

The Camp Crane Veteran History and Military Proving Grounds

*Showcasing the Contributions of Pennsylvania and U.S. Veterans &*

*Their Role in U.S. Military History*

*at*

The 2018 Great Pennsylvania Music & Arts Celebration

On Memorial Day Weekend at

The Historic Allentown Fairgrounds

*Friday Evening May 25, Saturday May 26, Sunday May 27 Monday May 28, 2018*

***So We Don’t Forget To Remember***

**VOLUNTEER TEAM & LEADERSHIP**

* Viola “Vi” Hertzog *Assistant Director Lehigh County Veterans Affairs* Camp Crane Volunteer Team Supervisor
* Major Timothy I. Page, Retired *Director Air Force Junior Naval ROTC* Camp Crane Volunteer Team Member
* Hector Diaz *Director 65th Infantry Regiment “The Borinqueneers”* Camp Crane Volunteer Team Member
* Kris Smith *Honorary First Defender* Camp Crane Volunteer Team Member
* Lucille Gross *213th Infantry Reservist* Camp Crane Volunteer Team Member
* Bob Nickisher *Veteran XXXXXX* Camp Crane Volunteer Team Member
* Siobhan “Sam” Bennett *Former ROTC Ranger/Mentor WAHS Jr Naval ROTC Unit* Chair & CEO Pa Music Preservation Society



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Dear Military Leader,

With Pennsylvania[[1]](#footnote-1) home to one of the highest number of military veterans in the nation and with 50,000[[2]](#footnote-2) calling the Allentown region home - we’d be honored to have you be part of this important Military and Veterans’ celebration on Memorial Day Weekend 2018 held on historic military grounds in a city deeply connected to our nation’s military history.

We are respectfully reaching out to leaders like yourself to provide the essential in-kind and other support needed to make this event one that the tens of thousands of veterans and veteran support organizations from Lehigh Valley and three state region (PA, NJ, NY) can look to each year for themselves and their families. Free and open to the public, on the 100th anniversary of WWI, **The 2018 Great Pennsylvania Music & Arts Celebration** will be held on the site of the Camp Crane World War I Ambulance Training Site[[3]](#footnote-3) at The Historic Allentown Fairgrounds Memorial Day Weekend 2018.

We hope you find the attached details informative and we look forward to having your support in this statewide recognition of the vital contributions of the military and its veterans to our nation’s history.

Respectfully,

Camp Crane, Veteran and Military Committee



CALLING ALL Pennsylvania Military and Veteran Support Organizations

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**NATIONAL CALIBER EVENT:**

Imagine one of the oldest venues in the nation, The Allentown Historic Fairgrounds and Farmers Market, located in the heart of Pennsylvania’s third largest and fastest growing cities Allentown, PA. Imagine these fairgrounds home in World War I to the nation’s ambulance training grounds - Camp Crane. Imagine Allentown not only the hiding place for the iconic Liberty Bell during The Revolutionary War but also home to the only cemetary in the country where Civil War Confederate and Union soliders are buried together.

In 2018, on the 100th anniversary of WWI and Camp Crane - **The Inaugural Great Pennsylvania Music & Arts Celebration** will be held at these Historic Allentown Fairgrounds Memorial Day Weekend 2018 - free and open to the public, maximizing attendance from the Lehigh Valley and three state region (PA, NJ, NY).

We’d be honored to have you be part of this important veterans’ celebration on this important anniversary at these historic military grounds in this city so connected to our nation’s military history.

**The Great Pennsylvania Music & Arts Celebration** follows in the tradition of one of the nation’s first folk life festivals – the 1930’s widely influential Allentown Pennsylvania German Folk Festival. One of the nation’s most respected polka virtuosos, Alex Meixner, native to Allentown, is dedicated to breathing new life into Pennsylvania’s traditional music and art forms – and created Pennsylvania’s Music Preservation Society (PAMPS). In 2018, PAMPS is launching its **Annual Great Pennsylvania Music & Arts Celebration**.

