



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**OCTOBER 30, 2024**

**2024 ANNUAL VETERANS DAY PARADE WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>**



The 2024 Veterans Day parade will be held on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 1:00 pm. The parade will begin at Bangert Park, preceding North on Florissant Road, and then turn left on St. Francois, ending at the VFW Post 4105 where we will have a festival atmosphere with food, music, and awards. The St Louis Veterans Coalition will be honoring several St Louis area veterans with awards, and the community will be honoring our 2024 Florissant Veteran of the Year, Ron Smith. This year's Emcee for the ceremonies will be Marc Cox from 97.1 Talk Radio. We will also hear from a keynote guest speaker.

Ron Smith was born in St. Louis, MO. He graduated from University City High School in 1984 and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in August of 1984. Ron obtained training at Redstone Arsenal Alabama. After that he served in Okinawa, Japan for a year, he then returned stateside and was assigned to Camp Pendelton for 3 years. During this time, he was also deployed to 29 Palms, California. Following active duty, Ron served in the reserves for 2 years. Upon his return to St. Louis, Ron served as a St. Louis City Police officer.

Ron and his wife, Lisa, live in the beautiful city of Florissant. He is employed by Christian Hospital Northeast in the security department and is also a student at St. Louis University, where he is pursuing a degree in cybersecurity. He volunteers with St. Ferdinand and St. Vincent DePaul. Ron was very honored to be named by Mayor Tim Lowery to serve on the Florissant Veterans Commission.

We are proud to have hosted this parade in Florissant for the past 21 years and grateful to the St Louis Veterans Coalition for organizing the Parade. Mayor Lowery, the City Council and the St Louis Veterans Coalition invite everyone to bring their children/grandchildren to this event and salute the men and women who have and continue to serve this great country in the Armed Forces.