

Veterans' Day

Native Veterans are being honored around the world in both formal military and informal community ceremonies and gatherings this week. The Veterans of World War II and the Korean War had put their lives on hold and volunteered to serve in dangerous and far away situations, so different than the villages, towns, families and friends they left behind. The Vietnam Veterans are still facing so many obstacles in health, employment — and a country still divided on how to recognize and thank them for a war still raging. The rights and privileges our Natives fought for, are often rights we sometimes do not enjoy. But the honor and beliefs of the Veterans are all ones we should respect.

We should also remember the Aleut internment during World War II. The Aleutian/Pribilofs Islands Association produced "Aleut Internment: The Untold Story", this summer. It should be a major part of secondary and college studies, not just Alaskan Native history.

If you have the opportunity, pick up a copy of Vantage Press' new fiction "White Man Go Home: or Son of the Cherokee," by K.M. Young, M.D. Young is a 71 year old WW II and Korean War Veteran, and is of Black, Seminole and Cherokee descent. His is an intense story of revenge, of chilling despair and murder.