

News Release

Color Guard, Ceremony, and Speaker Commemorate Veterans Day at the U of M Crookston

By Itolles on Tuesday, November 8, 2011

The Veterans Club will be hosting a Color Guard and Ceremony at the University of Minnesota, Crookston flag pole November 11, 2011, in commemoration of the men and women who died serving our country. The event will begin at 11:11 a.m. on the Campus Mall and everyone is welcome to attend.

The Veterans Club chose the time 11:11 a.m. because it ties into the origin of Veterans Day. Veterans Day was originally called "Armistice Day" and mainly recognized WWI veterans. Armistice Day celebrated the armistice which ended WWI. That armistice was signed at 11:11 a.m. on the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918. After WWII, Armistice Day was changed to Veterans Day to honor all war veterans.



The commemoration of Veterans Day is a long standing tradition on the Crookston campus dating back to the earliest days of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial. The memorial was constructed in 1920 in honor of the young men and women who attended the Northwest School of Agriculture, predecessor of the U of M, Crookston, who died serving our country. Since then, more plates have been added commemorating not only those in the military who attended Northwest School of Agriculture but the University of Minnesota Technical Institute in Crookston and the University of Minnesota, Crookston as well.

In addition to the color guard and flag ceremony on Friday, the Veterans Club at the U of M, Crookston will be hosting a Veterans Day presentation in Kiehle Auditorium at 1 p.m.. Featured guest speaker Stewart Bass, a naval aviator who flew in WWII and was awarded the Navy Cross for valor in action, will be discussing the carrier war, operations in the Pacific, and flying the TBM. The public is invited.

Today the University of Minnesota, Crookston delivers 26 bachelor's degree programs, 18 minors, and 36 concentrations, including 10 online degrees, in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of 1,600 undergraduates from 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.umcrookston.edu.

In the photos:

Top, right: In 2007, members of the Vets Club placed a wreath at the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial located near entrance at the U of M, Crookston. It is a longstanding tradition on the campus.

Bottom, left: In 1966, Bruce Stromstad, student body president at the Northwest School of Agriculture laid a wreath at the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial.

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