

VETERANS DAY

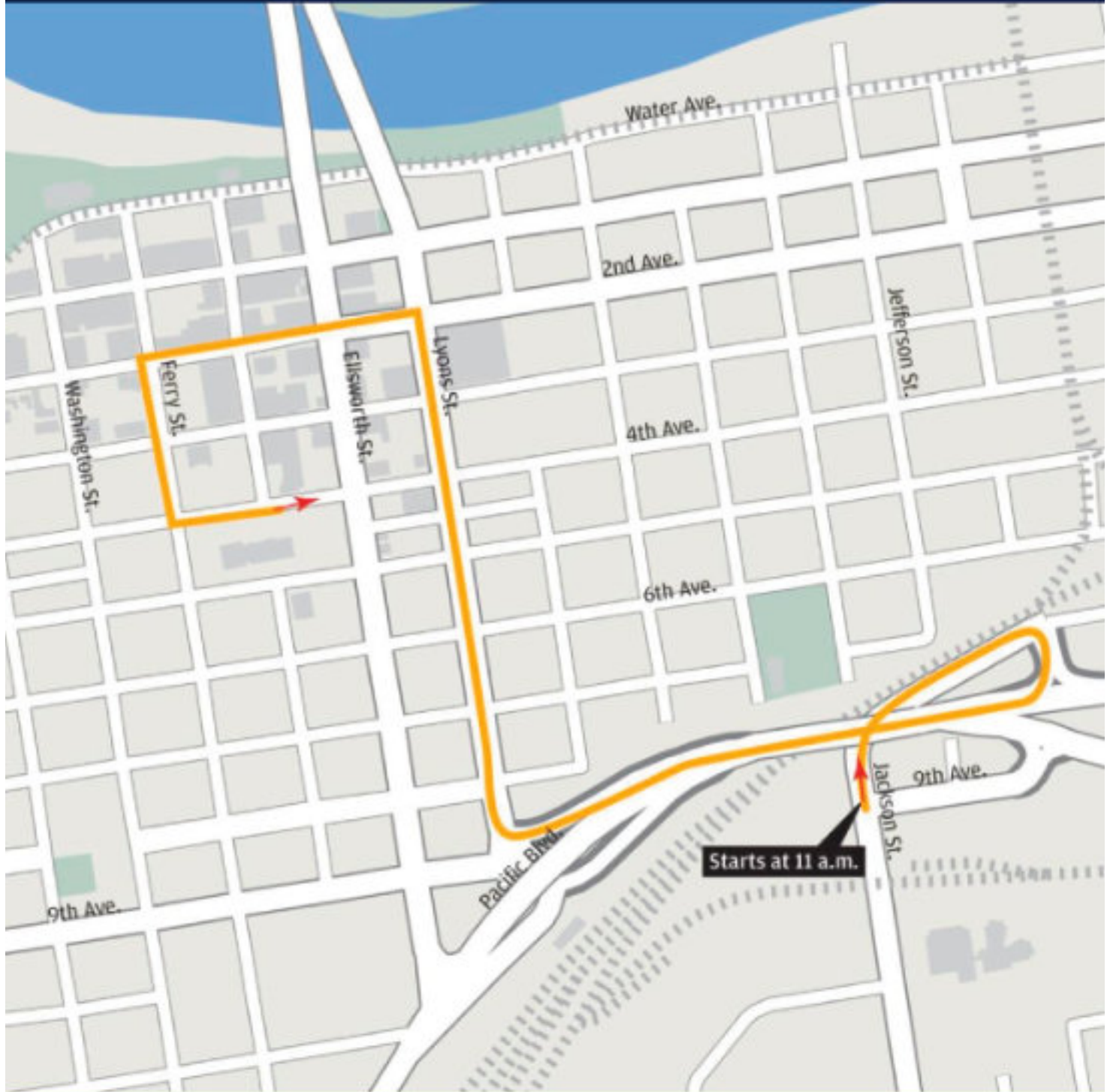


ARMY
MARINE CORPS
NAVY
AIR FORCE
SPACE FORCE
COAST GUARD
MERCHANT MARINES

NOVEMBER 11, 2023

HONORING ALL WHO HAVE SERVED

PARADE ROUTE



DOWNTOWN
ALBANY



★ ★ ★ **EVENTS** ★ ★ ★

She Kills Monsters

Albany Civic Theater

Oct 20 - Nov 4, 2023 - Time: 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm

All Services Stars and Stripes Ball / Hosted by Link Up Vets

Knife River Events Center, 35973 Kennel Rd SE

November 4, 2023 - Time: 5:30 pm to 11 pm

Wall of Honor

Heritage Mall

Nov 4-12, 2023 - Time: Mall Hours

Albany Gun Show

Linn County Fairgrounds and Events Center, Willamette

Hall November 5, 2023 - Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Veterans' Uniforms on Display

Downtown Albany

Nov 7 - 13, 2023

Veteran of the Year-Distinguished Veterans Dinner

Linn County Fairgrounds and Events Center

November 10, 2023 - Social Hour: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Dinner Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Optimist Pancake Breakfast

West Albany High School Cafeteria

November 11, 2023 - Time: 6:30 am - 9:30 am

Continental Breakfast (Free for all Veterans, Military & Their Families)

American Legion Post 10, 1215 Pacific Blvd SE

November 11, 2023 - Time: 7:00 am - 9:00 am

Eagles Pancake Breakfast

Eagles Lodge, 127 Broadalbin Street

November 11, 2023 - Time: 7:00 am - 10:00 am

Memorial Service

Timber Linn Veterans Memorial

November 11, 2023 - Time: 8:30 am

Linn County Oregon Veterans Day Parade

Downtown Albany

November 11, 2023 - Time: 11:00 am

Luncheon (Free for all Veterans, Military & Their Families)

American Legion Post 10, 1215 Pacific Blvd SE

November 11, 2023 - Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Veterans Dinner

Junction City Moose Lodge, 427 Front Street

Free for Veterans / Open to the public

November 11, 2023 - Time: TBD

Veterans Day Tribute Concert

Hosted by Willamette Valley Concert Band

Lebanon High School - Free admittance

November 11, 2023 - Time: 5:30 pm

Spaghetti Feed Fundraiser

Hosted by Boy Scout Troop 7350 - Lebanon Legion Post 51

\$10 per plate / \$8 for Veterans

November 13, 2023 - Time: 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

President's Message

Christine Ferguson

As we move forward to the Veterans Day Parade on November 11, 2023 here in Albany it is my pleasure to be the one "in charge". Since the parade of 2022 was the first time, I had ever embarked on a challenge such as the parade. I was skeptical. But I was richly rewarded with wonderful stories from many sources. I would like to share three of them with you all.

First as a backstory to the first story I want you to know that one of the businessmen in town has a flatbed truck that he decorates every year and has on his float only service veterans from WW2 and the Korean War. These veterans I refer to as Jay's Boys.

The first story I would like to share is about some of the women who built the ships and airplanes during WW2. They were collectively referred to as Rosie the Riveter. These women worked in good weather and bad, in hangers and dry docks, without air-conditioning or heat to build the ships and airplanes that our "Boys" sailed and flew during the "Big War".

I received a call from a woman from a care home near Roseburg telling me that these 6 women would like to be in our parade. After I explained to her about "Jay's Boys" I asked if they would like to be staged in front of Jay's Boys. Then I heard a voice from the back of the room say, "no dearie, no" and I waited until the speaker picked up the phone to tell me, "We support our boys, we stand behind our boys but we are never in front of our boys.". And I subsequently chatted with a few of our Rosie the Riveters until I had tears streaming down my cheeks. So we dutifully staged the Rosie the Riveters behind Jay's Boys.

The second story is about Donut Dolls. Just in case you are unfamiliar with the term I will remind you that during WW2 the USO had canteens around the world where they would serve coffee and doughnuts. And often these women would provide a willing ear and a smile and encouragement to the servicemen who stopped by. When I asked if she had actual WW2 Donut Dolls, she said no. This is a group of psychologists, psychiatrists, and counselors who work specifically with female veterans with PTSD.

Because we know that the military has difficulty working with men with PTSD and since women have a completely different framework for coping or not coping women need a different kind of support and the women that these professionals help have given them the honorarium Donut Dolls. Again, by the end of that conversation I was again in tears.

The third story is about one of your home-grown heroes that is not a service veteran but in my estimation is also a hero. She is the director of the Special Olympics program here in Linn County. During the time leading up to the parade of 2022 she was battling cancer, having surgery, having chemo treatments and still working with the Special Olympics participants. She called and asked if it was too late for her to get her kids in the parade. This was about a week before the parade and the deadline for entries had long passed. But after talking to her I knew that those Olympians were going to be in the parade. I told her that if she was able to come to my home and fill out the form, I would see that her Olympians would be in the parade. She came over within the hour and filled out the form then spent a couple of hours helping me to know the Olympians with whom she volunteers. Again, by the time she left I





had tears running down my cheeks. So as you contemplate the history of all of the parades please remember that there are many who live quiet lives in the background supporting, encouraging and just “being there” for the veterans we honor today.

Our Linn County Veterans Day parade this year starts at 11 am on November 11, Veterans Day. We are looking forward to seeing everyone there, especially after we have survived the closet experience for 2 years of covid. Traditionally the parade in Albany, Oregon has been the largest Veterans Day parade west of the Mississippi and the third largest in the USA. We have worked to make this year’s parade as close as we can to the family friendly, noisy, community celebrations of your childhood.

Albany, Oregon has celebrated Armistice/ Veterans Day for 103 years continuously since 1919. WW1 ended on November 11, 1918 when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. Thus, the first celebration of the end of “the war to end all wars” was November 11, 1919. The proclamation from President Woodrow Wilson:

ADDRESS TO FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN

The White House, November 11, 1919.

A year ago today our enemies laid down their arms in accordance with an armistice which rendered them impotent to renew hostilities, and gave to the world an assured opportunity to reconstruct its shattered order and to work out in peace a new and more just set of international relations. The soldiers and people of the European Allies had fought and endured for more than four years to uphold the barrier of civilization against the aggression of armed force. We ourselves had been in the conflict something more than a year and a half.

With splendid forgetfulness of mere personal concerns, we remodeled our industries, concentrated our financial resources, increased our agricultural output, and assembled a great army, so that at the last our power was a decisive factor in the victory. We were able to bring the vast resources, material and moral, of a great and free people to the assistance of our associates in Europe who had suffered and sacrificed without limit in the cause for which we fought.

Out of this victory there arose new possibilities of political freedom and economic concert. The war showed us the strength of great nations acting together for high purposes, and the victory of arms foretells the enduring conquests which can be made in peace when nations act justly and in furtherance of the common interests of men.

To us in America the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service, and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of nations.

WOODROW WILSON.

The first decades of Armistice Day celebrations were very different from the current parade and accompanying Memorial Service. I don't believe there is anyone around today that remembers the log rolling, pistol shooting, horse racing, cake baking competitions that marked the first years of the November 11 celebrations. According to the newspaper articles of the time the celebrations at first were small and as years passed they grew into whole weekend celebrations of picnics (weather permitting), river boat competitions and lots of friendly community competitions.

In 1945 Representative Ed Rees from Emporia, Kansas introduced a bill to make Armistice Day a day to include all veterans from all eras to be

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recognized and celebrated for their courage and sacrifice. President Eisenhower signed that bill into law and then congress, on June 1, 1954 amended that bill to name the day Veterans Day. For a short time from 1971 thru 1977 Veterans Day was celebrated as a Monday holiday and then in 1978 returned to the original November 11 day of celebration where it continues to this day.

