

THE INFANTRY HERITAGE LETTER

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INFANTRY MUSEUM
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Honor Bus Connects Young and Old Soldiers

Just as they have on every Veterans Day since the museum opened in 2009, the patriotic staff of Batson-Cook Construction brought an Honor Bus filled with veterans for a day of touring, camaraderie and reminiscing.

Among the 42 veterans participating this year were three World War II veterans and five Korean War veterans.

After lunch, there was cake to celebrate the 96th birthday of the eldest veteran, Kimbrell Barefield.

"This is the highlight of my year," said Paul Meadows, general manager of Batson-Cook's West Point division office. "This event is part of our commitment to support the community.

We can't do enough to honor the men and women who served our country so bravely in its greatest times of need."

The veterans are especially moved by the greeting they receive upon arrival at the museum: young soldiers lining the sidewalk showing their respect and appreciation.

"My father was among those that went and he hasn't stopped talking about how wonderful the trip was. He said several times that he was 'treated like a king' by the staff at Batson Cook, and by the Soldiers that welcomed them to the

museum. He was so proud," said Steven Sorrell, son of Theron Sorrell (USAF 1950-1954).

USAF Capt (Ret) Roger Bailey was similarly impressed. "Activities such as this make me feel that my service was well worthwhile," he said.

SFC Joseph Camarillo, one of the drill sergeants with C/2-58 that welcomed the veterans, said the feeling was mutual. "The Soldiers of Charlie Company talked about the Veterans all day. You may never know how huge an impact you had on them... we as a company were truly honored to be asked to welcome you."



Cavezza Inducted into Georgia Hall of Fame

Carmen Cavezza, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the National Infantry Museum Foundation, was among 17 veterans inducted into the Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame at ceremony in Columbus November 4.

Cavezza retired with the rank of lieutenant general after 33 years in the U.S. Army. Since his retirement from active duty in 1995, Cavezza has served in a number of leadership positions, including Columbus City Manager, executive director of Columbus '96, the organization that ran the Olympic softball venue, and director of the Cunningham Center for Leadership Development at Columbus State University.

Cavezza was recognized for valor for his actions during a fire fight at a landing zone in Vietnam in 1966 in which he led a charge against an enemy's defensive position. Despite being shot three times in the stomach, Cavezza continued to direct his men until the enemy was subdued. Later, he was awarded the Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, Air Medal, Bronze Star, two Distinguished Flying Crosses and two Silver Stars.

Cavezza said he was "humbled and deeply honored" to be in the company of such brave warriors in the Hall of Fame. His photo, along with the other inductees', will be displayed on the heroes wall of the Floyd Building at the state capital complex in Atlanta.



Battle Ready Author Speaks at NIM

Mark Donald, a retired Navy SEAL and Medical Service Corps officer, was the guest speaker at the October 2016 Leadership Lecture Series. His presentation -- "The Commonality of Extraordinary" -- highlighted the traits that separate everyday people from leaders.

Donald's autobiography, *Battle Ready: Memoir of a SEAL Warrior Medic*, chronicles his personal battles with the lingering effects of combat. The story is currently being developed into a television series.

Mark, recipient of the prestigious Navy Cross, is one of the highest decorated veterans of the Afghan and Iraq wars, and is considered to be the most decorated medical officer since World War II. He continues to work as an advocate for veterans.

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VETERANS DAY 2016



Bud Alley, a survivor of the assault at LZ Albany, signs his book Ghosts of the Green Grass.



Guests made rubbings of their engraved pavers.



Soldiers in training listen intently to the advice of a WWII veteran visitor.



Messages of support will be sent to units serving in the Middle East and Korea.



SGT Horace Russell -- WWII, Korea and Vietnam -- holds the rubbing of his paver.



SGT Horace Russell and two great-grandchildren met two of today's Soldiers.



Guest speaker LTC (Ret) Will Duke, Patriot Guard Ride Captain



Kids attending Mini-Camp look for veterans on Heritage Walk.



Patriot Guard Riders provide a Color Guard for every Paver Dedication Ceremony.



A new section of pavers has been installed on the Vietnam Plaza.



Hundreds of friends and family members attended the Paver Dedication Ceremony.

West Point Class Dedicates Pavers to Fallen Classmates

The United States Military Academy Class of '68 held its 5-year reunion at the National Infantry Museum in October. The event was highlighted by a memorial ceremony at the Vietnam Wall, which carries the names of 20 classmates killed in combat in Vietnam.

The class was the first to formally dedicate commemorative pavers in new sections on the Vietnam Memorial Plaza reserved for veterans of that war.



88 members of the Class of '68 attended the ceremony. Many placed a rose on the paver of a beloved fallen classmate.

The ceremony included remarks by BG (Ret) Dan Kaufman, a roll call of names and the playing of taps. Attendees and family members of the fallen Soldiers placed roses on the pavers.

