

Your Library Today



Mr. Breitsprecher's Edition

November 2008: Special Veterans Day Issue

FREE!

Veterans Day 2008: Stevens Point, WI

See This Historic Celebration

Online 24/7 at: www.mylmcweb.com

Armistice Day, the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the 11th month marks the end of the "*War to End All Wars*." This conflict is commonly called *World War I*. Most people refer to Armistice Day as "*Veterans Day*."

Every spring, our nation pays homage to deceased veterans and comrades on Memorial Day. On Veterans Day, we honor our living veterans, always remembering sacrifices by those that gave their lives fighting for freedom and the United States of America.

The community of Stevens Point observes this national holiday at Memorial Park. This is the site of a monument that was dedicated to our nation's veterans in 1923.

The park includes a plaque listing all of the people who served in "The War to End All Wars." The plaque was erected through the efforts of the *Stevens Point Woman's Club* and was dedicated on July 5th, 1923.

It is an Honor Roll in memory of those from this community that answered their country's call. "*Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends.*"

Speakers at the 2008 event included Master of Ceremonies "Gunner" Michael Pohl, State Senator Julie Lassa, State Representative Louis J. Molepske, Jr., Portage County Executive Mark Maslowski, Vietnam War Veteran Phillip Kallas, and Lieutenant Colonel Jeffrey Kurka.

Our local **VFW Post #568** provided support and a 21-Gun Salute. **Portage County Veterans Service Department** helped organize the details of this successful event.

Please look for the *VETERANS DAY 2008* link at the above website. Stevens Point Library Media Specialist Bill Breitsprecher, Jeanne Erickson of *Leccia & Associates, Any and All Video* of Madison, and *CLUB TNT* (www.clubtnt.org) provided videography for this event.

CLUB TNT, an award winning youth TV show on *My Madison*

TV14, is entering its 11th season of broadcast. We "*use the media of entertainment to inform and educate.*"

We are grateful to share with the community of Stevens Point. Our webcast coverage is a compressed format for streaming; however, we also have formats suitable for DVDs and broadcast.

Veterans Memorial Park Monument Restoration

Created in 1923, Stevens Point proudly honors the soldiers who lost their lives in World War I with a monument located in Veterans Memorial Park on the South side of town, just across the street from the 2713 Train Display on Business 51. This historic monument consists of a flag pole and base with a bronze tablet. It lists those who died in service to their country.

This important monument has been exposed to Wisconsin's weather extremes for 85 years. The concrete is cracked, spalling and stained. The outer concrete ring of the monument's sidewalk needs repair from years of shifting due to the frost heaves. Originally, the monument included 18 bollards that lined the outer ring. Since then, they have since been removed. The restoration will put the display back to its original appearance, using 21 Century technology and building standards. The goals of the project include:

- New Flag Pole
- Reburnish the existing bronze plaques
- Rebuild the central concrete structure
- Rebuild the outer concrete ring
- Replace sidewalk as needed
- Replace the original bollards
- Personalize brick in perimeter of sidewalk
- Target completion date: Spring 2009

You can help by:

1. Purchasing a memorial brick
2. Sending a donation to *Veterans Memorial Restoration Fund*, C/O Community Foundation of Portage County, P.O. Box 968, Stevens Point, WI 54481

If you have questions about the restoration project or want to help make it successful, please contact Andree Monroe at 715-345-1909 or John S. Kendrowski at 715-344-0619. Your support is appreciated!