In 1951 Ted Lovelace and a group of local veterans and community leaders would cooperate to form the Linn County Veterans Council which was the beginning of what would become the largest veterans day parade west of the Mississippi and the third largest veterans day parade in the USA. With the help of many invaluable research resources here in Linn County what follows is a history of that Veterans Day observance. I do hope you enjoy this effort to give you a small piece of the history of our parade, and that you will reflect on what Veterans Day means, and why we honor all those who have and are serving to keep the United States of America free. Veterans Day celebrations here in Linn County have had an ebb and flow. The goal of the first Linn County Veterans Council was to make Linn County the most patriotic county in the country, since the Armistice Day celebration of 1951 was spiritless. Jim Barrett and two friends, Lawrence Sheeler and Sterling Gentry set out in cooperation with the Boy Scouts to change the dynamic here in Albany. By 1954 when Veterans Day was proclaimed a national holiday the parade was a mile long.

During the 1950's and the early 1960's the parade enjoyed great expansion and the dignitaries from Camp Adair, congress and the governor of Oregon had made Linn County "the place to be" for Veterans Day. It was during this time that Hollywood took notice and for a number of years Hollywood celebrities graced the cars for the parade. The list of celebrities include Raymond Burr, Audie Murphy, General Jimmy Doolittle, Jesse Owens, Don Scholander, Governor Ronald Reagan, Bob Hope, Hugh O'Brien and many more.

Even though many communities in this country treated Veterans with everything from outright hostility to indifference the Veterans Day Parade was enthusiastically supported and veterans were well represented and admired. Many organizations participated in the Veterans Day celebrations. The Optimists hosted and still host a pancake breakfast at West Albany High School, there were essay competitions in which the

newspaper published the top 3 entries. Astronauts and generals, movie stars and government officials put aside their ranks for the weekends here in Albany and everyone recognized that there are people who will still lay their lives on the line for our freedom.

Cub Scout Pack 391 who meet at Calapooia Middle School on Monday evenings at 6pm in the 2019 parade.

The Boy Scouts were a perennial presence during the 70's, 80's, and 90's, Sometimes as many as 240 scouts would come with flags in hand to be a part of our celebration. As the years passed and the participation in scouting diminished, so did the scouts participation in the parade. This picture from the 2019 parade is an excellent example of the patriotism and enthusiasm of the scouting program that now includes girls.

For a while the parade had difficulty in finding leadership as lives grew busy and more people moved into Linn County, people who had no idea of the history and the people who had been leading the parade for years passed. This is when Louie White, ED Horinek and Ernie Argo stepped up to keep our parade tradition alive. And as the 20th century closed and the 21st began there seemed great interest in attending the parade but little interest in organizing it. It was at this juncture that the Linn County Veterans Council disbanded and the Veterans Commemoration Association stepped up under the leadership of Pat Morits.

After Pat put in her stint as chair of the committee that organized the parade Louie White stepped in



for a couple of years then Patty Louisiana took charge from 2011 thru 2019.

With the invasion of covid the parade as we have known it was suspended for 2 years and Colonel Chris Reese president of the Albany YMCA with the help of his assistant McCall Washburn had the brilliant idea for Albany to host reverse Parades. Now many of you may not know what a reverse parade is so I will explain. As many as 35 entries set up displays around Albany. Each display had a QR code and as people drove around our city checking out the displays and waving at the many veterans that were on the displays, they could collect these QR codes and apply for prizes. Our grateful thank you to Colonel Reese and McCall Washburn and their many helpers for doing their utmost to keep alive our tradition of being the most patriotic county in the country.



Linn County

Veterans Day Parade

2023 Officers:

President - Christine Ferguson

Secretary - Jennifer Martin

Treasurer - Cathy Baker

Committee Chairs & Volunteers:

Banquet:

Mark Lamberty

Linda Rose

Samantha Moon

Randy Martinak

Bob Gore

Julie Tatem

Cindi Hindi

Norene Collins

Ashley Ranch

Danny Perry

And many others.

Memorial Service:

LCVMA President: Robin Nygren

Commissioner: Will Tucker

Mayor: Alex Johnson II

National Anthem by: Erin Jacobson

Colors Posted by: Lebanon Jr. ROTC

Keynote Speaker: Russell Gibson

(Commander, 82nd Brigade, Troop Command)

Gun Salute by: OANG, Taps by Post 10

Color's Retired by: Jr. ROTC

Parade Staging & Coordination:

Brian Easton

Jonald Gradwohl

Marketing & Sponsorship:

mMASSmedia

Grand Marshall

Al Miller

I joined the National Guard at 16 years old. In 1953 I went to Naval A school in San Diego, California.

My first ship was USS San Bernardino County (LST-1110) was an LST-542-class tank landing ship built for the United States Navy during World War II. Named for San Bernardino County, California, she was the only U.S. Naval vessel to bear the name.

We were involved in Arctic Operation Dewline in Point Barrow Alaska. The first phase of the DEW Line became operational on July 31, 1957, and the line was expanded to encapsulate the Aleutian Islands and Greenland by 1961. The DEW Line and other early-warning installations were effective deterrents against Soviet aggression during the Cold War. While serving in the Dewline Operation of the shores of Point Barrow, Alaska we were iced in for 2 days.

Transferred to the ATF 98, Era Kara out of the Marshall Islands for the last 6 months of above ground atom bomb testing. For 20 plus bomb testing. And Air Sea Rescue in Adak, Alaska.

Then on to AE-5, The Rainier during the Laosan Crisis of the Viet Nam conflict.

After that tour I was back in Adak, Alaska as a power plant operator then on to Great Lakes Naval Station as an Electronics Instructor for EM-B school.

Finally, on to a real ship the Air Craft Carrier CVS 20 Bennington during the recovery of the Apollo Capsule then on to Viet Nam again.



Now on to Key Port, Washington for torpedo fire and recovery on the IX-308. The same ship that was used for Mr. Roberts starring Henry Fonda, and I had the state room that he used during the filming. During this deployment I received the navy Achievement Medal for saving the life of one of my shipmates.

Back to San Point in Seattle, Washington where I ran the motion picture exchange as the N. W. Regional Manager.

Retired from the Military in 1984 after 30 years and went back to school at Chemeketa Community College and graduated with a degree in Electronics with a GPA Of 3.5.

I did 4 tours in Viet Nam 2 Blue Water tours and 2 Brown Water tours (river Boats).

In my leisure time I enjoy operating a ham radio and volunteering as a color guard for our Community Honor Guard.



Grand Marshall Emeritus

General Michael E. Stencel

MAJOR GENERAL MICHAEL E. STENCEL

The Adjutant General, Oregon



Major General Michael E. Stencel is The Adjutant General, Oregon. He is responsible for providing the State of Oregon and the United States with a ready force of more than 8,100 Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen, equipped and trained to respond to any contingency, natural or man-made. He directs, manages, and supervises the administration, discipline, organization, training and mobilization of the Oregon National Guard, and the Office of Oregon Emergency Management. He is also assigned as the Governor's Homeland Security Advisor.

General Stencel develops and coordinates all policies, plans and programs of the Oregon National Guard in concert with the Governor and State legislature.

General Stencel received his commission through the Air National Guard Academy of Military Science in December 1984. Upon completion of Undergraduate Pilot Training in 1985, he completed

F-4 upgrade training and was assigned to the 123rd Fighter Interceptor Squadron. In 1989 he completed F-15 transition training as part of the 142nd Fighter Wing's conversion to the F-15. In 1998, General Stencel transferred to the 142nd Maintenance Group as a Maintenance Officer. After a brief period as the State Plans and Programs Officer at Oregon Air National Guard Headquarters he assumed command of the 142nd Civil Engineering Squadron and followed that position as the 142nd Mission Support Group Commander, 142nd Fighter Wing. He next served as the State Director of Operations/A-3 Joint Force Headquarters. He returned to the 142nd Fighter Wing as the Vice Commander and as the Commander, executing Air Sovereignty Alert in defense of the Pacific Northwest, with an interim assignment as Battle Director in AFCENT's 609th Air and Space Operations Center, Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. Prior to serving as The Adjutant General, he served as the Commander, Oregon Air National Guard as well as the Air National Guard Assistant to the Commander, 11th Air Force.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

Legion of Merit

Meritorious Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)

Air Force Commendation Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)

Air Force Achievement Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (with 4 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)

Combat Readiness Medal (with 1 Silver Oak Leaf Cluster and 2 Bronze Oak Leafs)

National Defense Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Service Star)

Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon (with Gold Frame)

Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon (with 1 Silver Oak Leaf Cluster)

Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with Silver Hourglass and M Device)

Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon

Air Force Training Ribbon

Oregon National Guard Exceptional Service Medal

Oregon National Guard Emergency Service Ribbon

Oregon National Guard Superior Unit Citation

Oregon National Guard Faithful Service Medal (with Silver Hourglass, 1 Bronze Service Star and M Device)



VETERANS DAY



NOVEMBER 11



SAR

Sons of the American Revolution



The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) is a national historical, non-profit, non-political, community-oriented organization open to all male descendants of American Revolutionary Patriots. A primary objective is to preserve and perpetuate the deeds of those brave and gallant patriots which ultimately lead to the formation of the United States of America.

SAR is the largest male lineage organization in the United States and consists of 50 state-level societies with more than 500 local chapters, several international societies (including Canada, France, Germany, Mexico, Spain, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom), and over 36,000 members. Prominent SAR members include sixteen U.S. presidents, U.S. senators and representatives, local business and community leaders, as well as foreign dignitaries such as Sir Winston Churchill, and Kings Juan Carlos I and Felipe VI of Spain.

SAR membership requires genealogical proof of being a direct male descendant of a Revolutionary War Patriot. The SAR does not restrict membership on basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, nation of citizenship or residency. To establish eligibility, an applicant must be able to confirm that he is a direct ancestral line descendant of a Patriot by providing appropriate SAR acceptable documentation.

To quote the SAR Bylaws, "Any male shall be eligible for membership in the SAR who is a citizen of good repute in the community; and a lineal descendant of an ancestor who was at all times unflinching in loyalty to and rendered acceptable service in the cause of American Independence."

The Oregon Society, SAR was organized in 1891, and has Chapters in Salem, Bend, Medford, and Portland.

The Republic Chapter of the Oregon SAR, located in Salem and chartered in 1973, has members from all walks of life, such as educators, clergy, carpenters, attorneys, doctors, and welders. Our age group is diverse.

The Republic Chapter SAR is duly constituted in the Oregon Society, Sons of the American Revolution. As such, we maintain a constitution and by-laws by which we govern ourselves and conduct the business of the chapter. The Bylaws contain descriptions of the responsibilities of the Chapter Officers and committees.

The Republic Chapter area includes Marion, Yamhill, Lincoln, Linn, Lane, Coos, and Benton Counties in Oregon. However, the Chapter is pleased to have members as far away as South Carolina, New Mexico, Idaho, and Washington.

Some of the many projects SAR is involved in are:

- Preservation of historic battlefields, parks, and cemeteries
 - Clean-up and restoration of historic community and pioneer cemeteries
 - Locating, identifying and marking previously unmarked graves of patriots
 - Re-enactments and community based Living History programs
 - Preservation of historical documents
 - Community based Genealogy and Family-History research programs and workshops
 - Scholarly publications and lectures
 - College scholarships awarded annually
- Many of our chapter members are avid genealogists and lovers of history. To this regard we have established volunteers to assist members and prospective members in their genealogy and family research at no charge. Chapter members are often found working as volunteers in local libraries, schools, Scouting, historical societies, genealogy societies, veteran's hospitals, senior centers, re-enactments, and a variety of community service organizations. Our chapter is an active member of Friends of Pioneer Cemetery. As such, we annually perform restoration and preservation work on grave stones and massive monuments in Salem's Historic Pioneer Cemetery. Prominent local, state and national business, organizations and regular everyday folks have recognized our Chapter as an asset to the community and to the state of Oregon. The Republic Chapter SAR enjoys a membership rich in culture. We are ever mindful

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that brave patriots of all races and creeds spilled their blood on the fields of battle to help in the formation of this great nation. We rejoice in the company of our members of diverse backgrounds – for all of our members come to us the same way: down the path of ancestral pride.

