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Lest We Forget of Southwest Michigan is planning their annual reenactment weekend scheduled for June 21-22, 2025.

Previous themes have included WWII, Korea, Vietnam, The U.S. Navy, Women in Service, The Cold War and in 2024 the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day and Saipan Battles.

This year, Lest We Forget will highlight the United States involvement in the Gulf, Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts, sometimes called **The Sandbox Wars.** The public is invited to attend six Tuesday evening sessions at Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor Campus, Room D-112, to hear from local veterans who served there. The sessions begin on April 15, 2025.

April 15, 7 - 9:00 P.M. SMSgt Scherwitz, Desert Storm April 22, 7 - 9:00 P.M. Capt Alsbro, Desert Storm During Operation Desert Storm, which ran from August 2, 1990 to July 31, 1991, approximately 697,000 U.S. service members participated, with the conflict formally ending on February 28, 1991. 299 lost their lives.

April 29, 7 - 9:00 P.M. SSgt McGowan & SFC Jones, Iraqi Freedom More than 1.5 million Soldiers, Sailors and Marines deployed to Iraq between March 20, 2003 and December 18, 2011. Over 32,000 U.S. service members were wounded in action in Iraq and 4,486 made the ultimate sacrifice.

May 6, 7 - 9:00 P.M. Col Sawyer, Afghanistan May 13, 7 - 9:00 P.M. 1st Sgt Mayer & Lt Col Russell, Afghanistan May 20, 7 - 9:00 P.M. SCPO Briseno & Lt Col Deal, Afghanistan Approximately 800,000 American military personnel served in Afghanistan during the 20-year war. Between October 7, 2001 and August 30, 2021, a total of 2,459 U.S. military personnel died in Afghanistan. Over 1.9 million deployed in total,

including Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom and many

have faced significant challenges and costs, both physically and emotionally.



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Vineyard 2121 Winery - See Page 7

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Paw Paw Paw Paw Brewing Company Warner Brew Haus - See Page 15 Plainwell Olde Mill Brewpub & Grill

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2025 Miss Blossomtime Community Queens

LCQ Magazine would like to thank Kevin Harrington of Harrington Photography

for providing the photos for Miss Blossomtime Festival Pageant Queens.





Malayna



Paxton



М I S S С A S S O P L I s Merrill



Hailey







М I S s Η A R T F 0 R D

Savannah

2025 Blossomtime Festival Events Schedule:

Mr. Blossomtime and Showcase of Queens Pageant: Sunday, April 13, 2025 Miss Blossomtime Pageant: Monday, April 14, 2025 Blossomtime Youth Parade: Saturday, May 3, 2025 at 12:00 noon EST 45th Annual Run for Buds 5K Run/Walk: Saturday, May 10th at 10:30am 715 Ship St., St. Joseph, MI Blossomtime Grand Floral Parade: Saturday May 10, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. EST



Blossomtime is the oldest and largest multi-community Festival in the state of Michigan. Standing behind 119 years of tradition, community service, Blossomtime helps support the young people of Southwest Michigan be the very best they can be, while honoring past values set before us, and celebrating our beautiful and prosperous farms, fruit orchards and the agriculture that puts Southwest Michigan on the map. By supporting the Blossomtime Festival and Run for the Buds, you are supporting the hopes and dreams and the future of Southwest Michigan!



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