**DEDICATED to PA and U.S. Veterans while educating on their contributions to U.S. Military History:** As a non-profit dedicated to PA musical and arts traditions, in a state with one of the highest veteran communities[[4]](#footnote-4) in the nation and one of the richest military music traditions in the U.S. and its headquarters in a region that 50,000 veterans call home[[5]](#footnote-5) - PAMPS takes extremely serviously its role in making positive contributions to veterans and educating the general public on our nation’s military history. As such its **Annual Great Pennsylvania Music & Arts Celebration** will include:

* **Honoring Veterans of Yesterday**: Education and Re-enactments - with partnerships with The Historic Allentown Fairgrounds, The 65th Infantry Regiment, nicknamed "The Borinqueneers" and a growing list of other partners
  + “So We Don’t Forget to Remember”
  + Military History Series
  + 65th Infantry Regiment Headquarters
* **Benefiting the Veterans of Today:** Housing, Homelessness and but also showcasing veterans groups that provide these and other essential services – with partnerships with Lehigh County Veteran’s Affairs Office, the nationally unique Lehigh Valley Military Affairs Council and a growing list of other partners
  + Celebration Attendees Encouraged to Donate on-site new toiletries/clothing on-site
  + Complimentary Exhibition Space for all interested Veterans organizations
* **Showcasing the Servicemen and Servicewomen of Tomorrow:** featuring nationally ranked Junior ROTC Units with Drill Exhibitions & Service Projects
* **Celebrating Military Music Traditions:** featuring the nation’s oldest civilian military band and their colleague bands that make Allentown “Band City USA”!
* **Maximized Impact:**
  + Excellent media coverage: The Great Allentown Pennsylvania Dutch Memorial Day Celebration has already been granted exceptional media coverage and fully anticipates that to continue across all media platforms.
  + Anticipated attendance: Despite being an inaugural event, The Great Allentown Pennsylvania Dutch Celebration fully expects excellent attendance, rain or shine - fueled by excellent media coverage, widespread community partnerships, robust social media marketing, superb convenient location in the heart of PA’s third largest and fastest growing city with on-site parking, national caliber programming and entertainment, PA Craft Beer Showcase and PA Dutch food offerings.
  + Complimentary Services for participating Veterans Groups:
    - FREE Exhibition Space, Electric and Wireless access
    - FREE On-site continental breakfast and coffee
    - FREE On-site RV parking and evening security

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| **The 2018 Great PA Music & Arts Celebration** *Saturday May 26 2018 Page 1 of 2* | | |
| TIME | The Camp Crane Veteran History and Military Proving Grounds | PROGRAMMING DETAILS |
|  | DAILY 10:00 am to 5:00 pm |  |
|  | *All final details scheduled to be completed 3/30/2018* |  |
| 9:45 am | **Reveille & Flag Raising** *Honoring Veterans Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow* |  |
|  | *Live trumpet and snare drum featuring WAHS Marching Band TBC* | *Sam Bennett/Eric Moser TBC* |
|  | * *Flag Raising Ceremony – Junior Naval ROTC Units of Dieruff and WAHS* | *Major Page/Commander Crandall TBC* |
