

# Re-enactors camping on riverfront

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BURLINGTON CITY — Visitors will have an opportunity to “walk through history” this weekend when re-enactors representing soldiers from the American Revolution to the Vietnam War set up camp on the riverfront promenade.

Sponsored by Main Street Burlington, the “Historic Soldiers Weekend” will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. tomorrow and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is free.

“It’s actually going to be neat for families and children to see,” said Matt Carroll, a city resident and World War II re-enactor who helped organize the event. “You’re going to walk right in and walk through history, talk to each type of soldier. Some of the units are going to be cooking and you can see how they lived.”

Burlington City Director of Public Affairs Phil DiMartino said the re-enactors dressed in period uniforms will set up

tents and campfires along the scenic Delaware River at the foot of High Street. The weekend will also feature a display of military uniforms, equipment and vehicles and weapons demonstrations, he said.

Carroll said more than 250 re-enactors from as far away as Connecticut and Virginia are expected to participate.

“There will be groups representing every battle on both sides, from the Revolutionary War all the way to Vietnam,” he said.

Re-enactors representing some important historical figures are also scheduled to attend, including Molly Pitcher, Gen. George Meade and Gen. Robert E. Lee.

The Historic Soldiers Weekend will also include speeches by veterans.

“The units will start rolling in Friday night,” said Carroll, who said officials expect the event to be well attended.

“I think we’ll get a nice-size crowd,” he said, noting organizers hope to make the encampment an annual attraction.