Honoring Veterans & their families



Dallas Veterans Day Parade November 11, 2016 #Dallasvetsday



Without a Heart, it's just a machine.

We have a huge heart for our Military. Our colors may be blue, red and yellow, but our support is for the red, white and blue. With over 6,000 Employees and thousands of Customers who have served or are actively serving, our support of our Military comes from deep within our heart.

Southwest Alrlines® proudly supports the Dallas Veterans Day Parade.



ELEVENTH HOUR CEREMONY :: NOVEMBER 11, 2016

THE ARMISTICE DAY STORY

At 11:00 am, November 11, 1918, the guns of World War I fell silent across Europe and Armistice Day was born. Eight years later a Presidential Proclamation invited people to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies. In time it was changed to Veterans Day and became the focal point for official national Veterans Day ceremonies.

Musical Prelude	Air National Guard Band of the Southwest
Master of Ceremonies	Scott Murray
Oath of Enlistment	Lieutenant General John Campbell, USAF (Ret)
Presentation of the Colors	JROTC Color Guard
Massing of the Colors	DISD JROTC Cadets
Invocation	CDR Rene P. Lawson (Chaplain), USN
Pledge of Allegiance	Council Member Carolyn King Arnold
The National Anthem	MSgt Erika Stevens TXANG
Laying of the Wreath	Lieutenant General John Campbell, USAF (Ret)
	Mrs. Tracy Fisher
	MSgt Bernard Miller, USMC (Ret)
Rifle Salute	Firing Unit to be announced
TAPS	Mr. Dimas E. Delgado
Missing Man Formation	T-38's, Euro-NATO Joint Pilot Training Wing,
	Sheppard AFB, Texas
Retire the Colors	DISD JROTC Cadets
Introduction of Mayor Michael Rawlings	Scott Murray
Welcome Comments	Mayor Pro Tem Monica Alonzo
Guest Speaker Introduction	Mrs. Tracy Fisher
Guest Speaker	Honorable George P. Bush
Music Interlude	Air National Guard Band of the Southwest
Veterans Day Parade	Parade Passes in Review in front of Dallas City Hall

OFFICER PARADE REVIEWING PARTY

Army	. Brigadier General Tracy Norris, USA
Marine Corps	. Colonel Kevin W. Matthews, USMC
Navy	. Rear Admiral Chris Sadler, USN
Air Force	. Lieutenant General John Campbell, USAF (Ret)
Coast Guard	. Captain Peter Martin, USCG
Merchant Marine	. Captain Robert M. Keslinke, USN (Ret)



CHAIRMAN Mrs. Tracy Fisher

Mrs. Tracy Fisher is a devoted military daughter, the eldest of four. Her Texan father was a young United States Air Force reservist that was recalled to service on the day she was born and continued to serve for nearly 30 years. Mrs. Fisher was raised on military bases throughout the world, as her late master navigator father was stationed at several bases in Texas, Alabama, Panama, Germany, Belgium and finally, Omaha, Neb. where he retired. Lieutenant Colonel (ret) John V. Thompson was a veteran of the Vietnam and Cold Wars. He was a recipient of the Bronze Star, two Meritorious Service Medals, and two Air Medals.

Growing up in a military family, Mrs. Fisher attended three junior highs and three high schools. Her family moved eleven times. When deciding about college, her parents asked her which Texas school she would like to attend. She firmly announced that she was going to stay in Nebraska with her newest friends for the next four years.

She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. After graduating, she moved three more

times across the country before settling in the Dallas area five years later. Mrs. Fisher worked professionally in management leadership roles for Frito Lay and LSG Sky Chefs. She and her husband, Andy, have been happily married for nearly 28 years. They have two sons,



Aaron and Sam, daughter-in-law, McKenna, and a beautiful grandson, Jonah.

Fisher is dedicated to veterans' affairs. She is a hereditary perpetual member of the Military Order of World Wars, a member of the Greater Dallas Veterans Foundation and has proudly served on the Dallas Veterans Day Parade Committee for three years.

