

Month of May offers several special programs for Memorial Day

West Virginia PBS and West Virginia PBS.2 are offering several programs honoring those who have served our country in the military. Below is a compilation of programs arranged by date that viewers may find interesting.

On West Virginia PBS

Wednesday, May 7

10:00 p.m. **Nazi Mega Weapons** *Jet Fighter Me262* -- Explore the most technologically advanced plane of World War II, the Messerschmitt Me262, a fighter jet that inspired a revolution in aerial warfare. Learn the remarkable story of an awe-inspiring aircraft, the subterranean bat-cave where it was built and the battle for air supremacy that decided the fate of the war.



Tuesday, May 13

8:00 p.m. **Coming Back with Wes Moore** *Coming Back* (Part 1 of 3) -- Host Wes Moore explores the questions surrounding the difficulty with the process of coming back from war. He meets Chris Phelan who was able to successfully translate his experience in the military to a career as a police officer. He is also raising his two-year-old daughter River by himself, while his wife, Star Lopez, serves as a lawyer at the Afghan Embassy preparing to return home herself.

Wednesday, May 14

9:00 p.m. **NOVA** *Escape from Nazi Alcatraz* -- Colditz Castle, a notorious prisoner of war camp in Nazi Germany, was supposed to be escape-proof. But in the dark days at the end of World War II, a group of British officers dreamt up the ultimate escape plan: in a secret attic workshop, they constructed a two-man glider out of bed sheets and floorboards. Their plan was to fly to freedom from the roof of the castle, but the war ended before they could put it to the test.

10:00 p.m. **Nazi Mega Weapons** *Fortress Berline* -- April 1945. Hitler is in the center of Berlin, 10 meters underground, surrounded by four-meter thick concrete walls, safe from any air attack the Allies can throw at him. But the Russians are advancing on the ground: the Red Army is lined up along the Oder River and going for the Fuhrer. Blocking the way are rings of ingenious defenses, kill zones and strong-points that have turned Berlin into a fortress. At the heart of this fortress is the Fuhrerbunker.

Tuesday, May 20

8:00 p.m. **Coming Back with Wes Moore** *Fitting In* (Part 2 of 3) -- In this episode, Moore reflects on the idea of fitting in when you and the home you are returning to is fundamentally changed by war.

9:00 p.m. **Escape from Nazi Death Camp** -- October 14, 2013 was the 70th anniversary of an event that shook the Nazi party to its core. In east Poland, at the remote Nazi death camp of Sobibor, 300 Jewish prisoners staged a bloody break out. To mark the anniversary, this film travels back to Sobibor with the last remaining survivors to reveal their extraordinary story of courage, desperation and determination.

Wednesday, May 21

9:00 p.m. **NOVA** *Bombing Hitler's Dams* -- In 1943 a squadron of Lancaster bombers staged one of the most audacious raids in history -- destroying two gigantic dams in Germany's industrial heartland and cutting the water supply to arms factories -- with a revolutionary bouncing bomb invented by British engineer Barnes Wallis. In this program, NOVA re-creates the extreme engineering challenges faced by Wallis and the pilots with the aid of six spectacular experiments.

Sunday, May 25

8:00 p.m. **National Memorial Day Concert** -- Joe Mantegna and Gary Sinise co-host the 25th anniversary broadcast of the National Memorial Day Concert. Featuring a unique blend of uplifting musical performances and dramatic readings, the program airs from the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol.

Monday, May 26

9:00 p.m. **Death and the Civil War: American Experience** -- With the coming of the Civil War and the staggering casualties it ushered in, death entered the experience of the American people as it never had before -- permanently altering the character of the republic, and the psyche of the American people.

Tuesday, May 27

8:00 p.m. **Coming Back with Wes Moore** *Moving Forward* (Part 3 of 3) -- In episode three, Moore highlights the drive veterans often have of finding a new mission.

