



Mayor's Column – November, 2014



Honor a Veteran – Donate to Wreaths Across America

We are all proud to be Americans that live in a free society made up of many people, many races, from many walks of life. The freedoms we enjoy today have not come without a price.

The United States of America was founded on the ideals of Freedom, Justice and Equality. Our Nation stands as a shining beacon of liberty and freedom to the world. We thank those who gave their lives to keep us free and we shall not forget you. We shall remember.

One of the ways we remember is through Wreaths Across America – a non-profit event with the goal of laying a wreath on the grave of every American veteran who died serving our country.

You can read all about the history of Wreaths Across America, how the seed was planted with a young boy when he saw Arlington National Cemetery for the first time and carried that memory into his adult career. Visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org to read the story of Morrill Worcester of Harrington, Maine. The City of Gallatin joined Wreaths Across America last year and the response was humbling.

There are more than 600 veteran's graves in the City Cemetery dating back to the Civil War. Our goal is to lay a wreath on each of those graves. But it will take your support and your donations.

A \$15 donation buys one wreath or you can donate \$30, which buys three wreaths. The wreaths are delivered by volunteer truckers. On the day of the tribute, the wreaths are placed on the tombstones of the veterans and there is a short service – all open to the public. Wreaths Across America also donates a wreath to represent each branch of the service along with one for POWs and MIAs.

It is a simple tribute with a powerful impact. If you would like to participate, write a check payable to "Wreaths Across America". Corporate donations are greatly appreciated. Mail or deliver them to my office:

Mayor's Office
Attn: Wreaths Across America
132 West Main Street
Gallatin, TN 37066

Donations are due no later than Friday, November 21. I will order as many wreaths as donations allow. Then join me on Saturday, December 13, at 10 a.m. at the City Cemetery for the Wreaths Across America ceremony. The American Legion and volunteers will help lay the wreaths and assist with the ceremony. You're welcome to call my office at 615-451-5961 for more information.

America has always been the first nation to stand up for the freedom of people from around the world. Many of our citizens here in Gallatin have answered that call and served your country well.

Help us say "Thank you" to our veterans.