

Eliot Ness Fest: Touched by the Untouchable

Weekly Update No. 2

SALUTE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT!

In keeping with the authenticity theme of our festival as a fitting memorial to Eliot Ness, we have been putting together the pieces for a tremendous “Salute to Law Enforcement” at the courthouse square on Friday, July 20, with a tentative time of 6 pm to 6:30. We’ve approached the following agencies and organizations to invite their participation and have already received commitments from many of them:

- U.S. Dept. of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, or ATF, which proudly and justifiably claims Eliot Ness as one of its most influential agents early in his law enforcement career;
- Cleveland City Police Department, which Ness commanded for several years as the city’s Public Safety Director;
- Pennsylvania State Police, from which one of Ness’s “Untouchables” came during his Chicago adventures;
- Potter County Law Enforcement Officials Assn., including many of its local police, K9 companion and other partners;
- Potter County Sheriff’s Department.

Weekend plans also call for a fascinating program presented by the ATF at the Coudersport Theatre at 7:30 pm Friday, taking a look at Ness’s service to the agency and the law enforcement challenges of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Also, many of the participants listed above will be meeting with the public at the square throughout the day on Friday and Saturday – and some special attractions are planned! Stay tuned for more details. We’re anticipating Incident Command Vehicles, Service Motorcycle, Mounted Police Detail (with the horses remaining on site, close to the square) and more. To learn more about the Salute to Law Enforcement or related events, you can contact the event chairman, Steve Green of Coudersport, by email at stephenagreen1952@gmail.com.

DID YOU KNOW ELIOT NESS (OR SOMEONE WHO DID?)

One of the highlights of the Eliot Ness Fest: Touched by the Untouchable is coming together rapidly. It’s the Authors’ Roundtable and “The Eliot Ness I Knew” event on Sunday afternoon, July 22, at the Coudersport Theatre.

Local author Paul W. Heimel, whose new book, “Behind the Badge: The Untold Story of Eliot Ness” (Knox Books, 2018) will be published in June, will be joined by A. Brad Schwartz for an engaging discussion and Q&A on the famous crimefighter – his life and times and his career. Schwartz and Max Allan Collins have authored the new book, “Scarface and the Untouchable: Eliot Ness and the Battle for Chicago” (HarperCollins, 2018), which is expected to debut at our festival.

We’re also pleased to report that some of the people who knew Ness when he resided in Coudersport in 1956–57, and perhaps earlier in his life, will be asked to share their memories during this roundtable. We’re aware that there may be others out there who met Eliot and would have interesting stories to tell. Anyone who would be interested in sharing reminiscences, no matter how brief, should contact committee member Bill Pekarski at williamp@zitomedia.net

Eliot Ness Fest: Touched by the Untouchable will be held in Downtown Coudersport July 20–22, 2018. Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/eliotnessfest. Our website is under construction, check back for updates: www.eliotnessfest.com. Email questions – [click here](#).

Public Q & A

Sessions Scheduled

Three public Q & A sessions will be held to allow interested parties to ask questions about the event, pick-up sponsorship, vendor, and advertising forms, or offer ideas for the Festival.

Weds., Apr. 4th 4:30p–7p

Gunzburger Auditorium

Thurs., Apr. 5th 9a–11a
and 5p–7p

Community Development
Dept—Gunzburger Bldg

WEEKLY NESS FACTOIDS

Did you know that Ness was a pioneer in the advent of parking meters, one-way streets, ambulance services and police aerial patrols?

Did you know that the universally known comic book and newspaper comic strip character Dick Tracy was inspired by and patterned after – you guessed it – Eliot Ness.