We hold regular monthly meetings on the third Saturday of the month, except for July and August. We meet at the Salem Public Library. The Chapter fully supports Oregon and National

Society programs and projects; particularly the medals and awards program which recognizes both SAR members and other citizens who have distinguished themselves by services to others or by outstanding achievements in their communities. The Chapter also supports the Eagle Scout Program of the National Society.

For information about becoming a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, and about joining the Republic Chapter in the Oregon Society SAR, contact Compatriot Russ Erickson at 503.866.4714, russerickson3@gmail.com.

Distinguished Veterans



Michael J. Martin
Michael R. Aaron
Michael L. Cossey

Diamond Sponsor



Silver Sponsor



Gold Sponsors



Bronze Sponsor



Robert Gore

Veteran of the Year

Bob is an Army veteran. He served from 1966 to 1968. As a medic, Bob helped wounded comrades and received the Bronze Star with a "V" for Valor.

After returning to the states, he worked in the mill, and then at the school district until retirement. He joined the VFW in 1992, and volunteers at Post 584. Bob uses his skills to help youth organizations grant student scholarships, and works on scholarship programs for middle and high schools. He also runs the "Teacher of the Year" award. He volunteers to help work on the canteen and is a cherished member of our community. Bob makes great sausage gravy as well!



Veteran of the Year

Nominees



David Pautsch

Jim Phillips

Dr. Derrick J Sorweide

COASTAL IS PROUD OF ALL VETERANS



Just What The Country Needs.®

WITH 21 STORES ACROSS THE NORTHWEST & GROWING
CoastalCountry.com

History

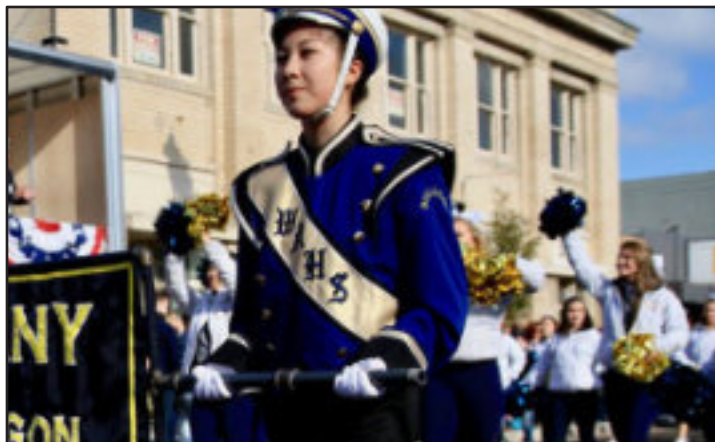
Veterans Day in Linn County

The observance of Veterans Day in Linn county Oregon goes back to November 11, 1919 and has been a continuous observance for some 104 years now. In the early days it was a brief gathering and something of a parade to the Linn County Courthouse and a dance at the Elks club later that evening. It was not until 1951 and the Linn County Veterans Council (LCVC) was formed and WWII Veterans Jim Barrett, Sterling Gentry and Lawrence Scheeler, all Marines decided to make Linn County Oregon the “most patriotic county in the nation.” The rest they say is history.

Over the years the Veterans Day observance here in Linn County has been the “Granddaddy” of them all and has attracted military leaders, celebrities and Medal of Honor Recipients on a yearly basis. It was simply “the place to be on Veterans Day.”

The rich history of Veterans Day here is steeped in tradition and also required a tremendous amount of “grunt work” performed by a wide range of area residents. When military and political dignitaries were here they participated in the various programs rather than just being a “pretty face.” United States senators and representatives were given jobs to carry out and they did it well. Senator Wayne Morse was very active in the programs as well as Governor Vic Atiyeh. Secretary of Defense Alexander Haig would present the Junior First Citizen award to recipients. General Jimmie Doolittle and Bob Bush, both recipients of the Medal of Honor considered this to be their adopted home. Comedian Bob Hope was our guest when we hosted the Congressional Medal of Honor Society’s semi-annual meeting. Then California Governor Ronald Regan and Oregon Governor Tom McCall would “square off” on which side of the street gave them the best exposure.

As the overall program grew to gigantic proportions it required a lot of committees and these were made up of the citizens of the local area. Most of these programs would take on a life of their own. It is a given that the overall group of folks putting this together became family and there was a new leader elected each year to be



the overall chair. Within this “community” there have been key people over the years that have been the glue that kept things together and kept it going. As with all things of this nature it had to change with the times and Veterans Day in Linn County Oregon has adapted quite well with the changing times.

In looking back over the years there have been some key individuals that should be mentioned for their complete dedication to honoring our Veterans. Space here does not permit publishing all those but there are a few that stand a bit above. It goes without saying that Jim Barrett made this what it is today. Lois Abrell, WWII Army, served the LCVC for many years as president and office manager and without her dedication I do believe it would have fallen apart. One year, due to lack of volunteers, Lois and Bill Clotere began in September and the two of them put the program together. An incredible feat. Del Riley, Marv Saxon, Garner Poole, Al Barrios, Dennis McQuerry and countless others stepped up to the plate and kept things on an even keel. Ernie Argo, a Korean War Marine served in various capacities for many years including four terms as president. It was these dedicated people and so many others that we can give thanks that we are still “the most patriotic county in the USA.”

The last 25 years have brought out a lot of major changes in the overall program as well as the name of the organization sponsoring the events. A pandemic brought about major changes for a couple of years but the bottom line, WE HONOR OUR VETERANS.

For a comprehensive study of the history of Veterans Day here in Linn County I would suggest going to the Albany Regional Museum where there are over four thousand photos of past Veterans Day events and a narrative as best I could describe the people and events presented. Worth the trip.

Link Up Vets

Our Mission

“LINK UP VETS is dedicated to the future success and wellness of our nations Veterans. Through the medium of outdoor adventure and community outreach we create stress free environments to connect like-minded brothers and sisters in arms. These connections form a veteran network that is key in creating a purpose and meaning for our walk-through life. We advocate for benefits and care for our fellow service members no matter what generation they served.”

Founded in 2015 by our President, Michael Aaron, LINK UP VETS has continually been a beacon for local veterans in search of that comrade connection we all created while in the service. Michael served in the United States Marine Corps, with deployment to the WESTPAC, Afghanistan, and Iraq. Upon returning home he found that life outside of the service was much different than being in. So in early 2015, he threw up a banner and started selling t-shirts to make money to take veterans on “outdoor therapy” events. With the enlisted help of Aaron/Carnes family and fellow servicemember, Jason Gardner US Army, they started making impacts in the veteran community.

The first annual Gametime (GT) golf tournament benefitting the organization started that year and there is no reservation in saying without it, we may not have existed as we do today. Under the leadership of Kurt and Jenn, owners of GT, and lifelong friend Chad Harrington with the team at LINK UP VETS they created one of the most successful fundraising events for veterans around. Utilizing the benefits from these events they have taken veterans on hundreds of events



to include hiking, hunting, fishing, family fun events, and funded thousands of dollars in community service events helping local disabled and homeless veterans.

In 2021 many additions were made to the Board. Chris Beyerly, Jennifer Waggle, Casey Tibbs, Elizabeth Droscher, and Executive Board additions Buddy Lindsay and Mark Erickson were added and created a team much larger and much stronger than it has ever been. From this, the All Services Stars and Stripes Ball event was founded. Raising money and awareness for the great programs supporting our nations veterans. At this year's event LINK UP VETS will be unveiling a new vision of sending select veterans on brother/sister building trips and events. As a result of last year's fundraising efforts, we were able to send 15 of our nations heroes on an all inclusive, bucket list event, to salmon fish the beautiful Kenai and Kasilof Rivers of Alaska, with additional offshore Halibut fishing that was testament to our mission. The camaraderie, love, and brotherhood/sisterhood that was formed in these events is unbroken. We watched as these veterans' shared stories and struggles, they all face. In turn, exchanged numbers, resources, connections, and ensured one other we are not alone and that their fight is everyone's fight, "the battle is ours"!

We are firm in our beliefs and our foundation that drives us on our mission to offer our hand up to any, and all veterans and their families who are in need. For those looking for more information find us on Facebook, our website www.linkupvets.org, or linkupvets@gmail.com. We will be excited to share with you and see how our community can continue to build.



VETERANS = DAY =



11.11.22

FOR HONOURING THE BRAVE



VETERANS DAY
HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



Remembering America's Heroes

Honoring Vietnam Veterans

About five years ago, I approached a gentleman at a restaurant in Portland, Oregon who was wearing a Vietnam veteran cap. He had a very strong accent and I asked where he was originally from. "I'm from New Zealand and yes we had troops in Vietnam just like the Aussies. We had your Yank's backs", he laughed.

I responded, "Wow, I had no idea, well I bet you weren't treated like our veterans when they came home"?

He got tears in his eyes, raised his voice and said "Oh hell yes, it happened to us and the Aussies too. After a moment of silence, he then said, "I was spit on and called a baby killer".

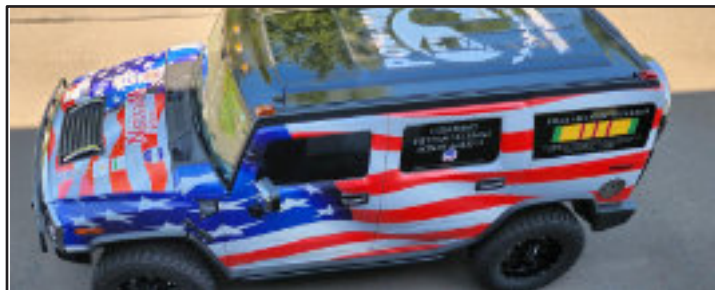
"I'm so sorry, I had no idea".

But then he smiled and proudly said "In 2008, New Zealand had a National Vietnam Veterans Apology Day. It was so emotional, powerful and healing". There were thousands of people including us veterans there hugging and crying with each other. It was a day I'll never forget" he stated with tears in his eyes.

Thus became our dream of possibly getting the United States to finally apologize to our Vietnam veterans was going to be a reality. In June of 2022, I met with Jan and Jay Weston, and their executive team and immediately after my pitch, they gave me a thumbs up and Jay stated "We're in". Jan then said "We should let him use the Hummer."

The Hummer was then wrapped by Mark Carroll of Carroll Signs and Graphics and paid for by Weston Dealerships. I started soliciting sponsorships and donations, organizing, planning, and reaching out to Veteran organizations across America in July. The response and generosity was incredible.

Fast forward to October 28th, my wife, Malinda, and I left Canby, Oregon with an escort out of town from the Canby Fire Department and Police Department. We drove to a kick off celebration at Weston Dealerships with many Vietnam veterans in attendance. Afterwards, we set across Oregon to the Midwest to Washington DC for the 40th



Anniversary of the Vietnam War Memorial "The Wall".

On our return journey, we then drove through the south and the southwest to Southern California and back home. We were on the road forty-one days and held presentations to Vietnam veterans in thirty-seven cities. The emotional responses from our veterans were unbelievable, from tears to crying to anger, but 100% were extremely grateful for our efforts. We ended every presentation with Malinda singing "Wind Beneath My Wings".

The most powerful presentation was at the home of Terry and Percy Piestewa in Flagstaff, Arizona. Their daughter Lori was the first Native American woman to die in combat while serving in the U.S. military and the first woman in the U.S. military killed in the Iraq War. Terry passed a few years ago of Agent Orange Cancer from his tours in Vietnam.

