

The Gettysburg Connection: Local events to be held commemorating the 150th Anniversary

The Gettysburg Connection

Local events to be held commemorating the 150th Anniversary

Wednesday, June 19: Exhibit Grand Opening and USAWC Perspectives Lecture on Gettysburg

6 p.m., Army Heritage and Education Center – Exhibit Grand Opening, “A Great Civil War: 1863, Battles that defined a Nation,” is the newest addition to “The Soldier Experience” gallery. This event will include remarks about the exhibit, a ribbon cutting ceremony, and light refreshments.

7 p.m., Army Heritage and Education Center - Dr. Carol Reardon, the George Winfree Professor of American History at Penn State University, will present a lecture entitled, “Telling the Army Story: Voices of Gettysburg’s Slain.” This event will follow the Exhibit opening. Both events are free and open to the public. Call 717-245-3972 for information.

Thursday, June 20: The Irish Brigade and Their Friends from Carlisle

7 p.m., Cumberland County Historical Society, 21 N. Pitt Street – Carlisle Attorney Hubert X. Gilroy will portray fictional Irish Brigade member Private Patrick Farrell. Private Farrell will recount his many escapades with the Irish Brigade throughout the Civil War, and using a bit of “Blarney,” he incorporates factually correct information concerning Carlisle’s involvement in the Civil War. Additional Civil War re-enactors along with numerous Civil War paintings will also be featured during the presentation. Call 717-249-7610 for information.

Saturday, June 22: March to Destiny

9 a.m. – 7 p.m., Shippensburg Fairgrounds, 10131 Possum Hollow Road – This annual Civil War living history event will tell the tale of the Confederate occupation of Shippensburg, PA, before the historic Battle of Gettysburg. Learn about Confederate Camp life stories and demonstrations on artillery firing, mounted cavalry units, cooking and setting up camp. Demonstrations will be led by period-dressed re-enactors. Call

888-513-5130 for information.

Saturday, June 22: Cumberland Valley Race Series: Run to Destiny

1:45 p.m., Shippensburg Public Library, 73 W. King Street – Part of the Cumberland Valley Race Series, the Run to Destiny 5K Race and Walk proceeds will benefit the Shippensburg Public Library Capital Campaign. Civil War-themed prizes will be awarded. Call 717-300-1337 for information.

Sunday, June 23: Flames beyond Gettysburg

2 p.m., Mechanicsburg Museum Association, 2 W. Strawberry Alley – Historian Scott Mingus will talk about the Confederates' approach led by Lt. Gen. Jubal Early in June 1863 to the Susquehanna River and accepting the surrender of York. State militia defending the river crossing burned the world's longest covered bridge to prevent Rebel passage. Mr. Mingus is author of *Flames beyond Gettysburg: The Confederate Expedition to the Susquehanna River*. Call 717-697-6088 for information.

June 28-30: Mechanicsburg Civil War Commemoration

This commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Confederate Invasion of Mechanicsburg will include an opening ceremony, tours of the Confederate route, living history reenactments and special exhibits from June 28-30.

Friday, June 28

9 a.m.-4 p.m. -- Civil War Trails guided coach tours through the Mechanicsburg area. Tickets required. Available at the [Mechanicsburg Museum](#), 717-697-6088. \$8 per ticket.

6:30-9:30 p.m. -- Evening gala at the [Orris House Bed and Breakfast](#), 318 West Main Street. Limited number of tickets available; reservations required. \$50 per ticket, call 717-441-3839.

5:30-7:30 p.m. -- Civil War music by Dearest Home at Trinity Lutheran Church, 132 E. Main Street - food and games.

7-9 p.m. -- Confederate Cavalry and Confederate Foot Artillery Infantry Encampment at [Memorial Park](#).

Saturday, June 29

8-9:30 a.m. -- Encampment at Memorial Park.

9:45-10:30 a.m. and 11-11:45 a.m. -- Reenactment events featuring Union and Confederate soldiers; Main

Street surrender of town/secure the flag; accompanied by the Mechanicsburg Singer Band.

9 a.m.-noon – Gen. Jenkins Requisition for Rations at PNC Bank, 2 East Main Street. All donations of canned and dry good to be donated to local food banks.

