

PRESS RELEASE – AUGUST 9, 2010

2ND ANNUAL GREATER MANASSAS VETERANS DAY PARADE AND THE 3RD ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT – HONORING OUR NATIONS VETERANS AND ACTIVE MILITARY

WE'RE BAAACCCKKK! We wish to thank the community for making the Inaugural Greater Manassas Veterans Day Parade and the 2nd Armed Forces Community Covenant event held last year a great success. Once again we are delighted to announce the 2nd Annual Greater Manassas Veterans Day Parade to run alongside the 3rd Armed Forces Community Covenant event on Saturday, November 6, 2010, at 11:00 am in Old Town Manassas.

American Legion Post 10 and the Quantico Belvoir Regional Business Alliance are joining efforts a second year to deliver two major activities for one main objective – to pay tribute to all veterans and active military for protecting our nation, here at home and abroad.

These joint activities form one flagship event of gratitude and unity, where the whole community gathers for a good cause - to say thank you to our troops for all they do and to emphasize that they are and will not be forgotten. Both organizations understand the importance of delivering this message to the community and work relentlessly to reinforce it because it not only strengthens the moral and/or economic support needed for our troops but also creates solidarity and comradeship within our society, preparing us for facing challenges involving other nations.

The day will kick off with Nashville recording artist, Ginger Harvey, who will open the parade, and later the Community Covenant Ceremony by singing the National Anthem. This year's parade will honor ALL veterans and highlight the Korean War Veterans because of the 60th anniversary of the start of the Korean War. The parade will include ALL veterans, various military and high school bands, pipe and drum corps teams, military units from the various Armed Services, military vehicles, and members from local veteran organizations. Immediately following the parade the signing of a formal community covenant document will take place at the Harris Pavilion, which will commemorate the relationship between the community and our military partners. In an effort to represent all groups within the community, veterans, active military and individuals from the private and public sector, will be invited to sign. This 3rd annual covenant signing ceremony mirrors last year's and carries on with its tradition of expanding to include all Armed Forces. The day will end with a celebration of entertainment, fun activities for children and adults, food, networking, demonstrations, military vehicles, informational displays with job and business opportunities, and music performances by artists Ms. Harvey, interpreting country music, Bachaco presenting a mixture of Jamaican Reggae and Dancehall with influences of Ska, Hip-hop and Colombian Cumbia and Yesenia Garcia contributing a combination of Tropical, Norteño and Banda music.

The American Legion is a veteran's organization which supports active duty and military veterans and their families to protect, restore and upgrade those veterans' benefits promised to them by the government. They share a unique camaraderie born from their military service.

We are requesting support from local businesses and citizens to help with the cost of this endeavor. The cost of the parade is great; however, the cost to do nothing is greater.

To inquire about sponsorship opportunities in support the Veteran's Day parade please visit www.manassasveteransparade.org. You may purchase an ad, place a personal message or photo in the program booklet and/or make a tax deductible contribution to the parade through the parade's webpage.

The Quantico Belvoir Regional Business Alliance is a not-for-profit business organization whose purpose is to position the region as a welcoming and supportive community to the military and their business partners. The primary mission is to facilitate positive outcomes for the military, for relocating civilian employees, for local businesses and for the regional workforce. A major goal is to form productive partnerships with key groups and individuals in order to pursue mutual interests.

To enquire about sponsorship opportunities for the Armed Forces Community Covenant Event please contact either Miles Friedman at 703-881-2607 or Melissa Gieras at 703-595-3285.