



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY – DECEMBER 17, 2022

Each year, Wreaths Across America coordinates wreath-laying ceremonies at more than 3,400 locations across the United States, at sea or abroad. We remember and honor all our military veterans that have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms.

We invite you to join Wreaths Across America by sponsoring a veterans' wreath at a cemetery near you, volunteering or donating to a local sponsorship group. Please visit WreathsAcrossAmerica.org to volunteer, donate, or sponsor a wreath to honor an American hero.



TOYS FOR TOTS

Hunt Military Communities proudly supports the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program each holiday season. Donation drops off stations will be available at several HMC communities across the nation to collect presents and toys for children in need.

Toys for Tots is a 73-year-old national charitable program run by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve that brings holiday joy to more than seven million disadvantaged children each season. HMC is proud to support this holiday tradition to give back to our communities in a safe and accessible way. The primary goal is to help bring joy to the season and send a message of hope and support to all those in need. Donations given to Toys for Tots directly impact children and families in communities throughout the country.

If you would like to make a donation or learn more about the program, please visit ToysForTots.org.

OUR CEO'S MESSAGE

Dear HMC Residents,

We'll be celebrating the beginning of a new year in just a few short weeks. During this holiday season and throughout the year, we appreciate the service and sacrifice you and your families make. With deployments or long training missions, our Service Members miss out on many special occasions during the holiday season. In support of our families, our communities are doing special service projects this holiday season to show our gratitude for all you do day in and day out. We are also supporting those in need. Donation drop-off stations have been established at many HMC communities across the nation to collect presents and toys for needy children as part of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program. We are also encouraging employees and residents to participate in Wreaths Across America to support their wreath-laying efforts at military cemeteries across the country. On behalf of everyone here at Hunt Military Communities, I want to take this time to wish you all a very safe and happy Holiday season and a healthy and happy 2023.

Semper Fidelis,

Brian Stann
President and CEO
Hunt Military Communities



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don't forget to get your MWR Christmas event ticket by calling 812-854-6255. Tickets are \$15 each, while kids 6 and under are free.

IMPORTANT EVENTS

Polar Express Movie Night

On December 2nd, come by the Community Building from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM to watch the Polar Express.

MWR Christmas

On December 8th, MWR is having a Christmas Party! Tickets are on sale at the MWR office. There are only 200 available, so space is limited. Tickets are \$15, but kids 6 and under are free. There will be Santa, Bounce Houses, Crafts, and Face Painting, so we hope you join us. For more information, please call 812-854-6255.

Army/Navy Game

It is time for the Army/Navy Football Game. On December 10th, come by the Conference Center at 3:00 PM to watch the game. All military and residents are welcome.

MEET OUR FRIENDLY STAFF

Samantha Bobbitt
Community Director

Douglas McDonald
Maintenance Technician

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours: 8 AM – 5 PM

Office Number: 812-902-1500

Email: CraneRSO@HuntCompanies.com

Facebook: @CraneFH

Website: CraneFamilyHousing.com



HAPPY
Birthday

**385TH BIRTHDAY OF THE
U.S. NATIONAL GUARD - DECEMBER 13TH**



**3RD BIRTHDAY OF THE
U.S. SPACE FORCE - DECEMBER 20TH**



NATIONAL PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY - DECEMBER 7TH

2022

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				01 Civil Air Patrol Day	02 Movie Night Polar Express Community Building 5 - 7 PM Holiday Pet of the Month Starts Facebook	03
04	05	06	07 National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	08 MWR Christmas Tickets on sale at the MWR Office	09	10 Army/Navy Game Conference Center 3 PM
11 Holiday Pet of the Month Ends Facebook	12 Holiday Decorating Contest Starts Facebook	13	14	15	16	17 Wreaths Across America
18 First Night Of Hanukkah Holiday Decorating Contest Ends Facebook	19	20	21 First Day Of Winter	22	23	24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas Day	26 Last Night Of Hanukkah OFFICE CLOSED	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve

GOOD NEWS STORIES

By Jack Spaulding

I once asked an audience what group was responsible for the initial reintroduction of the Eastern Wild Turkey to Indiana. The answers ranged from the “National Wild Turkey Federation” to the “U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service” to the “Audubon Society” and even “The Boy Scouts.” No one came up with the right answer — the United States Navy.

The Navy? Yes, the United States Navy!

Around 1956, the new commander of the Crane Naval Ammunition Depot (now Naval Support Activity Crane) in Martin County was disappointed to learn the military base’s rich habitat didn’t include wild turkeys. Wild turkeys had disappeared from Indiana by the early 1900s because of lost habitat and uncontrolled hunting. The commander enjoyed hunting wild turkey in southern parts of the United States and greatly missed the sport.

As all who served know, the military is capable of many things. And the higher the rank, the greater the possibilities!

Shumaker Naval Depot in Arkansas was contacted and given a “top secret” assignment. Shortly thereafter, the commander of Crane and a handpicked support team met one of the super cargo carrier aircraft on the aircraft runway to unload two mysterious tarp covered boxes.

The two boxes were cages containing five wild turkeys — four hens and a tom. The birds were quickly ushered off to a secluded location on the base and released.

Chances of survival for the tiny flock were slim. If anything happened to the lone male bird, it was over. But by the grace of God, good habitat, control from poaching, and isolation from

tame turkeys, the flock rapidly expanded. By the winter of 1960-61, there were an estimated 100 to 200 wild turkeys on the Indiana Naval base.

Beginning in the winter of 1960, attempts to trap enough turkeys on the base and begin spreading them to other parts of the state, namely Brown County State Park, were proving ineffective. At the time, Indiana had an unbelievable population of ruffed grouse, and the biologists’ ability to capture grouse was far better than their turkey attempts.

In 1964, Indiana struck a deal with Missouri. Indiana traded 70 ruffed grouse for 21 Missouri turkeys. The turkeys were released in the Tell City district of the Hoosier National Forest. The following year, 15 turkeys were swapped for 60 grouse and released in the Harrison-Crawford State Forest.

Within a few years, turkeys trapped in Perry and Harrison counties were being released in Martin County and the Pike and Jackson-Washington state forests.

History was made in 1970 when 60 hunters from 1,500 applicants participated in the first modern-day Indiana sanctioned wild turkey hunt. Over the four-day hunt, most of the hunters heard or saw wild turkeys, while six got their gobblers.

The estimated number of hunters afield this past spring was 65,254 who spent \$32 per license. There was an estimated success rate of 19%. The statewide flock is now estimated to be about 120,000 birds.

Not a bad return on a “Special Ops Assignment” by the U.S. Navy and some savvy bartering with kin states to the south and west!



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY - DECEMBER 17TH