The meaning of home

By Duane Wright
duwright@thebluefielddaily.com

WASHINGTON — At the end of a speech road on the northeast side of Gallipoli County lives a man who lives a quiet life and truly believes there is no place like home. John Kenneth Russell, an enlisted U.S. Army Sergeant and World War II veteran was born on Russell Road and said it was likely named after his family. Even after traveling Europe, Russell still says his favorite place to go is home. He joked that one of the medical professionals had never seen a man who had no holes. One might say Russell’s home is his hobby. Russell said he made his house with his wife, Marlene, over the course of a number of years, building as the family could afford it. Currently, Russell lives with his granddaughter, Melissa Russell Blank, her husband Andrew and their son AJ. The World War II veteran says he prefers a simple life and made a living as a farmer, but died as a bus driver for 18 years for North Gallia School as well as having worked with the Ohio Department of Transportation. Perhaps the most significant thing about Russell is that he was a bus driver because he loved children. Russell said he started working in his mid-teens and didn’t quit until two years ago. Despite living a quiet life, those close to him would know that Russell’s early 20s were anything but quiet. “I believe I was 21 when I entered the military,” said Russell. “I joined the Air Force (US Army Air Forces) unit. I served as a kind of mechanic with a motor pool and then we moved into the Army.”

Reflecting on service in a time of change

By Sarah Hawley
shawley@thebluefielddaily.com

POMEMOUR — Our country has seen many changes in the past decades, recalled U.S. Army veteran Joe Struble, now in his late 80s. Struble served in the Army with the Military Police from 1951-53 during the Korean War. He recalled when he was growing up and in school, at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month they stopped to remember Armistice Day. The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month (Nov. 11, 11:11) was significant as that was when peace was declared at the end of the World War I. Armistice Day became a federal holiday in 1938 by the United States. Following World War II and the Korean War, the day became known as Veterans Day.

During his service, Struble was in the 322d Military Police Company. Struble said that there were originally 100 people in the group, coming from all walks of life as well as being from all the states. One of the highest school students hired to work in a defense plant in Lanes- caster, a job that ended as soon as the war was over. In his early years with the Legion, Veterans Day saw a role in service. In the summer of 1945, while the United States was in World War II, Struble was one of the high-school students who worked in a defense plant in Lanes- caster, a job that ended as soon as the war was over. In his early years with the Legion, Veterans Day saw a role in service. In the summer of 1945, while the United States was in World War II, Struble was one of the high-school students who worked in a defense plant in Lanes- caster, a job that ended as soon as the war was over. In his early years with the Legion, Veterans Day saw a role in service.

Joe Struble during his service as Military Police

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Finding lessons in faith and family in Vietnam
By Bob McMillan

From serving country to serving a village

MEIGS COUNTY — With a heart full of pride, Bob Miles walked into the Recorder's Office at the Cannon County Courthouse to apply to be a code enforcement officer for the village of Pomeroy.

“My father did that, so I'm just trying to follow in his footsteps,” Miles said, referring to his father, Alan Miles, who was a Seabee in the Vietnam War.

During training he went to different cities of California, Mississippi, and Iceland. Deployment expanded his horizons even further to Japan, The Philippines, Iraq, and Kuwait. "Alas,” Japan was his favorite deployment station as it was well run and few complications arose. Miles stated, “I really loved it due to the people there. Some were very traditional and loved to share with you. They very much know about that service during a time of war, the same way his father did.”

"(He) said he wouldn't take a million dollars to go through it again, but he wouldn't sell the experience to gain from it for a million dollars,” McMillan recalled.

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By Eric Perkins

MEIGS COUNTY — Alan Miles may be the new code enforcement officer in the village of Pomeroy, but his public service began long before that with his time in the U.S. Navy.

Alan Miles has been the code enforcement officer for the village since Sept. 18.

The new code enforcement officer is structuring a better Pompeny for residents. Miles was in the Navy as a Seabee engineer from 2000 to 2006. As a Seabee, his job entailed a lot of building. He was trained to build anything from a building's foundations to its shingles. Along with his building skills, he acquired knowledge in trades such as electrical, plumbing, and carpentry maintenance.