	Dallas Veterans Day Parade
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REMEMBERING	tor Dallas area,
	ovember 11, 2016
HONORARY CHAIRMAN N	
HONORARY Chinson The Hon. Sam Johnson (R,TX)	Greetings to the veterans, military family internal veteral and a Dallas Veteral event is the my distinct privilege to welcome you to the nineteenth annual Dallas Veteral event is Hour Ceremony and Parade held in downtown Dallas and City Hall Plaza. This event is designed especially to honor our veterans: those who have served, those who are service designed especially to honor our veterans: those who have served, those who are discussed of America and those who have given the ultimate sacrifice so that we in the United States of America and those who have given the ultimate sacrifice so that we hold so dear.
The Hon. Sam John US Congressman (R,TX)	Greetings to the
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SECRETARY Mr. Philip A. "Pat" Teipe	Dallas, the Office of Spoors of this annual parts
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ADVISORY BOARD	partnership.
ADV150	On behalf of the During of Special Events and parade, we use Dallas, the Office of Special Events and parade, we use Immensive to the success of this annual parade, we use partnership. Thanks and recognition must also go to the Dallas area independent school districts' administrators and educators and especially, the hundreds of band students and JROT administrators and educators and especially, the hundreds of the susands of young District administrators and educators and especially, the hundreds of the thousands of young District administrators and educators and especially, the hundreds of the thousands of young District addition that participated by creating parade-themed drawings for the parade and contest. Further, I extend profound and hearty hans to all the civic and patrotic organizations that be severy year to honor our veterans on this momentous day.
ADM Patrick Walsh US Navy (Ret)	administrators and in the paradeting parade-trienter of all the civic and paradeticipating in the by creating paradetic and the civic and paradetic day.
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MASTER OF CEREMONIES Scott Murray



Scott Murray spent over three decades with NBC television as a multi Emmy Award-winning TV sports anchor and broadcast journalist. Named Sportscaster of the Year 17 times, he's been honored as a Living Legend for Excellence in Journalism by the Press Club of Dallas and is a recipient of the prestigious Silver Circle Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

Although retired from television news, Scott remains active as host of the Emmy Award-winning television program, Conversations with Scott Murray which was awarded a 2015 Emmy Award for his program entitled Return to Normandy...70th Anniversary Remembered. Scott is also the host of two weekly radio programs, The Scott Murray Show and Scott and the Doc on 570 KLIF. He's a sought-after keynote speaker and a published author of two books (Whatever It Takes and Bring Out The BEST). In addition, Scott is Chairman/CEO of Murray Media, an Emmy Award-winning video/HD/television production and A/V event media company.



Scott stays active as a volunteer, serving on the board/advisory boards of countless children's, civic and charitable non-profit organizations. His commitment to community has resulted in his being honored with numerous awards, including, Man of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Citizen of the Year, Humanitarian of the Year, and, his most cherished honor, Father of the Year.

PARADE ANNOUNCER Brian Curtis

Brian Curtis is a journalist with 25 years of experience in local television news. He co-anchors NBC 5 News at 6 p.m. & 10 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Brian is a multiple Lone Star Emmy Award

winner, and the Texas Associated Press Broad-

casters has honored him several times as the best news anchor in Texas.

Among the major news stories that Brian has covered for NBC5 are the disaster in West, Texas, the tornado outbreak of 2012, and the explosion of space shuttle Columbia.

You may have seen Brian as one of the panelists for the 2012 Texas gubernatorial debates. He has also covered the Olympics in London, Beijing, Torino, and Athens, as well as the Super Bowl and the World Series. He is passionate about NBC5's "Empty The Shelter" project, which finds homes for animals in DFW-area shelters.

Brian joined NBC 5 as a general assignment reporter in 2003 and worked his way up to the anchor desk. Brian's path to DFW started at KOMU-TV in Columbia, Missouri, then passed through TV stations in Battle Creek, Grand Rapids, Birmingham and Kansas City.

Brian has a Master of Arts degree from the University of Missouri School of Journalism and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Emory University. He is also a graduate of Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, CT. Brian grew up in Connecticut and Rhode Island, but got here as fast as he could! North Texas is now home.

PARADE ANNOUNCER Matt Thomas

Matt Thomas is an award-winning journalist who has been reporting and anchoring full-time on NewsRadio 1080-KRLD since 2006. In addition to his on-air work, Matt also is Assistant News Director for KRLD and the Texas State Radio Network. He has been anchoring the KRLD Afternoon News since 2012.



Prior to joining KRLD the North Texas native worked as a reporter at News Radio 740-KTRH in Houston. It was there he covered several high-profile stories including the sixteen-week fraud and conspiracy trial of Enron bosses Ken Lay and Jeff Skilling. Matt also covered hurricane Rita from Beaumont and spent weeks reporting from New Orleans both before and after hurricane Katrina.

Matt is a reporter at heart, and still loves it when he has the opportunity to go to the scene of breaking news. He has been named, "Best Spot News Reporter" by the Texas Associated Press Broadcasters several times. He has also been a part of several, "Best Newscast" awards from the Texas Associated Press Broadcasters. In 2010, Matt won a Regional Edward R. Murrow Award for a special series on dangerous roads in North Texas. Matt is currently Radio President on the board of the Texas Associated Press Broadcasters. He has been on the board since 2011.

Matt was raised in Denton County, but moved to New York City to attend college after high school graduation. While there, he worked part-time as a desk assistant at ABC News Radio. His on-air career started while he was in college doing both airborne and studio traffic reports for KRLD and several other stations in North Texas.

