

## **Virginia War Museum Commemorates the Centennial of the Armistice with a Special Exhibit and Living History Event**

*Events to complement annual Veterans Day Ceremony at the Victory Arch*

**Newport News, VA, Nov. 2, 2018** – In recognition of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War I, the Virginia War Museum will open a temporary exhibit that has never before been seen by the public!

The exhibition, called *Flags of War: Virginia's First World War Regimental Colors,* will open on Veterans Day – Sunday, Nov. 11 – and will continue through Sunday, Nov. 18.

It will feature the regimental flags of Virginia units that served overseas in the 42<sup>nd</sup>, 80<sup>th</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup> Divisions, as well as African-American Engineer Battalions and Coast Artillery units.

“This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to view these sacred artifacts of Virginia’s role in the Great War,” said Chris Garcia, an education coordinator with the Virginia War Museum. “This is the first time ever that all of the flags have been displayed for public viewing.”

Prior to the opening, a Veterans Day Ceremony will be held in Downtown Newport News. Sponsored by the American Legion, Braxton-Perkins Post #25, this annual ceremony will take place at 11 a.m. at the Victory Arch, 25th Street & West Avenue.

After the ceremony, the public is invited learn about America’s rich military heritage at the Virginia War Museum, where re-enactors from the Great War Association will commemorate the centennial of the signing of the Armistice of November 11, 1918, which ended the first global war in history.

It was during World War I that the farmlands of Newport News transformed into training camps, supply depots, and military posts – quickly becoming a port of embarkation for troops, animals, and supplies heading to Europe. It also brought thousands of shipyard workers to Newport News to build new ships.

Veterans Day is the perfect day to learn more about the First World War and honor those who fought in it through hands-on activities, displays, and the opportunity to interact with living historians. As an added treat, visitors to the museum will be given a \$1 discount off admission on Nov. 11. For more information, visit [www.warmuseum.org](http://www.warmuseum.org) or call 757-247-8523.

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