Letters, photos and biographical information for this special section were provided by the Perry County Military History Museum and curators Caroline and John Rain.

Thank you to all who served!

Mayor Ken Baer

Bening Ford

We are the land of the FREE
and the HOME of the BRAVE!

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VETERANS DAY

HONORING OUR BRAVE VETERANS

As our Armed Forces fight to protect our freedom abroad, we are reminded of the sacrifices made by so many brave soldiers before them. On Veterans Day, we honor the memories and deeds of all the veterans who have served our country. We are tremendously grateful for their dedication and service.

2 East St., Murphysboro, MO
231 W. Main, Perryville, MO
Food Center, (573) 547-9023

Today we remember our heroes & we salute you.

VETERANS’ DAY 2020

1314 Brenda Ave. in Perryville | 573.517.0405

On Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11

Looking for new members. We invite you to come join us.

1203 West Joseph St.

Perryville, MO

We invite members to march with us in the parade.
Parade starts at the American Legion on Wednesday, November 11.
Dear Mr. and Mrs. ______:

Curt Vogel, U.S. Army Air Corps member, will be called upon to do the job we’ve been prepared to do for our crew because he knows and does his job well.

Second that your boy, and the other nine members of the crew, have been given the most complete training possible to prepare them for this war. August of that year. Four months later, the Japanese Navy launched a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii,” Vogel wrote.

“You will want my boy’s safety guarded.”

I realize how priceless a boy is to his parents, and I assure you, that as his pilot, I will guard his safety as carefully as I would want my boy’s safety guarded. Trusting in God for the safety and well-being of our crew.

Trusting in God for the safety and well-being of our crew.

February 20, 1944

Curt Vogel II, was born. Vogel and his crew flew 30 combat missions in Europe — 29 as “Rough Riders” and the last in a plane called “Princess Pat” — as part of the 755th Squadron, 495th Bombardment Group, 96th Bombardment Wing (H) and 2nd Division of the 8th Air Force.

He wrote a letter to the families of each of his crew on the eve of their first mission.

“I realize how priceless a boy is to his parents, and I assure you, that as his pilot, I will guard his safety as carefully as I would want my boy’s safety guarded.”

After serving in WWII, Vogel later served in Korean conflicts.

February 20, 1944

Curt Vogel was born October 19, 1916, in Altenburg to the Rev. Adolph and Magdalena (Spilker) Vogel.

He married Billie Jean Bumgarner on Feb. 7, 1940, and opened a law practice in Perryville in August of that year. Four months later, the Japanese Navy launched a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, Harbor, Hawaii,” Vogel wrote in a memoir. “We lived only a block from the theatre we were told the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.” Vogel wrote.

In memory of, in honor of all, Thank you

February 20, 1944

“Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity.”

General George Patton

Altenburg
Charles Moore, 20, of Perryville, was the son of Roscoe Moore, himself a veteran of World War I and his wife, Mildred, a teacher.

Charles was active in his church and played guard and halfback on the Perryville High School football team. He worked at the local drug store and wanted to be a lawyer like his father. He graduated from PHS and one month later, enlisted in the Marine Corps. He saw action on Guadalcanal and Tarawa, then Saipan.

As a Marine serving in the South Pacific during World War II, Moore participated in at least two amphibious landings — one on Guadalcanal, one on Tarawa — before his final one on the island of Saipan.

“Both times, I had a nice comfortable beachhead set up ahead of me so that things were pretty easy,” Moore wrote in a letter home before the battle on Saipan, one he hoped his parents would never read. “This time I’m in an assault wave.”

Years later, a former student at PHS wrote a letter about one of his teachers, Mrs. Moore.

“One of my teachers was a very elegant lady named Mrs. Moore,” the letter read. “Mrs. Moore always seemed so sad. Her husband was a successful lawyer. She had a nice home and a wonderful family. When I would talk to Mrs. Moore, you could see the sadness in her smile. Why was this one teacher? A Marine, a wonderful family. When I would talk to Mrs. Moore, you could see the sadness in her smile. Why was this one teacher?”

Moore was killed in action June 15, 1944.
JOSEPH LUNDY JR.
U.S. MARINE CORPS
Perryville

WALDEMAR TRAPP
U.S. NAVY
Apple Creek

Joseph Lundy Jr. was born June 28, 1923, in Butler County, and received a Purple Heart after being wounded in action. During the war, he married Viola Buchheit on July 7th, 1948, and raised three sons – Michael, Mark and John — and four daughters – Mary Ellen Lundy, Pat Brier, Carol Bryan and Ann Koester. Lundy, who died in 2002, was a postal worker and police officer for 35 years and a former employee of the International Shoe Company, and a member of American Legion Post No. 133, VFW Post No. 482, AmVets, Disabled American Veterans and was the past chairman for the American Legion. Years later, his son Michael, who died in December, served as a commander of the Perryville chapter of the Sons of the American Legion, and was instrumental in bringing the Missouri National Veterans Memorial and the Missouri Veterans Hall of Fame to life, in addition to having Perryville declared a Purple Heart City.