Percy invited around fifty Vietnam veterans and their spouses to her home for lunch. They represented the Apache, Hopi, and Navajo tribes. After Malinda sang, a veteran in the back started sobbing uncontrollably.

His wife waved me over and he said, "Had Percy told me what this was about, I wouldn't have come as I have had nothing to do with veteran related stuff my whole life. But I'm glad I came. I was badly wounded in Vietnam and was carried off the plane on a stretcher at McCord Air Force



base. Protesters were at a fence about fifty yards away trying to hit us with eggs.”

He started crying again and his wife finished, “He was hit by two eggs and then crawled into a bottle for years, two ruined marriages, and lost jobs.”

“She saved my life and you and your wife have given me some healing and closure. Thank you so much!”

There are many more experiences to share and if you would like to hear about some of them, we would like to tell everyone about the Miracle at Exit 110 in a small town in Pennsylvania, or the special tour of the Pentagon with about fifty Gold Star Families (All were babies, toddlers, and children when their dads were killed in Vietnam) or “Hero Street USA” in Silvis, ILL.

We know this cause touched the lives of hundreds of Vietnam veterans and this will continue thanks to Jay and Jan Weston, who told us, “We have a feeling that you will be asked to take this Hummer around the State, so keep the hummer for now?”

They were right, as we are being asked to bring the Hummer not only around Oregon but to Montana, and Washington also. We are so grateful to all who have supported this cause and thank you to Portland Roadster Show for this opportunity also.

If you go to our Facebook page “Honoring Vietnam Veterans Across America” you can see pictures and video footage of our trip.

As you may know, the Honoring Vietnam Veterans Across America cross-country trip to honor and thank Vietnam veterans with its message of hope and healing was held. I do not have the words to express how powerfully emotional it was meeting Vietnam veterans across America. The only words I can come up with is that it was extraordinarily remarkable!

Although the trip has ended, we are still driving the Hummer around to events, and every time we stop anywhere people come up to us and ask about it. When we tell them about Honoring Vietnam Veterans Across America and how the majority of veterans responded with emotion, whether it was tears in their eyes or breaking down and crying when seeing the apology on the back of the Hummer. Then after each time

Malinda sang “Wind Beneath My Wings” the appreciation and gratitude from every Vietnam veteran has been priceless.

For the majority of our Vietnam veterans how they were treated when they returned is still a wound that has never healed. I absolutely know that our message of hope and healing is helping veterans to

find some peace and healing.

Updates - It is unbelievable how many requests we have received to bring the Hummer to events this 2023. At 100% of every single event, we have experienced very emotional responses from tears to anger and Vietnam Veterans telling us how they were treated. I wish you could experience this. 100% of every veteran is grateful. Spouses, and family members' reactions are just as powerful. I could write about literally dozens and dozens of our experiences.

At the Canby Car show on Saturday, August 26th. A lady approached me sobbing. She had just lost her husband to Agent Orange. She told me that he had never gotten over being spit on by protestors and was so thankful to us. She then told us their son served in Iraq and Afghanistan and a couple years ago committed suicide. Standing near us was a young lady who served in the Navy, She starts crying and tells us her fiancé was an Iraq veteran and committed suicide the day after he proposed to her. Malinda is a hugger and hugged both women and cried with them.

During the Portland Roadster Show a lady was sitting nearby knitting and supporting her husband's hobby. At the end of the evening, she waves for me to come over. She says “I'm a psychologist and I work with teenagers with severe PTSD. I have been watching you all day. I've witnessed these veterans unload their pain on you. Do you know how to take care of yourself? No, I do know after a long day of this, I'm emotionally and physically exhausted. She was very helpful with advice and tips for dealing with our emotional experiences.

We drove the Hummer to the Washington State Fair for Military Appreciation Day this past Labor Day. Many soldiers from Ft. Lewis and lots of Vietnam Veterans. Several broke down and cried and another one got very angry. Everyone was grateful. Amazing Day!

Thank you so much, Ken Buckles





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Thank You Veterans



Proud to Help Sponsor...
Linn County Veterans Day Parade

From Your Friends At...
JERRY'S
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EUGENE and SPRINGFIELD

HOORAY FOR

A graphic showing several hands raised in the air, colored in red and blue. The hands are stylized and appear to be cheering.

VETERANS DAY!

ALBANY, OREGON

A stylized graphic of the American flag with horizontal stripes and a star field.

**Honoring
Our Veterans**

A simple icon of a wireless communication tower.

**Complete
Wireless
Solutions**

A chalkboard with the words "THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE" written in white chalk. The board is set against a background of red, white, and blue ribbons.

**ALBANY CIVIC
THEATER**

We Support Our Veterans!

A logo featuring an eagle with its wings spread, perched on a green sprout with two leaves.

**WILD WEST
SEED**

Thank you for your service!

Two small American flags on poles, crossed at the base.

**TRUE LIFE
FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS**

THE POW/MIA TABLE



The POW/MIA Table ceremony is a dignified and solemn moment in many formal dinners and other occasions.

There have been many different narratives written for the ceremony, but the symbolism is quite constant. It involves a table, usually set off to the side, with a single chair.

The table is set with a white tablecloth, a single candle, a book of faith (optional), an inverted glass, and a single red rose in a vase, around which is tied a red or yellow ribbon.

Set at the table is a plate containing a slice of lemon and a small amount of salt.

There is nothing more poignant than witnessing the empty chair sitting at a POW/MIA table with incredible significance for every displayed feature of this ritual.

Witnessing the ceremony that accompanies this memorable event brings more than just a single emotion. The ceremony is performed many times, throughout the year, at official military events in remembrance and in honor of all POW/MIAs.

Jessica Lynch

Shares her story to help Veterans



Text Jessica Lynch is pictured in uniform during Army basic training in 2001, fresh out of high school, and understanding the risks of service like other young recruits.

The loss Jessica Lynch can't escape has little to do with her captivity and nationally televised rescue in the earliest days of the Iraq War. It's the lost friend she dearly misses.

The Army veteran's friend, [Lori Piestewa](#), was killed in the same ambush that left the then-19-year-old unconscious, severely injured and alone in the hands of the enemy in March 2003.

The West Virginia native opened up about her captivity, her nationally televised rescue and her continued recovery, speaking to an audience of



fellow veterans at a DAV Department of Indiana event in November 2022, in Gary, Indiana.

Like many who signed up after graduating from high school, Lynch said she knew the risks when she raised her hand to serve. But that all changed just days into the invasion of Iraq, when she was in a supply truck at the tail end of a convoy headed for Baghdad.

“What ended up happening was 33 of us United States soldiers and 17 vehicles fell so far behind that we lost that entire convoy,” Lynch explained.

It was Piestewa who stopped the Humvee she was driving and picked up her friend when the gearbox on Lynch's truck gave out. The convoy remnant drove toward lights on the horizon in southern Iraq in the hope they were friendly.

The Americans found themselves driving into one of Iraq's largest cities, Nasiriyah—and an ambush.

Gunfire erupted from the rooftops, and then a rocket-propelled grenade exploded.

Lynch and her friend Lori Piestewa, who was killed in the same Humvee that Lynch was taken prisoner from during an ambush in Iraq, were photographed by Lynch's mother at Fort Bliss, Texas, moments before they deployed.

Lynch said the Humvee Piestewa was driving ended up slamming into the back of a disabled American 18-wheeler.

“For us in that little Humvee, when we slammed into the back of that trailer, the—um sorry,” Lynch said, pausing. “Lori hit her head off the steering wheel and ended up dying of head trauma. My

first sergeant and the two men that were sitting beside me were all shot and killed. For me, at some point during the ambush, I had become unconscious. Something knocked me out.”

Iraqi combatants pulled Lynch out of the Humvee, twisting and breaking her foot, which had been jammed under the front seat, in the process. She was then taken prisoner and awoke in one of Saddam Hussein’s palaces unable to move from the waist down because her back was broken.

She said she was stripped of all her military gear and was beaten by the Iraqis who were holding her.

“They took a ball bat, like a metal pipe I guess you would say, and busted my left tibia,” she said of her time in captivity.

“But after the point of the palace, the good Iraqis ended up taking me to the hospital,” she said. “And at that point I am separated from the rest of my former POWs, the rest of my comrades, so I had no idea what was happening. But I knew that I was all alone and that I was scared.”

Her nine days of captivity ended on April 1 with a rescue by U.S. special operations forces. Broadcast news aired footage of Lynch being carried away on a stretcher.



Lynch at a DAV Department of Indiana-hosted event with department Commander Bob Carnagey.

Bob Carnagey, commander of the DAV Department of Indiana, said Lynch left the crowd speechless when she showed military night-vision video of U.S. military members storming the building she was rescued from.

“You saw a young woman at 76 pounds experiencing the impacts of war and how ugly it was,” Carnagey said.

Having recently undergone an eighth surgery on her foot, Lynch now receives her medical treatment through the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Today, she teaches grade school in her home state and is surrounded by family and friends for support. She also keeps in contact with Piestewa’s family in Arizona and travels there each year to remember her at a memorial service.

In an early chapter of the biography she authorized on her life, “I Am a Soldier, Too,” by Rick Bragg, Lynch introduced herself and Piestewa as “best friends forever.”

“Meeting my best friend was a huge part of my life,” Lynch said in an interview with DAV. “I do anything that I can to be there for her family.”

Lynch said she is choosing to tell her story now to veterans in the hope that the act of sharing will inspire other veterans to seek help. She said it took years to seek out any mental health counseling, and she encouraged veterans to get the help they earned.

“I’m not looking for sympathy for what I went through,” she added. “I signed that paper. I signed my name. I joined. I knew the risks that were involved. I was hoping that they would turn out differently so that I could come home, which I did, and I’m very thankful for that.”







*Our freedom
Your sacrifice*

*Thank you to all who wear the uniform
past, present and future,
in service to our country*

*Burcham's
Metals*



Veterans Day

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

This nation will remain the land of
the free only so long as it is the
home of the brave



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MATERIALS

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Biographies

American Rosie the Riveters Association

Nita Eggers



Juanita "Nita" Eggers worked as a welder at Kaiser Shipyards in Portland, Oregon, and then as a bucker and riveter at Boeing in Seattle, Washington.

"I grew up on a ranch in Eastern Oregon with four brothers, so I learned how to stick up for myself and do hard work of every kind.

I graduated in 1944 and took the bus from Ontario to Portland, working as a welder at Kaiser Shipyards. My boss said I was a natural, with a light, steady touch for welding.

By 1945 they didn't need as many shipyard workers, but Boeing in Seattle was still making planes. I moved to Seattle where I learned how to be a bucker and riveter. I was thin, so I often worked inside the wings. It was such a tight space that my crew members had to pull me out by my feet."

Nita now lives in Albany, Oregon.

encouraged to contribute a little bit from each paycheck to buy them.

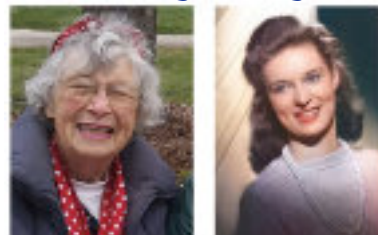
I went to work at the Treasury Department the day after I graduated from high school, June 10, 1942.

The typing pool office overlooked the White House Rose Garden. Sometimes it was distracting, looking out the window to see who was arriving at the White House.

I improved from typing 200 bonds a day to over 600 a day. After typing bonds six days a week, nine hours a day for over a year, I was offered a better job working for the Weather Bureau at a substantial pay increase. The work was more interesting, too.

I even attended President Roosevelt's Birthday Celebration!" Doris now lives in Cottage Grove, Oregon.