Matt enjoys spending time with his beautiful wife Megan and with his friends and family. Matt lives in Plano and his hobbies include playing golf and going to events happening across the Dallas/Fort Worth area.



HONORED KEYNOTE SPEAKER George P. Bush Commissioner, Texas General Land Office

George Prescott Bush is a native Texan, born in Houston on April 24, 1976. He was elected Texas Land Commissioner on Nov. 4, 2014, earning more votes than any other statewide candidate on the ballot. Commissioner Bush took office on Jan. 2, 2015.

As Texas Land Commissioner, Bush works to ensure Texas veterans get the benefits they've earned, oversees investments that earn billions of dollars for public education and manages state lands to produce the oil and gas that is helping make America energy-independent.

Commissioner Bush also watches over the Alamo and preserves historic archives at the General Land Office that date back to the Spanish Empire.



Commissioner Bush has dedicated his life to public service, working as a public school teacher in Miami after graduating from Rice University and serving in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan as an officer in the U.S. Naval Reserve.

Commissioner Bush is a successful businessman. He joined Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP after earning his Juris Doctorate at the University of Texas School of Law. He subsequently co-founded Pennybacker Capital LLC, a real estate private equity firm, in 2007, and St. Augustine Partners LLC, a Fort Worth-based investment firm focused on oil and gas transactions and consulting for private businesses.

Commissioner Bush is also committed to helping fellow Texans in his private life. He co-chaired a \$30 million capital campaign for Big Brothers Big Sisters in North Texas and served as the co-chairman of the Dallas/Fort Worth Celebration of Reading. He was the Tarrant County chairman for Uplift Education — a highly successful Dallas-based public charter network focused on closing the achievement gap in inner-city public schools. He also served on the Board of Trustees for the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin.

Commissioner Bush is the grandson of President George H.W. Bush, the son of former Florida Governor Jeb Bush and the nephew of President George W. Bush. He lives in Austin with his wife, Amanda, and their two sons, Prescott and Jack.

GRAND MARSHAL Ross Cox SSG (R), U.S.Army and Family

Ross Cox SSG (R), U.S.Army was an Infantryman in the United States Army since before September 11, 2001 and was one of the first of 28 conventional forces on the ground in Afghanistan after September 11. Ross has been married to his wife, Nicole for the last 17 years and they have four wonderful children: Peyton, Brennan, Hope, and Asher.

Ross graduated basic training in august of 2001 and reported to the 10th Mountain Division in Fort Drum, New York immediately after. Like many Americans, Ross will never forget the day our country was attacked. Little did he know that the platoon he was assigned to would be the first conventional platoon on the ground in Afghanistan. On his next deployment, Ross deployed as an automatic rifleman. After the unexpected injury of a fire team leader Ross was given the opportunity to lead a four-man fire team, the most lethal weapon in the military.

<image>

After two back-to-back deployments Ross

was ready for a break, and volunteered for recruiting duty. Ross served on recruiting duty in Dumas and Lubbock TX. There were no more field problems, no more deployments and God blessed the Cox family with two additional children. Upon his completion of recruiting duty, he was assigned to Fort Bliss in El Paso Texas. After 18 months of training, The Cox family was assigned to Fort Wainwright, Alaska and on October 5, 2011 Ross deployed to Afghanistan once again.

When Ross arrived in Afghanistan he was made a Platoon Sergeant of an Infantry STRYKER platoon, responsible for 42 battle hardened men. Ross had gone on several patrols with my new unit and they were top notch. When he arrived, Ross helped facilitate the move of the entire platoon to another base. On November 15, 2011, his platoon was conducting a dismounted patrol. As they were walking, Ross heard an explosion and Ross knew he was hurt. Ross could hear his medic asking if anyone was hurt and Ross responded quickly that he was. Ross felt and heard everything and knew instantly that his left foot was gone and his right leg was badly injured.

The recovery process has been long and arduous, but God, my family, and getting back to work helped Ross put his life together again. Ross and Nicole are very thankful for all the nation has done to help and support them.

GRAND MARSHAL Sergeant First Class Jonathon (USA) & Captain Katrina Morgan (USAR) and Family

Sergeant First Class (SFC) Jonathon Morgan enlisted into the United States Army in March 1999 out of St. Louis, Missouri. He graduated Basic Combat and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom with 1ST Armored Division and 10^{TH} Mountain Division. SFC Morgan has served as a Drill Sergeant, Recruiter, Human Resources Specialist, and Bradley Fighting Vehicle Gunner. SFC Morgan earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Post University.



Captain (CPT) Katrina Morgan

enlisted into the United States Army Reserves in February 2010 out of Ventura, California. After graduating Basic Combat Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, she earned her commission from Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia in January 2011. CPT Morgan has served as a Battalion Adjutant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company Commander, and Human Resources Company Commander. CPT Morgan earned her Masters of Social Work from University of South Carolina. She is also a Licensed Master Social Worker.

