



# The Mini Page

**Next Week:**  
Books for summer

Issue 21, 2021

Founded by Betty Debnam

## Honoring the Fallen



U.S. Army photo by Elizabeth Fraser / Arlington National Cemetery

### Mini Fact:

An inscription on the tomb reads, "Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God."

Memorial Day is celebrated on the last Monday in May. This day honors those who have lost their lives serving our country.

There are more than 100 special military cemeteries in this country and around the world. One of the best known is Arlington National Cemetery, where more than 400,000 service members and their family members are buried. Service members from every American war, including Iraq and Afghanistan, are buried there.



As we celebrate Memorial Day, let's learn about one of the most solemn areas of Arlington, the Tomb of the Unknowns.

### Representing all

The Tomb of the Unknowns, or the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, is a tribute to many Americans who lost their lives for our freedom. Three unidentified servicemen, one each from World War I, World War II and the Korean War are buried there. They represent each service member who lost his or her life.

There is also a tomb for a service member from the Vietnam War, but that airman's remains were identified and removed from the tomb. The Vietnam tomb is to remain empty.

The tomb sits high up on a hill, overlooking Washington, D.C.

### A special ceremony

The Changing of the Guard ceremony happens each hour from Oct. 1 through



U.S. Army photo by Rachel Larue/Arlington National Cemetery

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier has been guarded nonstop by soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) since 1948. The guards, also called sentinels, stay at their post, no matter the temperature or weather, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

March 31 and each half-hour from April 1 through Sept. 30. Visitors enjoy watching the serious and complicated ceremony.

### The sentinels

Sentinels must complete extensive training. During a watch, a guard takes 21 steps as he or she walks back and forth on a mat in front of the tomb. He stops at each end of the mat, turns to face east for 21 seconds, then north for 21 seconds, then returns to the other end of the mat.

The 21 steps and seconds stand for the 21-gun salute, the highest U.S. salute.



photo courtesy U.S. Army

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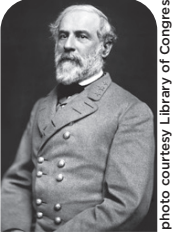


U.S. Army photo by Elizabeth Fraser / Arlington National Cemetery

On Inauguration Day 2021, President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns after the swearing-in ceremony at the U.S. Capitol.

### Arlington House

Arlington National Cemetery surrounds Arlington House, which is today the Robert E. Lee Memorial. The house was built by Martha Washington's grandson, George Washington Parke Custis. His daughter Mary Anna married Robert E. Lee, who became the leader of the Confederate Armies.



Robert E. Lee

photo courtesy Library of Congress

Lee left Arlington House to serve in the Civil War in April 1861 and never returned. Arlington House became an armed camp and headquarters for Union forces. Part of the property was taken for a cemetery for Union soldiers.

### Resources



#### On the Web:

- [youtu.be/4utXb3auOew](https://youtu.be/4utXb3auOew)

#### At the library:

- "Arlington National Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier" by Jinnow Khalid

## Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of the Tomb of the Unknowns are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



ARLINGTON, ARMY, CEMETERY, CEREMONY, DAY, GUARD, HOUSE, LEE, MEMORIAL, NATIONAL, SALUTE, SENTINEL, SOLDIER, SOLEMN, TOMB, UNKNOWN, WEATHER, WREATH.

R D C R G Y D R A U G F K S B  
R S I E M C I S O L D I E R A  
V D B R M N O T G N I L R A N  
N E A V N E H T O M B E W E W  
M J B Y N A T I O N A L E S O  
E G M W C E R E M O N Y A U N  
L A I R O M E M R L W L T O K  
O W R E A T H H E Y C A H H N  
S C X F R C S E N T I N E L U  
B I M O W Z E T U L A S R O W

## Cook's Corner

### Veggie Blossom

#### You'll need:

- 1 round cucumber slice
- 7 to 9 round carrot slices
- 1/2 celery stalk

- 1 tablespoon cream cheese or peanut butter
- 2 spinach leaves



\* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

#### What to do:

1. Wash and peel all vegetables.
2. Place cucumber slice in middle of plate.
3. Position carrot slices around the cucumber to form petals.
4. Spread peanut butter or cream cheese on celery stalk. Place stalk on lower part of cucumber slice to form a stem.
5. Arrange spinach leaves on either side of the celery stalk. Serves 1.

## Mini Jokes



**Sam:** What's a soldier's favorite month?  
**Simon:** March!

## Eco Note



America's iconic bald eagles have recovered from the brink of extinction caused by the once-widespread use of the pesticide DDT half a century ago. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service says the national symbol now numbers nearly 317,000 individual birds with an estimated 74,400 nesting pairs. Only about 417 pairs had survived by 1963 because use of the now-banned DDT caused eagles' eggshells to be too thin.



photo by Tom Ringold

adapted with permission from Earthweek.com

### For later:

Look in your newspaper for items about Memorial Day.

**Teachers:** Follow and interact with The Mini Page on Facebook!



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1. To think of again; to bring to mind (8-letter verb)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

2. Feeling happy and satisfied with achievements (5-letter adjective)

□ □ □ □ □

3. Piece of cloth with a design used as a symbol (4-letter noun)

□ □ □ □

4. A person serving in the military (7-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □

1. Mr. Jones can \_\_\_\_\_ all the battles he served in.
2. Matt is \_\_\_\_\_ of his mom, who wears an Army uniform.
3. Susan waved a \_\_\_\_\_ with red and white stripes.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ earned an award for being a brave hero.

### ROOTONYM®

by Jan & Carey Orr Cook



Study the definition. When you know the missing word, fill in the letter boxes and the sentence blanks.

Answers: Remember, Proud, Flag, Soldier

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