

Honor a veteran

Yes, there is a war going on. And now, more than ever, those who have served in our current and past wars need to be recognized for their commitment to serving our country.

While interestingly enough the current presidential race and the nation's severe economic downturn have shifted some of the focus away from the conflict — for the veterans the memories are still fresh.

During the next several days leading up to Veterans Day on Tuesday, there are several opportunities to offer a handshake, hug, salute or a simple "thank you" to these brave men and women soldiers.

* Cape Horn-Skye Cub Scout Pack 314 will host its annual Veterans Day breakfast Sunday, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the American Legion Hall, 10221 Washougal River Road.

Veterans are invited to have breakfast free of charge.

* The annual Celebrate Freedom Veterans Day Parade will be held Saturday, beginning at 11 a.m., at the corner of East Reserve Street and Evergreen Boulevard.

The event's grand marshal is Washington Lt. Gov. Brad Owen. Approximately 2,500 individuals representing more than 100 groups, including several from the Camas-Washougal area, will participate.

* Clark College will host a dedication ceremony Friday, at 1 p.m., for the college's new flagpole, located near the Penguin Union Building.

Speakers will include Student Veterans of America at Clark College President Jenny Grimani.

"The flag represents our country," she said. "It is an honor to be able to take part in this event — not only on behalf of Clark College, but in honor of those that have served and those who, like my grandparents, support those that serve."

— Heather Acheson