



PRESS RELEASE

John R. Kasich, Governor Chip Tansill, Director

May 1, 2018

ODVS Celebrates Military Appreciation Month

Many Ohioans may be aware May has been tabbed Military Appreciation Month and most know that Memorial Day and the holiday weekend come at the end of the month, but few may realize just how important the entire month is to our veteran community and those who follow military history.

For example, here are just a few dates of note:

May 1 – Loyalty Day

First observed in 1921 and then again in 1955 under the urging of then-President Dwight Eisenhower, Loyalty Day was made an official reoccurring holiday in the United States in 1958 "for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States and for the recognition of the heritage of American freedom."

May 2 – Anniversary of the death of Osama bin Laden

On May 2, 2011, U.S. Navy SEALs carried out the CIA-led operation code-named Operation Neptune Spear, raided bin Laden's compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan, in the middle of the night, and killed the leader of the Al-Qaeda terrorist organization responsible for the 9/11 attacks on the United States.

May 8 – VE Day

The Allied Forces claimed victory in Europe with the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany and its armed forces on May 8, 1945, leading to abrupt and massive celebrations in Europe, North American and, the following day, Russia. Six years of World War II combat in Europe had ended, but President Harry Truman reminded that U.S. troops still were waging an all-important battle in the East against Japanese forces.

"The Trusted Voice for Veterans"

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May 11 - Military Spouse Appreciation Day

Military Spouse Appreciation Day is celebrated on the Friday before Mother's Day in the United States so that citizens may acknowledge the significant contributions, support and sacrifices of spouses of service members. The first U.S. president to issue a proclamation to recognize the importance of spouse commitment to the readiness and well-being of military members was Ronald Reagan, doing so on May 23, 1984.

May 13-19 - Armed Forces Week

More info:

<https://militarybenefits.info/armed-forces-week/>

May 13-19 - Ohio Warrior Awareness Week

The Ohio legislature officially recognized this week in conjunction with Armed Forces Week on May 3, 2015.

More info:

www.ohiosenate.gov/senators/bacon/news/senate-passes-ohio-warrior-awareness-week-approves-assistance-for-governors-council-on-people-with-disabilities;jsessionid=602c059ffab12076c1a811e0afa1?0

May 19 - Armed Forces Day

May 28 - Memorial Day

Ohio is a highly patriotic state. Therefore, it's no surprise several communities have special events planned to take part in recognizing our fallen military members and loved ones during Memorial Day weekend with parades and several other events. Links to some of those are below.

Northeast Ohio:

<https://northeastohiofamilyfun.com/memorial-day-events-northeast-ohio/>

Northwest Ohio:

www.wtol.com/story/18621841/memorial-day-events-in

Southwest Ohio:

www.daytonlocal.com/memorial-day.asp

www.fox19.com/story/12560324/memorial-day-events-in-the-tri-state

Because Military Appreciation Month is so important, May is a busy time at ODVS. We will play a role in several key events in Ohio in the coming weeks, some of which follow:

- May 2** - Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Enshrinement Ceremony
@ Riffe Center, Columbus
- May 4** - Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor induction ceremony
@ atrium of Ohio Statehouse, Columbus
- May 18** - MILVETS luncheon
@ Villa Milano Banquet & Conference Center, Columbus
- May 21** - Governor's Wreath Laying
@ Ohio Statehouse, Columbus
- May 22** - Student "Veterans Services Project" recognition
@ Washington High School, Massillon
- May 28** - Memorial Day ceremony
@ American Legion Post 58, Somerset
- May 30** - Military & Veteran Appreciation Day
@ The Memorial, Muirfield Village

Throughout May and beyond, check up on what we're doing to advocate for and honor veterans by going to our website, OhioVets.gov, or any of our social media channels – and take note of posts that include #MilitaryAppreciationMonth.

Make sure to follow us on ...

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ohiodepartmentofveteransservices/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/OhioVets>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/servingohiovets?feature=mhum>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/ohio-department-of-veterans-services>

Instagram: <https://twitter.com/OhioVets>

ODVS offers a hearty dose of gratitude to all veterans, current service members, military families and anyone who supports them.

If you would like to thank a veteran, please consider nominating one for the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, which recognizes outstanding service or achievement after military service. **Deadline to submit nominations is June 1.**

For more information on the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, go to <http://dvs.ohio.gov/main/veterans-hall-of-fame-nominations.html>