



## United States Army Recruiting Command

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **U.S. ARMY CELEBRATES PATRIOT SEASON BY HONORING SOLDIERS** *Janesville Joins Nation in Celebrating Army Birthday, Flag Day, Patriotism*

**MILWAUKEE (June 11, 2003)** – The U.S. Army is inviting the nation to honor America’s soldiers on June 14, the date marking the births of both the Army and the American flag it so proudly defends. The celebration recognizes the brave men and women who protect our freedoms at the front lines of combat and in the back rooms of technology. More than 49,000 American men and women have committed to serving their country and joining the fight against terrorism since September 11, 2001.

Janesville will join numerous cities from across the country in this tribute. The celebration will begin with Congressman Paul Ryan administering the Oath of Enlistment to new recruits from the local area. A cake cutting ceremony honoring the Army’s 228th Birthday will follow. The celebration will take place at the Boy Scouts of America, Camp Indian Trails starting at noon on Saturday, June 14. The general public is invited.

The Army Birthday - Flag Day celebration takes place in the heart of Patriot Season, the six-week span that began on May 18 with Armed Forces Day and ends on July 4 with Independence Day. This year on June 14, the Army celebrates its 228<sup>th</sup> birthday, while the American flag turns 226.

“The Army’s Birthday and Flag Day seem a most appropriate time to recognize the commitment, courage and patriotism exhibited by our young Americans,” said Lt. Col. John Angevine, Commander, Milwaukee Recruiting Battalion. “It’s also the perfect opportunity to honor soldiers past, present and future.”

“From the first volunteers at Bunker Hill and Valley Forge to those fighting the war on terrorism across the globe to our newest recruits, American soldiers have long answered our nation’s call,” he said. “They are an inspiration to all Americans.”

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### **About Army Birthday, Flag Day**

The U.S. Army was established on June 14, 1775, two years to the day before the Continental Congress adopted the first official flag of the republic. It would be more than 150 years before President Harry S. Truman signed into law a national observance for our flag. As the Secretary of the Army and the Army Chief of Staff remind soldiers and citizens alike every year, the work of the U.S. Army ensures that freedom's light shines as a beacon throughout the world.

### **About USAREC**

The United States Army Recruiting Command (USAREC) is charged with enlisting high-quality men and women to serve in the U.S. Army and U.S. Army Reserve. Approximately 12 thousand military and civilian personnel conduct recruiting operations throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa and at U.S. facilities in Panama, Germany and Asia. USAREC headquarters is located at Fort Knox, Ky.

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