

Veteran's Day Thank You

The celebration of November 11th was originally born out of World War I as a commemoration of the day the fighting ceased - which officially took place the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. It later became known as Armistice Day, a holiday dedicated to honoring veterans of the Great War. However, after World War II, which required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in U.S. history, it was officially changed to "Veteran's Day" – a day set aside to honor American veterans of all wars.

As of October 31, 2019 the Alaska Pioneer Homes is honored to have 118 veterans living in our homes. While our Alaska Veterans and Pioneers Home in Palmer is currently the only state veteran home in Alaska (which has 75% of beds dedicated to veterans), there are numerous other veterans living in the Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan and Sitka Pioneer Homes. These incredible veterans have seen service in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and other service besides. They are wonderful men and women whose dedication, time, history and wisdom has much to teach us and we are honored to walk along side and learn from them during this portion of their life journey.

From each of us here at the Division of Alaska Pioneer Homes, we would like to thank every veteran for your time, dedication and sacrifice to the United States of America and to those of us who call her home.



From top, left to right: Hallie Dixon (AVPH) showing off her commanding officer coin received from the U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs; U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Robert Wilkie, gives Hallie Dixon a commanding officer coin during his visit to the Alaska Veterans and Pioneers Home; Dave Brown (AVPH) being recognized at the veterans memorial in Wasilla;



From top, left to right: Floyd “Allan” Coward (APH) receives an “Ambassador of Peace” medal for his service in the Korean War, pictured here with the Republic of Korea’s Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs, Governor Dunleavy and Senator Sullivan during the ceremony; Urban Rahoi (FPH) with his many awards on display at the Fairbanks Home; Stanley Coleman; Clarence Furman (AVPH); Miss Alaska, Angelina Klapperich, and Bud File (AVPH) with his feline friend; Clancy Price (KPH); Bob Jobson (AVPH) and his wife Audrey; Norris Finch (AVPH) with his daughter Jeannine.

For more information on Veteran’s Day, click [here](#) to visit the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs history page.