



Patricia Murray named Hometown Hero for the first quarter of 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KENOSHA – The Kenosha Hometown Heroes Commission is pleased to announce Patricia Murray is the Kenosha Hometown Hero for the First Quarter of 2021. Murray was honored during a virtual meeting of the Common Council on April 5, 2021.

The Kenosha Hometown Heroes Commission created this program to identify and recognize as Hometown Heroes worthy men and women who have served or are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces who were born in, currently reside in, or have previously resided for ten years or more at any time, in the City of Kenosha, for their outstanding personal achievements and the positive contributions they make to the Kenosha community.

Born and raised in Kenosha, First Quarter award winner Patricia Murray was nominated for her twenty year military service with the U.S. Air Force, retiring with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Her various nursing assignments have taken her to Air Force bases in Ohio, Michigan, Texas, Oklahoma, France, England and Thailand.

Murray's awards include the Air Force Longevity Service Award, 4 Oak Leaf Clusters; National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal, 2 Bronze Stars; The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; Air Force Meritorious Service Medal; and Air Force Logistics Command Award.

Murray is the sole female member of Bixby-Hansen Post 171 American Legion in Union Grove, where she serves in the following capacities: as 3rd Vice Commander; Badger

Boys State school Liaison; Dover Veterans Cemetery Honor Guard Liaison, responsible for honor guard phone calls, scheduling and reporting for approximately 20-40 funerals per month. She is also involved with the Society of Air Force Nurses, Inc.

After her military retirement and move back to Wisconsin, Murray applied for a non-specific job with the Department of Corrections at the Southern Oaks Girls School. She implemented missing safety measures and proceeded to build a program from the ground up to protect prison staff from health hazards on the job by developing and implementing blood- and air-borne pathogen protocol, TB testing, and hepatitis vaccination for three shifts of staff. Correction officials in Madison took note and had her extend the programs into the other growing prison facilities of Dover, Sturtevant and Racine.

Murray also volunteers to assist with various Veterans luncheons, programs and events. She arranges and schedules patriotic school programs and color guard ceremonies in Yorkville and Union Grove. Through St. John the Baptist church, she has served on the Parish Festival Committee, Building & Grounds Committee, as a religious education aide and with the charity quilters guild knitting and distributing prayer shawls, hats and scarves to schools and organizations that support the less fortunate families and children. Today, retired from both military and civilian professional life, she provides support for ailing Legion members who are sick or hurting. She may send a card of encouragement and often times a lap quilt for added comfort.

She has been honored as the Grand Marshal at the 2020 4th of July parade in Union Grove and has had the privilege of experiencing the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight on September 7, 2019.

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