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**NEWSLETTER / NEWS RELEASE  
From the Office of the Mayor**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**OCTOBER 17, 2019**

**THE 2019 VETERANS' DAY PARADE WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>**

The 2019 Veterans' Parade will be held on **Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 1:00 p.m. according to Mayor Tim Lowery.

Parade participants will assemble and start the parade at Bangert Park and precede North on Florissant Road and then turn left on St. Francois and end the parade at the VFW where the ceremony will take place to honor the 2019 Veteran of the Year.

Tony Colombo from FM News Talk 97.1 will be the Emcee. The Guest Speaker will be Carl A. Hargus. Carl served in the United States Army retiring from active duty in 1980. His last assignment was a Sergeant Major and Career Counselor Supervisor for HQ III Corps and Fort Hood, Texas. Sergeant Major Hargus was awarded numerous decorations including the Purple Heart, The Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Vietnam Service Medal with 12 campaign stars and many more. After retiring from the military, Carl served as a Veterans Service Officer with the Missouri Veterans Commission, retiring as Director of the Service Officer program in July 2002.

Lewis G. Bouwman II has been named the 2019 Veteran of the Year. He entered active duty in January of 1994 and was stationed at Fort Campbell in Kentucky. He was assigned to the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division as an Infantryman with the 327<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. He completed Air Assault School and Jungle Warfare School at Fort Sherman in Panama where he earned an Expert Infantry Badge.

In 1997 he became a reserve with the National Guard as a Military Police Officer and a Drill Instructor with the 95<sup>th</sup> Division. In December of 1999 he was hired by the St. Louis County Police Department where he is currently an investigator with the St. Louis County Special Response Unit and is also a member of the Crisis Negotiation Team.

He was deployed in 2007 to Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom. He was a Squad Leader and Convoy Commander with over 200 combat missions. He has received numerous awards including Army Commendation Medals and the Combat Action Badge. He retired from military service in 2010.

This event was the suggestion of Mr. Norman Sirna, a member of the Veterans' Commission. Mayor Lowery and the City Council invite everyone to bring their children/grandchildren to this event and salute the men and women who have and continue to serve this great country in Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard.