

**Scotch Plains 2008 Memorial Day Parade commemorates the 55th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice (an agreement to suspend military operation).**

The **Korean War** was an escalation of border clashes between two rival Korean regimes, each of which was supported by external powers, with each trying to topple the other through political and conventional tactics. In a very narrow sense, some may refer to it as a civil war, though many other factors were at play. After failing to strengthen their cause in the free elections held in South Korea during May 1950 and the refusal of South Korea to hold new elections per North Korean demands, the communist North Korean Army assaulted the South on June 25, 1950. The conflict was then expanded by the United States and the Soviet Union's involvement as part of the larger Cold War. The main hostilities were during the period from June 25, 1950 until the armistice (ceasefire agreement) was signed on July 27, 1953.

Scotch plains supports the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary:

<http://www.nj.com/news/suburbannews/index.ssf?/base/news-2/1208549751317840.xml&coll=17>



This year Memorial Day parade Patch:

Parade Tips you may find helpful (thanks Julie Murphy):

1. Be sure your troops have bottled water and parents apply sunscreen on their daughters. You may have a mom or troop leader follow down the side of the street with a wagon or cart to carry everyone's stuff.
2. Throwing candy is not allowed, as there are a lot of babies in strollers & little kids along the route. Your troop may hand out candy to the spectators.
3. **We always end up standing around a LONG time at the beginning of the parade!** Bring something to do so the girls don't get bored – something you can do in the middle of Grand Street for anywhere from 30 to 60 minutes -- a ball to kick around; blow bubbles; deck of cards... the girls probably have video games but have to be sure they don't get lost.
4. Bathrooms along the parade route: SP town hall & Fanwood town hall might be open? Scotch Plains Baptist Church on Grand Street will allow the girls to use the bathroom and they pass out juice, water and cookies. Dunkin Donuts or the other stores in downtown Fanwood are definitely open. At the end LaGrande Park has open bathrooms since there is a carnival there after the parade.