



THE HOOSIER VETERAN

ISSUE 6-22 • JUNE 2022

in.gov/dva

PTSD AWARENESS MONTH

Women Veterans Day June 12
Army Birthday June 14

WELCOME!

BY JOE DEVITO

Welcome to June as we kick-off summer with some great events and activities for veterans and families in the our Hoosier state! This month, we celebrate Women Veterans Day June 12 and the Army's birthday June 14. It is also PTSD Awareness Month, so take a moment to learn about resources and benefits that may help you or a loved one with support and services if it is needed. Remember, you are not alone. We also have a great golf outing update and an upcoming dedication at Crown Hill Cemetery. IDVA remains committed to making Indiana the best place for all Indiana Veterans to Live, Work and Thrive! We welcome contributions and feedback to outreach@dva.in.gov.

THE HOOSIER VETERAN NEWSLETTER

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Blog: [Indiana Vet View](#)



INDIANA VIETNAM VETS GIFT



GIFT INCLUDES:

A *TIME TO HONOR* - HARDCOVER BOOK, EXPANDED DIGITAL BOOK & E-BOOK
DVD DOCUMENTARY - *THE JOURNEY HOME*

A FREE GIFT OF GRATITUDE FOR INDIANA VIETNAM ERA VETERANS

1955-1975



Thank You for Your Service
★ *Order Yours Today* ★



vetsgift.com



Info:

317-549-5900

Jill@WHVV.org

How the US Military Helped Create the Juneteenth Holiday

[Military.com](https://www.military.com) | [By Blake Stilwell](#)



One of the federal government's first attacks on slavery during the war was an "Act to Secure Freedom to All Persons Within the Territories of the United States," passed on June 19, 1862.

Exactly three years later, Gen. Gordon Granger would sail into Galveston, Texas, to read the Emancipation Proclamation to the people of Texas.

The day would become known as "Juneteenth" and would be celebrated as a holiday -- a second independence day -- for former slaves.

On June 19, 1865, Granger read the words written by Abraham Lincoln in 1862. Texas was the last state in the defeated Confederacy to hear them.

"All persons held as slaves" within the rebellious states "are, and henceforward shall be free ... " and "the executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons," it read.

According to the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation (NJO), that day was the first "Juneteenth" and began the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States.

In the years that followed, it was Texas that first celebrated the anniversary as a holiday. Since then, legislation has been passed to recognize the day as a state holiday or observance in 46 states and the District of Columbia.

Lincoln's executive order didn't end slavery in the United States. It did mean that when the Union Army came rolling into a Confederate-controlled area, the slaves in that area would be set free.

Even though the Civil War brought the end of slavery in the former Confederacy, there were four "border" states where slavery was legal but that did not secede from the Union: Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky and Missouri.

The western counties of Virginia held a convention at the onset of the war, voting to break away from Virginia, form their own state and join the Union. The new state of West Virginia became an important border state -- though contributing significant numbers of troops to both sides of the war -- and it was the last admitted slave state.

The "peculiar institution" itself wouldn't technically be abolished until the passage of the 13th Amendment on Dec. 18, 1865, ratified by the required three-quarters of states. President Lincoln signed the bill after it was passed but would not live to see its ratification.

In 1861, the newly elected President Lincoln wasn't seeking to abolish slavery from the United States. He did want to check the spread of slavery to new states, especially those carved from territories in the American West.

Southerners in what would later become the Confederacy saw the writing on the wall, knowing that they would eventually be in the minority in Congress and would soon lose the cornerstone of the Southern economy.

Time was not on their side, and the election of Lincoln in 1860 forced the Southern states' hands. In order to keep slavery legal, they would have to secede and form their own country.



A recruiting pamphlet from 1862.

Cont'd: How the US Military Helped Create the Juneteenth Holiday



[Military.com](https://www.military.com) | By Blake Stilwell

As the war dragged on, the government in Washington knew it would have to move to end slavery in the United States. Lincoln needed a great victory in order to announce the Emancipation Proclamation -- and Gen. George B. McClellan gave him that win at Antietam in September 1862.

Three days after the battle, Lincoln warned the Southern states that they had 100 days to return to the Union, or the Union Army would emancipate slaves everywhere in the South they could reach. When the deadline on Lincoln's ultimatum lapsed, it had the dual effect of keeping external powers, such as Great Britain, from intervening for the slaveholding Confederacy and depriving the South of manpower.

In July 1862, the Federal Congress, realizing the need for more men in uniform, passed the Militia Act, recognizing the "indispensable military necessity" of recruiting African American men for the North. The act allowed the president to recruit former slaves for the Union Army.

19

An Austin, Tx. Juneteenth Emancipation Day Celebration on Jun. 19, 1900. (Grace Murray/Austin History Center)



Recruiting began in earnest in January 1863, after the South failed to heed Lincoln's ultimatum. Some 175 regiments comprising more than 178,000 free blacks and former slaves joined the newly formed United States Troops of Color regiments, making up 10% of the Union Army.