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| 10:00 to 5:00 | **So We Don’t Forget To Remember***Honoring Veterans of Yesterday* | *Held In WWI Replica Log Cabin and surrounding area* |
|  | * *WWI Replica Commemoration Log Cabin* | *Official KIA/MIA recognition; PA and Lehigh Valley WWI service members posted* |
|  | * *Sharing Memories: Video, On-Line and Written – VistaCom/Other* | *Attendees pin memorabilia on walls; Held in donated small military tents or donated large shed onsite* |
|  | * *Children’s Activities: Inside “Sharing Memories” above + Andy Ambulance + Other* | *Dieruff and WAHS Junior ROTC staff Children’s Activities* |
|  | * *Allentown’s Honorary First Defenders Display –* ***Revolutionary War*** | *List of names of current and past – Location TBD* |
|  | * *Revolutionary, Civil and Military Funeral Reenactments* | *Committee Members Secure Re-enacters* |
|  | * ***Civil War*** *Re-enactor (all day(s) on site) CONFIRMED* | *Hector Diaz/Sam provides Room and Board* |
|  | ***American Revolution, WWI, WWII*** *Re-enactors (all day(s) on site) IN PROGRESS* | *Kris Smith Working on WWI* |
|  | * *153rd Pennsylvania Volunteers Union Reenactors (all day(s) on site) TBC* | *Vi Hertzog* |
|  | * *POW recognition table for all branches of service (30” round table donated by HBM/draping from Action Rental or other/hats from Major Page)* | *Vi Hertzog/Major Page* |
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| 10:00 am to 5:00 pm  *Specific times TBC* | **Military History Series***Honoring Veterans of Yesterday (Specific times TBC)* | *Held under Donated Military Camouflaged tents (Lucille Gross/Reserves/Recruiters); Sam gets partnership with VistaCom or other for projection needs* |
| 10:00 am | *Gold Star Mothers: History and Importance (speaker TBC)* | *(day or days TBC) Vi Hertzog* |
| 11:00 am | * *Honorary First Defenders: History and Continuing Legacy by Kris Smith* | *(Sat or Mon) Kris Smith* |
| Noon | * *Band City USA: Allentown Municipal Band (see Military Bands for detail)* | *TBC* |
| 2:00 pm | * *65th Regiment Documentary: “The Borinqueneers” narrated Hector Diaz* | *Hector Diaz* |
| 4:00 pm | * *Veterans Housing and Homelessness: Challenges and Solutions by Thomas Applebach, Director Veterans Affairs Lehigh County PA* | *(Sat/Sun) Vi Hertzog* |
|  | * *Camp Crane WWI Ambulance Training Corps at Historic Allentown Fairgrounds Lecture: History in Photographs and Slide Show* | *(day or days TBC) Sam Bennett crafts partnership with LV Heritage Center* |
|  | * *Purple Heart 9264: History and Tradition by Chuck Jackson* | *(day or days TBC) Vi Hertzog* |
|  | * *Veteran Health: Trends and Challenges by Randall Fritz* | *(Sat) Vi Hertzog* |
|  | * *Home of the Liberty Bell during the Revolutionary War: Allentown’s Zion Church - presenter TBC* | *(day or days TBC) Sam Bennett & Vi Hertzog* |
|  | * *West End and Union Cemetery – reflecting post Civil War national reconciliation - speaker TBC* | *(day or days TBC) Sam Bennett/Other* |
| 10:00 am to 5:00 pm | * *Camp Crane WWI Ambulance Training Corps at Historic Allentown Fairgrounds: History in Photographs and Slide Show* | *Displayed all days at head of Harris Hall; Sam Bennett crafts partnership with LV Heritage Center* |
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| 10:00 to 5:00 | **Puerto Rican 65th Infantry Regiment HQ** *Honoring Veterans of Yesterday* | *Held under south side roofed/concrete area* |
|  | *Final details scheduled to be completed 3/30/2018* | *Hector Diaz* |

