A DECADE IN THE MAKING: Military exhibit opens Veterans Day weekend in historic Memorial City Hall

Two days before Veterans Day -- a day designated to honor those who served in the military -- the Harrison County Historical Museum opens the long-awaited military exhibit in the Steve and Penny Carlile Gallery in Memorial City Hall. This day of dedication in remembrance of those who served from Harrison County will begin at 10 a.m., November 9, 2019.

The journey to open the exhibit began in 2007 when the City of Marshall invited the museum to partner in the reuse of the long-vacant, former city hall that has sat on Marshall’s historic square since 1927.

What's inside the exhibit? You will not find lessons on wars and what caused them. That can be found elsewhere. You will find stories of the everyday men and women of Harrison County who found the strength and courage to accomplish the difficult tasks that confronted them -- whether on the warfront or the homefront.

This exhibit covers a long time span beginning with the Texas Revolution and ending with the Wars on Terror organized into 25 themes that will allow you to compare and contrast the periods of time. The 1,700 square foot exhibit features 164 artifacts and 184 people of Harrison County.
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Welcome to the Celebration of the Opening of the Service and Sacrifice Harrison County at War Exhibit in the Steve and Penny Carlile Gallery at historic Memorial City Hall.

Discover rich history of the service and sacrifices of Harrison County citizens, both on the warfront and the homefront, in this all-new permanent exhibit.

Harrison County Historical Museum proudly presents the gift of this exhibit to our community and visitors. As a local history museum, our mission guides us to tell stories about Harrison County people. We believe you will find universal stories that may inform, entertain and inspire you.

To our project donors, we thank you. Without your generous support, this exhibit would not exist. Our New Museum Task Force, led by Martha Robb, bravely stepped forward and steadfastly worked to raise $400,000 for the exhibit and then $39,000 when the city asked the museum for a contribution toward the renovation of Memorial City Hall.

We are thankful for the team brought together by MuseWork Exhibit Planning and Design. They understand the relationship between exhibits and visitors and fit that together with our vision for an exhibit featuring local people and stories. Angela Davis and Olive Black, principals of the firm, combined our loosely organized research and wealth of artifacts into compelling, artfully illustrated stories of service and sacrifice. Glen Nerwin’s fine work fabricating and installing their plans was amazing to watch.

To our members, we also thank you. Your membership supports our annual operations allowing us to bring our exhibits and related educational programming to our community. Annual funding from the county and city and foundation grants also help with keep our doors open and we appreciate their support.

We hope you enjoy the exhibit. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I invite you to join our not-for-profit organization supporting and working with us as we boldly move forward into the future.

Sincerely,

Ann Brannon, President, Board of Directors
Harrison County Historical Museum

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* Indicates member of New Museum Task Force that since 2006 led fund-raising and planning for the New Museum Campaign that resulted in all new exhibits in the 1901 Courthouse and Memorial City Hall.
$400,000 exhibit cost. The largest donors were the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Steve and Penny Carlile. 156 other donations or grants ranging from $25 to $15,000.

$39,000 contributed by Harrison County Historical Museum for improvements to Memorial City Hall.

1,700 square feet of exhibit space.

Exhibit Interpretation, Design And Fabrication MuseWork Exhibit Planning & Design, Angela Davis & Olive Black, principals.

TIMELINE
2006 Museum board agrees to move forward with a $1.2 million plan calling for all new exhibits on first floor and part of basement in 1901 Courthouse and in an annex with a location to be identified. A New Museum Task Force is formed, with Martha Robb as chairman, to implement the plan on behalf of the board.

2007 City invites museum to use part of Memorial City Hall for annex.

2013 | September Museum opens Phase I of plan opening new exhibits in 1901 Harrison County Courthouse.

2013 | October Museum retains MuseWork to prepare Phase II conceptual plan and budget for military exhibit and rotating/traveling exhibits at Memorial City Hall. Begins fund-raising and exhibit planning.

2014 | November Museum receives $150,000 grant from Institute of Museum & Library Service, one of five awarded in Texas, as major boost to fund-raising.

2014 | December Museum retains MuseWork to prepare final design plans for military exhibit.

2015 | January Museum prepares exhibit vision statement and workbook to guide development of exhibit.

2014-2018 Museum and MuseWork complete exhibit design and fabrication as improvements to Memorial City Hall are undertaken by city.

