Commissioners of Leonardtown

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For immediate release:
October 25, 2013

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VETERANS DAY PARADE IN LEONARDTOWN

Leonardtown, MD – The St. Mary's Board of County Commissioners, the Commissioners of Leonardtown, and parade organizers invite the public to come out and salute America's Veterans at the Annual Veterans Day Parade in Leonardtown, on Monday, November 11, 2013! The parade commences at 10:00 a.m. on Fenwick Street and will feature Veterans, dignitaries, elected officials, local high school marching bands, military units, color guards, classic and antique cars, boy and girl scouts, cheerleaders, motorcycles, horses, fire, police, emergency personnel and equipment. Immediately following the parade, spectators are encouraged to remain in the Town Square for a Veterans Memorial Ceremony to include patriotic music, laying of wreaths, and a special tribute to Captain Walter Francis Duke, local WWII hero for whom a new elementary school in Leonardtown is being named.

Members of the St. Mary's County Historical Society will be available at Tudor Hall from 9 AM – 1 PM to talk with visitors about Captain Duke's story and a display of personal effects, as well as other St. Mary's County family connections to WWII. Come to the Square early to see a restored MiG-21 cockpit on display, and talk to representatives from Semper Fi, Vacations for Vets, Navy Federal Credit Union, and CSM's Heroes Campaign, who will be set up in the Square to provide information on programs for veterans and active-duty military, including ways that the general public can help our local military families.

In the event of inclement weather, the Veterans Day Parade would be cancelled, and the Memorial Ceremony would be moved inside to the Leonard Hall Recreation Center Gymnasium, on Route 245 adjacent to the St. Mary's County Governmental Center Complex (23145 Leonard Hall Drive) at 11:00 AM. Those wishing to lay wreaths at the monuments may choose to do so.

(continued)

Parking and Shuttles for the 2013 Leonardtown Veterans Day Parade

Parade vehicles, including buses, floats, emergency vehicles, cars, trucks and motorcycles, should report directly to the staging area at St. Mary's Ryken High School between 7:00 and 8:00 a.m. **All parade vehicles should be parked by 8:00 a.m.**

Marching groups and other parade participants should park at Leonardtown Middle School and take the shuttle to St. Mary's Ryken High School between 8:00 and 9:30 a.m.

Please do not drop your children off at Ryken High School, on the side of the road or at the intersection. All persons in the parade, not in a vehicle, should ride the shuttle bus from Leonardtown Middle School.

Parade participants are requested to be in place in the lineup at St. Mary's Ryken High School no later than 9:30 a.m. Please plan accordingly.

Spectators are encouraged to park at the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds or College of Southern Maryland Leonardtown Campus and take the round-trip shuttle into downtown Leonardtown to view the parade and ceremony.

Washington Street and Fenwick Street into downtown Leonardtown will be closed to traffic from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. **Downtown parking and thru traffic will be limited** to areas accessible from Lawrence Avenue, including neighboring side streets and parking areas along Courthouse Drive and Park Avenue. Officers from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office will provide traffic control, and Parade Volunteers will assist with parking and street detours.

Handicapped Parking: Spectators requiring handicapped parking may take Washington Street and upon showing proof of handicapped sticker or need, will be allowed to park in the designated lot behind the Church of the Nazarene.

The annual Veterans Day Parade is sponsored by the Commissioners of Leonardtown, and the St. Mary's Board of County Commissioners. For more information call 301-475-9791 or 301-475-4200 ext. 1342.

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