

Military, Law Enforcement News, and More...

U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn partners with country music star Craig Morgan who enlists in the U.S. Army Reserve to boost recruitment

NASHVILLE, TENN. – U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) commended Grand Ole Opry member and country music star Craig Morgan for enlisting in the U.S. military to continue serving his beloved country and working with DoD leadership to boost recruitment rates and heighten morale. Last fall, when the U.S. Army was 15,000 recruits short of their yearly goal, Senator Blackburn and her office began working with the Department of Defense (DoD) and U.S. Army to allow Craig to enlist, despite being a few years away from mandatory retirement. Last night, Craig was sworn into the U.S. Army Re-



Country music star Craig Morgan celebrates his enlistment in the U.S. Army to help boost recruitment. A sold-out Grand Ole Opry crowd helped him celebrate along with Tennessee's U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn. (Grand Ole Opry, photo by Chris Hollo)

serving our country exemplifies the very best of the Volunteer Spirit, and I know his story will be an inspiration to Americans considering the call to serve." "I'm excited to once again serve my country and be all I can be in hopes of encouraging others to be a part of something greater than ourselves," said Craig Morgan. "I love being an artist but I consider it a true privilege and honor to work with what I believe are the greatest of Americans, my fellow soldiers. God Bless America. Go Army."

serve in front of a sold-out Grand Ole Opry crowd. This was made possible in part due to Senator Blackburn's efforts.

"It has been such an honor to work alongside Craig on his return to the U.S. Army Reserve," said Senator Blackburn. "Craig has long been a champion of our military, with his support spanning his previous active-duty service and an accomplished career in music. His dedication to

About Craig Morgan's Military Career:

Craig Morgan previously served seventeen years in the Army and Army Reserve with the 101st

and 82nd Airborne Divisions as an E-6 Staff Sergeant and Fire Support Specialist. He includes Airborne, Air Assault and Rappel Master among his certifications. He is now returning to serve his country in a new way – as a soldier in the Army Reserve. The newly sworn in Staff Sergeant and Warrant Officer candidate will continue touring and releasing new music in his civilian career while simultaneously serving our country in the Army Reserve.

Background:

- The U.S. Army expects to be another 10,000 recruits short this year.
- According to Pentagon data last year, only 9 percent of young

people ages 16-21 said they would consider military service.

•Adm. Mike Mullen, the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in an interview that "influencers are not telling [young people] to go into the military. Moms and dads, uncles, coaches and pastors don't see it as a good choice."

•Craig Morgan's commitment to serving our country demonstrates answering one's call to service while providing opportunities to Be All You Can Be.

•This act of service inspires others to answer their own call to service while unlocking their full potential.

Camp Nelson National Monument to celebrate 160th Anniversary of Knoxville Campaign

NICHOLASVILLE, KY – The National Park Service (NPS) announces that the visitor center at Camp Nelson National Monument is currently open 7-days a week. The building is open 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The grounds remain open sunrise to sunset.

The NPS will share its August Calendar, featuring the largest event of the year:

The 160th Anniversary of the Knoxville Campaign on August 11-13, 2023

Friday, August 11: Volunteer Event: Flag Placement (9:00 am – 12:30)

"We're calling for volunteers to assist with placing 1,900 flags along the Northern Defenses earthwork line on Friday, August 11th at Camp Nelson National Monument. The flags pay tribute to the 1,900 enslaved African American who were impressed by the US Army to construct roads and earthworks in Central Kentucky, especially at Camp Nelson in 1863-64," according to a statement released by the organization.

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If you're interested in volunteering, please contact the park via email: cane_info@nps.gov or by phone, 859-881-5716.

Participants should wear comfortable clothes and bring water. The 160th Anniversary of the Knoxville Campaign begins that evening, Friday, August 11th, starting with the special program, "Between Freedom and Bond-

Please see sports page 3



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Country music group Ricochet to raise funds for wounded police officers in 'Wounded Blue' national project to counter 'Defund the Police'

Country music group steps up in the face of recent "Cancel Culture" attempts on country music stars including Jason Aldean

For a \$20 donation to aid America's law enforcement officers, Ricochet will send their new CD — a 16-song project of their chart-topping, greatest hits to be released on August 18



Country music band Ricochet will raise funds for wounded police officers. (Photo/Courtesy: Ricochet)

organization will send you a CD of the Academy of Country Music (ACM)-award-winning country music band's new 16-song project.

Ricochet is stepping up to help officers even in the face of the

"cancel culture" attempts on fellow country music star Jason Aldean.

"I am an avid supporter of law enforcement. Without police officers protecting our travels, I would not get to perform, travel

and meet as many Americans as much as I do," says the lead singer of Ricochet, Heath Wright. "I do not believe in the defund the police movement — in fact, I think 'defund the police' are the dumbest three words ever spoken. Rather than canceling our police, we should be increasing their pay and finding ways to attract more people to serve. As it is, many are afraid to serve, and I want to do anything I can to bring awareness to this great organization that The Wounded Blue has founded."

The ACM award-winning 90s country vocal group Ricochet — best known for their chart-topping, gold-selling single, "Daddy's Money," Top-10 hits, "What Do I Know," "Love Is Stronger Than Pride," and the

Please see sports page 3

FedEx St. Jude and U.S. Steel offer complimentary tickets to military and veterans

The FedEx St. Jude Championship, in partnership with U.S. Steel's Big River Steel, will offer complimentary military and veteran tickets for the 2023 championship. Military members and veterans have the opportunity to reserve two (2) complimentary grounds tickets per day (Wed.-Sun.). While onsite and upon showing valid military ID, all military members plus one accompanied guest will have access to the Patriots' Outpost presented by Big River Steel, an open-air venue with shaded seating on the 8th hole. For more information, visit fedexchamp@pgatourhq.com The FedEx St. Jude Championship is August 9-13 at TPC Southwind.

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