2016 Fund raising completed with gift from Steve and Penny Carlile.

2018 | August Exhibit installation begins.

2019 | March Exhibit installation completed.

2019 | November 9 Exhibit opens
The exhibit will remain open until 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 9 and then will reopen for the regular schedule on Tuesday, November 12. This exhibit and the museum’s other exhibits in the 1901 Harrison County Courthouse are open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The last admission ticket is sold at 3 p.m. to allow visitors time to see the exhibit. Admission fees are posted on the museum’s website at harrisoncountymuseum.org

EXHIBIT FACTS
HARRISON COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, member organization. All donations and memberships are tax deductible.
Enter the Service & Sacrifice: Harrison County at War exhibit on the basement level of historic Memorial City Hall. This building was named in remembrance of those who lost their lives in World War I.

In 1927, over 2,000 crowded into the new municipal building for the dedication ceremony of the tablet listing the names of those who lost their lives in World War I. A second tablet was added after World War II listing those who died for their home and their country. The tablets can now be seen at the entry on the first floor of Memorial City Hall. Now, you can find the stories of those listed on the tablets in the Hometown Heroes touchscreen interactive.

Browse through the Hometown Heroes touchscreen interactive exploring stories of service or add a new story.

Learn more from family remembrance memorials.

Hometown Heroes funded in part through a grant from the Union Pacific Foundation
Look for these design techniques and exhibit elements as you walk through Service & Sacrifice.

Art panels etched with local historic photographs divide the linear space of the exhibit into three sections—the exhibit introduction, the homefront to the right, the warfront to the left.

Color is used to further define the separation of the three sections. Blue of the earth’s globe is used in the entry atrium to set the stage for the theme, Global Connections. Red is used in the homefront section, Hometown Heroes, to evoke the warmth of home. Silver and grays are used in the warfront section, Facing the Fight, to evoke the seriousness of the warfront.

Graphic panels introduce each of the 25 exhibit themes and are used throughout the exhibit.

Artifacts from the museum’s collection are featured in exhibit cases. The artifacts illustrate the stories of the exhibit unit. The earliest artifact is a knife and scabbard used in the Mexican American War. The most recent is an Afghan pakol brought home from war. The most rare artifact is a Civil War battle flag, now conserved and encased in protective glass. The flag has not been exhibited since 2000.

Three touchscreen interactives tell stories about service people from Harrison County. Visitors can scan through the touchscreens learning more.

A touchscreen monitor leads visitors through the origins and use of code to communicate and spy on enemies during times of war.

A video station with five stations uses Ken Burns-style video graphics to trace the different ways we “joined up” for military service through time.

A mini-theater features the little known stories of four extraordinary heroes from Harrison County’s military history. The four short films use a unique story-telling technique with live actors and animation storyboards.

Signature graphics are placed in strategic locations to draw the visitor into the exhibit sections. One example is the brightly lit wall of panels of the Air Power section glowing from the back of the dimmed lighting of the warfront section. Another example is the simulated bridge in the STEM sections of Engineering, Transportation and Communications.

Ask for the publication "Harrison County People Featured in the Exhibit" for an alphabetical list of names. Look for others on the Hometown Heroes database.
As you enter the atrium, look up to THE VANGUARD, a sculpture of 8,100 dog tags forming a “v”. This sculpture, partly assembled by Texas veterans & local volunteers, memorializes each person from Harrison County who led the way forward by serving in a time of war.

---Sculpture designed by Olive Black of MuseWork Exhibit Design

--- The Vanguard a project of the City of Marshall

THE EXHIBIT FEATURES
164 ARTIFACTS FROM
THE MUSEUM’S COLLECTION

KEYSTONE ARTIFACT
48-STAR BATTLE-DAMAGED FLAG, 1940s
BROUGHT HOME FROM WAR BY JACK GREEN
HCHM COLLECTIONS

The title wall, Service and Sacrifice: Harrison County at War, sets the theme of the exhibit—how the people of Harrison County served our county and our country.

Look at the world on the map table. Each point of light represents a major battle in our shared history. Browse through the “Global Connections” interactive for stories of service around the world.

Read the story about Jack Green and the World War II flag.

Walk around the timeline circling the map following service through time.

Choose to move through the gallery in either of two directions. To the left, industrial materials and design choices signal the war front story. To the right, images of home and design choices signal the home front story.

Explore in either direction.
The people of Harrison County have a long tradition of military service.

