Clackamas Community College hosts recognition celebration and resource fair for military members, veterans and families

The Northwest Indian Veterans Association Color Guard will perform at a celebration designed to support and honor military service members, veterans and their families at Clackamas Community College. (de la luna photography)

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Celebrate April as the "Month of the Military Child" on Saturday with activities, entertainment and a housing, health and resource fair at Clackamas Community College.

"Stand Up 2014: Supporting and Honoring Military and Veterans’ Families – Because You Serve Too!" is the theme of the fun and interactive event.

The free celebration will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Gregory Forum, 19600 Molalla Ave. in Oregon City. Everybody is invited.

It will kick off at 10 a.m. with free refreshments, followed by a welcome program featuring a presentation by the Northwest Indian Veterans Association Color Guard and remarks by Ken Kraft, a retired Army commander and chair of the Veterans Services Advisory Council; Rep. Julie Parrish, R-West Linn; Grey Myers, major/United States Marine Corps Reserves and Clackamas Community College Veteran Services coordinator.

The fair will bring together more than two dozen service providers, agencies and advocacy groups that can assist veterans, service members and their spouses with everything from employment to benefits to transportation to housing in their local communities.

Participants include Army Strong, FolkTime Veterans Connection, Gold Star
Rep. Julie Parrish, R-West Linn, will help welcome the community to the celebration at the college.

B.J. the Clown will make an appearance at Stand Up 2014.

Wives of American, Military Order of the Purple Heart, National Guard, Returning Veterans Project, and Portland VA Medical Center.

Kids will be treated to balloon animals and firefighter hats and badges, some fun games, and the chance to meet B.J. the Clown.

They can hang out in a fire truck and an ambulance, participate in a hands-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation class, and visit a child identification booth.

Safe Communities is donating bicycle helmets for youth and the Oregon Health & Science University Think First Program will help with fittings and offer safety tips.

The event is sponsored by Health, Housing and Human Services of Clackamas County, Clackamas County Veterans Advisory Council and Clackamas Community College Veterans Services.

For more information, contact Margaret McNamara at 503-650-5737 or mmcnamara@clackamas.us; or visit http://www.clackamas.us

/socialservices/veterans.html

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