Time in the military coincides with immense travel. During training he went to different cities of California, Mississippi, and Iceland. Deployment expanded his horizons even further to Japan, The Philippines, Iraq, and Kuwait. "Alas,” Japan was his favorite deployment station as it was well run and few complications arose. Miles stated, “I really loved it due to the people there. Some were very traditional and loved to share with you. They very much know about that service during a time of war, the same way his father did.”

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"(He) said he wouldn't take a million dollars to go through it again, but he wouldn't sell the experience to gain from it for a million dollars,” McMillan recalled.
Citizens of the area would other veterans, public officials, churches, civic groups and other fraternal organizations which membership of veterans, as close as the World War II, Korea and Vietnam around the world, the younger ones, are not as close as the World War II, Korea and Vietnam veterans, noted Struble. It’s not just the neighborhoods, organizations, but churches, civic groups and other fraternal organizations which have also decreased. People should become more involved in furthering the community,” said Struble. Sarah Hawley is the managing editor of the Valley Sentinel. Russel said he could remember that while his team would wear coats and carry guns and ammos, they didn’t even carry blankets into the field and it may be a week before they got back to safe territory. The men slept, right in the thick of the World War II frontline in winter. Russell was awarded the Purple Heart for his service as recorded by general orders paperwork dated March 5, 1943 that his family keeps carefully stored. Russell said he could remember that while his team would wear coats and carry guns and ammos, they didn’t even carry blankets into the field and it may be a week before they got back to safe territory. The men slept, right in the thick of the World War II frontline in winter. Russell was awarded the Purple Heart for his service as recorded by general orders paperwork dated March 5, 1943 that his family keeps carefully stored.
Serving God, country and family

Gallia vet finds his salvation

By Morgan W. White
mwhite@ohiovalleypublishing.com

COURTESY PHOTO

ERIE GRANDE — Donner Garber has done many things in his lifetime. He has served his family, his country, and his community.

He was born in 1947 on the family farm just north of Rio Grande, Ohio. Growing up, Garber claims about himself that he was a mean, white child, always causing trouble and always fighting.

"On Sundays we would go to church to get out of work," said Garber.

Garber’s family raised tobacco, corn, some cattle and hogs, a little bit of everything over the years. His father would issue the ultimatum of good church or good work to the family. A young Garber would choose church.

He attended Southwest High School, where he excelled in math. Graduating in 1965, he then attended Malone Valley Vocational School in Youngstown, Ohio, earning a certification as a drafting engineer. Nearly two years after graduating high school, Garber enlisted in the Army to further his education and became a certified drafting engineer.

Garber served in the Army at Fort Knox where they told him he was overweight and had to lose weight. He gained 15 pounds during basic, said Garber with a laugh.

Garber’s time at basic was not wasted, improving his physical stamina and strength significantly and earning his first stripe: a military promotion, for being one of the top in his class. Immediately following basic training, Garber was sent to Fort Wachuka in Arizona for advanced individual training (AIT) as a truck driver, despite his military occupational specialty (MOS) of drafting engineer.

"I graduated third in my class, and earned another stripe before I was sent to Germany," stated Garber. Having completed AIT, he was shipped to Germany where he worked for 10 months as a truck driver, earning two more stripes for his MOS. By the time he left Germany, he was an E5 Sergeant, a non-commissioned officer rank in the Army.

During his time in Germany he suffered a fall out of a second story window 25 feet down onto cobblestone.

"I hit the ground so hard it knocked my wrist watch off my arm and my knees were bruised where they hit the cobble on both sides of my head," said Garber.

The cause of his fall was the result of washing windows in the second story window and his support must have shifted him on a six-inch ledge. A strong wind came through and knocked Garber to the ground.

"He was an attaché of the Draft and the Army had to either move him back into his chosen field or discharge him from service. The Army had to either move him back into his chosen field or discharge him from service. The Army chose to discharge him from service. His MOS was promoted to drafting engineer and sent him to Vietnam.

"My first job was to drive around the perimeter in a jeep on patrol with enemy snipers taking shots at me. There's nothing like hearing a bullet wiz by your ear at night. There, do you say 'God why did that guy shoot at me' or 'thank you Lord for letting the bullet miss me?'"

Donner Garber

"They would take me up in helicopters and I was to draw overlays of the countryside," stated Garber. "Once I was done I couldn't look at them again because they were top secret and I only had secret clearance!"