Dorothy Key



Dorothy Key worked for Hydropac in Los Angeles. She was a machinist working on airplane parts.

"I was born in Canton, Texas, but grew up in Horatio, Arkansas. My school district superintendent had us come to the gym, where we listened to the radio and heard President Roosevelt tell the nation that war had been declared on Japan."

"My older sister was working and living in LA. I had just finished my sophomore year in high school, but I took the bus from the tiny town of Horatio, Arkansas to the big city of Los Angeles, California. I started work right away. I went to school until noon. Then I went to work at the factory for the afternoon shift and sometimes the late shift. We had to wear dresses to school and pants to work, so I carried my clothes with me."

Dorothy now lives in Goshen, near Eugene, Oregon.

Doris Graham



Doris Graham worked for the Treasury Department in Washington D.C. typing War Bonds.

"War Bonds were the way our government financed WWII. Everyone in America was

Cont'd on Pg. 30

Fisher Funeral Home and the Ordeman Family are proud to be the presenting sponsor for your Linn County Oregon Veterans Day Parade, and its theme "Celebrating all Who Served."

For 111 years Fisher Funeral Home has honored those who selflessly and honorably served our country.

Fisher salutes not only our veterans today, but all of those who stood in support of them. Spouses, parents and children, clergy and congregations, civilian military employees, supply line workers, and all of the post military organizations such as the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, and so many others.

It's an honor for the staff of Fisher Funeral Home and the Ordeman Family to stand with the Mid-Valley Community and say THANK YOU for serving and protecting us.

THANK YOU for your sacrifices.
THANK YOU for your honor and legacy.

Please join us in "Celebrating all Who Served".

The background of the entire image is a close-up, slightly blurred view of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in detail.

*Fisher
Funeral
Home* 
INC.

The logo consists of a green oval containing a white stylized letter 'F'.

Biographies

American Rosie the Riveters Association

Clarice Lafreniere (Age 101)



Clarice Lafreniere worked as a welder and a burner, creating the templates needed, at Kaiser Shipyard on Swan Island in Portland.

"I was born in Colorado, finished schooling there, married in 1939 and had our son in 1940. Soon after that we drove to Oregon. I was listening to our radio and the announcer burst in with 'Pearl Harbor has been bombed and we are at war with Japan!' My daughter was born that very night. I remember the windows at the hospital were covered with blackout curtains, fearing further attacks on the West Coast.

Within weeks, Kaiser opened shipyards at Swan Island and began building Liberty ships. My husband went to work there, but I resisted the "We Need You" signs until our daughter was two. My new wardrobe as a welder was overalls, leathers, jacket, long gloves, steel-toed shoes and a helmet with a safety glass shield."

Clarice now lives in Independence, Oregon.

Dolly Marshall



Dolly Marshall was in high school when she worked as a plane spotter in New Jersey.

"Everyone—even teenagers-- wanted to do their part to help win the war and bring our loved ones home. I was in high school in Palmyra, New Jersey when my friends and I joined the Civil Air

Patrol.

My volunteer job with the Army Aircraft Warning Services was 'plane spotter.' This position was important because we were close to both the Philadelphia Airport and Fort Dix.

Our group learned to identify silhouettes of both German and American aircraft. We reported all planes coming in from the Atlantic, because we feared attacks on our U.S. mainland. We were stationed, in shifts, at the press box of our high school football field. We reported direction, route, altitude, and type of every plane seen or heard." Dolly now lives in Springfield, Oregon.

Lorraine Minikel



On her 16th birthday in 1944, Lorraine "took the trolley" to Weber Showcase in Los Angeles, California, and got hired as a riveter of P-38 "Lightning" bomb bay doors.

She had tried to work for them earlier but 16 was the minimum age in California. Never one to love school, she dropped out with her "war service" as the excuse! Riveters were partnered with "buckers" (someone with a piece of heavy metal to provide resistance to the rivet). During lunch they wrote notes they put inside the doors that said "If you're a US Serviceman and you read this - God bless you! If you're the enemy - go to hell!" When her (shy) sweetheart, Ken, got drafted in 1945 she planned their wedding, sent him an invitation to his own wedding, he said "I guess I'd better buy a suit" and they were happily married for 70+ years. Many of her Weber Showcase friends were in attendance.

Lorraine now lives in St. Helens, Oregon.

Florence Rexroad



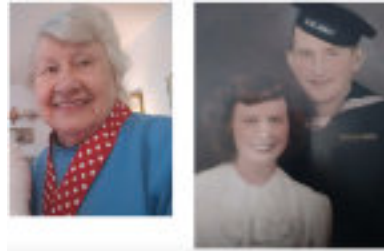
Florence Rexroad worked as a riveter at Boeing Aircraft in Seattle, Washington. "I was just a teenager in Oregon when my sister Rose broke me out of a Catholic home for unwed mothers. She said we were going to lunch, but instead Rose took me to Seattle on the train. The day after we arrived, Rose and I got jobs working as riveters on the bombers at Boeing. They trained us fast and put us to work. We lived in a house in Burien, near Seattle, and that's where we lived when my first daughter was born. It was fun, I'm still here, and I'm still smiling. I laugh at myself and I sing all of the time." Florence now lives in Springfield, Oregon.

Gazena Dolphin



Gazena Dolphin lived in Iowa and worked as a hemp comber. Hemp was used to make rope for the Navy. Gazena recalls, "Hemp has 50,000 uses and it can grow 6 to 15 feet tall. When the war broke out, they built a hemp plant at Britt, Iowa. When it was time to harvest they would bring it into the building and put it on a tall conveyor. The hemp hung 6 to 7 feet on each side of the conveyor. It would move slowly to the front of the building where us gals used a tool, a large comb, to comb it until all the snarls were out. It then went onto a rack and was transported out of the building by truck, taken to a plant and made into rope. The more ships they built, the more rope they needed for the U.S. Navy. We were short of help and they brought in prisoners of war to help. The war camp was 20 miles from us. Six or so truck loads with 12 in each truck and one guard. They would help harvest the hemp." Gazena now lives in Cottage Grove, Oregon.

Romaine Smith



Romaine Smith worked in Pennsylvania, first in a factory making parachute silk, then doing wiring on fighter planes, and then becoming a welder on cargo planes. "My first job, in my hometown, was at a factory making silk for parachutes. Then I worked in Hasbro and lived in a rooming house that was an old farm house with 8-10 rooms for workers. I worked 12 hours, night shift, on an assembly line that installed the tubing for electrical wiring and radios for fighter planes. I worked on a crew of 6 – 5 men and me. When the Hasbro plant slowed down, I went to Philly and worked as a welder for cargo planes at the Budd Manufacturing Company. In Philadelphia, there were thousands of servicemen! They covered the streets!" Romaine now lives in McMinnville, Oregon.



WE SALUTES ALL WHO HAVE SERVED AND
CONTINUE TO SERVE.



THANK YOU, VETERANS
FOR BEING OUR HEROES



YOUR BRAVERY WILL NEVER
BE FORGOTTEN

11 NOVEMBER



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Linn Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution Supporting our Community Since 1914

The Daughters of the American Revolution honors and preserves the legacy of our American Patriots who fought and sacrificed for the freedoms that we enjoy today. The basis of the Society is to perpetuate the memory and spirit of these patriots by promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through education.

The Chapter has supported our troops and veterans since the chapter began in 1914. Beginning with WWI we helped provide for American troops and sent money abroad for war relief. Members continue to support our active duty military and veterans.

The Chapter has participated in the Veteran's Day parade these past 72 years.

Ribbons, trophies, photos and memories are part of the 109 year history of Linn Chapter.



2022 Veterans Day Parade including members from six DAR chapters, and members from the SAR and C.A.R.

Linn Chapter entry in the 2012 Veterans Day Parade



During the 1920s and the 1930s, Linn Chapter was responsible for placing eleven historical markers at various places in Linn County.

Community education includes volunteer time, and donations for students of books, clothing, snacks and scholarships.

Mrs. Virginia Koos (1918-2018), a dedicated member who has passed away, stated at the 2014 Chapter Centennial: "It is impossible to relate all of our accomplishments... Suffice it to say that we are proud of our history and of all of the members who made their contributions toward it. We do not plan or intend to rest

on our laurels. We hope to continue to be a vital force in our community, to be able to adapt to changes, and to make changes ourselves for God, Home, and Country."

Today, there are currently more than 190,000 members in DAR. Over one million women have joined the National Society since it was founded. We are all looking forward to celebrating America's 250th Anniversary as we continue to support our communities and Nation. For more information about DAR, visit DAR.org or LinnChapterDAR.weebly.com

Over one million women have joined the National Society since it was founded. We are all looking forward to celebrating America's 250th Anniversary as we continue to support our communities and Nation.

For more information about DAR,



In July 2026, the United States will mark its 250th Anniversary – DAR is preparing to celebrate in a big way!



ON NOVEMBER 11, WE HONOR
THOSE WHO SERVE,
AND THANK ALL PAST AND
CURRENT MILITARY PERSONNEL.

Happy Veterans Day!





Honoring our Veterans

Evolution

Of the Veteran of the Year Award

I arrived in Albany, Oregon in the late 70's and soon became an acquaintance of Jim Barrett, who at that time, was president of the Chamber of Commerce. He also had the reputation of being the "Community First Sargent". He quickly got me involved in the annual Veterans Day Parade judging committee. I started judging floats, and quickly moved to the "head judge in charge of judging floats, cars, marching units, horses and even bands.

The parade had been run by the Linn County Veterans Council, which included many World War One and Two veterans organizations, some of whose memberships were declining to the degree the council disbanded and turned over leadership to a new group. The new staff did not have a clear understanding of the criteria for the Veteran of the Year award, one year they had over a dozen recipients of the Veteran of the Year Award, some of whom did not meet the criteria set forth in the by-laws. At the next year's planning meeting I suggested we create a new designation of Distinguished Veteran.

The criteria for Veteran of the Year remain the same: what the veteran of the year accomplished in the service and has contributed to the community since his or her release from active duty.

The Distinguished Veteran award was described as the community thank you to each individual veteran for his or her service in any branch of the military service. Over the years we have awardees from all branches of the services, one soldier had manned a small radar



post in Alaska, and a sailor from the Korean War who pulled duty in the Mediterranean.

For me one of the most memorable years was the one where we had three veterans of the year. Gilly Lewis, an army air corps B-25 pilot who flew missions in support of the troops at the Battle of the Bulge; Tom Holman, an army infantryman who served 100 continuous days of frontline combat, including the Siege of Bastogne; and an Army tanker, Wallace Larsen, who was with Patton in his historic hundred-mile race to rebuff the last German offensive of WW11, and got to say thanks to all three of them at the same time.

A couple years later we received a letter from a young girl who said, "I think my grandpa should be a Distinguished Veteran. He served with the US Army Special Service Force, (a combination of US and Canadian service personnel who united for a special commando unit under the command of the Firth Army) They had missions of parachuting into Norway to interrupt the power supply to the German War Machine. The Allied forces were in much need of their intervention. I knew all about this unit and it's heritage as it was the forefather of the US Army Special Forces (Green Berets). I was in a Green Beret unit for 18 years and knew the story of the "Devils in the baggy pants". I was excited and went to Lebanon, Oregon to visit this veteran, Leroy Boyd, at his home, just to meet a member of such a fables unit. I went a second time with a Retired IS Army Master Sargent recently retired from a Special Force unit, and a reporter from the Democrat Herald, and he gave the two warriors a great write up. The vet, Leroy Boyd honored me with a FIRST SPECIAL Service Forces Shoulder Patch which proudly hangs on the wall of my home.

