

Old Fort Niagara to host 'War of 1812 Encampment'

Old Fort Niagara's "War of 1812 Encampment" is set for Labor Day weekend, Sept. 4-5. This year's event will focus on U.S. troops who garrisoned the fort from June of 1812 through December of 1813, when the British captured the fort.

Activities include a Saturday afternoon presentation by acclaimed historian Richard V. Barbuto, Ph.D., who will speak about "Seven Days in September 1814: Turning Point in the War of 1812." Barbuto is author of numerous books about the War of 1812, including "New York's War of 1812," recently published by the University of Oklahoma Press. He is emeritus professor of history and has served as the deputy director of the department of military history at the U.S. Army Command & General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. A 1971 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, he served for 23 years as an armor officer with tours of duty in Germany, Korea and Canada.

The weekend will also feature a variety of living history activities. Reenactors will establish



Troops will line Old Fort Niagara on Sept. 4-5. (Submitted photo)

period camps and demonstrate what life was like for common soldiers during the War of 1812. Throughout the day, troops will perform musket demonstra-

tions, volley firing, artillery firing and other tactical exercises. Other programs feature period cooking, laundry, blacksmithing, children's games and Native

Americans in the War of 1812.

Scheduled programs are:

√ 10:30 a.m., infantry drill and firing

√ 11 a.m., musket-firing dem-

onstration

√ 11:30 a.m., uniforms of the War of 1812

√ Noon, musket-firing demo

√ 12:30 p.m., regency women's fashions

√ 1 p.m., musket-firing demo

√ 1:30 p.m., "Hot Shot" artillery demonstration

√ 2 p.m., musket-firing demo

√ 2:30 p.m., firepower weapons program

√ 3 p.m., musket-firing demo

√ 3:30 p.m., tour: Fort Niagara in the War of 1812

√ 3:45 p.m., musket-firing demo

Activities run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This program is sponsored by the United States Daughters of 1812.

Old Fort Niagara, currently open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., is a Registered National Historic Landmark and New York State Historic Site operated by the Old Fort Niagara Association (a not-for-profit organization) in cooperation with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Follow on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube.

'Big R' (cont.)

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The KiPo Chevrolet Street Stocks will be racing alongside the Hobby Stocks/Pure Stocks from Land of Legends Raceway, Outlaw Speedway, Freedom Motorsports Park, and the Woodhull Raceway as the rules have been opened to allow those cars to come to compete at the "Big R." The race will be 30 laps in distance and will be paying \$500 to win, \$300 for second place, and \$200 for third.

"King of the Hill" night will also feature the season championship event for the Sunflowers of Sanborn Mini Stocks along with the Investor's Service Sportsman/ Kevin's Carpet Cleaning Novice Sportsman Shootout. Pit gates will open at 5 p.m. with grandstands opening at 6 p.m. Racing will get underway at 7:15 p.m. For those who cannot attend, the entire racing program will be streamed live on www.dirttrackdigest.tv.

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