After 12 months in Vietnam he was discharged from the service with an Army Accommodation Medal for service

Village

From page 2

"their history. I made a ton of friends that I still talk to today."

"Even though Miles is a native to California, after his journeys in the military he found a home in Meigs County. Nick Michael, a council member for the village, suggested Miles be the new code enforcement officer to Mayor Don Anderson since he had an impressive background in construction.

"Even though Meigs County has a downsized lifestyle compared to California, Miles has not slowed his pace. Since his time as code enforcement officer he has brought forth orderliness of change in front of the Pomeroy Village Council. He has foresight that he can significantly improve Meigs County by the end of the year. The ordinance for the International Property Maintenance Code was approved at Monday night’s village council meeting and thus updated electrical, architectural, and property standards for residents of Pomeroy. The amended enforcement ordinance is still in process of approval.

Kebler Financial

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God

God

Local veterans who answered the call, answer the question

“I feel if anyone is going to live in this country, they should answer the call. I think it is disrespectful not to (stand). I also think people should take off their hats. Too many veterans paid the price to protect our flag and our country. Just look at the constitution.”

William “Bill” Gibba
World War II Veteran

“I stand to pay respect for what the flag represents and to honor those that have served, those who are serving now and those who have paid the ultimate price so that we can have the freedoms that we hold.”

Bob McMillin
Vietnam Veteran

“You stand for the flag because it’s about unity. When we were in the Army it wasn’t about where you came from. It was about being together for something bigger. That’s what we’re supposed to do, support our country.”

VFW 4864 Post Commander Bill Mangus
Vietnam Veteran

“You’re supposed to stand for the flag. I can’t say why exactly (why one should stand for the flag) but when you get back from (being on an assignment) and you are the flag, you know you were safe. You are caring homes.”

John Russell
World War II Veteran

“To me, that is not serving the country. That is disrespecting the country and the flag by taking a knee. To me, if they want to protest they ought to do it in a different way. I understand the protest, but I think they should do it in a differently.”

Former Governor
Vietnam Veteran

“That’s the base of our freedom. That’s something that no matter where you have it, it brings back memories of everything you have done for the country and what the country is able to do for you.”

Larry Charndues
Veteran, served in Grenada

“I served it and it still serves me.”

Alan Miles

“When the National Anthem is played, it has been and should be, that if you’re physically able to do it. If you’re physically able to do it during the playing of the National Anthem you should do so as a citizen of the United States of America. Because that anthem represents a nation of people who dedicated their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor to the freedom of everybody concerned, the freedom of everybody concerned. Not just one or a few, everybody. I feel that personally that a person who doesn’t stand when they play the Star Spangled Banner or properly salute the flag when it passes by with a hand over your heart or if you serve a man or former veteran then salute the flag, you’re being disrespectful, period. Undoubtedly, the dead can’t speak for themselves.”

Joe Struble
Korean War Veteran

“It’s their right if they (NFL players) don’t want to stand (playing the National Anthem) and you know, we fought for those rights but people getting paid that kind of money…to me that’s part of their job and I think they should have the respect for this country to stand up and if they want to say something do that but what a great country we have…where else could you be making millions of dollars to play a game that most of them love…and you don’t have enough respect to stand for the flag? I don’t have enough respect to watch them.”

Miles Epling
Commander American Legion Post 4464
State Adjutant

“If you’re going home, you should do it in a different way. I understand the protest, but I think they should do it in a differently.”

John Russell
World War II Veteran

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Thank You Veterans!

Thank You Veterans!

“The best part of my life was finding the Lord. I got saved when I was 22,” said Garber. “I was a mean kid, it brings back memories of every man who walked into a bar and whoop everybody just because I could.”

Finding salvation in God what changed Garber’s life, transcending from an angry and mean child and young man to who he is today. He is a father and grandfather several times over, and a deacon at Good News Baptist Church.