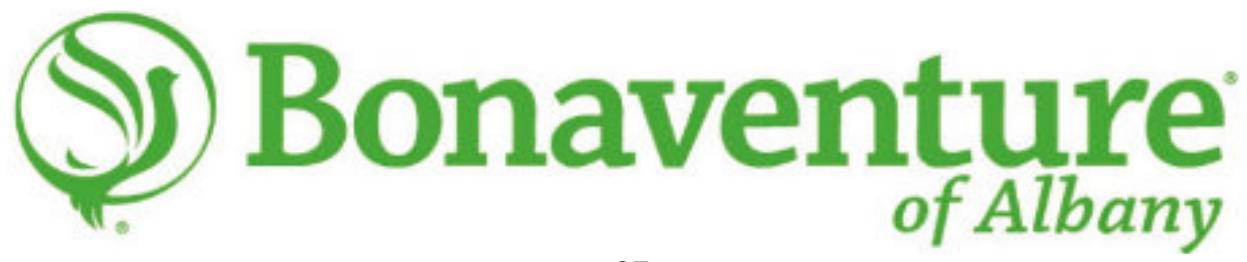
So that is the story if the evolution of the Veteran of the Year award to the combination of Veteran of the year and Distinguished Veterans, just a way to acknowledge more of our veterans for their service. WE SALUTE YOU.

Article by Bill Clotier



★ With respect, honor, and gratitude ★

THANK YOU VETERANS



Linn County

Veteran's Memorial

Simply put, the mission of the Linn County Veterans Memorial Association (LCVMA) is: "Building and Maintaining a Fitting and Proper Memorial", for all those citizen soldiers of Linn County who have died in service to our county in the wars and conflicts of the 20th and now the 21st centuries. The Linn County Veterans Memorial is the only memorial or venue that honors living and deceased veterans for their service. For this reason, it is a fitting and proper place for the annual memorial service every Veterans Day prior to the Linn County Veterans Day Parade held on the streets of Albany.

After years of planning and fundraising, The Linn County Veterans Memorial Association (LCVMA) presented the Albany Parks Department with the plan for the expansion including drawings, material estimates, and the scope of the planned expansion that the Memorial Association had been working on since 2013. The City of Albany then submitted an application for a 2020 Veterans and War Memorials Grant. Then the 2020 pandemic created a delay; later an approved grant, but without funding; and eventually, partial funding in the amount of \$11,250 on March 10,

2021, with a start date of March 8, 2021 and an end date of April 28, 2023. The Linn County Veterans Memorial Association (LCVMA) would like to thank: The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and Kuri Gill, Grant and Outreach Coordinator; Albany Parks and Recreation Director Kim Lyddane, Parks and Facilities Maintenance Manager Rick Barnett; Maintenance Crew including Don Lulay, Pete Shelby who are always great to work with; Debbie Little, Administrative Services Coordinator for her great handling of all the records, receipts, and reports necessary for the completion of the Oregon Parks Grant. An overwhelming majority of the labor has been volunteer, many of the materials were donated to the project by local merchants and businesses in the Mid-Willamette Valley. The LCVMA wishes to say thank you to all the people who donated time, materials, labor, and professional services necessary to complete this project: Gary Grossman and Gary Grossman Concrete for finishing and concrete work, River Bend Materials, Dave Perlenfein and the crew at Albany Rental for excavators, jumping jacks, compactors, wheel tractors, ditch diggers and trailers used for the complete project; Lowes Home Center for rebar, form material and miscellaneous stakes, screws, and construction tape; Riverbend Materials for their continuing support of the Linn County Veterans Memorial.

The Linn County Veterans Memorial grew by nearly one third between 2020 and 2023. The latest (and possibly the last) expansion of the memorial added about 200 feet of sidewalks north of the original memorial, and plinths (foundations) for an additional twelve sentry walls. A part of that





**Thank you
Veterans!**



Proven to **perform.**

Cont'd

expansion also involved moving the bronze plaques from the original Linn County War Memorial from the location near the kiosk and flags to the Veterans Grove in a similar location to where they originated many years ago. That relocation will allow for the building of a Gold Star Families Memorial which has been planned and is anticipated to be completed in 2024.

Funding for the expansion was raised by selling engraved bricks for the existing sentry walls and a grant from the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department, Heritage Program. The expansion was made possible through the continuing partnership between the Linn County Veterans Memorial Association and the City of Albany.

The LCVMA's mission was put in place by the late Garner Pool, the first President and one of

the founders of the Linn County Veterans Memorial Association, a non-profit corporation. In the beginning a majority of the bricks were purchased by living veterans for their own service

and their ancestors who also served. Today, that tradition continues, but the majority of the

bricks are purchased by surviving relatives of veterans who have passed on. An engraved brick to be placed on one of the sentry walls at the memorial can be purchased for any veteran who served honorably in the military by the veteran, a relative, or friend. The price, set at \$50 in 2006 has never changed. At first the price of the brick and the engraving was only about half of that amount, and the remainder of the money was



used to maintain the service flags, build more walls and pay for miscellaneous needs at the memorial. Today, the majority of the money goes to the brick itself, engraving costs, materials to apply the brick to the wall. The available space for sentry walls is limited, and there will be a time when the LCVMA will have to stop selling the sentry wall bricks and find innovative ways to continue to honor those who have served honorably.—

Most of all, President Robin Nygren, the officers, and board members of the LCVMA are most

thankful for living here in the Mid-Willamette Valley, where a supportive community truly believes

in honoring its veterans. For more information about the memorial, the purchase of sentry bricks, to volunteer, or donate to the building of the Gold Star Families Memorial, our mailing address is PO Box 2739, Albany, Oregon 97322.



"LCVMA seeks donations for The future Gold Star Family memorial monument depicted in above photo."



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**GOD BLESS Our
Veterans!**



We honor those who have served, those currently serving and their families.



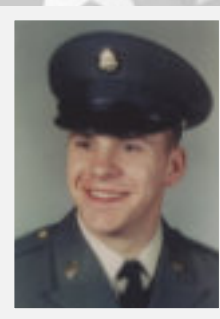
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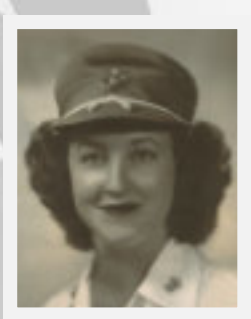
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Mike Egan



Dale E. Blanshan



Margaret Woods



James R Engel



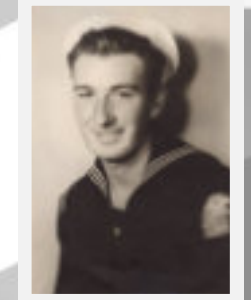
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Gilbert Pirk



Ed Robinson



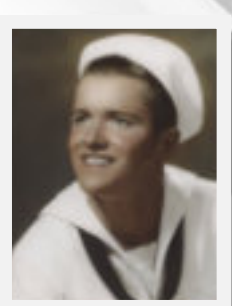
Ken Justus



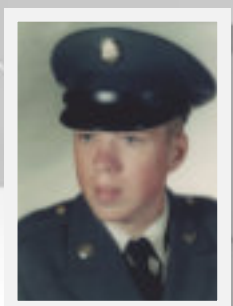
Leon Johnston



Herman (Frank)
Farmer



Fred Schafer



LeRoy E.
Pedersen



Mack Ashby



Ray Bidwell



John A.
Boock Sr



John R Camp



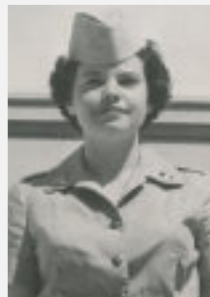
Virginia C Weir



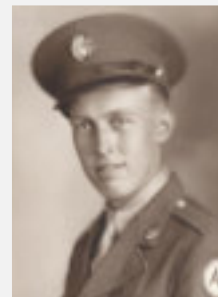
Carl Engstrom Jr



John Fruetel



Willa M. Brand
(Evans)



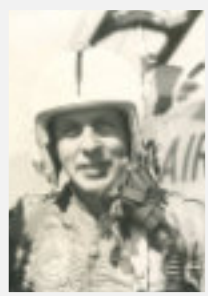
Art Jensen



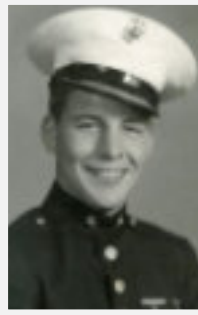
Gary Garrett



Gloria Galvan



Bud Spencer



Robert J Shine



Gary Zumwalt



Chet Russell



Mike Brady



Wesley W.
Whiting



Wm. N. (Nick)
Heineck



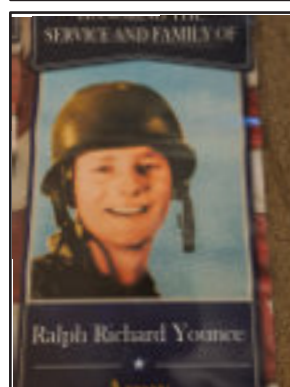
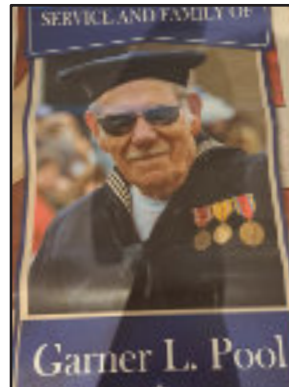
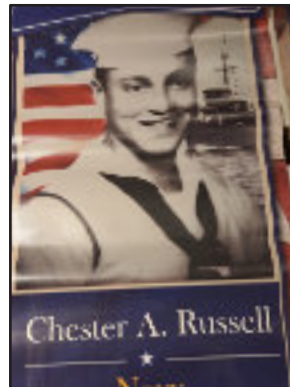
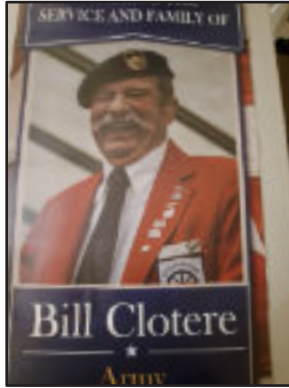
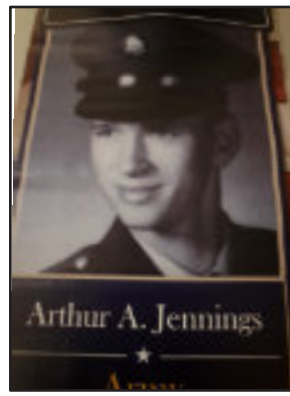
Peter F Butler



Ida Stemple

Burcham's
Metals

Banner Profiles

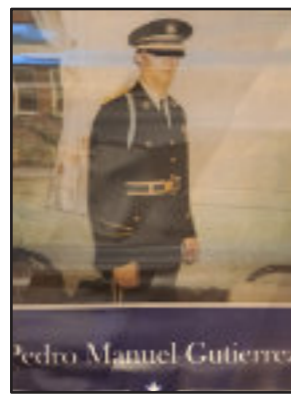




Watney Charles Knoffe



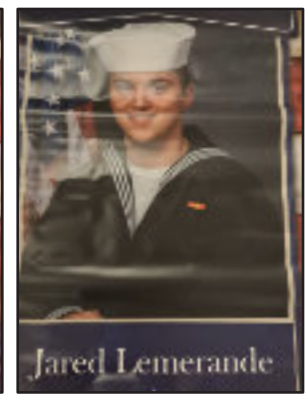
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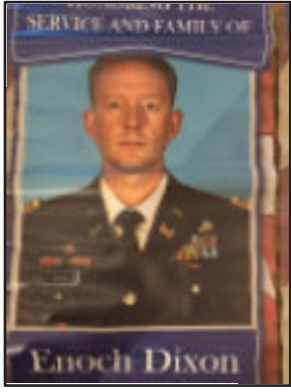
Pedro Manuel Gutierrez



Watney Charles Knoffe



Jared Lemerande



Enoch Dixon



Bill Burcham



Frank M. Marquis



Julian "Red" Van Buren



Claude Porter Rogers



René Paul Humbert



Charles "Chuck" Lewis



Drake R. Karstens



Carl F. Engstrom Jr.

