



NEWS RELEASE

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ORANGE COUNTY'S BLUE AND GRAY EVENT TO BE HELD THIS WEEKEND

Orange County, VA – Main Street in the Town of Orange, Virginia is *the* place to be Saturday, August 18, 2012, as re-enactors from both sides of the Civil War, both cavalry and infantry, occupy the Town. Costumed soldiers will march up the main thoroughfare and engage in a brief skirmish in front of the 1859 Historic Courthouse.

The public is invited to follow in their footsteps to a Civil War Era Living History in Veteran's Park off Newton Street. Once there, the entire family can enjoy military drill demonstrations, period music by Keith Walters, homemade lemonade according to General A.P. Hill's wife's recipe, and the Cooper family's famous fried chicken. On the way to the living history, be sure to stop by the Holladay House and purchase a commemorative ribbon from the PALAS ladies who will be wearing 1860's style dresses.

The event celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Orange Courthouse, fought in early August 1862. Beginning at 10:30 a.m. on Main Street, Orange; the event will continue up the street to Peliso and on to Veteran's Park on Newton Street. Come early and stake out a spot between the Courthouse and the Holladay House, the best place from which to watch the skirmish. Next, follow Orange County historian, Frank Walker, to the living history in Veteran's Park. Walker will be dressed in a reproduction of his grandfather's Civil War uniform.

The event coincides with the annual Civil War weekend at Montpelier. Featured events include a Saturday evening candlelight tour of the camps from 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., and Sunday events beginning with a dress parade at 9:30 a.m., a ladies fashion show at the Montpelier Visitor's Center at 10:00 a.m., a company drill at 11:00 a.m. and a battle re-enactment at 2:00 p.m. For more information about the event, please contact Tourism Manager Leigh Mawyer at 540-672-1653.

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