Waldemar Trapp of Apple Creek served as a Seaman 1st Class aboard the USS Hollandia, a Coast Guard-class aircraft carrier escort vessel commissioned out of Port Said in Brummett, Wash. During his time in service — from Jan. 24, 1944, to March 16, 1946 — he traveled across the South Pacific, from Pearl Harbor to New Guinea, Guadalcanal, Marshall Islands, Caroline Islands, Guam, Saipan, Okinawa, and ultimately Tokyo where the Hollandia was on hand for the Japanese surrender.

Trapp was born March 26, 1925, to Hugo and Josephine (Michael) Trapp of Apple Creek. He was baptized and educated in the parish of St. Joseph of Apple Creek. He was described as a talented farmer, and served as the caretaker of the holy grounds of St. Mary’s Seminary and the National Shrine of the Mysterious Virgin in Perryville for 21 years.

According to his obituary, published after his death in 2019, Waldemar was an amateur organ/pianist and a lover of sacred and classical music, new cars, baseball, bowling. He also enjoyed traveling for music concerts, sightseeing, cooking and grilling. His common sense of mind, good taste, kindness, charm and ethical character identified him as a man deserving of many respectful friends and family members.

After the war, he married Ada Schrattenbach on Sept. 16, 1949, and raised three children, twins Kathy and Ken, and son Lynn.
By Christopher Simon
Special to the Republic-Monitor

Sigmund Freud, the Viennese
physician-psychiatrist and founder
of psychoanalysis, was often seen
as the psychologist of the Second
World War.

That is, he lived through the
war and faced its immediate
consequences, as we write, in
what the Nazis were doing in
Europe.

As a Jew, he was forced to
leave Austria in 1938 and emigrate
to London (although friends had
been invited to leave Austria as early
as 1933).

It was too late: just months
before the second World War,
Freud composed of two opposing
instinctual drives, is, according
to Freud, composed of two opposing
forces, the Libido (or life forces,
and the Thanatos, or death
instincts. These unruly forces are
kept in check by the Ego (our
conscious decision-making faculty)
and the Superego (essentially our
conscience or moral faculty), but
in times of war, we sometimes see
the destructive forces of the Id
unleashed in great upheavals of
destruction, raping and pillaging.
And even when they’re “war crazed,”
we rarely see them as an essentially
destructive force.

In 1939, the world was
embroiled with this issue in a
short treatise published just a few
months after the onset of the first
World War, titled “Reflections on
War and Death.” Einstein went on in
this letter to lament that great
leaders of man in the realm of
philosophy and religion, from Jesus
to Goethe and Kant, have all been
relatively ineffective in influencing
the affairs of humankind.

Political leaders like Mussolini
and Hitler have mono-motivated
and sadly been more effective at
manipulating large masses of men to
take up arms and slaughter their
fellow human beings than have
religions and intellectual leaders at
convincing them to do the opposite.
This is a problem that we have
wolved in today: Why are people so
easily motivated to fear and hate
their fellow human beings?

World War II drove home a
salient fact about the human race:
we are social beings, herd animals,
if you will, and governments can
all too easily convince us to turn
against those who are perceived as
“other.” Paul Ricoeur, whether those
others are political others, or just
different enough in appearance or
likeliness so that we can see them
as alien and dangerous.

It is also worth noting that in the 20th and 21st centuries, the
evild killer has been organized
governments against their own
people.

Hitler killed six million of
his own people. Stalin probably killed
half of his in purges; and the Khmer
Rouge killed somewhere between 20-25
percent of the Cambodian people
during their reign from 1975-1979.

These were all intentional
killings. If we count the
unnecessary deaths caused by
misguided attempts at social
engineering (such as the famines
experienced in the Soviet Union
and China), those numbers are even
higher.

Perhaps the situation is not
really so horrible.

The Harvard psychologist
Steven Pinker has argued that if we
take a broader look at history, we
see that we are living in far
less violent times and that things
are much better than the
foregoing paragraph might suggest.
In his book “The Better Angels of
Our Nature,” Pinker outlines six major
historical declines of violence,
including the pacification process,
the civilizing process and the
revolutionary processes. We are
currently living in what he calls
the “long peace” (the last 75-year
period after the two great
world wars) and also in what he
calls “the new peace” (the
climate of organized conflict since
the end of the cold war).

And finally, there has been
a new rights revolution, which has
expanded rights to formerly
vulnerable populations, such as
ethnic minorities, women, children,
gay and transgender people, and
animals. All of this is perhaps
reason for optimism.

But we do well to remember that
history moves in waves, and like a
pandemic, it swings back. The art
of history may bend toward justice,
but it doesn’t move in a straight
line.

Amidst the long peace, we have
the genocide in Syria. And on our
southern border we have people
lined up flanking movements or
illegitimate regimes in Central
and South America.

History can repeat itself, but it
probably won’t look exactly like it
did in 1939.