



Media Advisory
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USO Joins Northwest's Largest Veterans Parade Auburn Event First Time USO Puget Sound Joins Parade Line-Up

SEATTLE – This year's Veterans Day Parade in Auburn marks the first time representatives from USO Puget Sound Area plan to march in the Northwest's largest veterans parade. Volunteers and staff from the Sea-Tac and McChord Air Force Base USO Centers will join the parade line-up along with the USO Mobile Canteen on Saturday, Nov. 10 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

"It's an opportunity to extend the world famous USO hospitality to the parade participants and the community," said Tom Hinman, president and executive director of the USO Puget Sound Area, "Although our mission primarily supports those currently serving in the military, we honor all past and present military members and their families. Being part of the Auburn Veterans Day festivities is a great way to say 'thank you for your service to our country.'"

Hinman, who is a Vietnam veteran and retired Navy Commander, said plans for the USO Mobile Canteen include a station at the corner of Main and J Streets after the parade. "Come on over for coffee and donuts is our mantra," Hinman said. He added that November marks the one-year anniversary of the USO Mobile Canteen. "The canteen has given us the mobility to take our hospitality and support around the Puget Sound, which is important in a region where all branches of the Armed Forces are represented," Hinman said.

Hinman believes large community events like the Auburn parade are a great way to build awareness about opportunities to support military members and their families. "There are over 300,000 military members and their families living and working in the Puget Sound area, and there are a thousand ways for individuals, businesses, and civic organizations to support our men and women in uniform through the USO," Hinman said.

Press availability with Tom Hinman, president and executive director of the USO Puget Sound Area, and USO volunteers:

WHERE: USO Mobile Canteen stationed at the corner of Main and J Streets from 9:30 am to 11:00 am or following the Parade in the Veterans' Memorial Park.

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Nationally recognized, the USO Puget Sound has served over 3 million of America's men and women in uniform and their families for over 40 years. The mission of USO Puget Sound is to provide a "home away from home," family support, and recreation opportunities to the members and families of our Armed Forces. The USO works to connect individuals, civic groups and businesses in service to the region's military community.