9:00 p.m. **D-Day 360** -- D-Day was a logistical effort on a scale never seen before or since. On the day itself, 14,000 planes dropped 23,000 airborne troops behind German lines, and 5,000 ships delivered 30,000 military vehicles and 160,000 soldiers onto the beaches. Once on the shore, the troops had to negotiate six million mines buried in the sand, 500,000 fearsome beach obstacles and hundreds of miles of barbed wire, while dodging the shells and bullets fired by half-a-million German defenders. This film takes advantage of LiDAR technology to re-create the landscape and allow viewers to switch effortlessly between the macro and the micro - pulling back for the big picture and zooming in to a close-up of a single soldier on the battlefield.



Wednesday, May 28

9:00 p.m. **NOVA D-Day's Sunken Secrets** -- On June 6, 1944, the Allies launched the biggest armada in history to invade the Normandy beaches and liberate Europe from the Nazis. In less than 24 hours, more than 5,000 ships crossed the English Channel, along with thousands of tanks and landing craft and nearly 200,000 men. Throughout the operation hundreds of ships sank running the gauntlet of mines and bunkers, creating one of the world's largest underwater archaeological sites. Now, NOVA has exclusive access to a unique collaboration between military historians, archaeologists, and specialist divers to carry out the most extensive survey ever done of the seabed bordering the legendary beachheads.

Friday, May 30

9:00 p.m. **National Memorial Day Concert**

On West Virginia PBS.2

Tuesday, May 6

8:00 p.m. **Rebels on Lake Erie** -- Tells a story of intrigue, conspiracy and adventure, set against the backdrop of the Civil War. Virginia native John Yates Beall - a wealthy, college-educated Southern plantation owner - served in the Confederate army under the legendary General Stonewall Jackson. Wounded in battle, Beall continued to serve the cause as a privateer, attacking Union ships on Chesapeake Bay. Later, he would lead two ambitious (and ultimately unsuccessful) missions: to liberate the Confederate soldiers imprisoned on Johnson's Island, and to free captured Confederate officers by derailing a train in New York.

9:00 p.m. **Civil War: The Untold Story** *With Malice Toward None* -- Sherman's army is soundly defeated at Kennesaw Mountain. His defeat combined with Grant's stalemate in Virginia, enrages a Northern electorate already weary of war. The presidential election is in November, and Abraham Lincoln's chances for a second term are dwindling by the day. Though victorious at Kennesaw Mountain, the outnumbered Confederate Army falls back to a defensive position at Atlanta. After six weeks of bloody conflicts around Atlanta, Sherman wires Washington: "Atlanta is ours and fairly won." For the first time in the war, many in the North now believe victory can be achieved.

10:00 p.m. **The Modoc War** -- The Modoc War of 1872 was one of the costliest American Indian wars in U.S. history. For seven months, a handful of Modoc Indian warriors and their families held off hundreds of U.S. Army soldiers. The international press took notice and people were enthralled as one of the last real-life Wild West battles unfolded on the American frontier.

Thursday, May 8

10:00 p.m. **My Vietnam Your Iraq** -- Tells stories from Vietnam War veterans who have children that served in Iraq. The program showcases the pride and fear a family shares when one is deployed.



Saturday, May 10

8:00 p.m. **The Typist** -- Follows the life and work of Larry Tillemans, believed to be the last living clerk-typist from the Nuremberg Trials. As a sergeant in the U.S. 3rd Army, it was Larry's duty to document the testimony of victims and perpetrators of the Holocaust - information that deeply affected the young Midwesterner. After years of carrying this emotional burden, Larry decided to share his experiences with as many people as possible, a tireless effort that brought one man's voice to a world that sometimes struggles to remember the lessons of the past.

9:00 p.m. **Echoes of the Holocaust** -- The Holocaust Memorial on Miami Beach stands as a stark reminder and stunning symbol of anguish and tragedy. The memorial - comprised of evocative stone and bronze sculptures, a meditation garden, a reflecting pool, an eternal flame and a granite wall - honors the Holocaust's six million Jewish victims.

10:00 p.m. **A Promise to My Father** -- Follows Israel "Izzy" Arbeiter as he returns to the sites of his darkest hours and relives the Holocaust's unimaginable horrors. With his grandson in tow, Izzy travels to Treblinka, Auschwitz and Stuttof, and various Holocaust memorials, with the hope of bringing closure to this painful chapter of his life.

