



# FALL 2009 WORLD WAR II SERIES



## **THE MULBERRY MIRACLE ON D-DAY, 6 JUNE 1944**

*J. Wandres, writer, naval historian*

The Normandy Invasion, 6 June 1944, is widely considered by military historians to be the greatest amphibious operation of all time. Yet, it might not have succeeded if not for the use of the ingenious Mulberry Harbors and the efforts of Naval Reserve Commander Edmund Moran, a renowned expert in towing large vessels. The harbors, a series of concrete breakwaters, submersible pier-heads, and floating causeways, were towed across the English Channel from ports in England and sunk in place off the invasion beaches under the guidance of Commander Moran. U.S. Navy Seabees astoundingly deployed a complete harbor under deadly fire within forty eight hours after the first combat units charged the beaches of Normandy France. Come and listen to naval historian J. Wandres tell this fascinating story!

**Tuesday, October 13, 7:30-9:30pm, Navesink I, Student Life Center  
\$12 adults, \$5 students, Brookdale students free, XWWTS 201**

## **REMEMBERING WORLD WAR II IN HOLLAND: A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE**

*Mieke Jansma, wartime survivor and writer*

Children are the most innocent victims of war and their stories are seldom told. Yet their experiences during wartime shape the rest of their lives. Mieke Jansma's earliest memories are of the German invasion and occupation of her native Holland when she was a small child. Her home was demolished by the Germans and turned into a military defense point. She and her family survived bombings, tiptoed through minefields, and continually fought starvation. Decades after the end of the war and after moving to the United States, Ms. Jansma began the painful process of coming to terms with her childhood memories. Hear her compelling story which teaches us much about the impact of war on children, both during the conflict and afterwards.

**Tuesday, October 27, 7:30-9:30pm, Navesink I, Student Life Center  
\$12 adults, \$5 students, Brookdale students free, XWWTS 202**

## **RISE AND USE OF ELECTRONIC WARFARE IN MILITARY OPERATIONS**

*John Cervini, former civilian employee, US Army Intelligence and Information Warfare Directorate, Fort Monmouth*

The development of electronic warfare is often overlooked in the histories of World War I and II. John Cervini will trace the history of electronic warfare and how it contributed to the advancement, in particular, of the US military. His focus will be on the major technological developments fielded during the Second World War, many of which were developed right in Monmouth County, NJ. Mr. Cervini currently is the industry liaison for the InfoAge Science and Learning Center in Wall, NJ.

**Tuesday, November 3, 7:30-9:30pm, Navesink I, Student Life Center  
\$12 adults, \$5 students, Brookdale students free, XWWTS 203**

**To register for any of the on-campus programs, please call 732-224-2315. Advance registration appreciated. Please see special registration instructions for the Swing Era Dinner Dance.**

## “SWING ERA” DINNER AND DANCE

### 2009 THEME: “SOUTH PACIFIC”

#### FEATURING CONDUCTOR JOE ACCURSO AND THE BROOKDALE BIG BAND

Come and enjoy a very special night of dinner and dance and return to a nostalgic period which favored music that spoke to the heart and touched one’s soul. Dance the night away to *Moonlight Serenade*, *You’ll Never Know* and *Don’t Sit Under the Apple Tree*. Jitterbug to *In the Mood* and *String of Pearls*. Special tribute will be paid to the 1949 World War II related play **SOUTH PACIFIC** which is generally considered to be one of the greatest musicals in history. *Bali Ha’i*, *Some Enchanted Evening* and *Happy Talk* became worldwide standards. Join conductor Joe Accurso and the acclaimed Brookdale Big Band and celebrate a time when all were young. Cash bar available at 6pm, dinner at 7pm, music and dancing throughout the evening. All are welcome – 40’s style dress encouraged.

Friday, November 20, 6-10 pm, Gibbs Hall, Fort Monmouth

\$55.00 per person, (\$50 per person at tables of 8-12), XWWTS 204

For reservations, call 732-224-2748 or email [SouthPacific@brookdalecc.edu](mailto:SouthPacific@brookdalecc.edu)

## HIDDEN HISTORY- RADAR DEVELOPMENT:

### SANDY HOOK 1933-1942

*Michael Eberhardt, Georgian Court University–Rutgers University intern,  
National Park Service*

During the 1930s and the tense years leading up to World War II, the US military sought to develop the ability to detect, track, and engage enemy ships and aircraft by making use of a new technology called “radar.” The development of radar for the US Army was tasked to the Signal Corps based at Fort Monmouth, NJ, and the project for security and logistical reasons was developed at Fort Hancock, Sandy Hook. Constant ship and air traffic in the area provided numerous targets on which to test, develop and refine radar operations. Radar became the primary “early warning” device for the US Coastal Defense. Come and hear the links between local history and development of one of the most important technologies of World War II, all here-to-fore cloaked in secrecy until Mike Eberhardt’s penetrating research.

