

PERRY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

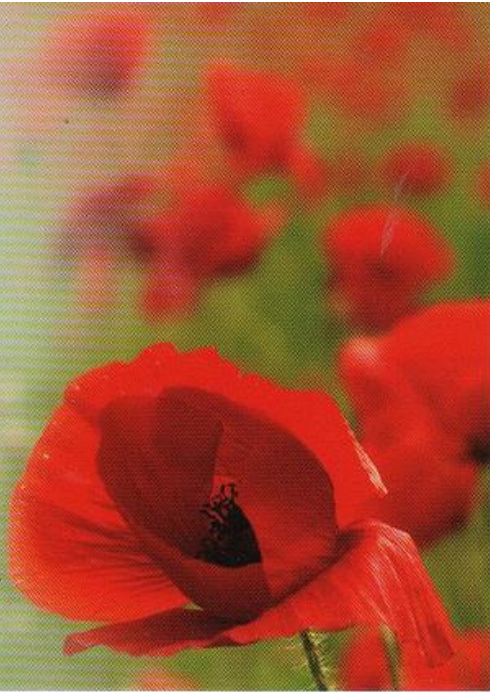
IN FLANDERS FIELDS

by John McCrae

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.



“In Flanders Fields” is a poem written by Dr. John McCrae, during World War I in May 1915. To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the poem and to provide a lasting memorial to our community’s veterans, “In Flanders Fields” was designed as a permanent fixture in the Perry Performing Arts Center. Commissioned with Betsy Petersen, the display is made possible by the generosity of the Glenn Theulen Memorial, the Perry School Foundation, the Bock Family Foundation, the Dallas County Foundation, American Legion Post 85, Bluejay Congress, and the volunteer efforts of numerous community members.

This year marks the 24th annual Perry Community High School Veterans Day Assembly Program, a cooperative effort organized by the Perry School Foundation involving the Bluejay Congress, the Perry High School Social Studies Department, the Perry High School Music Department, and the Perry chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

On November 11, 1989, the Perry Community High School Social Studies Department of Jim Kaufman, Tom Lipovac, and Tom Schleicher held its first Veterans Day Panel Discussion. World War II Veterans Mayor George Soumas, Mr. Emil Natalle, and Mr. Dale Grow visited with our American History students. Each Veterans Day since, veterans have visited Perry High School sharing their memories. On Veterans Day in 1997, Mr. Natalle remarked that no community observance of this special day was planned. With this in mind, Bluejay Congress under the leadership of Linda Kaufman and International Affairs class taught by Tom Lipovac, organized and hosted the first Perry High School Veterans Day Celebration in 1998.

Today’s events are organized by The Perry School Foundation Veterans Day Committee: Linda Andorf, Steve Cook, Linda Kaufman, Tom Lipovac, & Brenda Mintun.