Jon and Katrina met in Ventura, California in October 2008. During their courtship they had many travel adventures together to Hawaii, Catalina Island, and up and down the California coast. They were married in December 2010 in a private ceremony. Shortly thereafter they were stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where they welcomed their first child, a son named Weston, during a blizzard in February 2013. They were then stationed at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. And most recently stationed in Dallas, Texas at Army and Air Force Exchanges Service Headquarters where SFC Morgan serves as in the Military Personnel Office. Katrina is employed as a Social Worker for Cook Children's Health Care System in Fort Worth, Texas.

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR/CITY OF DALLAS



WHEREAS, Veterans Day began with the armistice of World War I, making this the 96th anniversary of that solemn event; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Dallas are indebted to the courageous men and women who placed their lives in harm's way for our country; and

WHEREAS, Dallas honors Veterans of all Wars and specifically this year all military families. Millions of military family members have selflessly sacrificed time with their loved ones so that our country can be safe and secure. Military families demonstrate the highest form of patriotism and perseverance in the most demanding of circumstances. Loved ones endure hard separations throughout multiple deployments. Many sons, daughters, moms and dad's sisters and brothers have shown tremendous courage amidst profound heartache-when their beloved service member makes the ultimate sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, this year, as we honor the millions of military families, both past and present, we recognize their commitment and many contributions they make in support of the military and our nation. To them we offer our highest respect and bestow our deepest gratitude; and

WHEREAS, Dallas honors the men and women serving in Afghanistan committed to fighting against terrorism in that region and those committed to fighting terrorism all over the globe; and

WHEREAS, the city of Dallas would like to thank these veterans for their sacrifice, steadfast patriotism, and exemplification of the American values of hard work, personal responsibility and commitment to the greater good; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Dallas Veterans Foundation will produce an appropriate ceremony on Veterans Day 2016, to honor and salute those who are serving, those who have served and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL S. RAWLINGS, mayor of the City of Dallas, and on behalf of the Dallas City Council, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, November 11, 2016 as

VETERANS DAY

in Dallas, Texas.

Mayo, The ity of Dallas





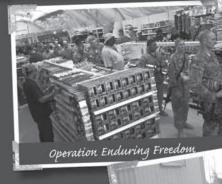
Thank you, Veterans

It has been our honor to serve you... wherever you've gone.

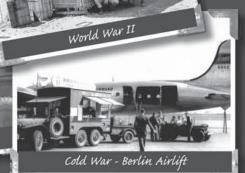
MOBILE

MAIL ORDER SHOWREOM













Operation Iragi Freedom

Operation Inherent Resolve

2016 DALLAS VETERANS DAY PARADE COMMITTEE

Honorary Chairman Hon. Sam Johnson

Past Chairman

RADM Bob Smith Col Ken Cordier Capt Cloyd Pinson, Sr. LtCol Bill Solemene BG Larry N. Patterson LTC King Moss II Capt Bob Dickson Capt John Hayes Capt Kermit Gable LTC Don B. Munson Col Jim Wolfe MG Albert C. Zapanta Capt Nick Harper LTC Don Munson LTC King Moss II

Parade Judge COL J.P. Hogan

Air Boss Col Ken Cordier

Logistics LtCol Phil Hardin

City Volunteers Karen Plunkett

Dallas County Schools Rex Cole Chairman Mrs. Tracy Fisher

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LTC Robert Davis CSM Lonnie Clark CSM Juan Hernandez

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Program/Art Marie St. Hilaire

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2016 GREATER DALLAS VETERANS FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The Foundation is a 501(c) (3) Organization incorporated January 31, 2000 | www.vetsdayindallas.org

The Dallas Veterans Day Parade | 8415 Old Moss Rd., Dallas Texas 75231





GREATER DALLAS MILITARY FOUNDATION









Help Us Help Them.

Since our inception in 1965, the Greater Dallas Military Foundation has distributed over \$1.5M in proceeds to all armed forces military relief agencies. Please join us for our 53rd Gala:

Celebrating Military Families

Providing jobs, education and family support for all service men and women.

