



Fort Miles Museum Remembers D-Day

Hello Valued Members, Donors and Visitors,

In 2022, Fort Miles Museum inaugurated a ceremony to honor those who fought on D-Day and the campaign that followed. Many of those soldiers made the ultimate sacrifice to free Europe from tyranny.

The Allied landing in northern France began June 6, 1944. Soldiers from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada and other Allied nations faced Hitler's Atlantic Wall, landing on the Normandy beaches to begin a campaign that lasted until July 24, 1944.

Our [D-Day Memorial Ceremony](#) established a tradition we plan to continue for many years. The 2023 ceremony begins at 11 a.m. Sunday, June 4, and will be conducted by Fort Miles Historical Association.

For a riveting read that follows individual soldiers through their D-Day journeys, "[The First Wave](#)" by Alex Kershaw is highly recommended.

Museum opening dates and tours will expand in June. Join us for a tour or participate in the D-Day ceremony.

As always, thank you for your support.

Jim Pierce
Secretary
Fort Miles Historical Association
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D-Day Memorial Ceremony

FORT MILES HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



D-DAY MEMORIAL CEREMONY

FORT MILES MUSEUM OVERLOOK
CAPE HENLOPEN STATE PARK

SUNDAY JUNE 4th, 2023
11:00 AM

- *Action by U.S. Army's 29th Infantry Division during the June 6, 1944 Allied assault on Normandy – A presentation by FMHA historian Ed Paterline*
- *General Eisenhower's pre-invasion letter to the Allied Forces – a reading by U.S. Navy Captain David Diefenderfer*
- *Special display of a World War II Chaplain's Kit that went ashore at Normandy's Utah Beach on June 6, 1944*
- *Tolling of the Bell for Delawareans who died at the Battle of Normandy*
- *Museum Open House following the program*

Join us at the Overlook as we remember this important day in history.

Delaware Defense Day



Delaware Defense Day, held Saturday, April 22, was its usual resounding success, thanks to dedicated re-enactors and the work of Delaware State Parks' staff and FMHA volunteers.

We would like to thank the Coastal Camera Club members who photographed the day's events for us. Their marvelous photos captured the fun and excitement of the day.

[View Delaware Defense Day Photos](#)

Fort Miles 5K – ‘A Run Through History’



The inaugural Fort Miles 5K was held May 7, featuring a course that took runners and walkers through scenic Cape Henlopen State Park, with the start and finish at the Fort Miles Orientation Building. Runners were delighted with the afterparty at the Fort Miles Museum events venue, The Overlook, beside the Atlantic Ocean.

We're grateful to our event sponsors. It isn't too soon to plan for next year: The 2024 Fort Miles 5K is scheduled for May 8.

The photo above shows a cannon owned by Pete Hartsock (left) that was fired to start the run. Note the 15-stripe, 15-star flag donated by Pete and Fort McHenry. This type of flag flew over Fort McHenry during the Battle of Baltimore in 1814, when Francis Scott Key wrote "The Star-Spangled Banner." The additional stars and stripes represent Vermont (1791) and Kentucky (1792) joining the Union.

In 1818, Congress proclaimed that one star for each new state would be added on the Fourth of July after the state's admission to the union and that 13 stripes would represent the 13 original colonies.

May Tours

Museum tours will be offered at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays in May. On Sundays, FMHA docents will conduct tours at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. For information and other programs in May, go to fortmiles.org and click on Happenings.

Private tours for groups

If you know a veterans' group of 10 or more that would like to schedule a private tour of Fort Miles Museum, contact us at info@fortmilesmuseum.org.

We Need Your Support

Fort Miles Museum and Historical Area, Inc. doing business as Fort Miles Museum was incorporated in December 2021 and received its 501(c)3 non-profit designation in June 2022. The formation of Fort Miles Museum culminated over 2 years of planning for a \$25 million development plan focusing on many new and interactive exhibits as well as necessary improvements such as modern restrooms.

Fundraising for the initial \$4 million phase of the plan is well underway. As you would expect, there are expenses associated with raising funds and we are seeking to raise \$50,000 from those who support Fort Miles. Your consideration of a donation of any amount is appreciated.

[Donate today](#)



Learn more: fortmilesmuseum.org

Fort Miles is located in Cape Henlopen State Park.
15099 Cape Henlopen Dr. | Lewes, DE 19958

Museum hours & tours: info@fortmilesmuseum.org
Schedule a tour: destateparks.com/programs
(Click on Fort Miles Historical Area under Choose Park)