

3rd Annual SVMP Installation Ceremony - May 26th, 2018

Sidney, NY- Lieutenant Colonel A. Paul Beames, USMC (Ret), and President, Sidney Veterans Memorial Park Association, announced that the 3rd Annual Sidney Veterans Memorial Park (SVMP) Installation Ceremony will be held this coming Memorial Day Weekend at 11:00 AM on Saturday, 26 May 2018. The general public is cordially invited and encouraged to mark your calendars and to attend this brief but impressive patriotic ceremony.

Located at the intersection of NYS Route 8 and River Street in Sidney, visitors may off-load at the park's Flag House Entrance; however, there will be no parking at the park. Parking will again be at, and compliments of, the Sidney Elks' Lodge on River Street, a very short walk to the park. The Elks' Lodge will open to the public for restroom facility use, as well as, light refreshments (no food) in the bar area following the ceremony. Approximately 100 folding chairs will be provided on a first-come basis; however, attendees are welcome to bring personal lawn seating.

The single most important thing every American military veteran has in common...each was trained for and served as one of our nations' warfighters...with each serving in a different capacity. The SVMP was designed to not only recognize and honor their service but to also shine a light on 'how' these men and women served. A newcomer's visit to the park is often described as having been both a beautiful, interesting and an educational experience, both from a local, national and/or historical perspective, especially so for visitors with no or a limited knowledge of things military. From the park elements located at the stunning entrance with its' Alumni Memorial Wall & Monument, to the service specific risers flanking the walkway to the main monument, flag court and victory wall - seen together as a whole, the park really does tell a story, and it sparkles as a not-to-be-missed regional gem!

Veterans, or their families and friends, can choose to recognize and honor *any* veteran in the park who served our nation honorably. And, as the park is becoming recognized regionally, it cannot be stressed enough that recognizing and honoring veterans from near and far is welcomed and encouraged. It may be just their name, rank, service and years served engraved on an individual nameplate installed on one of the service specific bluestone risers; and/or, it may be one of the unique individual or family plaques installed on the victory wall, which includes a brief narrative of their personal military experience...all in the words, pictures, symbols and regalia of our nations' warfighters.

Nameplate and plaque applications must be received no later than 16 April 2018 for design, engraving, receipt and installation prior to the Installation Ceremony. For application(s): call Dick Germond at (607) 643-8318; any other SVMPPA member; pick-up at the park; or, they may be downloaded from the association website at: www.SidneyVeteransMemorialPark.org.