Saturday, April 22, 2017

Hyatt Regency Hotel | 300 Reunion Boulevard | Dallas, Texas Honored service: The United States Navy For tickets and more information: www.GreaterDallasMilitaryFoundation.org

PROUD SPONSORS OF THE 2016 VETERANS DAY PARADE





GRAND MARSHAL Cpt Katrina Morgan, SFC Jonathan Morgan

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 Post # 453, Love Field

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 Post #511 Wynnewood Post

 Dallas ISD
 Spruce HS, Army JROTC 17th Battalion

 Dallas ISD
 Samuell HS, Army JROTC 12th Battalion

 Military Order of the World Wars
 Dallas Chapter

Military Order of the World Wars..... Pinson Chapter North Texas Womens Veterans North Texas Womens Veterans DFW Airport Public Safety Agency Pedals Against PTSD.....Dallas Chapter National Assoc. for Black Veterans.....DFW Chapter #106 Department of Veterans Affairs. North TX Health Care System Department of Veterans Affairs. Dallas Veterans Center Department of Veterans Affairs. Mesquite Veterans Center Mansfield ISD..... Lake Ridge HS Army JROTC

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Wells Fargo	
Dallas Police Department	
Veterans For Peace	
Military Officers Assoc. of America	Chapte
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We appreciate our heroes.



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A Spouse Odyssey

COPING WITH THE STAGES OF ARMY LIFE

Throughout the 20-plus years a spouse is "married to the Army," he or she is bound to undergo changes, face roadblocks and make constant adjustments. Some have children, some develop a career, some do both. And some end up distancing themselves from the Army, some spouses say.

Talking to spouses about the stages they face as part of Army life is the best way to learn from them, and a way to help mentor the next generation.

Jenah Wieczorek has been married to Capt. (Promotable) Jason Wieczorek for four of his 10 years in service. They've already moved three times in the last four years; they are currently stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

EXPECTATIONS

"Prior to meeting my husband, I had very little knowledge of the military and lifestyle," Wieczorek said. "My only expectations were that he would be gone frequently and we would be moving a lot. Both those have been met with three moves and one deployment."

Staff Sgt. (Promotable) David Pearson and his wife, Brandy, have been married for 12 years. He is now on recruiting duty in Durango, Colo. As a new spouse, Brandy Pearson said, she didn't know what to expect. "Everything was new and I needed to get caught up real quick on all things Army. Now I think that Army life is what you make of it," Pearson said. "The mentality going into a new duty station is what will dictate the experience."

Some of Nicole Mascheck's expectations of Army life are similar to when she married Master Sgt. Edward Mascheck 16 years ago. He just hit his 20-year mark in the Army and they are stationed at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Please read the following article by noted author, Rebecca Alwine. We on the Dallas Veterans Day Parade Committee believe Ms. Alwine's article is an excellent tribute to the families that support our veterans and service members. By Rebecca Alwine, Contributing Writer



"I expect to have a safe place to live as a family and somewhat dependable health care to be available," Nicole Mascheck said. "I think the biggest changes in my expectations have come about because the Army has changed since we were married. Spouses were held to a standard because, while they weren't in the military, they were a representative of it. Now it feels like the spouses are separating themselves from the Army."

New spouses need to be flexible, Mascheck added. "You have to be as flexible as possible to changing time frames, changes in orders, and last-minute meetings."

MOVES, MOVES AND MOVES

Looking back on her first move, Wieczorek said she had it easy. Her husband set up everything by going ahead while she finished up at her job and followed a few months later.







The second move was a nightmare. "I wish I had known more about the packing process, pack-out day, and military moves in general. I was unaware that half our house could—and would—be delivered [immediately], and the rest would come weeks later. And that this was typical behavior of moving companies."

The Pearsons have moved seven times over the last 12 years. "It doesn't really get easier the more you do it, just more efficient. The goodbyes are always hard, but with social media, it's easier to stay in touch," Pearson said.

"We recently went through a rough patch with our daughter and I was ready to move myself and the kids back home so there was more support for her," **Pearson said.** "We overcame it and through communication, love and sharing, we have moved on and are thriving."

Army resources can be useful during tough times, she said. Pearson recommended using as many on-post resources as possible. "Army Community Services was a huge help filling in the gaps early on," Pearson remembered.

According to Wieczorek, "The hardest part about this life are the friends we make and then leave behind. These people become your family and you have to separate and start over every few years. It's tough."

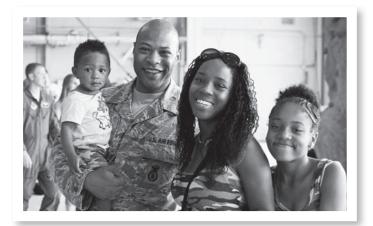
The Maschecks have moved about eight times, recently from Germany to the U.S. and back again. "We know what to expect now, we've learned the tricks of the move, but it has gotten harder on our kids as they have gotten older," Mascheck said.

She encourages everyone to look for the positives. "Each and every [permanent change of station, or] PCS is a new adventure of places to explore and people to meet," Mascheck said.

CAREER HURDLES

The biggest roadblock Wieczorek has hit thus far in military life has been career-related. "As with all professional licenses, transferring my dental hygiene license each time we move has been a process that involves research, applications, fees, and lots of headaches," she said.