A limited number of spaces are available for pavers honoring Vietnam KIA and veterans. The granite pavers come in two sizes, 4"x8" and 8"x8". For more information about dedications, contact Ilene Kent at 706-221-4429. And if your classmates or Army buddies are planning a reunion, contact our Events Department at 706-685-5809.



Five next-of-kin of the fallen classmates attended the ceremony: (from left) Rob Conner, brother of Pete Conner; Franki Cummings Bennett, widow of Ken Cummings; Claire Ericson Barkovic, widow of Bill Ericson; Meg Hawley, sister of Rick Hawley; and Ellen Spiedel Johnson, widow of John Spiedel.

Marathoners Honor Fallen Heroes



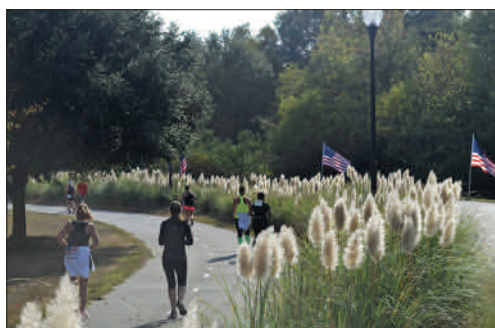
It's not just the beautiful course and perfect weather that draw runners to the annual Soldier Marathon and Half-Marathon. It's the opportunity to run in honor of a Fallen Hero that makes this race unique.

The National Infantry Museum -- where the race begins and ends -- was proud to be this year's Presenting Sponsor. It and other organizations that support the military have benefited from the race with donations exceeding \$110,000 since 2010.

Right: Team Red White and Blue's mission is to connect the military and civilians through running.

Bottom left: Runners celebrate crossing the finish line on the museum's Heritage Walk.

Bottom center: Mile 9 of the course was lined with American flags and photos of fallen Soldiers from the Global War on Terrorism. **Bottom right:** Linda Nobles of Indiana shared a congratulatory hug with a Fort Benning Soldier at the finish line.



Contemporary Carnival Opens Courtyard

Cotton candy cocktails, animal cracker take-homes, prizes, ring-toss, a kissing booth and stilt walkers created a lively carnival atmosphere for the grand opening of the National Infantry Museum's newest venue, the Courtyard. Guests enjoyed all kinds of carnival fare including popcorn, nachos, an Italian sausage grill station, boardwalk fries with malt vinegar, and caramel apples. A few lucky guests took home pieces of fine handmade gemstone jewelry donated by museum volunteer Ken Miller.

The new Courtyard is the perfect outdoor venue for all types of occasions -- weddings, parties, dinners, receptions, dances. A raised stage that mimics the museum's iconic rotunda is the ideal place for entertainers, speakers or the guests of honor. A mix of street lamps and string lights provide elegant ambiance after dark. And don't let cooler weather scare you off. Portable heaters can keep your guests toasty in the fall and fans are available for the warmer weather events in spring and summer.

If it sounds like the Courtyard would make your next special event memorable, call our Events Department at 706-685-5809.



Left: Chiavari chairs and elegant lighting create a glamorous ambiance at this after-dark wedding reception.

Right top: "Carnies" Isabelle, Stephanie and Emily, along with stilt walkers from the Springer Theatre Academy, hawked games at the Courtyard's grand opening.

Right bottom: Banquet Manager Heather Newkirk served up Cotton Candy Vodka Martinis to grand opening guests.



Georgia Gives Day Boosts Non-Profits

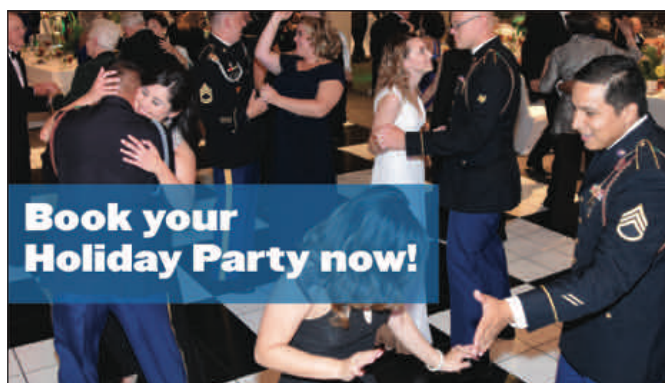
There's nothing wrong with second place. Especially when it comes with a cool quarter-million dollars.

That's how much the National Infantry Museum Foundation raised on this year's Georgia Gives Day; a little less than last year but still enough to take home the second place finish statewide and first place in Muscogee County.

Georgia Gives Day is an initiative of the Georgia Center for Nonprofits designed to raise both funds and awareness for the state's nonprofit organizations. In 2016 -- the program's fifth year -- a record \$4,020,057 was raised statewide. More than \$12 million has been raised since 2012.

