



American Legion Urbandale Post 663



April 2026

Commander	Rob Stark	515-979-2925
1 st Vice	Jim Cade	515-205-7054
2 nd Vice (Comms)	Nichole McDowell	515-729-4600 namcdowell2@gmail.com
Adjutant	Stephen Smith	515-745-7236 ss49er@hotmail.com
Service Officer	Mark Jewell	515-954-8584 markjewell496@ymail.com
Membership	Peg Mullen	515-205-6853
Auxiliary President	Joann Hotovec	515-306-1926
Chaplain	Rob Stark	515-979-2925
Finance Officer	Don Swan	515-710-5350
Sgt-At-Arms	Larry Draughn	515-254-0805
Building Rental	Nichole McDowell	515-681-9663
Post Contact Info Post Website Post FB Group Post FB Page	6805 Douglas Ave Urbandale IA 50322	515-278-8940 http://www.urbandaleamericanlegion.org https://www.facebook.com/groups/1613927332248092 https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61583540094669

APRIL DINNER MEETING RESERVATION - Please RSVP to Peg Mullen by Tuesday, April 14, 2026. RSVPS may be made through Peg's cell phone at 515-205-6853 or to the Post email legionpost663@gmail.com. April's Meal is chicken parmesan, salad, and garlic bread with dessert by our own Auxiliary. Following the meal a guest speaker will present on Homeless Veterans Stand Down.

"I don't do April Fools jokes. But be warned, I've shenan-ed once. I will shenanigan." - Nichole McDowell



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From the Desk of the Commander

Happy Easter to all of you! Although Easter was early this year, our weather has turned to spring temperatures and adding color to our yards!

As we enter spring and approach the summer months, our focus turns to those annual events that commemorate people and events. I speak, of course, to our Post Everlasting and 4th of July events. The Post Everlasting commemoration will occur next month and more will be published in my next article then.

The closer event is on Saturday, 2 May from 500pm-700-pm right in the parking lot of our Post. We (in partnership with Urbandale's Economic Development Office) will be hosting a community "Pop Up Party." Stalls will be set up for people to sell some of their "wares" and we will have the exclusive privilege to sell food. Hamburger or brat, chips and choice of drink (water or soda) will be the dinner bundle we will offer. If the weather cooperates, it should be a great event for our community! Looking forward to seeing all of you at dinner on the 16th!

Rob Stark, Commander Post 663

Urbandale Auxiliary

In March our Auxiliary donated the Ice Cream for the dinner on March 19. We also were represented at the District 6 workshop held on March 21 in Grimes. Our Auxiliary is now working on our Impact Reports which are due to our District President on April 30. It is very necessary to list all of our volunteer hours. Also, this month we provided another birthday present to a boy in our adopted family. We are happy to report that the father returned home safely on Thursday, April 2.

Joann Hotovec, Auxiliary President Unit 663

From the Membership Chair

Post 663 currently has 225 members in good standing for 2026, with a State of Iowa imposed goal for us of 247 members. We have gained several new members in the last couple of months, which is great! Some of those are referrals from current members, and others are individuals that see all the great work we are doing in the community and just call me directly to join us. Either way, please reach out and welcome them when you have the chance at our upcoming dinner meetings. Membership is so very important to the success of the programs and initiatives at Post 663. Any membership questions, please feel free to give out my contact information.

Peg Mullen, Membership Chair Post 663



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From the 1st Vice

Our program for the April 16th Dinner Meeting will be by CMSgt Tim Cochran, (Retired Iowa Air Guard 132nd Wing, Retired State Command Chief), and wife Teresa who are on the Board of Directors with Homeless Veterans Stand Down, a program which seeks to assist with needs of homeless Veterans, and culminates in a two day event each Fall. They will tell us about the program and discuss ways we can assist through volunteering.

From the 2nd Vice/Comms

For once, I don't have much to say. How about a joke instead?

Where do pirates get their hooks? The second hand store.

Nichole McDowell, 2nd Vice Post 663

April Post Meeting/Dinner

The Post's April meeting will be held on Thursday, April 16 at 6:00 with cocktail/social beginning at 5:30. Please RSVP to Peg Mullen (515-205-6853 or legionpost663@gmail.com).

Flags for Sale:

American Legion Post 663 sells new flags in three sizes 3X5 - \$30.00, 4X6 -\$40.00, 5X8 -\$50.00 The Post keeps several in stock.

Community Events

The Hall remains open every weekday from 8 am to 1030 am for Coffee, Conversation, & Continuing Education.

On Saturday, May 2, 2026, American Legion Post 663 will be hosting a 'Burgers and Brats' event in partnership with the City of Urbandale. As we know, Urbandale is working to create a new brand for its downtown area, with efforts underway for a new physical appearance as well. The city would like to provide another progress update, and that information will be on display at this event.

What: Burgers and Brats (price details TBD)

When: Saturday, May 2, 2026

Time: 5pm – 7pm

Where: American Legion Post 663 parking area, with additional street area blocked off around the Post.



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What Else: There will be approximately 15-18 local vendors with booths set up. The vendors will have items supporting a “Make, Bake and Create” theme, along with some vintage wares. The City of Urbandale will provide picnic tables.

More Information: The City of Urbandale is working on a marketing campaign, so be on the lookout around town during the month of April for additional details and information.

Want to see an event included? Talk to Nichole McDowell at 515-729-4600 or legionpost663@gmail.com

Reminders & Requests

Newsletter: The Post will have two methods of distribution - mailed & emailed. The lowest cost option for our Post is to receive the newsletter by email. If you know a fellow Post member who does not receive the newsletter, please direct them to Nichole McDowell (515-729-4600 or legionpost663@gmail.com). We have heard of a few members of the Post and Auxiliary who have found their newsletters in spam or junk folders - it never hurts to check there if you think you've been left off the list!

Social Media: The Post has a Facebook presence in the following ways: A private group specifically for members of Post 663 and a public page that represents the post. The intent of the public page is to assist in recruitment efforts as well as engage with the community. The Private Group is accessible by clicking [here](#) and the Public Page is accessible by clicking [here](#).