Instead of working as a dental hygienist, she has found a way to serve the military community by working with **PCSgrades.com**, a website designed to help families share information on duty stations, real estate agents and neighborhoods. Wieczorek serves as social media director for the site and as a base advocate for the Fort Leavenworth area.



Since the company was founded by former service members, they understand the constant moving and allow Wieczorek to work from home and from wherever she may move. With two children under 3, this makes for an excellent fit, she said.

Many military spouses have a hard time convincing employers to overlook the constant moves, but Sherri Davenport, married to retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Chris Davenport, adapted with each duty station. Most recently, she has been working as a federal contractor teaching transition assistance classes.

Utilizing the military spouse network is key to securing a new job when moving, spouses said. There are several organizations like Blue Star Families and In Gear Career that help spouses find the right job each time they move.

GIVING BACK

There are many ways to get involved at each duty station, according to Wieczorek. She has spent two years as a family readiness group (FRG) leader and volunteered at the USO at her last duty station, accumulating over 500 volunteer hours. "Giving back to my community has always been a passion. My community just changed from my hometown of Atlanta to the Army," she said.

Dave Etter, named 2016 Army Spouse of the Year by Armed Forces Insurance and Military Spouse magazine, had absolutely nothing to go off of when he and his wife arrived at their first duty station. Well, nothing but what he saw on the TV series Army Wives.

"When we got to Fort Campbell [Ky.], no one showed up on our doorstep, no one called," **he remembered**. "So I went to the command and discovered the FRG wasn't active. So I volunteered."

Since then, Etter has been active in volunteering throughout the community. He prefers coaching and partnering to mentoring, and takes his role in supporting male spouses seriously, which includes hosting the Male Military Spouse Radio Show on the internet. He and his wife, Sgt. Stephanie Etter, are currently stationed in Germany.

Mascheck, too, has always been involved. "I started out by making sure I attended any family readiness group meetings and being present at any event that was open to families. ... As my husband's career progressed I started taking on active roles in the FRG, to include FRG leader."

LOOKING AHEAD

Only a few years into the Army adventure, Wieczorek said she hopes that an overseas duty station is in their future.

The Wieczoreks have decided to be an "all-in Army family" and ride the adventure as long as they can. "Though it can be very challenging, the benefits outweigh the negative aspect," she said.

"Who wouldn't find this lifestyle exciting?" **Pearson said.** "We've gotten to experience different cultures and places that wouldn't have been possible without the military."

Mascheck, too, still loves the Army life. "Before I joined the military I had never been in a state that didn't touch Oklahoma," she said. "Now I've been able to travel the world, experience other cultures, and meet some fantastic people."



Retirement is the final stage of Army life.

"Our plans going forward are retirement for my husband and starting a career in the human services field for me," **Pearson said.** "I'm very much looking forward to finally settling down in one place and start my career after putting [it] on hold for so many years."

For the Davenport family, retirement hasn't changed their lives much because Chris Davenport's final assignment was as an augmentee to an Army Reserve unit, and they have lived for the past three years in a civilian community.

"We got used to not having many of the benefits the military provides," and it was good preparation for the family, Sherri Davenport said.

To prepare for all the stages of military life, Davenport advised educating yourself on everything possible. "Learn about benefits, take classes, attend briefings. Take the opportunity to get to know other military families and learn from their experiences." Remember the good things while letting go of frustrations, she said. "And take pictures, especially of the normal, mundane military life days—you'll treasure those uniform pictures one day."

This article first appeared in ARMY Magazine, Vol. 66, No. 7 (July 2016). Copyright 2016 by the Association of the U.S. Army, and reprinted with permission from ARMY Magazine.

About the Author: Rebecca Alwine has been an Army wife for almost 10 years, traveling the world with her husband, 3 kids, and a dog. She's discovered she enjoys running, loves lifting weights, is a voracious reader, and actually enjoys most of the menial tasks of motherhood. You can follow her on



Twitter (@armywife122) and her website, www.whatrebeccathinks.com.







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1st Place:	JROTC Marching Units Seagoville HS, 9th Battalion, Army JROTC			
2nd Place: 3rd Place:	Samuell HS, 12th Battalion, Army JROTC Townview Center HS, 22nd Bn, Army JROTC			
	High School Bands			
1st Place:	Wilson HS, Wildcats Marching Band			
2nd Place:	Skyline HS, Raiders Marching Band			
3rd Place:	Pinkston HS, Viking Marching Band			
Military Units				
1st Place:	UT-Arlington, Sam Houston Rifles Drill Team			
2nd Place:	1st Cavalry Division, Division Band			
3rd Place:	1st Cavalry Division, Division Color Guard			
Veterans Organizations				
1st Place:	American Legion Post 218, Irving			
2nd Place:	Military Order of the Purple Heart, Dallas Chapter			
3rd Place:	U.S. Navy, Dallas Base Submarine Veterans			
	Patriotic Units/Floats			
1st Place:	Task Force "Home Front", Dallas Chapter			
2nd Place:	Red Path Warrior Society			
3rd Place:	Doberman Rescue Association			
	Parade Spirit			
1st Place:	Corvette Club with World War II Veterans			
2nd Place:	Dallas County, Sheriff Lupe Valdez			
3rd Place:	Lone Star Model T's with Veterans			
	Youth Groups			
1st Place:	Marine Corps Detachment, Navy League			
2nd Place:	Big D Young Marines, Navy League			



