

## Sponsors sought to fill field with American Flags.

A group of patriotic people have launched an effort to fill a field with 1,000 or more American Flags next Memorial Day weekend as a patriotic tribute to our nation's heroes.

The Field of Honor will be in place for public viewing next Memorial Day weekend, May 27-30, 2022.

The flags will be displayed on the football field at Hoosic Valley Central School in Schaghticoke to remind everyone of the debt we owe veterans and military servicemen and servicewomen, according to Marilou Pudiak-Town, project chairwoman.

"We Americans have been blessed with citizens who answered the call to serve in the military to protect our freedoms," says Pudiak-Town. "Although we have the parades, fireworks and solemn services to show our appreciation of veterans, more can and should be done."

Lauren Van Buren, co-chairwoman, Russ Greenman, fundraiser chairman, and Nancy O'Donnell, program chairwoman, are helping Pudiak-Town.

The awesome Stars and Stripes display will be made possible by donations and sponsorships.

Each flag may be sponsored to honor individual veterans or military personnel. The public is invited to purchase a flag at \$40 each. The purchaser of each flag can identify a veteran or service member. A tag is placed on each flag it honors and includes a tribute to that individual.

Volunteers will be needed to mount 3' by 5' flags on 7½ foot poles and position them on the field. Volunteers will be needed to perform multiple other tasks as well. If interested in volunteering, contact Marilou Pudiak-Town at <u>mpudiak@nycap.rr.com</u> or (518) 423-5281.

Flags can be purchased online at <u>www.healingfield.org/event/schaghticokeny22</u>. Donations are also encouraged. Donations can be made online or by check payable to Field of Honor. Please write "Schaghticoke, NY" on the memo line and mail to Field of Honor, P.O. Box 82, Schaghticoke, NY, 12154. Include the buyer's name and phone number as well as name of the honoree, rank and branch of service. Also, in a maximum of 20 words, add additional information about the honoree.

Proceeds from the sale of flags will benefit the Capital Region Patriot Flight, a nonprofit Honor Flight organization that flies World War II through Vietnam War veterans on a one-day free excursion from the Albany International Airport to Washington, D.C. The veterans visit war memorials, historic sites and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Arlington National Cemetery.

Purchasers will pick up and take their flags home between noon and 4 p.m. on May 30.

The Field of Honor is a Colonial Flag Foundation event. The foundation helps groups raise funds for worthy causes.

Local Contacts:

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