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VETERANS DAY 2005

A day to thank those who served

Honor those serving now, too, says vet of World War II

BY PHILIP SIDES Journal Times

RACINE — Veterans Day is a time to remember and honor all of America's servicemen and women, not just those who are veterans of past wars, Robert Olesen said.

It's important because of sacrifices made and lives lost during World War II. It's important to remember because it's part of our history. Olesen, a past commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1101, wants Racine County to have a place to store its military history.

"We want to create a museum through our Legacy Program because World War II follows are dying off. It's one of a few," Olesen said.

Local veterans groups have joined forces to build a new veterans headquarters in Racine. The new Legacy Military Museum and Veterans Center will celebrate freedom and honor the military service of Racine County veterans.

It will be located in part in the current Veterans Center, 60 Main St. But in 1984, this building was once home to Racine's founding father, Capt. Gilbert Kingsley. Currently the building is owned by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1101.

Robert Olesen received the Silver Battle Star and the Bronze Battle Star for his service with the elite 101st Airborne in Europe during World War II.

SCOTT ANDERSON/Journal Times



PANTHER PRIDE



Kathy Hainchek, left, buys a panther hat Thursday at Park High School from Jean Bertrando, center, and Cathy Lynn May of the Panther Basketball booster club. The hats sell for \$10. The panther is the school mascot, and sales of school souvenirs are high as the team heads to last Saturday's state semifinal football game against Marshfield. About 2,000 tickets to the game had been sold at Park by last Thursday morning. For more on the Park football team, turn to Sports, 1C.

A woman's remains found at Avery family salvage yard

BY DOUG ERICKSON Leo Newspapers



ST. JOHN — Friends and family of Steve Halbach helped their search for the missing woman Thursday morning and returned to the sections of her parents' home.

On Thursday afternoon, police revealed that portions of human bones of an adult female and human teeth had been found near Halbach's abandoned sport utility vehicle in rural Shawano County.

And the SUV's key was found in the bedroom of a man who was freed from prison after serving 18 years for a rape he did not commit, police said.

"The whole thing is devastating and horrific," said Ryan Hillegas, 25, a close friend of Halbach's who was speaking for the family Thursday. "Everyone has so many thoughts running through their heads right now. The news is hitting everyone hard."

Cabaret County Sheriff Gerald Pugh said Thursday the case was a homicide investigation. No charges have been filed. He said police are waiting for more forensic results before conclusively identifying the remains.

Hillegas, 25, of St. John, about 15 miles southeast of Appleton, disappeared Wednesday afternoon.

A forensic photographer for Auto Trader Magazine, she had three scheduled appointments Oct. 31 for the publication, including one at Avery's Salvage Yard near Marshfield, which is run by the family of Steven Avery. Avery was released from prison two years ago after spending 18 years in prison for a rape he did not commit. New DNA evidence proved his innocence.

Avery resides at the salvage yard along with his parents, his brother and other family members. Halbach's SUV was found Thursday.

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At 104, Brown's memories of World War I remain vivid

BY DOUGLASS K. DANIEL Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Lloyd Brown remembers Armistice Day as 1918 as few — ever so few — veterans can.

"For the servicemen there were lots of hugs and kisses," recalls Brown, of Charlotte Hall, Md., a lounge seaman aboard the battleship USS New Hampshire, in port Baltimore when the fighting stopped. "We were so happy that the war was over."

"There's not too many of us around any more," said Brown, 104, who has been mostly forgotten by many of America's World War I veterans and children. Veterans Day, which marks the armistice of Nov. 11, 1918, that ended what then was considered the Great War. An estimated 2 million

Americans served in Europe after the U.S. entered the war in 1917. Today, the Veterans Affairs Department lists just eight veterans as receiving disability benefits or pension compensation from service in World War I. It says a few others are alive, too, but the government does not have a comprehensive list.

The Great Bureau stopped asking for data about those veterans years ago. Using a report of 10,000 alive in 1990 as a baseline, the VA estimates that no more than 90 remain, perhaps as few as 30.

World War I faded by intense nationalism and conflicting economic and colonial interests, began in the Balkans in 1914 and quickly spread across Europe because of military alliances. The New Hampshire when the fighting stopped.



Lloyd Brown, a 104-year-old World War I veteran, smiles Wednesday at his home in Charlotte Hall, Md. Brown remembers Armistice Day as 1918 as few, ever so few, veterans can. "For the servicemen there were lots of hugs and kisses," he recalls. Brown, a 16-year-old seaman aboard the battleship USS New Hampshire when the fighting stopped.

Should gun groups be exempt from lawsuits?

BY JIM ROSS Associated Press

Debatable

MIAMI — The state Senate acted Wednesday to shield the firearms industry, shooting ranges and sporting associations from civil lawsuits stemming from gun violence, opposing legislation similar to a federal law approved by Congress this fall.

Supporters say the Wisconsin bill is needed because of the additional protections it would afford gun clubs, shooting ranges and sporting associations not included in the federal law. President Bush signed this month.

Opponents argue it lets gun companies off the hook at the expense of victims' rights. Should Wisconsin law shield gun-based organizations from civil lawsuits stemming from gun violence? The state bill has already passed the Assembly and next goes to Gov. Jim Doyle. A spokesman for the governor said he would veto the legislation because the gun industry should not have special protection from lawsuits.

"It doesn't make any sense in Wisconsin to go even farther than President Bush has in protecting gun manufacturers," Dan Ledlaw said.

An oversight of the governor's veto would require a two-thirds vote in the Assembly.

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Bottom section containing 'Your Paper', 'Your Weather', 'Coming This Week in the Journal Times', and 'Monday' with various news snippets and a 'Don't Let the Pump Pass You By' advertisement.

