

Armed Forces Appreciation Day in Elmer Thomas Park

Lawton goes all out to salute the military on Saturday, May 21 with their annual "Armed Forces Appreciation Day in Elmer Thomas Park" located at 3rd and NW Ferris Avenue. Lawton claims it's the largest Armed Forces Day celebration in the country.

All events are free. The day begins at 10 a.m. with an Armed Forces Day Parade. For information about marching in the parade, contact the Lawton Fort Sill Chamber of Commerce at 580-355-3541.

- The Museum of the Great Plains will host a special exhibit, "Stars & Stripes: Through the Lens of Friends" with free admission 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. that day. The museum is located in Elmer Thomas Park at 601 NW Ferris Avenue.
- Elmer Thomas Park will be alive with fun, food and entertainment for the entire family 1-6 p.m. Activities include an area for children, and while supplies last, free food and drinks with area business and organizations offering free services and "goodies".
- Live entertainment at the festival pad includes 1 p.m., Double Branded Band; 3 p.m., Southern Journey, and 5 p.m., the Brothers Dupree.
- At 1:30, sports enthusiasts can cheer on competitors in the Armed Forces Disc Golf Tournament, which is open to men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces, active duty and retired personnel. There will be cash prizes awarded in both male and female divisions. Pre-registration is required by 5 p.m. May 16. For more information, call Reginald Seaton at 580-581-3400. Download registration forms at www.cityof.lawton.ok.us/parksnrec/discgolf.htm.
- At 7, activities move indoors to the McMahon Memorial Auditorium, 801 NW Ferris Avenue for a free concert. At 6:45, unclaimed seating will be offered to the waiting public.

Opening the concert is Brazos Stone, a high-energy band drawing influences from artists across the musical spectrum ranging from Hank Williams to Metallica and Pink Floyd to John Mayer. Visit their Website www.brasosstonemusic.com or find them on Facebook.

Headliner, Uptown Syndicate Band, formed originally in Norman in 1971, and was considered to be one of the top show bands rivaling the Gap Band of Tulsa for stardom.

Uptown Syndicate is known for "High Energy" performances of Funk, Rhythm and Blues with soulful ballads mixed in. At that time and even still today Uptown is regarded as a group that can fire up any crowd. The group consisted of a powerful horn section, dynamic female and male vocals, a serious funky rhythm section, with breath taking choreography. Do not miss this performance, this is a once in a lifetime event. The Uptown Syndicate

Show will feature their original recordings released on Fat City Records along with music that inspired them to record.

Advanced tickets for the evening concert are now available. Ticket holders must be seated by 6:45. At that time, any open seats will be available to the public.

Tickets can be found on Fort Sill at Moral, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR), Bldg 4700, North Entrance Welcome Center Desk and in Lawton at the McMahon Memorial Auditorium Box Office or the Museum of the Great Plains.

No alcohol, glass containers, fireworks and no pets, service animals only. Visit the website www.cityof.lawton.ok.us.