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STUDENT ART PARTNERSHIP

The Dallas Veterans Day Parade Committee and the Dallas Independent School District work together every year to inform students of Veterans' contributions to our country. The Veterans Day Art Competition acquaints DISD students with the history and purpose of Veterans Day. Currently there are 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in four divisions: Grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12. The winning pieces will be shown on Veterans Day in the Flag Room at Dallas City Hall. They will later be shown at the Frontiers of Flight Museum at Love Field during November.

2015 WINNERS

Grade	Place	Student Name	School	Teacher Name
K-2	1st Place	Wendy Leos	Sidney Lanier Expl. Arts	Margaret DeButts
	2nd Place	Eduardo Esparza	Celestino Soto, Jr. Elem.	Betty Waters
	3rd Place	Unique Lira	Sidney Lanier Expl. Arts	Margaret DeButts
3-5	1st Place	Alaysha Burns	J P Starks Vanguard	Jerry Lynn
	2nd Place	Leticia Dechazal	Charles Gill Elem.	Carlos Martinez
	3rd Place	Lillian Flores	Celestino Soto, Jr. Elem.	Betty Waters
6-8	1st Place	Soe Aung	Sam Tasby Middle School	Karen Romo
	2nd Place	Jordan Pugh	E D Walker Middle School	Desiree Dumas
	3rd Place	Noura Haghar	Sam Tasby Middle School	Karen Romo
	Hon. Mention	Gabriella Gumpert	E D Walker Middle School	Desiree Dumas
9-12	1st Place	Estelle Stoud	Irma Rangel High School	Agapita Moreno
	2nd Place	Manuel Quintanilla	H Grady Spruce HS	Natasha Bonford
	3rd Place	Uriel Lopez-Rangel	Patton Academic Center	Linda Cross
	Hon. Mention	Fnu Farkhunda	Emmett Conrad HS	Jelena Opacic



K-2 :: 1st Place (Thank you) Wendy Leos, Sidney Lanier Expl. Arts



3-5 :: 1st Place (Iwo Jima) Alaysha Burns, J P Starks Vanguard





6-8 :: 1st Place (FDR) Soe Aung, Sam Tasby Middle School

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crew to ram the British ship, boarded her and proceeded to engage in hand-to-hand combat. By the end of an hour, the British captain was mortally wounded, and the British ship had surrendered.

O'Brien and the Unity crew claimed four double fortified three-pounders, fourteen swivel guns and several smaller guns. Unity had become a warship for the soon to be proclaimed United States of America in this first sea engagement of the Revolutionary War. During the Revolutionary war, more than 11,000 Merchant Mariners died in service to our fledgling nation. They were the first to sacrifice their lives, but they would not be the last.

The War of 1812 was fought ostensibly because of the merchant marine. British warships were seizing American vessels on the high seas and impressed over 10,000 seamen into



service for the British Navy or British merchant fleet. American ships were also being seized or sunk if they did not call at a British port before sailing to Europe. France responded by seizing ships that did stop at a British port. Because the United States had a limited number of Navy ships (23) the was was mainly fought with merchant ships as privateers. America had

517 privateers during the War of 1812 and these privateers eventually captured 1300 enemy ships worth nearly \$40 million.

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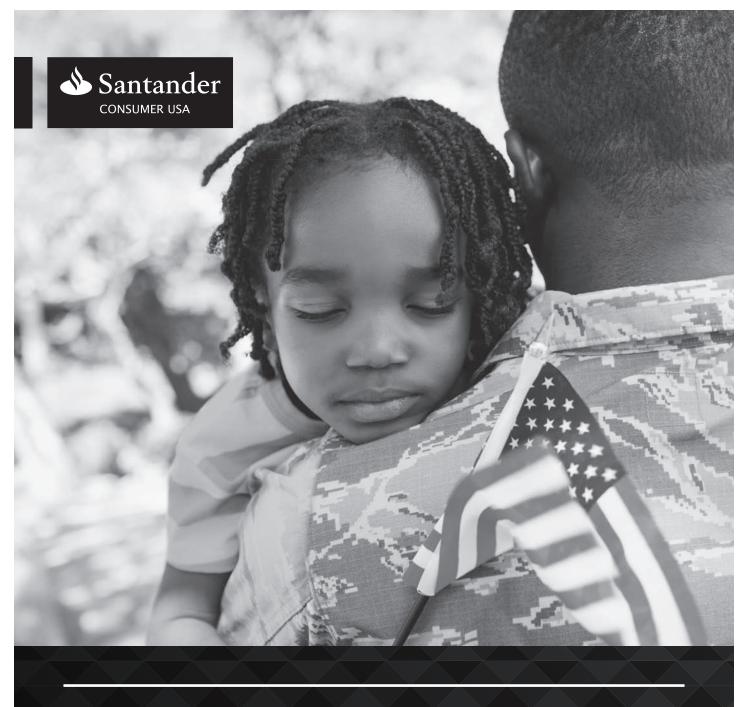


