



MEDIA ADVISORY

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Ohio Gold Star Mothers Annual Remembrance Ceremony

What: On National Gold Star Mothers' Remembrance Day, Col. Mark Cappone (U.S. Army, retired), assistant director of the Ohio Dept. of Veterans Services and David Lane, assistant chief of the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Forestry will thank and honor Ohio Gold Star Mothers during their annual remembrance ceremony. Ohio Gold Star Mothers and families gather every year with veterans' organizations and grateful citizens to honor their sons and daughters who were killed in action while defending our nation's freedom. The ceremony includes a POW/MIA Missing Man Ceremony and a wreath laying by the Ohio Gold Star Mothers.

Where: **Forest Memorial Shrine**
[Mohican Memorial State Forest](#)
Off Route 97 between Butler and Loudonville

When: **Sunday, September 25, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.**

Who: **Col. Mark Cappone**, assistant director, Ohio Department of Veterans Services
Rebecca Frank, president, Ohio Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
David Lane, assistant chief of ODNR Division of Forestry
Chad Sanders, Mohican Memorial State Forest manager
Military Order of the Purple Heart, Akron Chapter
Marine Corps League
Sons of the American Revolution
Gold Star Mothers and family members

Background: Tucked away in a peaceful corner of the [Mohican-Memorial State Forest](#) in Ashland County is the Memorial Forest Shrine, a place where families, friends and ordinary citizens can pause to reflect on Ohioans killed in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf, and the Afghanistan and Iraq operations.

The American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. was formed in 1928 in Washington, D.C. by 25 mothers who had lost their sons during World War I. Their organization, which no mother ever wants to be eligible to join, has been an essential outlet for many Gold Star Mothers who need other moms who understand their loss. They are a national service organization finding healing through helping veterans and their families.

The [Ohio Department of Veterans Services](#) works to actively identify, connect with, and advocate for veterans and their families. Ohio law gives the department the responsibility to partner with county veteran service commissions and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, in order to "serve those who have served."

"The Trusted Voice for Veterans"

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