United States Troops of Color fought in every major campaign of the war's final two years. Lincoln acknowledged their contribution, saying, "Without the military help of the black freedmen, the war against the South could not have been won."

Texas, the most distant of Confederate states, was the last to be occupied by Union forces after the Civil War. When Granger arrived in Galveston to read the Emancipation Proclamation to the state, he announced the freedom of an estimated quarter-million slaves, the last slaves in the newly restored Union.

In the days and years that followed, the day became known as "Juneteenth." The National Juneteenth Observance Foundation calls it a holiday "marked with celebrations, guest speakers, picnics and family gatherings. It is a time for reflection and rejoicing. It is a time for assessment, self-improvement and for planning the future."

On June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden signed legislation making Juneteenth a federal holiday, commemorating the end of slavery in the United States. It's the first new federal holiday since Martin Luther King Jr. Day was created in 1983.

-- Blake Stilwell can be reached at blake.stilwell@military.com. He can also be found on Twitter @blakestilwell or on Facebook.

GVS SPOTLIGHT

ILS



EQUAL
ACCESS
TO JUSTICE

Indiana Legal Services, Inc. (ILS) is a not-for-profit law firm and the largest provider of free civil legal assistance to eligible low-income people throughout the state of Indiana. ILS helps clients who are faced with legal problems that harm their ability to have such basics as food, shelter, income, medical care or personal safety. Most of the cases ILS handles are cases such as family law where there is domestic violence, housing, consumer law, access to health care, and access to government benefits. ILS does not handle any criminal matters.



If you're an income-eligible veteran and need legal advice or representation, the Military Assistance Project (MAP) can help. Free of charge, we offer assistance for:

Adult Guardianship • Advance Directive/Simple Wills • Access/Correct Military Records • Child Support, Custody, Visitation Modification • Divorces Limited Circumstances • Driver's License Restoration • Veteran Eviction Avoidance • Criminal Record Expungement • Military Discharge Upgrades • Public Benefits: Food Stamps, SSI, Unemployment, Poor Relief, TANF • VA Overpayments • Incarcerated Veteran Re-entry

For more information call our Virtual Clinic Hotline Monday-Thursday at 317-631-9433 or our Centralized Intake line, Monday through Friday from 10 AM to 2 PM EST at 844-243-8570.

Health & Wellness Corner



Silkie Hikes are for Veterans, Active Duty, National Guard, & Reservists Only



IRREVERENT WARRIORS SILKIES HIKE - INDIANAPOLIS, IN

June 11 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
801 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

The hikes are between 4-10 miles, paced at 2-3 miles per hour. There are frequent stops for fellowship and food/beverages. Rucks, weighted vests and boots are optional.

[Purchase Tickets](#)



VETERAN COMMUNITY EVENTS

VNA HOSPICE NWI & **Porter County COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**
George & Judith Urban Fund for Veterans

Present

PORTER COUNTY STAND DOWN
FRIDAY, JUNE 24TH, 2022
4 PM - 7 PM

PORTER COUNTY EXPO CENTER
215 E Division Rd, Valparaiso, IN 46383

VETERANS: please bring a copy of your DD-214,
Military ID, OR VA Health Care card to enter the
event

VENDORS: please plan to bring giveaway items for
200 attendees

SERVING ALL WHO SERVED

USE QR CODE OR LINK BELOW TO REGISTER AS A VENDOR

VENDOR SET UP STARTS AT 11 AM
bit.ly/PCStandDown

Vendor Deadline 5/13/22!