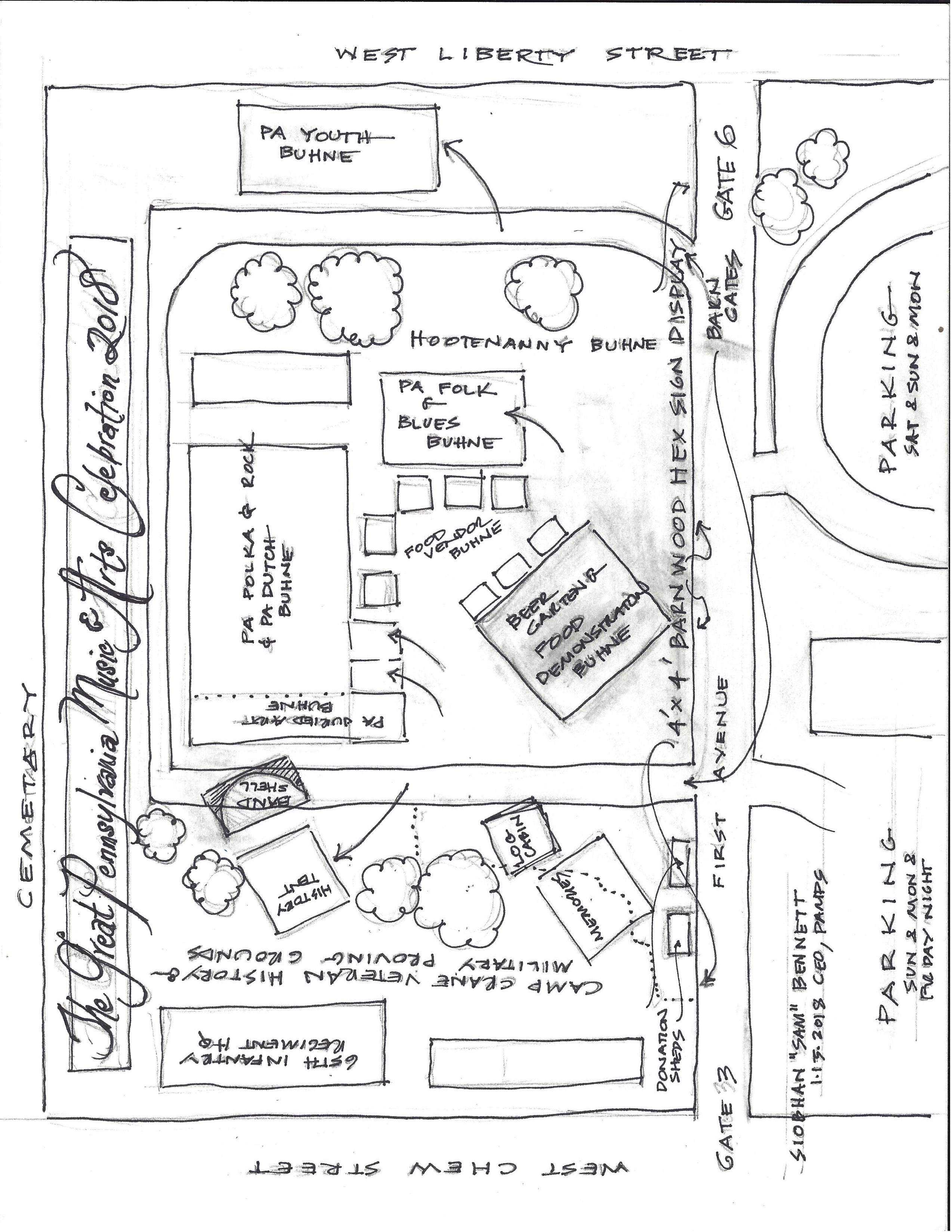
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| **The 2018 Great PA Music & Arts Celebration** *Saturday May 26 2018 Page 2 of 2* | | |
| TIME | The Camp Crane Veteran History and Military Proving Grounds | PROGRAMMING DETAILS |
|  | DAILY 10:00 am to 5:00 pm |  |
|  | *All final details scheduled to be completed 3/30/2018* |  |
|  |  |  |
| 10:00 to 5:00 | **Veteran Housing & Other Services** *Benefiting Veterans of Today* | *Donations deposited in on-site sheds* |
|  | * *Celebration attendees encouraged to bring new toiletries and clothing* | *Donations distributed by Lehigh County Veterans Affairs Office after Celebration* |
|  | * *Veterans Organizations given complimentary Exhibition Space & Branches of Service Flags* | *Along Walls of Harris Hall* |
|  | * *State of PA Veterans Van* | *Vi Hertzog* |
|  | * *213th Infantry Reserves: Its rich history to the present Military Equipment, Tents* | *Major Page?* |
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|  | **Military Drill Invitational** *Showcasing Veterans of Tomorrow* | *Donated jeeps/military equipment exterior display* |
|  | * *Junior ROTC Drill Invitational (in 2019 and beyond will be a regional/national Junior ROTC Drill Competition) IF RAIN – inside Harris Hall* | *Major Page* |
|  | * *Air Force (Dieruff)* | *Major Page* |
|  | * *Navy (WAHS)* | *Major Page (Sam initializes w/ Commander Crandall)* |
|  | * *Army (Panther Valley TBC)* | *Major Page* |
|  | * *Junior ROTC Unit Service Project – transporting attendees as needed in golf carts decorated in Camp Crane/Military fashion Air Force (Dieruff) & Navy (WAHS)* | *Major Page* |
|  | * *Junior ROTC Unit Service Project – Leadership assistance throughout Celebration Air Force (Dieruff) & Navy (WAHS)* | *Major Page and Sam Bennett* |
|  | * *Area Recruiters Military Equipment, Tents* | *Major Page TBC* |
|  | * *Flag Folding Ceremony & Taps at End of Day* | *Major Page* |
|  | * *Live trumpet and snare drum featuring WAHS Marching Band TBC* | *Sam Bennett/Eric Moser TBC* |
|  | * *Flag Folding – Junior Naval ROTC Units of Dieruff and WAHS* | *Major Page/Commander Crandall TBC* |
|  |  |  |
| Once or twice daily between 10:00 to 5:00 | **Military & Civilian Marching Bands** *Celebrating Traditions* | *Bands once/twice a day/no Military History Series Lecture during that time – Donated/Contracted City/County Band Shell for Military Bands* |
|  | * *Allentown Band City USA: Allentown Band TBC* |  |
|  | * *Allentown Band City USA: Municipal Band TBC* |  |
|  | * *Allentown Band City USA: Pioneer Band TBC* |  |
|  | * *Allentown Band City USA: Hobo Band or other TBC* |  |
|  | * *Continuing Traditions: Nitschmann Middle School Band (Dan Zettlemoyer) TBC* |  |
|  | * *Continuing Traditions: Liberty High School Grenadiers (Kevin Long) Drum and Fife Band TBC* | *Revolutionary War Style* |
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|  | * *Flag Raising Ceremony – Junior Naval ROTC Units of Dieruff and WAHS* | *Major Page/Commander Crandall TBC* |
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| 10:00 to 5:00 | **So We Don’t Forget To Remember***Honoring Veterans of Yesterday* | *Held In WWI Replica Log Cabin and surrounding area* |
