



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

Mike DeWine, Governor

Major General John C. Harris Jr., Adjutant General

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For Immediate Release

Ohio Army National Guard to hold ribbon-cutting ceremony for opening of new Marietta recruiting office

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Ohio Army National Guard will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house at **2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, 2019**, at its new recruiting office at the Lafayette Center, 440 Pike St., Marietta, Ohio 45750.

Col. Daniel Shank, Ohio assistant adjutant general for Army, will preside over the ceremony. Staff Sgt. Bonnie McGrath, a graduate of Morgan High School (McConnelsville) and Zane State College (Zanesville), has been assigned to the location as the recruiting noncommissioned officer.

The local community is invited to attend the ribbon-cutting, enjoy refreshments, and meet with local National Guard members. Area high school juniors and seniors can compete until 6 p.m. in a three-event "Patriot Games" for Guard gear giveaways.

The ceremony coincides with the National Guard's 383rd birthday. On Dec. 13, 1636, the first militia in North America was organized in Massachusetts.

There is a rich history of Ohio National Guard service in Washington County. The Ohio National Guard traces its birthplace to Marietta, when Gov. Arthur St. Clair organized the Northwest Territory Militia there on July 25, 1788. Marietta and Washington County provided a number of Ohio Militia companies during the War of 1812. During the Civil War, the 36th, 75th, and 92nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiments were primarily recruited from Marietta. The Marietta Armory, in operation from 1914 to 1999, was home to many Ohio National Guard units during the course of its existence, including infantry, light artillery, and air defense artillery.

The Ohio Army National Guard, with more than 11,000 Soldiers, responds when called for federal, state, and community missions and is an operational force of the U.S. Army.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Stephanie Beougher, public information officer, at 614-336-7369 or stephanie.k.beougher.nfg@mail.mil.

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