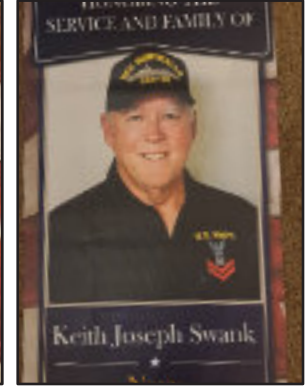
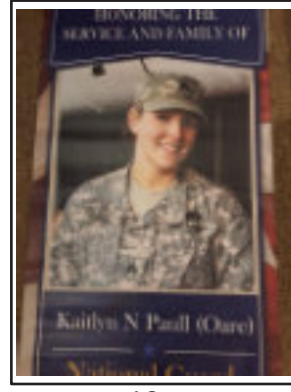
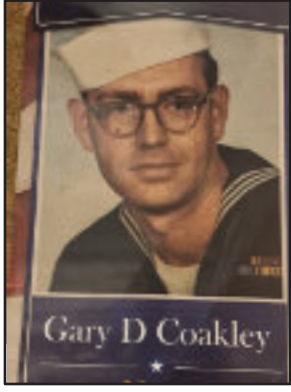
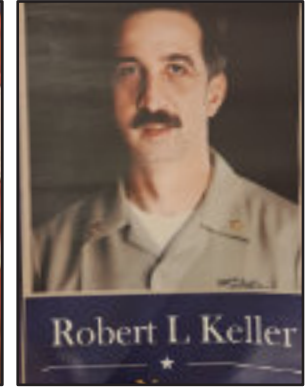
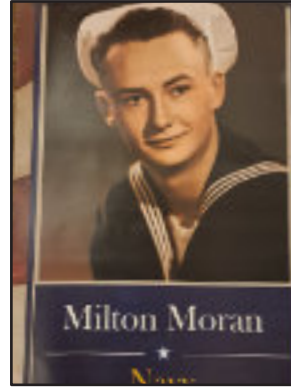
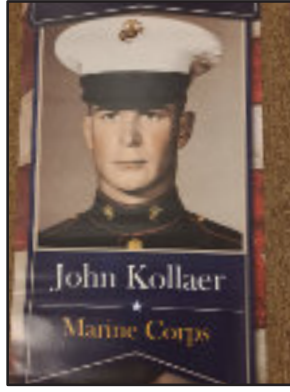
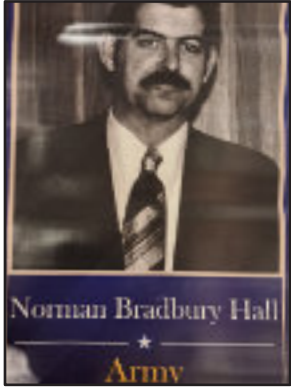
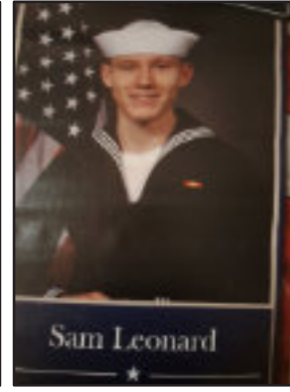
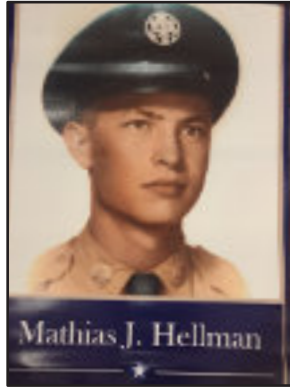
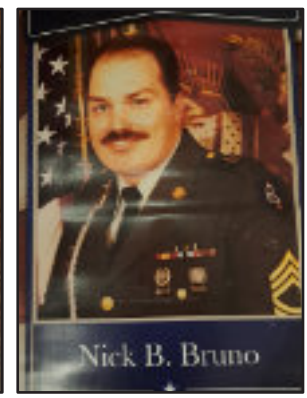


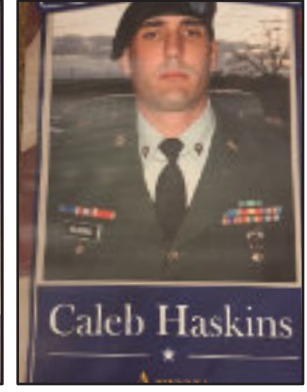
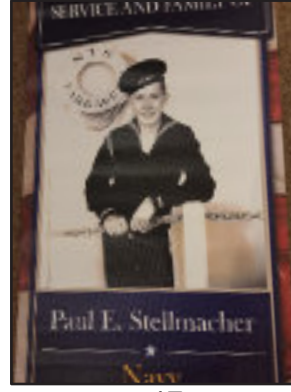
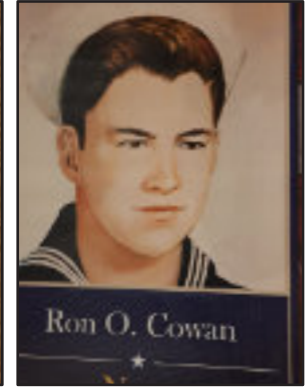
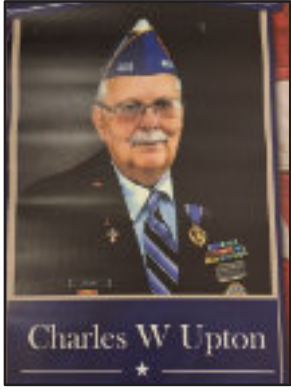
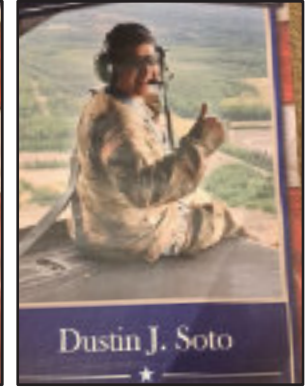
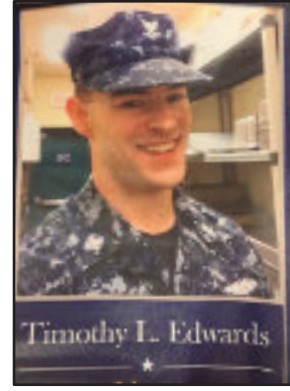
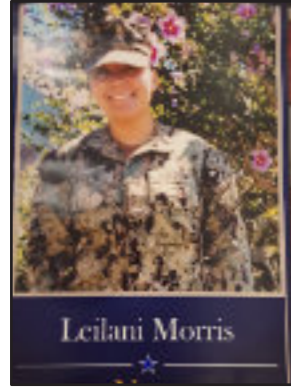
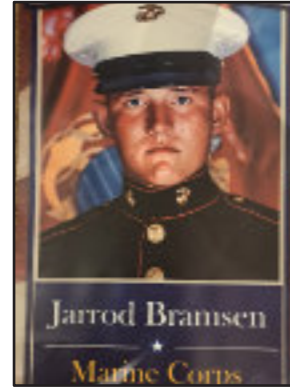
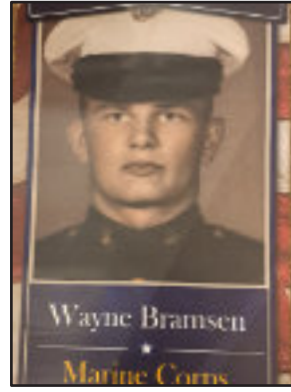
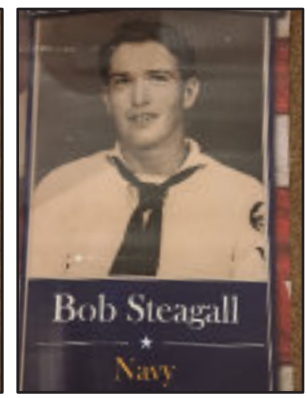
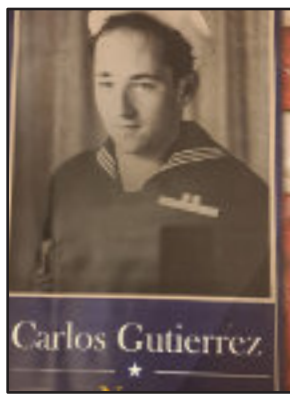
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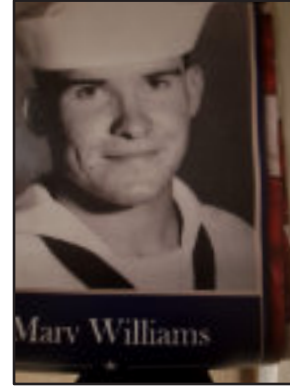
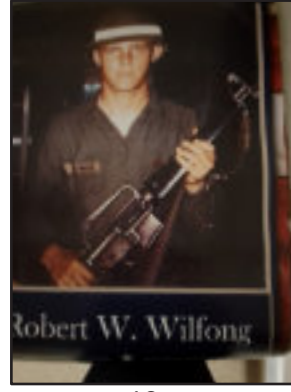
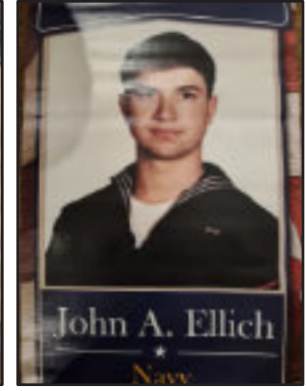
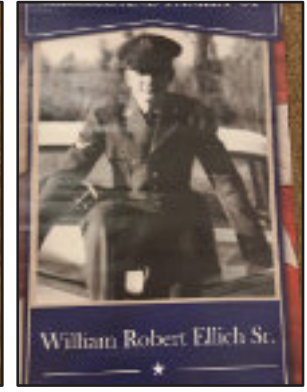
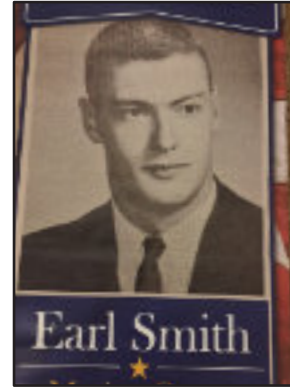
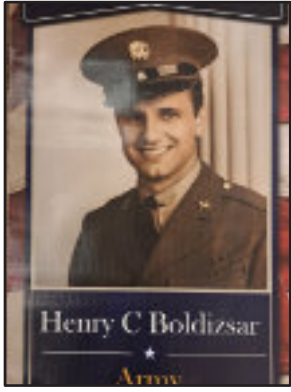
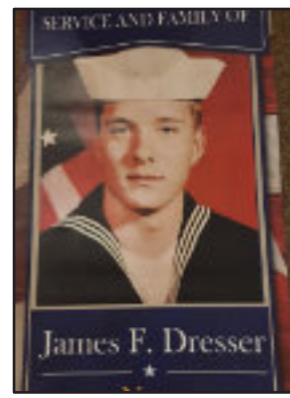
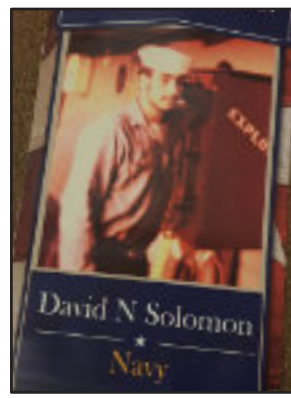
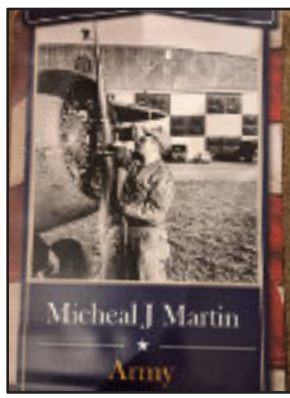


