

THE LYCOMING VET

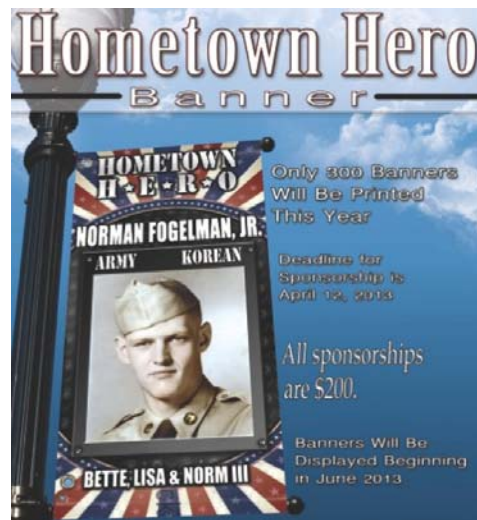
VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

AUGUST 2013

A SNEAK PEAK AT WHAT'S INSIDE



Veteran's Day Parade



Honoring our Veterans



Veterans Celebration



Bridge Dedication



WELCOME HOME PARADE!

Saturday, November 9, 2013

2:00 p.m.

City of Williamsport

Where to make purchases:

**Lycoming County Veterans Affairs
Office**

Walk in purchases can be made
while supplies last.

Monday—Friday from 9am—4pm

330 Pine Street. Suite 104

Williamsport, PA 17701

T-SHIRT SALE:

Show your support for our troops and
offset the parade costs.

TWO SIZES:

Large and 2XL

\$10.00 Each



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Hometown Heroes Ceremony



Sean MacMillen



Geoffrey Arthur



Rick Mirabito



Philip A. Petter



George W. Heiges



117 Flags were hung around the city of Williamsport for the year of 2013 in honor of our family members and friends who served/serving for our country.

On Saturday, July 20, 2013, a crowd came together to support our Veterans with the Hometown Banner Recognition. Thank you to all of our speakers and the Color Guard for making it such a great Ceremony.



60th Anniversary: Signing of the Truce of July 27th , 1953



The Reunion started on Thursday July 25, 2013. As the Veterans and their families arrived they begin their time with Registration and then off to the Meet 'n' Greet Room, where it was a time to relax and met old buddies or made new friends. They swapped old war stories and had lots of laughs. Then on Friday July 26, 2013, the Veterans met early in the morning for coffee and donuts for the Welcome Ceremony. Howard Wilt, Event Chairman, called to order and introduced all guest at the Ceremony.



Star Spangled Banner Sung by:
Jamie Larson.

Welcome Remarks by:
Williamsport Mayor Gabriel
Campana



Friday morning continued to the Training Center, where the Veterans and their families were able to Tour the newly constructed Pennsylvania National Guard Army Reserve Center in Williamsport. Then they were off to the Little League Complex.



They scoped out the Souvenir Shop and watched a brief video all about the Little League Life.

They then walked around the Museum, learning the history of Little League.



That night they attended, Pack the Park Night for the Williamsport Crosscutters game. The Bowman field is the second oldest minor league ball park in the county.

Saturday Morning they met at the Lycoming County Veterans' Park, Site of the Korean War and Memorial Monuments of other past wars, for a Memorial Ceremony. Back ground music was provided by Williamsport Repaz Band.



At the Ceremony they read off all of the Veteran's names who have passed and rang a bell after every name in remembrance of those who served and could not be there.



Saturday Night came the closing of the Reunion with a banquet to celebrate the 60th Anniversary and all of the Veteran's who served in the Korean War, for our safety. Reverend John Manna said grace before the dinner was served, George Heiges, Director of Lycoming County VA introduced the Dignitaries, Howard Wilt gave Remarks, Brigadier General Arthur W. Hinaman, Commander was the Principal Speaker, and a thank you and farewell was given by Bill Emig, Lycoming County KVV Commander.



Representative Rick Mirabito handed out Certificates to all of the Korean War Veterans at the Reunion Banquet as a Special Thanks.






