



**PATRIOT
PARK**

HONORING THOSE WHO FOUGHT
THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM

NEWS & Updates

April, 2023



SPRING IS IN THE AIR!

President's Message

The weather is starting to warm and here at Patriot Park we are busy preparing for the 2023 season. But don't think we took the winter off. Patriot Park Foundation applied for two grants, met with and accepted a donation from Lockheed Martin AeroParts in Johnstown, designed a new entrance sign, interviewed fundraising advisors, updated our website and planned an amazing schedule for the year.

We also took advantage of the mild winter to open up the path for the Global War on Terrorism Timeline Trail, which we will work on this summer. The trail will provide a linear story allowing the visitor to read and hear first person accounts of significant events during the conflict. Hear the stories of the brave men and women who our country called on to carry out difficult and dangerous missions. It promises to be an exciting and moving year at Patriot Park. Join us as we honor our post 9/11 veterans. — **Randy**



April workdays are needed to get the Park cleaned up and ready for visitors. Regularly scheduled workdays are Tuesdays April 11th, 18th, and 25th beginning at 9 am and concluding at Noon. If additional days are needed the schedule will be circulated via email and Facebook. We call them workdays but we have a lot of fun as well. Please join with other volunteers to help make Patriot Park as beautiful as possible.



Field of Heroes Flag Display Replanting

Beginning **Monday May 1** we will start to place 7055 flags in the Field of Heroes Flag display. This is a labor of love as we place each of those flags into the ground we realize that each one represents the life of a U. S. service member who made the ultimate sacrifice. On Monday we will have local school students helping to place flags. On Tuesday and Wednesday we will need volunteers to complete the work. Work will begin at 9 am and conclude by 1 pm each day. Of course inclement weather could affect the work. In the event of rain, we will reschedule. Schedules will be posted on Facebook and updated as necessary.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 6th Opening Day at the Park!



Sunday, May 28th at 3 pm

Patriot Park Foundation is sponsoring a Memorial Ceremony at the Park. Guest speaker will be Earl Granville Staff Sergeant U.S. Army retired. Earl served multiple tours and was wounded on his last tour of duty, losing his leg just above the knee. Earl currently

tours the country as a motivational speaker. We will also be dedicating a new storyboard remembering the fallen from the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, 1st Battalion 109th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division. Special music will be provided by the Bellwood Community Choir and Gold Star father Dave Gettings. Plan to attend what will be a memorable and moving ceremony as we honor the fallen who gave their lives to keep us safe and protect our freedom.

Beginning July 10th and continuing through July 30th the Park will be hosting the Veterans and Athletes United Memorial Flag. Some of you may remember the Flag being on site last year. The flag is made of 7055 red, white and blue dog tags, each bearing the name of a fallen hero. The traveling memorial flag is a moving exhibit when viewed against the backdrop of 7055 flags gently waving in the breeze. Plan to experience this unique and moving Exhibit.



On Friday evening July 14th

Patriot Park Foundation is hosting a benefit concert. The instrumental group Touch of Brass will be the featured performer. A veteran benefit organization will be the beneficiary of the proceeds from the concert.



Mark Your Calendar!! Pittsburgh Steeler star running back and decorated Vietnam veteran Rocky Bleier will be the Keynote speaker at the Patriot Park Foundation **1st Annual** Fundraising Dinner. The event is scheduled for **August 10th** at the new Friesland Event Center located at 2554 Ridge Road, Central City PA. Tickets and additional information will be available early this summer.

VOLUNTEER

Anyone wishing to join our Patriot Park team of volunteers and help us, may contact Linda Musser at 814-267-6620 or the Patriot Park Foundation by email at patriotparkfoundation@gmail.com.

We are always in need of grounds keeping, flag repairs, mowing, clerical, other day to day chores as well as greeting visitors on weekends and help with special events at the Park. Honor those who served by sharing your time and talents at Patriot Park!

