

As Veterans Day nears, Shaw Local thanks those who served for their sacrifices

Once again, Shaw Local News Network is pleased to present our readers with a special edition dedicated to thanking our nation's military veterans for their service.

About 18 million Americans – roughly 7% of the United States' population – can say they served in the armed forces dating to World War II, through the Korean War, the Vietnam era, Desert Shield/Desert Storm and the Global War on Terror, and in the conflicts and times of peace between, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Of those 18 million, more than 500,000 live in Illinois, census data shows.

Our nation's veterans come from all walks of life and a range of ages, with some older than 100. While many of these veterans volunteered to serve our country, others were drafted into the armed forces and saw combat protecting the U.S.



IEWS

Joe Hosey

In this special edition, you will find stories on those who served, what the military means to them, what they were doing before they joined the armed forces, what their lives are like now and how their service shaped their future lives.

These stories include a feature in the Daily Chronicle on a soldier who served in World War I, one whose story only came to light when his private journal turned up at an estate sale in DeKalb. There is a piece in the Sterling Gazette and Dixon Telegraph about an Oregon, Illinois, native who enlisted in the Navy, served aboard a heavy cruiser, saw action in World War II's Pacific Theater and celebrated his 100th birthday in March.

There is even an article, also in the Gazette and the Telegraph, on a soldier who fought in the Revolutionary War before moving with his family from Pennsylvania clear across the young and growing country to settle in Whiteside County, where a commemorative plaque recently

was installed in his honor.

Even if you don't subscribe to the Chronicle, Gazette or Telegraph, as a subscriber to any Shaw Local News Network publication, you can read these stories and all the special veterans edition stories appearing in our newspapers and on our websites.

In addition to these stories, we also have letters of gratitude penned to specific veterans. This edition also includes stories on organizations and events formed to help and support veterans, as well as ways to help and support veterans yourself.

Our staff of writers, photographers and editors worked hard on this edition, and their dedication and devotion is obvious in the product. We are confident you will enjoy it.

So with Veterans Day just days away, all of us at Shaw Media wish to express our gratitude to those who served.

Thank you, veterans.

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LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

Granville to observe Veterans Day with service

Granville Veterans Day services will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 11, at the village of Mark Veteran's Memorial.

Members of the Granville American Legion Post 180 and the VFW Putnam County Memorial Post 8324 will be taking part in the services.

Putnam County libraries to host art, friendship bracelet workshops

The Putnam County Library District will host a pair of events the week of Nov. 11.

The Putnam County Public Library will host an art workshop for youth at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12, at the Granville Branch, 214 S. McCoy St., using the tape resist technique. Materials will be provided. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, call



Gary Middendorf

Granville Veterans Day services will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 11, at the village of Mark Veteran's Memorial.

the Granville Library at 815-339-2038.

Friendship bracelets are formed by a series of knots that create a woven pattern by indigenous people of Central and South America. At 4 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 13, the public is invited to stop by the McNabb Branch, 322 W.

Main St., to learn how to create basic knots and patterns. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, call the McNabb Library at 815-339-2038.

Putnam churches to host Union Thanksgiving Service in Tonica

The churches of Putnam County will join together at 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 17, for a Union Thanksgiving Service at the Tonica United Methodist Church, 423 E. Wauponis St.

Pastor Dave Krumphardt of County Line Lutheran Church will preach. Pastor Phil Jackson of Tonica and Hennepin United Methodist churches will be the host pastor. A free-will offering will be taken for the Putnam County Food Pantry. A fellowship hour will follow after the service. All are welcome to join in a service of gratitude and thanks.

– Shaw Local News Network

ON THE COVER

U.S. Marine veteran Gordon Parks poses for a photo outside his home on Monday, Oct. 7, in La Salle. Parks was a Marine who fought in the Vietnam War. See story on page 3.

Photo by Scott Anderson