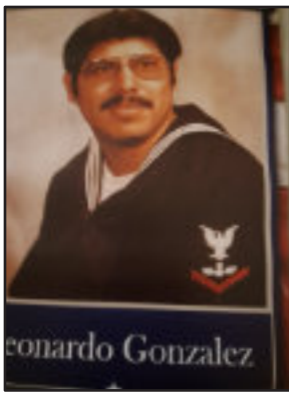
Tri-State Chapter











Leonardo Gonzalez



Travis Sigfridson



Martin Heintzman



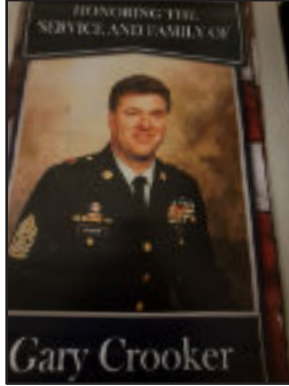
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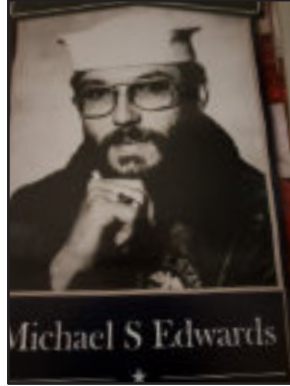
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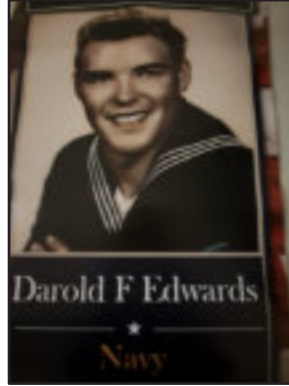
Gary Crooker



Gary Crooker



Michael S Edwards



Darold F Edwards

Navy



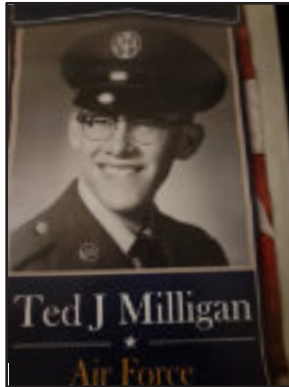
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Army



David R Wright

Army

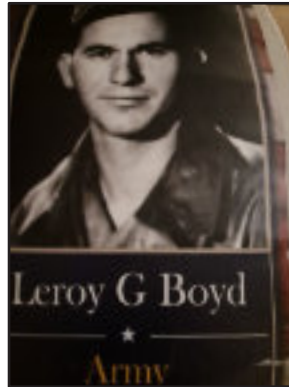


Ted J Milligan

Air Force



LCDR Robert S McClain



Leroy G Boyd

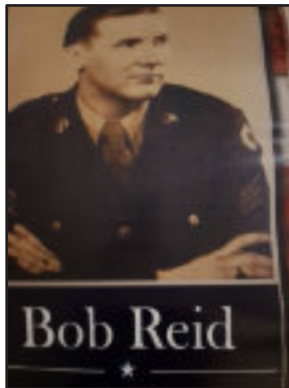
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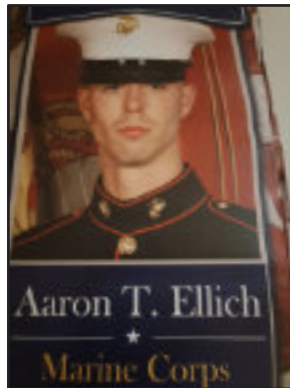
Robert C. Censky



Roger H Reid



Bob Reid



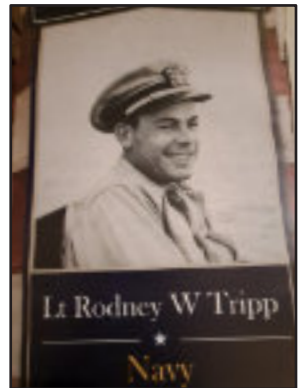
Aaron T. Ellich

Marine Corps



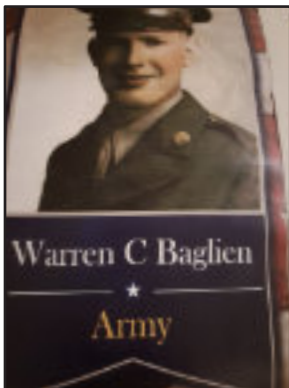
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Marine Corps



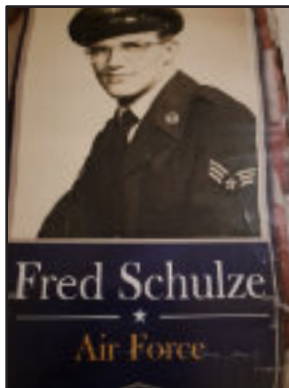
Lt Rodney W Tripp

Navy



Warren C Baglien

Army



Fred Schulze

Air Force

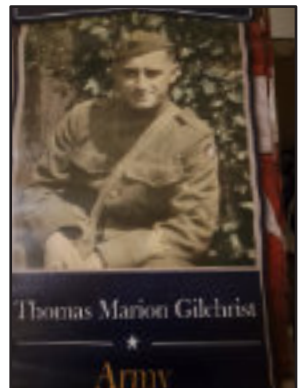


Richard Dean Ellwood



Harold Ellingson

Air Force



Thomas Marion Gilchrist

Army



Thurston Pierce Gilchrist



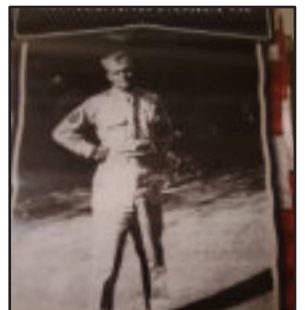
Douglas Blair



Bob Knight



Marland Leslie Rice



Marland Dee Rice



James R. Marshall



James L. Hope
Army



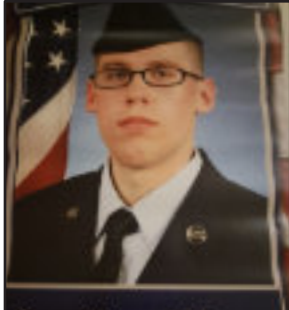
Olive T Doran



Patrick D. Wilson



Eric Aguinaga



Geoffrey Woytt



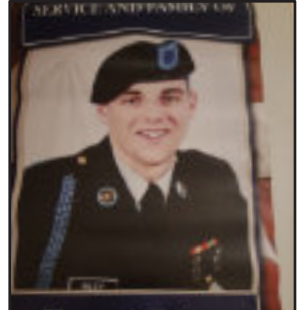
Stephen Woitt



Craig S Lilly
Marine Corps



Gage Bramsen
Marine Corps



Brent Riley



Del Riley



Bobbe Eugene Cornelious
Navy



Charles Dale Cornelious



R. Mack Ashby



Christine Bailey
Air Force



Jack R. Powers
Army



Matthew Allyn Morris



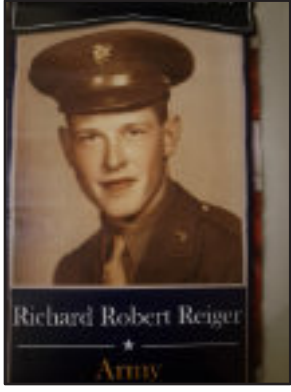
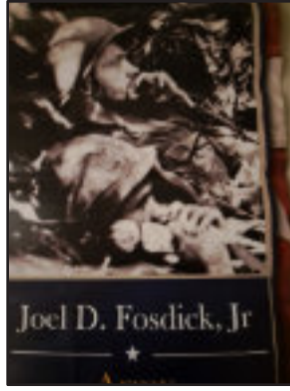
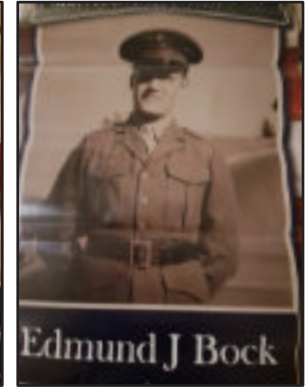
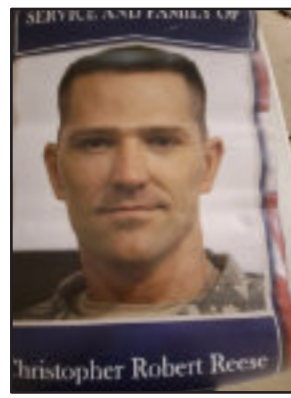
Robert B Morris



Keith Vincent Wardrip
Air Force



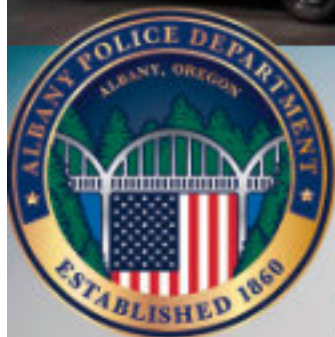
Don McMorris



A special thank you to the Mid-Willamette Family YMCA for continuing with the Veterans Day Parade tradition through two years of COVID restrictions.



Honoring all who served



A special thanks to the Albany Police Department for their continued support and making this year's parade possible!





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GOD BLESS
OUR VETERANS
★ ★ ★

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Today and everyday we honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

We salute your dedication, bravery, and love for this country.

You have our deepest gratitude and thanks.



THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following for their continued support.

Without them, the 2022 Linn County Veterans Day Parade would not be possible.

We are honored to continue the tradition of hosting the largest Veterans Day Parade west of the Mississippi.

Al Severson	Habitat for Humanity	Oregon Air National Guard
Albany Downtown Association	Hewlett-Packard	Oregon Department of Transportation
Albany Fire Department	Hope 107.9	Oregon National Guard
Albany Optimist Club	I-5 Sports	Oregon State Police
Albany Police Department	Jacob Wardrip	Peter Troedsson
American Legion Post 10 - Albany	James Wright	Phoenix Inn Suites Albany
American Legion Riders	Jay Burcham	Pop's Branding Iron Restaurant & Lounge
American Legion Unit 10 Auxiliary	Jay Grenard	Randy Martinak
AMVETS Post 1919	Jennifer Martin	Republic Services
ATI - Albany Operations	Jonald Gradwohl	Rick Barnette
Bejan Rejaian	KGAL/KSHO	Sam Moon
Burcham's Metals	KLOO	Sons of American Legion, Albany
Chris Reese	KRKT	Steve Adams
Christine Ferguson	Linda Rose	The Frame House
City of Albany	Linn County Expo Center	The Party Store
City of Albany Permits Department	Linn County Sheriff's Department	Tradewinds Transportation
City of Albany Transportation Operations	Linn County Sheriff's Mounted Posse	VFW Linn Auxiliary 584
Coastal Farm	Lt David Vaughn	VFW Linn Post 584
Corvallis Elks #1413	Margin Coffee Roasters	Wally Ordeman
Danny Perry	Mark Lamberty	West Albany High School
Debrah Houston	McCall Washburn	Will Tucker
Delores Peterson	mMASSmedia	Xtreme Grafx
Dianne Crooker	MSgt Nicholas Schaffer	



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Randy Martinak



D. Crooker

Donors

Will Tucker



Morning Star Grange No 311



Peter Troedsson



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Thank you for your service.