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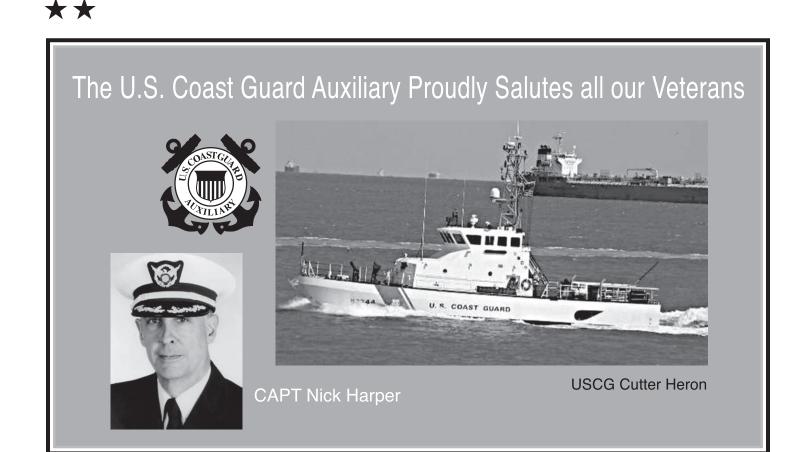
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THE 2016 VETERANS DAY PARADE :: 39



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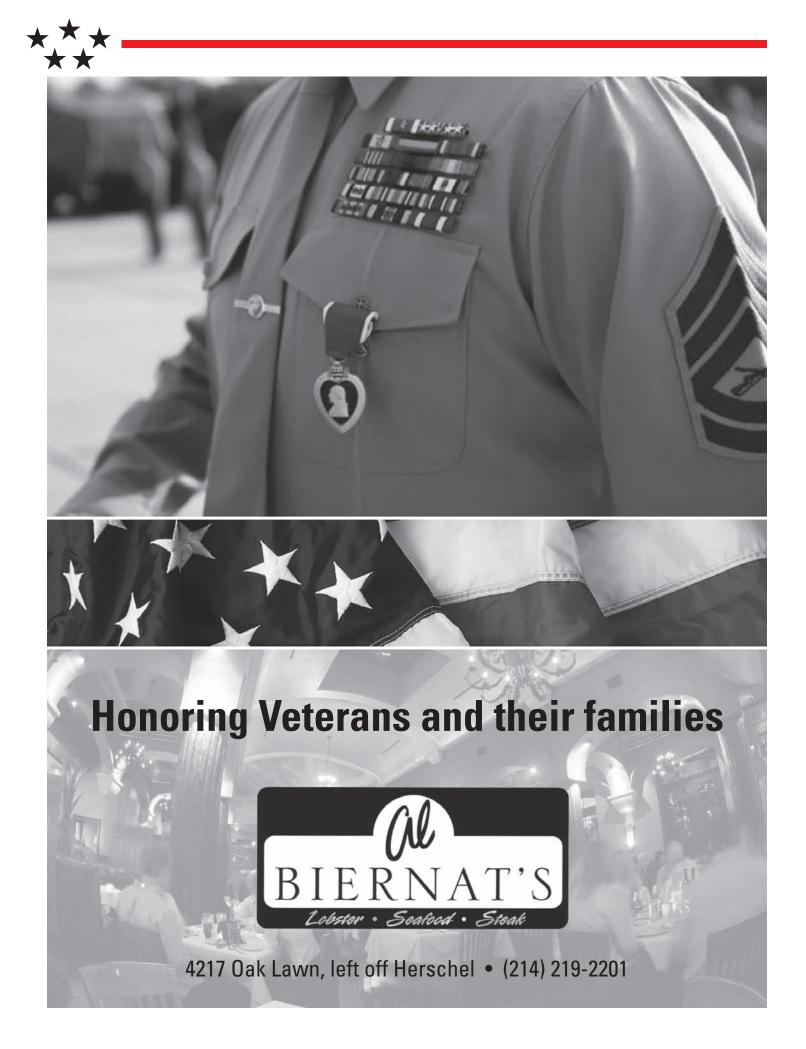


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