



# Pennsylvania Veterans Museum

## TIMELINE

**MAY 1999**

Media Mayor Bob McMahon and PA Governor Tom Ridge discuss the idea of involving students in Media's next Veterans Day remembrance.

**JUNE 1999**

The Veterans Legacy Project is formed to pass the legacy from one generation to another. It organizes the student program and launches the web site [www.veteranslegacy.com](http://www.veteranslegacy.com)

**NOVEMBER 1999**

More than 3000 students participate in Media's Veterans Day events. Governor Ridge presents Senator Bob Dole with Pennsylvania's \$2 million contribution to the WWII Memorial — the largest gift from any state. Key participants include Brig. Gen. John Patten, Sen. Dick Tilghman, Sen. Jack Wagner, Rep. Paul Semmel and members of the Veterans Legacy Project.

**FEBRUARY 2000**

Speaker Matt Ryan requests funding to purchase the Armory and turn it into a Veterans Museum

**2001**

Speaker Matt Ryan enters \$800,000 into the PA capital budget to move the National Guard from the Media Armory.

**2002**

WWII veterans Bud Hendrick and Ed Buffman gather 500 signatures from local vets and the Media community in support of a veterans museum in the Armory. Senator Clarence Bell approves moving the local Guard to other quarters. Speaker Matt Ryan places \$1.3 million into the state capital budget to make repairs to the Armory and purchase parking areas adjacent to it. In December, Governor Mark Schweiker releases grant for repairs to the Armory and the purchase of parking areas adjacent to it.

**DECEMBER 2002**

The Museum board is organized.

**APRIL 2003**

PA Department of General Services and the Borough of Media agree on the sale and transfer of the Armory, including a condition that a non-profit organization will organize and operate a Veterans Museum on the premises.

**MAY 2003**

Governor Ed Rendell presents \$1.3 million check for refurbishing the Armory.

**NOVEMBER 2003**

Delaware County Councilman Andy Reilly presents \$200,000 check from County Council to Ed Buffman, the museum chair, at the Veterans Day Parade. Student participation reaches 6000.

**JANUARY 2004**

The name "Pennsylvania Veterans Museum" has been adopted, and the operation is underway with reconstruction of the Armory and exhibit design to preserve the legacy of our veterans.