|  | * *WWI Replica Commemoration Log Cabin* | *Official KIA/MIA recognition; PA and Lehigh Valley WWI service members posted* |
|  | * *Sharing Memories: Video, On-Line and Written – VistaCom/Other* | *Attendees pin memorabilia on walls; Held in donated small military tents or donated large shed onsite* |
|  | * *Children’s Activities: Inside “Sharing Memories” above + Andy Ambulance + Other* | *Dieruff and WAHS Junior ROTC staff Children’s Activities* |
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| 11:00 am | * *Veterans Housing and Homelessness: Challenges and Solutions by Thomas Applebach, Director Veterans Affairs Lehigh County PA* | *(Sat/Sun) Vi Hertzog* |
| Noon | * *Band City USA: Allentown Pioneer Band (see Military Bands for detail)* | *TBC* |
| 2:00 pm | * *65th Regiment Documentary: “The Borinqueneers” narrated Hector Diaz* | *Hector Diaz* |
| 4:00 pm | * *WWII Library of Congress Stories by Mike Stewart* | *(Sun)Vi Hertzog* |
|  | * *Camp Crane WWI Ambulance Training Corps at Historic Allentown Fairgrounds Lecture: History in Photographs and Slide Show* | *(day or days TBC) Sam Bennett crafts partnership with LV Heritage Center* |
|  | * *Purple Heart 9264: History and Tradition by Chuck Jackson* | *(day or days TBC) Vi Hertzog* |
|  | * *Home of the Liberty Bell during the Revolutionary War: Allentown’s Zion Church - presenter TBC* | *(day or days TBC) Sam Bennett & Vi Hertzog* |
|  | * *West End and Union Cemetery – reflecting post Civil War national reconciliation - speaker TBC* | *(day or days TBC) Sam Bennett/Other* |
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|  | * *Area Recruiters Military Equipment, Tents* | *Major Page TBC* |
|  | * *Reserves Military Equipment, Tents* | *Major Page TBC* |
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| Once or twice daily between 10:00 to 5:00 | **Military & Civilian Marching Bands** *Celebrating Traditions* | *Donated City/County Band Shell for Military Bands* |
|  | * *Allentown Band TBC* | *Bands once/twice a day/no Military History Series Lecture during that time* |
|  | * *Municipal Band TBC* |  |
|  | * *Pioneer Band TBC* |  |
|  | * *Hobo Band or other TBC* |  |
|  | * *Nitschmann Middle School Band (Dan Zettlemoyer) TBC* |  |
|  | * *Liberty High School Grenadiers (Kevin Long) Drum and Fife Band TBC* | *Revolutionary War Style* |
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|  | * *Veterans Organizations given complimentary Exhibition Space & Branches of Service Flags* | *Along Walls of Charles Hall* |
|  | * *State of PA Veterans Van (TBC all three days)* | *Vi Hertzog* |
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1. “Veterans in Pennsylvania”; December 11, 2017; retrieved January 2, 2018; [www.workstats.dli.pa.gov](http://www.workstats.dli.pa.gov/Documents/Veterans_Packet.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. “Why Lehigh Valley Military Affairs Council Was Created”; retrieved January 2, 2018; www.lvmac.org. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
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4. “Veterans in Pennsylvania”; December 11, 2017; retrieved January 2, 2018; [www.workstats.dli.pa.gov](http://www.workstats.dli.pa.gov/Documents/Veterans_Packet.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
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