



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**For more information:**

Zach Stratton

360-750-1553 Ext 19

marketingadmin@visitvancouverusa.com

**FORT VANCOUVER NATIONAL TRUST TO HOST  
25<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL VETERANS PARADE**

***Popular community celebration to commemorate 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War***

**VANCOUVER, Wash.** — The Fort Vancouver National Site will once again be the site of one of the largest Department of Veteran Affairs sanctioned parades on the West Coast. On Saturday, November 5, 2011, an anticipated 2,500 individuals representing more than 100 military, veteran and civic organizations will turn out to march or ride in the Veterans Parade at Fort Vancouver, which will wind its way through the grounds of the historic site.

“The Veterans Parade at Fort Vancouver has not only become a tradition for residents of southwest Washington, but also draws participants and spectators from throughout the Northwest,” said Kim Bennett, president and CEO of the Vancouver USA Regional Tourism Office. “This event is a wonderful tribute to our veterans and at the same time showcases Clark County’s rich historic roots.”

The parade will start with an Air Force flyover and 21-gun salute fired by Howitzer cannons. For the second year, the parade route will stay entirely on the Fort Vancouver National Site and will pass by the historic houses of Officers Row, the Vancouver Barracks, the reconstructed Fort Vancouver and end at the Pearson Air Museum.

In keeping with the theme surrounding the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War, the grand marshal of this year’s parade will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Oregon Volunteer Infantry, a Civil War reenactment group that will lead the parade with a color guard and fife and drum band as well as present a living history and reenactment on the site following the parade.

Groups participating in this year’s parade include: U.S. Navy Sea Cadets; local and regional Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops; American Legion posts; Gold Star Families; the Camas High School marching band; the Bow Tie Vettes Corvette Club; the Military Vehicles Collectors Club of Oregon; and the Clark County Special Olympics, to name a few.



The parade will begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 5, and is presented by the Lough Legacy with support from Creekside Mortgage.

**About Vancouver USA Regional Tourism Office**

Vancouver USA Regional Tourism Office (formerly Southwest Washington Convention & Visitors Bureau) is an economic development organization responsible for competitively marketing Vancouver and the surrounding area as a destination for meetings, conventions, and group and leisure travelers. The organization's mission is to promote Vancouver and Clark County by increasing convention and visitor business. For more information call 877-224-4214, or log on to [www.VisitVancouverUSA.com](http://www.VisitVancouverUSA.com).

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