The decision to serve has always been made here, at home, and reflects the values of our society.

In The Homefront, explore the stories of Harrison County men and women who led the way in defining service for their generation.

Below and on the following page are highlights from The Homefront: Hometown Heroes.

LISTEN IN ON HISTORY

Listen to letters written home from Harrison County soldiers beginning with Edward Clark from the Mexican-American War.
Military service provides a platform for patriotic expression, an opportunity to learn valuable skills and a route to civic leadership.

For too long, these opportunities were not available to everyone. Through their service, Harrison County men and women helped change hearts and minds, fighting for everyone's right to serve.

FEATURED IN FIGHTING FOR OPPORTUNITY
Alma Christine Jones Bolton • Mack Hopkins • Charlie Johnson • Myrtle Dinkle McLeroy • Romeo Williams • Fred Weathersby Sr.

Spectacular Send-Off

Discover stories of patriotism, public sentiment, and changing ideas about military service.

Explore how wars have impacted those left behind in Harrison County, from their own service helping from the home front to inspiring stories of family traditions of service to emblems of service and sacrifice that once decorated the walls of living rooms across our county.

KEYSTONE ARTIFACT
S. B. Hendricks Company Battle Flag, c.1862. Donated to HCHM by Aubrey & A.D. Westmoreland.

Major funding for the conservation and exhibition of this 157-year-old flag was provided by the Texas Historical Foundation, Gen. W.P. Lane Camp #1455, W.W. Heartsill Camp #2042, Order of the Southern Cross, and the Satterwhite Family.
Over the years, thousands of Harrison County men and women have marched into combat. They faced dangers and hardships. Their stories give us a small glimpse of life on the warfront and bear witness to amazing scientific and technical innovations.

Below and on the following pages are highlights from The Warfront: Facing the Fight.

**STEM in Military History**

Communication, engineering, transportation—Harrison County men and women in service used the military’s technological advancements.

**STEM: Transportation**

Harrison County’s Robert Yates Sr. (above, left) built and tore down bridges across western Europe during World War II.

Our STEM unit is tucked up under simulated heavy metal girders to reflect bridges Colonel Yates built.

His battalion of engineers used know-how and initiative to make an important contribution to the Battle of the Bulge. You’ll learn about an imaginative solution this East Texan brought to a seemingly overwhelming problem.
Over the years, servicemen from Harrison County either carried these weapons into conflict or seized them from their enemies as spoils of war. These items, spanning two centuries, demonstrate the technological changes that created more effective weaponry. They also embody the intense experiences of the men who chose to pass these artifacts down through the generations.

FEATURED IN WEAPONS OF WAR
Harold C. Atkins • Edwin F. Barry • Edwin R. Bledsoe • George D. Bogue • Perry D. Bonner • Henry Hackwold • Joe Lake III • James W. Lewis • Vernon B. Lewis Jr. • William E. Lynch Jr. • Myrtle Binkle Maleroy • Sam Moore • John Muntz • William Pierce • William T. Scott • Tommy Slaughter • Louis A. Smiley • G.W. Staats • Bonnie T. Summers • Holman Taylor • Robert B. Yates Sr.

Interactive:
Spying with STEM

Cryptography, the science of secret codes has evolved in times of warfare. Explore these historic methods for passing—and breaking—secret codes.

FEATURED EXHIBITION
On the mezzanine level find a changing exhibition of service people from Harrison County.

FEATURED IN AIRPOWER
Albert Abraham • Ray Allen • D.W. Fogle Sr. • Jake Hayward Jr. • John Jadrosich • Jack W. Lasalle • James W. Lewis • Stephen G. Warren

From the earliest days of U.S. airpower, Harrison County soldiers have taken to the skies. These brave servicemen witnessed history from on high, as ever-evolving aeronautical technology changed warfare.

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More in THE WARFRONT
Theater of Extraordinary Stories, Military Life

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More in THE WARFRONT
Theater of Extraordinary Stories, Military Life
A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION OF THE OPENING OF

SERVICE & SACRIFICE | HARRISON COUNTY AT WAR

Men and women from our community are part of a global story. Throughout history and around the world, Harrison County soldiers have fought wars, secured borders, and kept the peace. Some brought home stories of a larger world. Others never returned.

Lest we forget

BATTLE-DAMAGED FLAG BROUGHT HOME FROM WORLD WAR II BY JACK GREEN

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