

Library's Resources Educate Patrons on Sacrifices Made by Veterans

Today is Veterans Day which according to the Department of Veterans Affairs "is the day set aside to thank and honor all those who served honorably in the military - in wartime or peacetime. Veterans Day is largely intended to thank living veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served - not only those who died - have sacrificed and done their duty." <http://www.va.gov/opa/vetsda>

With that being said, I would like to extend my appreciation of the service and sacrifices made by the veterans of our country. According to the Census Bureau, there are 23.7 million living veterans in the US. Most of you know at least one and probably many. Several of my family members have served, and I am especially proud to say that my brother, Bradley Hatton, will be reporting to basic training for the United States Air Force in two days. Words can never express the gratitude that we feel for our veterans, but please try today by saying thanks.

While those that didn't serve can never fully comprehend the sacrifices that have been made on our behalf, the Bartholomew County Public Library has materials that can certainly add to your appreciation of these servicemen and women. The following materials that show life on the front lines can be used to help give us a picture of what war is really like:

"All Quiet on the Western Front"- Fic Rem and DVD All
Erich Maria Remarque's haunting novel about the tragedies and realities of World War I as seen through the eyes of Paul Baumer, a young German soldier.

"The War" – DVD 940.53 War
Ken Burns' 7-part documentary takes a close look at the impact World War II had on the world through portrayal of four individuals from four communities that could represent any town in the US.

"Korean War Stories"- DVD 951.9042 Kor
Veterans share their stories of the "Forgotten War," reminding the viewer of the human and social costs the Korean War had on the US.

The Outpost War: US Marines in Korea, Vol. I 1952- 951.9042 Bal
The Final Crucible: US Marines in Korea, Vol. II 1953"- 951.9042 Bal
Author Lee Ballenger presents the perspective of front line soldiers during the last years of the war.

"American Warrior: A Combat Memoir of Vietnam"- 959.7043 Bah
General John C. Bahnsen tells the story of his two tours of duty in Vietnam.

"Voices from the Front"- 956.7044 Voi
This is a powerful collection of letters from American soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"The Blog of War"- 956.7044 Bur
This book written by Matthew Currier Burden, creator of one of the most popular blogs on the internet gives an "uncensored, intimate, and authentic version of life in the war zone."

"In the Company of Soldiers: A Chronicle of Combat" - 956.7044 Atk
Pulitzer Prize winner Rick Atkinson details his life while serving as a reporter
embedded with the 101st Airborne Division.

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