

The Bandera PROPHE'T

November 4, 2019

Representative Murr and Art 2 Heart headline Veterans Day celebration

By Susan Junker
Special to the Prophet

In its 17th year, the Bandera Honors Veterans celebration on Nov. 9 will have different keynote speakers, other VIPs and honorees, new patriotic musical entertainment and ever-changing family displays and parade entrants. Unchanging in this event is Bandera's culture of pride and gratitude expressed throughout for our local military, veterans, their survivors and families.

Veterans Day is Monday, Nov. 11: "Armistice Day" as the World War I hostilities ceased on the 11th day of the 11th month, 1918. The Bandera County Courthouse lawn is the starting and ending location for the day's events. Family displays and information from veteran-oriented nonprofits will be set up in front of the courthouse at 10 a.m. Boy Scout Troop 146 will post the colors to start this year's program at 11 a.m. as the San Antonio Pipe & Drum completes their patriotic medley.

Special music will be provided by the children from Art 2 Heart, a nonprofit organization utilizing a structured, long-term, after-school program to "help young people discover their place in the world...integrating their talents and values into living and leading productive responsible lives."

Our 53rd District Texas State Representative Andrew Murr will provide the keynote address. Although he is a frequent visitor to Bandera, his scheduled 2018 address was cancelled due to major flood damage in his district and his own property.

Event organizers shared that “he has attended numerous events honoring veterans, but has yet to experience the Bandera Honors Veterans event. We hope Representative Murr will be on those first floats that all veterans are welcome to get on at the front of the Courthouse following the program.”

The parade kicks off at noon with a mounted color guard and incredible that Bandera patriotism will follow on wheels, hooves, and feet.

World War II and Korean War veterans will have VIP seating and escorts from the Bandera High School FFA. The Veteran Float will return to the front of the Courthouse as other parade entrants continue to City Park. The Veterans and Spouses barbecue begins at 1 p.m. with Sid’s BBQ making a special return performance. All veterans and their spouses are welcome to enjoy the barbecue and a slice of cake representing your military service.

If inclement weather appears, everything except the parade will be held in the Livestock Showbarn at Mansfield Park. The Bandera American Legion Post 157 is proud to host this event with the assistance of the Bandera County Commissioners Court and Bandera Economic Development Corporation – and a host of local business and individual supporters, veteran volunteers and American Legion Auxiliary members.

For more information on parade or display entries, call 830-796-7528 or Dennis at 210-788-1404.

At A Glance

- ~ 10 a.m. - Family displays and information from veteran-oriented nonprofits will be set up on the courthouse lawn.
- ~ 11 a.m. - Boy Scout Troop 146 will post the colors.
- ~ Noon - Parade begins with mounted color guard.
- ~ 1 p.m. - Veterans and Spouses barbecue.