



**Office of
Representative Hannah E. Kane
Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

For Immediate Release

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**Representative Kane Announces 4th Annual Event
Celebrating Armed Forces Day**

*Legislators Representing the Central MA Veterans' Service District Invite
Community Members of Grafton, Northborough, Shrewsbury and Westborough to
Join in Honoring Active and Retired Military Personnel.*

*Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, Congressman Jim McGovern, Major General Gary W.
Keefe of Massachusetts National Guard to Speak.*

SHREWSBURY - Representative Hannah E. Kane (R-Shrewsbury) announced today that the 4th Annual Armed Forces Day event, honoring all service men and women, active or retired, will take place at SAC Park, 438 Lake Street, Shrewsbury, on Saturday, May 19, 2018 from 9AM -10:30 AM.

Representative Kane will be joined by several of her colleagues in the Legislature whom are co-sponsors of the annual event: Senator Michael Moore (D-Millbury), Representative Carolyn Dykema (D-Holliston), Representative Danielle Gregoire (D-Marlborough), Representative David Muradian (R-Grafton) and Representative Harold Naughton (D- Clinton). Senate President Harriette Chandler (D-Worcester) and Senator Jamie Eldridge (D-Acton) are also co-hosts of the event. The delegation represents the Central Massachusetts Veterans' Service district of Shrewsbury, Westborough, Northborough and Grafton. The event is free and open to all active and retired military personnel and members of the public who would like to take part in honoring those who have served.

“Armed Forces Day focuses on honoring the service and sacrifice of all military personnel, and acknowledges the enormous debt of gratitude we owe these selfless patriots. It is humbling to be surrounded by so many who have given so much and I am pleased to once again co-host this community celebration with my legislative colleagues,” said Representative Hannah Kane. “I look forward to sharing this day

with the Central Massachusetts community. I truly believe that individuals of all ages will leave the event with a greater appreciation for the branches of our military, a greater reverence for those who have served and greatly enjoy the opportunity to directly say a heartfelt, thank you.”

“We honor those who have given themselves in service to the Nation,” said Senator Michael O. Moore (D-Millbury). “This ceremony reaffirms our deep appreciation to the men and women of our Armed Forces, and their families. I am proud to join members of the community to celebrate their contributions to promote freedom on the home-front and abroad.”

State Representative David Muradian said he is “honored to have the opportunity to join with our friends and neighbors in Central Massachusetts to recognize our active and retired military personnel and their service to our country. This event will be a great opportunity to not only gather together, but also show our thanks to the members of our United States Military.”

Armed Forces Day was created in 1949 by then US Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson, to replace separate Army, Navy and Air Force days and unify all branches of the military under the Department of Defense. It is a day to pay tribute to those actively serving and those who have served their country in times of war and peace.

“Central Massachusetts is fortunate to call itself home to a large and active veterans community and I am proud to be able to celebrate their many contributions”, stated Representative Carolyn Dykema. “I look forward to recognizing the service and sacrifices of local veterans and their families along with Rep. Kane and my colleagues.”

“It is an honor to once again co-host this event with my colleagues in Central Massachusetts,” said Representative Danielle Gregoire. “As the daughter and granddaughter of veterans, I welcome the opportunity to offer my sincerest gratitude for their service.”

This year’s event will feature special guest speakers including **Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, Congressman Jim McGovern and Major General Gary W. Keefe, Adjutant General of the Massachusetts National Guard.** Shrewsbury Deputy Fire Chief Bruce Card Jr. and Acting Captain Shaun Weigold will also be guest speakers. Shrewsbury High School graduate and University of New Hampshire student Carly O’Brien will perform the National Anthem and God

Bless America and the Grafton Job Corp Color Guard will post the flags, while local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts will lead the Pledge of Allegiance. The Westborough High School band, under the direction of Evan Doyle, will perform patriotic musical accompaniments. Reverend Robert Hyde of the First Congregational Church in Shrewsbury, and a veteran of the United States Air Force, will offer a prayer. Attendees will enjoy music, readings and a continental breakfast prepared by Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School Culinary Program students while hearing remarks on the branches of the military.

“It is an honor to co-host this important event with my Legislative colleagues and friends year after year,” said Representative Harold Naughton. “We work hard each and every day to ensure we in Massachusetts remain one of the leaders in our nation by honoring our service members through improving the benefits they receive. There is always room to do more, and this Armed Forces Day is a special day intended to honor, recognize and remember our local heroes.”

All members of the community are welcomed and encouraged to attend. For more information or to RSVP please contact Gayle Vigeant at gayle.v2018@gmail.com or 508-341-0578.

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