(219) 462-5195
veterans@vnanwi.org
www.vnanwi.org

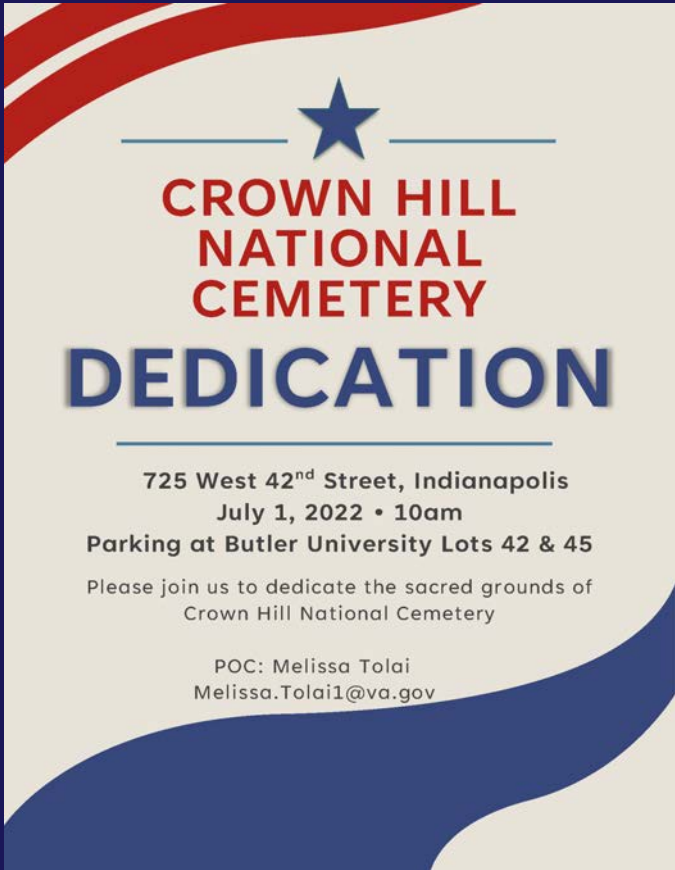
Porter County Stand Down


During the Vietnam era, a "Stand Down" was time for service members to break from combat to attend to personal needs like eating, bathing, or getting a haircut. Today, veterans of all eras are welcomed to obtain resources, benefits, and other helpful information from 35+ vendors in one, convenient location. Please bring a copy of your DD-214, Military ID, or VA Health Care Card to enter the event.

June 24
4-7 p.m.

Porter County Expo Center
215 E. Division Rd.
Valparaiso, IN 46383

IDVA Events Calendar: [Click Here](#)




**CROWN HILL
NATIONAL
CEMETERY**
DEDICATION

725 West 42nd Street, Indianapolis
 July 1, 2022 • 10am
 Parking at Butler University Lots 42 & 45
 Please join us to dedicate the sacred grounds of
 Crown Hill National Cemetery

 POC: Melissa Tolai
 Melissa.Tolai1@va.gov

JULY 1

10 A.M.

**725 W. 42nd St.
Indianapolis
Parking at Butler
University
Lots 42 & 45**

July 3-8

St Paul, IN

**To register visit:
FlatRockYMCA.org**



OPERATION FLAT ROCK

FLAT ROCK RIVER YMCA CAMP

July 3-8, 2022

**ONE WEEK OVERNIGHT CAMP
EXCLUSIVELY for MILITARY FAMILY KIDS!**

Children of parents who are veterans or active in the armed services including the Reserves and National Guard.



Coed - Ages 7-15
REGISTER: FlatRockYMCA.org
Questions: 765-525-6730

COST for Military Families

- RATE A: \$300***
- RATE B: \$200***
- RATE C: \$100***



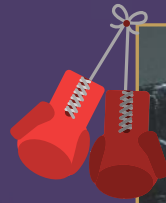
*This is an honor system whereby each family chooses the rate they are able to pay.

While the actual cost of a week of Traditional Camp at the Flat Rock is \$735, the 3 reduced rates above are made possible by support through a Y-USA Grant and donations to the Flat Rock River YMCA Camp Annual Campaign.

We are located in St. Paul, Indiana, just 40 minutes southeast of Indianapolis!

Veteran Events All 2022

PUNCH FOR VETERANS BOXING CLINIC SATURDAYS 9 TO 10 A.M.



PUNCH FOR VETERANS BOXING CLINICS

For disabled veterans or civilians with a disability

Saturdays
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Mike Ford Fitness
2326 E 44th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46205

\$5 Per class
FREE for disabled veterans



SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER
OR FOR
MORE INFO

Or go to: <https://rhipunchforveterans.eventbrite.com>



Writing In Peace, offers veterans a monthly opportunity to engage in a 4-hour writing workshop in the company of other military veterans. A collection of their work is presented annually at Vonnegut Fest, our celebration of Kurt's Birthday, Veterans Day, and Armistice Day. [Learn More Here](#)



Veterans Helping Veterans FREE VETERANS FOOD PANTRY

4th Tuesday of Each Month
From 0900 to 1200

At the Richmond Community Based
Outpatient Clinic (CBOC)

For Questions Please Call (765) 983-2183



HELPING VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES



IDVA ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF OUTING



Raised \$16,376 for Pets
Healing Vets



BROOKSHIRE
GOLF COURSE
CITY OF CARMEL



IDVA ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF OUTING



Raised \$16,376 for Pets
Healing Vets



BROOKSHIRE
GOLF COURSE

CITY OF CARMEL

ROLL CALL!



MEMORIAL DAY AT THE CEMETERY

IDVA's Outreach Director Joe DeVito & General Counsel Gabrielle Owens speak to a crowd of 150 guests during a ceremony at the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery on Memorial Day.

INDIANA VETERANS HOME NEWS

Memorial Day Ceremony



Check out IVH's Facebook for more photos and videos!



LETS CONNECT *Socially*



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Want to know more about
your State Veteran Benefits?
Text **VET** to **55433**

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