12-2 p.m. -- Dinner with Gen. Jenkins at Washington Firehouse, 53 East Main Street. BBQ Chicken dinner tickets available at firehouse, \$8 per ticket. Call 717-697-9877.

1-2 p.m. and 2-3 p.m. -- Civil War magic with magician Marlin Troutman at Historic Union Church, 47 East Main Street.

Be sure to stop by the Mechanicsburg Museum throughout the day for presentations by living historians and re-enactors. 8:30-9:15 a.m. -- Life of a Confederate Soldier; 1-2 p.m. -- Women on the Homefront; 2:45 to 3:45 p.m.-- Civil War Military Weapons and Arms; 2-3 p.m. -- Civil War Medicine.

Sunday, June 30

9-10:30 a.m. -- Reflections Service at Historic Union Church, 47 East Main Street.

1-3 p.m. -- Angel of the Battlefield: A Tea to Honor Clara Barton, at Rosemary House, 120 South Market Street. Tickets required. Call 717-697-5111.

2-3 p.m. -- tours of [Historic Peace Church](#) in Camp Hill.

3-4 p.m. -- Confederate Invasion of Cumberland County presented by Sheldon Munn

3 p.m. -- Civil War Trails Dedication Ceremony, 8th and Indiana Avenue, Lemoyne. Call 717-766-1899 for information.

Saturday, June 29: Eternal Light Peace Memorial Commemoration

2 p.m., Gettysburg – To commemorate the 1938 dedication of the Eternal Light Peace Memorial and the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, join the National Organization Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War to honor this history.

Keynote speaker is Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo, Commandant, U.S. Army War College. The Old Guard U.S. 3rd Infantry will also participate in the program.

The Sons of the Union Veterans and the Sons of the Confederate Veterans will lay wreaths commemorating the reunion and dedication of the Eternal Light Peace Memorial in 1938.

Off-site parking and shuttles will be hosted at the Harrisburg Area Community College, 731 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg. The Eternal Light Peace Memorial will be closed to traffic. Shuttles from the HACC campus will begin at noon and continue until the completion of the ceremony.

Sunday, June 30: When the Civil War came to Carlisle: A Worship Service of Remembrance

8 and 10:30 a.m., Second Presbyterian Church, 528 Garland Drive – There will be two special worship services at 8 and 10:30 a.m. at Second Presbyterian Church. All are welcome! Childcare will be provided at the 10:30 a.m. service. Contact the church at growwithsecond.org or call 717-243-4571.

Sunday, June 30: Civil War-Era Church Service at First Lutheran Church, Carlisle

10:15 a.m., First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 21 S. Bedford Street – History will come alive at First Lutheran Church on Sunday, June 30, during the 10:15 a.m. worship service as part of the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The public is cordially invited to participate in the service, complete with Civil War re-enactors in attendance. Carlisle was invaded and occupied by the Second Corps of the Confederate Army under Lt. Gen. Richard S. Ewell for three days, June 27-30, 1863. From Carlisle, Ewell's unit marched south to the small town of Gettysburg where a great battle was fought, becoming a turning point in the war.

Despite the presence of the enemy in our town, First Lutheran's pastor, the Rev. Dr. Jacob Fry, made the decision to hold a worship service. Only the Second Presbyterian Church and possibly two other churches in town held services that day. Our church edifice at that time was located behind the Old jail in the building now occupied by Bedford Street Antiques. The congregation that morning consisted of approximately sixty people, at least half of them being Confederate officers.

The service at First Lutheran will be the church's contribution to the Civil War remembrances in Carlisle during Summerfair. Although we do not have a copy of the actual service held that day, our pastor, the Rev. Charles A. Brophy, has carefully researched the service format and liturgy that was probably being used at First Lutheran during the 1860's to make the service as historically accurate as possible. A sermon that Pastor Fry preached in December 1860, in response to South Carolina's secession from the Union, will be delivered by Pastor Brophy dressed in a ministerial robe of the day. Congregational singing of hymns reflecting the time period will be accompanied on the church's recently-renovated antique pump organ. Following the service, the Worship and Music Committee will host a time of fellowship on the lawn serving lemonade along with cakes and cookies that were popular in 1863. For information, call 717-249-3310, or visit

www.firstlutherancarlisle.org

Monday, July 1: Grand Commemoration - The 150th Anniversary of the Shelling of Carlisle

The Burning of Carlisle Barracks, July 1, 1863

The U.S. Army War College (co-partnering with Historic Carlisle, Inc.) will offer the following events:

Noon at the Army Heritage and Education Center – Visitors can tour the center and the new exhibit, *A Great Civil War: 1863, Battles that Define a Nation*, which provides a look at the key battles fought during that pivotal year through displays featuring individual Soldier's stories, artifacts, photographs and more.