Senior Expo 2013

Pennsdale Civic Center

Tuesday, September 10, 2013

10:00am— 2:00pm

Lycoming County Veterans
Affairs will be participating,
so please come down and get
the information you need for
your VA Benefits!

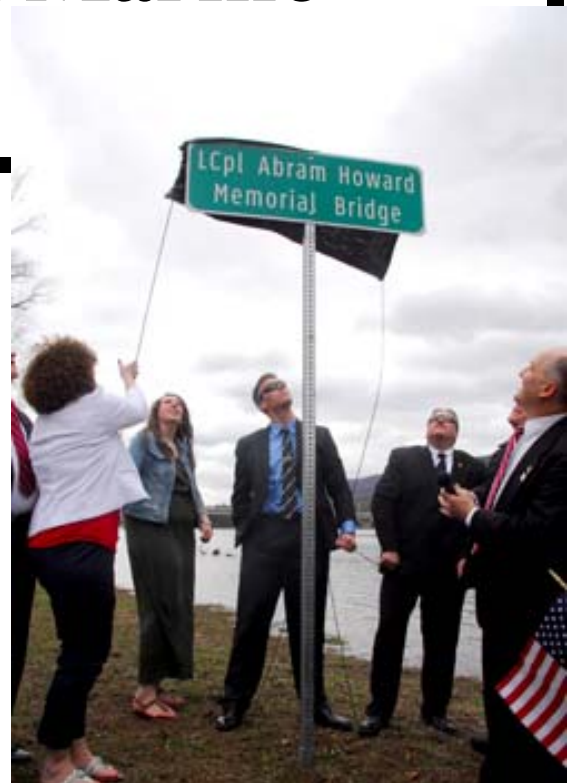




DuBoistown Bridge renamed in honor of local fallen Marine

On Saturday morning, April 13, 2013 beneath the span connecting Williamsport with DuBoistown that crosses the West Branch of the Susquehanna River, a ceremony was held at Susquehanna State Park to rename the bridge the Lance Cpl. Abram L. Howard Memorial Bridge.

The Marine, affectionately known as "Abe," died in July 2010 when the vehicle in which he was traveling was hit by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan. It is said that Howard shielded his brothers-in-arms, saving many of those in his unit from injury and death.



At the request of the late Marine's family and friends, state Rep. Rick Mirabito, D-Williamsport, sponsored a House bill signed into law on Oct. 24, 2012. Mirabito said he received bipartisan support from state Sen. E. Eugene Yaw, R-Loyalsock Township, and on Saturday nearly 1,000 people watched and listened to a soul-stirring service in honor and memory of one of the few and proud. DuBoistown Borough Council President Mike Cashera described the day as "glorious." While Cashera recognized the heartache that time could not ever fully heal felt by Howard's parents and loved ones, Cashera said the bridge represents a code of pride and brotherhood, what Howard lived by and one that all Marines follow to this day.

"The bridge is Lycoming County's small way of saying to Abe and every soldier who has ever donned the uniform - thank you. Your sacrifice will never be forgotten," Mirabito said.

AMERICAN LEGION, VFW & OTHER COUNTY VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS

American Legion Post 1- Garrett Cochran
10 E. 3rd St., Williamsport, PA 17701
Phone: 570-323-9409
Lloyd Brooks, Adjutant

American Legion Post 35- Glenn Sharrow
78 N. Main St., Hughesville, PA 17737
Phone: 570-584-2123

American Legion Post 36 -
George Webster Pepperman
P.O. Box 211, Jersey Shore, PA 17740
Phone: 570-398-4174

American Legion Post 104 - Eugene Grafius
1312 Broad St., Montoursville, PA 17754
Phone: 570-368-8234

American Legion Post 251 - Bower Decker
185 Broad St., Montgomery, PA 17752
Phone: 570-547-2039

American Legion Post 268 - Roland Ritter
515 Legion Rd., Muncy, PA 17756
Phone: 570-546-5210

American Legion Post 617 - Royal P. Steinbacher
901 Market Street, South Williamsport, PA 17702
Phone: 570-327-0255
Gail Eppler, Commander

American Legion Post 999 - West Branch Service Post
Michael J. Jones, Commander; Phone: 323-9421
P.O. Box 1971, 1061 John Brady Rd.,
Pennsdale, PA 17756