Tuesday, May 13

8:00 p.m. **The Civil War** *The Cause - 1861*

10:00 p.m. **The Civil War** *A Very Bloody Affair-1862/Forever Free-1862*

Saturday, May 17

8:00 p.m. **American Road to Victory** *The Americans on D Day* -- Join battlefield historian Ellwood von Seibold in his 1943 Dodge Command car as he takes us on a tour of the American D-Day landings in real time. Listen to the men who were there, land in Saint Mere Eglise with the 82nd Airborne, scale the cliffs at La Pointe du Hoc with the Rangers, wade through the surf on Omaha Beach with the Big Red One and the 29th Infantry Division, and take the guns at Brecourt Manor with Easy Company of the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment.



9:00 p.m. **D-Day: The Price of Freedom** -- Pays tribute to the courageous men who began the liberation of France more than 60 years ago. Throughout this moving documentary, former paratroopers, gunners, landing craft operators and others representing the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy share their harrowing tales of survival. Five veterans - some of whom were returning to Normandy for the first time since 1944 - make an emotional journey to the American Cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach, the final resting place of 9,000 of their fallen comrades.

10:00 p.m. **Battlefield Medicine** (Part 1 of 2) -- Medicine moves from the trauma wards of Camp Bastion field hospital in Afghanistan, to cutting edge medical research labs, to reveal the innovations that are shaping medical treatment in the 21st century. Meet the medical pioneers behind procedures that have seen the survival rate among injured servicemen and women rise to 90%. Designed for the war zone, these developments are already making waves in emergency rooms, from spray-on skin cells to heal burns, to innovative surgical techniques like rebuilding damaged hands from scratch - using rib bones.

Tuesday, May 20

8:00 p.m. **The Civil War** *Forever Free-1862*

9:30 p.m. **The Civil War** *Simply Murder-1986*

10:30 p.m. **Rivers & Rails: Daggers of the Civil War** -- Tennessee prospered in the mid-19th century in large part as a result of the easy transportation the rivers and railways provided. However in 1861, those same rivers and rails that had transported prosperity to Tennessee and the South became lifelines for moving men, ammunition and supplies in a war that split the nation. Ultimately whoever controls the rivers and the rails in the Civil War wins the war. This explains why most of the battles in Tennessee took place near the state's rivers and railways.

Thursday, May 22

7:00 p.m. **Tradition of Service: The WV Veteran's Legacy Project**

8:00 p.m. **Last Mission: Establishing the Rule of Law in Iraq** -- The last and possibly most important mission for the United States military before it departs Iraq is to establish stability and promote the rule of law. West Virginia Public Broadcasting producer Chip Hitchcock follows a West Virginia Military Police battalion as it helps to transform the Iraqi police from a force that once served a brutal dictator into one that serves the people and the law. Will eight years of war, more than \$700 billion, the sacrifice of thousands of lives and the work of more than a million Americans create a stable democracy in Iraq? Hitchcock investigates these questions in his latest documentary, taped while he was embedded with the West Virginia

National Guard's 151st Military Police Battalion



9:00 p.m. **Battlefield Medicine** (Part 1 of 2)

10:00 p.m. **Battlefield Medicine** (Part 2 of 2) -- Meet the innovators in medical research who are looking to revolutionize healthcare for both military and civilian patients with ground breaking developments: mind-controlled prosthetics for amputees and electrodes that allow totally blind casualties to 'see' again.

Saturday, May 24

8:00 p.m. **American Road to Victory** *The Americans on Hell's Highway* -- For the first time ever, we have an in-depth explanation of how all American objectives in this campaign were achieved, even though the operation in its entirety failed, and the British 1st Airborne at Arnhem were cut to shreds. The lightning actions of the two American airborne divisions come to life through blended archival footage, re-enactment and special effects. We hear how they parachuted in daylight on September 17th, 1944, seized and held their targets. These brave Americans fought battle hardened Germans who were committed to a ferocious fight on the borders of their Fatherland.

