

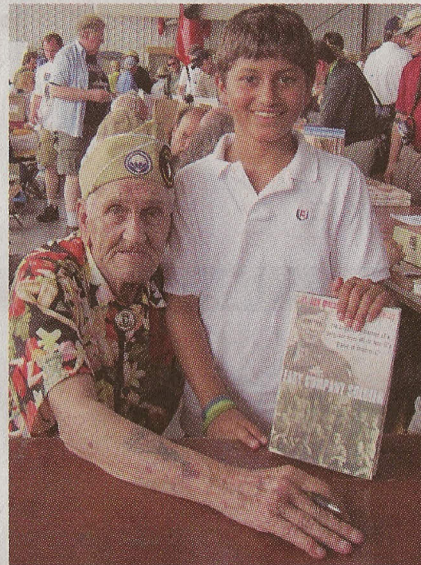
# Central PA Boy, 11, Raises Funds for WWII Memorial

An 11-year-old WWII buff is doing his part to ensure that veterans who served on D-Day are forever remembered.

In May 2010, Jordan Brown of Lebanon learned of an effort to honor Brown's hero, Major Dick Winters. Major Winters was raised in Lancaster County, lived in Lebanon County after the war, and lived in Hershey until his recent passing on Jan. 2.

On June 6, 1944, also known as D-Day, Major Winters liberated Sainte-Marie-du-Mont in Normandy, France. Major Winters and his men (known as Easy Company) also fought in Operation Market Garden and the Battle of the Bulge. Additionally, they liberated a concentration camp and they captured Hitler's "Eagle's Nest." Major Winters' heroism and leadership was captured in the Steven Spielberg/Tom Hanks 2001 miniseries *Band of Brothers*.

Tim Gray, an Emmy award-winning filmmaker from Rhode Island, is leading an effort to have a monument built in Sainte-Marie-du-Mont. The monument will be in the likeness of Major Winters and will honor all those American divisions who led the way on D-Day. The dedication of the monument will be



At left: Easy Company's "Wild" Bill Guarnere with Jordan Brown at a WWII event, June 2010. Above: Jordan Brown collecting donations during the Anville Memorial Day Parade, May 2010.

on June 6, 2012. Additionally, a documentary will also be produced by Tim Gray regarding Major Winters' leadership abilities.

Although Brown never met nor spoke to Major Winters, he decided to embark on his own campaign to make sure that the necessary monies are raised for both the monument and associated documentary.

A budding entrepreneur, Brown created olive-green wristbands (to match the WWII army uniforms) that are

inscribed with the words "Hang Tough." (Major Winters is known for using the expression "hang tough" when leading his troops in battle.)

Brown has been distributing these wristbands for a minimum donation of \$1 because he wanted to ensure that they were affordable to all, including children. In order to bring awareness to his efforts, Brown has delivered speeches, marched in parades, manned stands at fairs, and has been interviewed by Central Pennsylvania radio, TV, and newspaper outlets.

To date, Brown has raised more than \$25,000. He has received recognition for his efforts by having his story picked up by the Associated Press on Veteran's Day, by being recognized on KidsAreHeroes.org, and by being awarded the 2010 Leader of the Future Award by the PA Council on the Social Studies.

Many find it remarkable that someone so young would care so much to ensure that the veterans of the "Greatest Generation" are honored and that their efforts are forever remembered. It is poignant to consider that when these men went to war, they did so for the futures of their children and grandchildren. Now, so many years later, one of those grandchildren has found his own way to say "thanks."

Brown is determined to "hang tough" and to continue to collect donations until all the necessary funds have been raised. To quote Brown, "We need to thank these heroes before it's too late."

To read more about Jordan Brown's efforts or to help support his cause, visit his website at [www.HangTough6644.org](http://www.HangTough6644.org). Mail can be sent to: Dick Winters Monument Fund, P.O. Box 40, Cornwall, PA 17016.