George Diffenbaugh, Adjutant; Phone: 570-546-6508

Meets at the Montoursville Presbyterian Church

VFW Post 3428- Edward J. Smith Post
12 N Market St., Muncy, PA 17756
Phone: 570-546-3820

VFW Post 5859- Billy O. Brandt Post
201 N. Lincoln Ave., Jersey Shore, PA 17740
Phone: 570-398-2801

VFW Post 7863- Le Roy O. Buck Post
150 Shaffer St., South Williamsport, PA 17702
Phone: 570-323-9195

VFW Post 844- Howard W. Kahler Post
1260 West 3rd Street, Williamsport, PA 17701

Veterans of the Vietnam War – Post PA 51
P.O. Box 23, Hughesville, PA 17737
Web site: www.vvnw.org/postpa-51
Commander: Gary L. Jenney Sr.
Phone: 570-547-7900

**Williamsport Detachment 388
Marine Corp League Inc.**
P. O. Box 3245, Williamsport, PA 17701
Commandant Don Miller
Contact: Robert Mosley Phone: 570-322-4727

**Korean War Veterans
of Lycoming County, Inc.**
P. O. Box 3232
Williamsport, PA 17701
Commander Fred Schaefer
Phone: 570-323-5627
(to arrange military funerals)

Your Reps in Washington & Harrisburg



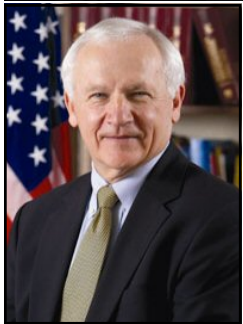
U.S. Representative Thomas Marino— 10th Congressional District

Williamsport District Office
1020 Commerce Park Drive, Suite 1A
Williamsport, PA 17701
Phone: 570-322-3961
Fax: 570-322-3965
Office Hours: M-F 8:30-5
Website: <http://marino.house.gov/>



U.S. Representative Glenn "GT" Thompson— 5th Congressional District

3555 Benner Pike
Suite 101
Bellefonte, PA 16823
Phone: 814-353-0215
Fax: 814-353-0218
Website: <http://thompson.house.gov>



PA State Senator Gene Yaw— Senate District 23

330 Pine Street, Suite 204
Williamsport, PA
Phone: 570-322-6457
Fax: 570-327-3703
Toll-free: 1-800-443-5772

One Progress Plaza, Suite 13
Towanda, PA 18848
Phone: 570-265-7448
Fax: 570-268-4313

Website: <http://senatorgeneyaw.com/> Email: gyaw@pasen.gov



PA State Representative Garth D. Everett— 84th Legislative District

Penn Hills Plaza, Halls Station
21 Kristi Road, Suite 2
Muncy, PA 17756
Phone: 570-546-2084
Fax: 570-546-5220
Office Hours: M-F 9-5
Website: <http://www.repeverett.com/>

Tiadaghton Valley Mall
Room 105
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
Phone: 570-398-4476
Fax: 570-398-5963
Office Hours: M-F 9-4:30
Email: geverett@pahousegop.com




PA State Representative Rick Mirabito— 83rd Legislative District

800 West Fourth Street, Suite GO2
Williamsport, PA
Phone: 570-321-1270
Fax: 570-327-3719
Office Hours: M-W-F 8-5; T-TH 8-7


Website: <http://www.pahouse.com/mirabito/>

Not sure who your representative is? Find out at: http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/findyourlegislator/county_list.cfm?CNTYLIST=LYCOMING

FROM THE LYCOMING COUNTY VA OFFICE:




Beginning January 1, 2012, meetings with the County VA director may be scheduled off-site if the veteran or veterans' widow is physically unable to travel to the office and the court-appointed POA does not live locally. These will be determined on a case-by-case basis.




You must call & schedule an appointment if you would like to meet with the staff at the County VA Office. We take walk-ins on Friday afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m. ONLY if staff is available. Our phone number is 570-327-2365.

FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS:



Are you rated 100% disabled by the VA? Then you may be eligible for real estate tax exemption and free hunting and fishing licenses. Call 570-327-2365 for more information.



If you or anyone you know are interested in being trained for an Honor Guard position please contact the VA office at 570-327-2367.



2013 COLA Military Retirees and Vets

The 2013 cost-of-living adjustment for military retired pay, SBP annuities, Social Security Checks, and VA disability and Survivor benefits will be 1.7 percent. The COLA will get into effect on December 1, 2012. The January check will be the first to reflect the increase. Retirees who left the military in 2012, and those who took the REDUX retirement package will not see the full 1.7 percent increase next year.

Pennsylvania CareerLink

LYCOMING COUNTY

Contact: Timothy French
Phone: 570-601-5934
E-mail: tifrench@state.pa.us
Online: www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us

The PA Career Link—Lycoming County office is located at 329 Pine Street in Williamsport and is open Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays.

Vet Center

The Vet Center is located at Suite 104, 49 East Fourth Street, Williamsport, next to the James V. Brown Library. Phone 327-5281. All services provided by the Vet Center are **FREE OF CHARGE**. These include readjustment counseling and outreach services to all veterans who served in any combat zone. Services are also available for their family members. These include:

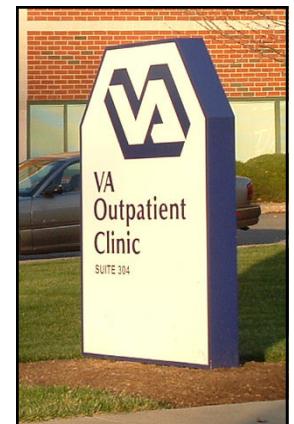
- individual and group counseling: women, spouses, WWII, Korean, Vietnam, OEF/OIF, and other combat veterans.
- group counseling
- marital and family counseling
- bereavement counseling
- substance abuse information and referral
- referral in applying for VA Benefits, job counseling and educational VA benefits
- referral for homeless vets
- military sexual trauma (male and female) counseling & referral
- outreach and community education



VA Outpatient Clinic

The VA Outpatient Clinic was established July 1997 on the Campus of Divine Providence Hospital in the Wenner Building, 1705 Warren Avenue, Suite 304, Williamsport, PA
Phone: 570-322-4791 **Fax:** 570-322-5170 **Open:** Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 Scheduled appointments only ~ No Emergency Services/No walk-ins
Services Include: Primary Care, Enrollment/Eligibility forms, Psychiatry, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Social Services, Counseling, Lab, Nutrition services, and Immunizations.

The VA Clinic has a social worker at the clinic on Tuesday and Thursday. Her name is Chris Veach; please call the clinic at (570) 322-4791 to schedule an appointment.





LYCOMING
COUNTY OFFICE OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS

Suite 104
Executive Plaza Building
330 Pine Street
Williamsport, PA 17701

Mailing Address:
48 West Third Street
Williamsport, PA 17701

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JEFF C. WHEELAND, CHAIRMAN
ERNEST P. LARSON, VICE CHAIRMAN
TONY R. MUSSARE, SECRETARY

Visit our
Web site:



www.lyco.org/VA

for up-to-date news and
information for veterans

The Lycoming Vet

is published

*by the Office of Veterans Affairs
in Lycoming County, PA*



We are here to help you . . .

MSGT George W. Heiges (Ret.)
Lycoming County Director of Veterans Affairs

570-327-2365 gheiges@lyco.org

- Fully accredited as a Veterans Service Officer by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Twenty- one years USAF

David A. Keene
Assistant Director of Veterans Affairs

570-327-2365 dkeene@lyco.org

- Four years USMC

To make an appointment, please call

Natalie Miller at: 570-320-2101

Office Hours

Monday through Friday 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Scheduled appointments only

Walk-ins on Friday 1 - 4 p.m. subject to staff availability

Closed weekends and major holidays.

**Do you have announcements
or information to share?**

The Lycoming County Office of Veterans Affairs invites you to submit articles and items of interest to be published in the next edition of *The Lycoming Vet*.

For questions or to make submissions,
please contact Natalie Miller at the Veterans Affairs Office.