9:00 p.m. **Maggie's War: A True Story of Courage, Leadership & Valor in World War II** -- James Megellas, affectionately known as "Maggie," led H-Company of the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment through some of the most horrific battles and deadliest missions of World War II, including the Battle of Anzio, Operation Market Garden and the Battle of the Bulge. Seven decades later, cameras follow Megellas, now a retired Lieutenant Colonel, on an emotional return to Europe with a small group of family, friends and 82nd Airborne veterans. Together they visit old battlefields and war memorials and encounter Dutch citizens still grateful for their sacrifice.

10:00 p.m. **Battlefield Medicine** (Part 2 of 2)

Sunday, May 25

8:00 p.m. **Coming Home** -- Army veteran Derek Pelletier and National Guard veterans John DiRaimo, Brian Santos and Sean Judge share their combat experiences, and their lives back in the civilian world. Their interwoven stories illustrate the human toll of a war fought by a tiny fraction of Americans serving in an all-volunteer military.

9:00 p.m. **The Long Road Home** -- Exploring the impact of wartime Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), this documentary offers compelling stories of Pittsburgh-area military veterans of Vietnam, Korea and World War II still coming to terms with the emotional wounds of war. The film explores successful therapies and documents the promising research underway at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, where doctors study the sleep and brain patterns of PTSD sufferers and examine the reasons why women are twice as likely as men to develop the disorder.

10:00 p.m. **A Matter of Duty: The Continuing War Against PTSD** -- Tells the stories of Maine soldiers who were deployed to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Gulf War and the Vietnam War and returned home to face a new, relentless enemy: post-traumatic stress disorder.

Tuesday, May 27

8:00 p.m. **The Civil War** *The Universe of Battle - 1863*

9:30 p.m. **The Civil War** *Valley of the Shadow of Death - 1864*

Thursday, May 29

7:00 p.m. **Portraits for the Home Front: The Story of Elizabeth Black**



8:00 p.m. **Unsung Heroes: The Story of America's Female Patriots** (Part 1 of 2) -- Margaret Corbin sheds her blood fighting in the Revolution. Years later, in Afghanistan, Leigh Ann Hester becomes the first woman to receive the Silver Star for combat heroism. Nurses have been in harm's way since the Civil War and during WW I thousands of women volunteer for service as Navy Yeomanettes and Army Signal Corp "Hello Girls." In a world where front lines no longer exist, America's female patriots confront the horrors of war as never before and more suffer the effects of combat stress than at any time in the Nation's history.

9:00 p.m. **Unsung Heroes: The Story of America's Female Patriots** (Part 2 of 2) -- Women take to the skies in combat aircraft and change the rules of flight. On the high seas, a female Admiral charts the capture of ruthless pirates, while on land, America's first female four-star general guides the military's transition from Iraq to Afghanistan. In the jungles of the Philippines and in the deserts of the Middle East women are held as Prisoners of War.

10:00 p.m. **Service: When Women Come Marching Home**
-- Travel from the deserts of Afghanistan to rural Tennessee and from Iraq to urban New York City. It shows women functioning as fully accepted and contributing members of a military unit as well as the devastating isolation and persecution of those who report rape. We see these women as veterans fighting to find homes, demanding services, responding to therapy and gaining their independence.

Saturday, May 31

8:00 p.m. **American Road to Victory** *The Americans in the Bulge* -- Battlefield tour guide Ellwood Von Siebold takes us on a tour the frozen Ardennes Forests to Malmedy, Saint Vith, and Bastogne. Learn how the gallant actions of the US forces surprised the Nazi plan to encircle and destroy the Allied armies.

9:30 p.m. **Marching Once More: 60 Years After The Battle of the Bulge** -- In what stands as one of the last, large gatherings of World War II veterans, this program follows more than 100 survivors of the Battle of the Bulge as they return to Belgium and Luxembourg and reflect on the brutal six-week battle that claimed 19,000 American lives.

10:30 p.m. **Charles Murray, Defining a Hero** -- From the Civil War to present day, less than 3,500 people have ever been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Charles P. Murray Jr., was a young commanding officer in the Third Infantry Division near Kaisersberg, France on December 16, 1944 when his heroic actions propelled him into history. Using grenades and an automatic rifle, he managed to confuse and completely disorganize a force of 200 German soldiers. This special follows Col. Murray's exploits, which, in addition to the Medal of Honor, have also garnered him the French Legion of Honor and military and civic awards.