Table 1: Average hours of work per week of household heads in the United States, by type of work, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work Type</th>
<th>Average Hours per Week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Percentage of individuals who were unemployed, by type of employment, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unemployment Status</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>92.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not in the labor force</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>99.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3: Average income of households, by type of income, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Type</th>
<th>Average Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wages</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-employment income</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$70,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4: Number of households by type of housing unit, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Unit Type</th>
<th>Number of Households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owner occupied</td>
<td>3,650,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter occupied</td>
<td>1,350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5: Percentage of households by type of housing unit, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Unit Type</th>
<th>Percentage of Households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owner occupied</td>
<td>73.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter occupied</td>
<td>27.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6: Average number of persons per household, by type of housing unit, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Unit Type</th>
<th>Average Number of Persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owner occupied</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter occupied</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7: Average household income by type of income, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Type</th>
<th>Average Household Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wages</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-employment income</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$85,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 8: Number of households by age of household head, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age of Household Head</th>
<th>Number of Households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>3,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 or older</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Serving our veterans

By Erin Perkins
appleton@tlonewsstand.com

POMEROY — Larry Churchill, along with his wife Betty, have made a safe haven in Pomeroy for veterans and their families — the Meigs County Veterans Outreach.

Larry Churchill served in Grenada in 1983 and decided a few years ago he and his wife would develop a space for fellow veterans with amenities of comfort.

The Churchills’ married five years ago and have been running the Veterans Outreach for four years.

With a mission “to provide veterans with a common place to meet to preserve and strengthen comradeship and provide support to veterans and their families,” the Outreach opened its doors in 2015.

“Many of us wanted to keep serving after we left (the military). We’re part of the community and it’s important to keep that feeling alive,” said Mangus. “Many of us want to keep serving after we left (the military),” said Mangus. “We’re part of the community and it’s important to keep that feeling alive.”

Storm and over half hour high combat experience:

Among those in the guard, Mangus lists Senior Vice Commander Larry Tobias, Carey Taylor, Jerry Baker, Mary Marland, Hallie Meyers, Richard Adkins, Charlie Holmes, John Watson and Don Walker.

Mangus involved other veterans to serve with the guard, should they so choose, as the guard tackles the task of attending dozens of veteran funerals and honoring their families throughout the year.

The group is currently comprised mostly of Vietnam veterans and some from the American Legion.

“Our agency wishes to thank all those that served and are serving!”

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john@kenbassinsurance.com

Bill Mangus

The Honor Guard is a common site as they perform military honors for fallen and living veterans.

Every year for Easter and Thanksgiving, the Veterans Outreach host a dinner for veterans and their families. On Thursday, Nov. 23 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., a dinner will be available.

The center is open Monday through Sat.

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A compensation for veterans to go directly to veterans agencies and all donations go directly to veterans assistance.

As the year comes to a close, Larry Mangus said he and Betty are more than apt to help.

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The ‘Legion Family’

Post #23 in Point Pleasant

By Beth Sergent

members family. Like family, the post is there for weddings and funerals. Post members faithfully perform funeral details for veterans who have passed on with honor guarding attending about 50 funerals a year. The post also sends local youth to State and National events, said commandant of leadership programs sponsored by The American Legion.

The American Legion Post 23 is a place, an institution, an ambassador of patriotic values. It is a place where pinnacle events are held. It is a place of fellowship, a place of camaraderie. It is a place for high school juniors. The post sponsors scholarship programs sponsored by The American Legion, The Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion.

“Members of American Legion Post #23 faithfully present the colors at the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall at Point Pleasant Park in Point Pleasant.”

“We’re here to help any veteran. I think we’re still needed. They’re making veterans everyday.”

Commander Miles Epling

A SALUTE to veterans for serving our country & protecting our freedoms!

Thank You, Veterans, for Your Service

WILLIS FUNERAL HOME
12 Garfield Avenue, Gallipolis, OH

Members of American Legion Post #23 in Point Pleasant do a special flag raising of the “Donny’s Life” wind flag at Pleasant Valley Life event. The honor guard also parades funeral signs for veterans who have passed away.

Collie

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Collie
Gibbs also wears his “Shellback” hat, a title designated upon him he was awarded for his military service in World War II. Now 92, William “Bill” Gibbs of New Haven is shown with the many medals ships were the floating their deaths. Gibbs did see his his fellow sailors swept produced 25- to 30-foot there were storms that In the North Atlantic, share of death, however. “It wasn’t fun… It could see the bombs float- mines. Gibbs said you could see the bombs float- ing in the water during the day, but several ships were taken out by them, and you could regularly hear them going off.”

