



Proclamation

Whereas, Veterans Day stands as a solemn and grateful occasion for our community and our nation to honor the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States; and

Whereas, among those heroes is Mr. Max S. Tessier, the City of Washington's only remaining World War II Veteran and one of only nine remaining in all of Tazewell County; and

Whereas, Mr. Tessier, now 102 years old, performed meritorious service to his family, community and country during World War II, where he fought for the basic freedoms that we enjoy as Americans; and

Whereas, on January 9, 1943, Mr. Tessier married Belva Combs of London Mills, Illinois, and went on to raised five children; and

Whereas, Mr. Tessier enlisted in the U.S. Army on February 13, 1943, trained at Scott Field in Belleville, Illinois, and served three years, including 18 months in the South Pacific and in the Philippines; and

Whereas, following his military service, Mr. Tessier served his community through education as an Agriculture Teacher in Roanoke, later becoming Principal and Superintendent, and upon his retirement in 1978, continued his dedication to learning as Assistant Regional Superintendent of Woodford County and later Agriculture Teacher at Metamora High School, retiring a second time in 1988; and

Whereas, his life of service to his country, his family, his students, and his community stands as an enduring example of patriotism, perseverance, and purpose; and

Whereas, this recognition is presented in conjunction with Washington Community High School's Veterans Day fundraiser, raising funds in support of the Peoria Honor Flight, which honors veterans by providing them the opportunity to visit the memorials dedicated to their service in Washington, D.C.;

Now, therefore, Lilija V. Stevens, Mayor of the City of Washington, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim November 11, 2025 as:

“Max S. Tessier Day”

Proclaimed this 3rd day of November 2025

Lilija V. Stevens, Mayor

ATTEST: Valeri L Brod, City Clerk