

June 15, 2007

Flag Day Festivities

By **Chris Spencer**
Huntington News Network Photographer

(HUNTINGTON-WV June 14) The Huntington Elks Lodge #313 B.P.O.E., held their Flag Day Service at Pullman Square on Thursday evening followed by the Angie Fletcher Band performing in the Heiner's Summer Concert Series.



A much needed shower sent people scattering for shelter right before the flag ceremony that was to start at 6 PM. Once the rain stopped, the sun came out and the ceremony started a few minutes later.

The Elks started honoring the flag in 1907, proclaiming in 1911 that all Elks across the nation do so. President Harry Truman who was an Elk, made the proclamation that June 14 would be Flag Day in America to honor the American Flag.

Chris McGuffin, PER, opened the service with a prayer. Dr. Dave Mallory gave a history of the flag with Boy Scout Troops 62 and Troop 90 bringing out each flag as the tale progressed from the earliest flags to our present-day flag.

The fine singing voice of Cabell County Prosecutor Chris Chiles led the audience in singing the National Anthem and God Bless America. Jack Childers, former Barboursville High School principal, also spoke.

Guest speaker Woody Williams, Medal of Honor Recipient-World War II, presented a patriotic address about the American Flag, and its meaning to many. The enthusiastic address would have given most Americans a sense of pride.

After some stage and equipment changes radio announcer Chuck Black introduced the Angie Fletcher Band to the audience. A good cheering crowd awaited the band that performed the rest of the evening.