This year, the National Infantry Museum Foundation raised \$248,129.50. Contributing to the total were donations from a social media campaign called Heroes Among Us, in which loved ones were invited to send us stories about the heroes in their lives for sharing on Facebook. That campaign will continue through the end of the year.

Donations to the museum can be made on the Georgia Gives Day website any time of year. Visit www.gagivesday.org and search National Infantry Museum.



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**OUR EVENTS TEAM WILL MAKE IT A
NIGHT TO REMEMBER!**



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www.nationalinfantrymuseum.org/rentals



Holiday Events at the NIM

Holiday time is a great time to visit the National Infantry Museum. It's a time for families to get together and explore a loved ones' military past, and it's a unique destination for local families who are hosting house guests. The museum will be all dressed up for the holidays, and there'll be special activities for all to take part in.

Friday, November 25

The Polar Express 3D returns to the Giant Screen Theater! This enchanting movie starring Tom Hanks has become a holiday classic. Families come back year after year dressed up in pajamas to let the Conductor punch their golden tickets. The film will be shown every weekend, and there'll be additional weekday shows closer to Christmas. Check the movie calendar on our website -- www.nationalinfantrymuseum.org -- for show times and screenings that will include the Conductor.



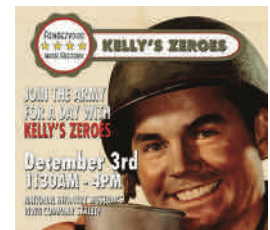
Saturday, December 3 and December 10

Enjoy a light breakfast with a vintage Santa Claus in the Mess Hall on World War II Company Street. Be sure to bring your camera for pictures with the jolly old elf that will become family treasures. Tickets are \$10 for children up to age 12; \$5 for adults. Call 706-685-5814, email info@nationalinfantryfoundation.org or register online at www.nationalinfantrymuseum.org.



Saturday, December 3

Kelly's Zeroes are back! This troupe of living historians will give visitors a taste of what it was like to be in the Army in the 1940s. They'll teach you how to march, wield a weapon and follow instructions! World War II Company Street provides the perfect backdrop. Join them from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 3.



Holidays on the Homefront Mini-Camp

Kids 5-11 will be fascinated to learn more about how families celebrated the holidays with loved ones serving in World War II. The Holidays on the Homefront Mini-Camp will run from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Families that would like to see *The Santa Clause* movie afterward can get a special combo discount. Mini-Camp is \$10 per camper. Call 706-653-9234 ext 5849 to register.



Throughout December

Leave a message of love or support for a military member on our Freedom Tree, located in the museum's lobby. There'll be paper ornaments and strings and markers for you add your message. And then we'll send them to deployed Soldiers, who are always happy to see how much they're appreciated!



Red Carpet Rolled Out for Volunteers!

We say it over and over, but we can never say it enough: we love our volunteers! They greet you, they show you around, they share their stories, they cry with you, they ask about your kids. They clean up, they move stuff, they file stuff, they fix stuff -- essentially they do everything necessary to keep this museum open except pay the bills. And the fact of the matter is, we're able to pay the bills BECAUSE they donate so much of their time and talents.

To say thank you, the Foundation invited all volunteers to "An Evening with the Stars." We literally rolled out the red carpet for



Service pin recipients include Richard Wright, David Chaplin, Liz Land and Eva Chappelle.



Volunteers Jim Lee, Jean McKee, Rick Anthony and Rick's wife Carla enjoy a dance in the new Courtyard.



Youth volunteers include 8th graders who are training to be summer camp counselors and high schoolers who participate in the year-round youth leadership program.

our stars, and lined the entrance to the Courtyard with gold stars carrying their names. There was dinner and dancing and a pin presentation in the Giant Screen Theater. Among the speakers and attendees were Foundation Chairman LTG Carmen Cavezza, Chief of Infantry BG Pete Jones, Foundation President COL Greg Camp and Army Museum Director Frank Hanner.

The museum relies on close to 200 active volunteers, 16 active docents and 31 youth volunteers. Five have served more than 4,000 hours. One received a 3,500-hour pin and six are proudly wearing 2,000-hour pins. The youth volunteer program is growing, too, contributing close to 5,800 hours, much of it at Summer Camp Benning.

We're proud to add that one of our most dedicated volunteers, SGM (Ret) Jim Lee, was recently named Veteran of the Year by the Sergeants Major Association. Congratulations, Jim!

Wouldn't you love to join our awesome family of volunteers? Give us a call at 706-653-9234!



"An Evening with the Stars" was the first event held in the museum's new outdoor Courtyard.



If you've been to a graduation, you know Carl Fedde. He drives the tram!

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The National Infantry Foundation was established in 1998 to honor our nation's Infantrymen, past, present and future, and to preserve their legacy. The Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Army, is committed to sharing their legacy through the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Patriot Park.

The museum project is sponsored, in part, by the U.S. Department of Defense. The content of this newsletter does not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the Government and no official endorsement should be inferred.

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