Tuesday, December 1, 7:30-9:30pm, Navesink I, Student Life Center

\$12 adults, \$5 students, Brookdale students free, XWWTS 205



## Documentary/Foreign Film Series

### The Winter War (Talvisota)

“The Winter War” is the story of the 1939-40 Russo-Finnish War seen through the eyes of a small platoon of reservists called up from their village to fight the war. They are seen leaving their farms upon mobilization and one follows them into battle until an armistice some 110 days later. Although most who know anything about the Winter War maintain visions of Finnish ski troops skiing rings around the Russians, the majority of Finnish units operated conventionally either in the Finnish Mannerheim Line or to the North/North East of it. It is the action of these units that this film describes. The battle scenes are authentic and the vehicles, weapons, and uniforms use are all entirely accurate. One watches as more and more Finnish are killed and wounded in relentless Red Army assaults. A sense of loss is brought home simply, but elegantly, in the scenes regarding the “home front”. The final effect of the news of an armistice on the troops is depressing to see, but again entirely accurate. This film is a fitting tribute to the Finnish “Greatest Generation” who also did nothing less than ultimately save their nation from Soviet domination. Finnish with English subtitles.

Tues, Nov 24, 7-9:30pm, TL1; \$5 students, BCC students free, XWWTS 208

# FALL 2009 VIDEO AND VETS



## Diary of Ann Frank

George Stevens (*Giant*) directed this 1959 film based on the writings of Anne Frank, the Jewish girl from Amsterdam who hid in an attic with her family and others during the Nazi occupation of Holland. Stevens turns the many overlapping dramas of the caged characters into the foundation of Anne's growth as a young woman, ready for life and love just at the moment the dream comes to an end. Filmed on location in Amsterdam around the actual house in which the family had hidden, great care was taken to make the film look as authentic as possible. Otto Frank and one of the men who helped hide him and his family, Johannes Kleiman, were brought in as advisors so that the movie set could be set up according to their memories.

**Tues, Oct 20, 7-9:30pm, TL1; \$5 students, BCC students free, XWWTS 206**

## So Proudly We Hail

"So Proudly We Hail", traces the true story of the lives of several Red Cross nurses from the time they leave pre-war San Francisco through the trials and tribulations of their service with the armed services in the South Pacific. Three in particular are focused on: team leader Lt. Janet Davidson (Claudette Colbert), vivacious Lt. Joan O'Doul (Paulette Goddard) and inwardly tormented Lt. Olivia D'Arcy (Veronica Lake). Their stories are interwoven through the real life action of the group first being sent to Hawaii and then to the Bataan region in the Philippine Islands where they care for and then help evacuate military and civilian wounded in the face of the Japanese invasion of the islands. The saga ends with the remains of their party being evacuated after much loss and suffering to Australia. The finale was designed to lift the spirits of the audience, which in 1943 was not as certain as Hollywood of final victory in World War II. Come and see for yourself.

**Tues, Nov 17, 7-9:30pm, TL 1; \$5 students, BCC students free, XWWTS 207**

## The Gallant Hours

"The Gallant Hours" is an episodic biography of Admiral William "Bull" Halsey during the early days of World War II while he was the naval theater commander for the Guadalcanal campaign in the South West Pacific. James Cagney is superb in this very unusual war film, which relies primarily on character development and the intensity of interpersonal relationships to tell its story. Although Admiral Halsey is the central figure, the movie also closely follows the involvement of Admiral Yamamoto, the Japanese theater commander, giving the viewer an interesting and enlightening counterpoint perspective of the attitudes, concerns and approaches of the opposing leaders.

**Tues, Dec 15, 7-9:30pm, TL1; \$5 students, BCC students free, XWWTS 209**

## SAVE THE DATE

### 65th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony of "The Battle of the Bulge"

**Major General Randolph P. Strong, Commanding General, CECOM LCMC,  
Fort Monmouth, keynote speaker**

Ceremony to feature exhibits, displays and distinguished veterans of the battle

**December 12, 1-4pm, Warner Student Life Center, Free**



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