembrance.”

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Public Notice
The Lindsborg Housing Authority's proposed 5-Year Action Plan will be available for public review until Friday June 27, 2025. The PHA 5-Year Action Plan includes the mission, goals, and policies for meeting local housing needs. Also, the 5-Year Action plan for the Capital Fund Program will be presented and comments will be heard on proposed projects for using Capital Fund money for 2025-2029. The Resident Advisory Committee of the Lindsborg Housing Authority will publicly hear this plan and make public comment on Friday June 27, 2025 in the Community Room of The Lindsborg Housing Authority's Administration building located at 421 E. Saline, Lindsborg, Kansas, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Housing Authority hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The Public is also invited to present their comments at a public hearing held on Friday June 27, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Room of the Housing Authority Office. All public comments that are received will be responded to, and both comments and responses will be included in the final 5-Year Action Plan for FY2025 through FY2029 to be presented to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
Marc Anderson
Executive Director
Lindsborg Housing Authority
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