1 p.m. outside the AHEC building – Navy retired Capt. Steve Knott will discuss Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart's famous ride and why his troopers end up at Carlisle. (For those planning to attend the "Shelling of Carlisle" at 7 p.m. at the Square, Capt. Knott's presentation will prepare you for that event.)

1:30 p.m. – Visitors will board an Army bus to go to historic Carlisle Barracks Wheelock Bandstand, to hear Dr. Dick Sommers describe Lt. Gen. Richard Ewell's occupation of Carlisle Barracks and why Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart decided to burn the barracks just a day later. Dr. Sommers will also point out buildings of interest and describe what Carlisle Barracks looked like prior to the burning.

The 150th Anniversary of the Shelling of Carlisle

7-9 p.m., Old Courthouse, Carlisle – In commemoration of what is probably the single most significant and emotional event in the long, proud history of Carlisle, Historic Carlisle will present, "The Shelling of Carlisle – July 1, 1863," on the 150th anniversary of the Shelling. On the evening of July 1, 1863, Confederate Cavalry forces, commanded by Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart demanded the surrender of Carlisle and the Union forces, commanded by Union Gen. William "Baldy" Smith. The confederate general threatened to subject the town to artillery fire if the town was not surrendered. "Baldy" Smith answered the challenge, "Shell away and be damned"!

In the course of about seven hours, some 130-140 artillery shells were fired on Carlisle by the Confederate forces from the east side of the town. Other southern troopers set fire to buildings at Carlisle Barracks and the Carlisle Gas Works. But the town and its defending Union soldiers held fast through the long night and by daybreak, the Confederate Cavalry had been recalled to join the Battle of Gettysburg, already in progress.

The Grand Commemoration will take place at 7 p.m., the exact time when the shelling began in 1863. All four streets from the Square will be closed at 6:30 p.m. The Carlisle Town Band will perform before the ceremonies and program at 7 p.m. Military and civilian re-enactors will be on hand to act out the story as it is read on a large PA system. Including will be both Confederate and Union artillery, infantry, Gen. Smith and Gen. Stuart, civilian "Home Guard," and others. Following the 30-minute program, Historic Carlisle will conduct downtown tours of "Lee Calling Cards." Interpreters in 19th century attire will lead groups to sites in

the immediate area which were scarred by the artillery shells. The tours will last about 70 minutes.

All events are free to the public. Call 717-776-6658 for information.

Friday, July 5: Civil War Walking Tour of Carlisle

1 p.m., Cumberland County Historical Society, 21 N. Pitt Street – Join us for a tour led by volunteer Civil War walking guides. Meet at Cumberland County Historical Society. Reservations required at shop.historicalsociety.com or call 717-249-7610.

Tuesday, July 16: USAWC Perspectives Lecture on Gettysburg

7:15 p.m., Army Heritage and Education Center – Army retired Col. Tom Vossler will present a lecture, "Gettysburg: Whose Hallowed Ground – The Farms that became a Battlefield." Call 717-245-3972 for information.

Commemoration Exhibits

1863 Invasion in the Valley - Now through Oct. 26, 2013 at the Cumberland County Historical Society, open during normal business hours. Call 717-249-7610 for information.

Civil War Sesquicentennial-1863- Now through Mar. 31, 2014 at the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center, open during normal business hours. Call 717-245-3641 for information.

Shippensburg goes to War- Now through Aug. 31, 2013 at the Shippensburg Historical Society, open Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 1-4 p.m. Call 717-532-6727 for information.

First Hand: Civil War Era Drawings from the Becker Collection- Now through Oct. 19, 2013 at The Trout Gallery, Dickinson College, open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 717-245-1344 for information.

Mechanicsburg: A Hometown View of the Civil War– Now through Oct. 19, 2013 at the Freight Station Museum at Mechanicsburg Museum Association.

For suggested trip ideas and more, visit the Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau at:

www.cumberlandvalley.com