When the war was over, Gibbs had the chance to see many places while in the Navy. Brazil, England, and Scotland were among the many coun- tries he visited. Gibbs saw the last performance of the big-band musician Glenn Miller, before Mill- er died over the English Channel after entertainment- ing US troops. Gibbs still becomes amused when telling about the many “cat houses,” or brothels, that were open in the coun- tries he visited. He said the Navy would tell the sailors about them, but turn around and tell them they were “all limits.” He added it didn’t stop some of the sailors, who were just in their late teens, from disobeying orders. When the war was over, Gibbs thought he would seem to go back home. He found out, however, that his records had been mis- placed. Gibbs served one last assignment as a “side- boy” to Navy Captain Crombie before being discharged. As a sailorboy, he served as the captain’s chauffeur, wore a special uniform, and was afforded special privileges, like going to the head of the chow line.

When Gibbs returned, he went back to Waahama and received his high school diploma at the age of 15. One of his teachers was Ralph Sayre, who had been Gibbs’ classmate all through school. Gibbs said Sayre had been both high school and colle- giate while he was at a war. Gibbs graduated one day, and went to work at the Phillips power plant in New Haven the very next day. There, he spent the next 20 years.

Gibbs remained active in the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign War organizations up until a few years ago. He served as a local com- mander for the Smiths Capehart American Legion Post 140 of New Haven, as well as a vice commander and com- mander of the Fourth Dis- trict of West Virginia.

Gibbs received the American Campaign Medal; Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal; World War II Vic- tory Medal; and Good Conduct Medal.

HIS STORY: Gibbs received the American Campaign Medal; Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal; World War II Victory Medal; and Good Conduct Medal.

In the North Atlantic, another danger to the sailor was the floating mines. Gibbs said you could see the bombs floating in the water during the day, but several ships were taken out by them, and you could regularly hear them going off. ‘It wasn’t fun… It wasn’t fun at all,” he said of the way. “We were all just kids.”

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**Veteran’s Appreciation Day**

Ohio Valley Bank

would like to invite all Military Veterans to join us for a free lunch.

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Bosshard Memorial Library

Riverside Meeting Room, 7 Spruce Street, Gallipolis

**Featuring Guest Speaker**

Major General Edward J. Mchenobri

The guest speaker will begin at 10:30 am with lunch to follow until 2:00 pm

Questions please contact Ohio Valley Bank at 740-444-1038 Ext. 7001

Tips for the military veteran who is looking to start a new career after retirement or military service:

1. **Networking:**
   - Reach out to former colleagues, friends, and family members in the desired career field.
   - Attend career networking events or seminars.
   - Join professional organizations or groups related to your field.

2. **Education and Training:**
   - Consider obtaining additional education or training to enhance your skills or qualifications.
   - Look for online courses or certification programs that can be completed flexibly.

3. **Volunteer Work:**
   - Volunteering can provide valuable experience and opportunities to network.
   - It can also help build your resume and demonstrate your commitment to your community.

4. **Resume and Cover Letter:**
   - Customize your resume and cover letter to highlight your relevant experience, skills, and accomplishments.
   - Use action verbs and quantify your achievements.

5. **Interview Preparation:**
   - Research the company and the position to understand their needs and how you can contribute.
   - Prepare specific examples of how you have addressed similar challenges or achieved results in your past roles.

6. **Continuous Learning:**
   - Stay updated on industry trends and developments.
   - Continuously look for opportunities to learn and grow.

7. **Health and Well-being:**
   - Maintain good physical and mental health, as they are essential for career success.
   - Practice stress management techniques, such as mindfulness or regular exercise.

8. **Time Management:**
   - Effectively manage your time to balance work, family, and personal life.
   - Use tools like calendars or task management apps to stay organized.

9. **Flexibility and Adaptability:**
   - Be open to change and willing to adapt to new situations or environments.
   - Flexibility can be a valuable asset in career transitions.

10. **Mentorship:**
    - Seek out mentors who can provide guidance and support in your career.
    - A mentor can help navigate challenges and provide insights into the industry.

**Thank You, Veterans!**

**Thank you for your service!!**